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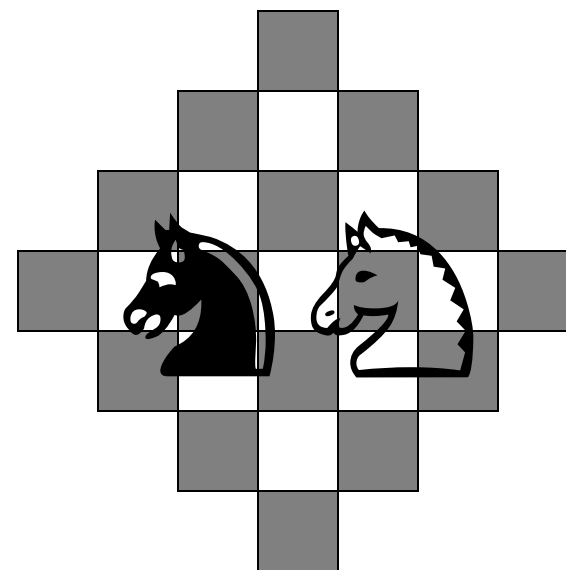
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CHESS

PROBLEM

MAGAZINE

StrateGems 2011 h#n Award

by Christer Jonsson

Twenty-five longer helpmates were published in *StrateGems* 2011. I am satisfied with the quality and have eight problems included in the award (Two Prizes, one Special Prize, two Honorable Mentions and three Commendations.) I would like to thank Mike Prcic for inviting me to be the judge. My congratulations to the prizewinners. I propose the following ranking:

1 st Prize Fadil Abdurahmanović & Zlatko Mihajloski	2 nd Prize Zlatko Mihajloski	Special Prize Zlatko Mihajloski	1 st Honorable Mention Guy Sobrecases
h#6½	(2+9) h#6½	(2+9) h#6½	(2+5) h#5½

1st Prize - (Fadil Abdurahmanović & Zlatko Mihajloski - H1644) A clear winner. First goes white Bishop b2 around black Bishop c3 (Ba3-Bd6-Bxe5). Later, the black Bishop c3 does the same thing (Bb4-Bf8-Bg7). A brilliant geometric experience! Solution: 1...Ba3 2.Sd7 Bd6 3.Sf6 Bxe5 4.Bb4+ Kf4 5.Bf8 Kg5 6.Bg7 Kg6 7.Sg8 Bxg7#.

2nd Prize - (Zlatko Mihajloski - H1670) An economical position with a five-moves Rundlauf by the white King around its own Bishop. Even Black's play is interesting. Solution: 1...Bf3 2.Rb5 Ke3 3.c5 Kf2 4.Qb6 Kxg3 5.Ke7 Kf4 6.Kd6 Ke4 7.Kc6 Ke5#.

Special Prize - (Zlatko Mihajloski - H1587) A double Rundlauf by the white King with tempo-move in each Rundlauf. A memorable miniature! Solution: 1...Kf3 2.Se3 Kxe3 3.d1B Kf4 4.Bg4 Kxg3 5.Bh3+Kf3 6.Kh4 Kf4 7.Qh5 g3#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Guy Sobrecases - H1642) A deep and original concept! Why not 3.Q~ Bb1 4.Sc2? Because the black Queen has no suitable square. Therefore 3.Sb1! Solution: 1...c3 2.Rf4 Bxg6 3.Sb1 Bxb1 4.Qc2 Kc7 5.Ke4 Kd6 6.Sf3 Bxc2#.

2 nd Honorable Mention Fadil Abdurahmanović Mike Prcic	1 st Commendation Alexey Gasparyan	2 nd Commendation Christopher Jones	3 rd Commendation Darko Nesek & Christopher Jones
h#6	(2+8) h#6	(2+7) h#3½ 2 sols. (6+10)	h#5 b) Kg7→h6 (8+8)

2nd Honorable Mention - (Fadil Abdurahmanović & Mike Prcic - H1616) Beautiful long moves along the diagonal a8-h1. The position is extremely light for its content. Solution: 1.Rd3 Bh1 2.Rd8 Kb3 3.Qg2 Kc4 4.Qa8 Bb7 5.Kd7 Kd5 6.Qc8 Bc6#.

1st Commendation - (Alexey Gasparyan - H1643) Rundlauf in 6 moves by the white Knight in a very economical position. Solution: 1.Qc7 Se5 2.Kh8 Sxd3 3.Sg8 Sxb2 4.d3 Sc4 5.Qh7 Sd6 6.Bg7 Sf7#.

2nd Commendation - (Christopher Jones - H1668) Analogous play, functionswechsel between black Rook b5 and black Queen f3, one- and two-step by white Pawn f2 and model mates. Solution: 1...Bxd3 2.Qf5 f3 3.Re5 exf5+ 4.Kd5 Bb5#; 1...Rxd3 2.Qg4 f4 3.Rd5 exd5+ 4.Kf5 Rf3#.

3rd Commendation - (Darko Nesek & Christopher Jones - H1612) Original position, analogous play and models. Solution: a) 1.Rxh3 Rh1 2.Rg3 Rxh4 3.Rh3 Rh8 4.Rh7 Rg8+ 5.Kh6 Rg6#, b) 1.Rg1 Kd1 2.Rxg4 Rg1 3.Rf4 Rxg5 4.Rg4 Rg6+ 5.Kh5 hxg4#.

Danka Petkova-90MT Award

by IGM Petko A. Petkovo

I received 112 originals from 59 participants. The award is divided into two groups: A - non-fairy and B - fairy.

1 st Prize Mario Parrinello	2 nd Prize Ralf Krättschmer	3 rd Prize Borislav Gadjanski	Special Prize H. Zajic† & D. Müller
hs#4½	(3+10) hs#4 2 solutions (2+8)	hs#3½ 2 solutions (3+8)	hs#3 2 solutions (3+3)

b) Pb5→d5

Section A

1st Prize - (Mario Parrinello) An ambitious design: transformation of a black battery followed by an Indian theme is achieved by using the same black pieces. The play by White lags (only the King's switchbacks deserve special interest), but as a whole, this problem, composed with only 13 pieces, is an excellent achievement. a) 1...Sc4+ 2.Ke4 Rd8 3.a6 Sd6+ 4.Kd3 f5 5.Qb7+ Sxb7#, b) 1...Se2-d4+ 2.Kc3 Ba6 3.axb6 Sb5+ 4.Kd3 d4 5.Qa7+ Sxa7#.

2nd Prize - (Ralf Krättschmer) The Indian theme, using the black King as front battery-piece, is not a new idea in this genre. In spite of that, the setting is striking in its purity and economy. 1.Kxb3 Qh1 2.Kc2 Kgl 3.Kd1 Be4 4.Qf2+ Kxf2#, 1.Kc3 Bh1 2.Kd4 Kg2 3.Ke4 c5 4.Qg3+ Kxg3#.

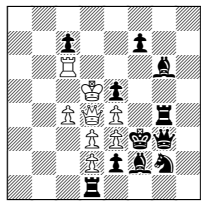
3rd Prize - (Borislav Gadjanski) Creation of black K/R and K/B batteries after striking maneuvers by the Rook and Bishop. Good economy. The only disappointment is the insipid white play with its passively positioned white Queen. 1...Rg1 2.Kd5 Sg5 3.f7 Rd1 4.Qxc3+ Kxc3#, 1...Ba3 2.Kf4 Sd6 3.Qe7 Bc1 4.Qxe2+ Kxe2#.

Special Prize - (Helmut Zajic† & Dieter Müller) A surprising miniature showing the Dentist theme combined with a mixed AUW. Such pearls are a good advertisement for the unique possibilities of hs# genre. 1.b8Q c1B 2.Qa7 Ba3 3.Qc5+ Bxc5#, 1.b8R c1S 2.Rd8 Sa2 3.Qc3+ Sxc3#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Abdelaziz Onkoud) A masked white half-pin combined with cyclic elements in Black's play. Ambitious contents but the form is not very aesthetic. 1.c5 Bxe4+[A] 2.d3xe4 Bxe3 3.Qxe3+ Sxe3#[B], 1.Rc5 Sxe3+[B] 2.dxe3 Rxe4 3.Qxe4+ Bxe4#.

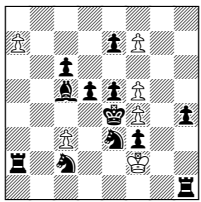
2nd Honorable Mention - (Dieter Müller) The full destruction of black batteries, after captures of front & rear pieces, is not new. This "Total Zilahi" is combined with the white Queen promotions and black self-blocks. However, there is no full harmony between solutions and the construction is heavy. 1.f8Q e6 2.Qxc5 exf5 3.Qxe3+ Sxe3#, 1.a8Q exf4 2.Qxa2 e5 3.Qxc2+ Sxc2#.

1st Honorable Mention
Abdelaziz Onkoud



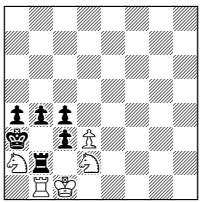
hs#3 2 solutions (8+11)

2nd Honorable Mention
Dieter Müller



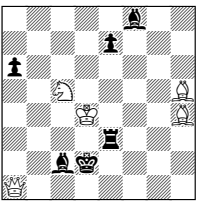
hs#3 2 solutions (6+12)

Commendation
Juraj Lörinc



hs#3½ 2 solutions (5+6)

Commendation
Dieter Müller

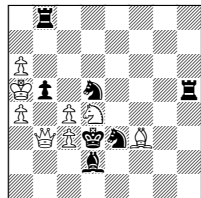


hs#2 b) Kd4→c4 (5+6)

Commendation - (Juraj Lörinc) An ANI-type problem, difficult to solve. 1...Rxa2 2.Sb3 cxb3 3.Rb2 cxb2+ 4.Kb1 Ra1#, 1...Rxd2 2.Sxb4 Rxd3 3.Sc2+ Ka2 4.Rb2+ cxb2#.

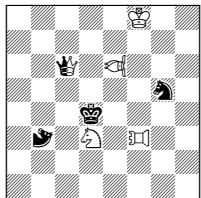
Commendation - (Dieter Müller) Interchange of functions in the play of two pairs of pieces: Qa1/Bh4 and Bc2/Re3. a) 1.Qb2 e6 2.Se4+ Rxe4#, b) 1.Bg5 e5 2.Sb3+ Sxb3#.

Commendation
Valerio Agostini



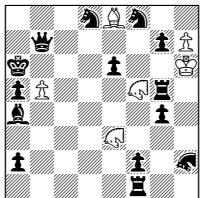
hs#2 2 solutions (8+7)

1st Prize
Vlaicu Crisan



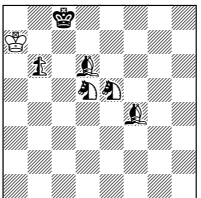
hs#3 b) Kf8→h2 (4+3+1)
Super-Circe, Zebra
VAO, PAO

2nd Prize
Manfred Rittirsch



hs#3 2 solutions (6+14)
Isardam, Anti-Circe
Rose

3rd Prize, Vlaicu Crisan
& Eric Huber



hs#4* 2 solutions (1+1+5)
Circe Parrain, Einstein

Commendation - (Valerio Agostini) Nice strategic content but without full analogy between solutions. 1.Bxd5 bxc4 2.Qxc4+ Sxc4#, 1.Sxb5 Sxc3 2.Qxc3+ Bxc3#.

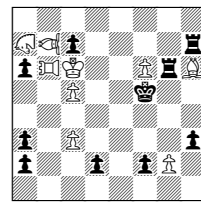
Section B

1st Prize - (Vlaicu Crisan) The main thematic element is the creation of two indirect white batteries S/PAO and S/VAO in every phase, combined with self-blocks by the VAO and PAO. This is well executed by using a neutral Queen, black Zebra and black Knight. There are also white tries on the first move as well as echo model mates. Both, white and black pieces are very active. a) 1.Sf4! (1.Sc5?) nQxf3 (PAe7) 2.nQxb3 (Zc5) nQxe6 (VAOg8) 3.Sxe6 (nQd2)++ Sxe6 (Sd3)#, b) 1.Se1! (1.Se5?) nQxe6 (VAOh1) 2.nQxb3 (Ze5) nQxf3 (PAOg3) 3.Sxf3 (nQb4)++ Sxf3 (Sc4)#.

2nd Prize - (Manfred Rittirsch) The problem demonstrates the synthesis of Anti-Circe and Isardam. The idea of activating the white Pb5, to give check to the black King, is connected with a nice motif: deactivation of the two Bishops, which create the "Isardam paralysis" of the Pawn. Fine motives are seen also after promotions, the play of the Roses and in the nice final moves by the black ecto-battery which activate the black Pg7. Heavy construction seems inevitable here. 1.ROd6 a1Q 2.h8Q Qe5 3.ROec8+ Rd1#, 1.ROc4 a1B 2.h8B Be5 3.ROfc8+ Rc1#.

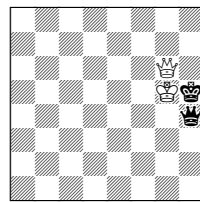
3rd Prize - (Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber) A beautiful miniature with optimal use of neutral pieces. A good demonstration of special effects with set-play as well. 1...nBfxe5=nR 2.nBb8=nS (+nSc7) nRxd5=nQ 3.b7 (+nSd6)+ Kxc7 4.nSxb7=nB (+nSa8)+ nBxa8=nR#, 1.nSg6=nP g5 2.nBxf4=nR gxf4=nS (+nBe3) 3.nBc5 =nS (+nRd6) nSxd5=nB 4.nSb7=nP (nSc7)+ nBxb7=nR#, 1.nSc7=nP nBdx5=nR 2.bxc7=nS (+nSf6) Kd8 (+nPd7) 3.nSxd7=nB nBxe5=nR (+nPc8) 4.nBxc8=nR (+nRd6)+ Kxc8 (+nPb8)#.

4th Prize
Sven Trommler



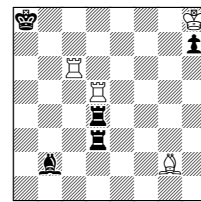
hs#3 3 solutions (9+10)
NAO, VAO, PAO

5th Prize
Peter Harris



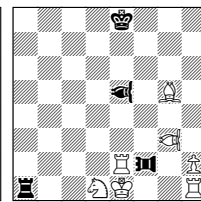
hs#2½ (2+2)
b) Rotation 180 (Kb4/Ka4)
Super-Circe, Lortap
Sentinelles Pawn Adverse

6th Prize
Geoff Foster



hs#2½ b) Rd4→c3 (4+5)
Diagram Circe

Special Prize
Klaus Wenda



hs#4½ Anti-Circe (7+4)
Rookhopper
Bishopopper

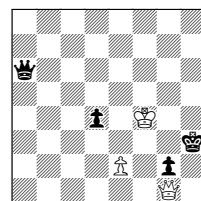
4th Prize - (Sven Trommler) A difficult complex with unusual play from both sides. Black creates anti-batteries with promoted pieces, using his King as a front piece. White answers with action by the same kind of piece, as the one promoted by Black. The solutions, after promotions to NAO and VAO, are excellent, but in the "PAO duo" there is no creation of a white-anti-battery as there is in the other solutions. 1.c4 a1NAO 2.NAOd1 NAOg4 3.Be3+ Ke5#, 1.PAOb4 f1PAO 2.PAOa4 PAOxf6 3.PAOa5+ Ke6#, 1.VAOc8 d1VAO 2.VOAxh3 VAOf3 3.g4+ Ke4#.

5th Prize - (Peter Harris) A humorous four-man ANI with three fairy conditions and dynamic play. a) 1...Kg4 [+wPh5] 2.Qc2 [+bPg6]+ Kh3 [+wPg4] 3.Kxh4 [+bQe3] [+bPg5]+ g6h5 [+wPg3]#, b) 1...Qb6 [+wPa5]+ 2.Kc3 [+bPb4] Kxb3 [+wQc1] [+wPa4]+ 3.axb6 [+bQa2] Kc4 [+wPb3]#.

6th Prize - (Geoff Foster) In each solution White's double-check is answered by a black double-check. The positions, after the first half-move, are identical, but the remainder of the solutions is different. This is because the mating Rook must move twice before giving mate. a) 1...Rc3 2.Rd7 Rh4 3.Rc8+ Rxc8 (+wRc6)#, b) 1...Rd4 2.Rc7 Rh3 3.Rd8+ Rxd8 (+wRd5)#.

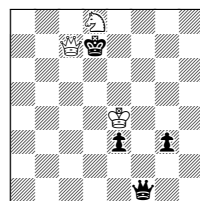
Special Prize - (Klaus Wenda) The black Rooks visits all 4 corners of the board, combined with two castlings. 1...Rxd1 (Ra8) 2.0-0 BHxh2 (BHh1) 3.Rc1 0-0-0 4.Rc7 Rh8 5.Kxh1 (Ke1)+ Rh1#.

Special Prize
Diyan Kostadinov



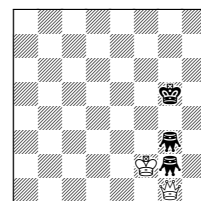
hs#3½ b) -Pd4 (3+4)
KoBul Kings (f4 & h3)

Special Prize
Juraj Lörinc



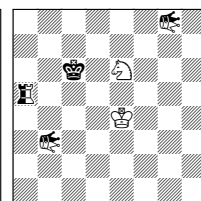
hs#3 b) Pg3→d2 (3+4)
Patrol Chess

1st Honorable Mention
Cosme Brull Mayol



hs=4 2 solutions (2+3)
Circe Parrain, G's

2nd Honorable Mention
Eric Huber



hs#2½ 2 solutions (2+1+3)
Take & Make, Circe Parrain

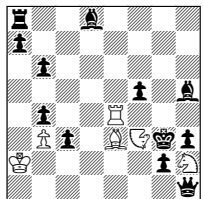
Special Prize - (Diyan Kostadinov) An interesting and difficult play with sacrifices, minor promotions and ideal mates. Fine finales with specific KoBul Kings effects and surprisingly good economy (only 7 pieces), a) 1...d3 2.Qf1 gxf1=S (wKK=KKQ) 3.exd3 Se3 4.KKQxe3 (bKK=KKS)+ Qxd3 (wKKQ=KK)# [5.KKxd3 (bKKS=KKQ)? - self-check], b) 1...Qe6 2.Qh1+ gxh1=B (wKK=KKQ) 3.e3 Bf3 4.KKQxf3 (bKK=KKB)+ Qxe3 (wKKQ=KK)# [5.KKxe3 (bKKB=KKQ)? - self-check].

Special Prize - (Juraj Lörinc) Fine anti-critical moves by the black Queen, combined with active play by both Kings and typical Patrol effects. a) 1.Sf7 Qf5 2.Kf4 Ke7 3.Qd8+ Ke6#, b) 1.Sc6 Qc4 2.Kd3 Kd6 3.Qe7+ Kd5#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Cosme Brull Mayol) Fine chameleon-echo mates (after not so difficult play) with three very nice typical effects in the finales, where white King moves are impossible because of an illegal self-check. 1.Qe1 Gg6 2.Kxg2 Kh6 (Gh3) 3.Kxh3 Kh5 (Gh2) 4.Qh4+ Gxh4= [5.Kh2 (Qh3)?, 5.Kg3 (Qg4)? or 5.Kg2 (Qg3)?], 1.Kxg3 Kh5 (Gh3) 2.Qxg2 Gh6 (Sg5) 3.Kh2 Kh4 4.Qh3+ Gxh3= [5.Kh1 (Qh2)?, 5.Kg2 (Qg3)? Or 5.Kg 1(Qg2)?].

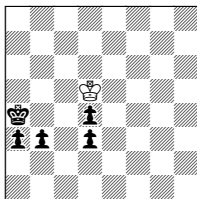
2nd Honorable Mention - (Eric Huber) After specific sacrifices by the neutral Rook and white Knight, there follow two nice finales with the neutral Locusts as main actors. The main idea is that in Take & Make Chess, captures of Locusts are illegal because imitation of their moves is not possible. 1...nLOBxe6-g5 2.nRc5 [+wSg6]+ Kd7 3.nLQxc5 nLOXg6-f3#, 1...nLOGxe6-e7+ 2.Kf4 [+wSf6] nRh5 3.Sxh5-g5 nLOXg5-f5#.

3rd Honorable Mention
Sven Trommler



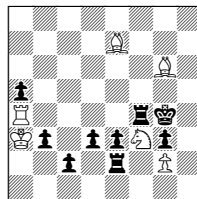
hs#3 3 solutions (6+12)
♞Nightrider

4th Honorable Mention
Karol Mlynka



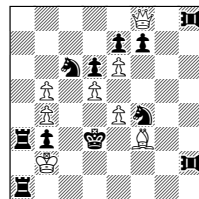
hs#4 2 solutions (1+5)
Chameleon Chess
Circe Turncoats

5th Honorable Mention
Pierre Tritten



hs#2 b) bBf4 (6+9)
Andermach Chess
Anti-Circe

Commendation
Dieter Müller



hs#3 b) +wSg4 (8+11)
♞Equihopper

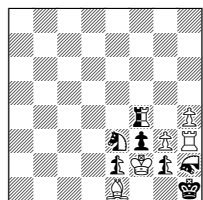
3rd Honorable Mention - (Sven Trommler) A cyclic creation of white Indians with a Rook, Bishop and a Nightrider. Not a new idea but always intriguing and difficult to show. However, the black play is not adequately aesthetical in relation to the white strategy. The construction is also not perfect, with the technical cook-stopper Bh5. 1.Nb5 a6 2.Rd4 Kxh2 3.Rg4+ axb5#, 1.Bxb6 Bh4 2.Nd4 Kf2 3.Nxf5+ axb6#, 1.Rxb4 a5 2.Bd4 Kf4 3.Bf2+ axb4#.

4th Honorable Mention - (Karol Mlynka) A nice Rex solus with interesting mates, after captures by the chameleon in its Queen-phase, which changes its color. 1.Kxd4 (+wPd7) d2 2.d8B d1B 3.Bb6R Be2R 4.Rb4Q+ Kxb4 (+bQd1)#, 1.Kc4 Ka5 2.Kxb3 (+wPb7) a2 3.b8R a1Q 4.Rb5Q+ Kxb5 (+bQd1)#.

5th Honorable Mention - (Pierre Tritten) A creation of masked white batteries, unpin of black pieces and switchbacks with nice fairy effects. Ambitious, but without full thematic identity between the two phases. a) 1. Bb4! Rf8 2.Bxa5 (+bBc1)+ Rf4#, b) Sd4 Bb8 2.Sxc2 (+bSb1)+ Bf4#.

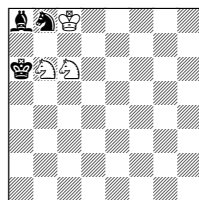
Commendation - (Dieter Mueller) A creation of specific anti-batteries using black Equihoppers and with pins by the white Queen. An unusual mechanism, but the construction is heavy. a) 1.Qc8 Kd2 2.Be2 Se5+ 3.Qc3+ Kxe2#, b) 1.Qh6 Kd4 2.Se5 Se2+ 3.Qd2+ Kxe5#.

Commendation
Juraj Lörinc



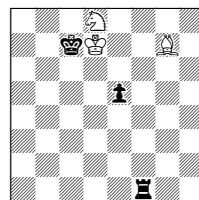
hs#3* (5+2+5)
♞MAO

Commendation
Stephan Dietrich



hs#3 b) bRa8 (3+3)
PWC

Commendation
Jaroslav Stun



hs#5 duplex (3+3)
Anti-Koko

Commendation - (Juraj Lörinc) An ANI problem with two phases presenting surprising promotions. A good achievement, but here the set-play seems thematically better than the solution. 1...g1=nMAO 2.nSfl exf1=nMAO 3.gxf4 nMAOxh3#, 1. nRe4 fxe2 2. nRxe3 g1S 3.nMAOf1+ Sxh3#.

Commendation - (Stephan Dietrich) An aristocratic miniature with nice but thematically insufficient deep play. a) 1.Sxa8 (Bb6) Bd8 2.Kxb8 (Sc8) Sb6 3.Sc7+ Bxc7 (Sd8)#, b) 1.Sa7 Rxa7 (Sa8) 2.Sc4 Sc6 3.Sc7+ Rxc7 (Sa7)#.

Commendation - (Jaroslav Stun) Two difficult solutions with interesting activity by both Kings. However, the repetition of some moves, in both phases, detracts. 1.Bh8 e4 2.Ke6 Rb1 3.Kf7 Kxd8 4.Kf8 Rb8 5.Bf6+ Kd7#, 1.e4 Bh6 2.Rf8 Ke6 3.Rh8 Kf7 4.Kd6 Kf6 5.Rf8+ Bxf8#.

StrateGems 2009 s# award revision

The 2nd Commendation problem by Petko A. Petkov, was previously published in *The Problemist* (11/2006). Therefore, it is removed from the award and replaced by the 3rd Commendation problem by Živko Janevski. We thank Frank Müller for pointing this out to us.

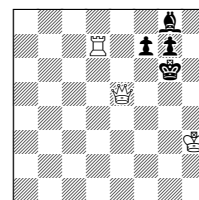
Repeat the Sounding Joy

by Robert Lincoln

Those “repeaters” pour forth. This group embraces many strategic ideas that I have come across recently.

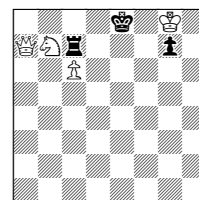
No.1 looks like another hackneyed BP 1-2 caprice, but it does show a degree of worthy substance. Two mistaken WR forays are sternly rejected 1.Rd6+? f6! and 1.Rd5? (zz) f5! Royal support is provided by **1.Kh4!** (zz). The booty gets allocated 1...f6/Kh6/Kh7 2.Qh5#, 1...Bh7 2.Qg5#, and 1...f5 2.Qxg7#. That hideaway BB serves as a useful blocker.

No.1 R. Lincoln
Original



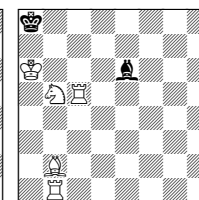
#2

No.2 R. Lincoln
Original



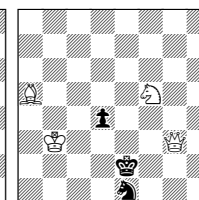
(3+4) #2

No.3 R. Lincoln
Original



(4+3) #2

No.4 R. Lincoln
Original



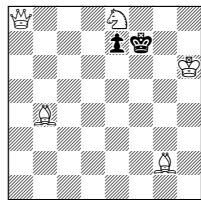
(5+2) #2

(4+3)

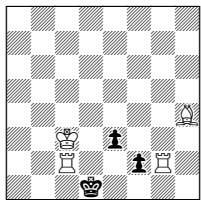
Clearly, that dozing WQ of **No.2** must be brought out of secluded hibernation. 1.Qe3+? is bluntly rebuked by 1...Re7! Another potent try is 1.Qb8+?, which forestalls 1...Rc8 2.Qe5#, but 1...Ke7! 1.Qd4? (2.Qd8#) deals with 1...Ke7 2.Qe5# or 1...Rd7 2.Qxd7#, but 1...Rxb7! Accordingly, **1.Qf2!** (2.Qf8#) attains 2.Qf7# under diversified circumstances - 1...Rf7 (line cut), 1...Rxc6 (capture of guard), and 1...Ke7 (move to gain flight).

Ordinarily, I loathe flight-taking keys but do allow concessions. **No.3** needs a gruesome **1.Be5!** (2.Sc7#) for soundness. The BB defenses, enabling 2.R(x)c8# include 1...Bc8+ (check), 1...Be4 (pin), and 1...Bb3 (Levman).

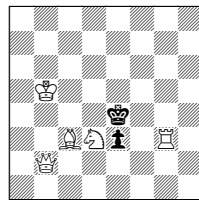
Four eventualities erase Black's doomed knight in **No.4**. The half-baked 1.Sxd4+? turns sour upon 1...Kf1! **1.Sh4!** (zz) is fitting resolution. That victim perishes after 1...d3/Kf1/Kd1 2.Qxe1#. 2.Q(x)f3 commands BS departure where a self-immolation can occur if 1...Sf3.

No.5 R. Lincoln
Original

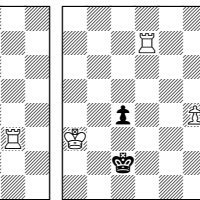
#2

No.6 R. Lincoln
Original

(5+2) #2

No.7 R. Lincoln
Original

#2

No.8 R. Lincoln
Original

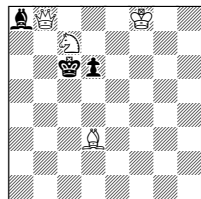
(5+2) #2

Attempts to control potential flights are ill-advised for **No.5**. 1.Qc8? (zz) is futile when 1...e6! 1.Sc7? (zz) gives access to 2.Qf8# on BP moves, but 1...Kf6! The patient **1.Qd8!** (zz) triumphs over 1...e6/Kf8/Kg8 2.Sd6#, 1...e5 2.Bd5#, and 1...Ke6 2.Qd5#. Those concluding offshoots exhibit the StrateGems Miniature Theme II.

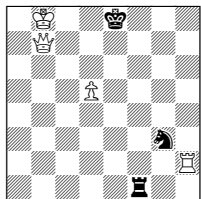
A strange duplication of “same mates” dogs the fate of 1...e2 and 1...f1Q throughout the proceedings in **No.6**. 1.Bg5? (zz) utilizes 2.Rc1# versus 1...e2, but either 1...f1Q! or 1...Ke1! defeat. 1.Kb2? (zz) applies 2.Rc1# against 1...f1Q, but 1...e2! 1.Rb2? (zz) inserts 2.Rb1# for 1...e2 and 1...f1Q, but 1...Kc1! Finally, **1.Ra2!** (zz) conquers that frequent pair (and 1...Kc1) with 2.Ra1#. A leftover 2.Rg1# accounts for 1...Ke1.

No.7 incorporates a changed play extravaganza which employs “progressive reduction” of refutations. 1.Rg2? (zz) snares 1...Kxd3 2.Qc2#, but 1...e2!, 1...Kf3!, 1...Kd5!, or 1...Kf5! are all safe. 1.Rg6? (zz) envisions 1...Kd5 2.Qg2#, but 1...e2!, 1...Kf5!, and 1...Kxd3! linger. 1.Rg4+? brings low 1...Kxd3 2.Rd4#, but 1...Kd5! and 1...Kf5! resist. The singular 1...Kxd3! copes with the next three tries: 1.Rg5? (zz) 1...e2 2.Qxe2# and 1...Kf3 2.Qg2#, 1.Qa2? (zz) 1...e2 2.Qe6#, and 1...Kf5 2.Qd5#, and 1.Qb4+? 1...Kd5 2.Sf4# and 1...Kf5 2.Qg4#. Yes, there is a valid key. **1.Bd2!** (zz) returns a constant 2.Qe5# for 1...e2/Kf5/Kd5 and 1...Kxd3 falls to 2.Rxe3#. Whatever its faults, this outré fantasy does have the ingredients of a 3x4 Zagoruiko.

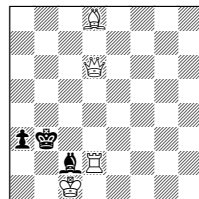
The next two items synthesize the curious “Kareliya theme” where at least three defenses yield matching retorts in virtual and actual play (they cannot be present in the original position). **No.8** has 1.Qf6? (2.Qb2#) misfire to 1...c3! 1.Qh5? (zz) collects 2.Qd1# if 1...c3/Kc1/Kb1, but 1...Kc3! weathers the crisis. Instead, **1.Qd6!** (zz) achieves 2.Qd1# in identical fashion while reserving 2.Qd2# to smite 1...Kc3.

No.9 R. Lincoln
Original

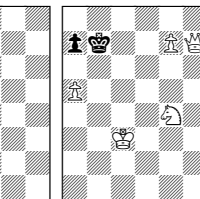
#2

No.10 R. Lincoln
Original

(4+3) #2

No.11 R. Lincoln
Original

#2

No.12 R. Lincoln
Original

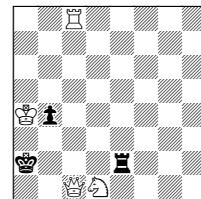
(4+3) #2

Threats may be utilized in conjunction with Kareliya. **No.9** possesses a false start 1.Se8? (2.Qb5#) which encourages 1...Bb7/Kc5/Kd5 to jointly tumble to 2.Qxd6#. However, 1...Kd7! is secure. Alternatively, **1.Sb5!** (zz) simply waits. Then, 2.Qxd6# polishes off that luckless trio again while foiling 1...d5 2.Qc7# and 1...Kd7 2.Qe8#.

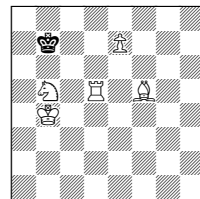
Four succeeding tableaux extend the familiar tripled reprises. Several errors are enacted within **No.10**. 1.Rc2? (2.Rc8#) is thrust back 1...Rc1! 1.Rh7? (2.Qe7, Qc8#) is met by 1...Rf7! Correct is **1.d6!** (2.Qe7#). Varied protective choices propel a fourfold reiteration of 2.Rh8#. Loss of line control results when 1...Re1 (or 1...Rb1) go shuffling away and 1...Sf5 (or 1...Kf8) commit self-interference. One more bonus frill is 1...Rf7 2.Qc8#.

Repeaters reach the five level in **No.11**. A resourceful BK fends off withering assaults. 1...Ka2! ducks into a convenient burrow on 1.Ba5? (zz). 1.Qb6+? fetches 1...Ka2 2.Qb1# and 1...Ka4 2.Rd4#, but 1...Kc3! or 1...Kc4! are okay. 1.Qe6+? would reap 1...Kc3 2.Ba5# and 1...Ka4 2.Qc4#, but 1...Kb4! **1.Be7!** (zz) aptly reinforces to bulldoze 1...a2/B~/Kc3/ Kc4/Ka4 2.Qb4#. 2.Qxa3# catches the elusive 1...Ka2.

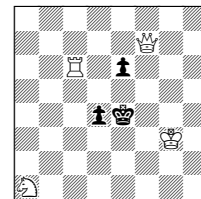
No.12 has a desolate BK obliged to surrender to a modest **1.Kb4!** (zz). The sextuple tally is 1...a6/Kc7/Kb8/Ka8/Kc8/Kc6 2.e8Q#. 2.Sc5# steps forward to bag 1...Ka6. Slick enough, though making a second WQ usually smacks of overkill.

No.13 R. Lincoln
Original

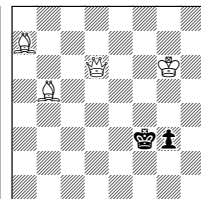
#2

No.14 R. Lincoln
Original

(4+3) #2

No.15 R. Lincoln
Original

(5+1) #2

No.16 R. Lincoln
Original

(4+3) #2

(4+2)

Seven repeated mates are doubtlessly a practical limitation. **No.13** commences **1.Ra8!** (2.Kxb4#) inducing a frantic BR to scurry 1...Rb2/Re3/Re4/Re5/Re6/Re7/Re8 giving 2.Q(x)b2#. This formula seems a bit stiff and mechanical.

Remaining objects are devoted to linked threesomes. A determined 1.e8Q? (zz) appears logical for **No.14**. 1...Ka6 is seized 2.Qc6#, but 1...Kb6! So an unpretentious battery is erected **1.Be4!** (zz). It fires both directly and indirectly to convincingly daunt 1...Ka8/Kb8/Kc8 2.Rd8# and 1...Ka6/Kb6/Kc6 2.Rd6#.

A similarly bland waiter unscrambles **No.15**. That remote horseman must enter the fray. An imprecise 1.Sc2? (zz) lets 1...Kd3! survive. **1.Sb3!** (zz) attaches essential guards on d4 and d2 to facilitate 1...e5/Ke3/Kd3 2.Qf3# and 1...d3/Ke5/Kd5 2.Qxe6#.

Checking tries augment **No.16**. 1.Qf6+? changes the prepared 1...Ke4 2.Bc6# to 2.Qf5# and also picks up 1...Kg4 2.Bd7#, but 1...Kg2! 1.Qd5+? will transfer 2.Qf5# upon 1...Kf4, but 1...Kg4! The Turton-like **1.Bb8!** (zz) empowers 2.Qf4# to corral 1...Bg2/g2/Ke3. 2.Qxg3# is primed for 1...Kf2/Kg2/Kg4. The really pleasurable aspect is achieving an “independent” blow through 1...Ke4 2.Qd3#.

Chess Composition Exhibition 2001-2011

This experimental project is conducted in six sections: #2, #3, #n, Studies, h# and s#. Each composer can send only one composition per section published within 2001-2011 (joint compositions are allowed). There is a separate division for miniatures. (Thus each composer can send 12 entries, six regular lengths and six miniatures.)

Compositions should be sent via email to Grigory Popov Popov@pochta.ru by June 30, 2012. All submitted compositions will be posted at www.popovgl.narod.ru.

Judging will be done by conducting an opinion poll and using the Arbitri program offered by O. Efrosinin. The results will be published by the end of 2012.

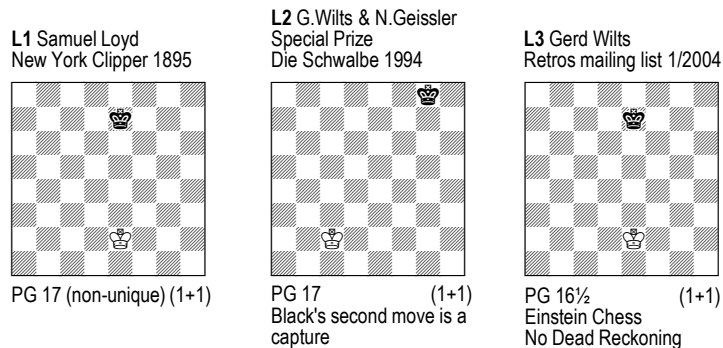
The quest for a King-only proof game

By François Labelle

This issue of *StrateGems* contains a "massacre" shortest proof game (in $19\frac{1}{2}$ moves) that has only 2 pieces left: the white King on e5 and the black King on e2 (see **P0330** on page 91). It is the first known realization of this task in orthodox chess without additional conditions. In this article I will describe the origins of this type of proof game.

A brief history

In 1895, Sam Loyd published a 2-King proof game in 17 moves (see diagram **L1**). This is an impressive early achievement since the diagram cannot be obtained in fewer moves. Unfortunately the problem has many solutions in 17 moves, so it does not satisfy the modern requirement of having a unique solution.



In 1994, Gerd Wilts and Norbert Geissler used a computer to search for a 2-King proof game in 17 moves, and their search uncovered a conditional problem (see diagram **L2**). They did not find a condition-free 2-King problem, but in the process they found 17 proof games with 3 pieces (2 white pieces + 1 black piece) in $16\frac{1}{2}$ moves. Sixteen of those problems were new and were published in various magazines or in the Chess Problem Database CD-ROM. One of them requires the caption "no Dead Reckoning" (more about this later).

In 2004, Gerd Wilts found a 2-King proof game in fairy chess (see diagram **L3**). Many more examples with fairy conditions were found by Joost de Heer in 2009. All of these were posted on the Retros mailing list.

Basic search methods

Most of the known massacre proof games were found by computers, so I believe that computers are superior to humans for this particular task. The computer method I use starts from the initial position and explores the ensuing game tree ply by ply. It is important to prune the search and eliminate transpositions. Basic pruning strategies are:

Method No.1 Reject a move if the number of pieces remaining is more than 2 (the two Kings) plus the number of plies remaining. This uses the simple fact that in chess we can capture at most 1 piece per ply.

Method No.2 Same as Method No.1, but performed individually for White and Black. The number of white pieces remaining must be at most 1 (the white King) plus the number of black moves remaining, and similarly for the number of black pieces remaining. This is a tighter condition.

In 1994, Gerd Wilts and Norbert Geissler used Method No.2 to search for a 2-King proof game in 17 moves. In 2004, I used Method No.1 to reproduce their results. Method No.1 is about twice as slow as Method No.2, but it generates 3-piece problems of both (2+1) and (1+2) types at move $n-\frac{1}{2}$, while Method No.2 will only find one type at move $n-\frac{1}{2}$ (which one depends on who has the last move). I also searched for a 2-King problem in $17\frac{1}{2}$ moves, without success. Increasing the number of moves further was computationally out of reach at the time.

Forcing the Kings to change ranks

The basic search methods above are inefficient beyond $17\frac{1}{2}$ moves because they spend too much time calculating games with the white King on ranks 1 or 2 and the black King on ranks 7 or 8. For most of these $16 \times 16 = 256$ end diagrams a cooked SPG is already known from the $17\frac{1}{2}$ -move search, so searching the same diagrams for an even longer SPG is wasteful. My idea was to impose a minimum destination rank for the white King, and similarly a maximum destination rank for the black King. This would force the computer to explore uncharted territory.

The actual pruning method I used is quite elaborate. It basically ensures that there are enough non-capturing moves left for the Kings to get to their destination ranks by counting pieces on paths between the Kings and their destination ranks. Note that pieces of either color can help save a non-capturing move when they lie on a King's path. This is clear for, say, a black piece on the white King's path, but a white piece on the white King's path can still potentially save a non-capturing move if Black captures it to turn it to a black piece before the white King gets there.

A note about Dead Reckoning

Dead Reckoning (DR) refers to Article 1.3 in the FIDE Laws of Chess, which affects many 2- or 3-piece proof games. The article says that "if the position is such that neither player can possibly checkmate, the game is drawn". In particular, this means that the last move of a 2-King proof game must be the capture of a Pawn, Rook, or Queen; otherwise the game would have ended earlier due to insufficient mating material. See Dead Reckoning: Castling & En passant (*StrateGems* 16, Oct-Dec 2001) for more about DR.

My approach is to search problems without considering DR, and to apply DR later. One reason for this is that if a problem fails with DR, then it can still be published with the caption "no Dead Reckoning". In contrast, if a problem requires DR to work, then I feel it should be published with the caption "Dead Reckoning" as a courtesy to solvers. Fortunately, the 2-King proof game that I found did not need a caption, according to these guidelines.

Combinations of game length and destination ranks attempted

On and off over the years, I have attempted various combinations of game length and King destination ranks, roughly in order of increasing computational difficulty. Eventually I did a full search of 2-King proof games in 18 moves (without any rank constraint) using Method No.2, but found no problem. I kept attempting more difficult combinations, until the combination "*length = $19\frac{1}{2}$, white King rank ≥ 5 , black King rank ≤ 3* " finally uncovered a unique-solution 2-King SPG. That particular combination took about 10 core-months of computing time and 2 terabytes of disk space. **Figure 1** (see next page) illustrates the entire search space I explored. Warning: The figure does not represent a chessboard; read the axis labels carefully!

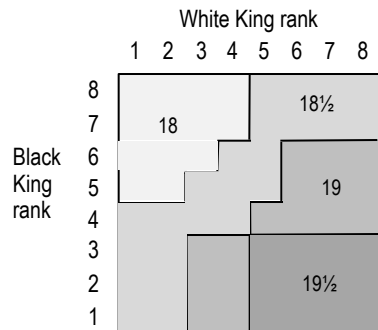


Figure 1: The maximum PG length that I analyzed for each of the 8x8 combinations of King destination ranks.

		White King rank							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Black King rank	8	63	63	62	51	59	46	18	6
	7	63	63	63	53	62	29	17	10
	6	63	63	60	63	35	39	29	27
	5	50	50	63	34	4	13	4	0
	4	56	59	32	3	20	0	0	0
	3	24	22	42	20	45	0	0	0
	2	10	12	37	14	37	0	0	0
	1	2	2	34	11	17	0	0	0

Figure 2: The number of 2-King diagrams for which I know the SPGs, broken down by King destination ranks, without considering Dead Reckoning. The total number of diagrams (including those for which I do not know the SPGs) is 64 outside of the diagonal band and 42 inside the band. My unique-solution 2-King SPG comes from the highlighted square.

Figure 2 shows, for each combination of King destination ranks, the number of 2-King diagrams that I reached (without considering DR) with a search up to the respective game length given in Figure 1. Increasing the game length limit would increase those numbers, up to the number of legal 2-King diagrams with given King ranks: 64 when the ranks differ by 2 or more, and 42 otherwise. The largest number in the figure is 63 and, amusingly, for all such cases the missing diagram is the one where both Kings are on the a-file.

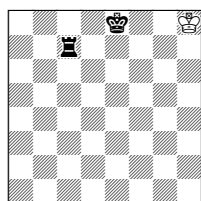
length	(2+1)	(1+2)	total
16½	17	1	18
17	38	62	100
17½	111	40	151
18	1	61	62
18½	14	0	14
19	0	4	4

Table 1: The number of unique-solution 3-piece PGs that I found at each length, without considering Dead Reckoning. The highlighted numbers are definitive, having come from an exhaustive search.

Three-piece proof games.

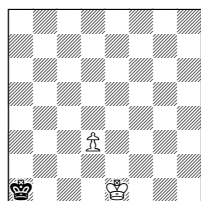
Proof games with 3 pieces are easier to find because there are more combinations. I obtained 349 of them as the by-product of the search. **Table 1** gives the counts. The full search of 2-King proof games in 18 moves confirmed the previously known 3-piece problems in 16½ and 17 moves, and generated 111 new problems of type (2+1) in 17½ moves (all highlighted in the table). Searches with King-rank constraints uncovered some more 3-piece problems, but not all the problems with those constraints - just those that survived the particular pruning method I was using.

L4 François Labelle original



PG 18

L5 François Labelle original



(1+2) PG 18

(2+1)

In keeping with the theme of King travel, here are two 3-piece proof games where one King travels all the way to the opposite rank:

L4: 1.e4 d5 2.Ke2 dxe4 3.Ke3 Qxd2+ 4.Kxe4 Qxf2 5.Be3 Qxg1 6.Bxa7 Qxh2 7.Bxb8 Qxg2+ 8.Bxg2 e5 9.Kxe5 Rxa2 10.Bxb7 Bxb7 11.Bxc7 Bxh1 12.Qxh1 Rxa1 13.Qxh7 Rxb1 14.Qxg8 Rxb2 15.Qxg7 f6+ 16.Kxf6 Bxg7+ 17.Kxg7 Rxc2 18.Kxh8 Rxc7

L5: 1.d4 h6 2.Bxh6 c5 3.Bxg7 Rxb2 4.Bxf8 Rxb1 5.Bxe7 Kxe7 6.Sc3 Kd6 7.dxc5+ Kxc5 8.Qxd7 Rxc1 9.Qxb7 Rxc2 10.Qxa7+ Kb4 11.Qxf7 Rxf2 12.Qxg8 Rxe2+ 13.Bxe2 Rxa2 14.Bd3 Qxd3 15.Qxc8 Rxb2 16.Qxb8+ Kxc3 17.Qxb2+ Kxb2 18.cxd3 Kxa1.

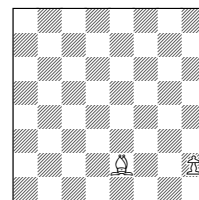
Are more 2-King SPGs waiting to be discovered?

Looking at **Figure 2**, out of $64 \times 42 + 42 \times 22 = 3612$ possible 2-King diagrams, I found SPGs for 1824 (50.5%) of them: 1823 were cooked and one was sound. This success rate indicates there could be another problem hiding in the unexplored 49.5%. Actually, looking at the success rate of 3-piece diagrams for which I have more data, I think the probability of getting a unique SPG for a given 2-King diagram might be closer to 1/1000. We might have been unlucky that it took so long to find one. This view is supported by the situation in fairy chess where 2-King PGs were found more quickly. Non-shortest PGs are also a possibility, although less likely than SPGs: Among the 695 2-King diagrams for which I know both the number of SPGs and the number of PGs in ½ extra moves, only four diagrams have fewer solutions in ½ extra moves. Still, finding another 2-King PG in orthodox chess will not be easy and I fear it will require more computing power, a better pruning method, or plain luck.

Recently Honored US Compositions

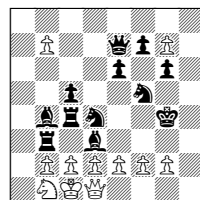
All solutions and comments have been obtained from magazines which originally published the awards, or from awarded composers.

N1 Ryan McCracken
1st Honorable Mention
Problemblad 2002



Add wK wQ bK bB & bP
for an illegal cluster (2+0)
Circe

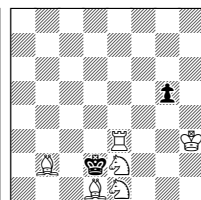
N2 Gianni Donati
4th Honorable Mention
Problemblad 2002



PG 25½

(11+12) h#3

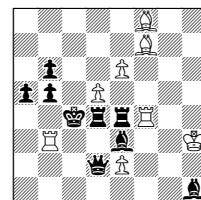
N3 Toma Garai
6th Commendation
Problem Paradise 2009



3 sols.

(6+2)

N4 Toma Garai
1st Commendation
Problemblad 2009



2 sols.

(8+9)

N1 Add wKd3 wQh5 bKb5 bBa6 & bPb7. In this position White must retract his check-giving move, whereupon Black must 'uncapture' a white unit on b5. In Circe however, the rebirth square of this unit has to be occupied for such a move. Due to the position of Be2 and Ph2, moves like Qd1-h5+ or Qh1-h5+ could not have taken place, so an occupied rebirth square turns out to be an impossibility.

N2 1.Sf3 Sc6 2.Se5 Sd4 3.Sxd7 Kxd7 4.a4 Ke6 5.a5 Kf5 6.a6 Kg4 7.axb7 Bf5 8.Rxa7 e6 9.Ra1 Rxa1 10.Sc3 Rxc1 11.h4 Ra1 12.h5 Ra4 13.h6 Rc4 14.hxg7 Bb4 15.Rh6 Qe7 16.Rg6+ hxg6 17.Qa1 Rh1 18.Kd1 Sh6 19.Kc1 Rxf1+ 20.Sd1 Rh1 21.Qa8 Rh3 22.Qh8 Rb3 23.Sc3 Bd3 24.Sb1 Shf5 25.Qh1 c5 26.Qd1 The white Queen executes a square Rundlauf of maximum size without captures in order to let the white King move to c1.

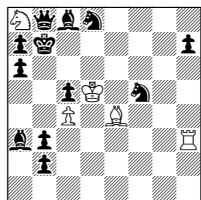
N3 1.Kxd1 Sc3+ 2.Kd2 Re2#, 1.Kxe3 Sg3 2.Kf4 Sg2#, 1.Kxe1 Bc3+ 2.Kf1 Rf3#

N4 1.Rxe6 Re4 2.Rc6 dxc6#, 1.Rxd5 Rd3 2.Rd7 exd7#

N5 1.Se6 Rxh7+ 2.Sc7+ Ke5#, 1.Sc6 Rxb3+ 2.Sb4+ Kxc5# Royal battery play.

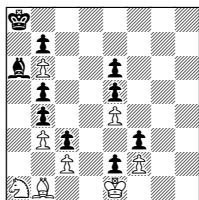
N6 5.Kxb6 6.Kc6 7.b6 8.Bb7 9.Bd5 10.Bxb3 Bxb3 11.Kd4 Bd5 12.b3 Sxb3#

N5 Toma Garai
3rd Commendation
Problemblad 2009



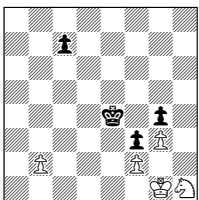
h#2 2 sols. (5+12) h#12

N6 Steven B. Dowd
& Mirko Degenkolbe
1st Comm., IRT 2007



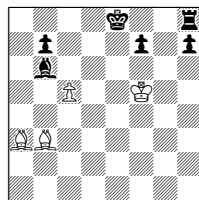
(8+10)

N7 Steven B. Dowd
& Mirko Degenkolbe
4th Comm., IRT 2007



h#7

N8 Mike Prcic
3rd Commendation
Orbit 2010

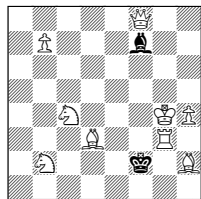


h#2 2 sols. (4+6)

N7 1.c5 b4 5.c1B b8Q 6.Bf4 Qd6 7.Bxg3 Sxg3# A double excelsior with black minor promotion and white promoted Queen, which does not mate!

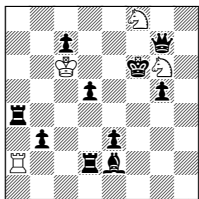
N8 1.0-0 Bxf7+ 2.Kh8 Bb2#, 1.Bd8 Ba4+ 2.b5 cxb6 e.p.# A combination of black castling and en passant capture by White.

N9 Steven B. Dowd
3rd Prize
Springaren 2010



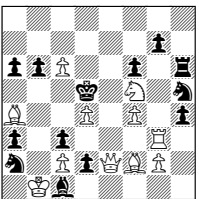
s#9

N10 Newman Guttman
& Leonard Balbus
Commendation
The Problemist 2008



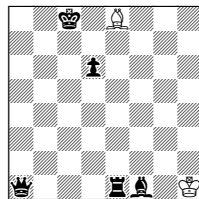
(9+2) h#2 b) Sf8h6 (4+10)

N11 Milan Vukcevič†
2nd Honorable Mention
Die Schwalbe 2002



#3

N12 Steven B. Dowd &
Mirko Degenkolbe
1st Comm., Orbit 2010



h#6 (2+5)

N9 1.Kh3! Ke1 2.Re3+ Kf2 3.Re6 Kf3 4.b8B Kf2 5.Qc5+ Kf3 6.Qf2+ Kxf2 7.Bbg3+ Kf3 8.Be4+ Ke2 9.Bg2+ Bxe6#

N10 a) 1.Bc4 Ra1 2.Rd3 Rf1#, b) 1.Rc4+ Kb5 2.c5 Ra6# Grimshaw on c4.

N11 1.Rg5! (2.Qe6+ Kxe6 3.Bb3#), 1...fxg5 2.Se7+ Kd6 3.Qe5#, 1...Sb4 2.Qc4+ Kxc4[a] 3.Sd6#[A], 1...Sxf4 2.Qe4+ Kc4[a] 3.d5#[B]; 2...Ke4[b] 3.Sd6#[A]

N12 (This problem was dedicated to F. Abdurahmanović) 1.Re7 Ba4 2.Bb5+ Kg2 3.Kd7 Kf3 4.Ke6 Ke4 5.Bd7 Bc6 6.Qf6 Bd5#

Thanks to Cornel Pacurar, Arno Tüngler, Gerd Wilts and Dan Meinking, the "**Parry-Series and Zug-Family Collection**" is available at the link below. The first release contains 246 problems (arranged by stipulation) linked to their online PDB entries. This PDF will be updated on an as-needed basis.

<http://parryserieshub.chessproblems.ca>

ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS

Problems published in this section are eligible for the year 2012 competition. Please send your originals to the individual editors. All solutions and comments are due by 05/15/2012 and should be sent to the Solutions Editor. Solutions and comments are preferred by email, but regular mail solutions and comments will be accepted as always.

TWOMOVERS

Editor: **Aaron Hirschenson**, Judge: **John Rice**

A warm welcome to first-time contributor Alvaro Perira from Portugal!

We start with three miniatures. Rainer's **T0776** shows white correction and mate changes with two different units mating on the same square. There are eight good tries in Bob's **T0777**. Give's **T0778** shows Le Grand theme and Zagoruiko x1.

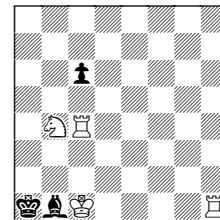
Paz always searches for new ideas. In his **T0779** he demonstrates the following cycle matrix: 1.X A/B# 1...a 2. C# 1.Y B/C # 1...a 2.A#. There is an almost Ukrainian cycle (which is in three phases). Here it is only in two phases, but with double threats.

T0780 by Alvaro shows good reciprocal changes, while my **T0781** shows Dombrovskis with Nietvelt defenses.

In the joint (**T0782**) by Chris and David, we have changes of function from threat to mate, with transfer mate, and two good changed mates. Eugene's **T0783** shows white correction, and three changed mates with Grimshaw defenses.

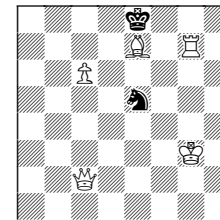
Živko concludes our selection with **T0784**, which shows an interesting white correction with three nice changed mates.

T0776 Rainer Paslack
Germany



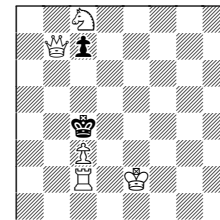
#2√ (4+3)

T0777 Robert Lincoln
Little Egg Harbor, NJ



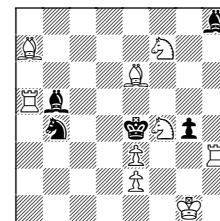
#2 Tries (5+2)

T0778 Givi Mosiashvili
Georgia



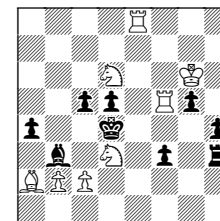
#2√ (5+2)

T0779 Paz Einat
Israel



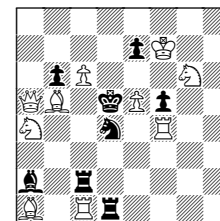
#2√ (9+5)

T0780 Alvaro Perira
Portugal

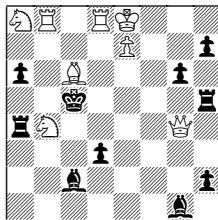


#2* (8+9)

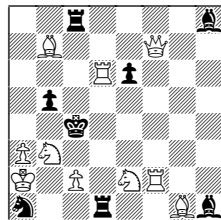
T0781 Aaron Hirschenson
Israel



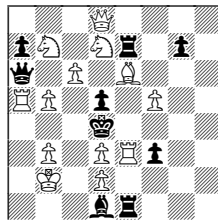
#2√√√ (10+8)

T0782 Chris Reeves
& David Shire, England

#2√√√ (8+10)

T0783 Eugene Rosner
Havertown, PA

#2√√ (10+8)

T0784 Živko Janevski
Macedonia

#2√ (13+9)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions – TWOMOVERS

Comments from: Wilfried Seehofer (WS) and Jeremy Morse (JM)

T0758 (Neyndorff) **1.Rf7!** (2.Qxg7#), 1...Kxf7 2.Qe6#, 1...Q~ 2.Rexf8#. *Good sacrifice key (WS), Nice sacrifice (JM).*

T0759 (Lincoln) 1.Bc6? (2.Bd7#), 1...Sxc6+/Se6+/Sb7/Sf7!, 1.Rb6? (2.Rb8#), 1...Sc6+/Se6+/Sb7!, 1.Qe7? (2.Ra8#), 1...Sc6+/Se6+!, 1.Bb6? (2.Qc7#), 1...Sc6+!; **1.Be7!** (zz), 1...Sf7 2.Qb7/Rc6/Be6#, 1...Sb7 2.Qxb7#, 1...Sc6+ 2.Rxc6#, 1...Se6+ 2.Bxe6#. *Unprovided checks with flight point straight to the key (JM).*

T0760 (Popov/Aliev) 1.c5? (zz), 1...Rxd3/Re4 2.Qxd3/dxe4#, 1.R~!, 1.Qh3? (zz), 1...R~/Kb6 2.Qc8/Qe6#, 1.Rxe7!, 1.Sb5? (zz), 1...R~ 2.Sc7[A]/Qa1#[B], 1...Re2 2.Sc7#[A], 1...Rxe7 2.Qa1#[B], 1.Kb6!; **1.Qa1!** (zz), 1...R~ 2.Sb5[C]/Sc2[D]/Sb1#[E], 1...Re5 2.Sb5#[C], 1...Re2 2.Sc2#[D], 1...Re1 2.Sb1#[E], 1...Kb6 2.Qf6#. *Unprovided flight points straight to the key (JM).*

T0761 (Nikolić) **1.Qb2!** (zz), 1...Sc2/Sxd3/Sc6/Sd5 2.Qe5/Qd4/Sb7/Se4#, 1...Kb5/Kd6 2.Qe5#, 1.Sc3/Sc1 2.Qxb4#. *Play after bS moves neatly contrived (JM).*

T0762 (Stolev) 1.Sb7? (2.Sb6#[A]) Sc4!, 1.b3? (2.Bc6#[B]) Sxc5!; **1.Qf4!** (2.Qxe4#), 1...S3~ 2.Qf5#, 1...Sc4 2.Bc6#[B], 1...S4~ 2.Qxd4#, 1...Sxc5 2.Sb6#[A]. *Strong key leads to familiar corrections (JM).*

T0763 (Stolev) 1...cxd4 2.Bb3[B]/Sb4#[A], 1...exd4 2.Qxe4[D]/Qf5#[C], 1...e3 2.Sxe3#, 1.Rxe4? (2.Se3#), 1...cxd4 2.Sb4#[A], 1...exd4 2.Qf5#[C], 1...Bb5!; **1.Sf5!** (2.Sfe3#), 1...cxd4 2.Bb3#[B], 1...Kxe6 2.Sfe3#, 1...exd4 2.Qxe4#[D]. *Try and key separate the set duals after captures on d4 (JM).*

T0764 (Kovačević) 1.Se5? (2.Sdxf3#), 1...Qe4 2.Sdc4# (Sdf3?), 1...Bxe5 2.Qc6#, 1...c4 2.Ra5#, 1.Se6!; **1.Sc4!** (2.Sb6#), 1...Kd4 2.Se3# (Sb6?), 1...Ke4 2.Sxc5#, 1...Bd4 2.Qc6#, 1...Bd8 2.Sxc5#. *Fine key and high-class variations (JM).*

T0765 (Simadhinata) 1.Re1?[A] (2.exd4#[B]), 1...cxd5 2.Qg4#, 1...f6 2.Qe6#, 1...dxe3 2.Rxe3#, 1.d2!; **1.exd4![B]** (2.Re1#[A]), 1...cxd5 2.Qe7# (Qg4?), 1...f6 2.Qg4# (2.Qe6?), 1...d2 2.Sf6#. *Good try problem with changes (JM).*

T0766 (Mosiashvili) 1...R~ 2.Sxc4#[A], 1...Rb7![a], 1...Bd~ 2.d7#[B], 1...Bc6![b], 1...Sf~ 2.Sg4#[C], 1...Sd5![c], 1...Sg~ 2.Sf7# [D], 1...Sf3![d], 1...Bh~ 2.Rg5#[E], 1...Bf2![e]; **1.Qe3!** (2.Qc3#), 1...Rb7[a] 2.Sxc4#[A], 1...Bc6[b] 2.d7#[B], 1...Sd5[c] 2.Sg4#[C], 1...Sf3[d] 2.Sf7#[D], 1...Bf2[e] 2.Rg5#[E]. *Lots of play with defenses by six Black men (JM).*

THREEMOVERS

Editor: Rauf Aliovsadzade, Judge: Rudolf Larin

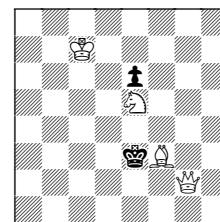
We have to start with some sad news. As reported by K. Urusov, Alexander Nikolichev (1951-2011) passed away at the end of December. **M1065** was the last original he sent me. Alexander will be missed.

A warm welcome to Ramil Safarliyev and Sergei Tkachenko!

The opener by Mikola has twins: b) Pe6→d4, c) Se5→c6 and d) Bf3→f6, with a), b) & d) having tries. Among the miniatures, there are two wonderful ones: **M1057** and **M1059**.

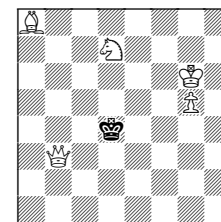
The five Merediths presented here will be easy to solve. In Victor's **M1066**, in three variations, Black pieces move to the same square. **M1067** & **M1068** show excellent battery play. Both of the originals from Israel are interesting. **M1072** is a logical endeavor by our friend from Indonesia.

M1055 Mikola Chernyavsky
Ukraine



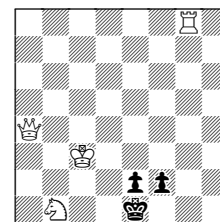
#3 (see text) (4+2)

M1056 Vladimir Shmatov
Russia



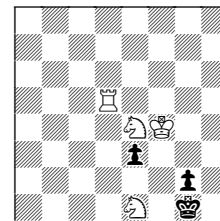
#3√ b) Ba8→g2 (5+1)

M1057 Vladimir Shmatov
Russia

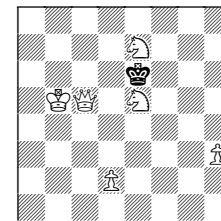


#3√√√ (4+3)

M1058 Vladimir Kozhakin
Russia

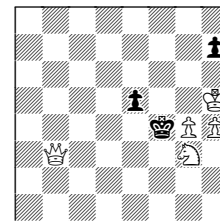
#3 b) Rd5→f3 (4+3)
c)=b) Se4→g3

M1059 Luke Neyndorff
El Cajon, CA



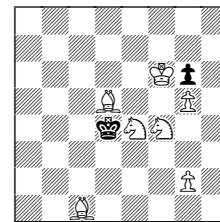
#3 (6+1)

M1060 Vladimir Shmatov
Russia

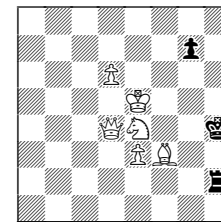


#3√ (5+3)

M1061 Valentin Khupchenko
& Vitaly Shevchenko, Ukraine

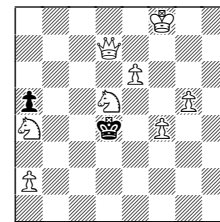
#3 b) Sf4→e3 (7+2)
c) Pg2→h6

M1062 Alexander Melnichuk
& Alexander Sygurov, Russia

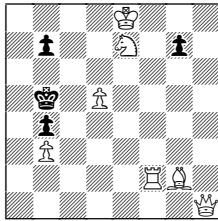


#3 (6+3)

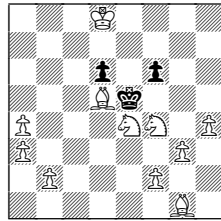
M1063 Alex Markevitch
Jackson, NJ



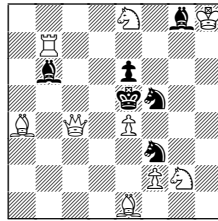
#3 (8+2)

M1064 Ramil Safarliyev
Azerbaijan

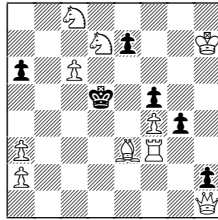
#3 (7+4)

M1065 Alexander Nikolichev†
Russia

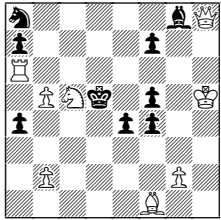
#3 (11+3)

M1066 Victor Aberman
Chatsworth, CA

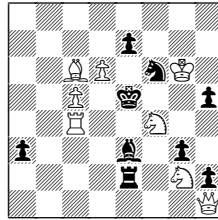
#3 (9+6)

M1067 Sergei Tkachenko
Ukraine

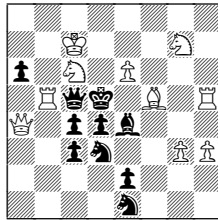
#3 (10+6)

M1068 Eugene Fomichev
Russia

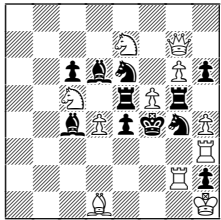
#3 (8+9)

M1069 Kenan Velihanov
Azerbaijan

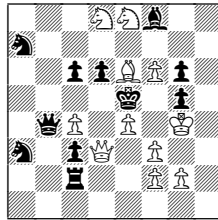
#3 (8+9)

M1070 Leonid Makaronez
Israel

#3 (10+10)

M1071 Evgeni Bourd
& Arieh Grinblat, Israel

#3 (11+11)

M1072 Januarta Simadhinata
Indonesia

#3√ (11+11)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - THREEMOVERS

Comments from: Author (A), Romuald Lazowski (RL), Bob Bua (BB), Ladislav Belcsak (LB) and David Mouton (DM)

M1010 (Shmatov) a) 1.Be7? Kc3 2.Ke4, 1...Ke3!; **1.Bd1!** (zz), 1...Kc3 2.Ba5+ Kd3 3.Rg3#, 1...Ke3 2.Bg5+; b) **1.Ra2!** (zz), 1...Kc3 2.Bd2+ Kd3 3.Bb5#; c) **1.Bc5!** (zz), 1...Kc3 2.Ke4 Kc4 3.Rc2#.

M1011 (Juozenas) a) **1.Qb2!** (zz), 1...Kxg3 2.Qf2+ Kh3 3.Qh2#, 1...Ke3 2.Qc3+ Kf4 3.Se6#; b) **1.Qd5!** (zz), 1...Kxg3 2.Sg6 (threat) K~ 3.Qg2#, 1...Ke3 2.Sf5+ Kf4 3.Se6#. *There is a pretty variation in b) (BB).*

M1012 (Kozhakin) 1.Bd1? h2!, 1.K~? Rg1!; **1.Bg4!** (zz), 1...Rh2+ 2.Qxh2 Ke1 3.Qe2#, 1...h2 2.Qe3 Kg2 3.Bh3#, 1...Rg1 2.Qf3+. *Neat miniature with tries (RL), I quite like this one (LB).*

M1013 (Nikitin) 1.Rg5? Kg1!; **1.Qa8!** (2.Rd2/Rg5), 1...Kh2/g1Q+ 2.Rg5/Rg5+, 1...Kg1 2.Rd2.

M1014 (Nikitin) **1.Kg5!** (zz), 1...Ke4 2.Se5! Kxe5 3.Re7#, 1...Kg3 2.Sh4! Kxh3 3.Sf5#. *Nikitin theme: White closes a line, then checkmates on the same line (A).*

M1015 (Velihanov) 1.Qxe4? (zz), 1...Kf1 2.Qc2, 1...Kxg3!; **1.Qc1!** (zz), 1...Ke2 2.Sf4+[A] Kf2 3.Qg1# [B], 1...Kxg3 2.Qg1+[B] Kh3 3.Sf4# [A], 1...e3 2.Rg1 e2/Ke2 3.Qc5/Qc2#. *Nice variations (BB).*

M1016 (Zimmer) 1.Sd7? (2.Qb6+) Kb5!; **1.Sd5!** (zz), 1...Kxd5 2.Qe4+ Kc5 3.Qc4#, 1...Kb5 2.Qb6+ Ka4 3.Qb4#, 1...Kb7 2.Qb6+ Ka8/Kc8 3.Sc7/Qc7#, 1...S~ 2.Qb6+ Kd5 3.Qd6#. *Terrific key (LB).*

M1017 (Velihanov) 1.Re1? Bxd4!; **1.Se2!** (2.Qb1+ Kxc4/Kxe2 3.Qb5/Qd1#), 1...Ke4 2.Qd6 ~/Sf4 3.Bc2/Sg3#, 1...Kxe2 2.Qb1, 1...Bb2 2.Qxb2.

M1018 (Malyuk) **1.Qf4!** (2.Rxe7& 3.Re5#), 1...e5 2.Qd2+ Ke6/Kc4 3.Qa2/Rc7#, 1...e6 2.Qd2+ Ke5 3.d7#, 1...exd6 2.Qxd6+ Kc4 3.Rc7#, 1...exf6 2.Qd2+ Ke6 3.Re7#, 1...Ke6 2.Rxe7+ Kd5/Kxf6 3.Re5/Qh6#.

M1019 (Nikitin) **1.Rb8!** (zz), 1...Kc6 2.Sxd7 Kxd7 3.Be8#, 1...Kc4 2.Sd3 Kxd3 3.Be2#. *Nikitin theme (A), Excellent teaser with two pretty echoing variations (LB).*

M1020 (Kapustin) 1.Bc6? (2.Sh6+ Kh5 3.Be8#), 1...Kh5 2.Be8+ Kg4 3.Sh6#, 1...Kf5!; **1.Bd5!** h2 2.Sh6+ (threat) Kh5/Kh3 3.Bf7/Bg2#, 1...Kf5 2.Sxe7+ Kg4 3.Bf3#, 1...Kh5 2.Bd7+ Kg4 3.Sh6#, 1...e6 2.Bf3+ Kf5 3.Se7#. *Good Problem! (BB).*

M1021 (Simadhinata) 1.Rc4? Bf5!; **1.Rce3!** (2.Rxe4+ Sfxe4/Sgxe4 3.Sd3/Rf3#), 1...Ba6 2.Rgf3+ exf3/Sxf3 3.Bxe5/Se6#, 1...Bg4 2.Sd3+ exd3/Sxd3 3.Bxe5/Rxg4#, 1...Bf5 2.Rxg5 ~/Bc8 3.Rxf5/Bxe5#. *Easy key, but good variations make this an excellent problem (BB), Excellent pattern problem (LB).*

M1022 (Prcic) Thematic tries: 1.Rd1+? Rd4 2.Sc3#, 1...Sd4!, 1.0-0-0+? Sd4 2.Sc3#, 1...Rd4+!, 1.Bb4? cxb3!; 1.b4? c3!; **1.Ba3!** cxb3 2.Rd6+ (threat) Kc4 3.Rc1#, 1...Rd8 2.Rd1+! (2.0-0-0+?) ~ 3.Sc3#, 1...Bf8 2.0-0-0+! (2.Rd1+?) ~ 3.Sc3#.

M1023 (Popov) **1.Sf7!** (2.Sd3+ Sxd3 3.Qc4#), 1...Sxe5 2.Qd6 ~/Bb7/Sc2 3.Qc4/Sxe6/Sd3#, 1...Rxe5 2.Sg5 ~ 3.Sh3#, 1...Bxe5 2.Qc6 ~ 3.Qe4#. *Nietvelt defense (A), Very attractive variations (LB).*

M1024 (Makaronez/Lyubashevsky) **1.Sb3!** (2.Sxd4+ exd4 3.Qf5#), 1...Bg4 2.Qa2 ~ 3.Sxd4#, 1...Bf3 2.Qf3 ~/Sb7 3.Sc5/Qxf7#, 1...Bb3 2.gxf7 ~/Sxf7 3.f8S/Qxf7#, 1...fxg6 2.Qf4 exf4 3.Sxd4#. *Good teaser with good variations (LB), This one is quite tricky (DM).*

M1025 (Grinblat) 1...Rxe4 2.Sxe6+[A] ~ 3.Qxc4#, 1...Bxe4 2.Sb3+[B] cxb3 3.Be3#; **1.Qd8!** (2.Rxd5+ exd5 3.Qxd5#), 1...Rxe4 2.Sb3+[B] ~ 3.Qxb6#, 1...Bxe4 2.Sxe6+[A] fxe6 3.Qxb6#. *Reciprocal change (1...Sf4 2.Qxf6+). Good problem with set play (RL).*

M1026 (Grinblat) 1...exd5 2.Sf5+[A] Kc4 3.b3/Qc3#, 1...Sc4 2.Sc2+[B] Kxd5 3.Qxd3#; **1.Qxf2!** (2.Be5+ Kxe5 3.Qf6#), 1...exd5 2.Sc2+[B] Kc4 3.Sxa3#, 1...Sc4 2.Sf5+[B] Kxd5 3.Sxe7#. *Another reciprocal change threemover from this author. Pity about the dual in set and the out-of-play wBh1 (1...e5 2.axb6). One of the most difficult #3's I've ever solved (BB).*

M1027 (Volchek/Kapustin) 1...Bf5 2.Sxc4+ Sxc4 3.Qd3#, 1...Rf5 2.Qxb2 ~ 3.Sxc4#; **1.Qe1!** (2.Qg3+ Re5 3.Qxe5#), 1...Bf5 2.Rd4+ ~ 3.Qe5#, 1...Rf5 2.R4e6+ dxe5 3.Qxe6#. *Grimshaw interception used on White's 2nd and 3rd moves with change of play (1...Rd5 2.Rd4) (A), Rather heavy position (RL).*

MOREMOVERS & STUDIES

Moremovers Editor: **Richard Becker**, Studies Editor: **Franjo Vrabec**

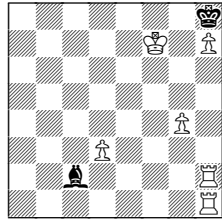
Judges, Moremovers: **Mike Prcic**, Studies: **Iuri Akobia**

Moremovers. The fourmovers begin with a simple grab theme problem by me. Then Zalmen presents a symmetrical position with asymmetrical solution. (A more ambitious example of this theme is David's five-mover.) The last fourmover is a nice strategic problem with Nowotny and dual avoidance by anticipatory guard.

The longer problems begin with a simple pericritical maneuver by Ramutis. Vladimir's two problems are in his typical style. (Would someone please take pity and send to him a complete set of white chessmen!) Newcomer Mario Velucchi sends a mate in 9 with under-promotion effects. Thank you, Mario, and welcome! We also welcome back our own David Zimbeck. His mate in 14 is our moremover finale. The double Knight tour may not be entirely original, but it is a great deal of fun.

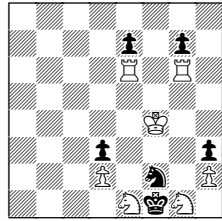
Studies. **E0218** The author offers a real threat to solvers who like tough nuts to crack as well as math! **E0219** White's winning strategy is obscured due to many quiet moves in the midst of a big storm. **E0220** Black's queening cannot be stopped, but in studies, the spirit often wins over material. **E0221** "Conducting" is one of the basic combinational elements, which has found its true application in this study.

M1073 Richard Becker
Oregon City, OR



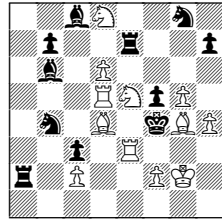
#4 (6+2)

M1074 Zalmen Kornin
Brazil



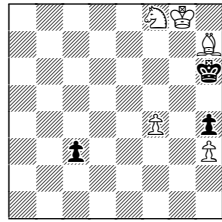
#4√ (7+6)

M1075 Arieh Grinblat
& Evgeni Bourd, Israel



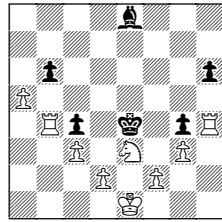
#4 (12+11)

M1076 Ramutis Juozenas
Lithuania



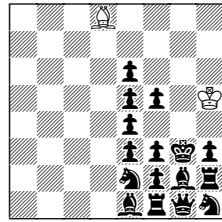
#5 (5+3)

M1077 David Zimbeck
Columbus, OH



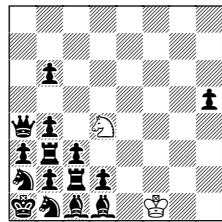
#5√ (9+6)

M1078 Vladimir Nikitin
Russia



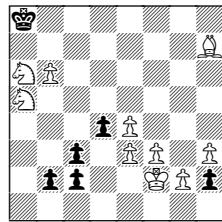
#5 (2+16)

M1079 Vladimir Nikitin
Russia



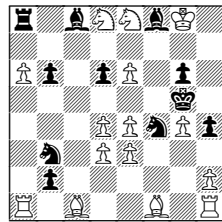
#6√ (2+15)

M1080 Mario Velucchi
Italy



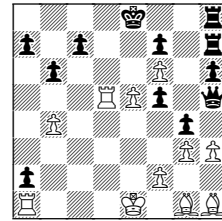
#9 (10+6)

M1081 David Zimbeck
Columbus, OH



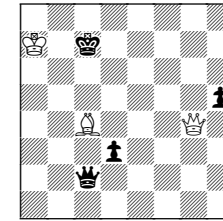
#14 (15+11)

E0218 David Zimbeck
Columbus, OH



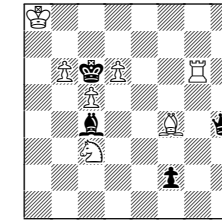
Win (11+12)

E0219 Richard Becker
Oregon City, OR



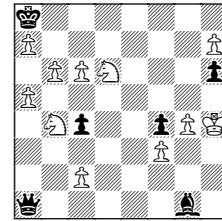
Win (3+4)

E0220 A. Skripnik &
J. Mikitovics, Russia/Hungary



Win (7+4)

E0221 Zlatko Mihajlovski
Macedonia



Win BTM (11+6)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - MOREMOVERS & STUDIES

Comments from: Author (A), Romuald Lazowski (RL) and Wilfried Seehofer (WS)

M1028 (Juozenas) **1.Bc2!** Kd5 2.Kb4 Sg6 3.Sxf7 Sxh4 4.Rd6#; 2...f5 3.Bb3+ Ke5 4.Re6#; 2...f6 3.Re6 ~ 4.Bb3#; 2...Ke5 3.Kc5(Kc4) Sg6/Pf~ 4.Sxf7/Re6#, 1...Sg6 2.Sxf7+ Kd5 3.Kb4, 1...f5 2.Kb4. *There is a dual present 1.Bc2 f6 2.Re6+ Kd5 3.Kb4 and 2.Kb4 Kd5,Sf6,Sg6 3.Re6 (RL).*

M1029 (Onkoud) **1.Sd3!** h6 2.Sc5+ Kd5 3.Qf6 e4 4.Qe6#, 1...Kd5 2.Qf7+ Kc6 3.Bc5 ~ 4.Se5#; 2...Ke4 3.Bh6 K~ 4.Qc4#, 1...Kxd3 2.Bh6 Ke4 3.Qf7 K~ 4.Qc4#.

M1030 (Sygurov/Makaronez) **1.fxe5!** (2.Re3+ Kxe3 3.Qh6+ Ke4 4.Qf4#, 1...Rd4 2.Rf4+ Ke3 3.Rxd4 ~ 4.Bf4#, 1...Bd2 2.Rd3 e6 3.Rd4+ Ke3 4.Bf4#, 1...dxe5+ 2.Kc8 Bxc3 3.Sd4 Bxd4/~ 4.Bd5/Qxe5#.

M1031 (Mihalco) **1.Rxd6!** Se7(Sf6) 2.Rxd5+ Sxd4 3.Sf3+ Kxe4 4.Sg3+ Kf4 5.Rc4#, 1...hgx5 2.Rxd5+ Kxe4 3.Rcd7 Sf5 4.Rd4+ Sxd4 5.Sg3#; 3...h4 4.Re5+ Kf4 5.Rd4#, 1...Bb3 2.Sf3+ Kxe4 3.Rc4+ Bxc4 4.Sg3+ Kf4 5.Rg6#, 1...Ke5 2.Rcc6 dxe4 3.Sf7+ Kf5 4.Sxe3+ Kf4 5.Rd3#; 3...Kf4 4.Rg6+ Kf5 5.Sxe3#; 2...hgx5 3.Re6+ Kd4 4.Be5+ Kxe4 5.Sg3#. *Battery and half-battery play with various mates (A), Complicated and difficult problem (RL).*

M1032 (Grinblat) **1.Rg1!** (2.Sxg4+ Kf5 3.Sh6+ Ke5 4.Sf7+ Kf5 5.g4#, 1...Sxd6 2.Rxd5+ Ke4 3.Rd4+ Ke5 4.Sg6+ Ke6 5.Rxd6#, 1...Rxl 2.Sxd3+ Ke5 3.Sf4+ Ke5 4.Rxd5+ Ke4 5.d3#, 1...Sg5 2.Sg6+ Ke6 3.Sf8+ Ke5 4.Sxg4+ Kf5 5.Rf4#. *A lovely problem (RL).*

M1033 (Gasparyan) 1.Bxd5? Re8 2.Bf3 Sh6!, 1.Sxd5? Rb3 2.Bf3 Bd1!; **1.Bf3!** Bd1 2.Bxd5 Re8 3.Be4+ Sxe4 4.Sbd5 ~ 5.Sxe3#, 1...Sh6 2.Sbxd5 Rb3 3.Se7+ Bxe7 4.Bd5 ~ 5.Be6#.

M1034 (Ivanov) **1.Kc2!** Kf5 2.Kd3 Kg6 3.Bg4 e2 4.Kxe2 Kh6 5.Bf5 Kh5 6.Rh7#; 2...Kf4 3.Kd4 Kf5 4.Rg7 Ke6/Kf4 5.Bg4/Rf7#. *Nice miniature (RL).*

M1035 (Grigoryan) **1.Kd7!** Ke4 2.Sg3+ Kd5 3.Sf5 Ke4 4.Sd6+ Kd5 5.Kc7 Ke6 6.Sg6 Kd5 7.Sf4#.

M1036 (Nikitin) **1.Bd7!** Sa5 2.Bf5 Rg4 3.Bxg4 Bg3+ 4.Kc8 e1S 5.Bf5 Sd2 6.Be6 ~ 7.Bd5; 5...Rd2 6.Be4+ Rd5 7.Bxd5+. *Interesting problem (RL), The capturing 3.Bf5xg4 detracts, but the Knight promotion is unexpected (WS).*

E0208 (Pallier) **1.Se3!** (1.Sf4? Bf1!; or 1.a6? Bf1!) **1...g2 2.Sxg2 Bxg2! 3.Rxb3 Se7 4.Rc3!** (4.Ra3? Sc6! 5.a6 Sb8! 6.a7 Sc6 7.a8Q Sd4+ =; or 4.a6? Bf1+ =; or 4.Rb2? Kg3! =) **4...Sd5** (4...Bf1+ 5.Kc5 Kg2 6.Re3 Sf5 7.Re1 Ba6 8.Re5 Sg3 9.Re6 Bf1 10.Kd4 Sf5+ 11.Ke4 Sg3+ 12.Ke5 +-) **5.Rc1!** (thematic try: 5.Rc8? Bf1 6.Kc5 Sf4! 7.Kd4 Kg(h)3 =; or 5.Rc2? Kg3! 6.Kc5 Sc7! 7.Kb6 Sd5+! 8.Kc5 Sc7 9.Kb6 Sd5 positional draw; or 5.Rb3 Se7! 6.Rc3 Sd5 7.Rc1

is a loss of time) **5...Bf3! 6.Rc8!** [6.a6? Be2+ =; or 6.Rc2+? Kg3 7.a6 Be4! 8.Rc8 (8.Rd2 Sc7+! =) 8...Bd3+!] **6...Be2+ 7.Kc5 Sf4! 8.Kd4!** (8.Kb6? Kg3 9.Rc3+ Kg4 =; or 8.Rg8? Kh3! =) **8...Ba6 9.Ra8!** [thematic try: 9.Rg8? Kh3! 10.Ke4 Se6 11.Rg6 (11.Ke5 Sc5 =) 11...Bb7+ 12.Ke3 Bc8! 13.Rg8 (13.Kf3 Kh4 =) 13...Ba6 14.Rg6 Bc8 positional draw] **9...Se6+! 10.Ke3!!** [10.Ke5? Sc5+ 11.Kd6 (11.Kd5 Bb7+; or 11.Kd4 Sb3+ =) 11...Sb7+ 12.Kd5 Bb5(e2,f1) 13.a6 Sd8! =] **10...Sc5 11.Rf8!!** (thematic try: 11.Rg8? Kh3! 12.Rg6 Bf1!! 13.Kf2 Ba6! 14.Ke3 Bf1 positional draw) **11...Kg2!** (11...Sb3 12.Kf2! +-; or 11...Kg3 12.Rf6 +-) **12.Rf2+!** [thematic try: 12.Rf6? Bf1! 13.Rf2+ Kg1 14.Rf5 Sa6 15.Rf6 (15.Rg5+ Bg2) 15...Kg2 16.Rg6+ Kh3 =] **12...Kg3 13.Rf1! Bb7 14.Rb6! Bg2 15.Kd4 Sd7 16.Rb2! Ba8 17.a6 Kf4 18.Rb5!** [18.a7? Kf5! =; or 18.Rf2? Kg5! 19.Rf7 (19.a7 Kg6! =) 19...Sb8! =] +- (eg 18 ...Bg2 19.a7 Ba8 20.Rb8 Bf3 21.Rd8 Sf6 22.Rc8 Bb7 23.Rc1 Kf5 24.Kc5 Ba8 25.Kd6 Se4+ 26.Kc7 Sf6 27.Kb8 Be4 28.Rc7 and 29.Rb7) [A].

E0209 (Becker) **1.Bf5+!** (1.Qd4? c3 2.Bf5+ Kb2 +-; or 1.Qh1+? Kb2 2.Qb7+ Qb3 3.Qg2+ Ka3 +-) **1...Ka2 2.Qf6!** (2.Qd4? Qe1 3.Ka7 a5 4.Ka6 a4 5.Qd7 Be8 6.Qc8 c3 7.Be6+ Kb2 8.Qb8+ Kc1 9.Qxe8 Qe2+ +-) **2...Bd5+** (2...Qc7 3.Bb1+ =) **3.Ka7 a5** [3...Qc7+ 4.Kxa6 Qb7+ 5.Ka5 Bc6 6.Qe5 =; or 3...Qf2+ 4.Kxa6 Qd2 5.Kb5 c3 6.Qd6 Kb2 (6...Qb2+ 7.Kc5 =) 7.Qb4+ Bb3 8.Qe4 =] **4.Qd4 Qc7+** (4...Qg2 5.Ka6 a4 6.Bd7 =) **5.Ka6 Bb7+ 6.Kb5 Bc6+ 7.Kxc4 Bd7+ 8.Qc5 Qf4+** (8...Qxc5+ 9.Kxc5 Bxf5 10.Kb5 =) **9.Kc3 Qxf5 10.Qc4+ Ka1 11.Qd4 Qg4** (11...Qb5 12.Qd1+ Qb1 13.Qxd7 Qe1+ 14.Kb3 Qb2+ 15.Kc4 =) **12.Qe5 Qf5 13.Qd4** (13.Qg7? Ba4 +-) **13...Be1 14.Qd1+!** (14.Qa4+? Ba2 15.Qd4 Qg6 16.Qd1+ Qb1 {zz}) **14...Qb1 15.Qa4+ Qa2 16.Qd1+ Qb1 17.Qa4+ Ba2 18.Qd1!** {zz} **Qxd1 =**.

E0210 (Arestov) **1.Sd6!** (1.Nxf6? Rxe4 2.Sxe4 Sxe4 3.e8Q Bb5+! 4.Kxb5 Sd6+ 5.Kc6 Sxe8 6.Kd7 Sf6+! 7.Ke6 Sg8 =; or 1.Sc7? Rxe4 =) **1...Rxe4** (1...Sxe4 2.e8Q +-) **2.Sxe4 Sxe4 3.e8Q Bb5+! 4.Kxb5 Sd6+ 5.Kc6 Sxe8 6.Kd7! Kc3 7.Kxe8 +-**.

E0211 (Krug) **1.Qg6 e2+ 2.Sde3!** [2.Sfe3? Rb6 3.Be5+ Rxe5 4.Qxb6 Rh5+! 5.Kxh5 e1Q 6.Qd8+ Kg7 7.Qd7+ Kh8! 8.Qh3 Kg7!] **2...Rb6** [2...Bc3 3.Be5+! Bxe5 4.Qxb1; 2...Rbb7 3.Qf6+ Kg8 4.Qg5+ Kf8 5.Qf5+ Ke8 6.Qh5+] **3.Be5+ Rxe5 4.Qxb6 Bxe3+ 5.Sxe3 Rh5+ 6.Kg6!** [6.Kxh5? e1Q 7.Sf5 Qe8+ 8.Kh6 Qe6+] **6...Rg5+ 7.Kxg5 e1Q 8.Sf5 Qe5 9.Qd8+ Kh7 10.Qd7+ [10.Qc8? Qf6+] 10...Kh8! 11.Qc8+ [11.Kg6? Qe6+] 11...Kh7 12.Qd8 Qe8 13.Qc7+ [A].**

E0212 (Krug) **1.Sg4 Sf7+! 2.Sxf7 dxe2 3.Kxg6 g2** [3...Kxg4 4.Rh4+! Kxh4 5.Sh6 g2 6.Rg5 h2 7.Sf5+ Kh3 8.Rg3+ mate] **4.Sg5 Kxg4 5.Sxh3 Kg3 6.Kf5 f2 7.Rg8+ Kxh3 8.Rh8+ Kg3 9.Rc3+ Sf3 10.Rxf3+ Kxf3 11.Rh3#.**

StrateGems 2010 h#3 Award Revision

The 5th Prize problem by Aleksandr Pankratiev and Mikhail Gershinski has been self-anticipated. The predecessor was published in 2008 in *1626 Chorno-bili stezhini*. h#3, 2 sols., wKb2 Rc3 Bb3 Sc4 (4), bKd5 Qg2 Ba6 Sa2-c2 Pb5-b7-d2-d3-e6 (10). 1.Sab4 Ba2 2.Sd4 Rb3 3.Kxc4 Rc3#, 1.Sd4 Rc1 2.Sb4 Bc2 3.Kxc4 Bb3#. The problem has been removed from the award.

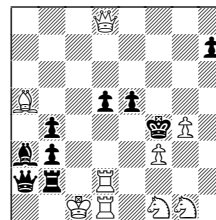
SELFMATES

Editor: **Petko A. Petkov**, Judge: s#2-3, n – **Živko Janevski**

The moremovers dominate this issue. The lone threemover (**S0517**) is an elegant problem by Zoran, with rich tries and changed play. In **S0518**, Soroka demonstrates a new ideas a la Fata Morgana. **S0519** is a “Gamnitzer”. No need to say more.

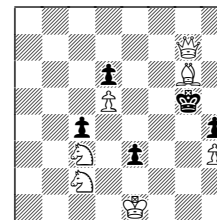
Stepochkin’s **S0520** and **S0521** are composed in different styles accentuating difficult play. They will challenge even experienced solvers. **S0522**, by the author of the well-known solving program “Gustav”, is a nice combination between all the white pieces (except Pawns) and the black duo.

S0528 Zoran Gavrilovski
Macedonia



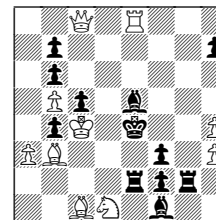
s#3√√√ (9+9)

S0529 Ivan Soroka
Ukraine



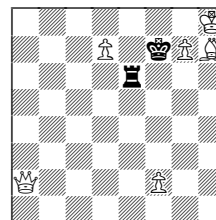
s#5* (7+5)

S0530 Camillo Gamnitzer
Austria



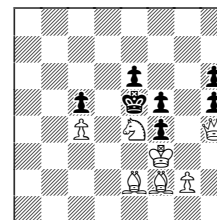
s#5 (10+12)

S0531 Anatoly Stepochnik
Russia



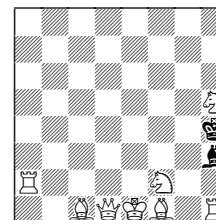
s#9 (6+2)

S0532 Anatoly Stepochnik
Russia



s#9* (7+7)

S0533 Olaf Jenkner
Germany



s#9 (8+2)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - SELFMATES

Comments from: Romuald Lazowski (RL), Wilfried Seehofer (WS) and C. C. Frankiss (CCF)

S0509 (Kostadinov) a) 1.S~? (zz) c3!; **1.Sc3!** (zz), 1...cxb3 2.Qc4 b2#; b) 1.S~? (zz) c3! 2.Qb2+ Kxa4!; **1.Sc5!** (zz), 1...c3 2.Qb2+ cxb2# Letter problem, White correction, miniature, model mates. *Ingenious twinning, but fairly simple* (CCF).

S0510 (Hirschenson) **1.Rf1!** (2.Rxf7+Rxf7,Bxf7#), 1...f5 2.Qg7+ Rxc7#, 1...f6 2.Qh5+ Bxh5#. *Double battery against the wK, easy to solve* (WS), *Limited play, considering that two batteries are pointed at the wK* (CCF).

S0511 (Mosiashvili) 1.Bg4? (2.S7f5+ Bf5#), 1...hxg4 2.S3f5+ Bf5#, 1...Sg5!; **1.Bh3!** (2.S3f5+ Bf5#), 1...Rh3 2.S7f5+ Bf5# Sushkov theme. *Good tries (1.Bg4 and 1.Se8) but only one variation!* (WS), *There should be more* (CCF).

S0512 (Mosiashvili) 1.d6? (2.Qd3+ Qf3+ Sxf3#), 1...Kf5!, 1.Sg4? (2.Qd3+ Sd3#), 1...Kf5 2.Qf3+ Sf3#, 1...h2!; **1.Sc6!** (2.Qf3+ Sf3#), 1...Kf5 2.Qd3+ Sd3#. *Is a K move a defense?* (CCF).

S0513 (Mosiashvili) 1...Qg4 2.Qd5+ Bd5#, 1...Qh3 2.Qf7+ Bf7#; **1.Bc7!** (2.Qc8+ Be6#), 1...Qg4 2.Qf7+ Bf7#, 1...Qh3 2.Qd5+Bd5#. *Nice to see a large number of s#2 problems* (CCF).

S0514 (Dietrich) **1.c6!** Ke6 2.c7 Ke5 3.c8R Ke6 4.Rc2 Ke5 5.Re2 Ke6 6.Rg3 Ke5 7.Re8+ Kf4 8.Rf2+ Sxf2#. *Pin change with the promoted Rook* (WS), *The promoted wR takes on the function of the wRe3* (CCF).

S0515 (Gulke/Richter/Werner) **1.Be3!** (2.Qc4+ bxc4#) Ra4! 2.Qf3 (3.Sxb4+ Rxb4#) Ra5 3.Rg4 Ra4 4.Rg7! Ra5 5.Qe4 Ra4 6.Bd4 Ra5 7.Bg1 Ra4 8.Qg6+ Sf6 9.Qg2+ Se4 10.Rg6+ Kd5 11.Qd2+ Sxd2# Pendulum maneuver with inversion of motives for purpose of preparing the final triangle maneuver of the wQ. *A beautiful combination* (RL), *A real masterpiece with an amazing solution!* (WS), *Continuous threats forcing R moves. Well done* (CCF).

S0516 (Müller) **1.e8Q+!** Kc7 2.d8B+ Kb8 3.Bh4+ Kc7 4.Qe5+ Kd7 5.Qab5+ Kc8 6.Qc3+ Rc4 7.Qh8+ Kc7 8.Bg3+ Rf4 9.Kh6! Kd6 10.Qc8 Ke7 11.Qe5+ Kf7 12.Qec7+ Kf6 13.Bh4+ Rxh4#. Surprising minor promotion moves without check, nice model mate with a long distant effect from both Queens. *Good selfmate with promotion (RL), Good miniature and plenty of content for six pieces (WS), Difficult play with two Q's on the board (CCF).*

HELPMATES

Editor: **Nikola Stolev**

Judges: **Petre Stojoski** (h#2), **Živko Janevski** (h#3) and **Mike Prcic** (h#n)

A warm welcome to a newcomer Dmitri Turewski, and a happy birthday to Aleksandr Pankratiev (5/28/1954) and Petre Stojoski (6/15/1951).

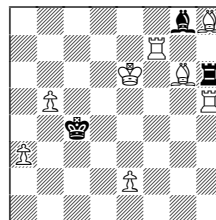
We start with a nice find by Aleksandr, with both white pieces mating. Walter matches Zilahi captures with white promotions. Jean-François shows anticipated pinning in both variations. There are two beautiful switchbacks in Andy's entry. An excellent black squeeze is in Dmitri's **H1705**. Abdelaziz always strives for new ideas. Here he shows opposing sides switchbacks. More switchbacks in Andy's **H1708**. A double unpin in **H1709**. A good triple pin with change of functions in **H1711**. János shows a complex HOTF in which the black King gets mated on the same two squares, but under different circumstances.

Petre starts the h#3 section with a triple anticipated pinning along the 5th rank. In Nikolai's **H1717**, 11 moves by Knights. Nice change of functions in **T1718**. A massive Pawn annihilation in **T1719**.

The five moremovers range from 3½ to 8 moves.

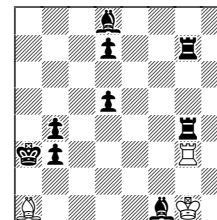
We are pleased to welcome back our talented moremovers composer Steven Dowd, and we hope to see more entries from him in the future.

H1705 Dmitri Turewski
Russia



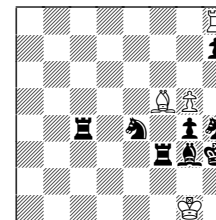
h#2 2 solutions (8+3)

H1706 Henk Weenink
Holand



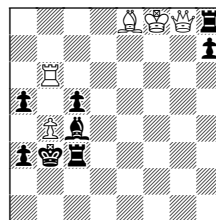
h#2 b) Ka3→e6 (3+9)

H1707 Abdelaziz Onkoud
France



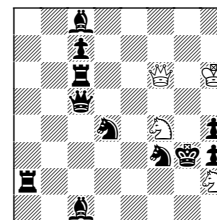
h#2 2 solutions (4+8)

H1708 Andy Kalotay
New York, NY



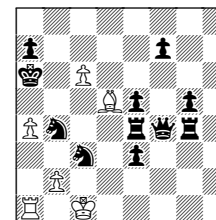
h#2 2 solutions (5+8)

H1709 Valerio Agostini
& Atonio Garofalo, Italy



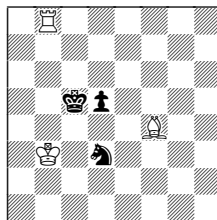
h#2 2 solutions (4+11)

H1710 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



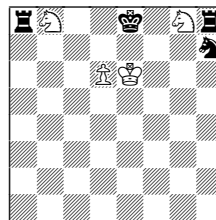
h#2 2 solutions (6+11)
b) Ra1→h6

H1699 Aleksandr Tsaplin
Ukraine



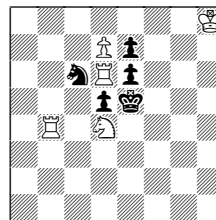
h#2* (3+3)

H1700 Robert J. Bales, Jr.
Broadview, IL



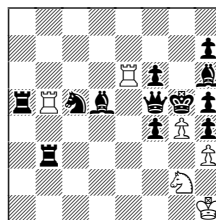
h#2 3 solutions (4+4)

H1701 Walter Alejandro Diaz
Argentina



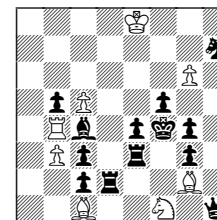
h#2 2 solutions (5+5)

H1711 Misha Shapiro
Israel



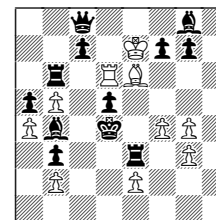
h#2 b) -Pg4 (6+12)

H1712 Menachem Witztum
Israel



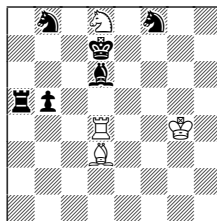
h#2 b) Sf1→f7 (8+13)

H1713 János Csák
Hungary



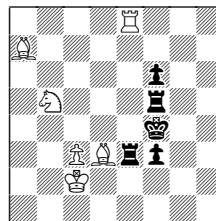
h#2 4 solutions (10+12)

H1702 Ivan Borisenko
Ukraine



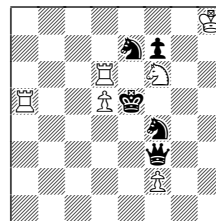
h#2 2 solutions (4+6)

H1703 Jean-François Carf
France



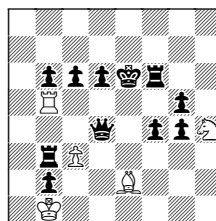
h#2 2 solutions (6+5)

H1704 Andy Kalotay
New York, NY



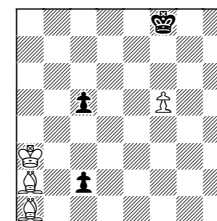
h#2 2 solutions (6+5)

H1714 Petre Stojoski
Macedonia



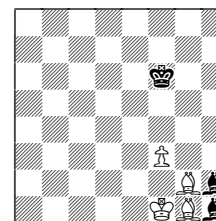
h#2½ b) Pc3→d2 (5+11)
c) Pg5→e5

H1715 Robert J. Bales, Jr.
Broadview, IL

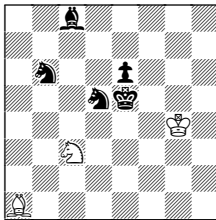


h#3 2 solutions (4+3)

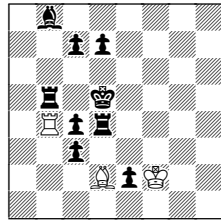
H1716 Robert J. Bales, Jr.
Broadview, IL



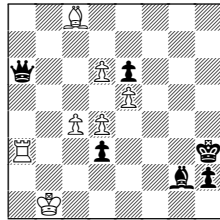
h#3 b) Kf6→d2 (4+3)

H1717 Nikolai Kuligin
Ukraine

h#3 2 solutions (3+5)

H1718 Boško Milošeski
Macedonia

h#3 2 solutions (3+9)

H1719 Aleksandr Pankratiev
& Mikhail Gershiniski
Russia/Ukraine

h#3 2 solutions (7+6)

H1648 (Kuligin/Zalokockiy) 1.Bxd5 Bd6 2.Bxa2 Rg7#; 1.Bxa2 Rg7 2.Bxd5 Bd6#. *This is real cool (LB), Exchange of both White and Black moves with nice self pins (WS), Cyclical moves by both White and Black with bB self-pinning (CCF).*

H1649 (Onkoud) 1.Qxa8 Rxf6+ 2.Ke5 Sxd7#; 1.Qxb6 Bxe4+2.Kf4 Sd3#. *Excellent Zilahi (LB), Captures by bQ to open lines for White and unpin wS. Nicely done (CCF).*

H1650 (Carf) 1.cxd2 Sf6 2.Kf4 Sxg6#; 1.Sxe7 Sd6 2.Kf6 Bxc3#. *A quite simple Zilahi (WS), Reciprocal captures of wBd2 and bPc3 (CCF).*

H1651 (Pankratiev/Gershiniski) 1.Qxc6 Rh1 2.Rxf5 Re1#; 1.Rxh4 Ba4 2.Qxe5 Bc2#. *Attractive tempo Zilahi (LB), Black captures pinning units as waiting moves (CCF).*

H1652 (Syzonenko) 1.Qxe1 Se6 2.Sf4 Sd2#; 1.Qxf4 Ba5 2.Se1 Sd4#. *Amazing! One of my favorites (WS), Cyclical play by Black and occupation of squares vacated by White (CCF).*

H1653 (Medintsev) 1.Bxe3 Ra4 2.Bg5 e3#; 1.Bxe4 Bc5 2.Bg6 e4#. *Nice echo (RL), Clear and instructive (WS), Nice matched play with R/P battery firing in both lines (CCF).*

H1654 (Witztum) 1.Sxe2 Bg5 2.Sd4 Rxe5#; 1.Sxe3 Bf2 2.Sf5 e4#. *Black captures to open lines and then self-block. White unpins its mating unit (CCF).*

H1655 (Tzur) a) 1.Qb8+ Bxb8 2.Bc7 Qxc7#; b) 1.Qe8 Rxe8 2.Re6 Qxe6#. *A Bristol theme. Easy work for the solver (WS).*

H1656 (Tzur) 1.Bc5 bxc5 2.Re4 cxd6#; 1.Re6 dxe6 2.Bd4 exf7#. *Very fine analogy (RL), Excellent ODT (LB), An exercise in line pinning (CCF).*

H1657 (Janevski) a) 1.Bd4 Se6+ 2.Kf5 Sg3#; b) 1.Rd5 Sf5+ 2.Ke6 Sg5#. *Complex and rich strategy (WS), Pin-mates with difficult play. Excellent problem (CCF).*

H1658 (Chepizhny) a) 1.fxe1S Sxg3 2.Sd3 Sxe2#; b) 1.exf1B Bd2 2.Bd3 Be3#; c) 1.fxe1B Se3 2.Bc3 Sc2#; d) 1.exf1S Sxa4 2.Se3 Bc3#. *Pleasing effects and pattern of promotions (LB), Promotions to B and S on both e1 and f1 followed by self-blocks. Clever idea (CCF).*

H1659 (Bales) a) 1.Kc7 exf5 2.Kd6 Rd4+ 3.Ke5 Rd5#; b) 1.Kc7 Rf7+ 2.Kd6 Rd7+ 3.Ke6 Bg4#. *Fairly straightforward (CCF).*

H1660 (Bales) 1...axb7+ 2.Kxa7 b8Q+ 3.Ka6 Qb6#; 1.bxa6 Kd7 2.Kb7 Kd6 3.Kc8 a8Q#; *Good miniature with Pawns (RL), The position for set play (White to move) is illegal (LB), The set play is illegal, Black has no last move! (WS), There can be no set play? (JM), Set play simple, play much harder (CCF).*

H1661 (Brunori/Agostini/Garofalo) 1.Bb5 Bh5 2.Bd7 Be8 3.Bf5 Bc6#; 1.Rd7 Rf1 2.Rd3 Rd1 3.Re3 Rd4#. *Just about an ideal ODT (LB), A charming work! (WS), Self-blocking problem (CCF).*

H1662 (Kuligin/Shevchenko) 1.Kf6 Se7+ 2.Kg7 Rg6+ 3.Kh8 Rg8#; 1.Kg4 Sh4 2.Bg6 Sf3 3.Bf5 Rh4#; 1.Sf7 Se7 2.Kf4 Kf2 3.Sg5 Rh4#; 1.Bxg6 Rxg6+ 2.Kh4 Kf3 3.Kh3 Rh6#. *Excellent work (RL), Some new mates (CCF).*

H1663 (Stojoski) 1.Qxa3 Bxg5 2.Qb2 Bf6 3.Re2 Rg1#; 1.Qxb3 Rxg5 2.Qb1 Rg1 3.Ba2 Bf6#. *BQ pinned on b2 and b1 – rather obvious (CCF).*

H1664 (Stojoski) a) 1.Be3 Bh5 2.Qd4 Bd1 3.Ke4 Bc2#; b) 1.Rbb3 Be6 2.Qb4 Bc8 3.Kc4 Ba6#. *Anticipating pins in both lines, but straightforward (CCF).*

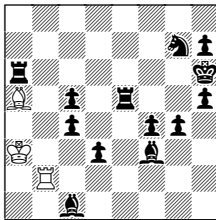
H1665 (Chepizhny) 1.Sg2+ Kg4 2.Bf4 Sb3 3.Sd2 Sc1#; 1.Sg3+ Kg5 2.Rg4 Sxc2 3.Sc4 Sb4#. *Beautiful (LB), Matched play with shut-offs on f4. Tricky to solve (CCF).*

H1666 (Onkoud) 1.Qxf2 gxf3 2.Kd4 Rc4+ 3.Ke3 Re4#; 1.Qxc8 Bxa7 2.Kc6 b5+ 3.Kc7 Bb6#. *Magnifique! (WS), Captures of main White units a major feature of the problem (CCF).*

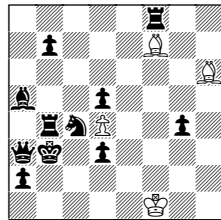
H1667 (Kopyl/Belokon) 1...Sb6 2.Sd7 Ke4 3.Re8+ Kxd4 4.Re6 Sc8#; 1...Sxc7 2.Rd7 Sa8 3.Kd5 Kf5 4.Rd6 Sb6#. *Two ideal mates with little material, well done! (WS), Ingenious problem to obtain two solutions (CCF).*

H1668 (Jones) 1...Bxd3 2.Qf5 f3 3.Re5 exf5+ 4.Kd5 Bb5#; 1...Rxd3 2.Qg4 f4 3.Rd5 exd5+ 4.Kf5 Rf3#. *Christopher always has good new ideas (WS), Usual harmonious composition from this composer (CCF).*

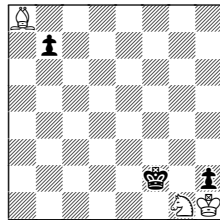
H1669 (Nikitin) 1.g1B Kg5 2.Bd4 Kf4 3.Bal Ke3 4.d1S+ Kd2 5.Sb2 Sc3#. *Good ideal helpmate (RL), Too easy (LB), Too small I suppose (WS), Neat, but easy (JM), Nice miniature with promotion to B and S (CCF).*

H1720 Tode Ilievski
Macedonia

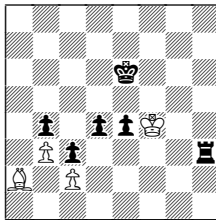
h#3 b) Pf4→f6 (3+13)

H1721 Nikolai Kuligin
Ukraine

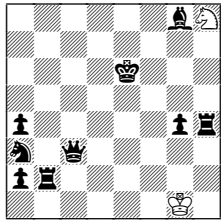
h#3½ 2 solutions (4+11)

H1722 Robert J. Bales, Jr.
Broadview, IL

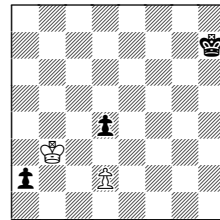
h#4 b) Kf2→h6 (3+3)

H1723 Steven Dowd
& Rolf Wiehagen
USA/Germany

h#5½ 2 solutions (4+6)

H1724 Alexey Gasparyan
Armenia

h#5½ (2+9)

H1725 Aleksandr Pankratiev
Russia

h#8 (2+3)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - HELPMATES

Comments from: Romuald Lazowski (RL), Ladislav Belcsak (LB), Wilfried Seehofer (WS), Jeremy Morse (JM) and C. C. Frankiss (CCF)

H1645 (Kalotay) a) 1.Qe2+ Rfxe2+ 2.Kf5 Rf1#; b) 1.Ree2 Rxe2+ 2.Kc1 Rf1#. *Neat shut-off play (CCF).*

H1646 (Bales) 1.e2 Rxe2 2.g1B Bxf3#; 1.g1R Rxe3 2.Qg2 Rh3#. *Under-promotions and a nice pin-mate in one solution (WS), Promotions to R and B with good play (CCF).*

H1647 (Kuligin) 1.Bf5 Rg6+ 2.Kh5 Sf4#; 1.Sf5 Sf4 2.Kg5 Rg6#. *Exchange of White moves and mate on two different squares (WS), White cyclic play (CCF).*

H1670 (Mihajloski) 1...Bf3 2.Rb5 Ke3 3.c5 Kf2 4.Qb6 Kxg3 5.Ke7 Kf4 6.Kd6 Ke4 7.Kc6 Ke5#. *Good technique, six moves by the wK! (WS), WK performs a complete Rundlauf of moves before mating. Difficult solving (CCF).*

H1671 (Pankratiev) 1...Kc7 2.a5 Kd6 3.a4 Ke5 4.a3 Kf4 5.a2 Kxg3 6.a1B Kf4 7.Bf6 Kf5 8.Bh4 g4#. *Neat, but easy and vulnerable to anticipation (JM), A rather obvious solution (CCF).*

SERIES-MOVERS and STALEMATES

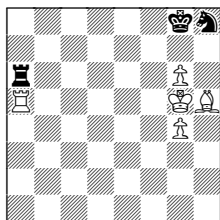
Editor: **Radovan Tomašević**, Judge: **Cornel Pacurar**

Please note, from SG57, **C0426** is ser-s#22 (not 21). Our apologies.

A warm welcome to newcomer Paul Răican! His entry utilizes Kemp matrix. Robert starts off with three entries, the second one being quite interesting. **C0436** by Milimir will challenge solvers. Look for four excelsiors in Unto's entry. Two of Arno's entries are tasks. A joint by Dan and Arno has been dubbed the "Venus flytrap".

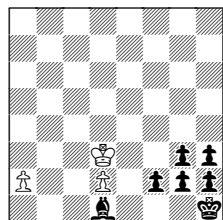
The last entry is an economical miniature where bPb5 is captured by four white pieces.

C0433 Robert J. Bales Jr.
Broadview, IL



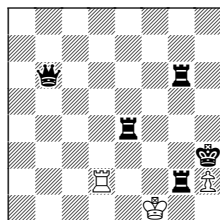
ser-s#8 (5+3)

C0434 Robert J. Bales Jr.
Broadview, IL



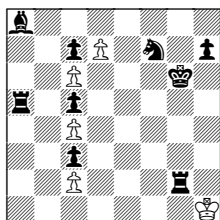
ser-s#18 (3+7)

C0435 Robert J. Bales Jr.
Broadview, IL



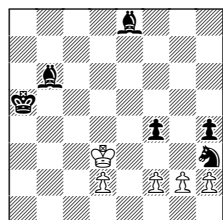
ser-s#19 3 bRs (3+5)

C0436 Milimir Babić
Serbia



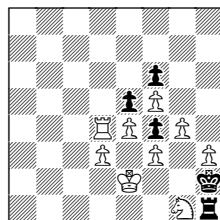
ser-s#22 C- (5+9)

C0437 Unto Heinonen
Finland



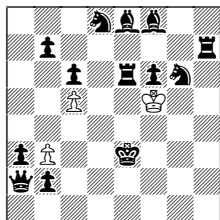
ser-s#31 C- (5+6)

C0438 Vito Rallo
Italy



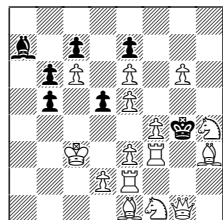
ser-h#13 (9+5)

C0439 Arno Tüngler
Germany



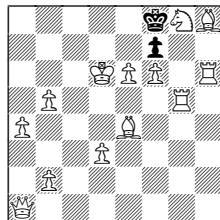
ser-!#105 C- (3+13)

C0440 Arno Tüngler
Germany



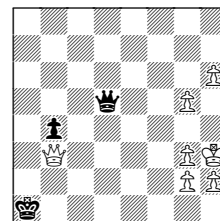
ser-hF 127 (15+7)

C0441 Paul Răican
Romania



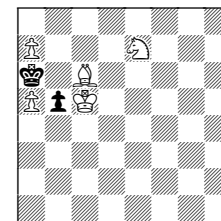
pser-hs#92 (13+2)

C0442 Dan Meinking &
Arno Tüngler, USA/Germany



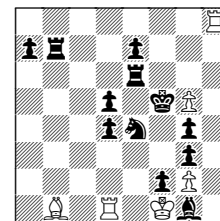
pser-hxz8 C- (7+3)
b) -Pg2, c) wKh4

Q0250 Tomislav Petrović
Serbia



=2 (5+2)
b/c/d) Se7→d7/d4/d8

Q0251 Tibor Érsek
Hungary



h=5½ (6+12)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - SERIES-MOVERS & STALEMATES

Comments from: Romuald Lazowski (RL), Ladislav Belcsak (LB), Ryan McCracken (RM), Wilfried Seehofer (WS), David Moulton (DM), Jeremy Morse (JM) and C. C. Frankiss (CCF)

C0411 (Tzur) 1.Bxd5 2.Kxc4 5.Kxa6 7.Kc8 8.Rb8 10.b7 11.Bc6+ Rxc6#; 1-5.Rxg6-xg7-xf7-xf5-xe5 7.Kxd5 8.Ke6 9.Rc5 10.Bd5 11.Rc8+ Bxc8#. *A nice series (RL), Function change of wR and wB and two different mating positions (WS), The Rook is hungry in this solution (DM), Very good play and strategy (CCF).*

C0412 (Érsek) 1.c4 2.c5 10.Kxg3 11.Kh4 12.g3 13.Bg2 14.Bb7 15.Rxa7 16.Ra4 17.Rxg4 18.Re4 19.Re7+ Bxe7#. *The final square for the wK was hard to find. The sequence of moves is tricky (WS), Splendid puzzle which uses the whole board (JM), WK gets mated on the other side of the board. Nice sequence (CCF).*

C0413 (Bales) 3.axb6 4.bxa7 5.a8S 7.Sa4 8.Sxc3 9.Sb5 13.c7 15.Ka8 16.a8R 18.Rxe5 20.Rb8 21.Sc7+ Sxc7#. *At first it seems that the promoted R must remove Pc3 and Be5, but it's one move too slow (RM), Robert, you have composed some nice work for the solver! (WS), Enjoyable, but easy (JM), Some interesting play, but fairly straightforward (CCF).*

C0414 (Sphicas) 5.f8S 7.Sxd4 8.Sc2 13.d8Q 14.Qxh4 15.Qf4 20.h8B 22.Be1 23.Kd2 28.e8R 29.Re2 30.Qf1+ Sxf1#. *George, thank you for this present, a wonderful all promotion! (WS). C. C. Frankiss, H. Nieuwhart, and R. Lazowski found cooks: 1.d3 2.dxc4 6.c8S 7.Sd6 8.Sf5 9.Sxh4 10.Sf3 11.h4 12.Sh2 16.h8Q 17.Qc8 18.Sf3 19.Sg1 20.Qc1 21.Qxa1 22.Qf1 23.Sf3+ Sxf1#.*

C0415 (Sphicas) 4.fxg7 5.g8Q 7.Qxa3 8.Qc1 12.axb7 13.b8S 15.Sxd4 16.Sdc2 21.d8Q 22.Qxh4 23.Qf4 28.h8B 30.Be1 31.Kd2 32.Sd1 37.e8R 38.Re2 39.Qf1+ Sxf1#. *Five promotions in an interesting setting by the grandmaster of series-movers! (WS), I couldn't find a cook, so the solution remains the same (CCF).*

C0416 (Sphicas) 1.e8S 2.Sd6 3.Kd7 6.e8S 8.Sxe4 9.Sg5 14.e8S 16.Sg8 18.Rc8 19.Bd8 20.Se7 21.f8S 23.Sfc7 24.b8S 25.Sc6 28.b8S 29.Sf7+ Qxf7=.. *Six Knight promotions! Please send this wonderful problem to the FIDE Album! (WS), I could not find a cook, so the solution remains the same (CCF).*

C0417 (Érsek) 1.Sxg6 2.Sxf4 3.Bc2 4.Kd3 5.c3 Rd4#; b) 1.Sxc5 2.Sxa4 3.Ba3 4.Kb4 5.Rb3 Sd5#. *Beautiful Zilahi (LB), Matched sequences with good play (CCF).*

C0418 (Bales) 1.g1B 2.h1R 3.Rh2 4.Rg2 5.Kh2 6.Kh1 7.Bh2 8.Kg1 Rf1#. *Bob, this is small, but neat. Ideal-mate at the end (WS), Promoting Pawns return to each other's staring squares (JM), Almost a piece shuffle after promotions to B and R (CCF).*

C0419 (Rallo) 3.cxb3 5.b1B 7.Bf7 8.Bxh5 9.Bf3 14.h1S 15.Sxf2 16.Ke3 17.Se4 Sf5#. *Again an ideal-mate, but the solution is quite simple (WS), Straightforward (JM), Promotions to B and S as expected (CCF).*

C0420 (Tomašević) 1.Kc3 **3.b1S** 5.Sxf3 6.Sd4 **9.f1B 10.h1Q** 11.Qxh6 12.Qe3 **17.h1R** 19.Rxe2 20.Rc2 21.Bc4 22.Kd3 23.Rc3 Sc5#. *In the try, b1S captures f3 and e2, but Black can't get a Q to c3 fast enough because Sd4 and Bc4 block the quickest avenues (RM), I liked this problem with four promotions and the ideal-mate very much. Thank you! (WS), Final position fairly obvious, but it's not easy to find the way there (JM), A well constructed AUV (CCF).*

C0421 (Foster) 1.Bg7 2.Kc3+ Kf3 3.g4+ Ke2 4.Bd3+ Kd1 5.Bc2+ Kc1 6.Bh6+ Qg5 7.g3! Qd2+ 8.Bxd2#; 1.Kc3+ Ke5 2.Kd3+ Kf5 3.Kd4+ Kf6 4.Ke4+ Kg6 5.Ke5+ Kg7 6.Kf5+ Kh7 7.Be4 Qxg5+ 8.Kxg5#. *Nice use of K/B batteries to force wK moves (CCF).*

C0422 (Argirakopoulos) 1.Kd8 4.Kxa7 5.Kb6 7.a8B xz; 1.Kf8 3.Kxh6 4.Kg5 7.h8S xz.

C0423 (Argirakopoulos) 19.Kxg3 38.Kg6 40.h8B xz.

C0424 (Argirakopoulos) 14.Kxa3 28.Kxe7 46.Kxc8 59.Kxf5 60.g4 xz. *A little different from usual long K move series-problems (CCF).*

Q0247 (Semenenko) 1.Bb8 cxb8B 2.c1B Bxe5 3.Bxf4 Bxc3 4.Bb8 Bxb8 5.e5 Bcxe5 6.Sg3 Bxg3=. *Two promotions to B with good switchover play by the wB's. Most enjoyable problem (CCF).*

Q0248 (Millour) 1.a1Q b8Q 2.Qe5 Qxb1 3.Qb5 axb5 4.g1Q bxc6 5.Qg6 cxd7 6.Qxe8+ dxe8Q 7.e1Q Qxh5 8.Qe6 e8Q 9.Qf7 Qexf7=. *One of the great tasks. The three promotions to bQ have never been shown in a h#, and only twice before in a h=.* Here, amazingly, the composer combines it with three promotions to wQ (JM), Three promotions to wQ matched by three promotions to bQ with Pronkin captures. Remarkable problem (CCF).

FAIRIES

Editor: **Petko A. Petkov**, Judge: FA & FB sections: **Eric Huber**

Strategic play dominates in this issue. Nice, dynamic motives are shown in **FA1150**, **FA1151**, **FA1152**, **FA1153**, **FB1159** and **FB1163**. Similar motives are used in **FB1156** and **FB1157** composed by a rising star, Julia Vysotska. Both compositions utilize chameleons.

Long but interesting play is demonstrated in two help-selfmates: **FA1154** and **FA1155**. The unusual stipulations in **FB1161** and **FB1164** deserve special attention. A couple of compositions are C-: **FB1161** and **FB1163**.

In general, all originals are tested with Popeye. Every composer can copy gratis the last version of this excellent program directly from the WFCC web site. There may be some differences in testing between Popeye and other programs such as Alybadix and Win Chloe. Please inform me if this happens.

Definitions of Fairy Conditions and Pieces

Bishop-Locust - A Locust capturing on Bishop-lines only.

Chameleon - See SG57.

Chameleon-Hopper - A unit which transforms in the following sequence: NH→BH→RH→G→NH.

Circe - See SG 57, **Circe Couscous** - See SG57, **Circe Parrain** - See SG57.

Dolphin - Grasshopper + Kangaroo.

Dummy King - A King which cannot move.

Edgehog - Moves like a Queen, either to or from the board edge, but not both.

Einstein Chess - All units (Ks excluded) change their type when they move, according to a precise pattern. For non-capture moves: Q→R, R→B, B→S, S→P, P remains P. For capture-moves: R→Q, B→R, S→B, P→S, Q remains Q.

Gnu - Knight + Camel.

Help self-compel mate (hs#) - See SG57.

Impala - Knight + Antelope.

Koko - See SG57.

Neutral piece - See SG57.

Phser-xz21 - White plays the series, Black parrying to help, leading to a direct-CapZug.

Rook-Locust - Moves like a Locust, but on Rook-lines only.

Series-mover (ser.) - See SG57.

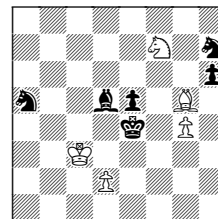
Sparrow - A Grasshopper which pivots 135° (to either side) at the hurdle.

Take & Make - See SG57.

Vizier - (0,1) Leaper

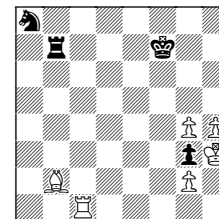
W1→ser-h#n - White makes 1 move, then series h# in n moves.

FA1150 Pierre Tritten
France



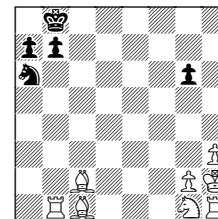
h#2 2 solutions (5+6)
Einstein Chess

FA1151 Wilfried Seehofer
Germany



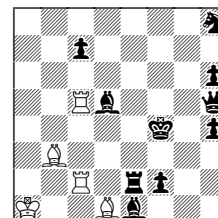
r#2 Take & Make (6+4)

FA1152 Wilfried Seehofer
Germany
dedicated to Pierre Tritten



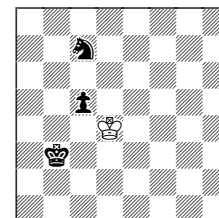
r#2 Take & Make (8+5)

FA1153 Vlaicu Crisan
& S.K.Balasubramanian
Romania/India



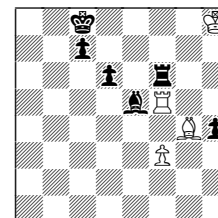
h#2 2 solutions (5+10)
Take & Make

FA1154 Juraj Lörinc
Slovakia



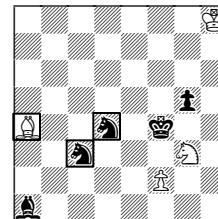
hs#4½* Koko (1+3)

FA1155 Dan Meinking
Cincinnati, OH



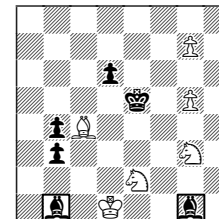
hs#5 (4+6)

FB1156 Julia Vysotska
Latvia



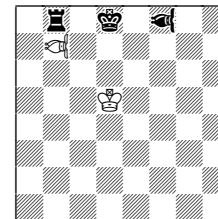
hs#2 2 solutions (4+5)
Chameleons

FB1157 Julia Vysotska
Latvia, dedicated to my
Mother Larisa Vysotska

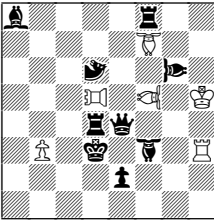


hs#3 2 solutions (6+6)
Chameleons

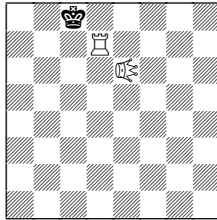
FB1158 Václav Kotěšovec
Czech Republic



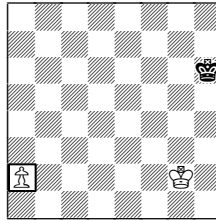
h#3 3 solutions (2+3)
Sparrow

FB1159 Krasimir Gandev
Bulgaria

h#3 2 solutions C- (6+9)
 Dolphin, Gnu, Impala
 Bishop-Locust, Rook-Locust

FB1160 Geoff Foster
Australia

sh#6 2 solutions (2+1)
 Take & Make, Circe Parrain
 Edgehog

FB1161 Dan Meinking
Cincinnati, OH

Phser -xz21 (2+1)
 Chameleon-hopper Pa2

F1095 (Harris) a) 1...Rxd1 [+wRf5] 2.Qxd1 [+bRc4] Bxb2 [+wBe5] 3.Qd8 Qxd8 [+wQf6] 4.Bxb2 [+bBh7] Qd1=; b) 1...Rxd1 [+wRd5] 2.Bxf6 [+bBd4] Qe1 3.Qxd1 [+bRd2] Qxe6 [+wBh6] 4.Bxd2 [+bRh1] Rh7=; c) 1...Rxd1 [+wRd8] 2.Rxd1 [+bRh1] Bxb2 [+wBg7] 3.Bxb2 [+bBe5] Qd8 4.Rxd8 [+bQa4] Ra1= In the author's typical style.

F1096 (Feather) 1...Bxf4-f3[Ph2]#; 1.f3 Bg1 2.Kxg1-h2[Bh1] Bg2 3.fxg2-h3[Bf3] Bg2 4.hxg2-h1=B[Bh3] Bxf5-f4[Ph3]# Chameleon echo. *Neat fairy miniature (RL), An attractive sequence of play (CCF).*

F1097 (Thoma) a) 1.h1R c5 2.Rb1 c6 3.Rb7+ cxb7 [+bRa8] 4.Ra2 b8B 5.Rh2 Bxh2=; b) 1.h1B c5 2.Ba8 c6 3.Bb7 cxb7 [+bBc8] 4.Kh7 bxc8B 5.Kh8 Bxh3 [+bPh7]= Difficult to solve. *Interesting construction (RL), Charming problem with changed promotions (CCF).*

F1098 (Ersek) 1.Sb5 Kxc4(Ke8) 2.d4 exd4[bPd7] 3.f5 Bxg3[bBf8] 4.f6 Qxf6[bQd8] 5.Sd6 + Rxd6[bRh8]=. *Good Anti-Circe play with only the wK remaining to be stalemated (CCF).*

F1099 (Harris) a) 1...Ke4 2.Ba6 Rg4+ 3.Bd3+ Ka8 4.Bh7 Rh4 5.Bb1 f5 6.Bb1-e4+ f5-f4# b) 1...Kc4 2.Bd3+ Kg8 3.Bh7 g6 4.Kf4 Rf3 5.Kg5 Rf7 6.Kh6+ Rxh7#.

F1100 (Stepochkin) a) Set 1...Qb8#; **1.d8R!** Qb8 2.Kd7 Qd6 3.Rg8 Qa3 4.Rg6 Qf8 5.Ke6+ Ke8 6.Rf6 Qa3 7.Kd7 Qd6#; b) **1.d8S!** Qb8 2.Kc6 Qf4 3.Se5 Qf2 4.Kc7 Qf5 5.Sc6 Qa5 6.Kd7 Qd2 7.Ke8 Qd8# (3...Qd4 4.Sc6 Qg7 5.Kd7 Qd4 6.Ke8 Qd8#); c) **1.d8Q!** Qb8 2.Kd7 Qd6 3.Qg5 Qg6 4.Qf5+ Qc6 5.Ke7+ Ke8 6.Kf8 Qg6 7.Qf6 Qg8#; d) **1.Kb7!** Qb8 2.Ka8 Qe8 3.d8B Qa4 4.Bc7 Qa3 5.Bd6 Qa7 Bc7 Qa3 7.Kb8 Qa8# AUW.

F1101 (Harris) 1.Qh8 [+wPg7] 2.exd4 [+wQe5] 3.d3 4.d2 5.d1R 6.Rd2 Qg2 [+bPd5]+ 7.Rxg2 [+wPd2]#; 1.Qh7 [+wPg7] 2.Qc2 [+wPh7] 3.Qh2 [+wPc2] 4.Qg3 [+wPh2] 5.Qh3 [+wPg3] 6.exd4 [+wQe5] Qxf7 [+bPd5] 7.Qg2 [+wPh3]#.

F1102 (Bašić) a) 1.Sf2 2.Sxa1 [+Pb3] 3.Sb6 4.Se5 5.Sxf2 [+Pe4] 6.Sc5 7.Sf4 8.Sxe5 [+Pd3] 9.e6!-; b) 1.Se3 2.e5 3.Sxc4 [-Pd6] 4.Se4 5.Sb3 6.e6 7.f5 8.e4 9.Sxa1 [+Pb3]!-; c) 1.e6 2.f5 3.Sd4 4.Sc7 5.Sxh8 [+Pg6] 6.Sg3 7.Sd4 8.c5 9.Sxg6 [+Pe5] != Surprising effects of fairy conditions after dynamic rotation of the board.

F1103 (Raican) 1.Bh3 2.Sf5+ Ke6 3.Sd6+ Kd5 4.Sxc4+ dxc4 5.Be6+ Ke4 6.Bd5+ Kd3 7.Be4+ Kd2 8.Bc2 9.d3 and Bf3! 10.Sxc4#. *Interesting use of the Isardam condition (CCF).*

F1104 (Rimkus) 1.e4 2.e5 3.e6 4.e7 5.Kc7 6.Kc8 7.e8Q 8.Qxb5 9.Qxc5 [+buBb5] 10.Qxe7 [+buPc5] 11.Kc7 12.Kb6 13.Qd8+ Bxd8#. *A nice example for Ghost chess with a happy return of the wK! (WS), The units on b5 and b6 may not be captured (CCF).*

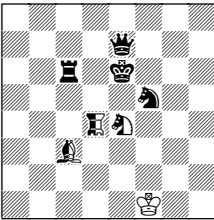
F1105 (Rimkus) 1.DGd5 DGf4 2.DGb8 DGc8#; 1.DGb3 DGhb6 2.DGf6 GSB7#. *Instructive example for the DG! (WS), DG moves are complex and varied - Not easy to solve (CCF).*

F1106 (Petkov) 1.Be2=wB PAb1=bPA+ 2.Rxa8-c6 VAxb1-b7#; 1.Ra4=wR VAh7=bVA+ 2.Bxh5-e5 PAXh7-f5 #. Zilahi theme with many special effects and model-mates. *A very clever double-check (CCF).*

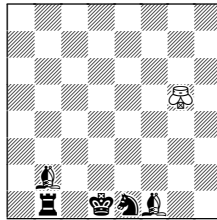
F1107 (Feather) a) 1.Rxb8[wGb1] Sg5+ 2.Kxe5[wSf5] Se4#; b) 1.Rfxb8[wGf8] Sg4+ 2.Kxe6[wSf5] Sf6#. *Nice mating positions and good battery play (WS), Excellent and difficult play (CCF).*

F1108 (Gvozdjak) Set: 1...RLdd6 (a) 2.LLxc6# (A), 1...RLd5 (b) 2.LLc4# (B), 1...RLd4(c) 2.Rb3# (C), 1...RLf5 (d) 2.c8NL# (D); Try: 1.Re6~? [thr. 2.LLxc6# (A), 2.LLc4# (B), 2.Rb3# (C), 2.c8NL# (D)] 1...RLd6 (a) 2.LLc4# (B), 2.Rb3# (C), 1...RLd5 (b) 2.Rb3# (C), 2.c8NL# (D), 1...RLd4 (c) 2.c8NL# (D), 2.LLxc6# (A), 1...RLf5 (d) 2.LLxc6# (A), 2.LLc4# (B) but 1...BLb7!; 1.Re5!?! [thr. 2.LLxc6#, 2.LLc4#, 2.Rb3#, 2.c8NL#] but 1...NLg6!; **1.Re4!** [2.Sc5#] - 1...RLd6 (a) 2.c8NL# (D), 1...RLd5 (b) 2.LLxc6# (A), 1...RLd4 (c) 2.LLc4# (B), 1...RLf5 (d) 2.Rb3#(C) Four-fold Lacny cycle between set and actual play combined with W correction. The random-move try adds a special kind of Fleck: cyclic duals after the thematic defenses. *An amazing amount of Black interference play (CCF).*

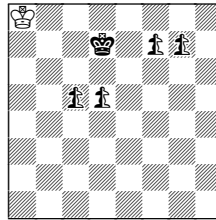
F1109 (Kotěšovec) 1.g6 SPg3 2.Kh4 Kf4 3.SPh3 SPg4#; 1.Kh5 SPf3 2.SPg4 Kf5 3.SPh4 SPg5#; III. 1.Kg4 SPh5 2.Kh3 Kf3 3.g5 SPg3# Chameleon echo. *Neat echoes with little material (WS), Tricky solving (CCF).*

FB1162 Juraj Löric
Slovakia

h#3 3 solutions (1+4+3)
 Circe Parrain, Vizier

FB1163 Krasimir Gandev
Bulgaria

h#6 b) Rb1→h8 (1+3+2)
 Circe, Dummy King, C-

FB1164 Chris Feather
England

W1→ser-h#5 (1+1+4)
 Couscous Circe

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - FAIRIES

Comments from: Author (A), Romuald Lazowski (RL), Ladislav Belcsak (LB), Wilfried Seehofer (WS) and C. C. Frankiss (CCF)

F1090 (Poissant) **1.Sd6!** (2.Sxc4 (Ra) Ra1#), 1...Rxd4(Pd2) 2.dxc3 (Pc7) Rd1#, 1...Rcb4 2.bxc3 (Pc7) Rb1#, 1...Rc5 2.dxc5 (Rh8) Rh1#, 1...cxb2+ 2.Kb1 Sc3#, 1...Sxd6 (Sg1) 2.exd6 (Sb8) Qe1#. *I missed the thematic try 1.Sf5-e3 with only one refutation (WS), Lovely play after a good Circe key (CCF).*

F1091 (Kopyl) 1.Qxe6 [+wRa5] Bxd6 [+bPf4] + 2.Sxd6 [+wBb5] Bxd3 [+bSf6] #; 1.dxc5 [+wBc8] Rxg6 [+bRe5] + 2.hxg6 [+wRd7] Rxf7 [+bSe4]# Excellent dynamic play! *White opens the battery, Black closes it again, amazing! (WS), Creation of mating nets and double checks. Difficult (CCF).*

F1092 (Tritten) 1.Kxf6-d4 Kb4 2.Re4 Sxd8-c6 #; 1.Kxf7-d6 Rf4 2.Re6 Rd4#; 1.Kxf5-d5 c3 2.Be6 Bxd8-b7#. *Slightly disappointed that one of the mates isn't by a capture on d8. Nevertheless, a fine composition (CCF).*

F1093 (Feather) a) 1.Rxb2-e5[wBh8] Bxg7-g6[bPc1=B] 2.Rb5 Bc2#, 1.f3 Bxg7-g6[bPc1=R] 2.Rc2 Bxc2-c6[bRf1]#; b) 1.Rxb2-f6[wBh8] Bxg7-g5[bPc1=S] 2.Sb3 Bxf6-c6[bRc1]#, 1.c4 Bxg7-g5[bPc1=Q] 2.Qxg5-f6[wBd8] Bxf6-c6[bQc1]# AUW of BPg7 entirely in the "make" parts of moves. *Exotic play combined with a mixed AUW (CCF).*

F1094 (Begley) White: 1...Kc2 2.Rd3 Kxd3 (>wKe4; +bRf5) 3.Kxg6 (>bKg7; +wPh8=R!) 3...Kxf5 (>wKg6; +bRg5)#; Black: 1...Kxg6 (>bKg7; +wPh8=S!) 2.Sxd7 (>wSf6; +bRb2) 2...Kxf6 (>bKe5; +wSd4) 3.Kxb2 (>wKb3; +bRa2) 3...Kxd4 (>bKc3; +wSd3)# Nonstandard conditions and ideas!

F1110 (Petkov) a) 1.VAb2 LOxb2-d1 2.PAh1 Qd7+ 3.Kxd7-h3+ LOxc8-h2#; 1.PAb5 LOxb5-a6 2.VAa1 Qc7+ 3.Kxc7-c3+ LOxc8-b2# Dynamic and difficult play with creation of White anti-batteries. *Difficult play – perhaps too difficult (CCF)*.

F1111 (Rallo) 1...Kd5 2.rRh6 Ke5 3.Bg6 Kf6 4.Qh5 Kg7#; 1...Kc4 2.rRc6+ Kb4 3.rRc1 Ka3 4.Bc2 Kb2#. *Strange concept that a wK can mate a Black royal unit (CCF)*.

F1112 (Feather) Set: 1...G2xe5-e4[Ph2]#; 1.e4 Kf1 2.e3 Ke1 3.f2+ Kxf2-f1[Pe1=G2] 4.G2e5 G2xe5-e1[G2h2]# G2 promotion; switch of mate line; round trip of WK f2-f1-e1-f2]. *Interesting that this problem solves with a normal G as well as a G2 (CCF)*.

F1113 (Meinking) 1.Nc2 2.Nb4+ Kg2 3.Nd8+ Kh3 4.Nf7+ Ng5 5.Nb5 6.Nd1+ Kg4 7.Nf2+ Kf5 8.Nh6+ Kg6 9.Ng8 Nf7# Rundlauf of N, ideal mate. *Lovely symmetry (RL), Enjoyable minimal problem (CCF)*.

F1114 (Foster) 1.Ke7 2.Kxe6-g4 [+wSQe7] 3.Kxh4-d8 [+wGg4] 4.Kd7 5.Kxe7-g5 [+wSQd7] 6.Kf4 7.Kf3 8.Kxg4-c8 [+wGf3] 9.Kxd7-b8 [+wSQc8]10.Kxc8-a8 [+wSQb8] SQc6 #; 1.Kd6 2.Ke5 3.Kxe6-f4 [+wSQe5] 4.Kxe5-g3 [+wSQf4] 5.Kxh4-e4 [+wGg3] 6.Ke3 7.Kxf4-f2 [+wSQe3] 8.Kxe3-g2 [+wSQf2] 9.Kxg3-e1 [+wGg2] 10.Kxf2-h1 [+wSQe1] SQf3 #. *Mates in both corners (CCF)*.

F1115 (Rallo) 1.Gd4-d6 2.Gf6-c6 + Ke4-e3 3.Gc6-c2 4.Kc3-c4 5.Gd6-d4 + Ke3-d2 6.Gd4-b4 7.Kc4-b3 8.Gb4-b2 + Kd2-c1 9.Kb3-a2 10.Ka2-a1 11.Gc2-a2 12.Gb2-b7 Gd5-a8#. *Interesting play by the Grasshoppers (RL), Much content for six pieces. I like the Pseries-movers (WS), Another difficult sequence to find (CCF)*.

F1116 (Meinking) 5.h1N 6.Ng3+ Ne2 7.Ne7 8.Na5+ Kd2 9.Nb3+ Ke3 10.Nf1+ Kf4 11.Nd5+ Kg5 12.Nh7+ Kg6 13. Kh8 Kf7# Rundlauf of N, battery-mate! *Neat fairy miniature (RL), Has to be solved backwards. After that, one still falls into the trap of going through c7 instead of f1. Excellent teaser (LB), Pretty solution with a battery mate at the end (WS), Black Knight moves the wK to g6 setting up a K/N battery. Good sequence (CCF)*.

F1117 (Gandev) 1...nVAe6 2.Kg7 GRc5 3.Kh8 GRxf4#; 1...PAb7 2.nVAAb1 Kc2 3.nVAAb8 GRc7#; 1...PAc7 2.nVAa1 Kd2 3.nVAa8 GRd7# Amazing play. *Interesting fairy pieces (RL)*.

F1118 (Foster) a) 1.Kf5 2.nSxa5-d8[wBc6] 3.nSxc6-b5[wBd8] 4.Ke6 5.Kd7 6.Kxd8-a5[wBd7] 7.Ka4, Kxb5-c3[nSc4]#; b) 1.nSd4 2.Kxd4-c2[nSe4] 3.nSc3 4.nSxa2-b3[wBc3] 5.Kxc3-b2[wBc2] 6.Ka3 7.Ka4, Kxb3-c5[nSc4]#. *I think the combination PWC and TM is too complicated for the solver (WS)*.

F1119 (Feather) 1.Kxe7 [nPc6] 2.nPxe6=nS [nPf7] 3.Kxe6 [nSe7] 4.Kd7 5.Kd8 6.Kx7 [nSd8] 7.nSx7=nB[nPd8] 8.Kx7 [nBe7] 9.nPx7=nS [nBd8] 10.Kf8 11.nBx7=nR [nSd8] 12.nSf7=nP nRx7=nQ [nPc7]#. *Round trips by both neutral Ps: eP e7>e6>f7>d8>e7> d8>f7>e7; fP e7>e6>e7>d8>f7>e7>d8>e7>f7. These round trips use the same four squares. A twin nPf7>d7 presents essentially the same solution reflected about the e-file (Author), Only Popeye could solve that! But I enjoyed the solution very much, one of my favorites! (WS)*.

RETROS AND PROOF GAMES

Editor: **Kostas Prentos**

Judges: Retros: **Henrik Juel**, Proof Games: **Ryan McCracken**

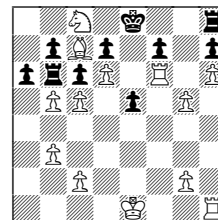
Stanislav supplies the only retro of this issue, showing classical motifs.

As usual, the proof games section is more popular. Rustam opens the collection with an elegant PG and revisits the theme of Good Companions 2010 with his longer entry. François achieves the absolute massacre PG without conditions, for the first time. He explains how, with his article on page 66 of this issue.

The ever-popular Ceriani/Frolkin theme appears in no less than four originals, often combined with other themes. Finally, do not miss the joint **P0333**. Conventional solving methods are half a move slow; so, keep an open mind.

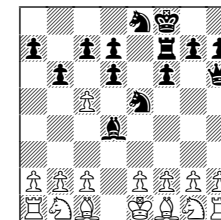
P0333 and **P0336** are not computer tested. **P0330** is computer created but not verified by the standard programs; it can be assumed to be C+.

R0192 Stanislav Vokal
Slovakia



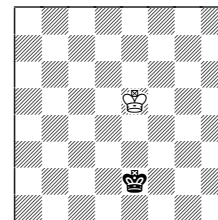
#4 (13+10)

P0329 Rustam Ubaidullaev
Russia



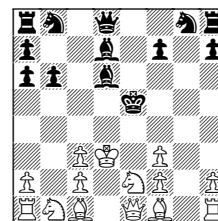
PG 17½ (15+14)

P0330 François Labelle
Canada



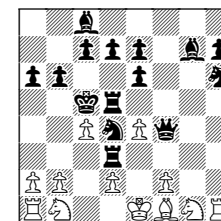
PG 19½ (1+1)

P0331 James Soliman
Fountain Valley, CA



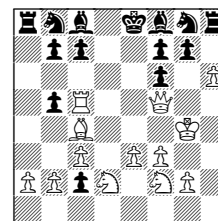
PG 20 (14+13)

P0332 Silvio Baier
Germany



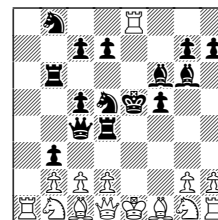
PG 22 (12+15)

P0333 Gianni Donati &
Olli Heimo, USA/Finland



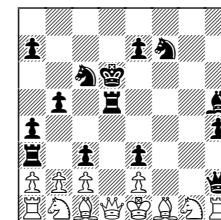
PG 22 (13+14)

P0334 Nicolas Dupont
France



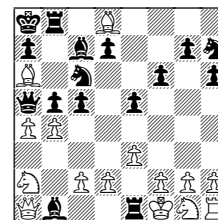
PG 23½ (14+15)

P0335 Unto Heinonen
Finland



PG 27 (12+14)

P0336 Rustam Ubaidullaev
Russia



PG 27 (15+16)

SG56 (October-December) Solutions - RETROS & PROOF GAMES

Comments from: Author (A), Ladislav Belcsak (LB), Ryan McCracken (RM), Radovan Tomačević (RT), David Moulton (DM), C. C. Frankiss (CCF) and Hans Nieuwhart (HN)

R0185 (Frolkin) Retract: -1.a5-a6# Kb8xBb7 -2.Bc8-b7+ Kb7-b8+ -3.c7-c8B+ Kb6xBb7! -4.a4-a5+ Ka5-b6 (-3...Kb6xBb7? -4.a4-a5+ Ka5-b6 -5.Sc5-b7+?? is illegal check to the wK). *The black King uncaptures two white Bishops on the same square: a promoted Bishop and an original one (A), Quite a tricky little retraction (CCF)*.

R0186 (Weeth/Frolkin) White balance: 13 (pieces on the board) + 3 (axb, bxc, dxc) = 16. Black balance: 12 (pieces on the board) + 4 (axb, f2xe3, g2xf3, hxg) = 16. If d2xe3, then either the white f-Pawn, or the white/black h-Pawn is unaccounted for. Therefore, d2-d8=X. Retract:

-1...b6-b5# -2.Rb1-c1 Sf7-h8 -3.Rc1-b1 Sd6-f7 -4.Rb1-c1 Sf5-d6 (-4...Sc4-d6 -5.Rc1-b1 Sa3-c4 -6.Rb1-c1: retro-opposition, -6.g3-g4? Sb1-a3 -7.?? or -5.Qd2-a5? Sa5-c4+ -6.Qd8-d2 - ??) -5.Rc1-b1 Sg3-f5 -6.Rb1-c1 Sh1-g3 -7.Rc1-b1 h2-h1S -8.g3-g4! (-8.Rb1-c1+ h3-h2 -9.Rc1-b1 h4-h3 -10.h3xSg4 Se5-g4 -11.Rb1-c1 Sc4-e5 -12.Rc1-b1 Sa3-c4 -13.Rb1-c1: retro-opposition, -13...h5-h4 -14.Rc1-b1 Sb1-a3 -15.h2-h3 Ka1-a2. The retro-opposition seems to have been overcome, but...-16.Ka3-a4? Sc3-b1+ -17.?? is an illegal check to the bK from wRc1, or -16.Kb3-a4?? is an illegal check to the bK from wQa5) -8...h3-h2 -9.h2xSg3! Sf5-g3 (-9...Sf1-g3? -10.Rb1-c1 Sd2-f1 -11.Rc1-b1 Sb1-d2 -12.??) -10.Rb1-c1 Sd6-f5 -11.Rc1-b1 Sc4-d6 -12.Qd2-a5 Sa5-c4+ -13.Qd8-d2 h4-h3! -14.d7-d8Q h5-h4! -15.d6-d7 d7xBc6! -16.Kb5-a4! Sb3(c4)-a5 etc. A "standard" attempt to overcome retro-opposition fails; the retro-cage has to be released in a way which allows us to avoid retro-opposition altogether (A).

R0187 (Beluhov) The bPd2 captured the wB by e3xBd2. The SW cage can be opened by unplaying the wB back to f1 and retracting e2-e3. This retraction must precede both the retractions of f2xg3 (so that the bK may exit), and h2(h3)-h4 (so that the wR may return home). Retract: -1...Sa1-b3 -2.Sc4-a5+ (This is the only way to avoid retro-stalemate. The two Knights need to get past each other on a narrow staircase.) -2...Sb3-a1 -3.Sb6-c4 Sa5-b3 -4.Sd5-b6+ Sc4-a5 -5.Sc7(f4)-d5 Sb6-c4 -6.Se6-c7(f4)+ Sd5-b6 -7.Sf4-e6 Sc7-d5 -8.Sd5-f4+ Se6-c7 (The wS now goes all the way back in order to make way for the wB) -9.Sb6-d5 Sd8-e6 -10.Sc4-b6+ Se6-d8 -11.Sa5-c4 Sd8-e6 -12.Sb3-a5+ (at least 22 successive Knight moves preceded the diagram position) c6-c5 -13.Bc4-f7 Sf7-d8+ -14.Bf1-c4 c7-c6 -15.e2-e3 e3xBd2 -16.Bc~d2 and the position unlocks. *Amusing to watch the horses climb up and down a rope. Terrific "key" (LB), Hard to work out the Knight moves as the composer has devilishly blocked e5 (CCF).*

R0188 (Beluhov) The black King returned to e8, at least three times. Retract: -1.Bh7-g8+ Ke8xSf7 -2.Sd8-f7+ Kd7-e8 -3.Sc7-b5+ Kd6-d7 -4.Se5-f3+ Kd7-d6 -5.Sc6-e5+ Ke8-d7 -6.Sb5-c7+ Kf7-e8 -7.Se6-d8+ Ke8-f7 -8.Sd8-c6+ Kd7-e8 -9.Sc7-b5+ Kd6-d7 -10.Sf4-e6+ Kd7-d6. *The bK strolls up and down his path, the wSs hopping about him until they re-arrange themselves so as not to trouble his walk. Disregarding repetition, the last 20 single moves are completely determined (A), It took me forever to come up with the uncapture on f7 (LB).*

P0315 (Prentos/Frolkin) a) 1.a4 h5 2.Ra3 h4 3.Rb3 Rh5 4.Rb6 axb6 5.g4 Raa5 6.gxh5 Rg5 7.a5 e5 8.a6 Bc5 9.a7 d6 10.a8R Bg4 11.Ra1 Bf3 12.exf3 e4 13.Ba6 e3 14.d3 e2 15.Bf4 Kf8 (15...Se7 16.Kd2 e1R 17.Sa3 Re6 18.Qe2 Rh6 19.Rd1 Rh8 20.Kc1) 16.Kd2 e1R 17.Sa3 Re8 18.Qe2 Se7 19.Rd1 Kg8 20.Kc1 Rf8 *Double false castling with promoted Rooks (one being a Pronkin Rook, as well). The "false" try, ending with another Pronkin Rook on h8, fails because Black cannot castle (A), In both a) and b) neither side castled. Nicely worked deception (CCF).*

P0316 (Dupont) 1.a4 e5 2.a5 Bc5 3.a6 Bb6 4.axb7 Sa6 5.b8Q c5 6.Qd6 Bb7 7.Qg6 hxg6 8.g4 Rh3 9.g5 Ra3 10.h4 Bd5 11.h5 Bb3 12.h6 c4 13.h7 Sc5 14.h8Q a5 15.Qh3 Se7 16.Qe6 dxe6 17.Sh3 Qd3 18.exd3 Kd7 19.Qh5 Kc6 20.Qh8 Kb5 21.Qb8 Rxb8. *Two Ceriani-Frolkin Queens occur on b8 and h8. Then, the original Qd1 goes to h8 and b8 (double anti-Pronkin theme), to be captured (Phantom theme). The symbolized notation is therefore (AP & AP & PH)(Q) (A), The wQ steps on his other two queen's promotion squares and gets captured. Compare to P0169 Frolkin Prentos in SG29 (LB), Qd1 visits both promotion squares [double anti-Pronkin] (RM), Some clever tricks in the play (CCF).*

P0317 (Prentos/Frolkin) 1.d4 e5 2.d5 e4 3.d6 e3 4.dxc7 d5 5.Qd4 Bf5 6.Qf4 d4 7.c8S d3 8.Sb6 axb6 9.Bd2 Ra4 10.Ba5 dxc2 11.Sd2 c1S 12.Kd1 exf2 13.e4 Sb3 14.e5 Re4 15.Bc4 f1S 16.axb3 Sg3 17.Ra4 Ba3 18.e6 Qd6 19.exf7+ Kd8 20.f8S Se7 21.Sg6 hxg6 22.hxg3. *Four Ceriani-Frolkin Knights are produced by the four central pawns. Compare with P1107616 in (the slightly changed) PDB website: www.softdecc.de/pdb/index.pdb (A), Very difficult to find the solution (RT), Four promotions to S with lots of tempo play (CCF).*

P0318 (Baier) 1.h4 f5 2.h5 Kf7 3.h6 Kg6 4.hxg7 h5 5.Rh3 h4 6.Rb3 h3 7.a4 h2 8.a5 h1R 9.Ra4 R1h3 10.Rh4 Rc3 11.Rh1 Rhh3 12.a6 Sh6 13.axb7 a5 14.g8S a4 15.Sf6 a3 16.Sg4 a2 17.Ra3 a1S 18.b4 Sb3 19.Ra1 Ra3 20.b5 Sa6 21.b8S fxg4 22.Sc6 dxc6. *CF(S,IP(S)) & SI(R,R) (A),*

Two Frolkin N's + wR's swap (RM), I spent a long time and "proved" that this is impossible, which is frustrating. I guess I'll see what I missed. :-> (DM), Three promotions to S. Well composed (CCF).

P0319 (Baier) 1.h4 f5 2.h5 Kf7 3.h6 Qe8 4.hxg7 h5 5.Rh3 h4 6.Rb3 h3 7.a4 h2 8.a5 h1R 9.Ra4 R1h3 10.Rh4 Rc3 11.Rh1 Rhh3 12.a6 Sh6 13.axb7 a5 14.g8R Ra6 15.Rg4 Rg6 16.f4 Sa6 17.b8R a4 18.R8b6 a3 19.Re6 a2 20.Ra3 a1S 21.b4 Sb3 22.Ra1 dxe6 23.Ba3 Qa4 24.b5 fxg4. *CF(R,R) and SI(R,R) (A), Two Frolkin R's + wR's swap (RM), Three promotions to R and one S (CCF).*

P0320 (Baier) 1.h4 f5 2.h5 Kf7 3.h6 Kg6 4.hxg7 h5 5.Rh3 h4 6.Rb3 h3 7.a4 h2 8.a5 h1R 9.Ra4 R1h3 10.Rh4 Rc3 11.Rh1 Rhh3 12.a6 Sh6 13.axb7 a5 14.g8B a4 15.Be6 dxe6 16.e3 Qd4 17.Ke2 Qh4 18.d4 a3 19.d5 a2 20.d6 a1R 21.d7 R1a7 22.Ra3 Sa6 23.b8B c5 24.Bg3 f4 25.Ra1 fxg3. *CF(B,IP(B)) & SI(R,R) (A), Two Frolkin B's + wR's swap (RM), Two B and two R promotions (CCF).*

P0321 (Baier) 1.h4 e5 2.h5 Ke7 3.h6 Kf6 4.hxg7 h5 5.Rh3 h4 6.Rb3 h3 7.a4 h2 8.a5 h1R 9.Ra4 R1h3 10.Rh4 Rc3 11.Rh1 Rhh3 12.a6 Sh6 13.axb7 a5 14.g8Q a4 15.Qg4 a3 16.Qe6+ dxe6 17.g4 a2 18.Bg2 a1R 19.Bd5 R1a7 20.Ra3 Bd7 21.b4 Ba4 22.Bb3 Sc6 23.b8Q Qd3 24.Qb6 Re8 25.Qd4 exd4 26.Ra1 *Silvio's future PG quartet shows all possible Ceriani-Frolkin pairs of pieces of the same type, combined with two Sibling Rooks. CF(Q,IP(Q)) & SI(R,R) (A), This is a fine problem, but the related P0248 Lois/Osorio is a fantastic problem. I for one am not thrilled with these clusters of similar problems (LB), Two Frolkin Q's + wR's swap. Once again, the composer squeezes all the juice out of this matrix with the four PG's (RM), Two Q and two R promotions (CCF), Besides changing place of the White towers, there's also a double kind of AUW, in 0318 S+S, in 0319 R+R, in 0320 B+B, and in 0321 Q+Q. Not too difficult if you've seen the changing of the towers, but a remarkable piece of work! Well done, Silvio (HN).*

P0322 (Hashimoto) 1.a4 a5 2.Ra3 Ra6 3.Rh3 Rc6 4.Sa3 Rxc2 5.Sc4 Rc3 6.Qc2 Sf6 7.Qxh7 Rg8 8.Qh8 e6 9.Rh7 Be7 10.h4 Rf8 11.Rh3 Sg8 12.Rd3 f6 13.Rd6 Kf7 14.d3 Re8 15.Kd2 Bf8 16.Ke3 Qe7 17.Kd4 Rd8 18.Kc5 cxd6+ 19.Kb6 Ke8 20.Ka7 b6 21.g3 Ba6 22.Bg2 Rc8 23.Bc6 Qd8 24.Bb5 Rc6 25.Ka8 Bc8. *It takes six steps for the black Rook h8 to reach c6. Five black pieces step aside to let the Rook pass and then they return home. The editor is right, this problem is extraordinary. It is extraordinarily difficult and extraordinarily enjoyable (LB), Like a passenger boarding a crowded bus, the bR stops on each square between h8 and c8, while the other pieces shuffle out of the way and back. The early entry of white pieces on the Kingside is a good mechanism to force the R tour (RM), Remarkable problem. First of all, a R route like this has not been seen in a proof game. In addition, we have the return of five black pieces in just 25 moves. 25 moves of White are visible, but how did the bR get to c6? Bravo Satoshi! (RT), A truly remarkable problem with no promotions. This one makes solving PGs worthwhile (CCF).*

StrateGems Solving Ladder 2011, Leg 26

By Danny L. Dunn

Leg 26 incorporates points from SG55 and SG56 to which the carry-over points from Leg 25 are added. Eighteen solvers sent in solutions and nine solvers received assents which are shown in bold type. As always the carry-over points from Leg 26 will be added to Leg 27.

Romuald Lazowski placed first, Radovan Tomasevic was second, and Hans Nieuwhart was third. Hans Nieuwhart and Frank Lee are now *StrateGems* Expert Solvers.

Several months ago, my laptop had a hard disk crash. I don't think that any solver data was lost. However, if anyone feels that their 2011 score is incorrect, please let me know and I will double check the results.

[The summary table is shown on the next page.]

Leg 26 Table

Name	C/O	SG55	SG56	Total	Needed		C/O to	Leg 26
	from				for	Ascent(s)		
	Leg 25	Score	Score	A+B+C	Ascent	ed	Leg 27	Totals
	(A)	(B)	(C)					
Romuald Lazowski (M6)	875.5	457	500	1832.5	930	1	902.5	957
Radovan Tomasevic (M30)	239.5	475	467	1181.5	930	1	251.5	942
Hans Nieuwhart (E3)	365	405	432	1202	930	1	272	837
C.C. Frankiss (M24)	440.5	340	443	1223.5	930	1	293.5	783
Ladislav Belcsak (M17)	850.5	283.5	272	1406	930	1	476	555.5
David Moulton (M15)	673	235	267.5	1175.5	930	1	245.5	502.5
Wilfried Seehofer (A2)	325	176	291.5	792.5	930	0	792.5	467.5
Ryan McCracken (E5)	82	230	216	528	930	0	528	446
Barry Keith (M11)	218.5	132.5	104.5	455.5	930	0	455.5	237
P.H. van der Laan (E9)	784	0	219.5	1003.5	930	1	73.5	219.5
Gabriel Balinth (E7)	763	0	188.5	951.5	930	1	21.5	188.5
Jeremy Morse (E4)	626	46	95.5	767.5	930	0	767.5	141.5
Bob Bua (A2)	5	76	42	123	930	0	123	118
Frank Lee (E3)	933.5	61.5	47.5	1042.5	930	1	112.5	109
Renato Casalino (A2)	579	41	20	640	930	0	640	61
Todd Barre (E5)	492	45	0	537	930	0	537	45
Otis Lewis	153	0	10	163	930	0	163	10
Gani Ganapathi	0	7	0	7	930	0	7	7

StrateGems 2011 Solving Championships Table

Name/Total	#2	#3	#n	E	S#	H#	C	Q	F	R	PG	Total
Perfect Score	68	191	195	112	152	370	363	52	483.5	105	266	2357.5
Lazowski Romuald	68	191	195	61	152	370	263	32	428.5	7	224	1991.5
Tomasevic Radovan	68	191	195	90	138	368	0	0	477	84	266	1877
Frankiss C.C.	0	0	0	0	138	370	360	45	422	42	245	1622
Belcsak Ladislav	30	176	87	1	43	340.5	277.5	20	72	43	220.5	1310.5
Niewhart Hans	50	134	140	0	46	270.5	225.5	7	101	63	196	1233
Moulton David	68	173	58	7	34	262.5	284	6	58.5	0	108.5	1059.5
Seehofer Wilfred	28	9	116	0	139	175.5	236	13	182	0	0	898.5
McCracken Ryan	8	12	4	0	0	221.5	246	20	0	70	255.5	837
Keith Barry	12	3	9	0	7	250.5	149	13	27	0	66.5	537
Balinth Gabriel	52	139	116	0	22	171.5	0	0	0	0	0	500.5
v.d. Laan P.	36	88	94	0	24	154	70	6	0	0	0	472
Morse Jeremy	58	0	0	0	0	58.5	214	7	0	0	0	337.5
Gasparyan Aleksey	18	57	50	0	39	99.5	46	7	8	0	0	324.5
Bua Bob	54	173	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	299
Lee Frank	26	3	0	0	0	155	89.5	0	0	0	0	273.5
Casalino Renato	24	0	0	0	0	82.5	0	0	0	0	0	106.5
Barre Todd	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	45
Lewis Otis	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Ganapatji Gani	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7

StrateGems 2011 Solving Championship

By Danny L. Dunn

Romuald Lazowski has won the *StrateGems* 2011 Solving Championship. Romuald had perfect scores for #2, #3, #n, #s, #H and was first in Q's. Radovan Tomašević was second and C. C. Frankiss was third. Raša was first or tied for first in #2, #3, #n, E, #F, R, and PG's. Charles is still not solving any of the orthodox problems (i.e., #2, #3, #n, and E), but he was first or tied for first in #H, and C problems. David Moulton also had a perfect score in #2's. The first place results are bolded in the Table.

Once again, more points were earned for Helpmates (3765) than any other type of problem. Series-Movers were second (2823.5), followed by Fairies (2259.5), Proof Games (1855), ThreeMovers (1540), Moremovers (1331), Selfmates (934), TwoMovers (678), Retros (414), Studies (271), and Stalemates (228).

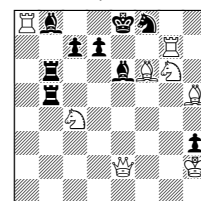
Several months ago, my laptop had a hard disk crash. I don't think that any solver data was lost. However, if anyone feels that their 2011 score is incorrect, please let me know and I will double check the results.

Four of a Kind

by Robert Lincoln

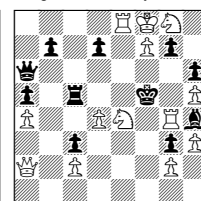
James Magee founded the Good Companions Chess Club in Philadelphia, 1913. Alain White was also a driving force behind the enterprise. His **No.1** was a tribute problem to Magee (who did not compose). It has become known as the "Magee theme" whereby at least two BP's perform interference. Here, a powerful **1.Rg8!** (2.Rxf8#) is mitigated by exposing the f7 portal. Variations are 1...c6+ 2.Sd6#, 1...c5+ 2.Sf4#, 1...d6 2.Qxe6#, and 1...d5 2.Sxf8#.

N1 A.C. White
Good Companions 1919



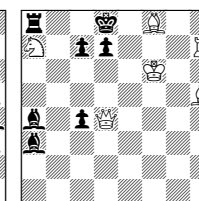
#2

N2 A. Bartori, 1st Prize
Magee Theme Ty. 1919



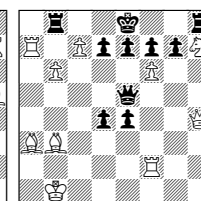
(8+9) #2

N3 J. Buchwald, Comm.
Chess Life 1951



#2

N4 B. Barnes & R. Lincoln
The Problemist 1994



(6+7) #2

(10+10)

A theme tourney was soon held which inspired **No.2**. This masterpiece still appears in major anthologies. The audacious **1.Qc4!** (zz) has rejoinders for 1...b6 2.Sd6#, 1...b5 2.Qf1#, 1...d6 2.Qe6#, 1...d5 2.Re5#, 1...g6 2.Sxh6#, and 1...g5 2.Se7#. That whole notion of six thematic BP moves is truly stupendous.

Julius Buchwald's **No.3** does not meet the conditions for a full-blooded Magee complex. Yet, the economy is impressive and four BP defenses are ingeniously crafted. **1.Qe5!** (2.Qe8#) plunges forward to generate 1...c6 2.Qa5#, 1...c5 2.Be7#, 1...d6 2.Qe7#, and 1...d5 2.Qxc7#. Those choices between WQ or WB arrivals at e7 show good dual avoidance.

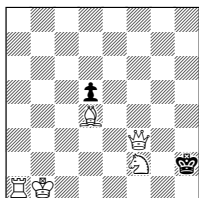
Lastly, is **No.4**, a sentimental collaboration with the renowned British expert. **1.fxg7!** (2.Bxf7#) is only a marginal key, but gets the job done. The Magee portion is 1...d6 2.cxb8Q#, 1...d5 2.Ba4#, 1...f6 2.gxh8Q#, and 1...f5 2.Qh5#. An additional treat comes from yet a fifth hindrance on BQ - 1...e6 2.Qe7#.

Selfmates

Forty-six problems (by 26 authors from 11 countries) were entered. The quality of entries was pleasantly high. The section was dominated by moremovers. I did not find striking novelties, but there were many complex ideas executed in aesthetic form with good economy.

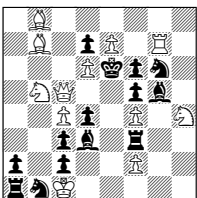


1st-2nd Prize
Torsten Linß



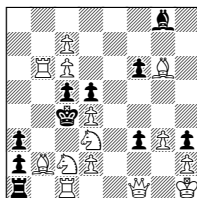
s#11*

1st-2nd Prize
Waldemar Tura



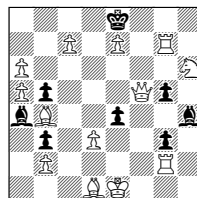
s#3

3rd Prize
Sven Trommler



s#6

4th Prize, Gennady Koziura
& Valery Kopyl



s#7

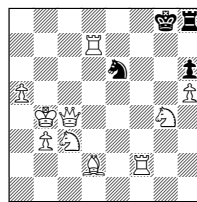
1st-2nd Prize - (Torsten Linß) In the last decade many such Black minimal, in which a single black Pawn mates or promotes into different pieces, have been published. Many are miniatures. Thus this problem is not a novelty. However, here we see interesting content ("Fata Morgana") with changed functions by the white Queen and Knight (sacrifice & block) and mirrored echo. **Solution:** Set: 1...Kg1 2.Sd1+ Kh2 3.Se3 Kg1 4.Qh3 Kf2 5.Qg2+ Ke1 6.Bb2 d4 7.Qf1+ Kd2 8.Bc1 Kc3 9.Sd5+ Kb3 10.Qe2 d3 11.Qc2+ dxc2#; Play: 1.Kc1 Kg1 2.Kd2+ Kh2 3.Qf4+ Kg2 4.Qh4 Kf3 5.Rf1 Kg2 6.Ke1 Kf3 7.Se4+ Kg2 8.Rg1+ Kf3 9.Kf1 dxe4 10.Bf2 e3 11.be1 e2#.

1st-2nd Prize - (Waldemar Tura) A fine problem with main accents: creation of black batteries, double specific dual avoidance effects on 2nd and 3rd white moves in synthesis with Iwanow's theme and Umnov's motives. Perhaps shown for the first time. **Solution:** 1.Qa7! (2.Sc7+ Kxd6 3.Qa3+ Sxa3#), 1...Rxf4 2.Bd5+ Ke5 (2.Sxd4+? Rxd4+ 3.f4+?) 3.Sf3+ Rxf3# (3.Qxd4+? Rxd4+ 4.f4+?), 1...Sxf4 2.Sxd4+ Ke5 (2.Bd5+? Sxf4+ 3.Rxg5) 3.Sg6+ Sxg6# (3.Qc5+? Sd5+ 4.Rxg5?)

3rd Prize - (Sven Trommler) An ambitious concept: play of two white batteries with sacrifices by the rear battery pieces with the goal of vacating squares for the black King. In addition, an exchange of functions exist between the play of Rc1 and Qf1. The key could have been better. **Solution:** 1.c8S! (2.Sc4+ Kb3 3.Rc3+ Ka4 4.Sxc5+ Ka5 5.Sb7+ Ka4 6.Qd1+ Rxd1#; 2...Rxc1 3.Sxc5+ Rxf1#), 1...axb2 2.Sa3+ Kxd4 3.Rc4+ dxc4 4.Sb5+ Kd5 5.Sf4+ Ke5 6.Qe1+ Rxe1#, 1...cxd4 2.Se5+ Kc5 3.Qc4+ dxc4 4.Sd7+ Kd5 5.Sb4+ Ke6 6.Re1+ Rxe1#.

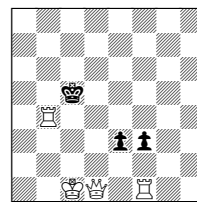
4th Prize - (Gennady Koziura & Valery Kopyl) The construction is heavy and it even looks clumsy, with two black Bishops on a4/h4. However, these pieces play active roles in two variations, creating surprising chameleon-echo mates. A good play with many quiet white moves and interesting additional motives. Unfortunately, these types of problem often suffer from symmetry. **Solution:** 1.Bg4! (zz), 1...exd3 2.Kd1 d2 3.Be2 g4 4.Rg5 Bxg5 5.Qg6+ Kd7 6.e8Q+ Kc7 7.Qc2+ bxc2#, 1...e3 2.d4 e2 3.Bd2 b4 4.Qb5+ Bxb5 5.Rg8+ Kxe7 6.c8S+ Kf6 7.Rf2+ gxf2#.

5th Prize
Ivan Soroka



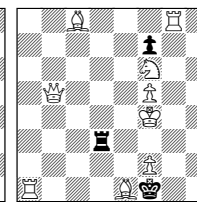
s#16 C- (10+4)

Special Prize
Frank Müller



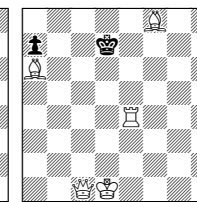
s#26 C- (4+3)

Special Prize
Genady Koziura



s#5√ (9+3)

1st Honorable Mention
Torsten Linß



s#11 (5+2)

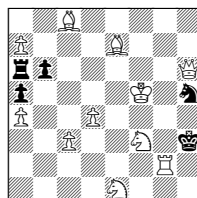
5th Prize - (Ivan Soroka) One-liner showing an original and difficult idea: A double switchbacks of five thematic pieces (white Qc4,Rd7 and black Kg8,Rh8,Se6). The long play ends in a nice model mate. Unfortunately, the problem remains C-. **Solution:** 1.Sb5! Rh7 2.Rd8+ Kg7 3.Qc3+! Sd4 4.Sa7! Rh8 5.Rd7+ Kg8 6.Qc4+ Se6 7.Kb5! Rh7 8.Rd8+ Kg7 9.Qc3+ Sd4 10.Ka6 Rh8 11.Rd7+ Kg8 12.Qc4+ Se6 13.Qd5! Rh7 14.Rd8+ Kg7 15.Bxh6+ Rxb6 16.Qb7+ Sc7#.

Special Prize - (Frank Mueller) Miniatures like these are an excellent advertisement for the selfmate genre. With simple moves and a beautiful construction, a unique idea is presented: Platzwechsel between Rb4 and Rf1! The plan is realized after a long and difficult play. (There are also some quiet moves.) Another element is Platzwechsel between Qd1 and Kc1. **Solution:** 1.Qd4+! Kc6 2.Rb6+ Kc7 3.Qd6+ Kc8 4.Qc6+ Kd8 5.Rd1+ Ke7 6.Qe6+ Kf8 7.Rb8+ Kg7 8.Rg1+ Kh7 9.Qf7+ Kh6 10.Rh1+ Kg5 11.Rb5+ Kg4 12.Qg7+ Kf4 13.Qd4+ Kg3 14.Rg5+ Kf2 15.Rgg1!! Ke2 16.Rf1! f2 17.Qg4+ Kd3 18.Rh3!! Kc3 19.Qa4 Kd3 20.Kd1 Kc3 21.Qb5 Kd4 22.Rh4+ Kc3 23.Rc4+ Kd3 24.Rb4+ Kc3 25.Qc5+ Kd3 26.Qc1 e2#

Special Prize - (Genady Koziura) White Sf6 correction combined with two excellent chameleon-echo mates. A memorable Meredith! **Solution:** 1.Sf6~? (zz) Ke2!, 1.Se4? f6!; 1.Sh5! f6 2.Ba6 Ke2 3.Ba5 Kxf2 4.Qb2+ Rd2 5.Qd4+ Rxd5#, 1...Ke2 2.f6 Kf1 3.Kf5 Ke2 4.Sg3+ Kf3 5.Qd5+ Rxd5#.

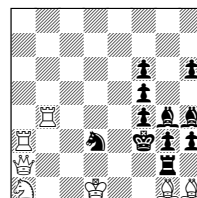
1st Honorable Mention - (Torsten Linß) Another Black minimal with a Pawn. **Solution:** 1.Qf4! (zz), 1...Kd8 2.Bd6 Kd7 3.Bc7 Kc6 4.Rd4 Kc5 5.Kc2 Kc6 6.Kb3 Kc5 7.Ka4 Kc6 8.Ka5 Kc5 9.Rd7 Kc6 10.Qa4+ Kc5 11.Bb6+ axb6#, 1...Kc6 2.Qf7 Kb6 3.Qb7+ Ka5 4.Bd3 a6 5.Bb4+ Ka4 6.Qd5 a5 7.Kc1 axb4 8.Qa8+ Kb3 9.Bb1 Kc3 10.Qd5 b3 11.Qd1 b2# Rotation echo.

2nd Honorable Mention
Valery Kopyl



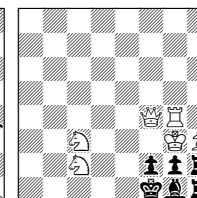
s#6

3rd Honorable Mention
Ivan Soroka



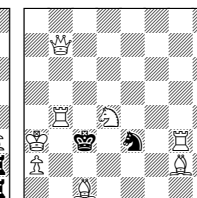
s#9

Commendation
Ivan Soroka



s#8*

Commendation
Stephan Dietrich



s#7

b) bBe3 (8+2)

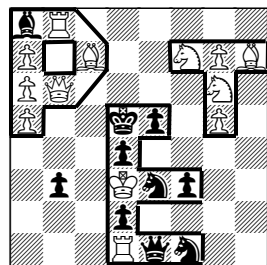
2nd Honorable Mention - (Valery Kopyl) This mechanism for showing the theme "Active play of the white King" is not new. Still, the author shows two nice model mates after good self-blocks by the wBe7. **Solution:** 1.Ke6! (zz), 1...Rxa7 2.Kf7+ Rd7 3.Ke8 b5 4.Bf8 ~ 5.Sg1+ Kh4 6.Qf6+ Sxf6#, 1...b5+ 2.Kd5+ Re6 3.Bc5 bxa4/b4 4.c4 a3/b3 5.Sg1+ Kh4 6.Qf4+ Sf4#.

3rd Honorable Mention - (Ivan Soroka) A good logical content with interesting and difficult action of the white Queen and Knight. Unfortunately, the black play is rather monotonous. Main plan: **Solution:** 1.Rxf4+? Kxf4+ 2.Qe2!; **1.Sc2!** (2.Rxf4+) Bg5 2.Qc4! (3.Qxf4+ Bxf4 3.Rxf4+) Bh4 3.Rbb3 (4.Qxf4+ Kxf4#) Bg5 4.Ra4 (5.Qxf4+ Bxf4 6.Rxf4+ Kxf4#) Bh4 5.Sb4 (6.Qxf4+ Kxf4#) Bg5 6.Sc6 (7.Qxf4+ Bxf4 8.Rxf4+ Kxf4#) Bh4 7.Se5+! fxe5 8.Qxf4+! exf4 9.Rxf4+ Kxf4#.

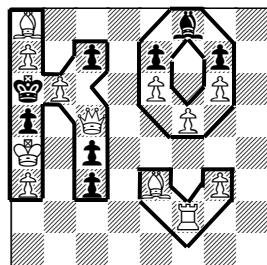
Commendation - (Ivan Soroka) Composed in classical “Fata Morgana” style, without considerable new elements but with a very good key. **Solution:** Set: 1...Rhx3#; **1.Sa3!** Ke1 2.Qe3+ Kf1 3.Qd3+ Ke1 4.Qb1+ Kd2 5.Sc4+ Kc3 6.Qb2+ Kd3 7.Se5+ Ke3 8.Qxf2+ Bxf2#.

Commendation - (Stephan Dietrich) Black Minimal with nice but thematic not difficult play. **Solution:** 1.Bc6! Kd3 2.Ba4 Kc3 3.Qg2 Kd3 4.Sb3 Kc3 5.Bb2+ Kd3 6.Rb5 Kc4 7.Qc2+ Sxc2# b) 1.Ra4! Kd3 2.Qb1+ Kc3 3.Bb2+ Kd2 4.Bc3+ Kxc3 5.Bf1 Kd2 6.Sf3+ Kc3 7.Qc1+ Bxc1#.

Special Commendation Diyan Kostadinov



s#3*



s#2√

(13+10)

(12+8)

Special Commendation - (Diyan Kostadinov) Two nice “scacographic” problems with light strategy. Many thanks to the author! **Solution:** **s#3** 1...Se~ 2.Sf4+ exf4 3.Be4+ Qxe4#, 1...Sf5!? 2.Se7+ Sxe7 3.Be4+ Qxe4#; **1.Sd8!** (2.Qc6+ Bxc6 3.Rb5+ Bxb5#), 1...Bc6 2.Qxd4+ exd4 3.Rb5+ Bxb5#, 1...Sc4 2.Sf4+ exf4 3.Be4+ Qxe4# Two sacrifices by wSg6 (opening line for wBh7) and twice wQ sacrifices (opening line for wRb8) and black correction in the set-play. **s#2** 1.b7? (zz) c6 2.Qb5+ cxb5#, 1...c2!; **1.Rc2!** (zz), 1...cxb6 2.Qc7 b5#, 1...c6 2.Qb5+ cxb5# Two mates by bPc7.

Help-self problems

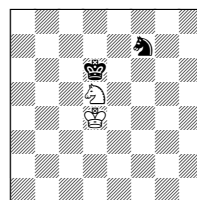
I was very pleased with a large number of participants (69 problems, from 31 authors, from 18 countries) who submitted excellent problems making this perhaps a greatest gathering of hs problems. Most of the problems were strategic, but there were a good number of problems showing echo-play. Several entries were miniatures.

The entries were divided into two groups: **Group A** for problems without fairy pieces and **Group B** with fairy pieces. Both groups were allowed to use any fairy condition(s).

Group A

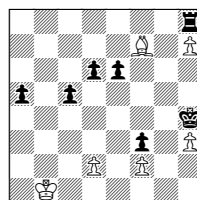
1st-2nd Prize - (Juraj Lőrinc) Four-piece problems, with echo finales, and in Koko, have been composed quite often recently. However, here we have a rare stipulation, hs = -. A nice nuance, in the final phase of this excellent problem, with two distant chameleon-echo double stalemates, is the impossibility of the black Knight moving next to its King, because of the illegal self-check. **Solution:** 1.Se7 Kd7 2.Sc6 Sd6 3.Kc5 Sb5 4.Kb6 Sa7 5.Kb7 Kc8+ 6.Ka8 Sb5 7.Sa7 Sxa7 = (7...Sc7?), 1.Ke4 Ke6 2.Sf6 Ke7 3.Kf5 Sg5 4.Kg6 Sh7 5.Kg7 Kf8+ 6.Kh8 Sg5 7.Sh7 Sxh7 = (7...Sf7?).

1st-2nd Prize
Juraj Lőrinc



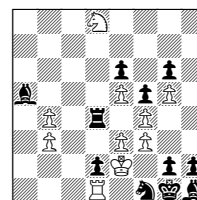
hs==7 2 sols. (2+2)
Koko

1st-2nd Prize
Sven Trommler
& Franz Pachtl



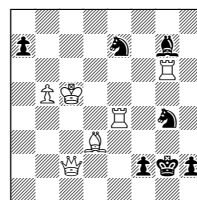
hs#5 2 sols. (6+7)
Anti-Circe

3rd Prize
Manfred Rittirsch



hs#3 2 sol. (10+11)
Circe Parrain

4th Prize
Vadim Vinokurov



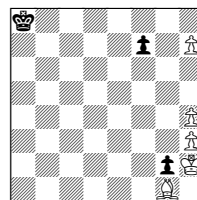
hs#3 b) Pb5→d6 (6+7)

1st-2nd Prize - (Sven Trommler & Franz Pachtl) An unusual but nice idea: ambush-moves by the black Rook, which mates after white Annihilation captures on a2/c2. The white King plays well as a forward piece of the two batteries, Kc1/Bg5 and Ka1/Rg4. Good tries, in the first solution 4.Be7? but 6.Ke2! and in the second solution 4.Rh5? but 6.Rh8!. **Solution:** 1.Kc1 Rc8 2.h8B c4 3.Bf6 c3 4.Bg5! (4.Be7?) c2 5.Kxc2 [wKc2→e1]+ Rc1#, 1.Ka1 Ra8 2.h8R a4 3.Rg8 a3 4.Rg4! (4.Rh5?) a2 5.Kxa2 [wKa2→e1]+ Ra1#.

3rd Prize - (Manfred Rittirsch) This is the most difficult and interesting problem in the thematic sense. Reciprocal enclosing of the black Rook and Bishop, followed by the well-motivated joint action by the same pieces, ending with mating moves after surprising zugzwang. There is also reciprocal cyclic play by white Pb4/Pe3 and unusual switchbacks. The construction is heavy, but as a whole, considering the rich content, the problem deserves a prize. **Solution:** 1.exd4[A] Bc7 [Rf6] 2.Sf7 Ba5 3.bxa5[B] (zz) Rxf7 [Ba6]#, 1.bxa5[A] Rd7 [Ba8] 2.Sb7 Rd4 3.exd4[A] (zz) Bxb7 [Re3]#.

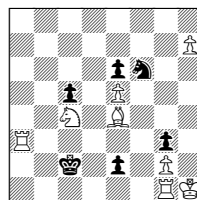
4th Prize - (Vadim Vinokurov) An elegant problem with rich combination of motifs: critical moves, double white self-blocks, white Grimshaw on c4, unpins of the Sg4 and line opening. A small, but nice additional element is the play of Sg4, which closes and opens a1-h8 diagonal. **Solution:** a) 1.Rb4 Rh1 2.Bc4 Sf6 3.Qe4+ Sxe4#, b) 1.Bb5 Kf3 2.Rc4 Se5 3.Qd3+ Sxd3#.

5th Prize, Vlaicu Crisan
& Eric Huber



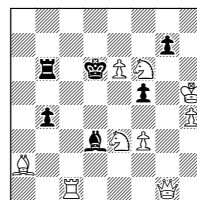
hs#7

Special Prize
Hubert Gockel



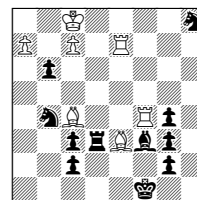
(5+3) hs#2½ 2 sols. (8+6)
Eiffel Chess

1st Honorable Mention
Zlatko Mihajlovski



hs#3½ b) wPf5 (9+6)

2nd Honorable Mention
Sven Trommler



hs#5 b) -wBe3 (7+11)
C-

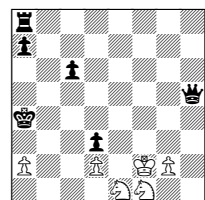
5th Prize - (Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber) A surprising creation of two batteries: white K/Q and black P/B, after promotions to the rear battery pieces. Other interesting motives: anticipatory interference (1.Ba7!), black Pawn tempo, three consecutive Umnov moves (g1B-Kg2-Bh2), two switchbacks (wB & wK) and three corner moves by the white Queen. **Solution:** 1.Ba7! g1B+ 2.Kg2 Bh2 3.h8Q+ Bb8 4.Qa1 f6! 5.Qh1 f5 6.Bg1 f4 7.Kh2+ f3#.

Special Prize - (Hubert Gockel) A mixed AUW with self-unpins of black mating pieces which must move because of the zugzwang. An elegant and difficult theme. However, the role of black Sf6 is not harmonious in both solutions. **Solution:** 1...e1S 2.h8B Sd3 3.Bxf6 (zz) Sf2#, 1...e1R 2.h8Q Rxe4 3.Qh7 (zz) Rh4#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Zlatko Mihajlovski) Not a complete cycle of four white moves: A-B-C-D/C-D-A-B, combined with critical Queen moves, direct Queen pins, self-blocks on g4, dual-avoidance and model-mates. Unfortunately, this rich content is not presented in optimal form. Second solution (after 1...Rb5) is obviously better because here we have also a creation of an indirect white battery Sf6/Qg5 (An element which is absent in the first solution). **Solution:** a) 1...Rb5[A] 2.Qg6! Be8[B] 3.Sfg4 (S3g4?) Rb[C] 4.Sxf5+ Rxf5#[D], b) 1...Rb5[C] 2.Qg5 Rxf5[D] 3.Seg4 (Sfg4?) Bb5[A] 4.Se8+ Bxe8#[B].

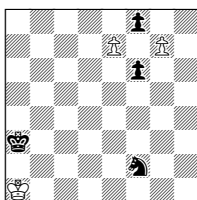
2nd Honorable Mention - (Sven Trommler) A most interesting idea: critical key, unpins of black Rook and Bishop and creation of reciprocal batteries with self-blocks on c8. The interchange of functions between white Rook and Bishop is nice, but the cycle of white moves AB-BA does not have a sufficient thematic effect. It is probably even a minus in this composition. The black economy is not optimal. **Solution:** a) 1.Ba6[A] b5 2.Rf8[B] Rd5 3.Kb7 Ke2 4.Rc8 Kd3 5.Bxb5+ Rxb5#, b) 1.Rf8[B] Sf7 2.Ba6[A] Bd5 3.Kd7 Kf2 4.Bc8 Kf3 5.Rxf7+ Bxf7#.

3rd Honorable Mention
Pierre Tritten



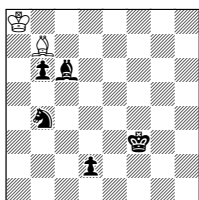
hs==11 (6+6)
Mirror Anti-Circe, Capture
On rebirth squares
authorized

Commendation
Peter Harris



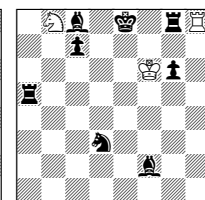
hs#3 b) Sf2→e2 (3+4)
White Maximummer
Anti-Circe, Super-Circe

Commendation
Hubert Gockel



hs#5
Annan Chess

Commendation
Gábor Tar



hs#3 2 sols. (3+8)

3rd Honorable Mention - (Pierre Tritten) The stipulation hs= is very rare and difficult to realize. Here we see a rich complex with many nice effects, typical for this unusual fairy condition. There is a surprising finale, with two pinned pieces and reciprocal blocks between Kings. **Solution:** 1.Sf3 Ka3 2.Ke1 Kb2 3.Kd1 Ka1 4.Kc1 Rf8 5.Se1 Rxf1(Rh1) 6.g3 Rh4 7.gxh4(h7) a5 8.h8R a4 9.Rb8 a3 10.Rb5 cxb5(b2)+ 11.Kb1+ Qe8=.

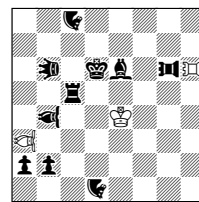
Commendation - (Peter Harris) Two interesting anti-identical solutions with good effects. A good demonstration of this difficult trio of fairy conditions. The second twin is better than the first. **Solution:** 1.gxf8Q [+bPb3][wQf8→d1] Sxd1 [+wQb5][bSd1→g8] 2.Qh5 Sxe7 [+wPe1][bSe7→b8] 3.Qa5+ Kb2#, b) 1.exf8B [+bPd2][wBf8→c1]+ dxc1B [+wBh8][bBc1→f8] 2.gxf8S [+bBe1][wSf8→g1] Sxg1 [+wSc5][bSg1→b8] 3.Bxf6 [+bPb4][wBf6→c1]+ Ka2 #.

Commendation - (Hubert Gockel) Rundlauf of the white King and the black Bishop is combined with many effects typical to this fairy condition. The black Bishop's part is obviously better. **Solution:** 1.Ka7 Be4 2.Kxb6 Bd3 3.Ba7 Pf4 4.Kb7 Bb5! 5.Ka8+ Bc6# (4...Bc4? 5.Ka8+ Sc6, Sd5!; 4...Sa2? 5.Ka8+ Be4+ 6.Kxe4#!).

Commendation - (Gabor Tar) Creation of black batteries B/R and R/B is realized through "Distant Grimshaw" (Reciprocal interferences between R and B on different squares), combined with Annihilation captures on g6 and c7. **Solution:** 1.Rh7 Bb6 2.Rxc7 Ra6 3.Rxc8+ Bd8#, 1.Rh6 Rg5 2.Rg6 Bh4 3.Rxg8+ Rxg8#.

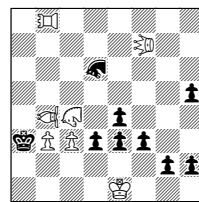
Group B

1st 2nd Prize
Vlaicu Crisan



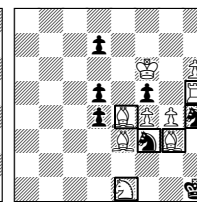
hs#2½ 2 sols. (3+10)
Leo, Pao,
Vao, Nightrider
Super-Circe + Take & Make

1st 2nd Prize
Diyan Kostadinov



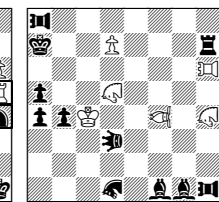
hs#2½ b) NAd6→c6 (7+9)
Madras, Leo, Pao,
Vao, Nao, C+

3rd Prize
Mario Parrinello



hs#4 2 sols. (9+7)
Chameleon pieces

4th Prize, Hans Peter Rehm & Kjell Widlert



hs#2½ 3 sols. (6+11)
Leo, Pao,
Vao, Nao

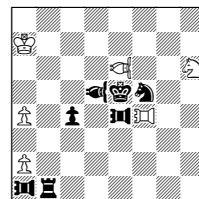
1st-2nd Prize - (Vlaicu Crisan) An excellent problem! Probably the first in this genre, which demonstrates a combination of two difficult conditions: Super-Circe and Take & Make. The main accent is on the unique maneuvers by PAO and VAO (which exchange their roles). The purpose of these actions is to help black pieces get on the right squares where they control white King flights. Good mates with many battery effects as well as orthogonal/diagonal transformation. **Solution:** 1...LEd8 2.PAx6-c4 (bBc1) Rxc4-c3 (wPAc5) 3.PAxc1-h6 (bBc7)+ Kd7#, 1...LEb8 2.VAxc5-f5 (bRh3) Bxf5-g4 (wVAe6) 3.VAxc3-a3 (bRd7)+ Kc7#.

1st-2nd Prize - (Diyan Kostadinov) An excellent and difficult thematic complex: creation of two black anti-batteries after four different promotions (Fairy AUW), combined with creation of white anti-batteries, self-blocks on b2 and a2, change of functions of two pairs of white pieces and good thematic tries in both phases. Perfect economy and construction. **Solution:** a) 1...h1LE! 2.NAe5 NAb2 3.LEc4+ g1NA# (1...h1PA? 2.NAe5 NAb2 3.LEc4+ g1NA+ 4.PAh8!, or 2.VAc5 ~ 3.PAb4+ Ka2!), b) 1...h1PA! 2.VAc5 Naa2 3.PAb4+ g1VA# (1...h1LE? 2.VAc5 Naa2 3.PAb4+ g1VA+ 3.LEh7!, or 2.NAe5 ~ 3.LEc4+ Kb2!)

3rd Prize - (Mario Parrinello) Two Chameleon-specific Rundlaufs with return of the black chameleon Knights on f3 and h4, black direct unpins and white self-blocks on f6. The black technical Pawns d5 and f5 spoil harmony between the mates. **Solution:** 1.cBxf5=cR cSd2=cB 2.Kg5 cBc1=cR 3.cRf6=cQ cRd1=cQ 4.cSf3=cB+ cQxf3=cS#, 1.cRg5=cQ cSg2=cB 2.Kxf5 cBh3=cR 3.cQf6=cS cRxb6=cQ 4.cBh4=cR+ cQxb4=cS#.

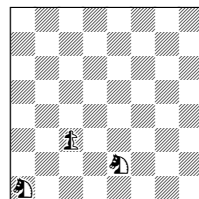
4th Prize - (Hans Peter Rehm & Kjell Widlert) Cyclic change of functions on d6 between white Pao, Vao and Nao, which create anti-batteries. Three different blocks on a7 with dual-avoidance motives and three different mating moves by Leo, which is a forward piece of a LEO/B battery. Unfortunately, there is no full thematic identity between solutions. **Solution:** 1...Kb8 2.VAOh2 Ba7 3.PAOd6+ LEOg3#, 1...Kb7 2.d8Q NAA7 3.Vad6+ LEf5#, 1...Kb6 2.d8S Ra7 3.NAOd6+ LEOg6#

5th Prize
Valery Semenenko



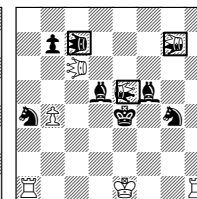
hs#3 2 sols. (6+7)
Vao, Pao

Special Prize
Michael Grushko



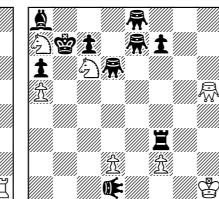
hs#7* (0+0+3)
Republican Chess,
Circe Parrain,
Einstein Chess

Special Prize
Klaus Wenda



hs#3 (5+7+2)
hQeg7↔hQec7
Halfneutral pieces
Equistoppers
Nonstop Equihopper

1st Honorable Mention
Sven Trommler
& Franz Pachl



hs#3 2 sols. (7+10)
Equihoppers
Nonstop Equihopper

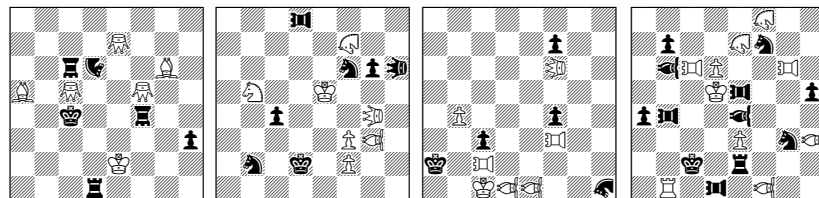
5th Prize - (Valery Semenenko) A nice problem which demonstrates an impressionable complex in diagonal/orthogonal echo form: critical moves of the white PAO & VAO which have character of a special "Chinese Indian", creation of black batteries, black self-blocks and line opening, interchange of functions between white and black Paos/Vaos. **Solution:** 1.PAh4 Sd6 2.VAh3 PAexa4 3.Sg4+ PAXg#, 1.VAg8 Sd4 2.PAf8 VAXa2 3.Sf7+ VAXf7#.

Special Prize - (Michael Grushko) A problem consisting of only three neutral pieces, difficult an interesting and long play in two phases, with multiple transformations of material. Difficult to compose, although, at the first sight it seems elementary. **Solution:** Set: 1...nSc1=nP 2.nPc2 nSxb3=nB 3.nPxb3=nS [+nP4] nPxb3=nS [+nBc2] 4.nBxb3=nR [+nSa4] nSc3=nP [+nSd2] 5.nSxb3=nB nPc2 [+nRb2] 6.nBxc2=nR nRxc2=nQ [+nPd2] 7.nPd4 [+nRc4] [+nKc1]+ nQxc4[+wKc3]#, Play: 1.nSc2=nP nPb2 2.nPc3 nSxc3=nB 3.nPxc3=nS [+nPd4] nPxc3=nS [+nBb2] 4.nBxc3=nR [+nSd4] nSb3=nP [+nSa2] 5.nSxc3=nB nPb2 [+nRc2] 6.nBxb2=nR nRxb2=nQ [+nPa2] 7.nPa4 [+nRb4] [+nKb1]+ nQxb4 [+wKb3]#.

Special Prize - (Klaus Wenda) A synthesis of castlings and special effects of half-neutral Equihoppers. **Solution:** a) 1.Rf1 hQEe7=nhQE 2.nhQEf7=whQE nhNEg5=bhNE 3.0-0+ Ke3#, b) 1.Ra3 hQEe7=nhQE 2.nhQEe7=whQE nhNEa7=bhNE 3.0-0+ Ke4-d4#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Sven Trommler & Franz Pachl) Interesting play showing many specific Equihoppers effects, combined with good activity of the white Pawns and the black Rook, which blocks Pf2. **Solution:** 1.d3 Rf4 2.f3 f5 3.EQh5-d5+ NExd5#, 1.d4 Rf5 2.f4 f6 3.EQh5-d7+ NExd7#.

3rd Honorable Mention
2nd Honorable Mention
Franz Pachl
& Michael Barth
4th Honorable Mention
Aleksandr Semenenko
Commendation
Franz Pachl



hs#3 2 sols. (6+6) hs#4 b) wVaog4 (7+7) hs#3½ 2 sols. (7+5) hs#3½ b) wSf1 (10+12)
Annan Chess, ♘♙Leo, ♖♗Pao, ♜♝Vao ♘♙Leo, ♖♗Pao, ♜♝Vao ♘♙Leo, ♖♗Pao, ♜♝Vao
♙Rook-Lion, ♘♙G's, ♜Nightrider

2nd Honorable Mention - (Semion Shifrin) Activity by both Kings with good effects and mates demonstrating the beauty of this fairy condition. Light Meredith form. Unfortunately, the painful, non-thematic capture Kxc5 is probably inevitable. **Solution:** 1.Ke3 Ne8 2.Ge2 Kxc5 3.Bb4+ Kc7#, 1.Kf3 RLf7+ 2.Gf2 Kd5 3.Be4+ Kf6#.

3rd Honorable Mention - (Franz Pachl & Michael Barth) Creation of black anti-batteries after critical moves by black PAO/LEO, line opening and switchback by the black King. An ambitious concept but the matrix is similar to some well-known orthodox mechanisms with analogical play. **Solution:** a) 1.NAg5 Kc1 2.Sa3! (Sd4?) PAod1 3.Kd4 LEh5 4.LEc8+ Kd2#, b) 1.VAe6 Kd1 2.Sd4! (Sg3?) LEc1 3.Kf4 PAe8 4.NAh3+ Kd2#.

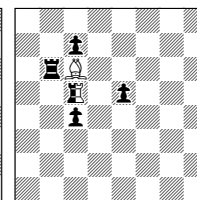
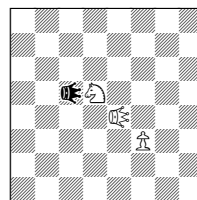
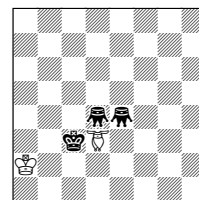
4th Honorable Mention - (Alexandr Semenenko) Fine reciprocal creation of white Chinese batteries LE/PA and PA/LE with specific sacrifices of forward pieces. Good play by black NAO whose moves cannot be acceptable as an ambush theme. Model mates. The technical VAOe1 detracts in this fine Meredith. **Solution:** 1...Ne7 2.PAd3 Ng8 3.PAd4 Ka1 4.PAd2+ cxd2#, 1...Nf5 2.LEe6 Nh4 3.LEb3 Ka3 4.LEb2+ cxb2#.

Commendation - (Franz Pachl) An interesting (and difficult) play which shows a combination of white and black anti-batteries on the last move. Such complex would be even deserving of prize, but here the construction is rather heavy. **Solution:** a) 1...VAOh1 2.PAOc4 Se4+ 3.PAOg2+ PAOd2 4.VAOe6+ VAOd4#, b) 1...PAOg5 2.PAOc5 Se5+ 3.VAOe6+ PAOd3 4.PAOe6+ PAOd4#.

Commendation
Stephan Dietrich

Commendation
Juraj Lörinc

Commendation
Karol Mlynka



hr#4 2 sols. (2+3) hs#6 2 sols. (3+1) hs#3 2 sols. (1+4+1)
♙Grasshoppers, ♜Fers Royal pieces on c5
& e4, ♜♙Contra-G's Enstein Chess, Anti-Andernach Chess

Commendation - (Stephan Dietrich) An aristocratic miniature with nice model mates but the reflex condition is not sufficiently used. **Solution:** 1.FEc2 Gb1 2.FEb3 Gb4 3.Ka1 Gb2 4.FEa2 Kc2#, 1.Kb1 Gc4 2.Ka1 Ge2 3.FEc2 Gb2 4.FEb1 Kb3#.

Commendation - (Juraj Lörinc) Unusual play showing the special features of the rarely used Contra-Grasshopper in its royal form. And all this with only four men! **Solution:** 1.rCGh1 rCGe5 2.Sf4 rCGh2 3.rCGh3 rCGh4 4.Sg2+ rCG h2 5.rCGf1 rCGf2 6.Sf4 rCGfxf4#, 1.f4 rCGf5 2.Se3+ rCGd3 3.rCGg4 rCGf3 4.rCGc4 rCd3 5.rCGf1 rCGf3 6.Sf5 rCGxf5#.

Commendation - (Karol Mlynka) A surprising chameleon-echo mates after some unusual play by the neutral Royal Rook. **Solution:** 1.nRra5=nrB Rb8=wB 2.Ba7=bS nrBb6=nrS+ 3.nRra8=nrP+ Sxc6=B#, 1.nRrd5=nrB+ nrBf7=nrS 2.Bd7=bS Rf6=wB 3.nRsd8=nrP+ Sxf6=B#.



Recent Tourney Winners

by Mike Prcic

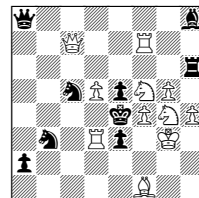
Comments and solutions are from the magazines which originally published the awards.

R1 Michael Keller
1st Prize
Probleemblad 2007

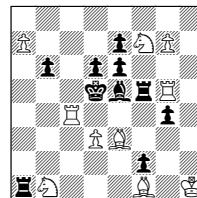
R2 Piet le Grand
1st Prize
Probleemblad 2009

R3 Pavel Murashev
1st Prize
Israel Ring Tourney 2008

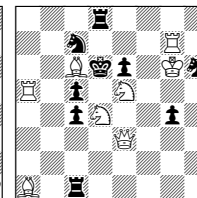
R4 Abdelaziz Onkoud
1st Prize
Springaren 2008



#2√√

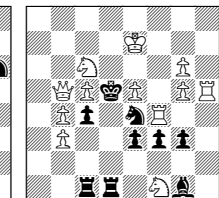


(11+9)



#2√√√

(10+10)



(8+9)

#2√ (12+9)

R1 1.Qd6? (2.Rxe3#[A]), 1...Sxd3/Rf6/Rxd6 2.Bg2[B]/Qxe5[C]/Sxd6#[D], 1...Bf6!, 1.Sxe5? (2.Bg2#[B]), 1...Bf6/Bxe5/Sd4 2.Sd6[D]/Qxe5[C]/Rxd4#, 1...Rf6!; **1.Rf6!** (2.Qxe5[C]/Sd6#[D]), Rxf6/Bxf6/Qxd5/Sxd3/xf4/e2 2.Qxe5/Sd6/Rxe3[A]/Bg2[B]/Qxf4/Sf2# Pseudo le Grand, in which the refutations of tries form part of the Grimshaw on f6. The key is a Novotny on the same square followed by several nice mates.

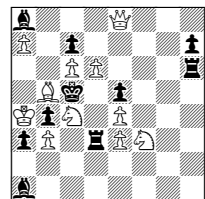
R2 1.g8S? (2.Se7#), 1...Rxf7/Bf6 2.Sc3/Bg2#, 1...Rxa7!, 1.Sc3+? Bxc3! (2.Bg2?), 1.Bg2+? Rf3! (2.Sc3?), 1.Bd4? (2.Sc3#), 1...Bxd4/Rxb1 2.Bg2/a8Q#, 1...Ra3!; **1.Bf4!** (2.Bg2#), 1...Rxf4/Rxb1 2.Sc3/a8Q# Pseudo le Grand, half-pin (white and black).

R3 1.Sdf3?[A] (2.Qxc5#), 1...Sa6[a] 2.Qd2#[B], 1...Sb5!, 1.Qd2?[B] (2.Sb5/Sf5#), 1...Kxe5[b] 2.Sf3#[A], 1...Rc3!, 1.Qg3?[C] (2.Sxc4#), 1...cxd4[c] 2.Qa3#[D], 1...Sf7!; **1.Qa3![D]** (2.Qxc5#), 1...Kxe5[d] 2.Qg3#[C], (1...Sa6/Sb5/Sd5 2.S(x)b5#) Pseudo-Salazar with nice changed mates and without white Pawns.

The award remains open for three months. Send anticipations to Petko A. Petkov.

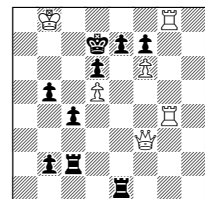
R4 1.Rf5? (2.e6#) S~!; **1.e6!** (2.Rf5#), 1...Sd6/Sf2/Sc3/Sxg5/Sxc5/Sd2/Sf6 2.cxd6/Sxe3/bxc4/Rxg5/Qxc5/Rd4/gxf6# Almost Knight wheel (Sg3 missing).

R5 V.Chepizhny & V.Rudenko, 1^{st-2nd} Prize Voronez Konkurs 2010



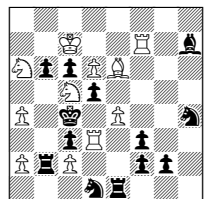
#3 (11+10) #3

R6 Alexander Feoktistov 1st Prize Moscow Konkurs 2010



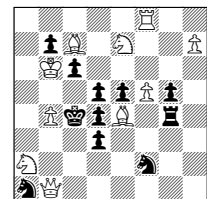
#3 (6+9)

R7 Viktor Chepizhny 1st Prize Shahmatnaya Comp. '10



#3√√√

R8 Nikolay Dimitrov 1st Prize Probleemblad 2008



#3 tries (10+11)

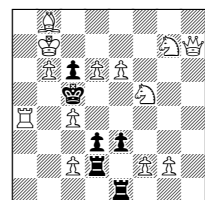
R5 1.Qe7! (2.Qxc7 & 3.Qb6#), 1...Rhx6 2.Sg5 (2.Qxc7? Rxc6!) & 3.Se6#, 1...Rdx6 2.Se1 & 3.Sd3# Nitvelt self-pinning.

R6 1.Qh3! (2.Rd8+ Kxd8 3.Rg8#), 1...e6 2.R4g7 & 3.Rxf7#, 1...Rg2 2.Rxc4+ ~ 3.Rc7#, 1...Re6 2.Qa3 & 3.Qa7#, 1...Rg1 2.Qe3 re1 3.Qa7#; 2...Ra1 3.Qxe7#, (1...exf6 2.Re4+ f5 3.Qxf5#) Three battery mates and three destructions of the same battery.

R7 1.Sd7? (2.Se5#), 1...Rxe4 2.Rf4!, 1...Sg6!, 1.Kxc6? (2.Bxd5#), 1...Bxe4 2.Rf4!, 1...Se3!, 1.Sb3? (2.Rd4#), 1...Sf5 2.Rxd5!, 1...Rxe4!; **1.Rf4!** (2.exd5+ ~ 3.dxc6#), 1...Rxe4 2.Sd7 Sg6 3.Rxe4#, 1...Bxe4 2.Kxc6 Se3 3.Rxe4#, 1...Sg6 2.Sb3 Rxe4 3.Rxe4# Three tries reappear as second moves in the play.

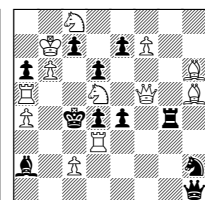
R8 1.Sc8? Sxe4!, 1.Sg6? Rxe4!, 1.Bd6? Rxe4!, 1.Bxe5? Sxe4!, 1.Rc8? Rxe4!, 1.Bxd5+? cxd5 2.Bb8 Sb3!, 1.h8S? Rg1!; **1.Bb8!** (2.Bxd5+ cxd5 3.Rc8#), 1...Rxe4 2.Sc8 & 3.Sd6#, 1...Sxe4 2.Sg6 & Sxe5#, 1...dxe4 2.h8Q & 3.Qg8#, (1...Sb3 2.Bxd3+ Sxd3 3.Qc2#)

R9 Michael Keller 1st Prize Springaren 2009



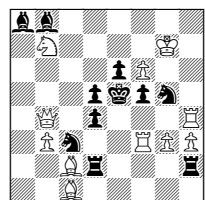
#3√√ (13+6) #3

R10 A. Feoktistov 1^{st-3rd} Prize Ural's Problemist 2010



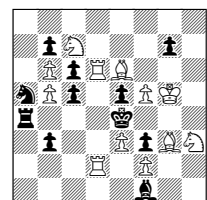
#3 (12+11) #3

R11 Peter Olzewski 1st Prize Die Schwalbe 2002



#3 (11+11) #3

R12 Alvaro Faria Pereira 1st Prize The Problemist 2008



#3 (12+11)

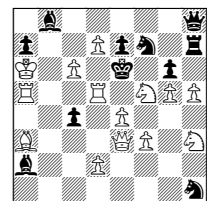
R9 1.d7? (2.Bd6#) dxc2!, 1.e7? (2.Se6#) exf2!; **1.Qh3!** (2.Qf3 & 3.Qc6#), 1...dxc2 2.e7 (3.Se6#) exf2/Rd6 3.Qa3/Bd6#, 1...exf2 2.d7 (3.Bd6#) dxc2/Re6 3.Qa3/Se6#, (1...Rf2 2.e7 Rf5 3.Se6#) Banny, Pseudo le Grand and Dombrovskis with every piece contributing in mates.

R10 1.Bd2! (2.Se3+ fxe3 3.Qd5#), 1...e5 2.Sd6+ cxd6 3.Qc8#, 1...e3 2.Rc3+ dxc3 3.Rd3#, 1...c6 2.Qe6 & 3.Se3#, 1...Rg5 2.Be2 & 3.Rc3#, (1...Sf1 2.bxc7 Sxd2 3.Sb6#) Freeing the mating square.

R11 1.Qxd4+? Rxd4! (2.Bf4+?), 1.Rxf5+? exf5! (2.Qe7+?); **1.f7!** (2.f8S & 3.Sd7/Sg6#), 1...Rd3 2.Bf4+ Ke4 3.Re3#, 1...Sge4 2.Rxf5+ Kxf5/exf5 3.Rh5/Qe7#, 1...Sce4 2.Qxd4+ Kxd4/Rxd4 3.Bb2/Bf4#

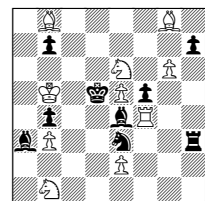
R12 1...Rc4/Sc4 2.Rd5/Sd5, 1.R6d5/Sd5? Sc4/Rc4!; **1.Bc4!** (2.Kg6) Rxc4 2.Re6, 1...Sxc4 2.Se6, 1...Bxc4 2.Kg4 & Sg5# Two changes after obstructions.

R13 A. Kuzovkov 1st Prize Probleemblad 2006



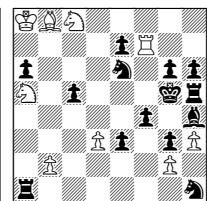
#4 (14+11)

R14 Marcel Tribowski 1st Prize Probleemblad 2007



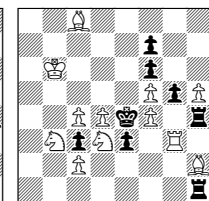
#5 (10+9)

R15 Hans Peter Rehm 1st Prize Probleemblad 2004



#6 (9+14)

R16 Mikhail Maranduyk 1^{st-2nd} Prize Popandopulo-90JT 2011



#5 (12+8)

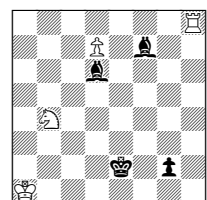
R13 1.hxg6! (2.Re5+ Bxe5/Qxe5 3.Sd4+/Sf4+ Bxd4/Qxf4 4.Sf4/Sd4#), 1...Qa1 2.Qd4 (3.Re5+/Rd6+) c3 3.Qf6+ exf6 4.Sd4#, 1...Bh2 2.Qf4 (3.Sg7+/Sd4+) Sg3 3.Qd6+ exd6 4.Sf4# Plachutta in the threat and a pair of anti-critical moves in the variations.

R14 1.Bd6! (2.Kb6 ~ 3.Sc7+ Kd4 4.Sb5#; 2...Sc4+ 3.Bxc4+ Kxc4 4.Sg7+ Kd4 5.Sf5#), 1...Bb2 2.Sc5+ Kd4 3.Sd3 b6 4.Sxb4 S~ 5.Sc2#, 1...hxg6 2.Sf8+ Kd4 3.Sxg6 b6 4.Se7 S~ 5.Sxf5#

R15 1.Sc6! threat e2 2.Sd8 e1Q 3.Sxe6+ Qxe6 4.Bxf4#, 1...Rf1 2.Sd6 (3.Se4#) Sf2 3.Se5 (4.Sf3#) Sd4 4.Sf3+ Sxf3 5.Se4+ Sxe4 6.Bxf4# (4.Se4+? 5.Sf3+ Rxf3!), 1...Ra4 2.Se5 (3.Sf3#) Sd4 3.Sd6 (4.Se4#) Sf2 4.Se4+ Sxe4 5.Sf3+ Sxf3 6.Bxf4# (4.Sf3? 5.Se4+ Rxe4!); 3...exd6 4.Bxd6/Bc7 Twice White closes and opens its b8-f4 line (both the closing and the opening are done in reverse order).

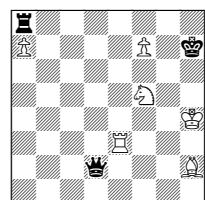
R16 1.Sbc5+?[A] Kxd4!, 1.Bb7+?[B] Kxf5!, 1.Sdc5+?[C] Kxf4!; **1.Kb5!** (2.Sbc5+[A] Kxd4 3.Sb3+ Ke4 4.Bb7+[B] Kxf5 5.Sd4#), 1...Rb1 2.Bb7+[B] Kxf5 3.Bc8+ Ke4 4.Sdc5+[C] Kxf4 5.Rh3#, 1...Rxb5 2.Sdc5+[C] Kxf4 3.Sd3+ Ke4 4.Sbc5+[A] Kxd4 5.Rg4# Cyclic White's second and fourth moves with forced annihilation of white Pawns and white switchbacks.

R17 Alexey Sochnev 1^{st-2nd} Prize Pat a Mat 2006-07



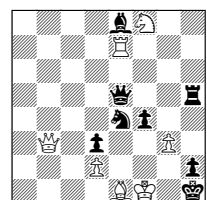
Draw (4+4)

R18 M. Minski & G. Sonntag, Prize Schach 2006-07



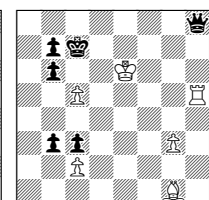
Win (6+3)

R19 Peter Krug 1st Prize Die Schwalbe 2005-06



Win (7+8)

R20 D. Gurgendize & V. Neidze, Prize Problem Online 2004-06



Win (6+6)

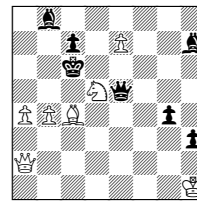
R17 1.Re8+/i Kd2 2.Re1 Kxe1 3.d8Q Be5+ (g1Q; Qxd6) 4.Kb1 g1Q 5.Sd3+ Kd2+/ii 6.Sc1+/iii Ke3/iv 7.Qb6+ Bd4 8; Qb3+ Bxb3 stalemate. i) 1.d8Q? g1Q+ 2.Kb2 Qd4+ 3.Kc1 Qd2+ 4.Kb1 Bg6+ wins. ii) Ke2+ 6.Sc1+ Kf3 7.Qd1+ Qxd1 stalemate. iii) 6.Se1+? Kxe1 7.Qd1+ Kf2 avoiding 7...Kxd1? stalemate. iv) Bd4 7.Qxd4+ Qxd4 8.Sb3+ Bxb3 stalemate, but not 7.Qa5+? Ke3 8.Qd2+ Ke4.

R18 1.Bb8, and: Kg6 2.~S+, or: Qd8+ 2.Kh5 Rxb8 (Qd1+; Kh5) 3.axb8B/i Qxb8 4.Re8, and: Qxe8 5.fxe8R/ii wins, or: Qc8 5.~S+/iii wins, or: Qh2+ 5.Sh4 Qd6 6.~R/iv Qc5+ 7.Kg4 wins, or: i) 3.axb8Q? Qg5+ 4.Kxg5 stalemate, or 3.axb8S? Qf6 ii) 5.fxe8Q? stalemate. iii) 5.~Q Qxe8+ 6.Qxe8 stalemate. iv) 6.~Q? Qg6+ 7.Sxg6 stalemate, or 6.~S+? Kg8. "The value of an AUW has, in comparison with older times, decreased. Therefore, in my opinion, not every AUW qualifies for an award. But this piece has amazing economy (9 pieces)". (Judge: Siegfried Hornecker)

R19 1.Qd1/i Sxg3+ 2.Bxg3 Qe2+ 3.Rxe2 fxc3 4.Rf2 Rf5 5.Rxf5 g2+ 6.Ke1 Bh5 7.Rf1+/ii gxf1Q+/iii 8.Kxf1 Bxd1 9.Kf2/iv Bg4 10.Sh7 Bh5 11.Sg5 Bg6 12.Se4 Bh5 13.Sc5 (Sf4? Be2;) Bg6 14.Sd7 Bg6 15.Se5 Bf5 16.Sc4 Bc8 17.Sd6 Bc8 18.Se8 Be4 19.Sg7 Bg6 20.Kf1 and 21.Sg3 mate. i) thematic try: 1.Rxe5? fxc3 2.Bxg3 Rxe5 3.Qb7 Bc6 4.Qxc6 Rf5+ 5.Ke1 Rf1+ 6.Kxf1 stalemate. ii) 7.Qxh5? g1Q+ 8.Rf1 Qxf1+ 9.Kxf1 stalemate. iii) g1Q 8.Qa1 Bf3 9.Qh8 Kg2 10.Qg7+ Kh1 11.Qh7 Kg2 12.Qxd3 Bg4 13.Sg6 h1Q 14.Sf4+ Kh2 15.Qh7+ Kg3 16.Qxh1 wins. iv) 9.Sh7? Be2+ 10.Kf2 Bg4. "This is a two-phase study. The character of the first part is surely tactical, the second part strategic. A quiet key, with an attractive thematic try, that ends in a beautiful stalemate with two pinned Knights. In the rest of the study, there is one tactical motive after the other, and Black introduces new surprises again and again. After a series of sacrifices by both sides, the play quiets from move 7 on. In the evolving S vs B duel, White has the dangerous threat of Sg3 mate. A Knight cannot win a tempo, but the wK has a decisive tempo move Kf1-f2 available. White avoids the black stalemate traps and wins with a well-defined maneuver of the Knight!". (Judge: Peter Gyarmati)

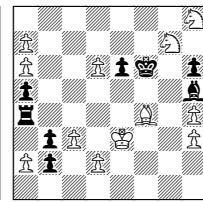
R20 1.cxb6+/i Kc6 2.Rc5+ Kxb6 3.Rh5+/ii, and: Ka6 4.Rxh8 b2 5.Ra8+ Kb5 6.Ra3 b1Q (Kc4; Rb3) 7.Rb3+ wins, or: Kc7 4.Rxh8 b2 5.Rh7+/iv Kc6 6.Rd7 b1Q 7.Rd6+ Kb5 8.Rb6+ Kc4 9.Rxb1 stalemate. i) Thematic try: 1.Rxh8? b2 2.cxb6+ Kc6 3.Rc8+ Kb5 4.Rxc3 b1Q 5.Rb3+ Kc6 6.Rxb1 wins. ii) Thematic try: 3.Rc8+? Ka5 4.Rxh8 b2, and 5.Bb6+ Ka6 6.Rh1 b1Q 7.Rxb1 stalemate, or 5.Ra8+ Kb4 6.Ra7 b1Q 7.Rxb7+ Kc4 8.Rxb1 stalemate. iii) Thematic try: 5.Bb6+? Kc6 6.Rh1 b1Q 7.Rxb1 stalemate. "Interesting play with several thematic tries ending in stalemate. The introductory move reduces quality". (Judge: Iuri Akobia)

R21 O.Pervakov & N.Tkachenko, 1st Prize ARVES-20JT 2008



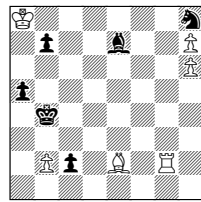
Win (7+7)

R22 A.Grinblat & H.Aloni 1st Prize IRT 2005-06



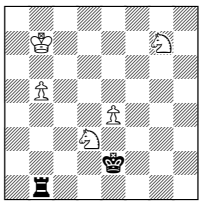
Win BTM (12+8)

R23 Pal Benno 1st Prize Hungarian Chess Fed. '07



Win (6+6)

R24 J.Mikitovics & J.Polasek, Prize Šahova skladba 2007-08



Win (5+2)

R21 1.e8Q+ Qxe8 2.Bb5+ Kb7/i 3.Bxe8 Be4+ 4.Kg1/ii g3 (Ba7+; Kh2) 5.Bc6+/iii Ka7/iv 6.Kf1/v h2 7.Qg2 h1Q+ 8.Qxh1 Bxh1 9.Se7 g2+/vi 10.Kg1/vii Kb6/viii 11.a5+ Ka6 12.Sc8 Ba7+ 13.Sxa7 Kxa7 14.b5/ix Kb8 15.Bxg2 Bxg2 16.Kxg2 c6 17.b6 wins. i) Kd6 3.Bxe8 Be4+ 4.Kh2 wins. ~ ii) 4.Kh2? c6+ 5.Kgl h2+. iii) The necessary preparatory move. Not 5.Kf1? g2+ 6.Kg1 Ba7+ and the bB is not incarcerated! iv) Kxc6 (Kc8; Se7+) 6.Qc4+ Kd6 7.Qxe4 Ba7+ 8.Se3 wins. v) The 2nd preparatory move, and also to incarcerate the second Bishop! 6.Se7? h2+ 7.Qxh2 gxh2+ 8.Kxh2 Bd3 draws. The Bishop is free. vi) Bxc6 10.Sxc6+ Kb7 11.Sxb8 Kxb8 12.Kg2. vii) Two black Bishops are incarcerated by two white preparatory moves! 10.Bxg2? Bxg2+ 11.Kxg2 Kb6 draws. viii) Ka6 11.Sc8 Ba7+ 12.Sxa7 Kxa7 13.Bxg2 Bxg2 14.Kxg2 wins. ix) Too early is 14.Bxg2? Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Ka6 16.Kf3 c5 17.bxc5 Kb5 18.a6 Kxa6 19.Ke4 Kb7 20.Kd5 Kc7. "Not just one but two black Bishops are incarcerated. This was the main reason to honor this study. Dynamic play on both sides results in a won Pawn ending". (Judge: Marcel van Herck)

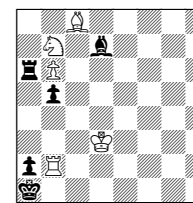
R22 1...Re4+ 2.Kxe4 b1Q+ 3.Kd4/i Qg1+ 4.Be3 Qxg7/ii 5.a8Q b2/iii 6.Qb8/iv b1Q 7.Qxb1 Qa7+ 8.Kc4 Be2+ 9.d3 Bxd3+/v 10.Qxd3 (Kxd3 Qh7+;) Qxa6+ 11.Kc5 (Kd4 e5+;) Qxd3/vi 12.Bd4+ e5 13.d7 Ke7 14.Sf7 Kxd7/vii 15.Sxe5+ wins. i) 3.d3? Qh1+ 4.Ke3 Qf3+ wins. ii) e5+ 5.Kc5 Qh1 6.Sxh5+ Ke6 7.axb3 Qd5+ 8.Kb6 Qxb3+ 9.Kxa5 Qa3+ 10.Kb5 Qb3+ 11.Kc5 Qd5+ 12.Kb4 Qxd6+ 13.Bc5 Qxa6 14.c4 wins. iii) bxa2 6.Qe4 Qg3 7.d7 Qd6+ 8.Kc4 e5 9.Bd4 exd4 10.Qxd4+ Qxd4+ 11.cxd4 a1Q 12.d8Q+ Kg7 13.Qe7+ Kxh8 14.Qe5+ Kg8 15.Qxh5 wins.

iv) 6.Kc5? b1Q 7.Bd4+ e5 8.a7 Qgb7 draws. v) Qxa6+? 10.Kc5 Qc8+ 11.Kb5 Qb8+ 12.Bb6 Qxd6 13.Kxa5 wins. vi) Qa7+ 12.Kc6, or Qc8+ 12.Kb5 win. vii) exd4 15.d8Q+ Kxf7 16.Qd5+ Ke7 17.cxd4 Qxh3 18.h5 a4 19.Kb6 Qh4 20.Kb5 a3 21.Qe5+ Kd7 22.d5 wins. "A complex mechanism with interesting combinational play. A valuable decoration is provided by the moves 1...Re4+!, 9...Bd3!! and 11.Kc5!!". (Judge: Iuri Akobia)

R23 1.Rg1/i Bg5/ii 2.Rxg5 c1Q 3.Rb5+ Ka4 4.Rb6 (Rxb7? Qc8+;) Qg1/iii 5.Ka7 (Rxb7? Qd4;) Qd4 6.Bf3/iv Sg6/v 7.Bh5 Qd8 (Se5; Bd1+ 8.Bg4/ vi Sh8 (Se5; Bd1+) 9.Be6 Qd3 (Qd1; Bc4) 10.Ba2(Bg8) Qf3/vii 11.Bc4 Qg3/viii 12.Be2 ix Qg1 13.Bh5 Qe1 (Qc1; Be8+) 14.Ka8/x wins. i) 1.Rg4+? Kb3 2.Bc4+ Kxb2 3.Rg2 Kc3. ii) Kb3 2.Bd3 Kxb2 (Bf6; Rc1) 3.Rg2 Kc3 4.Bxc2, or Bc5 2.Rc1 Kb3 3.Bd3 win. iii) Sf7 5.Bb5+ Kb4 6.Be8+ Kc5 7.Bxf7 iv) 6.Bf1? Sf7 7.Bh3 Se5 8.h8Q Sc6+, or 6.Bh5? Qd7 7.Bf3 Qd4. v) Qd7 7.Bh5 Qd8 8.Bg4 Qd5 9.Be6 Qd3 10.Ba2, or Qd3 7.Bg4 Qd4 (Qd5; Be6) 8.Be6 Qd3 9.Ba2 win. vi) 8.b3+? Ka3 9.Bxg6 a4 10.bxa4 Kxa4 11.Rd6 Qf8 12.Kxb7 Kb4 13.Re6 Qxb6, or 8.Rxg6? b5, or 8.Bxg6? Qa8+ 9.Kxa8 stalemate. vii) Qc2 11.Bd5 Qd3 12.Be6, or Qc3 11.Bd5 Qd3 12.Be6 Qd1 13.Bc4. viii) Qe3 12.Bd5 Qh3 13.Rxb7 Qe3+ 14.Ka8 Qe8+ 15.Rb8. ix) 12.Bd5? Qe3 13.Bc4 Qg3. x) 14.Rxb7? Sg6 15.b3+ Ka3 16.Bxg6 Qf2+ 17.Rb6 Qd4. "A monumental and logical study with a mate ending. After the 6th move White wins a tempo with a long Bishop maneuver". (Judge: Gheorghe Teblis)

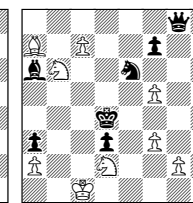
R24 1.Sb2/i Rxb2 2.b6 Kd3 3.e5 Rg2 4.Ka8/ii Ra2+ 5.Kb8 Kd4 6.e6 Re2 (Kc5; Kc7) 7.Kc7/iii Kd5 8.Sh5/iv Rc2+ 9.Kd7 Rd2 10.Sf6+/v Ke5+ 11.Ke7 Rb2 12.Kf7/vi Rxh6/vii 13.Sd7+ wins. i) Thematic try: 1.b6? Kxd3 2.e5 Rg1 3.Ka8 Ra1+ 4.Kb8 Kd4 5.e6 Re1 6.Kc7 Kd5 draws (7.Sh5 Kxe6 8.Sf4+ does not win since the bR is at e1 instead of e2). 1.Sf4+? Kf3. 1.Kc6? Kxd3. 1.Sc5? Rxb5+. ii) 4.e6? Rxg7+ 5.Kc6 Re7 6.Kd6 Rb7 7.Kc6 Re7 positional draw. iii) 7.b7? Kd5 8.Kc7 Rc2+ 9.Kd7 Rb2 10.Kc7 Rc2+ 11.Kb8 Re2 draw. iv) That is the difference with the thematic try. Now 8...Kxe6 fails to 9.Sf4+. The 8.Kd7? Re1, and 9.e7 Rxe7+ 10.Kxe7 Kc6 or 9.b7 Rb1 10.Kc7 Rcl+ 11.Kd8 Rb1 12.e7 Rxb7 13.e8Q Rb8+ draw. v) 10.e7? Kc5+ 11.Kc7 Re2; 10.b7? Ke5+ 11.Kc7Rc2+. vi) 12.Sd7+? Kd5 13.Kf7 Rf2+ 14.Sf6+ Kc6 15.e7 Re2. vii) Rf2 13.b7 Rxf6+ 14.Kg7 wins. "Apparently Polasek added a brilliant introduction to an otherwise not very interesting submission by Mikitovics. This involves a sacrifice and pretty interesting thematic try". (Judge: Harold van der Heijden)

R25 Gunter Sonntag 1st Prize Die Schwalbe 2007-08



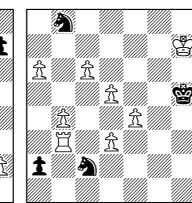
Win (5+5)

R26 Oleg Pervakov 1st Prize Kekely-50JT 2009



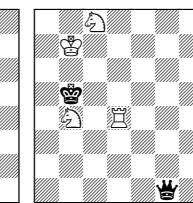
Draw (10+8)

R27 E.Kudelich & S.Osincev, 1st Prize Babich-100MT 2009



Draw (8+4)

R28 V.Anufriev & V.Kalyagin, 1st Prize Olimpiev-70JT, 2009v



Draw (4+4)

R25 1.Kc2/i Ra4 2.Sa5 Rxa5 3.Rb4/ii Ra8 4.b7/iii, and: Rxc8+ 5.bxc8Q Bf5+ 6.Re4/iv Bxc8 7.Re1 mate, or: Bf5+ 5.Bxf5 Re8+ 6.Rc4/v Rxc4+ 7.Kb3 Rf4 8.b8Q Rf3+ 9.Bd3/vi Rxd3+ 10.Kc2 wins. i) Threatens Sc5 and Sb3 mate. ii) Threatens another mate in two. 3.b7? b4 4.b8Q Ba4+ 5.Rb3 Rc5+ 6.Kd2 Bxb3 7.Qxb4 Rxc8. iii) 4.Bxd7? Rc8+ 5.Kb3 Rc3+ 6.Kxc3 stalemate. iv) Self-pin. 6.QxfS? stalemate. v) 6.Bxc8? stalemate, or 6.Kb3? Rc3+ 7.Kxc3 stalemate. vi) 9.Kc2? Rf2+, or 9.Kb4? Rxf5 10.Qh8+ Kb1 11.Qh1+ Kb2 12.Qg2+ Kb1 13.Kb3 a1S+ draw. "A chain of sacrifices and counter sacrifices seems to develop almost automatically from a harmless looking initial position. Look at the continuously alternating sacrifice motives. From this background I was somewhat surprised by the comments of some readers disapproving off the numerous captures'. Such tense 'short detective stories' surely do not appear out of the blue, but indicate richness of ideas and the high construction ability of a master composer".

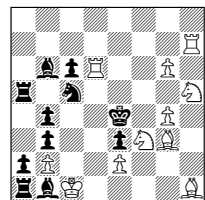
R26 1.c8Q/i Bxc8 2.Sd7+/ii Kc3 3.Sf6 Qd8/iii 4.Bb6 Sc7 5.Bxc7 Qf8 (Qd4; Ba5+) 6.Bd6 Qh6/iv 7.Bf4/v Qh4 8.Bg3 Qd4/iv 9.Bf2/vii Qe5/viii 10.f4 Qxf5/ix 11.Sde4+ (g4? Qe6; Kb4 12.Be1+ Ka4/x 13.Sd5 Qg6/xi 14.Sd6 Qxd6/xii 15.Sc3+ Ka5 16.Se4+/xiii draws/Kiv. i) 1.Sd7+? Kc3 2.Sf6 Qa8, or 1.fxe6? Qxg2 win. ii) Battery. 2.Sxc8+? Sc5 3.Se4 Qxg2 4.Bxc5+ Kc4 5.Sc6+ Kd5 6.Bf2 Qf1+ 7.Kd2 Qe2+ 8.Kc3 Qc2+ 9.Kb4 d2 wins. iii) Qxg2 4.Sd5+ mate. iv) Qd8 7.Be7 Qa5 8.Sfe4+ Kd4 9.Sb3+, or Qg7 7.Be5+ Kb4 8.Sd5+, another battery. v) Theme of 8th WCCT. vi) Qa4 9.Be5+ Kb4 10.Sd5+ Kc5 11.Se4+, and Kxd5 12.Sc3+ Kxe5 13.Sxa4 Bxf5 14.Kd2 Be6 15.Sc3, or Kc6 12.Se7+ Kb6 13.Sxc8+ Ka5 14.Bc7+ Kb4 15.Bd6+ Ka5 16.Bc7+ draws. vii) Theme of 8th WCCT. 9.Be1? Qg1 viii) Qd8 10.Bb6, switchback - theme of 8th WCCT. ix) Qb5 11.Sde4+ Kb4 12.Be1+ and White wins. x) d2+ 13.Bxd2+ Ka4 14.Sd5. xi) Qh5 14.Sc7 Be6 15.f5 Qxf5 (Bxa2; Sc5 mate) 16.Sc3+ Kb4 17.Se4+ Ka4 18.Sc3+ draws. xii) Qxg2 15.Sb6 mate, switchback. xiii) third battery. xiv) e.g. Qb4 17.Bxb4+ Kxb4 18.Kd2 Be6 19.Sc3 draws.

R27 1.d4/i a1Q/ii 2.Rg3+ Kh4 3.Rh3+/iii, and: Kxh3 4.c7 Qxd4+/v 5.Kg8 Qg1+ 6.Kh8 Qd4+ 7.Kg8 positional draw, or: Kg5 4.Rg3+ Kf4 5.Rg4+ Kxg4/vi 6.c7 Sxd4 (Qxd4+; Kg8) 7.Kh7 Se6 8.dxe6 Qh1+ 9.Kg7/viii Qa1+ 10.Kh7/viii Qh1+ 11.Kg7 positional draw. i) 1.c7? a1Q+, and: 2.Rb2 Qxb2+ 3.Kh7 Sd7 4.c8Q Sf6+ 5.Kg7 Sxd5+ 6.Kh7 Sf6+ 7.Kg7 Sxe4+ 8.Kg8 Sf6+ 9.Kff1 Qxb4+ 10.Kf7 Qd4 11.Qb7 Qd8 12.Qg2+ Sg4 13.Qxc2 Qd7+ 14.Kf8 Qd6+ 15.Ke8 Sf6+, or here: 2.d4 Qxd4+ 3.Kg8 Sc6 4.Rg3+ Kf4 5.Rg4+ Kf3 6.dxc6 Qc4+ 7.Kh7 Qxc6 win. ii) Sxa6 2.Rg3+ Kf4 3.Rg1.

iii) 3.Rg4+? Kh5 4.c7 Qxd4+ 5.Kg8 Sc6 6.Rg7 Sa7 7.b5 Qxe4, or 3.c7? Qxd4+ 4.Kf7 Qa7 5.d6 Sxa6 6.Rc3 Sxc7 7.Rxc7 Qd4 8.d7 Sxb4 wins. v) Sxd4 5.Kh7/ix Sxa6 6.c8Q+ Kg3 7.d6. vi) Kf3 6.c7 Qxd4+ 7.Kh7 Sd7 8.c8Q Sf6+ 9.Kg6 Sxg4 10.Qxc2 Qf6+ 11.Kh7 Qf7+ 12.Kh8 Sf6 13.Qd3+. vii) 9.Kg8? Sc6 IO.a7 Sxa7 11.e7 Qxe4 wins. viii) 10.Kf7? Qh8 11.a7 Sa6 12.e7 Sxc7 wins. ix) But not 5.c8Q+? Se6++/x 6.Kf7 Qg7+ 7.Kxe6 Qg4+.x) But not Sf5+? 6.Kf7 Qg7+ 7.Ke6 Qg6+ 8.Ke5 Qg7+ 9.Ke6 Qg6+ 10.Ke5.

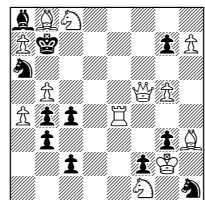
R28 1.Sd6+ Kc5 2.Rf4/i Qg1 (Qxf4; Sd3+) 3.Kc7 Qg7+ 4.Rf7 Qg6 5.Rf6 Qg3 (Qxf6; Se4+) 6.Rf4 Qg7+ (Sxf4; Sd3+) 7.Rf7 Qa1 8.Rf4 Qg7+ 9.Rf7 Qg6 10.Rf6 Qg3 11.Rf4 Qg7+ 12.Rf7 Sxf7 13.Sd3+ Kd5 14.Sf4+ Ke5 15.Sd3+ Ke6 16.Sf4+ Ke5 17.Sd3+ positional draw. i) 2.Sc6? Qb1+ 3.Rb4 Qxb4+ 4.Sxb4 Kxd6.

R29 A. Selivanov
1st Prize
Shahmatnaya Comp. '09



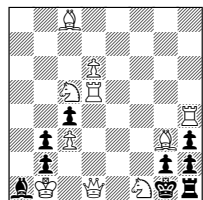
s#5

R30 A. Selivanov
1st Prize
Shahmatnaya Comp. '10



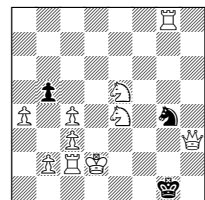
s#6

R31 A. Selivanov
1st Prize
Orbit 2010



s#4

R32 A. Selivanov
1st Prize
Ural's Problemist 2010



s#7

(11+11)

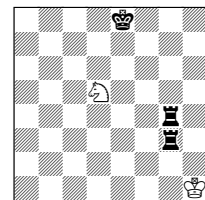
R29 1.Sf4! (2.Sh2+ Ke5 3.Se6+ Kf6 4.Sxc5+ Kg5 5.Se4+ Bxe4#), 1...Sb7 2.Sg1+ Ke5 3.Sg2+ Ke4 4.Sxe3+ Kxe3 5.Rd3+ Bxd3#, 1...Bc7 2.Sh4+ Ke5 3.Sd5+ Kd4 4.Sb6+ Bxd6 5.Sf5+ Bxf5#.

R30 1.Qf3! (2.Re6+ Kxc8 3.h8Q+ Kd7 4.Rd6+ Ke7 5.Qxg7+ Ke8 6.Qe4+ Bxe4#), 1...Sxb8 2.Rxc4+ Sc6 3.Qf7+ Se7 4.Qxg7 ~ 5.Rc7+, 4...c1Q(R) 5.Rxc1 ~ 6.Rc7+ Kxc7#, 1...Sc5 2.Rd4+ Se4 3.Rd7+ Kxc8 4.Rxg7+ Kd8 5.Rg8+ Ke7 6.Qf6+ Sxf6#, 1...Sc7 2.Re1+ Sd5 3.Sd6+ Kb6 4.a5+ Kxa5 5.Ra1+ Kb6 6.Qe3+ Sxe3#.

R31 1.Rg5! (zz), 1...gxf1S 2.Qf3! Se3 3.Be5+ Sg4 4.Qf2+ Kxf2#, 1...gxf1B 2.Rxc4 Kg2 3.Bf4+ Kf2 4.Sd3+ Bxd3#, 1...gxf1R 2.Be5+ Kf2 3.Rf4+ Ke3 4.Qe1+ Rxe1#, 1...gxf1Q 2.Bxh3! Qe1 3.Bf4+ Kf2 4.Se4+ Qxe4# Black AUW with pins.

R32 1.b3! (zz), 1...bxa4 2.b4 a3 3.Kc1 a2 4.Qh2+ Kf1 5.Sg3+ Ke1 6.Qf2+ Sxf2 7.Sd3+ Sxd3#, 1...bxc4 2.Kd1 cxb3 3.Rg2+ Kf1 4.Rd2+ Kg1 5.Sc4 b2 6.Qh2+ Kf1 7.Se3+ Sxe3#, 1...b4 2.Ke1 bxc3 3.Re2 c2 4.Qg3+ Kh1 5.Qh2+ Sxh2 6.Sg3+ Kg1 7.Sf3+ Sxf3# Three chameleon-echo mates. Executed with superb technique.

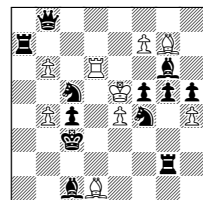
R33 V. Zheglov
Prize
Shahmatnaya Comp. '10



h#6

2 sols. (2+3)

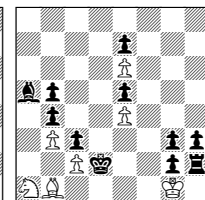
R34 C. Jonsson &
R. Wiehagen, 1st Prize
Springaren, WT 2009-10



h#2

8 sols. (9+12)

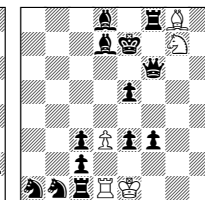
R35 Steven B. Dowd &
Marko Ylijoki, 1st Prize
Problemblad 2006



h#11½*

(7+11)

R36 Andrey Zhuravlev
1st Prize
Problemblad 2001



h#3

b)-Sa1 (5+13)

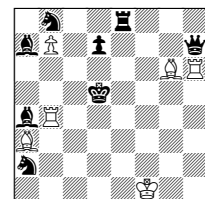
R33 1.Rg8 Kh2 2.R3g7 Kh3 3.Kf7 Kh4 4.Kg6 Kg4 5.Kh7+ Kh5 6.Rh8 Sf6#, 1.Kf7 Se3 2.Kg6 Sg2 3.Kh5 Kg1 4.Rg6 Kh2 5.R3g5 Kh3 6.Rh6 Sf4# Echo-mates and two nice white tempo moves.

R34 1.Qxb6 Rd5 2.Qxb4 Kd6#, 1.Ba3 hxg5 2.Bxb4 Kxf4#, 1.Sd5 bxc5 2.Sb4 Ke6#, 1.Ra4 Kf6 2.Rxb4 Ke7#, 1.Bxf7 bxa7 2.Qxb4 Kxf5#, 1.Sfd3+ Kf6 2.Sxb4 Kxg6#, 1.Rb2 Kf6 2.Rxb4 Kg5#, 1.Sa6 exf5 2.Sxb4 Ke4# Eight different battery mates by the K/B battery.

R35 1.Ke3 2.Kxe4 3.Kf3 4.e4 5.e3 6.e2 7.e1S 8.Sxc2 9.Se3 Bf5 10.Bc7 Sc2 11.Bf4 Sd4#, 1...Ba2 2.Kc1 3.Kb2 4.Kxa1 5.Kb2 6.Kxc2 Bb1+ 7.Kxb3 Bd3 8.Ka4 Bf1 9.b3 Bxg2 10.b4 Bf3 11.Ra2 Bh5 12.Ra3 Be8# Having a set-play in such a long problem is a real find.

R36 a) 1.Sb3 d4 2.Sc5 d5 3.Se6 d6#, b) 1.Kd6 Se6 2.Kd5 Sc5+ 3.Kd4 Sb3# An original concept where the black King and the white Pawn trace the same path.

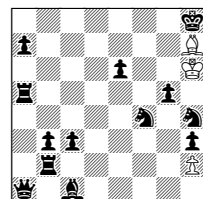
R37 Michal Dragoun
1st Prize
Springaren 2008



h#6

4 sols. (6+8)

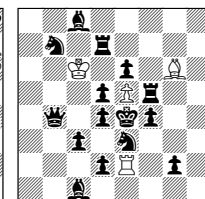
R38 C. Jones & J. Lois
1st Prize
Springaren 2008



h#6

2 sols. (3+13)

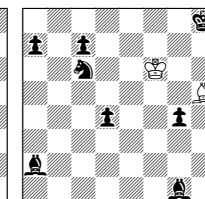
R39 Kazuo Watanabe
Prize
Problem Paradise 2009



h#3

2 sols. (4+15)

R40 Tichomir Hernadi
Prize
Problemblad 2010



h#7

2 sols. (2+8)

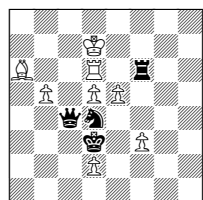
R37 1.Kc5 Bf7 2.Bb5 Rc4#, 1.Ke6 Rb5 2.Qf7 Bf5#, 1.Bd4 Bd3 2.Kc5 Rb5#, 1.Re5 Rf4 2.Ke6 Bf7#

R38 1.g4 Bb1 2.g3 hxg3 3.c2 g4 4.cxb1B g5 5.Bh7 g6 6.Bg8 g7#, 1.Rg2 Bg8 2.Rg3 hxg3 3.b2 gxh4 4.b1B hxg5 5.Bh7 g6 6.Bg8 g7# In both solutions White has to make tempo moves and sacrifice his Bishop.

R39 1.Kxe5 Bh7 2.Rf6 Be4 3.Sc2 Bxc2#, 1.Kd3 Re1 2.Sc4 Re4 3.Rxe5 Rxe5# Good analogy, tempo moves, self-blocks.

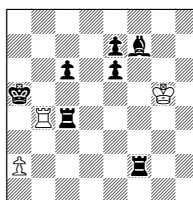
R40 1.Kh7 Bxg4 2.Kh6 Bf5 3.Kh5 Be4 4.Kh4 Kf5 5.Kh3 Kf4 6.Kh2 Kf3 7.Kh1 Kg3#, 1.Kg8 Bf7+ 2.Kf8 Bxa2 3.Ke8 Ke6 4.Kd8 Kd5 5.Kc8 Kxc6 6.Kb8 bd5 7.Ka8 Kxc7# Corner-to-corner bK walk.

R41 Abdelaziz Onkoud
1st Prize, idee & form
dedicated to Toma Garai



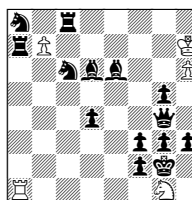
h#3 b) bPd2 (8+4)

R42 I. Kalkavouras
& E. Kummer
1st Prize, idee & form



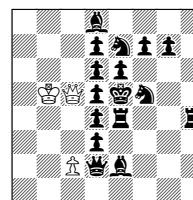
h#5 (3+7)

R43 Mario Parrinello
1st Prize
Orbit 2010-I



h#2 (5+14)
b) Sg1→h1, c) Pf2→h2

R44 Diyan Kostadinov
1st Prize
Orbit 2010-I



h#3 3 sols. (3+16)

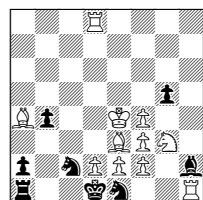
R41 a) 1.Qxd5 Bb7 2.Qc4 Bd5 3.se2 be4#, b) 1.Sxb5 Rb6 2.Sd4 Rb5 3.Qc2 Rb3# Creation of white batteries after annihilation of white Pawns.

R42 1.Rh4 Rg4 2.Rc2 Kf4 3.Kb4 Ke3+ 4.Kc3 Rb4 5.Rc4 Rb3# Bristol and Indian battery creation.

R43 a) Bf7 bxc8Q 2.Qf4 (Qh5?, Qh4?) Qxh3#, b) 1.Be7 b8Q 2.Qh5 (Qh4?, Qf4?) Qxg3#, c) 1.Se7 bxa8Q 2.Qh4 (Qf4?, Qh5?) Qxf3# An original double bQ dual avoidance, triple wP promotion and wP unpin.

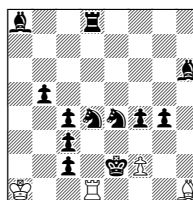
R44 1.Bc7 Qxd6+ 2.Kxd6 c4 3.Re5 c5#, 1.Qf4 Qxd5+ 2.Kxd5 c3 3.Qe5 c4#, 1.Qe3 Qxd4+ 2.Kxd4 Kb4 3.e5 c3# Three wQ sacs and three echo-mates with the wP.

R45 Vitaly Medintsev
1st Prize
Problemblad 2009



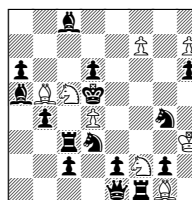
h#2 2 sols. (11+8)
b) Be3→b2

R46 I. Kalkavouras &
Toma Garai, Prize
Israel Ring Tourney 2007



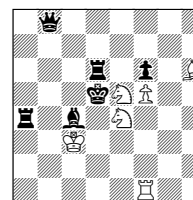
h#3 2 sols. (4+12)

R47 Janos Csak
1st Prize
Orbit 2010-II



h#2 6 sols. (8+15)

R48 David Shire
1st Prize
The Problemist 2008



h#2 2 sols. (6+6)

R45 a) 1.Bg1 d3 2.Sxd3 Rxg1#, 1.b3 d4 2.Sxd4 Bxb3#, b) 1.gxf4 e3 2.fxe3 dxe3#, 1.Rc1 Bc3 2.bxc3 dxc3#

R46 1.Sd2 Bxa8 2.Rd5 Rxd2+ 3.Kf3 Bxd5#, 1.Sf3 Rxd8 2.Bd5 Bxf3 3.Kd3 Rxd5# White critical moves, diagonal/orthogonal correspondence, anticipated black sacrifices, reciprocal play.

R47 1.Rc4 Sfxd3 2.Rf4 Sxf4#, 1.Bb7 Sxg4 2.Rf6 Sxf6#, 1.Qxf2 h8Q 2.Qxd4 Qxd4#, 1.Rxf2 f8Q 2.Rf3+ Qxf3#, 1.Sde5+ Sfd3 2.Sf3 Sf4#, 1.Se3+ Sg4 2.Sf5 Sf6# Three sets of variations with interesting pinning and unpinning.

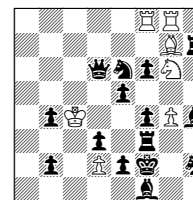
R48 1.Kxe5 Sg3 (Sxd6?) 2.Rd5 (Bd5?) Bf4#, 1.Kxe4 Sg4 (Sxc4?) 2.Bd5 (Rd5?) Rf4#.

R49 a) 1.Sxg4 Bxf6 2.Sxf6 Sxf4 3.Sd5 Sxd3#, b) 1.Bxg5 Sxf4 2.Bxf4 Bxf6 3.Bh6 Bh4# Zilahi with annihilations to open lines.

R50 1.Rxa4+ Sf4 2.Ra5 Se6 3.Bb7 Sc7#, 1.e1B+ Sg3 2.Ba5 Se4 3.d5 Sc5#, 1.Qd8+ Sf6 2.Qa5 Sd7 3.Bb7 Sb8# The theme: An initially free white piece is pinned on the first move. The piece is later unpinned and gives mate.

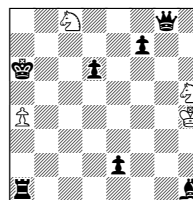
R51 1.gxf6 Qxf7 2.Sc3 (Sb4?, Sxb6?) Qxb3#, 1.Rxf6 Qf5 2.Sb4 (Sc3?, Sxb6?) Qb5#, 1.Shxf6 Qh1 2.Sxb6 (Sc3?, Sb4?) Qc6# Dual avoidance.

R49 Gerard Smits
1st Prize
Garai-75JT 2010



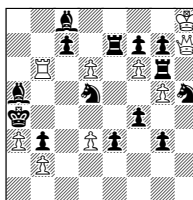
h#3 b) Pg4→g5 (7+15)

R50 Aleksandr
Semenenko, 1st Prize
Garai-75JT T.T. 2010



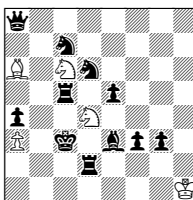
h#3 3 sols. (4+7)

R51 Viktor Chepizhny
1st Prize
Orbit 2009-I



h#2 3 sols. (9+14)

R52 Christopher Jones
1st Prize
Problemblad 2008



h#3 b) Ba6→f1 (5+11)

R52 a) e4 Bf1 2.Sc4 Se2+ 3.Kd3 Sb4#, b) 1.Sd5 Ba6 2.Rd3 Sb5+ 3.Kc4 Sa5# Unusual twinning where the twin becomes first move in the other solution.

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