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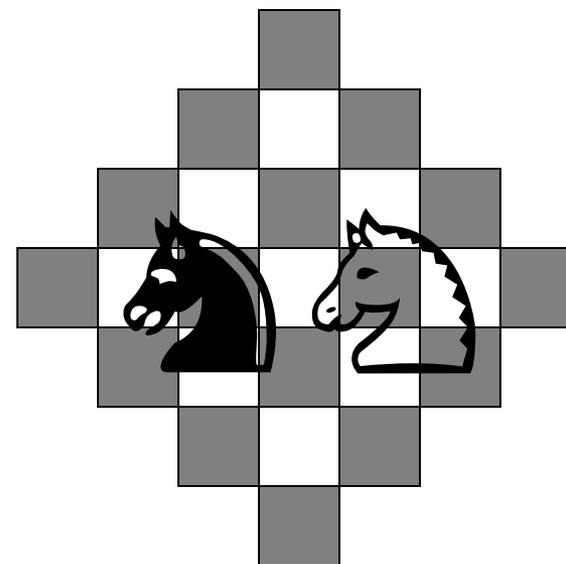
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StrateGems



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SG11

U.S.

CHESS

PROBLEM

MAGAZINE

Good Companions Meeting (October 6-7-8, 2000)

The yearly meeting of U.S. Chess Composers, The Good Companions, has been scheduled for the first week in October, 2000. The meeting will take place in Indianapolis, IN instead of Rockford, IL, as previously announced. The meeting place is Signature Inn, 10201 N.Meridian Street, IN 46280 (phone: 317-816-1616). The rates are: \$99.00/night plus tax. Please note that ONLY rooms with 1 king-size bed are available.

10/6 Friday. Informal get-together, introductions (for new members), socializing, etc.

10/7 Saturday. All day at Conference Room (CR) in Signature Inn. Formal meeting.

10/8 Sunday. (9:00 a.m. till noon) at CR. Wrap-up business and depart. If any of you would like more info, please contact Dan Meinking.

Just Published

Petkov, Selected Compositions, by Mike Prcic

This 240-page book contains some 550 compositions (#2, #3, #n, Helpmates, Selfmates, Fairies), most of them awarded. It is written in FIDE Album format with three diagrams per page. It is a tribute to one of the most talented and prolific composers (over 6000 published compositions, 200 in FIDE Albums) in the world. The book also contains biographical information and photographs. The language is English with some pertinent information translated into French and German. Cost: \$25.00 (shipping included). Send your orders to: StrateGems, 2613 Northshore Lane, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

Andernach 2000

by Mike Prcic

The traditional yearly meeting of German problemists took place the first week of June. The site was again the medieval town of Andernach. More than fifty people attended, most of them from Germany. The meeting site was changed to a different restaurant from last year, located on the same street. It seemed to have more space. Zdravko Maslar did most of the organizing and work, and bernd ellinghoven and Hans Gruber made us all comfortable. The atmosphere was friendly and casual. Activities included the usual solving competition, a composing tourney (problems using sentinels), and several presentations. With Noam's permission, I pitched his new fairy condition, "PatCh" (see page 175). PatCh created lots of interest. However, the most important part of the meeting, for me, was to see old friends and spend time discussing our new (and sometimes old) problems. Where else can one spend hours at the table with Rehm, Lindgren, Caillaud, Rice, Widlert, Müller, Gamnitzer, and Maeder--to mention just a few! In my free time, I took long walks along the Rhine and in the town. The main plaza is where many activities take place. The cafes are always full of people, and the beer seems to flow endlessly. If you have never visited Andernach, I recommend it strongly. It is a short train ride from Frankfurt. You will have a great time, and you will want to return year after year.

Selfmate Award – 1998

by Edgar Holladay

Standards were high in the selfmate section, and there was much to choose from. Unfortunately, anticipations have eliminated two of the better twomovers. **S0008** (Fomichev) is anticipated by the diagrammed Avner problem, and **S0023** (Rudenko & Chepizhny) by the diagrammed Harley problem.

Harley (Complete block)

Set: 1...e4 2.Ng2, 1...Ke4 2.Qxf7;

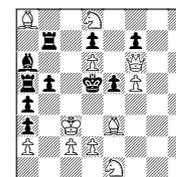
Key: **1.Kb4!** (zz), 1...e4 2.Kc3, 1...Ke4 2.Kc5

Avner

Set: 1...Rxe3 2.Bf7+, 1...Nxe3 2.c4+, 1...Rf4 2.Qd4+, 1...Nf4 2.Qe6+; Key: **1.Qf4!** (2.Rxf5+, 1...Nxf4 2.Bf7+, 1...Rxf4 2.c4+, 1...Re3 2.Qe5+, 1...Ne3 2.Qc4+

Brian Harley
Honorable Mention

British Chess Fed. 1950-51



S#2

(11+10)

Uri Avner
1st Prize

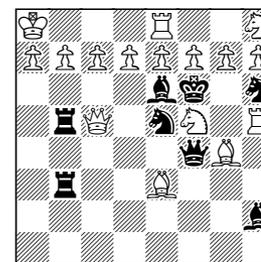
Problem 1956



S#2

(13+11)

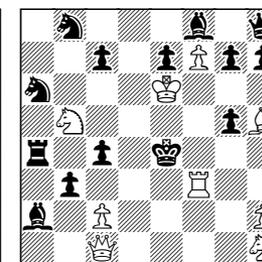
1st Prize
Janos Csák & David Durham
StrateGems 1998



S#12

(16+8)

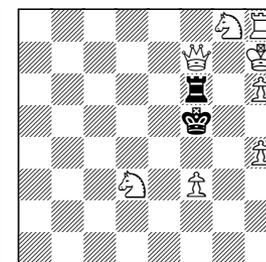
2nd Prize
Wenelin Alaikow
StrateGems 1998



S#6

(9+14)

3rd Prize
Pavlos Moutecidis
StrateGems 1998



S#16*

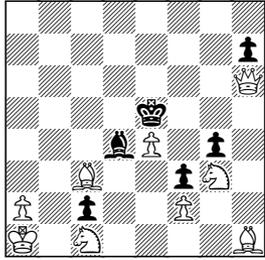
(8+2)

1st Prize – (Janos Csák & David Durham – S0034) Many existing high-quality selfmates feature strings of promotions by white Pawns arrayed on the seventh rank. Six of the eight promotions in this admirable example are to Knight, three at the beginning of the solution and three at the end. The two promotions to Queen in the middle of the solution are surrounded by moves adding to the problem's difficulty. **1.g8N+!** Nxg8 2.fxg8N+ Bxg8 3.hxg8N+ Ke6 4.Qc6+ Nxc6 5.Ng7+ Kd6 6.d8Q+ Nxd8 7.exd8Q+ Kc6 8.Bd7+ Kd6 9.Bc8+ Kc6 10.b8N+ Rxb8+ 11.axb8N+ Rxb8+ 12.cxb8N+ Qxb8#

2nd Prize – (Wenelin Alaikow – S0020) In the threat and after 1...Nb4 and 1...g4, identical sequences of black King switchbacks are forced by different white moves, the overall effect being one of extensive changed play. The 1...g4 is followed by another sequence of black King switchbacks.) **1.Rg3!** (2.Qe1+ Kf4 3.Qf1+ Ke4 4.Nf2+ Kf4 5.Nd3+ Ke4 6.Nc5+ Nxc5#), 1...Nb4 2.Re3+ Kf4 3.Rxb3+ Ke4 4.Re3+ Kf4 5.Rc3+ Ke4 6.Rxc4+ Bxc4#, 1...g4 2.Rxg4+ Kf3 3.Rxg7+ Ke4 4.Rg4+ Kf3 5.Rg5+ Ke4 6.Re5+ Qxe5#

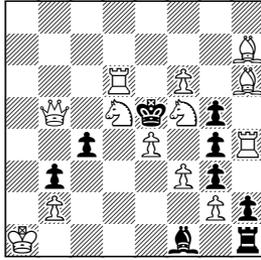
3rd Prize – (Pavlos Moutecidis – S0035) An immediate set mate is abandoned in favor of play of great length and difficulty. Set: 1...Rxf7#, **1.Qd7+!** Re6 2.Ne7+ Kf6 3.Nd5+ Kf5 4.N5f4 Kf6 5.Nh5+ Kf5 6.Kg8 Kg6 7.N3f4+ Kf5 8.Rh7 Ke5 9.Nd3+ Kf5 10.Kh8 Kg6 11.Qe8+ Kf5 12.Ng3+ Kf6 13.Rf7+ Kg6 14.Nf4+ Kxb6 15.Rf6+ Rxf6 16.Qf8+ Rxf8#

1st Honorable Mention
Janos Csák
StrateGems 1998



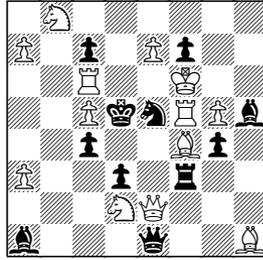
S#6 (9+6)

2nd Honorable Mention
Dan Meinking &
David L. Brown
StrateGems 1998



S#3 (13+9)

3rd Honorable Mention
Evgeniy Fomichev
& Yuri Gordian
StrateGems 1998



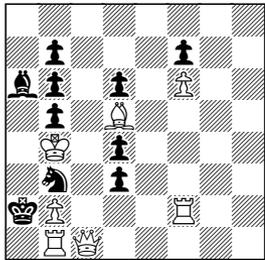
S#4 (13+11)

1st Honorable Mention – (Janos Csák – S0029) An immediate mate is set both in the diagram and after 1...gxf3. During the play, the black King and the black Bishop exchange places, and the tempo move 4.Bb2 comes as a surprise. **1.Bxf3!** gxf3 2.Nh5 Kxe4 3.Qe6+ Be5 4.Bb2 h6 5.Bd4 Kxd4 6.Qc4+ Kxc4#

2nd Honorable Mention – (Dan Meinking & David L. Brown – S0001) Three white lines are opened and subsequently closed--a theme drawn attention to by a recent WCCT. **1.Rc6!** (2.Nc3+ Kf4 3.Ne2+ Bxe2#), 1...gxh4 2.f4+ Kxe4 3.Qxc4+ (Rxc4+?) Bxc4#, 1...gxf3 2.Nf4+ Kxe4 3.Rxc4+ (Qxc4+?) Bxc4#, 1...c3 2.Nb4+ Kf4 3.Nd3+ Bxd3#

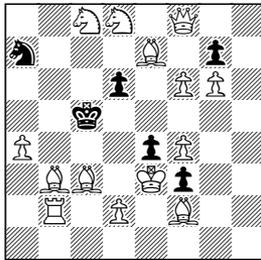
3rd Honorable Mention – (Evgeniy Fomichev & Yuri Gordian – S0010) Black interferences on line a1---e5 are combined with white half-pinning. In each mainplay, the moving half-pinned white man is finally sacrificed by White's third move. **1.a8Q!** (2.Rd6+ Kxc5 3.Rd5+ Kb6 4.Nd7+ Nxd7#), 1...c3 2.Rxe5+ Kd4 3.Rd5+ Kxd5 4.Qe5+ Qxe5#, or 1...Kd4 2.Bxe5+ Kd5 3.Bd4+ Kxd4 4.Qe5+ Qxe5#

4th Honorable Mention
Ulrich Auhagen &
Manfred Zucker
StrateGems 1998



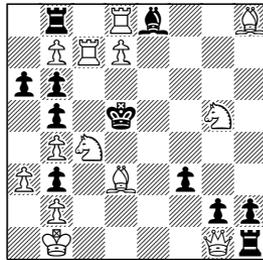
S#8 (7+10)

5th Honorable Mention
Vladislav Bunka
StrateGems 1998



S#5 four wBs (14+6)

6th Honorable Mention
Leonid Makaronez
StrateGems 1998



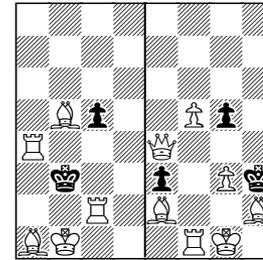
S#4 (13+11)

4th Honorable Mention – (Ulrich Auhagen & Manfred Zucker – S0033) Four switchbacks are complemented by pinning and unpinning of black force. **1.Qd1!** d2 2.Ra1+ Kxb2 3.Rb1+ Ka2 4.Qc1 d3 5.Bxf7 d5 6.Ra1+ Nxa1 7.Rxd2+ Nc2+ 8.Kc3 b4#

5th Honorable Mention – (Vladimir Bunka – S0019) A frolic making good use of promoted white Bishops. Two model mates. **1.Bf7!** Nxc8 2.Bxd6+ Nxd6 3.Qe7 gxf6 4.Qe5+ fxe5 5.Bd4+ exd4#, 1...gxf6 2.Nxa7 f5 3.Bc4 Kxc4 4.Rb5 d5 5.Ba5 d4#, 1...Nc6 2.Kxe4+ Nd4 3.d3 gxf6 4.Be3 f2 5.Rxf2 f5#

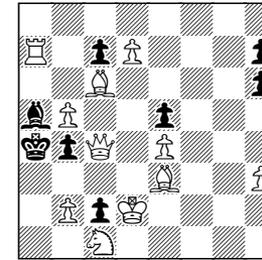
6th Honorable Mention – (Leonid Makaronez – S0016) Matching promotions. White third moves thematically close white lines. **1.Bf5!** (2.Qd1+), 1...hxg1B 2.dxe8B+ Rxd8 3.Bc6+ Kxc4 4.Be4+ Bc5#, 1...hxg1N 2.dxe8N+ Rxd8 3.Nf6+ Kd4 4.Nxf3+ Nxf3#
Commented problems are given in order of their appearance.

Commented
Mark Kirtley
StrateGems 1998



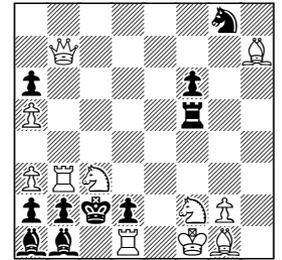
(5+2) S#5 (7+3)

Commented
Mike Prcic
StrateGems 1998



S#8 (11+8)

Commented
Alex Markevitch
StrateGems 1998



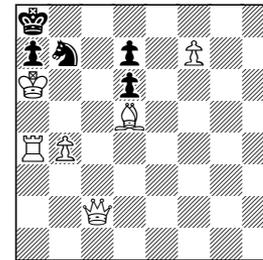
S#5 (11+10)

Commented – (Mark Kirtley – S0005) Letter problem (SG). Play of interest includes white Bishop switchbacks on the right. "S" **1.Rb2+!** Kc3 2.Ra2+ Kb3 3.Bb2 c4 4.Ra1 c3 5.Bc1 c2#, "G" **1.Kh1!** g4 2.Bg1 Kxg3 3.Qe7! Kh3 4.Bh2 g3 5.Bg1 g2#

Commented – (Mike Prcic – S0006) Subtle shepherding of black Pawns down the board. **1.d8B!** h5 2.Bh4 h6 3.Bb6 cxb6 4.Bf2 h4 5.Rf7 h5 6.Rf4 exf4 7.Ke1 f3 8.Qf1 b3#

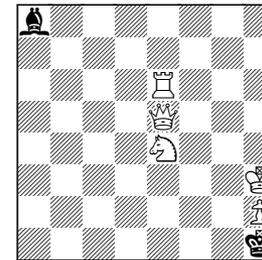
Commented – (Alex Markevitch – S0011) It is not easy to see how to bring the white-square black Bishop into play. **1.Qb4!** Nh6 2.Qa4 Nf7 3.Rb5+ Kxc3 4.Qb3+ Kd4 5.Qd3+ Bxd3# and 1...Ne7 2.Qxe7 Kxb3 3.Qb4+ Kc2 4.Nxa2 Bxa2 5.Qc4+ Bxc4#

Commented
Alex Markevitch
StrateGems 1998



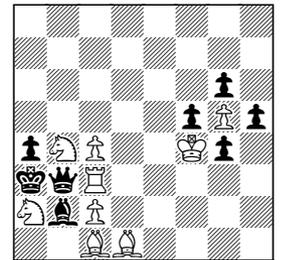
S#8 (6+5)

Commented
Frank Müller
StrateGems 1998 (v)



S#9 (5+2)

Commented
Mike Prcic
StrateGems 1998



R#2 (9+8)

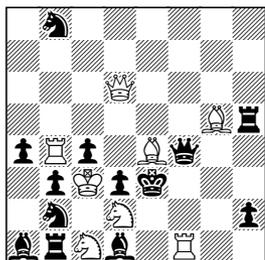
Commented – (Alex Markevitch – S0012) The black Knight is pinned on lines d5---a8, b5--b8, and a4---a7. **1.Ra5!** Kb8 2.Rb5 Ka8 3.f8B Kb8 4.Bxd6+ Ka8 5.Rb6 axb6 6.Kb5 Ka7 7.Qa4+ Na5 8.Bc6 dxc6#

Commended – (Frank Müller – S0013) In miniature, the black King shuttles between g1 and f3, and the black Bishop makes a critical move to h1. (In the original diagram the white Queen was on f6). **1.Ng3+!** Kg1 2.Qa1+ Kf2 3.Qd4+ Kf3 4.Qg4+ Kf2 5.Qe2+ Kg1 6.Qd1+ Kf2 7.Nh1+ Bxh1 8.Qe1+ Kf3 9.Qh4 Bg2#

Commended – (Mike Prcic – S0022) Three of the mates are given by the black Queen moving along its pin-line. **1.Bxg4!** (zz), 1...Bxc1+ 2.Re3 Qxe3#, 1...Qxc3 2.Bf3 Qe5#, 1...-hxg4 2.Rf3 Qxf3#, 1...h4 2.Rg3 Qxg3#

Commended – (György Bakcsi – S0025) Two of the tries by the e4 Bishop are defeated by black moves unpinning the black Queen. 1.Ba8? Nc6!, 1.Bh7? Rxh7!, Bh1? Bf3! To avoid shut-offs of the wB:1.Bxd3? cxd3? 2.Qxd3+, 1...Rxc1+! And now he must avoid shutting-off his wQ:1.Bd5? Rxg5! 1.Bf5? Qxg5! So, **1.Bg6!** (2.Nxc4+ Nxc4#), 1...Qxg5 2.Qe5+, 1...Rxg5 2.Qd4+.

Commended
György Bakcsi
StrateGems 1998



S#2 √√... (8+13)



Among a number of better-than-average problems not quite reaching Commendation level, but worth second looks, were **S0007** (Brown), **S0018** (Bales), **S0026** (Selivanov/Kirilov), and **S0032** (Makaronez); in the last of these, the key Rook should start on h1.

We would like to thank Edgar for his usual thorough and expedient work. A job well done! All claims by 1/1/2001 to Milan Vukceovich.

StrateGems 1998 Helpmate Awards

by Toma Garai

There were many entries (107), remarkable for a first tourney of a new publication. Although there were many good problems, making it enjoyable reading material, I questioned the wisdom of separating them by length due to a lack of balance. Yet, comparing twomovers with moremovers usually makes a subjective process even more arbitrary and that consideration tipped the balance. The H#2's totaled 47, H#3's 34 and H#n's 26 entries. Only one entry was eliminated: No. **H0094** for illegal position. A correction was published in 1999, so its participation is transferred to that year. Anticipations of different degrees do not eliminate a problem, but reduce its value, just as a zero-position does (lack of wK would also not eliminate a problem, just transfer it from the Helpmate section to the Fairy section). Evaluating the impact of anticipation is one of the thorniest parts of judging, as it may alter considerably the outcome. Let's mention a few interesting problems which just missed the award because of this. **H0014** (Fadil Abdurahmanović) improves the consecutive Grimshaws by cutting back half a move and making it a Meredith. Yet the idea was shown often, ending with double checks and once even in single check mates: D. Durbin, *Northwest Chess*, 2nd Pr. 1975 (!), wKh7 Rh3 Bg2 Pd5 h4 – bKb4 Ba2 Na3 e4 Pb3 d2 d6 e2 e5 f2 f7 g4 (5+12), H#4, 2 sol. I. 1.e1B Bf3 2.Kc3 Bxg4+ 3.Kc2 Rf3 4.Kd1 Rc3#, II. 1.Kc5 Rf3 2.Kxd5 Rxf2+ 3.Ke6 Bf3 4.Kf5 Bd5#. **H0030** (David Brown) adds interesting line clearances to the difficult Karpati theme of tempo promotions with antiduals. However, the same idea was used more economically, without twinning, with the Zilahi theme: Anatoly Stepochkin, *Sahmatnaya Kompozycja* 1995, wKh1 Na3 Bc5 g6 Pd4 – bKc6 Pc4 d5 e2 e6 (5+5), H#3, 2 sol. I. 1.e1N Be4 2.dxe Nc2 3.Kd5 Nb4#, II. 1.e1B Nc4 2.dxc Bh5 3.Kd5 Bf3#. **H0053** (Christer Jonsson & Viktor Bene). This matrix, of total transfer

of orthogonal-diagonal play with reciprocal functions on both sides, is an improvement on the similar idea by Viktor Bene (*Springaren* 1995) and N.Vasjuchko (*Suomen Tehtäväniekat* 1996), where the captures are on adjacent squares. Others in this group were **H0017**, **H0024**, **H0027**, **H0032**, **H0039** and **H0044**. Readers will do what a judge can't: step over the anticipation aspects and simply enjoy these nice problems at face value.

I wish to thank Živko Janevski, Hans Gruber and others, as well as the editor and participants, who made this event possible.

1st Prize C.J.Feather "The American Dream" StrateGems 1998	H#2 SECTION	2nd Prize Fadil Abdurahmanović StrateGems 1998	1st Honorable Mention Petko A. Petkov StrateGems 1998
H#2 2 solutions (5+12)	H#2 2 solutions (11+8)	H#2 b) Pd3→b4 (6+10)	

1st Prize – (C.J. Feather - H0004) I don't know about the motto, but it's a very original concept. Black must vacate the focal points, producing self-interferences, which determine White's play. The line clearances are only apparent. Clear-cut and economical. I. 1.Ng6 Bxh6 (Rxc4?) 2.Re3 Ng5#, II. 1.Nd3 Rxc4 (Bxh6?) 2.Be4 Nd4#

2nd Prize – (Fadil Abdurahmanović - H0048) Captures and interferences for battery formations, to allow bK to move to a doubly defended square, are well-known even with three solutions, but the insertion of pin-mates rejuvenates the whole idea. I. 1.Qxd4 Rf7 2.Kxc4 Rf4#, II. 1.Rxd4 Bg3 2.Kxc3 Be5#

1st Honorable Mention – (Petko Petkov - H0080) Two interferences on focal points, d6 and g4, by White and Black, for different reasons. Coordinated annihilations for battery creation. Powerful long line strategy (typical for this author) without cookstoppers! a) 1.Nd6 Rxd4 2.Kxd4 Ng4# b) 1.Rdg4 Nxc4+ 2.Kxc4 Rd6#

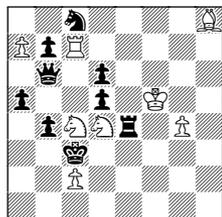
2nd Honorable Mention Gennady Chumakov StrateGems 1998	1st Commended Imre Racz StrateGems 1998	2nd Commended Michal Dragoun StrateGems 1998
H#2** 2 solutions (8+8)	H#2 2 solutions (7+5)	H#2 2 solutions (5+13)

2nd Honorable Mention – (Genady Chumakov - H0026) Although the black moves must be very limited, given the concept, there is a wonderfully original pair of Zilahi combinations in a double set-play/solution format, with model mates. Set: 1.....Be7 2.Ke6 Bc4# 1..Bxc6+ 2.Kc4 Ne5# Play: 1.Qxg6! Ba4 2.Qe4 Bxb3# 1.cxb5! gxh5! 2.Kc6 Ne7#

1st Commended – (Imre Racz - H0075) Hidden antidual effects produced by seemingly similar key moves. I. 1.dNxe6 Ng4 (Nd3?) 2.Nc7 Qe3#, II. 1.fNxe6 Nd3 (Ng4?) 2.Nc5 Be5#

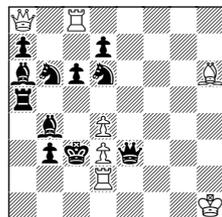
2nd Commended – (Michal Dragoun - H0083) This judge started this idea about 20 years ago. Zilahi offerings to sidetrack a defender, is presented here with a nice pair of indirect batteries. One could wish for less black material to match the excellent white economy. I. 1.Re5 Bxe2 2.Nxe2 Rxc6#, II. 1.Be5 Rxc2 2.Nxc2 Bg4#

3rd Commended
Dan Meinking
StrateGems 1998



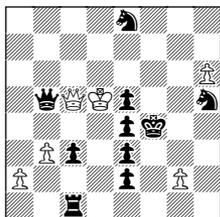
H#2 6 solutions (8+9)

4th Commended
György Bakcsi
StrateGems 1998



H#2 2 solutions (7+11)

5th Commended
Edgar Holladay
StrateGems 1998



H#2 b) Pe3→g5 (6+10)
c/d) bK→g8/c2

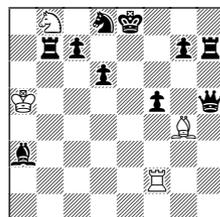
3rd Commended – (Dan Meinking - H0006) Nice to see all these known solutions under one roof. They were shown in different pairings, usually up to quadruplets; however, here we have sextuplets. Congratulations to the father! I. 1.Qc6 Nxc6 2.Kxc4 Nd4#, II. 1.Re5+ Nxe5 2.Kxd4 Nc4#, III. 1.Qxa7 Nc6+ 2.Kxc4 Nxa7#, IV. 1.Rxg4 Ne5+ 2.Kxd4 Nxg4#, V. 1.Qb5 Nc6+ 2.Kxc4 Nxa5#, VI. 1.Re3 Ne5+ 2.Kxd4 Nf3#

4th Commended – (György Bakcsi - H0047) Although bQ line clearance-pinning has often been used, adding clearances to both sides is an original twist one should appreciate, because it hides the intention better. The author himself showed this earlier in *The Problemist* 1997, where wQ was paired with a wB. This new interpretation is better because it eliminates the twinning and has some more attractive details. I. 1.Qxd4 Rxc6+ (Qxc6+?) 2.Qc5 Qh8#, II. 1.Qxd3 Qxc6+ (Rxc6+?) 2.Qc4 Qf3#

5th Commended – (Edgar Holladay - H0005) Consecutive unpins in a task format. Yet again, the idea is familiar and the twins are heavy. a) 1.Qd7+ Qd6 2.Qg4 Qxe5#. b) 1.Qd3+ Qd4 2.Qg3 Qxe4#. c) 1.Qb7+ Qc6 2.Qh7 Qxe8#. d) 1.Qxb3+ Qc4 2.Qb1 Qxe2#

6th Commended – (Zoran Gavrilovski & C.J.Feather - H0079) This matrix is like chocolate: well known yet always enjoyable. The novelty here would be that all three preventive line interferences are done by bPs, which simultaneously open a black line. And there are no cook-stoppers! It would have ended on a higher level if not for the discrepancy in c), where the key move is needed also for giving up the mating square and interference with Ba3. a) 1.d5 Bxf5 2.Be7 Bd7# b) 1.g5 Rxf5 2.Re7 Rf8# c) 1.c5 Nxf5 2.Re7 Nxd6# Compare this for instance with T. Szabo, 2nd Pr. *Schachmatna Kompozycja* 1982, wKc5 Rd5 Bb5 a7 Ne2 – bKe1 Qh3 Rd8 f8 Ba1 Na3 Pb4 d4 (5+8) H#2 b)/c). wNe2→d1/f2 a). 1.Nb1 Nxd4 2.Nc3 Nc2# b) 1.Rf3 Bxd4 2.Rc3 Bf2 c) 1.Rc8 Rx4 2.Rc3 Rd1#. Note that the antidual effects here remain pure: giving up the mating square.

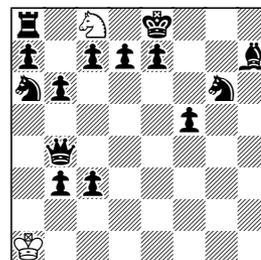
6th Commended
Z.Gavrilovski & C.J.Feather
StrateGems 1998



H#2 (4+10)
b/c) Nb8→d7/e7

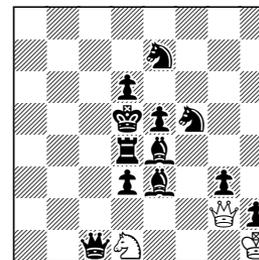
H#3-n SECTION

Prize
Gianni Donati
StrateGems 1998



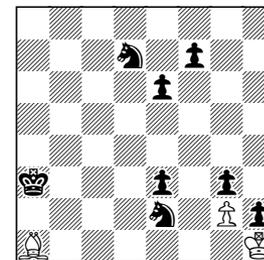
H#4 (2+14)

1st Honorable Mention
Unto Heinonen
StrateGems 1998



H#3 2 solutions (3+12)

2nd Honorable Mention
Fadil Abdurahmanović
StrateGems 1998



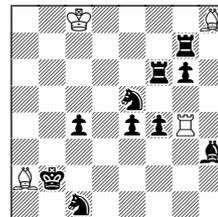
H#7 2 solutions (3+8)

Prize – (Gianni Donati - H0016) A rare case where a retro problem managed to stand out in a H# field. The minimal white force can stir up some quite strategic play in the try and solution, from castling and switchback to tempo move. Hard to solve. Note how black first move in try stops white tempo move for dual avoidance. Try: 1.Qe4 Nxe7 2.Qb7 Nxg6! 3.0-0-0?? Kb1 4.Nb8 Ne7#. But since all 8 Black pawns, and bBh7, are present, wNc8 must have entered via d6, checking the black King, thereby making 0-0-0 illegal! Solution: 1.c6 Nxe7 2.Rd8 Nc8! 3.Qf8 Kb1 4.Ne7 Nd6#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Unto Heinonen - H0093) White is “totally” pinned, leading to unexpected Zilahi theme offerings. Yet the first and second unpins are unbalanced, and are known from different matrices that it can be done with better consistency. Most disturbing was the capture of a pinning piece (with square clearance), versus a direct unpin (with square blocking) in the other solution. 1.Bf4 Qxe4+ 2.Kxe4 Kg2 3.Qe3 Nc3# 1.Qc5 Nf2 2.gxf2 Kxh2 3.Nc6 Qg8#

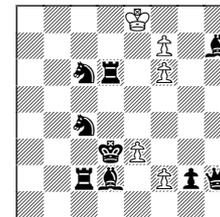
2nd Honorable Mention – (Fadil Abdurahmanović - H0018) Unrelated but hard-to-crack solutions. Note that bN can't go through d4 to f3 because white needs a tempo across the board. An Excelsior in one and a King's battery formation in other, are filled in with antidual elements. 1.Ng1! Bh8! 2.Nf3 gxf3 3.Kb4 f4 4.Kc5 f5 5.Kd6 fxe6 6.Ke7 exd7 7.Kf8 d8Q#. 1.Nf4 Bd4! 2.Nxg2 Kxg2 3.Ka2 Kf3 4.h1B+ Kxe3 5.Be4 Kd2 6.Bb1 Kc3 7.Ka1 Kb3#

3rd Honorable Mention
Janos Csák
StrateGems 1998



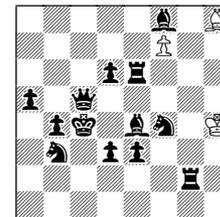
H#3 (4+10)
b) Pe4→d6 c) Pe4→g3

1st Commended
V.Chernov & I.Kavnatsky
StrateGems 1998



H#3 2 solutions (5+9)

2nd Commended
Janos Csák
StrateGems 1998



H#3 3 solutions (3+13)

3rd Honorable Mention – (Janos Csák - H0091) Cyclic functions of unpin, blocking and capturing. Note the antidual element in c), Rxf4 instead of Rxg6. Difficult undertaking, yet a bit of rough play and similar double-check endings. a) 1.Nd7 Rxg6 2.Ra6 Rxg7 3.Ra3 Rg2# b) 1.Re6 Rg5 2.Ra7 Rxe5 3.Ra3 Re2# c) 1.Rd7 Rxf4 2.Nc4 Rxf6 3.Na3 Rf2#

Many thanks to Chris, Fadil, Christer and Viktor for their prompt reports.

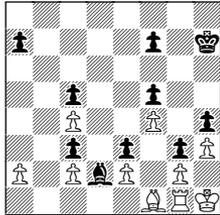
Helpmates (H#2) Award – 1999

by C. J. Feather

1st Commended – (Vladimir Chernous & Isaak Kavnatsky - H0092) Homogenous checking for antidual effects. Yet white play is obvious and the h7 capture out-of-step. 1.Rc3 f8Q 2.Qh5+ Qf7 3.Qe2 Qxh7# 1.Be4 f8N 2.Qe5+ Ne6 3.Qc3 Nf4#

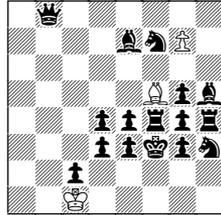
2nd Commended – (Janos Csák - H0056) On the plus side, this problem is twinless, on the minus side it has two incidental captures and ends with double checks. 1.Rg8 fxg8R 2.Kd5 Rg7 3.Ke5 Rg5# 1.Bh6 f8R 2.Bd5 Rf6 3.Kd4 Rxf4# 1.Re8 fxe8R 2.Rd2 Re5 3.Kc3 Rxc5# Compare with J. Korponal, *Schach-Echo* 1980, which employs twinning, yet is homogenous and ends with pin-mates: wKb6 Bb7 Pb5 c5 d4 d7 e3 f4 – bKh1 Qh5 Rd8 g1 Ba2 f8 Nb3 g4 Pe4 f5 f6 h2 h3 (8+8) H#3, b)/c) Pe4→d5/c6, a) 1.Rc8 dxc8R 2.Nxc5 b) 1.Ra8 d8R 2.Nxd4 c) 1.Re8 dxe8R 2.Nxe3

3rd Commended
Ramo Ljevaković
StrateGems 1998



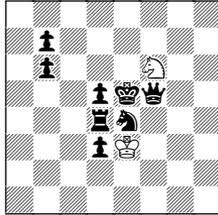
H#16 (9+11)

4th Commended
Mykola Nahnybida
StrateGems 1998



H#3 b) Be7→e5 (3+16)

5th Commended
Alexander Toger
StrateGems 1998



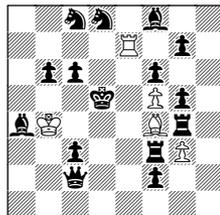
H#4 2 solutions (2+8)

3rd Commended – (Ramo Ljevaković - H0064) Interesting bB maneuver with switchback and Phoenix effect, on the tempo's cutting edge. 1.Be1 a3! 2.Bf2 a4 3.Bxg1 a5 4.Bf2 a6 5.Be1 Kg1 6.Bd2 Kh1 7.Bc1 Kg1 8.Ba3 Kh1 9.Bb4 Kg1 10.Ba5 Kh1 11.Bc7 Kg1 12.Be5 fxe5 13.f4 e6 14.f3 exf7 15.fxe2 f8Q 16.e1B Bd3#

4th Commended – (Mykola Nahnybida - H0095) Offerings of the only officer, to have promoted pieces mate instead. Promotions coordinated with black play, but at a price of twinning and using 16 black pieces. a) 1.Ne5 Bxg4+ 2.Kxg4 g8N 3.Nf3 Nh6# b) 1.Qc8 Bxe4+ 2.Kxe4 g8Q 3.Qf5 Qa8#

5th Commended – (Alexander Toger - H0101) Black, just in time, square-releases for wK tempo Rundlaufs and reversal of Q-R positions for interferences. White play is forced. 1.Rc4 Kxd3 2.Rc6 Ke2 3.Re6 Ke3 4.Nd6 Nd7# 1.Qe6 Kf3 2.Nd6 Kf2 3.Rf4+ Ke3 4.Rf5 Ng4#

6th Commended
M.Prcic &
F.Abdurahmanović
StrateGems 1998



H#3 1/2 * (5+15)

6th Commended – (Mike Prcic & Fadil Abdurahmanović - H0097) This problem shows a beautiful triple switchback collection, where the wK switchback in one phase is a novelty. Set: 1.Kd4 Be5+ 2.Ke4 Kc4 3.Ke3+ Bf4# Play: 1....Ka3 2.Kc5 Re5+ 3.Kd6 Kb4 4.Kc7+ Re7# Yet, the bK unpins and sidesteppings are known with even a secondary unpin (T. Garai, *Die Schwalbe* 3.H.M. 1983, wKe7 Rb4 Be3 Pb3 b5 f4 – bKd5 Qc3 Rd3 e2 Ba3 Nf3 g4 Pa5 b2 d4 f2 f6 f7 g7 (6+14) H#3, 2 sol. I. 1.Kc5 Rxd4 2.Kxb5+ Rd6 3.Kb4 Rb6#, II. 1.Ke4 Bxd4 2.Kxf4+ Be5+ 3.Ke3 Bf4#). The cross checks, when the bK steps in double-check mate position, was used even more often in two movers (!). The first was by G. Bakcsi in *Tipografia* Ty. 3rd Pr. 1963, but with a peculiar twin, so the first clean presentation goes to D. Muller, *Schach* 1970, wKb3 Re6 Bf3 Nc8 – bKd4 Rh3 Bf7 Nd1 f6 Pb5 d2 d7 e4 f2 (4+10) H#2, b) Nc8→e1 a) 1.Kd5 Rxe4 2.Kc6+ Rc4#, b) 1.Ke3 Bxe4 2.Ke2+ Bd3#. Note that getting switchbacks is just a matter of controlling another square. Along the years these appealing matrixes were repeated often in the same, or similar fashion.

If there is any justification for informal tournaments it is that they help to maintain a high standard of originals. In the case of a new magazine, it is more a matter of setting a standard, in default of which composers will be too inclined to contribute only their weaker compositions. That did indeed happen in this tourney: there are some well-known names to be found above some very indifferent works! A variable level of quality is an inevitable part of the adolescent stage for a new publication, and *StrateGems* is already well on the way to adulthood. A rather more selective editorial policy and the cultivation of a perceptive band of solver-commentators will be vital elements in speeding the process. (A decision to join the rest of the problem world in using S, not N, for knight would also help!) The essential point to bear in mind is that publication in *StrateGems* should be an honor in itself.

Consequently I make no apology for selecting only 7 problems out of 68 (including one H#1 1/2) to feature in this award. Many of the competing problems lacked originality, balance and/or content, offering only familiar schemes, heterogeneous play and/or colorless moves. As it would be unkind to cite examples of such works, I prefer to point out a few which, although not of award quality, exemplify the good ordinary standard below which the best columns rarely sink. Such are No. **H0117** (Jonsson), No. **H0149** (Green)--encouraging work from a young composer--No. **H0156** (Babic) and No. **H0202** (Pevsner). The last mentioned might have earned a Commendation if the same effects had not already been shown by M. Dragoun (*feenschach* 1993).

Those awards which quote rafts of comparison problems in an attempt to cover all bases do not appeal to me very much. I have checked the problems in my own H#2 collection and shall be happy to answer any queries from composers (my address: 10 Tinwell Road, Stamford PE9 2QQ England). However, a few comments about anticipation are needed.

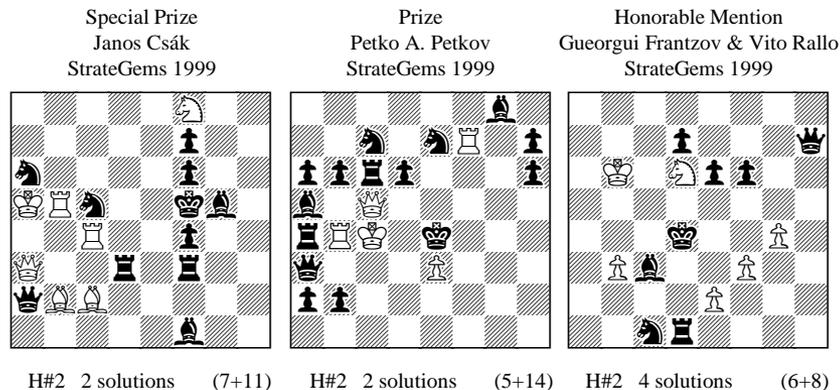
First, the case of V. Kopaev. As readers may know, his self-plagiarisms have already been the subject of articles in *Springaren* and *feenschach*, and the columns of the former have now been closed to him (issue 79, p. 209). As he is far from being a novice composer who might have some excuse, I prefer not to grant him further coverage by going into details. Suffice it to say that 11 published problems of his similar to No. **H0165** are known to me, and I should be amazed if there were not more. Column editors must decide for themselves when to ban composers with such propensities but it is clearly a step which the editor of *Springaren* (Kjell Widlert) would not take lightly. The obviously unintentional lapse into self-plagiarism by the veteran composer of No. **H0154** is quite another matter and readily excusable.

A different kind of problem was presented by No. **H0121**, partly anticipated by one of my own works. It is always hard to make objective decisions involving one's own compositions so I am grateful for the help of FIDE judges Michael McDowell and John Rice in assessing the degree of the anticipation, though the responsibility for awarding this problem a prize is of course mine.

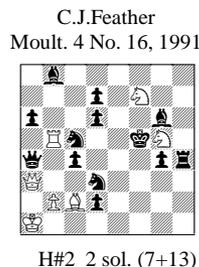
A number of problems which did not quite make it into the award deserve brief comments. The configuration of white pieces in No. **H0159** (Ersek) is now so well-known that, cyclic Zilahi and perfect thematic balance notwithstanding, such a problem cannot carry the extreme black King twinning. No. **H0160** (Petkov) may be original but is so mechanical that I could not persuade myself to include it. The attractive idea of No. **H0201** (Prcic) is unfortunately at least 25 years old. Apparently promising schemes turned out to be flawed in No. **H0233** (Onkoud & Rallo)--unbalanced play and a Bf7 which with a little rearrangement could be a P, showing that the diagonal pin line is spurious; and in No. **H0127** (Dragoun)--this problem

Our thanks to Toma for all his hard work! All claims by 1/1/2001 to Dan Meinking.

could perhaps carry the messy construction or the twice repeated move, but not both. The biggest disappointment, however, came from the otherwise excellent No. **H0120** (Janevski) which would have been in the award but for the useless pin line in one solution.



Special Prize - (Janos Csák - H0121) Certainly this is the best and most intensely thematic work in the tourney. Although it owes a little to a problem of mine (see diagram: I. 1.Qxb5 Qxd3+ 2.Ne4 Qf1#, II. 1.Qxc2 Qxc5+ 2.Ne5 Qf2#) with similar unpins and white Queen play, the strategy is not the same and of course the double pin mates are an added feature. Furthermore, the construction is clearly superior. Having consulted two friends who are expert judges (as mentioned above), I have decided that the effects are sufficiently different to justify a prize, though it seems appropriate to label it a Special Prize to indicate the unusual circumstances. I. 1.Qxb2 Qxc5+ 2.Qe5 Qc8#, II. 1.Qxc4 Qxd3+ 2.Qe4 Qd7#

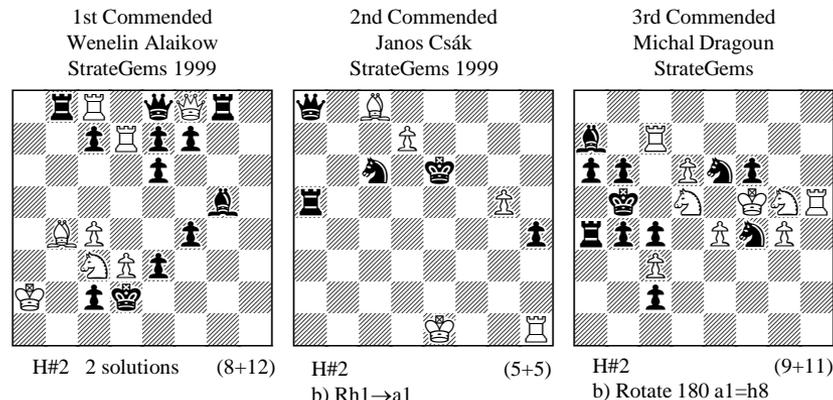


Prize - (Petko Petkov - H0125) The idea of a white royal battery with the King's departures, motivated by the need to unpin, and Black's consequent captures differentiated by his arrival squares, seems original and is strongly thematic. It is not surprising that it necessitates a heavy construction, which in its turn limits the possibilities for Black's first move. The black Queen sacrifices are rather crude, however. I should have been happier if a less violent alternative had been found, perhaps with a dual avoidance effect. I. 1.Qc3+ Kxc3+ 2.Rxb4 Rf4#, II. 1.Qb3+ Kxb3+ 2.Bxb4 Qd4#

Honorable Mention - (Gueorgui Frantzov & Vito Rallo - H0200) The double white ABBA is far from new but is here achieved in a light setting with no twinning and two pairs of solutions in which the black play presents simple analogies. I. 1.Nd3 Nc4 A 2.d5 e3# B, II. 1.Ke5 e3 B 2.Rd5 Nc4# A, III. 1.Kd5 Nf5 C 2.Be5 e4# D, IV. 1.Qd3 e4 D 2.e5 Nf5# C

1st Commended - (Wenelin Alaikow - H0164) The white battery arrangement combined with switchbacks on the back battery pieces has been shown before but the hideaway captures on Black's first move and the line openings on White's first are additions which blend in very well. I. 1.Qxf8! Rdx7 2.Kxd3 Rd7#, II. 1.Rxc8! Bxe7 2.Kxc3 Bb4#

2nd Commended - (Janos Csák - H0150) A simple but attractive work with white castling (for hideaway) and promotion mates in what surprisingly appears to be an original combination. a) 1.Qb8 0-0 (Rf1?) 2.Qe5 d8Q#, b) 1.Ne7 0-0 (Rd1?) 2.Re5 d8N#



3rd Commended - (Michal Dragoun - H0126) Strongly thematic but the mechanical effect is inescapable and the twinning even seems to accentuate it. a) 1.fxf4 Nxf4 2.gxf4 Kxe6#, b) 1.fxe4 Nxd3 2.exd3 Kxc5#

4th Commended - (Gueorgui Frantzov & Vito Rallo - H0124) Here too the effect is rather mechanical, and the combination of black and white half-pins is very well-known. What earns this problem a commendation is the addition of interferences with the black Queen in both directions along the same diagonal. a) 1.Nd3 Nb5 2.Rd6 Nc4#, b) 1.Qd3 Nec4 2.Rc7 Nb5#

Helpmates (H#2½ and H#3) Award – 1999

by Fadil Abdurahmanović

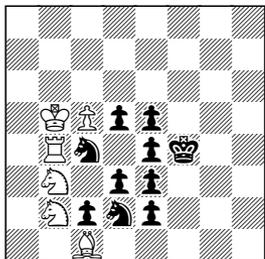
The following compositions participated: SG5 **H0128-H0140**, SG6 **H0167-H0178**, SG7 **H0206-H0215**, SG8 **H0241-H0248**. A total of 43. The quality level of the tourney was pretty high, and I was faced with a difficult task, especially trying to reconcile my classical view of Helpmates with modern trends, for example, the capturing of black pieces. I hope I have at least partially succeeded.

Special thanks to Dan Meinking for his help in preparing the material, which made my job a lot easier.

1st Prize - (Živko Janevski - H0211) Clear and impressive help-play. Very radical effects of capturing white and black pieces, well harmonized. a) 1.Nxb2 Rxe4+ 2.Kxe4 Nxd2+ 3.Kd4 Bxb2#, b) 1.Nxb3 Bxe3+ 2.Kxe3 Nxc4+ 3.Kd3 Rxb3#

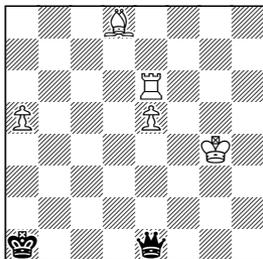
2nd Prize - (Mike Prcic - H0131) An excellent miniature with orthogonal-diagonal effects, complex pinning of the black Queen, line-pinning and then indirect unpinning of the same. A very impressive work or, should we say, "find." I. 1.Qxa5 Ra6 2.Qa2 Ba5 3.Qb1 Bc3#, II. 1.Qxe5 Bf6 2.Qb2 Re5 3.Qa2 Re1#

1st Prize
Živko Janevski
StrateGems 1999



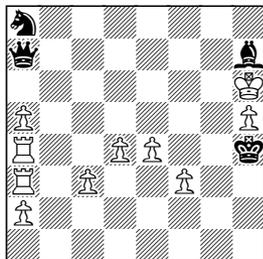
H#3 b) Pd3→d4 (6+10)

2nd Prize
Mike Prcic
StrateGems 1999
Dedicated to Milan Vukcevic



H#3 2 solutions (5+2)

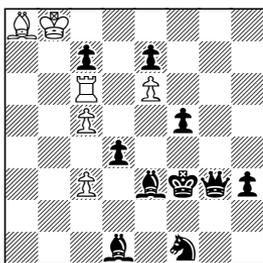
3rd Prize
Petko A. Petkov
StrateGems 1999



H#3 2 solutions (10+4)

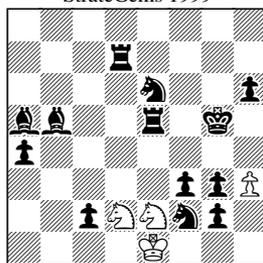
3rd Prize - (Petko Petkov - H0139) Very clear and refined idea well-realized. Typical of the great master. I. 1.Qxd4 f4 2.Qxc3 f5 3.Qh8 e5#, II. 1.Bxe4 c4 2.Bxf3 c5 3.Bb7 d5#

4th Prize
Han Peter Rehm
StrateGems 1999



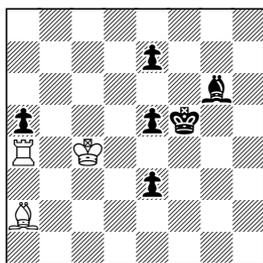
H#3 2 solutions (6+10)

1st Honorable Mention
Janos Csák
StrateGems 1999



H#3 b) Nf2→h2 (4+13)

2nd Honorable Mention
K. Muralidharan
StateGems 1999



H#3 2 solutions (3+6)

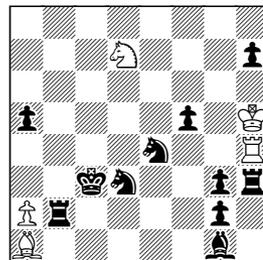
4th Prize - (Hans Peter Rehm - H0176) An original idea; transformation of the white battery by changing the position of the front piece as well as of the black King. The double-check mates are a bit disappointing. I. 1.Bg1 Rb6+ 2.Kf2 Rb7 3.Kg2 Rb2#, II. 1.Qe5 Rd6+ 2.Kf4 Rd5 3.Ke4 Rxd4#

1st Honorable Mention - (Janos Csák - H0212) Unguards and change of self-pin lines give a very attractive impression. a) 1.g1B (g1N?) Kf1 2.Nd3 Nf4 3.Kh4 Nxf3#, b) 1.c1N (c1B?) Kd1 2.Nd4 Nxf3+ 3.Kh5 Nf4#

2nd Honorable Mention - (K. Muralidharan - H0208) Transformation of indirect into direct batteries in a nice setting. I. 1.Bh5 Kc3 2.Bf3 Bc4 3.Ke4 Be6#, II. 1.Be8 Kc5 2.Bd7 Rc4 3.Ke6 Rf4#

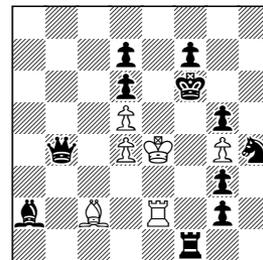
3rd Honorable Mention - (Dan-Constantin Gurgui - H0174) A pleasant potpourri of unpinning of black pieces. I. 1.Kb4 a4 2.Rb3 Bd4 3.Nc3 Bc5#, II. 1.Kc4 Nf6 2.Rb5 Ng4 3.Nec5 Ne3#

3rd Honorable Mention
Dan-Constantin Gurgui
StrateGems 1999



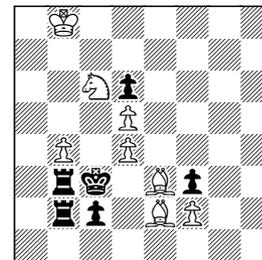
H#3 2 solutions (5+11)

4th Honorable Mention
V.Nefedov & R.Wiehagen
StrateGems 1999



H#3 b) bNg4 (6+11)

5th Honorable Mention
G.Bakcsi & L.Zoltan
StrateGems 1999



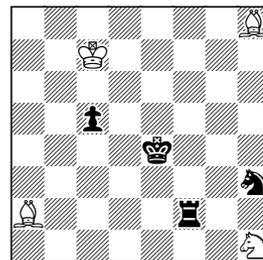
H#3 b) Rb2↔Pc2 (8+6)

4th Honorable Mention - (V. Nefedov & Rolf Wiehagen - H0246) A complex strategy but lacking precision (for example: poor twinning). a) 1.Bxd5+ Ke3 2.Ke6 Bb3 3.Rf6 Kd3#, b) 1.Rf4+ Kd3 2.Kf5 Rf2 3.f6 Ke2#

5th Honorable Mention - (György Bakcsi & Laszlo Zoltan - H0172) A good idea but I am bothered by the dual-prone set-play: a) 1...Ne5 2.R2~ or R3~ Nxf3 3.Rb2 or Rb3 Bd2#, b) 1.c1B b5 2.Rc2 Nb4 3.Bb2 Na2#, b) 1.b1B Ne5 2.Rb2 Nxf3 3.Bc2 Bd2#

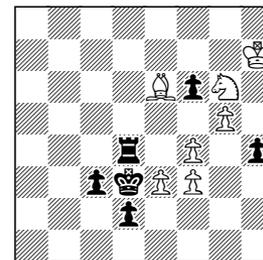
Commendations are listed in order of publication.

Commended
Christer Jonsson
StrateGems 1999



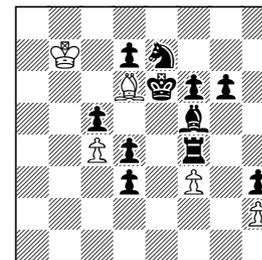
H#3 2 solutions (4+4)

Commended
Valery Barsukov
StrateGems 1999



H#3 2 solutions (7+6)

Commended
John Rice
StrateGems 1999



H#3 2 solutions (5+11)

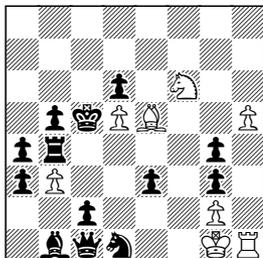
Commended - (Christer Jonsson - H0133) I. 1.Ng5 Bg8 2.Nf7 Nxf2+ 3.Kd5 Bxf7#, II. 1.Nf4 Ba1 2.Rb2 Ng3+ 3.Ke5 Bxb2#

Commended - (Valery Barsukov - H0138) I. 1.fxg5 Bb3 2.gxf4 Bd1 3.fxe3 Ne5#, II. 1.Kxe3 Nf8 2.Kxf4 Bg4 3.Kxg5 Ne6#

Commended - (John Rice - H0140) I. 1.Rh4 Bg3 2.Bg4 f4 3.Kd6 f5#, II. 1.Bg4 Bb8 2.Rf5 Kc7 3.Ke5 Kxd7#

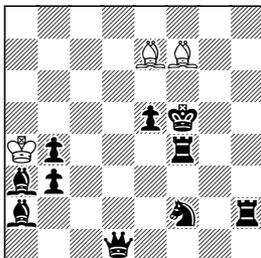
Commended - (Mykola Nahnybida & Olexandr Sobchuk - H0178) I. 1.Qb2 h6 2.Qxe5 Rh5 3.Qd4 Nd7#, II. 1.Ba2 Rh4 2.Bxb3 Rxd4 3.Bc4 Bd4#

Commended
Mykola Nahnybida &
Olexandr Sobchuk
StrateGems 1999



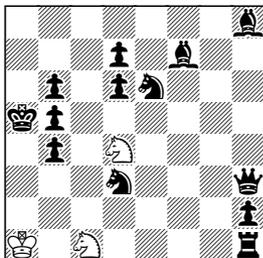
H#3 2 solutions (8+13)

Commended
Wenelin Alaikow
StrateGems 1999



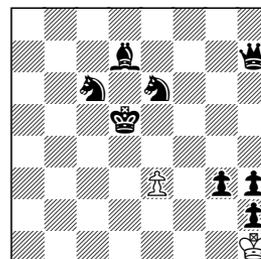
H#3
b) Kf5↔Pe5 (3+10)

Commended
Christer Jonsson
StrateGems 1999



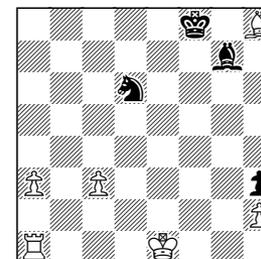
H#3 2 solutions (3+13)

1st Prize
Michel Caillaud
StrateGems 1999



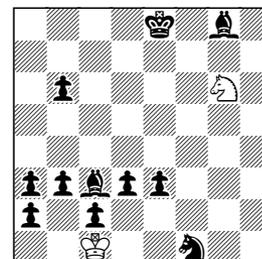
H#7 2 solutions (2+8)

2nd Prize
Fadil Abdurahmanović
& Bernd Ellinghoven
StrateGems 1999



H#4½ √ (6+4)

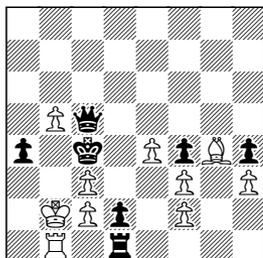
3rd Prize
Michel Caillaud
StrateGems 1999



H#7½ (2+11)

3rd Prize - (Michel Caillaud - H0264) Very impressive 8-move N-Rundlauf with a white King present. 1...Ne5 2.Kf8 Nc4 3.Kg7 Nxa3 4.a1R+ Nb1 5.Ra7 Nd2 6.Kh8 Nf3 7.Rh7 Nh4 8.Bg7 Ng6#

Commended
Michel Caillaud
StrateGems 1999
Dedicated to Aurel Karpati



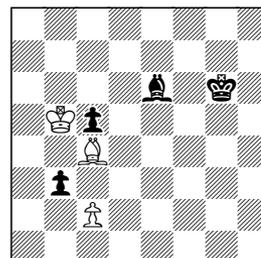
H#3 2 solutions (10+7)

Commended - (Wenelin Alaikow - H0209) a) 1.Ng4 Bxb3 2.Rc2 Bg8 3.Be6 Bh7#, b) 1.Bb1 Bxb4 2.Be4 Bf8 3.Bd6 Bg7#

Commended - (Christer Jonsson - H0210) I. 1.Ne1 Nd3 2.Be5 Nc5 3.Bg3 Ndb3#, II. 1.Ng7 Ne6 2.Re1 Nc5 3.Re6 Ncb3#

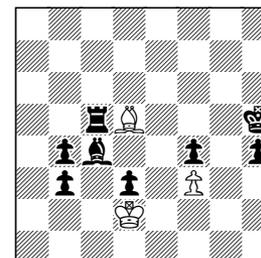
Commended - (Michel Caillaud - H0214) This idea deserves a better matrix. I. 1.Re1 Rc1 2.Rxe4 fxe4 3.dxc1R Be2# II. 1.Rh1 Re1 2.Rxh3 Bxh3 3.dxe1B Bf1#

4th Prize
Oliver Sick & Norbert Geissler
Strategems 1999



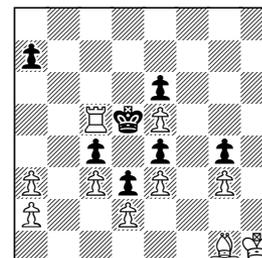
H#6 (3+4)

5th Prize
Hans Peter Rehm
StrateGems 1999 (v)



H#5 (3+8)

1st Honorable Mention
Reinhardt Fiebig
StrateGems 1999



H#11 (10+7)

Helpmates (H#3½ and H#n) Award – 1999

by Viktor Bene & Christer Jonsson

Thank you for the confidence in us to be the judges for *StrateGems* longer helpmates. There were 46 helpmates of very high quality. Two problems were anticipated (H0188 and H0270 by the same author). We also want to thank Dan Meinking for providing excellent help. It is not easy to be the judge; nevertheless, here are the results from the Swedish jury.

1st Prize - (Michel Caillaud - H0185) Two mates in opposite corners without twinning with promotions to Knights to win a tempo! We like it very much, although it could be shown with only six pieces. I. 1.Nb8 e4+ 2.Kc6 e5 3.Nc5 e6 4.Kb7 exd7! 5.Ka8 d8N 6.Qa7 Ne6 7.Nb7 Nc7#, II. 1.Ng7 e4+ 2.Ke6 e5 3.Kf7 e6+ 4.Kg8 e7! (exd7?) 5.Kh8 e8N 6.Ne7 Nd6 7.Ng8 Nf7#

2nd Prize - (Fadil Abdurahmanović & Bernd Ellinghoven - H0255) The combined plays in the try and solution makes this problem a classic. White castling to allow black Bishop to gain a tempo on a1! Try: 1...Rd1? 2.Nf7 Rd6 3.Bh6 Bd4 4.Bg7 Bc5 5.??? (zz), Play: 1...0-0! 2.Nf7 Rd6 3.Bxc3 Bd4 4.Ba1!! Bc5 5.Bg7 Rd8#

4th Prize - (Oliver Sick & Norbert Geissler - H0225) Critical moves on both sides shown in a miniature. 1.Bg8! Bf1! 2.Kf7! Kc4 3.Ke6 Kd3 4.Kd5 Ke2! 5.Kc4 c3 6.Bd5 Kd2#

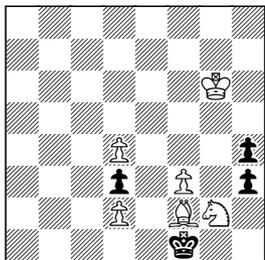
5th Prize - (Hans Peter Rehm - H0223) An original idea with a fine point 3.Rc6!; 1.Ba6! Ba8! 2.Bb7 Kxd3 3.Rc6 Ke4 4.Rh6+ Kf5 5.Bxf3 Bxf3#

1st Honorable Mention - (Reinhardt Fiebig - H0269) Long bK Rundlauf with very interesting white play. Unusual in such a long helpmate. 1.Kxc5 Bh2! 2.Kb5 a4+! 3.Kxa4 a3! 4.Kb3 a4 5.Kc2 a5 6.Kxd2 a6 7.Kxe3 Bg1+ 8.Kf3 Bxa7 9.e3 Bd4 10.Ke4 a7 11.Kd5 a8Q/B#

2nd Honorable Mention - (V. Nefedov & Rolf Wichagen - H0144) Zilahi, bK tempo, Rundlauf, switchback and good economy. I. 1.Ke2! Nxh4 2.Kxf2! Ng2 3.Kg3 Ne3 4.Kh4 Nf5#, II. 1. Kxg2! Bxh4 2.Kh2! Bg5 3.Kg3 Be3 4.Kh4 Bf2#

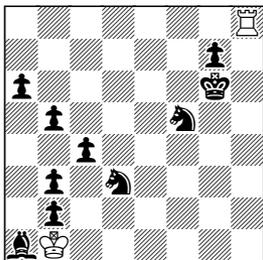
3rd Honorable Mention - (Thomas Brand - H0224) Triple switchback by wR with White's minimal force. 1...Re8 2.Kh6 Re2 3.g6 Rxb2! 4.Ng7 Re2 5.Bf6 Re8 6.Bg5 Rh8#

2nd Honorable Mention
V. Nefedov & R. Wiehagen
StrateGems 1999 (v)



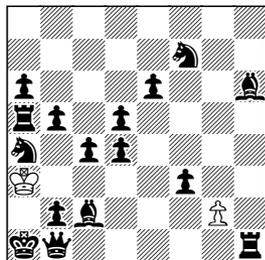
H#4 2 solutions (6+4)

3rd Honorable Mention
Thomas Brand
StrateGems 1999



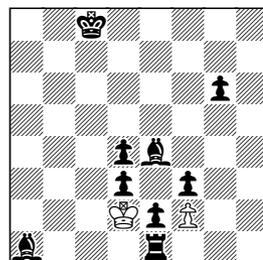
H#5½ (2+10)

4th Honorable Mention
Anatoly Stepochnik
StrateGems 1999



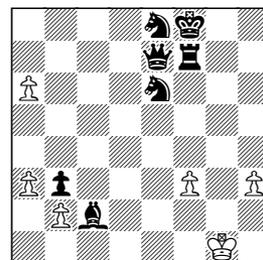
H#5½ (2+16)

3rd Commended
M. Pevsner & S. Shifrin
StrateGems 1999



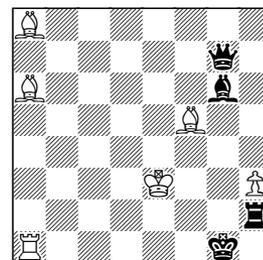
H#8 (2+9)

4th Commended
A. Karpati & R. Wiehagen
StrateGems 1999



H#4 2 solutions (6+7)

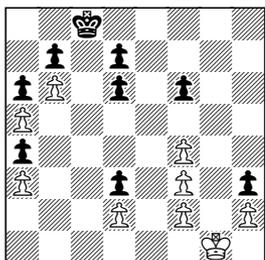
5th Commended
Gianni Donati
StrateGems 1999



H#5 3wBs (6+4)

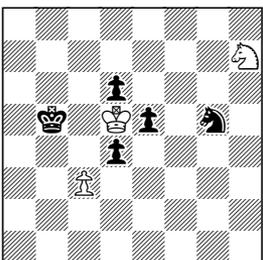
4th Honorable Mention - (Anatoly Stepochnik - H0261) The position is not attractive but the play is exciting. Excelsior, R-promotion and double Bristol. 1...g4 2.Bg6 g5 3.Qf5 gxh6 4.b1B! h7 5.Be4 h8R! 6.d3 Rxh1#

5th Honorable Mention
Pal Benko
StrateGems 1999



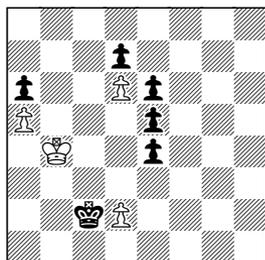
H#10 2 solutions (9+9)

1st Commended
Janos Csák
StrateGems 1999



H#4½ 2 solutions (3+5)

2nd Commended
Christopher Jones
StrateGems 1999



H#6* (4+6)

5th Honorable Mention - (Pal Benko - H0268) It's great to have 2 solutions in an H#10 with different play in both solutions. We hope it's original enough. I. 1.Kd8 Kf1 2.Ke7 Ke1 3.Ke6 Kd1 4.Kf5 Kc1 5.Kxf4 Kb2 6.Ke5 Kc3 7.Kd5 Kxd3 8.Kc6 Kc4 9.f5 d4 10.f4 d5#, II. 1.d5 f5 2.d6 f4 3.Kd7 f3 4.Kc6 Kf2 5.Kb5 Ke3 6.Kxa5 Kd4 7.Kxb6 Kxd5 8.Ka5 Kxd6 9.b5 Kc5 10.b4 axb4#

1st Commended - (Janos Csák - H0183) Platzwechsel between two Kings. Excellent first moves (1.c4 & 1.Nf8) and the try (1.Nxg5?). Superb economy. I. 1...Nf8! 2.Kb6 Kc4 3.Kc6 Kb4 4.Kd5 Kb5 5.Ne4 c4#, II. 1...c4+! 2.Kb4 Kc6 3.Kxc4 Kb6 4.Kd5 Kb5 5.Ne6 Nf6#

2nd Commended - (Christopher Jones - H0262) Interesting difference between set-play and the solution. The move 1.d3! is a real surprise. *set*: 1...d4 2.Kd3 d5 3.Kd4 dxe6 4.Kd5 e7 5.Kxd6 e8Q 6.Kd5 Qxd7#, *play*: 1.e3 d3! 2.e4 d4 3.Kd3 d5 4.Kd4 dxe6 5.dxe6 d7 6.e5 d8Q/R#

3rd Commended - (Mark Pevsner & Semion Shifrin - H0228) The bR is sacrificed on c1 only to reappear there 6 moves later in promoted form. 1.Rc1 Kxc1 2.e1R+ Kd2 3.Re3 fxe3 4.Bb7 e4 5.f2 e5 6.f1R e6 7.Rc1 e7 8.Rc7 e8Q#

4th Commended - (Aurel Karpati & Rolf Wiehagen - H0252) Double black Rundlauf with the wQ touching all corners and line openings. I. 1.Qxa3 a7 2.Qxb2 a8Q 3.Qf6 Qa1 4.Qe7 Qh8#, II. 1.Rxf3 a7 2.Rxh3 a8Q 3.Rh7 Qh1 4.Rf7 Qh8#

5th Commended - (Gianni Donati - H0258) The imagination has no limits! 1.Qxa1 h4 2.Qh8 h5 3.Qxa8 hxg6 4.Qh1 g7 5.Kg2 g8Q/R#

All claims by 1/1/2001 to Dan Meinking.

Award for the Theme Tourney on Excelsiors with Circe/Madrasi-2000

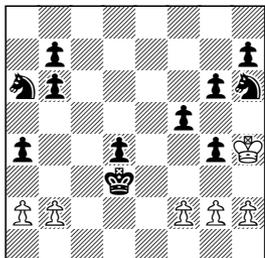
Judge: George P. Spiccas

The theme of the Tournament required at least two excelsiors in series problems (of any type) with Circe and/or Madrasi. Fairy pieces were allowed. Participation was strong, but, sadly, a large number of entries proved unsound. We hope to see many of the unsound attempts corrected and published. Circe/Madrasi conditions appear to make multiple excelsiors more difficult than orthodox conditions. As is often the case with challenging tasks, it may take several unsound attempts before they are achieved. The following new promotion tasks were attempted: *Five excelsiors with either Circe or Madrasi*. Remains unachieved. A few attempts succumbed to cooks. *Four excelsiors with Circe*: ACHIEVED! Done beautifully and masterfully (1st Prize). *Four excelsiors with Madrasi*: Remains unachieved. Several entries proved unsound. But ACHIEVED with two Pawns promoting twice in an elegant twin setting (2nd Prize), and with one Pawn making four excelsiors (with fairy pieces, 2nd HM and Comm.). *Two excelsiors with Circe/Madrasi and only five men*: Unachieved, so far as we know, but theoretically possible. Several entries managed the two excelsiors in economical six-man settings. Three are selected for special commendations.

Of course, all entries were evaluated for their content and interesting play; and the fact that several proved to be task achievements is a bonus. Noteworthy is the 1st HM for its good play combined with two excelsiors. Left out of the award were several entries with two or three excelsiors but with insufficiently strong content.

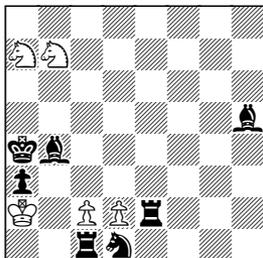
If any of the tasks mentioned above happen to be already done, we would appreciate knowing about it.

1st Prize
Unto Heinonen
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



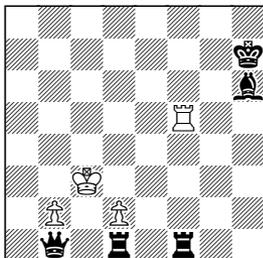
ser.s#35 Circe (6+11)

2nd Prize
Mark Kirtley
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



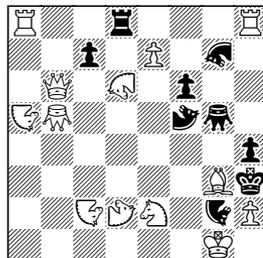
ser.s#14 b) b)Qh5 (5+7)
Madrasi

1st Honorable Mention
Mark Kirtley
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



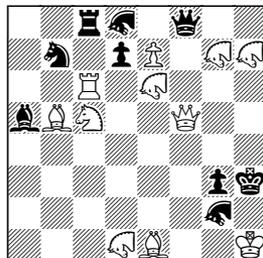
ser.s=18 Madrasi (4+5)

2nd Honorable Mention
Wenelin Alaikow
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



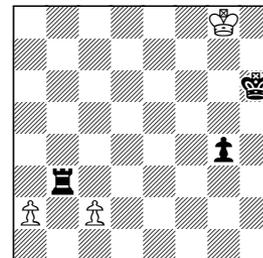
ser.h=6 4 solutions (13+9)
Madrasi Grasshoppers ♟♟
Nightriders ♞♞
Camels (1:3 leapers) ♘♙
Zebras (2:3 leapers) ♚♛

Commended
Wenelin Alaikow
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



ser.h=6 4 solutions (11+9)
Madrasi
Camels (1:3 leapers) ♘♙

Special Commendation
Günter Glaß
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



ser.s#13 Circe (3+3)

1st Prize – (Unto Heinonen) An outstanding entry, with fine, subtle points along the way as the play unfolds. Four excelsiors with AUW ending in an Ideal mate! The Circe condition is fully used, both in the play (e.g., both black N's are thematically and importantly captured twice) and in the mate, with the white N becoming a blocker with rebirth at the end. The great construction, excellent play, motivation of promotions, and beautiful finale, all contribute to make this a masterpiece! 1.b4 3.bxa6 (Ng8) 4.axb7 5.b8B 6.Bg3 7.f4 8.Bel 9.Kg3 10.h4 12.hxg6 (g7) 13.gxh7 14.hxg8N 15.Nxh6 (Nb8) 16.Nxf5(f7) 17.Ne3 18.f5 20.fxg7 21.g8Q 22.Qe8 23.Qxa4(a7) 24.Qc6 25.a4 27.axb6 (b7) 28.bxa7 29.axb8R 30.Rxb7 31.Rxf7 32.Rf1 33.Kf2 34.g3 35.Qg2 dxe3 (Ng1)#

2nd Prize – (Mark Kirtley) Thematically related twin series movers are not very common. This one is an excellent pair, with the small change on h5, apparently far from the action, making a big difference and producing a well-unified pair with delightfully contrasting solutions: Two excelsiors in each part, with the two Pawns marching in reverse order, promoting to RB in a) and NQ in b) for a full AUW. Clever and economical (Meredith) construction, excellent logic based critically on the Madrasi condition [e.g., notice 12.Bf5! in a)], and capture-free excelsiors, overall a very deserving prizewinner. a) 1.d4 5.d8R 6.Re8 7.c4 11.c8B 12.Bf5! 13.Bd3 14.Bb5+ Bxe8#, b) 1.c4 5.c8N 8.Nb2 9.d4 13.d8Q 14.Qxd+ Rxb2#

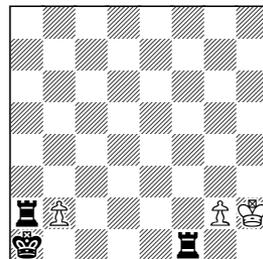
1st Honorable Mention – (Mark Kirtley) Only two excelsiors but a very good composition. Attractive sequence of moves, with Madrasi paralysis and freeing occurring repeatedly along three different lines. Elegant play with nine phases in only 18 moves, impressive economy with clever arrangement of all the pieces for optimal use, and a surprising finale. 1.b4 5.b8Q 7.Ke2 8.d4 12.d8Q 13.Qb6 14.Qf4 15.Rb5 16.Qg6 17.Qf6 18.Rf5+ Qxf5=

2nd Honorable Mention – (Wenelin Alaikow) Four moves by the same black Pawn, four black Excelsiors forming AUW and white promotions to four different fairy pieces. Good task, with interesting logic: The c7 Pawn marches down towards promotion and self-paralysis, but along the way has to capture a particular white fairy piece, which must be recreated by promotion on d8 in order to reestablish paralysis. Fine achievement. I. 1.cxb6 2.bxa5 6.a1R exd8NR=, II. 1.c6 2.cxb5 6.blQ exd8G=, III. 1.c5 4.cxd2 5.d1N 6.Nc3 exd8Z=, IV. 1.cxd6 5.dxe2 6.e1B exd8Cm=

Commended – (Wenelin Alaikow) An idea similar to the one above. Also with four moves by the same black Pawn, and four black excelsiors to AUW. But here white also promotes to orthodox pieces, another AUW: A Babson task with displacement of one (i.e. Black-White pro

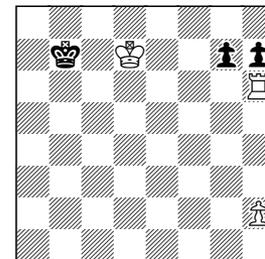
motions Q-R, R-N, N-B, B-Q). Such an achievement would normally deserve a much higher honor, unfortunately, the necessity of using a fairy piece (six Camels) only for soundness is a rather major drawback. If this could be done with orthodox men only, it would be much better. I. 1.dxc6 2.cxb5 6.blQ exd8R=, II. 1.d6 2.dxc5 6.c1R exd8N=, III. 1.d5 5.dxe1N 6.Nd3 exd8B=, IV. 1.dxe6 2.exf5 6.f1B exd8Q=

Special Commendation
Mark Kirtley
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



ser.s#14 Madrasi (3+3)

Special Commendation
Raffi Ruppin
1996-2000 Theme Tourney
Excelsiors Circe/Madrasi



ser.h#14 Circe (3+3)

Special Commendation - (Günter Glaß) 1.c4 5.c8Q 6.axb3(Ra8) 11.b8Q 12.Qf5 13.Qbf8+ Rxf8 (Qd1)#,

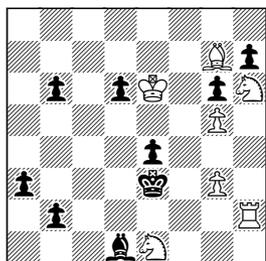
Special Commendation - (Mark Kirtley) 1.b4 5.b8R 6.Rb1 7.Kh1 12.g8R 14.Rh2 Kxb1#,

Special Commendation - (Raffi Ruppin) 1.g5 4.gxh2 5.h1R 6.Rxh6(Ra1) 7.Rb6 12.h1R 13.Rh8 14.Rb8 Ra7#. Elegant six-men setting, nicely satisfying the theme requirement.

This tourney was originally announced in U.S.P.B. All claims by 1/1/2001 to Mike Pric.

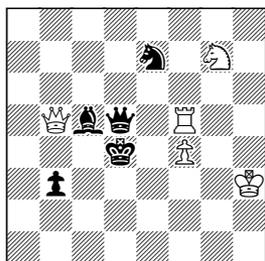
All solutions have been obtained from magazines which originally published the awards.

No.1 Mike Prcic
4th Commended
Uralski Problemist 1999



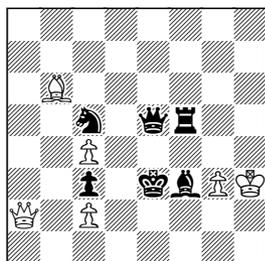
#8 (7+9)

No. 2 Dan Meinking
10th Honorable Mention
The Problemist 1997



H#2 2 solutions (5+5)

No. 3 Toma Garai
3rd Honorable Mention
Problem Paradise 1998



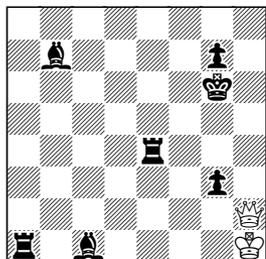
H#2 b) -Pg3 (6+6)

No. 1 Mike Prcic, 4th Commended, Uralski Problemist 1999 1.Nf5+? gxf5 2.Bh6 ~ 3.g6+ f4 4.Bxf4#? but 4...Kd4!; **1.Kd5!** (2.Bd4#), 1...Bb3+ (1...Be2 2.Bc3 3.Ng4+) 2.Kxd6! (3.Ng4#) 2...Bd1 3.Kd5! Bb3+ 4.Ke5! Bd1 and now 5.Nf5+! gxf5 6.Bh6 and 7.g6+ f4 8.Bxf4#

No. 2 Dan Meinking, 10th Honorable Mention, The Problemist 1997 I. 1.Bb4 Qa6 2.Kc5 Ne6#, II. 1.Qe4 Rf8 2.Kd5 Rd8#

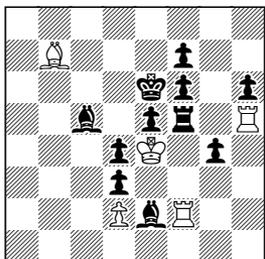
No. 3 Toma Garai, 3rd Honorable Mention, Problem Paradise 1998 a) 1.Ke4 Qb1 2.Nd3 cxd3#, b) 1.Kf4 Qa7 2.Ne4 Be3#

No. 4 Dan Meinking
Commended
Probleemblad 1996



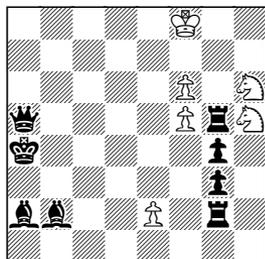
H#3 2 solutions (2+7)

No. 5 Mike Prcic
1st Honorable Mention
Uralski Problemist 1999



H#3 2 solutions (5+11)

No. 6 Toma Garai
2nd Honorable Mention
Suomen Tehtäväniekat 1995



H#4 2 solutions (6+8)

No. 4 Dan Meinking, Commended, Probleemblad 1996 I. 1.Bg5+! Qg1 2.Kh6 Qxa1 3.g6 Qh8#, II. 1.Rg4+! Qg2 2.Kh5 Qxb7 3.g5 Qh7#

No. 5 Mike Prcic, 1st Honorable Mention, Uralski Problemist 1999 I. 1.Rf4+ Rxf4 2. exf4 Rd5 3.Be7 Bc8#, II. 1.Rg5 Rxg5 2.fxg5 Rxf7 3.Bd6 Bd5#

No. 6 Toma Garai, 2nd Honorable Mention, Suomen Tehtäväniekat 1995 I. 1.Ka3 Nxg3 2.Rxg3 Nxg4 3.Rb3 Ne3 4.Qa4 Nc2#, II. 1.Bb3 Nxg4 2.Rxg4 Nxg3 3.Rb4 Ne4 4.Ba3 Nc3#

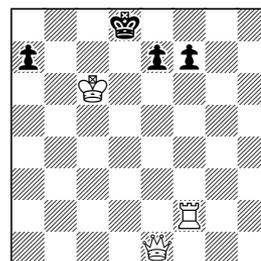
Problems published in this section are eligible for the year 2000 competition. Please send your originals to individual editors. All solutions and comments are due by 11/15/2000 and should be sent to the Solutions Editor. The names and addresses of all editors are printed on the last page.

TWOMOVERS

Editor: Miodrag Mladenovic, Judge: Robert Burger

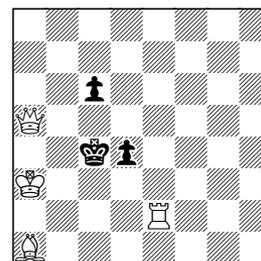
Welcome to these new contributors: Abdelaziz Onkoud, Alain Godbout, Gennady Kukin, Gerhard Maleika, Jorge Kapros, Neupauer Kamill and Paz Einat. We start with five miniatures. Our Retros editor shows an old idea, I believe, in original setting. Note that **T0198** has twins. **T0201** is good example of author's own TT (Onkoud – 2000). Look for a very nice play in **T0207**. Milan shows three changed mates in a very original matrix (**T0210**). **T0211** is a combination of two paradox themes (Vladimirov + Dombrovskis). I believe this is a brand new theme and that it should be named for the author of this problem: Paz Einat (Einat's theme). The matrix for this theme is: Try: 1.A? (2.B#) a/b 2.X/Y# 1... x! Key: 1.Z! a/b 2.A/B#. This was a theme from the Internet Tourney in Natanya 1999. The only (but big) difference is that, instead of two refutations in a try, there are two changed mates. I hope there will be more examples of this theme in the future.

T0193 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



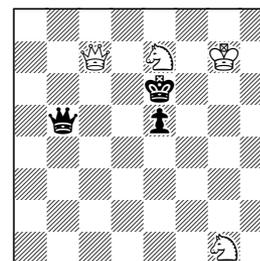
#2√√ (3+4)

T0194 Robert Lincoln
Chatham, NJ



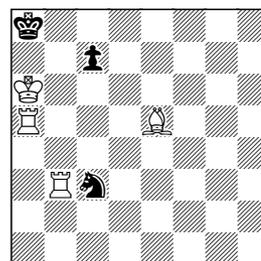
#2*√ (4+3)

T0195 Robert Lincoln
Chatham, NJ



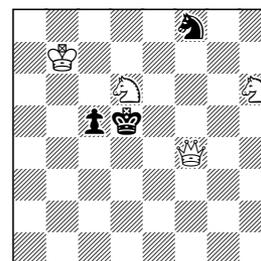
#2√ (4+3)

T0196 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



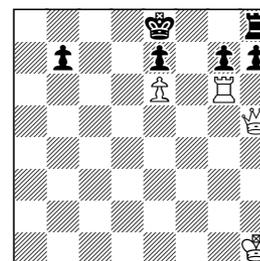
#2√√√ (4+3)

T0197 Luke Neyndorff
El Cajon, CA
dedicated to David L. Brown



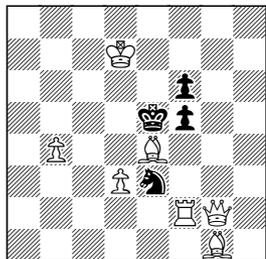
#2√ (4+3)

T0198 Gianni Donati
Princeton, NJ



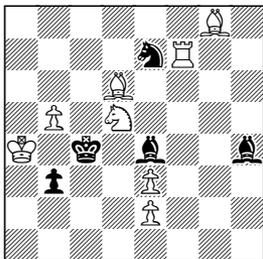
#2 b) Ph7→h6 (4+6)

T0199 Kamill Neupauer
Hungary



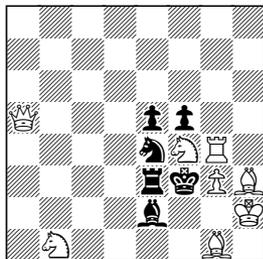
#2 (7+4)

T0200 Kamill Neupauer
Hungary



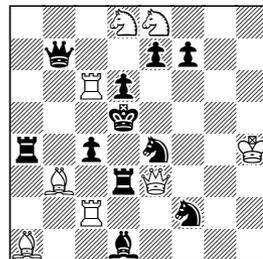
#2 (8+5)

T0201 Abdelaziz Onkoud
Morocco



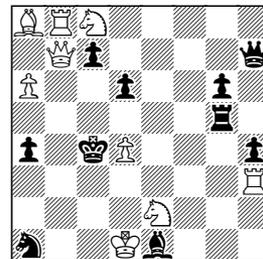
#2√√ (8+6)

T0208 Joe Youngs
Maple Grove, MN



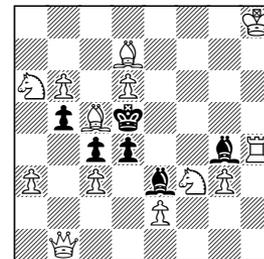
#2 (8+11)

T0209 Milan Velimirović
Yugoslavia



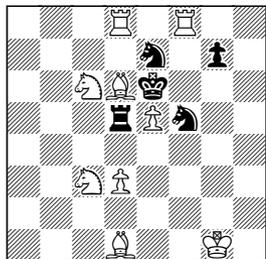
#2 (9+10)

T0210 Paz Einat
Israel
dedicated to participants of
Internet TT – Netanya 1999



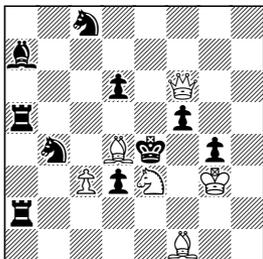
#2√ (13+6)

T0202 Paul Steiner
Cotati, CA



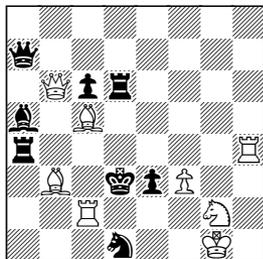
#2√ (9+5)

T0203 Gennady Kukin
Russia



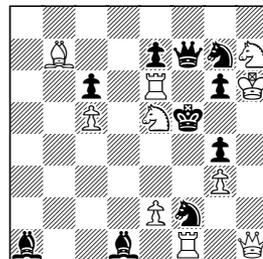
#2√ (6+10)

T0204 Jorge Kapros
Argentina



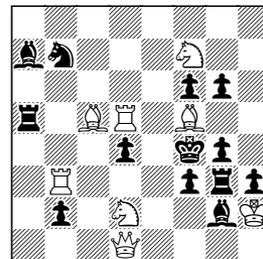
#2√√ (8+8)

T0211 Waldemar Mazul
Poland



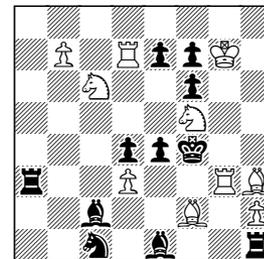
#2√√ (10+10)

T0212 Rauf Aliovsadzade
Lincoln, NE



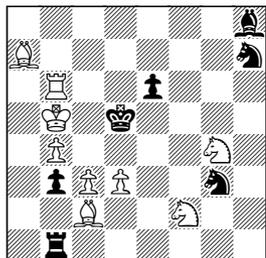
#2√√ (8+13)

T0213 Gerhard Maleika
Germany



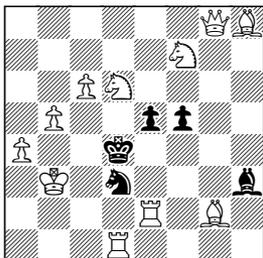
#2√√√√ (10+11)

T0205 Paul Steiner
Cotati, CA
dedicated to Barry Barnes



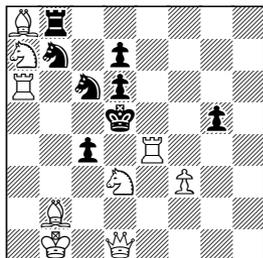
#2√√ (9+7)

T0206 Nikolaj Bantush
Belarus



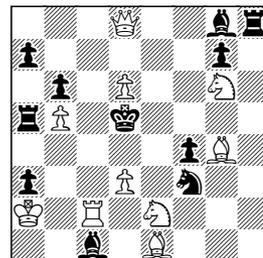
#2√√ 2 solutions (11+5)

T0207 Joe Youngs
Maple Grove, MN



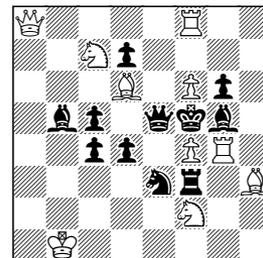
#2 (9+8)

T0214 Alain Godbout
Canada



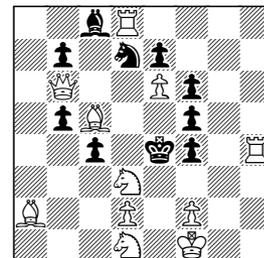
#2* b) Qd8→f8 (10+11)

T0215 Joe Youngs
Maple Grove, MN



#2 (10+11)

T0216 Jack Rosberger
Miami Beach, FL



#2 (11+10)

SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions – TWOMOVERS

Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), Laurent Bouchez (LB), Carlos Grassano (CG), Joshua Green (JG), Ryan McCracken (RM), Jeremy Morse (JM), Israel Tzur (IT)

T0145 (Kakabadze) 1.Qa5? (2.Qe5,Qd2#), 1...Kd4 2.Qc5#, 1...Kf4!, 1.Qa8? (2.Qe4#), 1...Kf4!; **1.Rc5!** (2.Qf2#), 1...Kd4/Kf4 2.Qf2/Qd2# *No set play or block. Nice key (CG), The white Bishop must be guarded, and two model mates ensue (JM), Very pretty model mates (JG)*

T0146 (Neyndorff) a) **1.a8Q!** (zz), 1... Kd6/Kd4 2.Qb8/Q8e4# b) **1.d8N!** (zz), 1...Kd6/Kd4 2.Nf7/Nc6# Two changed mates between twins. Very nice minor promotion in b). *Two different promotions and active pieces. Beautiful! (CG)*

T0147 (Mosiashvili) 1.Qb1? (zz), 1...Kxd6/Kxf6 2.Qb6/Qf5#, 1...e4!, 1.Qe3? (zz), 1...Kxd6/Kxf6 2.Qb6/Qh6#, 1...e4!, 1.Qh1? (zz), 1...Kxd6/Kxf6 2.Qd5/Qh6#, 1...e4!; **1.Qe4!** (zz), 1...Kxd6/Kxf6 2.Qd5/Qf5# *Weak key, simple play (AB), Rich context in a miniature (IT), Obvious key obscures tries (JM)*

T0148 (Kakabadze) a) 1.Qxh1? Nd8!; **1.Qc4!** (2.Qa6#), 1...d6/d5 2.Qe6/Qxc6# b) 1.Qc4? Be2!; **1.Qf4!** (2.Qc7#), 1...d6/Ne5 2.Qxg4/Qf8# *Second solution a bit too brutal (AB), No King flights and mighty Queen (CG)*

T0149 (Rosberger) **1.Rh6!** (zz), 1...Kd6,N~/Nd6/e5 2.Rd8/Rc5/Ne7#, Good ambush key!
The mates from set are repeated after the key (AB), Good work Jack! (CG), The key completes the block (JM), Ambush key in a light setting (RM)

T0150 (Shanahan & Lewis) **1.Qd2!** (zz), 1...Re1 2.Nxe1A, Bg4 B, Nh4 C#, 1...Rg4/Rh4/Re5/Rf4/Re3/Rxe6/Re2 **2.AB/AC/BC/A/B/C/Qf4#**. Combinative separation. All 8 variations by the bR alone, with just 9 men!!! A valid counterpart to Norman Macleod's famous 9-man c.s. by bN wheel (HM, "American Chess Bulletin" 1954 – Position: 8-3K3B-5p2-3k4-3n4-1P1N4-1Q5B-8)? Actually, the American source of Norman's lovely problem is that made me think of publishing it in "StrateGems"! (Authors) *Excellent! (CG), Strong and obvious key leads to 3-fold combinative separation (JM)*

T0151 (Neyndorff) **1.Be5!** Rxe5/Bxe5/Nxf3 2.Rf4/Bf5/gxf3#. Nowotny. *Nowotny on e5, does not look fresh (AB), Fleck with Nowotny key (IT), Good work Luke (CG)*

T0152 (Green) 1...B8~/B5~ 2.Qxd7/Re5#; **1.Qb8!** (zz), 1...B8~/B5~ 2.Qe8/Qxd6#. "White to Play" with problem with a reciprocal change of black defenses (opening of white line/ungard) and two changed mates. *Very nice change of play, and motives: control of the square by bB and opening of the line (AB), Elegant change of moves (IT), Nice changed mates (CG), Harmonious mutate, with switch of gate-opening and unguard (JM), Deux mats changés par rapport ou Jeu Apparent (LB)*

T0153 (Rosberger) **1.Qa6!** (zz), 1...Kc5/Ke4/Ke6,fxg5 2.Qa5/Nd6/Rxe5# *Three flights are always impressive (IT), Work worthy of prize (CG), Fuites du Roi noir en Y (LB)*

T0154 (Cozzolino) 1...Kc3/Kxc5 2.Qg7/Qxe3#, 1.Qa1? (2.Rc2#), 1...Kc3/Kxc5 2.Ra2/Qa7#, 1...Ra8!; **1.Qh2!** (2.Qe5#), 1...Kc3/Kxc5 2.Qe5/Qd6# Zagoruiko. *Very nice change of mates in three phases, good that try is more visible than key (AB), A fine problem! (IT), White correction, three phases and changed mates (CG), Une belle réalisation avec un essai habilement réfuté (LB), Subtle entry point by the wQ (RM)*

T0155 (Velimirovic) 1...Rxf5/Nxe7/Nxf6/Bd7 2.Qxf5/Re4/Rd4/Nfxd5#; **1.Qe8!** (2.Qxc8#), 1...Rxf5/Nxe7/Nxf6/Bd7 2.Nexd5/Rcxf4/Re4/Qxd7# Amazing example of battery changed mates. *The orthogonal change of batteries causes all the changes (IT), Abundance of changed mates; value work, very good (CG), Switch of battery produces 4 nice changes, but inaccuracies mar the actual play (JM), De beaux mats changés par rapport ou Jeu Apparent (LB), Changed mates from the better vantage point! (RM)*

T0156 (Youngs) **1.Nd2!** (2.Nf3), 1...Bd4/Nxd2/Bg2,Bg4/f4/e1N/Nd6 2.Nc4/Qxa1/Qh8/Qe4/Qxe1/Re7# *Nice key, good variations (CG), Cette réalisation ma bien plus (LB), The wQ strikes from all angles (RM)*

T0157 (Gavrilovski) 1.Qd7? (2.Qxd4/Rxd4#), 1...Rd5 2.Qb5#, 1...Rd3!, 1.Nb5? (2.Rxd4#), 1...Rd3 2.Nd6#, 1...Rd5!; **1.Nc6!** (2.Rxd4#) Rd3/Rd5/Kb3/Kd5 2.Na5/Qa6/Bf1/Qf7#

Excellent try problem with flight-giving key (JM), Neat symmetrical kills after K-flights and bR selfblock defenses (RM)

T0158 (Brada) I. **1.Qe7!** (2.Qe4 A#), 1...Re5 x/Qxe2 y 2.Qb4 B/Nxe2 C#; II. **1.f4!** (2.e3 C*#), 1...Re5 x/ Qxe2 y 2.Qxe5 A'/Nb3 B*#. This is very unusual form of "Lacny" theme. The difference between A/A', B/B' and C/C' is that the mating squares are shifted for one square up (e4 A, e5 A', b4 B, b5 B', e2 C, e3 C'). *The best problem in this issue (CG)*

T0159 (Youngs) 1...Ne4 2.Qxe4; **1.Ne5!** (2.Nxg6), 1...Kxe5/Nd~+ 2.Qe4/Nd3#, 1...Nde4+ 2.Nd5# (2.Nh5?), 1...Ncd4 2.Nh5# (2.Nd5?) Dual avoidance after a good key. White Knight sacrifice with unpinning of bNd6 while allowing checks to wK. *Curious activity of white Knights. Excellent work! (CG), Fine key allows flight and cross-checks (JM), Excellent key, unpinning Nd6 with check (JG)*

T0160 (Zhuravlev) 1.Re6? A (2.Ba7 X/Nf3 Y#), 1...Rxa5! a, 1.Rb5? B (2.Ba7 X/Nc6 Z#), 1...c3! b; **1.Ba7! X** (2.Re6 A/Rb5 B#), 1...c3 b/Rxa5 a/Ke5 2.Re6 A/Rb5 B/Re6#, 1...Ne4 2.Nf3 Y# (2.Ne6?), 1...Nd5 2.Nc6 Z# (2.Nf5?). Banny. The double threat moves become the key and a mating move in another phase. Here we have doubling of a theme in three phases. *Very good! The refutations receive the tries as mates and also the threats of tries occur as mates (IT), Black Knight selfblocks answered by wN mates (RM)*

T0161 (Groeneveld) 1.Nc4? (2.Qf7#), 1...f6/Kc4+ 2.Bg8/Qxd3#, 1...Rxe5!, 1.Bc7? (2.Qd7#), 1...Kd4 2.Qd3#, 1...Bxe5!; **1.Nb5!** (2.Nc7#), 1...Rxe5/Bxe5/Rc3 2.Qd7/Qf7/Nxc3# *Stylish Groeneveld, beautiful work, natural logic (CG)*

T0162 (Pricic) 1.Bd3? (2.Qb5 A/Qc4 B/Qd5 C#), 1...Ne3 2.Qb5# A, 1...Nc3 2.Qc4# B, 1...b5 2.Qd5# C, 1...bxa5!; **1.Rf6!** (2.Bd6#), 1...Qe6 2.Qb5# A, 1...Qd7 2.Qc4# B, 1...d3 2.Qd5# C. Three-phase Fleck in the try with mate transference and separation in the play in an economical setting. *The try precisely separates the mates, while in the actual play the threats of the try return as mates (IT), Mate separation, masters twomover! (CG), Black must allow mates on b5/c4/d5 to defend 2.Bd6 (RM)*

T0163 (Green) 1...Nxc3/Nc~/e3 2.Qxd2/Qe3/Qf5#; **1.Qc7!** (zz), 1...Nxc3/Nc~/e3 2.Qxc3/Nb4/Qxh7#. Three changed mates in "White to Play" form. *Good waiter with fine changes (IT), All 3 set mates changed, but rather a lot of Pawn-blocks (JM), Troi mats changés par rapport ou Jeu Apparent (LB), White can't maintain the initial waiting setting so he makes a new (RM)*

T0164 (Mosiashvili) 1.d4? (2.Ba3# C), 1...Qe5/Be1 2.dxe5/Qd8#, 1...Nxg7! aC and 1...Ne7! bC, 1.Rxg6? D (2.Ne8# A), 1...Ng7 aA 2.Ba3# C, 1...Ne7! bA, 1.Bc6? (2.Rd7# B), 1...Ne7 bB 2.Ba3# C, 1...Nxg7! bB; **1.Nc5!** (2.Nb7#), 1...Nxg7 bB/Ne7 bA/Kc5/bxc5 2.Rd7 B/Ne8 A/Ba3 C/Rg6 D# *Finally overmatches the powerful bNf5 (RM)*

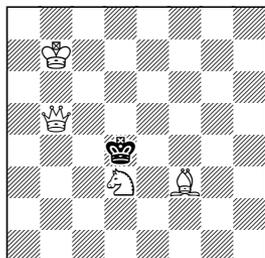
T0165 (Kovacevic) 1.Ke6? (2.Ng4#), 1...Qe3 2.Qxe3#, 1...Re1!, 1.Kxg4? (2.Rf3#), 1...Qd4 2.Qxd4#, 1...Rb4!; **1.Ke4!** (2.Nxg4#), 1...Re1+/Rb4+/Qe3+/Qd4+ 2.Be3/Bxb4/Qxe3/Qxd4#. The pins are stronger than checks. *Brilliant key allowing a wealth of checks (IT), J'ai bien aimé cette réalisation avec 2 essais habilement réfutés (LB), White braves several checks rather than face pins after other K moves (RM)*

THREEMOVERS

Editor: **Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic**, Judge: **Miodrag Mladenovic**

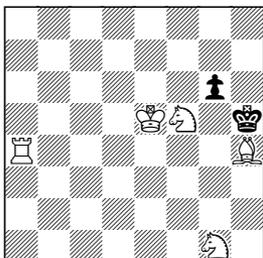
We start with three lightweights with increasingly astonishing keys. Bogdanov shows echo-mates, Zimmer many tries, and Bantush many model mates and a shockingly good main variation. Frantzov and Mirri present two bi-valve variations, while Kozhakin succeeds in a rare feat: two variations each with two sequential dual-preventions. Next is a seldom seen event: Rudenko is using a castling as a part of one of his favorite themes. Petite's problem is a modern variant on a Dombrovskis theme, and Nedeljkić's is a hodge-podge of classical elements. Two problems by Makaronez also have classical themes but each with one or two new twists. Neupauer is a new contributor, with two radically different problems: a line theme vs. model and echo-mates. Nahnybida's problems are in Loyd's tradition, while Kuligin and Kapustin unite two old themes in a beautiful manner.

M0157 Evgeniy Bogdanov
Ukraine



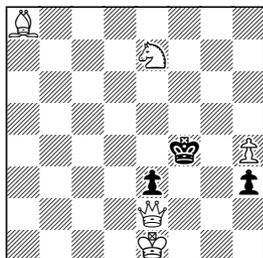
#3 (4+1)

M0158 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



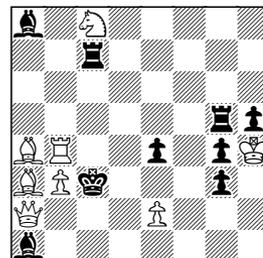
#3 (5+2)

M0159 Nikolai Bantush
Belarus



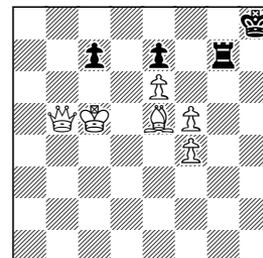
#3 (5+3)

M0166 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



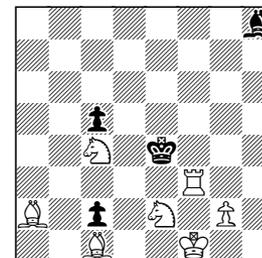
#3 (8+9)

M0167 Kamill Neupauer
Hungary



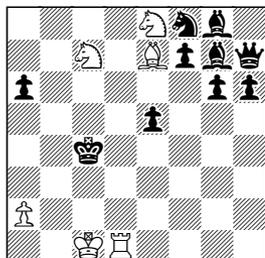
#3 (6+4)

M0168 Kamill Neupauer
Hungary



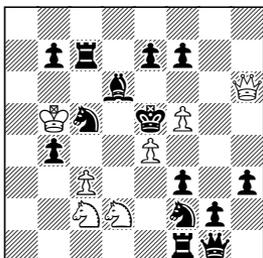
#3 (7+4)

M0160 Gueorgui Frantzov
& Georgio Mirri
Bulgaria/Italy



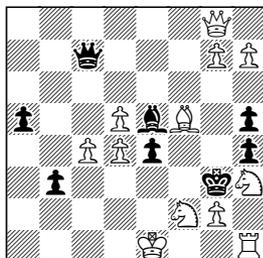
#3 (6+10)

M0161 Vladimir Kozhakin
Russia



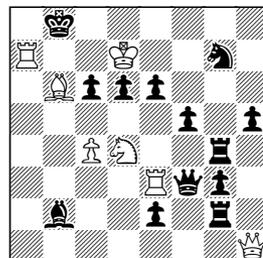
#3 (7+14)

M0162 Valentin Rudenko
Ukraine



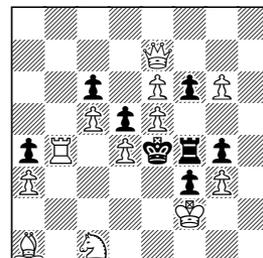
#3 (12+8)

M0169 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



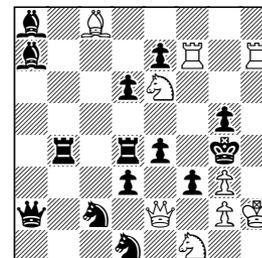
#3 (7+13)

M0170 Nikolai Kuligin
& Fedor Kapustin
Ukraine



#3 (12+8)

M0171 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



#3 (9+14)

SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions – THREEMOVERS

Comments from Laurent Bouchez (LB), Ryan McCracken (RM), Israel Tzur (IT)

M0132 (Rosberger) A tremendous key with a beautiful threat and a beautiful star variation: **1.Qh7!** (2.Nxf6+ Qxf6 3.Qh1#), 1...gxh5 2.Kf2! ~/Rc5 3.Nc3/Rxd4#. Also, 1...Nxe3 2.Qxg6+ Nf5/Rf5 3.Qg2/Nc3#. *Brilliant key, delicate threat, rich main variant (IT), Finding the (well hidden) angle for the Q (RM)*

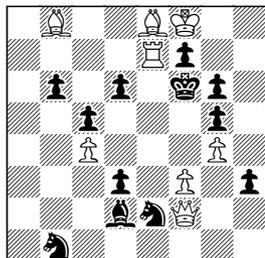
M0133 (Rosberger) A rare Rosberger miniature. **1.Qb7!** Ke5/Kc5/Kc3/c3 2.Qb6!/Ne6+/Ne2+/Qb5! Very nice. *The only way to deal with all bK flights (RM)*

M0134 (Bales) **1.f3!** (2.Ke7+ Ke5 3.Qe4#), 1...K~/d3 2.Rf8!/Qc3!. Nice, quiet variations with a King's battery that is rare in light problems.

M0135 (Markevitch) Another nice miniature. **1.Bd4!** Kd5/Kb4 2.Nf4+/Qc2, with three economical mates in the first variation. *Une miniature réussie (LB)*

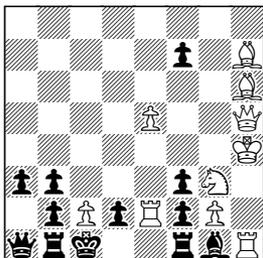
M0136 (Rudenko & Chepizhny) A phenomenal new concept. After **1.Bd6!**, white threatens with a standard Nowotny: 2.Nf2+! Rxf2/Bxf2 3.Qd4/Qxf3#. Note that if Black is to resign to his fate, and takes with the Knight: 2...Nxf2?, both Nowotny mates are possible: 3.Qd4/Qxf3#. This is not a true dual, because it accentuates the theme that happens after the

M0163 Efren Petite
Spain



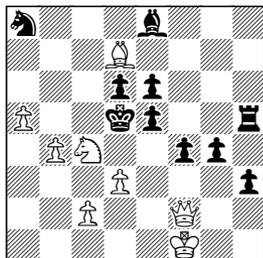
#3√ (8+11)

M0164 Miomir Nedeljković
Yugoslavia



#3 (10+12)

M0165 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



#3 (8+10)

two defenses: 1...Qh8! 2.Ne5!! (3Bd3#) Nf2! 3.Qxf3#, and 1...Qf8! 2.Nf4!! Nf2! 3.Qd4#. White has to be careful with the Knight moves, not to prevent the remaining Queen mate after 2...Nf2!. A problem worth studying, and a rare novelty in an old theme. *Two great variants (IT), Black attempts to escape White's interference idea with through-guarding defenses, only to be forced into the same interference motif by a wN threat! (RM)*

M0137 (Kavnatsky & Kapustin) A very active Siers battery: **1.g3!** (2.d4+ cxd4/Nxd4/Ke4 3.Nc5/Nxd4/Nxg5#). There are two standard self-pins on d3: 1...Qxd3/Bxd3 2.Nc7+/Nf4+, and two additional battery variations: 1. ...Nd4/f5 2.Nxg5+/Nd8+!. *Pinning mates in the main variants (IT), Empowering the wNe6 to deliver many mates (RM)*

M0138 (Makaronez) A Zugzwang with two pairs of symmetrical secondary defense variations. **1.Nc1!** B~/Bxd5! 2.Bf3+/Nf3+, and 1...Q~/Qxd5! 2.Bxb3+/Ra4+. *Neat symmetry of mating squares (RM)*

M0139 (Makaronez) The key: **1.Rd1!** threatens 2.fxe3+. Again, defenses are two pairs of variations: 1...Ne5~/Ng6! 2.Nf3+/Bxg7+, and 1...Nxd1/Ne4! 2.Qxd5+/Rxd3+!. *The key is the only way to create a strong enough threat (RM)*

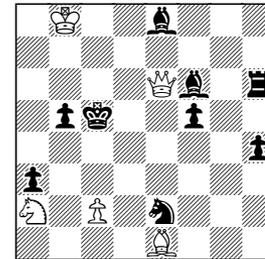
M0140 (Bantush) This problem is on the verge of being cooked by numerous non-thematic and brutal moves. The solution tips the balance. **1.a8=N!** (2.Qf3+). Thematic defenses are: 1...Re5 2.Qd1+ Ke6 3.Bh3#, and 1...Be5 2.Bg2+ Kxd6 3.Rd3#, where the Grimshaw pieces on e5 are self-pinned on the second move by the black King. *Minor promotion key and two pinning mates (IT), Since White can't directly create an interference motif on e5, he finds an obscure threat that compels Black to do it! (RM)*

MOREMOVERS and STUDIES

Editor: **Dr. Milan R. Vukceвич**, Judges: #n **Jim Grevatt**, Studies:
Noam Elkies

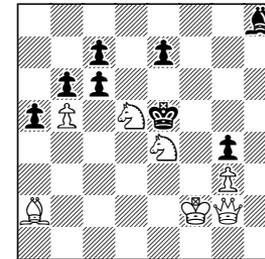
It is interesting to see how and why a small change in Kozhakin and Antipov affects the solution. Bogdanov deals with a lot of white-move permutations in a very simple scheme. Kuligin has nice mates, but an obvious key in the second twin. The first of the two problems by Bantush is a model-mate masterpiece. It required a lot of work to make it sound. Rudenko again does something rare: reciprocal changes in a moremover. Makaronez starts with a half-pin and then switches to sacrifices. Kozhakin fights a castle, while Grigoryan constructs a mating cage in a well-defined sequence. To that problem I would like to add a twin: Mate in 6 after the key. In other words, after the key, start again with White on the move! Cozzolino and Syzonenko will make solvers suffer. As for my nine-mover, it has two variations, which is not often seen in problems of this length. Syzonenko's study is a well-matched street-fight, while in the middle of the Zimmer's study there is a quiet move, just when the black King seem to have escaped.

M0175 Nikolai Bantush
Belarus



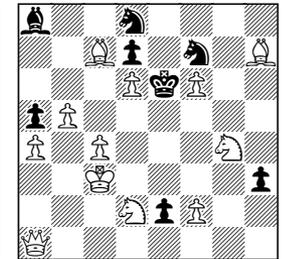
#4 (5+9)

M0176 Nikolai Bantush
Belarus



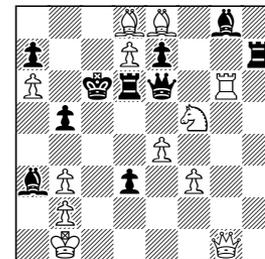
#4 (7+8)

M0177 Valentin Rudenko
Ukraine



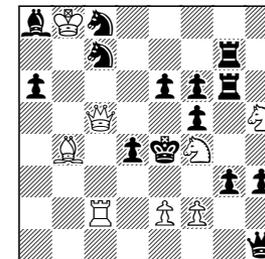
#4* (12+8)

M0178 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



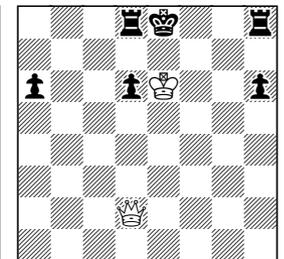
#4 (12+10)

M0179 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



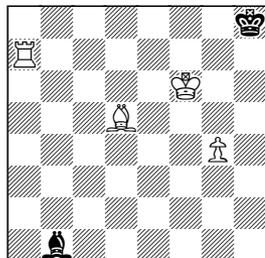
#4 (8+14)

M0180 Vladimir Kozhakin
Russia



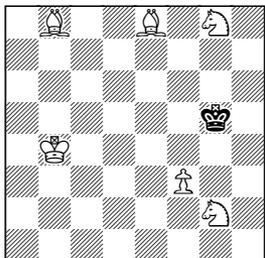
#5√ (2+6)

M0172 V.Kozhakin & V.Antipov
Russia



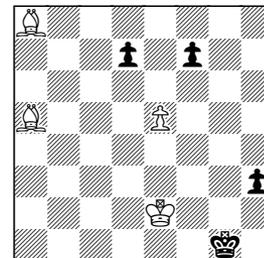
#4 b) bPg4 (4+2)

M0173 Nikolai Kuligin
Ukraine



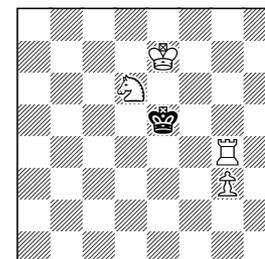
#4 b) Kg5→f5 (6+1)

M0174 Evgeniy Bogdanov
Ukraine



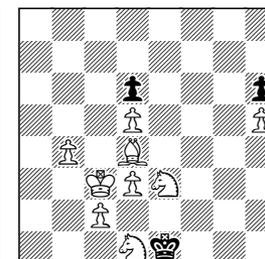
#4 (4+4)

M0181 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



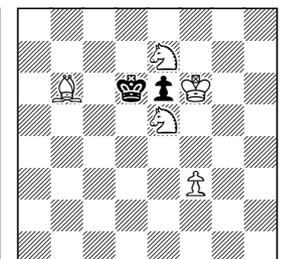
#6 (4+1)

M0182 Gennaro Cozzolino
Canada



#6 (9+3)

M0183 Viktor Syzonenko
Ukraine

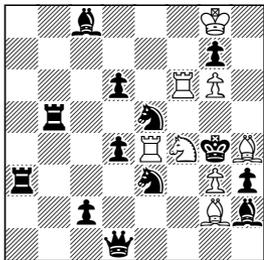


#6 (5+2)

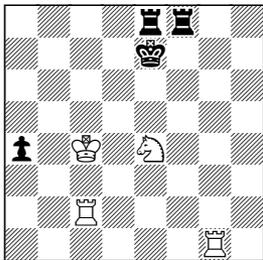
M0184 Dr. Milan R. Vukceвич
University Heights, OH

E0032 Viktor Syzonenko
Ukraine

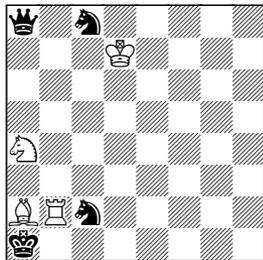
E0033 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



#9 (8+13)



Win (4+4)



Draw (4+4)

SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions - MOREMOVERS and STUDIES

Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), Ryan McCracken (RM), Israel Tzur (IT)

M0141 (Bantush) Between the solution and the two thematic tries, three white moves: Qg1, Kc5, and Nd4, appear in many different sequences, creating all cyclic permutations. First the solution: **1.Qg1!** Kc2 2.Kc5! Kd2 3.Nd4!, and 1...Kxe2 2.Nd4+! Kd2 3.Kc5!. In the try: 1.Kc5? Kxe2 2.Qg1 Kd2? 3.Nd4!, but 2.Kd3!, refutes. If 2.Nd4+ Kd2? 3.Qg1!, but 2...Kf2!, refutes. Similarly in the other try: 1.Nd4? Kxe2 2.Qg1+ Kd2 3.Kc5!, but 2...Kf4!, refutes. If 2.Kc5 Kd2 3.Qg1!, but 2...Kf2!, refutes. Unfortunately, after 1.Kc5? g1Q! 2.Qxg1 Kxe2!, also refutes, and if wPg2 is substituted, the problem has numerous cooks.

M0142 (Janev) To check-mate, white has to bring his Knight to c7 without stalemating the opponent. In both solutions this is achieved somewhat indirectly: 1.Nce5! f5 2.Ng4! fxg4 3.Ne7!, and 1.Nge5! f5 2.Ng4! fxg4 3.Ne7!. *Sols. are the same, so the second one is irrelevant (AB)*

M0143 (Makaronez) White removes the obstacle on a3: 1.Rc3! Rb5! 2.Rxa3+ Rb4 3.Rc3! Rb5! 4.Rc2+! Rab4/Rbb4 5.Rxa2#/Rc5#. An interesting extension of an old problem by Speckmann. *Systematic moves of wR in nice logical problem (AB), A devious plan to eliminate the bPa3 (RM)*

M0144 (Sushkov) Yuri made a careful study of light-weight moremovers. A month ago, he published a wonderful book on the subject, titled: *From 4 to 10*. The book is a must for all solvers and composers who like this problem genre. The author's e-mail address is Yuri.Sushkov@pobox.spbu.ru. Here is a solution to this extraordinary problem. In the set position, Black has to yield a short mate: 1...f3 2.e4#. But White is on the move, and to lose a tempo, he has only one very torturous path: **1.Rc8!** Kd6 2.Kf6 Kd5 3.Rc4! Kd6 4.Rc6+ Kd5 5.Kf5!, and after two switchbacks, the initial position is reached with Black on move: 5...f3 6.e4#. *Delicate tempo play by White (IT), Absolutely brilliant. Another tempo-loss masterpiece by Sushkov (RM)*

M0145 (Sushkov) Another fight for a tempo: **1.Kf6!** b4! 2.Nd5+ Ke4 3.Nxb4 Kf4 4.Nd5+ Ke4 5.Nc3+ Kf4 6.b4! e4 7.Nd5#. A longer switchback, but without the one-move set-play from the previous problem.

M0146 (Nahnybida) A classical problem with foreplans: **1.Ke2!** Bh5+ 2.g4 Bxg4+ 3.Kf1! Bd7 4.e8Q Bxe8 5.Rxh3 Nf3 6.Rxf3 Bd6 7.Ra3+ Rxa3 8.b3#. The purpose of maneuvering between wK and bB is to remove wPg3 and open the third rank for wR. *Almost like a help-mate, in that Black "helps" white get rid of the annoying Ph3, crowned with a nice Rook sac (RM)*

E0024 (Roxlau) If White is to win, he has to act fast before Black improves his King's position with 1...Rb5 and 2...Kb7. Thus, **1.Rh2!** Bg8! (1...Rb5 2.Rh7!) 2.Rh8 Rxb2 3.Rxg8+ Kb7 4.Rb8+ Ka6 5.Nb4+! (5.Rxb2? Stalemate) Ka5 (5...Ka7 6.Kc7 Rb1 7.Rb6!, wins) 6.Kc5! Ka4 7.Kc4 Ka5 8.Rb5+ Ka4 9.Rb6! Ka3 10.Ra6#. In the final position, the blocked b2-square makes the day for White.

E0025 (Minerva) With great care, White can force a win: **1.h6!** (1.hxg6? Bd5 2.d3 Bxf2 3.c4 Bd4+ 4.Ke7 Bg8 5.a4 Ke3 6.Kd6 Bc3 7.c5 Bb4 8.Kc6 Kd4 9.Kb5 Bxc5; or 2.a4 Kf4 3.c3 Bxf2 4.g7 Ke4 5.a5 Kd3 6.Kg6 Bg8, wins for Black) Bxf2 (1...Kf4 2.h7 Bxf2 3.c3 Bh4+ 4.Ke6!, wins) 2.Ke5! Bg3+ 3.Ke6! Ke4 (3...Bf2 4.c3 Be4 5.h7+-) 4.d3+ (4.h7? Be5 5.d3+ Kf4, wins for Black) Kd4 5.c3+ Kxd3 (5...Kxc3 6.h7, etc.) 6.h7 Bf3 7.h8Q, and finally White wins. But, even at the end, if 7.a4? Bg4+ 8.Kd5 Bf3+ 9.Ke6 Bg4, draws.

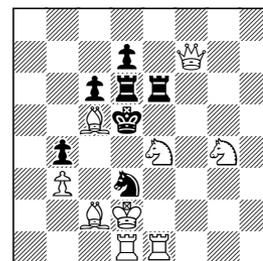
E0026 (Kirilov & Manyahin) To draw an exchange down, White has to win the black Pawn on e5 or save his Pawn on f5. **1.Ke3!** Rxf5 (1...Kb3 2.Bd5+ Kc3 3.Be6, etc.) 2.Bd5+ Kb2 3.Ke4 Rg5 4.Bf7! (4.Be6? Kc3 5.Bf7 Kb4! 6.Be6 Kc5, and Black wins by bringing the King to d6 to liberate his Rook from protecting the e5-Pawn.) Kc3 5.Be6! Rh5 (5...Kb4? 6.Bf5!, draws.) 6.Bf7! Rg5 7.Be6!, with a positional draw. Note that Bf5 was not possible before bK is away from c3, because x-Rxf5! y. Kxf5 Kd4, wins.

SELFMATES

Editor: **Dr. Milan R. Vukceвич**, Judge: **Andrey Selivanov**

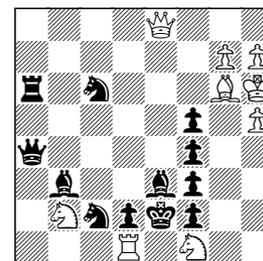
Noam proceeds with his strange tasks, while Makaronez combines two Ciwinsky blockades with the Umnov theme. I will have to explain this terminology two issues from now! Petite has two well-unified variations with critical moves and intersections, while Nikoletić and Tomašević show a perfect exploitation of all that the position has to offer. Syzonenko's is a great selfmate with variations, while Pitkanen's problems are one-liners but with economy and excitement. To understand Surkov's miniature, notice that after 1. Rc1+? Rc2, Black would have to mate on the next move if White had a tempo. In the problem by Smotrov, if White had the square d6 blocked, the solution would be fast and simple: 1.Sxf3+ Ke4 2.Sg5+ Sxg5#. Smotrov is getting famous for handling multiple batteries. See, for example, his problem in my 60 JT, in the last issue. Sphicas produced another miniature masterpiece, while I made one of my positions that appear to have more pieces than at the start of a game.

S0096 Noam Livnat
Israel



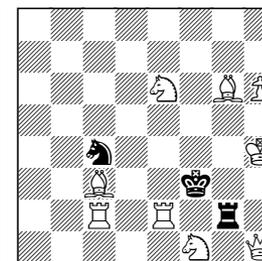
S#3 (9+7)

S0097 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



S#3 (9+12)

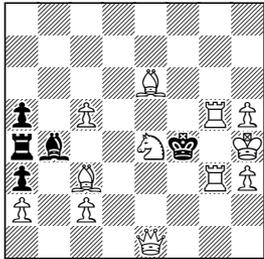
S0099 Vukota Nikoletić
& Radovan M. Tomašević
Yugoslavia



S#5 (9+3)

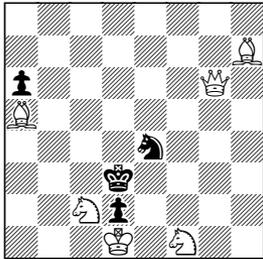
Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), C.C.Frankiss (CCF), Ryan McCracken (RM), Israel Tzur (IT)

S0100 Viktor Syzonenko
Ukraine



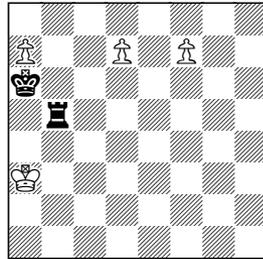
S#5 (12+5)

S0101 Jorma Pitkanen
Finland



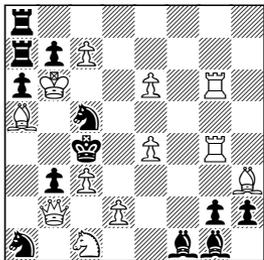
S#6 (6+4)

S0102 George P. Sphicas
New York, NY



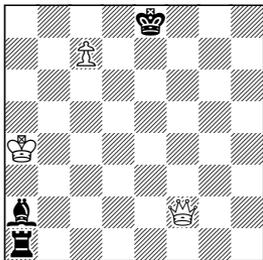
S#8 (4+2)

S0103 Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
University Heights, OH



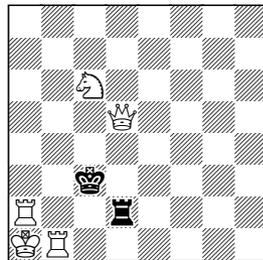
S#8 (12+12)

S0104 Jorma Pitkanen
Finland



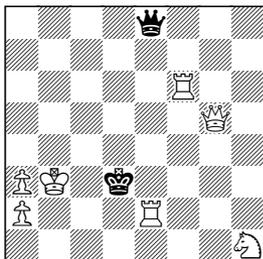
S#9 (3+3)

S0105 Valerij Surkov
Russia



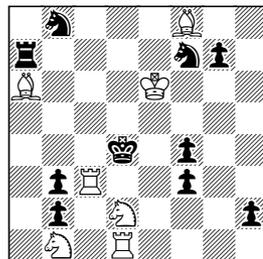
S#9√ (5+2)

S0106 Valerij Surkov
Russia



S#19 (7+2)

S0107 Sergey Smotrov
Kazakhstan



S#20 (7+10)

S0077 (Nahnybida) In (a) **1.Qc8!** Qxb4/Qxb6+/bxc4 2.Nc3+/Qe6+/Qf5+. And in (b) **1.Qxc7!** Qxb4/Qxb6+/bxc4 2.Qe7+/Qc6+/Qe5+. Three changed variations between the twins. *Nice change of three mates, but in b) the key is obvious (AB), Good change of mates between parts (CCF)*

S0078 (Nahnybida) **1.g7!** g3 2.g8B! g4 3.Bh7 Kh2 4.Bg6+ Kg1 5.Bh5 Kh2 6.Be8+ Kg1 7.Bxa4 Rxa4#. Very easy to solve. *Rather moreover than s#, without any black strategy (AC), All white moves by same unit. Perhaps a bit easy (CCF), Easy and amusing (IT)*

S0079 (Gamnitzer) The goal is to check on d3 with wQ, and force Nxd3#. But, the direct 1.Qd4?, is refuted by 1...Rf3! and 1...Rh1!. So, **1.c5!** (2.Ra3+ Kxa3 3.Nc2+ Nxc2#). In the solution, after 1...Rf4! 2.Bd5+ Rc4 3.Qd4? again does not work because of 3...Rh1!. But now 3.Qf4! threatens 4.Qf3+ Nd3 5.Qd1+ Rxd1#. Only after 3...Bxe5+ finally follows 4.Qd4!, with a completely unexpected end after the new defense: 4...Bxb8 5.Bxc4+ Kb4 6.Be2+! Kb3 7.Bd1+ Nc2#, without a battery mate! A typical Gamnitzer fight: difficult and with many surprises. *Multiple threats throughout. Very difficult (CCF)*

S0080 (Pitkanen) White is forced to act with checks, but the end is still unusual: **1.Nc3+!** Ka3 2.Nb1+ Kb4 3.Qc3+ Kxa3 4.Bd7+ Bxd7 5.a8Q+ Kb5 6.Qca5+ Kc4 7.Qe4+ Kb3 8.Qad5+ Nc4#. Jorma seems to like problems with promoted wQ's. *White (eventually) surrenders the g8-a2 diagonal because Black's King must end up there! (RM)*

S0081 (Csák) A convoluted beauty that resembles sequences from a retrograde analysis. Key: **1.O-O!** b1Q 2.Qxe7+ Kg8 3.Rxb1 Kh8 4.Bf3! Kg8 5.Bd1!! Kh8 6.f3 Kg8 7.Kf2 Kh8 8.Be2!! Kg8 9.Rh1 dxe2 10.Ke1 d3 11.Qd6 Kg7 12.Qg3+ Bxg3#. How many solved this one?

S0082 (Chkhetiani) A very systematic problem. In the first four moves, White creates a stable position to which he can always return in four moves and win another tempo for improvement of his King's position: **1.Qe3+!** Kg4 2.Qh3+ Kf4 3.Qh4+ Rg4 4.Qh6+ Rg5, and now: 5.Bf2 Kg4 6.Qh3+ Kf4 7.Qh4+ Rg4 8.Qh6+ Rg5 9.d4 ... 13.Kc5 ... 17.Kc4 ... 21.Kd3 ... 25.Ke2 ... 29.Kf1 ... 33.Kg1 ... 37.Kh2 Kg4 38.Qh3+ Kf4 39.Qh4+ Rg4 40.Bg1! Rxx4#.

S0083 (Gruber and Widlert) For the general idea of this problem, one should first solve **S0078** by Nahnybida. Here, we have two variations with more elaborate mates, and for all that, three white Queens are needed. **1.Qdc4!** threatens 2.Qgf7+ Kd8 3.Bxa5+ Rxa5 4.Qf8+ Kd7 5.Qb5+ Rxb5#. And, 1...a4 2.Kb6! Kxd7 3.Q3g7+ Kd6 4.Qxa4 Rxa4 5.Bb4+ Rxb4#. Two beautiful chameleon-echo mates. Note that in the initial position, white King has all eight flight squares. *The anti-social black Rooks are forced to crash the wQ party (RM)*

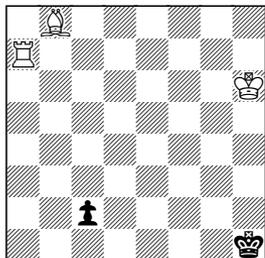
STALEMATES

Editor: Dan Meinking, Judge: Edgar Holladay

A full spread of helpstalemates this time around, which prompts me to remind our readers --hint-- that the Stalemates section is for S=n and =n problems too. However, no fairy stipulations or pieces are allowed. We welcome Messrs. Grigoryan, Witztum, and Ersek to this column.

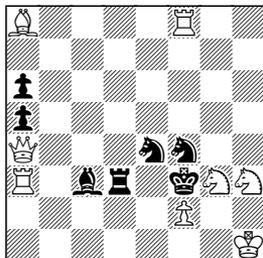
Albert provides the appetizer, Menachem and Tibor the main course, and Mike the desert! Given the material count, **Q0023** seems an appropriate dedication to the composer's (8) brothers and (10) sisters. It's a "family affair" in another sense too: The problem is not fully tested (C-), but has been closely scrutinized by many of its honorees. Mike challenges our audience to find a H=8 or more with the same purity of aim. Good luck!

Q0019 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



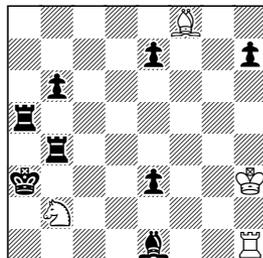
H=2 2 solutions (3 + 2)

Q0020 Menachem Witztum
Israel



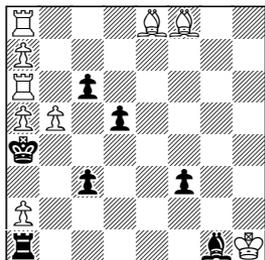
H=2 b) bPd3 (8 + 7)

Q0021 Tibor Ersek
Hungary



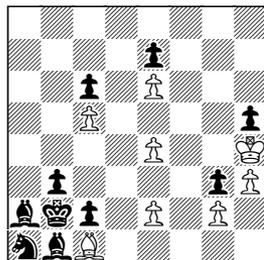
H=4 (4 + 8)

Q0022 Tibor Ersek
Hungary



H=4 b) Ra8→b8 (9 + 7)

Q0023 Michael Neumeier
Cincinnati, OH



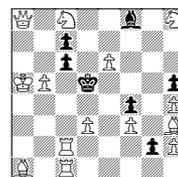
H=7 C- (8 + 10)

SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions - STALEMATES

Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), C.C.Frankiss (CCF), Ryan McCracken (RM), Israel Tzur (IT), Luigi Vitale (LV)

Q0011 (Tribowski) *Try:* 1.Qxd2+? Ke6 2.Rb1 Kf6 3.Qd6+ Kg7 4.c8Q Kh6! escapes. *Key:* **1.Rb1!** (zz) 1...d1**Q** 2.c8**Q!** (2.c8R? Qxf3!) Qc1/Qxf3 3.Qd2+/Qd3+ Qxd2/Qxd3+ 4.Nxd2/Bxd3= 1...d1**R** 2.c8**R!** (2.c8Q? Rc1!) Rc1 3.c4+ Rxc4 4.Rxc4= 1...d1**B** 2.c8**B!** (2.c8Q? Bxf3!; 2.c8N? Bxf3 3.Qxf3 Ke6 4.Be5 Ke5!) Bxf3 3.Qxf3+ Kc5 4.Qb7= 1...d1**N** 2.c8**N!** (2.c8Q/R/B? Nxe3!) Nxe3 3.Nxe3+ Ke6/Kc5 4.Be5/Ba4 (Bd7/Be8)= 2...Nxc3+/Nf2 3.Qxc3/Rxf2 Ke6/g2 4.Ne3/Rxg2= [1... Kd6 2.c8-*any* Kd5 3.Nxd2=] Babson-task in direct-stalemate form! *Very good Babson (CCF), Pleasant and elegant (LV), Difficult to solve. Brilliant trapping theme. White mimics all black promotions for a mutual AWW! A strong prize contender (RM).* However, this is not a first in this genre; Michel Caillaud sends the following: (see next page).

René-Jean Millour
The Problemist 1988



=4 (14+7)

1.e7! (zz)

1...g1Q 2.exf8Q Qg4 (Qg8,Qe3,Qc5) 3.Qf5+ (Qf7+,Qf5+,Qxc6+) Qxf5
4.Bxf5=
1...g1R 2.exf8R Rg4 3.Rc5+ Ke6 4.bxc6= (2...Rg8 3.Rxg8!)=
1...g1B 2.exf8B Be3 3.Rc5+ Bxc5 4.Bxc5=
1...g1N 2.exf8N Nxh3 3.Nf7 (zz) N~ 4.NxN/RxN= (2...Nxf3 3.Bg2=)
(1...B~ 2.Bxg2 etc. or 1...Bxe7 2.Nxe7+ Kd6 3.Nc8+ Kd5 4.Bxg2=)

Millour has the better key, but Tribowski the better economy.

Q0012 (Dugas) I. 1.Ba1! Kxa1 2.Nc5 Qxc5 3.Qd7 Bxd7=, II. 1.Qh5! Qxh5 2.Bd4 Bxd7 3.Kc5 Qxc5= The (!) are for surprise value of the key-moves. The remainder of the play, unfortunately, is not as interesting. *I can't get excited about (virtually) the same mate appearing twice (RM)*

Q0013 (Meinking) I. 1.Rh1 Re1! 2.Bg2! Re2+ 3.Kg1 Bxg2=, II. 1.Bh1 Bf3! 2.Rf1! Be2 3.Kg2 Rxf1= Double Bristol clearances are needed in *both* lines to bury Black alive. *Two closures of black pieces in very economical setting, very nice (AB), Attractively matched stalemates (CCF), A fine problem. Neat use of the h1 square (IT), New and refined (LV)*

HELPMATES

Editor: **Dan Meinking**, Judges: H#2 **Živko Janevski**, H#2.5 & H#3
Michel Caillaud, H#3.5 & H#n **Rolf Wiehagen**

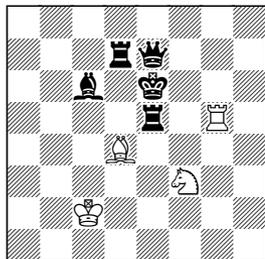
I must confess, O Helpmate Enthusiasts, that I'm excited about *SGII* for two good reasons. First, all the 1998 and 1999 StrateGems Helpmate awards appear this issue. And second, the overall level of the originals herein is outstanding. Lately, I've received criticisms (rightfully so) of being too lenient in my editing. I'm grateful to those whose honesty has nudged me in the right direction.

A few introductions are in order: We're happy to have Radovan Tomašević, Viktor Syzonenko, Hector Zucal, and Bota Stojanović with us for the first time. And my personal thanks to friends Petko and Toma for their generous dedications.

We begin with two strong tasks in near-flawless form. And delving a bit further, we find another "ultimate" in **H0371**. The next several problems have excellent line effects. Vladimir and Rolf produce a well-veiled idea, while Michal closes out the two-movers in grand style. Some of the world's best are in top form in the three-mover section. Garai and Janevski provide their usual, pristine play, followed by some highly creative works. I cannot recall Jorge's pattern ever being shown with such harmonious White play. The more-movers start with three predictable but enjoyable items. Gaspar wonders if he's landed on new thematic soil; his two offerings range from the Elegant to the Absolute. Chris and Mykola are at their wittiest, and Marcel's **H0396** is a tremendous find. As Noam's banner suggests, there's rough ridin' ahead to lasso that vermin.

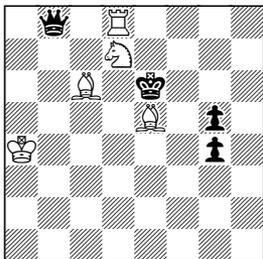
Notes: The (*) in **H0367** indicates set/play, solving as H#1½ and H#2. The diagram of **H0370** is not for solving; instead, make each of the changes given from the diagram. The "NWK" implies "no white King" for **H0389**. The H#6½ stipulation of **H0398** means White moves first, then solve as a H#6.

H0364 Valery Gurov
& Boris Shorokhov
Russia



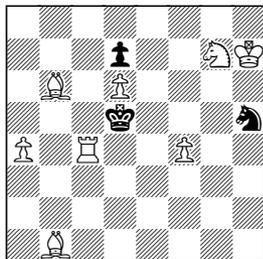
H#2 b/c) *bNe5/bBe5* (4+5)

H0365 Arpad Molnar
Hungary



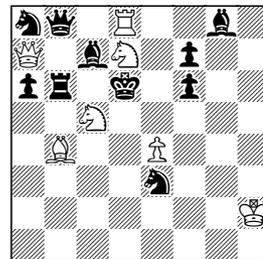
H#2 b) *bNd8* (5+4)
c) *bNe5* d) *bRd7* e) *bRc6*

H0366 Aurel Karpati
& Rolf Wiehagen
USA/Germany



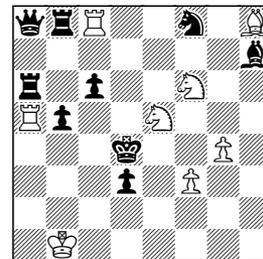
H#2 2 solutions (8+3)

H0373 Bernard Ivanov
France



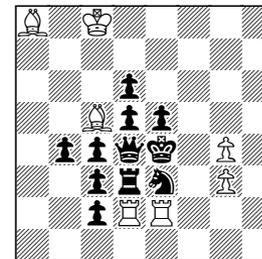
H#2 2 solutions (7+10)

H0374 Petko A. Petkov
Bulgaria
dedicated to Dan Meinking



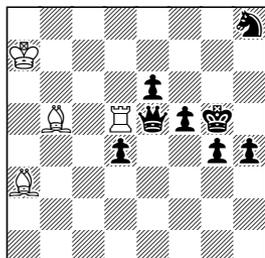
H#2 2 solutions (8+9)

H0375 Viktor Syzonenko
Ukraine



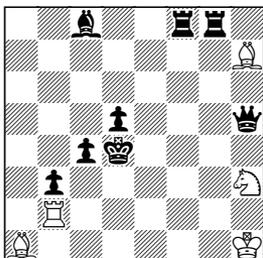
H#2 b) *bBd4* (7+11)

H0367 Tode Ilievski
Macedonia



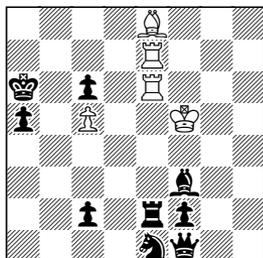
H#2* (4+8)

H0368 Arpad Molnar
Hungary



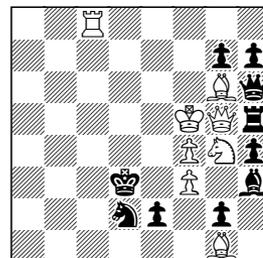
H#2 b) *Rb2→c3* (5+8)

H0369 Rauf Aliovsadzade
Lincoln, NE



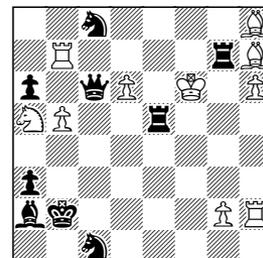
H#2 b) *-Pc5* (5+9)

H0376 Mario Parrinello
Italy



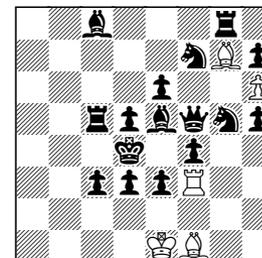
H#2 2 solutions (8+10)

H0377 Petko A. Petkov
Bulgaria
dedicated to Mike Prcic



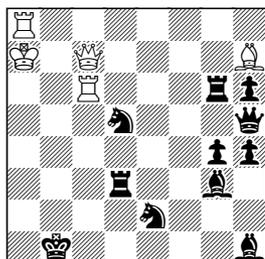
H#2 2 solutions (10+9)

H0378 Vladislav Nefedov
& Rolf Wiehagen
Russia/Germany



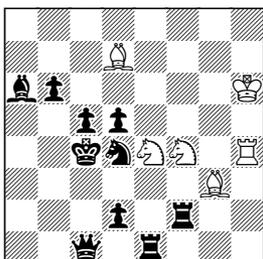
H#2 b) *Kd4→h7* (5+16)

H0370 Radovan M. Tomašević
Yugoslavia



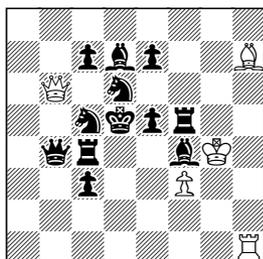
H#2 zero-position (5+1)
a) *Qh5→d8* b) *Nd5→d8*

H0371 G.M.Frantzov
J.Kapros & J.Loiz
Bulgaria/Argentina



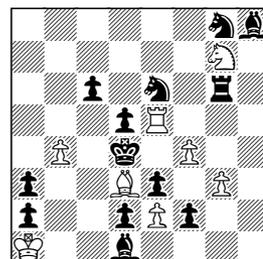
H#2 4 solutions (6+10)

H0372 Gueorgui M. Frantzov
& Mario Parrinello
Bulgaria/Italy



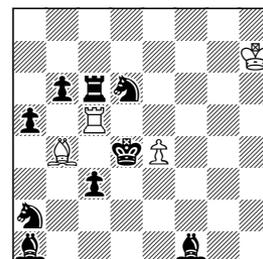
H#2 b) *Bh7→e1* (5+12)

H0379 Michal Dragoun
Czech Republic



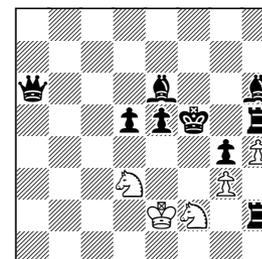
H#2 b) *wRg7* (8+13)

H0380 Živko Janevski
Macedonia



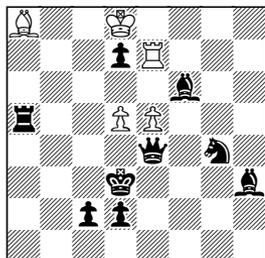
H#3 b) *Pb6→b5* (4+9)

H0381 Toma Garai
Van Nuys, CA
dedicated to Dan Meinking



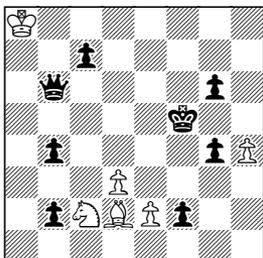
H#3 2 solutions (5+9)

H0382 Živko Janevski
Macedonia



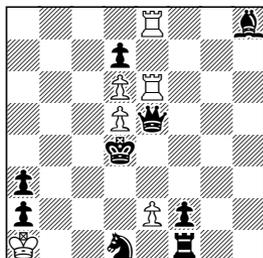
H#3 b) Kd3→f4 (5+9)

H0383 Christer Jonsson
Sweden



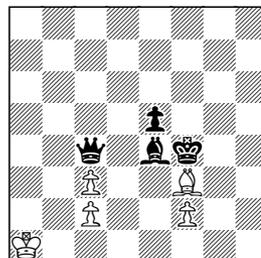
H#3 b) Pe2→g2 (6+8)

H0384 Nikolaj Zujev
& Nikolaj Mansarliyskiy
Lithuania/Ukraine



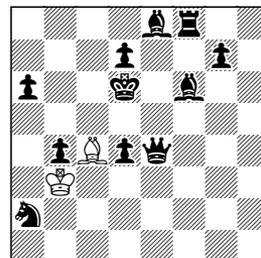
H#3 2 solutions (6+9)

H0391 Gaspar J. Perrone
Argentina



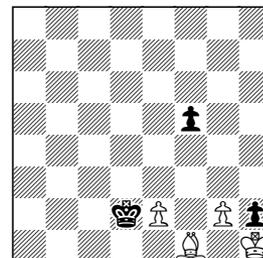
H#4 (5+4)

H0392 Valery Gurov
& Boris Shorokhov
Russia



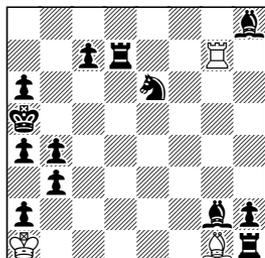
H#4 2 solutions (2+11)

H0393 Robert Bales
Broadview, IL



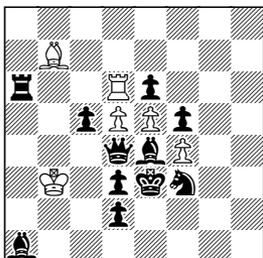
H#5 (4+3)

H0385 Janos Csák
Hungary



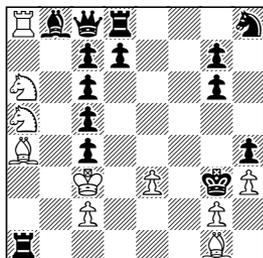
H#3 2 solutions (3+13)

H0386 Temur Chkhetiani
Georgia



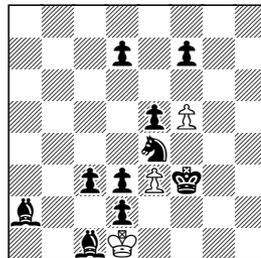
H#3 2 solutions (6+11)

H0387 Jorge J. Lois
Argentina



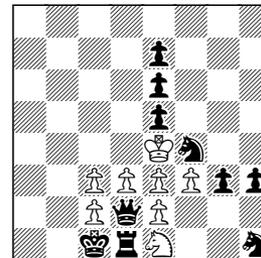
H#3 b) Kc3↔Pc2 (10+14)
c) Nh8→b7

H0394 Christopher Jones
England
dedicated to Luigi Vitale



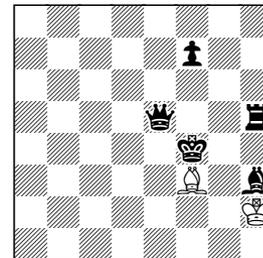
H#5 2 solution (3 + 10)

H0395 Gaspar J. Perrone
Argentina



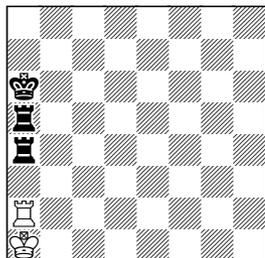
H#5 (8+10)

H0396 Marcel Tribowski
Germany



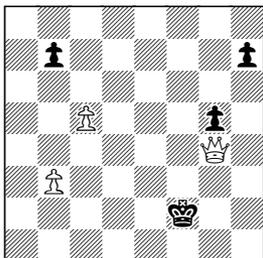
H#6 2 solutions (2+5)

H0388 Edgar Holladay
Carmel, IN



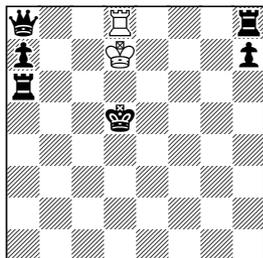
H#4 b) Ra4→a3 (2+3)
c) bQa4

H0389 Christer Jonsson
Sweden



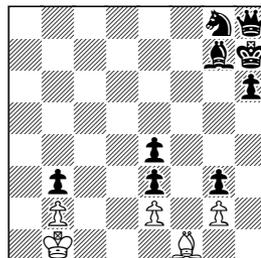
H#4 2 solutions (3+4)
NWK

H0390 b.ellinghoven
J.Kapros , J.Loís & H.Zucal
Germany/Argentina



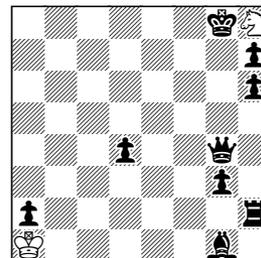
H#4 2 solutions (2+6)

H0397 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



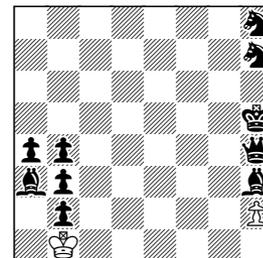
H#6 (5+9)

H0398 Noam Livnat
Israel
"The Rodeo"



H#6½ (2+9)

H0399 Miomir Nedeljковиć
& Bota Stojanović
Yugoslavia



H#8 (2+10)

SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions – HELPMATES

Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), Laurent Bouchez (LB), Mick Condon (MC), Danny L. Dunn (DD), C.C.Frankiss (CCF), Joshua Green (JG), Erich Hoffmann (EH), Ryan McCracken (RM), Jeremy Morse (JM), Mike Neumeier (MN), Israel Tzur (IT), Luigi Vitale (LV)

H0271 (Dikusarov) I. 1.Kb3 O-O-O 2.Ra2 Rd3#, II. 1.Kd3 Rxa4 2.Ke3 R4a3# A quaint “shape” ending in 2 ideal-mates. *A kind of position with a geometry of its own; the castling is a witty idea (EH), Interesting play from a simple position (DD)*

H0272 (Ilievski) B: 1.Be7 Qa4 2.Nc8 Ne6#, W: 1.Qe2 Bh4 2.Nd3 Nc4# Mutual unpins lead to mutual models. *Very impressive, the same strategic motives in two phases (AB), Intelligent play with the batteries (EH), Deux belles solutions (LB)*

H0273 (Frantsov) a) 1.Nc7 Kc3 2.Bb5 Qa2#, b) 1.Ne7 Ke3 2.Qh2 Qf3#, c) 1.Nc5 Kc1+ 2.Ka1 Qb2#, d) 1.Ne5 Ke1 2.Qh1 Qf2# Some rough twinning, but good economy for 2 pairs of echoed shutoffs and wK star-flight. *The problem with this theme is that after the first solution you exactly know what to do. Nevertheless the arrangement has its point (EH), Funny: starflights of the wK under the auspices of black cavalry (IT), Each Rook is shut off by each Knight! (RM)*

H0274 (Molnar) I. 1.d5 Nd8 (Bd4+?) 2.Ke5 Bd4#, II. 1.Nd5 Bd4+ (Nd8?) 2.Ke6 Nd8# Simple but elegant AB/BA differentiation via unpins on d5. *White cycle in very economical setting (AB), Good cycle of white moves (CCF), Excellent! Identical white moves in reverse order. I like it very much (EH), Change of move order causes change of functions and this leads to change of the mate nest (IT), Interesting switch of White's first and second moves (JG)*

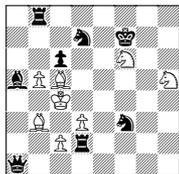
H0275 (Gurgui) a) 1.Kd4 Rbf6 2.Ke5 Nc6#, b) 1.cxb4 Nb5 2.Kc5 Rhc6#, c) 1.Kxd5 Rhd6+ 2.Kc5 Rbc6# Blend of motivations, with each white piece mating once.

H0276 (Shifrin) I. 1.Bc5 Bb7 2.Qe6 Rf2#, II. 1.Rc5 Re2 2.Qf4 Bc8# Beautifully echoed play leading to changed pins. One minor flaw: 1.Rc5 does not carry the “critical” element of 1.Bc5. *Black units move to pinning line allowing bQ to self-block (CCF), Replacing of the batteries by placing R or B on the Grimshaw-square c5, thus unpinning the bQ to block the remaining square. A good logic (EH), A fine and harmonious ODT (IT)*

H0277 (Bouchez/Makaronez) a) 1.Kxe5 Rg6 2.Ke4 Re6#, b) 1.Kd5 Bh5 2.Kc4 Bf7# An amusing return-to-pin giving model-mates. *Two model pin mates, but the plays are not connected (AB), Deux clouages du Cavalier noir f4 (LB)*

H0278 (Zujev) I. 1.Qb2 Rxa2 2.Ba5! Bxb2#, II. 1.Rb2 Rxa1 2.Ba3! Bd2# A brutal, but cute, dual-avoidance scheme.

John Rice
Problemblad 1999



H#2 5 sol. (8+8)

H0279 (Rice) I. 1.b4 dxc4 2.Rxc4+ Kxc4#, II. 1.Be4 dxe4 2.Rd5+ Kxd5#, III. 1.Bg1 Bxg1 2.Re5 Kxe5#, IV. 1.cxd3 Bf2 2.Rxc3 Kxc3# *King battery plays twice, very tricky! (AB), Elegant work of the King-battery (IT), It's hard to believe that 4 (!) Rook sacrifices are crammed into this one (RM)* This “task” is bettered, in quantity and quality, by the author himself (see diagram on left).
Keys: Qg1/Rg2/Rg8/Nh4/Nf8

H0280 (Drazkowski) a) 1.Ne5 Bf3 2.Re3 Rd6#, b) 1.Nc3 Be2 2.Rc5 Rd2# A complex array of line-closings and self-blocks with an Um-nov intro. *Two nice analogous variations (AB)*

H0281 (Youngs) I. 1.Qd2 Qxg4 2.Nxh7 Nh6#, II. 1.Qe2 Qxd5 2.Nxg7 Rh8# The “forced” keys lead to doubly-unmasked batteries. *Opening the way for wQ, although the first black move looks a bit artificial The problem is rather h#1½ (AB), Deux déclouages de la dame blanche avec de belles variantes (LB)*

H0282 (Zhuravlev) I. 1.Ncxd2+ Nc4+ 2.Nxc4 Ngf7#, II. 1.Nexd2+ Ne4+ 2.Nxe4 Nef7# This comical ploy by the Knights is no joke! *In spite of very similar variations, quite impressive. The only way to make Pd5 guarded is to sacrifice one white Knight. Interesting switchback plus Zilahi (AB), Good switchbacks and construction (CCF), The black checks add spice to this original Zilahi based entirely on cavalry activity (IT), Nice idea (MC)*

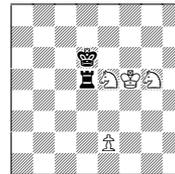
H0283 (Jonsson) a) 1.c5 Nc2 2.c4 Ne1#, b) 1.c4 Bc1 2.c3 Nf4#, c) 1.c3 Nc4 2.c2 Nb2#, d) 1.c2 Nc4 2.Qxe5+ Nxe5#, e) 1.c1N Bd1 2.Ne2 Bc2# A recent article by Chris Feather (Orbit 1999) discusses this very theme (“Excelsior in the H#2?”), but **H0283** seems the best bP version to date! *Very original ‘step by step’ excelsior; difficult to solve (AB), Excellent use of self-blocks to get varied mates (CCF), It seems to be a special case of a “Fortsetzungs-Hilfs-Matt (FSH)” (consecutive helpmate?) which I first saw in Die Schwalbe Nr. 172, 8/1998, defined by Chris Feather. Perhaps it should be called “helpmate type Jonsson”? The progress of the Pawn was predictable, but each solution presented a unique challenge (EH), Fantastic idea! The bP sweeps through the c-line leaving everywhere its traces as selfblocks (IT), Working through this to the final variation was like finding the prize at the bottom of a box of Crackerjack (DD), An enjoyable and creative Pawn march (RM), Novel idea for twins (JG)*

H0284 (Petrovic) a) 1.Ke4 Rh4+ 2.Kd5 Bb7# , b) 1.cxb3+ e.p. Rb4 2.Qd5 0-0# In a) the bR is missing, so 1.cxb3+ e.p. is illegal since 2...O-O does not retro-actively “prove” the en passant capture sound as ...Pc3xRb4 could have preceded the diagram. A tangled web, indeed! *Bravo!! I still have goosebumps on my arms (IT), Sneaky retro-trick (RM)*

H0285 (Prcic/Petkov) I. 1.Bb2 Qh1! 2.Qg1 Qxc6#, II. 1.Ba3 Qg1! 2.Qh1 Qxg6# Double-clearances for the wQ, but not without some careful stepping. *Opening lines for wQ, nevertheless, position looks very heavy (AB), Very, very good! The seemingly irrelevant Bishop moves trigger off exquisite cooperation of the Queens. The interchange of Queen moves is both surprising and beautiful! (IT), Fine construction (MC), Clearing the way for the wQ (RM)*

H0286 (Nedeljkovic) a) 1.afx5! Ng3 2.Ne2 Nxf5#, b) 1.Qxe2! Rf4 2.Rd5+ Nxd5# Complete double half-pin scheme leading to double-pinmates. *Quite complicated strategic problem, with a lot of motives, unpins, dual avoidance, and semipin. Problem in the great style (AB), The halppins result in doublepin mates (IT)*

H.Menkis, J.M.Loustau,
M.Caillaud, IMR (year?)



H#3* (4+2)

H0287 (Muralidharan) I. 1...Kf4 2.Bd5 Ne4+ 3.Kd4 c3#, II. 1...Kf5 2.Rd6 Ne6+ 3.Kd5 c4# *Chameleon-echo mates with the same strategy and all this in a miniature. Remarkable! (IT)* Thematic duo with critical play, but not entirely new (see diagram on the left). *set: 1...Kf4 2.Kc5 Ne4+ 3.Kd4 e3# play: 1.Kc5 e3 2.Rd6 Ne6+ 3.Kd5 e4#*

H0288 (Bales) a) 1.b1B Nb5 2.Be4 Rc1 3.Kd3 Rc3#, b) 1.Kd3 Kf2 2.c1R Kf3 3.Rc3 Rd1# Change of promotion with ideal-mates. *A Tanagra (5 pieces) with model mates and under-promotions. Can you ask for more? (IT), Nice use of promotions (DD)*

H0289 (Grigoryan) a) 1.Kc5 Bd1 2.Kd4 Bb3 3.c5 Nb5#, b) 1.d4 Nd1 2.Kd5 Kg4 3.Ke4 Bf3# A mixed bag for both sides preempts ideal-mates; the withdrawals to d1 are pleasing. *Quite tricky, but what is the theme here? (AB)*

H0290 (J. Vinagre/A. Vinagre) I. 1.Nd4+ Ke7 2.Rf5 Bc6+ 3.Ke5 Bxd6#, II. 1.Ng3 Kd7 2.Kd5 Bc3 3.Ne4 Bf7#, III. 1.d5 Kf7 2.Ke5 Bd2 3.Kd6 Bf4# Trio of wK retreats allow the bK entry.

H0291 (Markevitch) 1.Nd5 f4 2.f5 Rc7 3.Rf3 Rc4# A well-concealed plan with scant force; ideal-mate finale. *Very straight forward for a one-part problem (CCF)*

H0292 (Jones) a) 1.Nxc6 dxc6 2.Bb8 c7 3.Ka7 c8N#, b) 1.Nd7 cxd7 2.Bc6 d8Q+ 3.Kb7 dxc6# The Bishops make room for His Majesty. Who’d guess the d5P gives mate in both parts?!

H0293 (Bernleitner) a) 1.e5 Bxh7 2.Ke6 Bg8 3.Nd7 f8Q#, b) 1.Kd6 Ba8 2.Bd7 b7 3.Kc6 b8Q# Mirrored battery formations call for the right block on d7. *Mirrored echo-mates with Q-promotion. Very hard to find--like the former problem-H0292 (IT)*

H0294 (Csak) I. 1.Ng5 Ne4 2.Rc3! Rxc5 3.Ng4 Nd2#, II. 1.Ne4 Rg5 2.Rb3! Nxe4 3.Nf6 Rc5# Very refined sequence of unpins and self-unpins with Umnov effects to boot! *Subtle motivation for moves. The second black move should be anticipatory block since unpinning white figure means beating another figure. Full analogy between variations, great construction, magnificent! (AB), Multiple unpinnings and pinnings. A bit mechanical (CCF), Complex and harmonious play of unpins and change of pins (IT)*

H0295 (Nahnybida/Sobchuk) a) 1.Bf3 Nxb6 2.Bg4+ Nf7 3.Bf5 Ng5#, b) 1.Kf5 Nxd6+ 2.Kg4+ Nf7 3.Kf3 Ne5# A graceful theme: The bB and bK walk "reciprocal" unpin paths, while the wN plucks the right P-guard. *Pinning-unpinning white Knight by black piece, funny variation b) with black King as a thematic piece, nice problem (AB), Excellent matching twins of bB and bK. Fine problem (CCF), Very interesting: the bB and the bK make the same moves, with the same strategic intent, but in the reverse order (IT)*

H0296 (Gurov) a) 1.Kc5 exd3 2.Bb7 Bc6 3.Qb6 Rxc4#, b) 1.Kd5 e3 2.Rc7 Rc6 3.Be5 Bxg2# Stupendous Bristol play with bB & bR acting as anticipatory "shields"! *Very good matched solutions to each part (CCF), A great problem! Beside other pleasing features the Loshinsky magnet is motivated by the need to shield the wK (IT)*

H0297 (Janevski) I. 1.Qd6 Bf8 2.Kd4 Rxf4+ 3.Kc5 Rg5#, II. 1.Qf5 Rff8 2.Be5 Bc5+ 3.Kf4 Rxc4# Some imbalances here (2- vs. 1-step K-walk; vacation/self-block), but lots of commonality to compensate (anticipatory bQ self-pins; withdrawal self-unpins to f8, etc.). *Good pin-mate solutions (CCF), A classic evergreen (LV), In both solutions the piece that pins the Queen also unpins the Rook on the g-file to allow mate (DD)*

H0298 (Jonsson/Wiehagen) I. 1.Kxc2 Bxd4 2.Kc1 Nc3 3.Bc2 Be3#, II. 1.Bxc2 Bd2 2.Kc4 Bb4 3.Bd3 Nxd6#, III. 1.Kxe3 Nxd6 2.Kxf4 Rf2+ 3.Kg5 Nf7#, IV. 1.dxe3 Rxb2 2.Kc4 Rxb3 3.Bd3 Rb4#, V. 1.Kxe4 Bxd4 2.Kxf4 Rf2+ 3.Kg5 Be3#, VI. 1.dxe4 Rg2 2.Kc3 Rg7 3.d3 Rc7# A monumental task: double cyclic Zihali captures of 3 thematic white units! One wishes the repeated 3...Be3# , and forced keys, could have been avoided. *A remarkable problem , perhaps spoiled a bit by the last 2 mates which are repetitious (CCF), Double Zilahi cycle or a paraphrase on Bugs Bunny: "Anything the King can do, the others can do as well." (IT), Each White piece is captured twice! (RM)*

H0299 (Chumakov) I. 1.Rh1+ Rxh1 2.Kg3 Rg1+ 3.Kh2 Rxc4 4.Kh1 Rh4#, II. 1.g3 Rxh2 2.Kg4 Rxf2 3.Kh3 Rf4 4.Kh2 Rh4# Two complete wR Rundlaufs with bK mated on different squares! *Two wR Rundlaufs with mates from starting square. Good construction (CCF), Two wR circuits ending with switchbacks mate. Very hard to solve. It takes a long time until you realise that the bR will not help you and you should get rid of it (IT), A good surprise effect (LV), Deft lightness in a geometric union. Two rectangular wR paths of perimeter 8 join at a common vertex (MN)*

H0300 (Wenda) 1.e4 dxe4 2.Nf5 Nd3 3.Bg7 e5 4.Nh6 Nf4# Arrival of black (and white) unit on the set B/P battery line form a new B/N cooperative. This "ABP" was inspired by Fadil's SG8 article on battery destruction! *Rather tough (LV)*

H0301 (ellinghoven/Wenda) a) 1.Nd6 Rxd3 2.Ne4 Rf3 3.Kd4 Rf5 4.Kd3 Rd5#, b) 1.Bf1 Rxc4 2.Bh3 Rg1 3.Kf4 Re1 4.Kg4 Re4# A playful game of "Tag" between the wR and bK featuring Kniest captures! *Quite spectacular maneuvers of wR. The variations are not fully analogous, in a) bB is sacrificed to free the square for bK, bR is passive, but in b) bB is a blocker and bR is sacrificed. Nevertheless, very good (AB), Rook circuit complete with the elimination of the black piece standing on the would-be mating square. The overall impression is nice and harmonious (IT), Bellissimo (LV), A complex pairing with marked agility in close quarters (MN)*

H0302 (Toger) I. 1.Bg4 Rxc3 2.Nf3 Rxc2 3.Ne1 Rh2 4.Ng2 Rh1#, II. 1.Qc4+ Kb2 2.Ke2 Rxh2 3.Kd3 Rh1 4.Ne2 Rd1# The wR alternates capture of the "unnecessary" bN to escape just in time. *Unmatched mates but solving not easy (CCF), Very hard to solve--especially phase b) (IT), Quite intriguing (LV)*

H0303 (Sick) I. 1.Rxa2! Kf1 2.Kb3 Ke1 3.Ra1+ Kd2 4.Ka2 Kc2 5.Bg8 Nb4#, II. 1.Rxd3! Kf2

2.Rd5 Ke3 3.Ra5 Kd4 4.Bc2 Kc4 5.Bb3+ axb3# Unexpected Zihali keys lead to elegant side-board models. Note how cleverly the bB is directed. *Long-run Zilahi, but variations are rather straightforward (AB), Totally unexpected Zilahi with this minimal white force. Nice play with some surprising twist in it and mirrored mates (IT), A strong problem (LV), Black gobbles seemingly necessary (to remain alive) White forces. Joy! (MN)*

H0304 (Ersek) a) 1.b2 Nf5 2.Kc4 Nxe3+ 3.Kb3 Nd1 4.Ka2 e3 5.Bb3 Nc3#, b) 1.Kf6 Nf5 2.Kg6 Nxb4+ 3.Kh7 Ng6 4.Bh8 h4 5.Ng7 Nf8# The Knight's path is determined by the need to produce a wP-tempo. Unfortunate re-use of 1...Nf5 slightly diminishes the effect. *Nice method of gaining tempo move plus dual avoidance in a), very good (AB), White Knight creates a tempo move by capture of bP. Good strategy (CCF), An elegant problem (IT), Mating the bK in opposite corners (RM)*

H0305 (Stepochkin) 1.Kb6 Rxb4+ 2.Qb5 Rb2 3.Ra5 Rxa2 4.Qa6 Ra1 5.Kb5 Rb1# A witty concept: Black must make room so the Q and R can change places. *Black King and wR return to their starting squares, while bQ and bR change places. Not difficult (CCF), The mate picture and the white play was more or less clear on the onset (IT), The bP must be dispatched quickly (JM), A great work (LV), Paradoxically impressive black King key. "Hey, let's block the bQ's diagonal, so it can get out of the way??" (MN), Creative shuffle by the black pieces to set up the standard corridor mate for wR (RM)*

H0306 (Schoeneberg) 1.Na4 Nb6 2.Ra7 Na8 3.Ba5 Nb6 4.Bb7 Na8 5.Nb6 Nc7# Phenomenal construction, mechanics, and imagination to force a most astonishing series of N-switchbacks! *Double switchback by wN and single by bN. Very nice pendulum of wN, the problem full of humour! (AB), Excellent problem (CCF), Frisky rearrangement of the black pieces around their King accompanied by the pendulum of the wN. A neat riddle (IT), Straightforward, with both sides taking care not to tread on each other's toes (JM), What a splendid pendulum (LV), Solution shows why the wK must be hammered down. A formidable Knight oscillation! (MN), It is incredible that the Knight never makes a capture! (DD), White Knight plays jump-rope! (RM)*

H0307 (Stepochkin) a) 1.Ra7 Rxh7 2.Rg7 Rh4 3.O-O+ Rf4 4.Kh7 Rf5 5.fRg8 Rh5#, b) 1.Sd6 Rxa6 2.O-O-Ra8+ 3.Kb7 Rxd8 4.Ka6 Rxb8 5.Sb7 Ra8# An original combination of Kniest captures and castling! The timing in a) is particularly interesting, for example: 2...Rh5? leaves White tempo-less. *Quite spectacular, with castling and great work of white rook (AB), Fine pinning strategy in a). Good composition (CCF), Bravo! Both castlings are justified by speeding the bK to the perimeter of the board. I prefer phase a) because of the delicate maneuver of the wR (IT), Bravo Mr. Stepochkin (LV), The wR runs the gauntlet enemy crowd, in Bruce Lee fashion. Love it! (MN), A difficult problem combining castling on both wings with clever maneuvering of the wR to shield the wK and capture black pieces (RM)*

H0308 (Jonsson) 1.f4 Kh2! 2.f3+ Nf4 3.f2 Kg3 4.f1R Kh3! 5.Ra1 Nd5 6.Ra7 Nb6# The "unexpected" wK tempo-Rundlauf makes sense after one realizes White's dilemma. *Classic triangle of white King to lose tempo, very subtle and nice problem (AB), Good forward tempo moves but mating square and self-blocks fairly obvious (CCF), Excellent! Like H0304, a black-white square problem is posed before the wN, but here the solution is a K-triangle (IT), The wK makes a short Rundlauf inside an elegantly constructed prison (JM), Hard to solve (LV), The means to the end is quite startling here. Clever conception (MN), "All I have to do is get the wN to b6...but how to make 3 moves with the wK?" (RM), Nice tempo move by wK (JG)*

H0309 (Lozek) 1...Kg2! 2.Nf3 exf3 3.Ba7 f4 4.e3 f5 5.e2 f6 6.e1B f7 7.Bg3 f8Q+ 8.Bb8 Qf3# White's initial "free" move is anything but. The Excelsior and switchback to f3 are a refreshing concoction. *Rather straightforward, every side plays its own game without interferences; moreover, it is not clear to me why the problem is not H#7 with wK on g2 (AB), Fairly straightforward but nonetheless attractive (CCF), Neat and somewhat expected (IT), Economical but elementary (JM), A very good idea (LV), Brevity and cleanliness. A good 7 1/2 show (MN)*

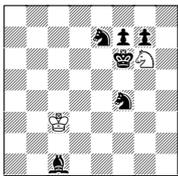
H0310 (Cseh) 1.h1N! Nd6 2.h2 Nf5 3.Ng3+ Nxg3 4.h1N! Ne2 5.fxe2+ Kg2! 6.f1N! Rc7 7.Bg3 Rxc3 8.Bxe5 Rxc2 9.Bg7 Rxc1 10.bxc1N! Bxg7# Michel Caillaud's comment sums it

up nicely: "This problem brought remembrance of a conversation with Gabor in Netanya. His friend and teacher Arpad Molnar had told him : 'Believe me, Gabor, don't lose time on the task of 4 Knight promotions; it is impossible to do.', and he told me that it was exactly the words to say for him to spend time on it! It is a great delight and excitement to see that he succeeded in so brilliant a way -- Bravo, Gabor! ". More good news: **H0310** is now computer-tested **sound!** *Clearly, 4 promotions to N is a fine achievement, but large number of captures spoils it for me(CCF), Great, great, great!! Four N-promotions, lively play. An admirable achievement (IT), A masterpiece. First 5 moves avoid Black mate, second 5 enable White mate. The solution is not only highly ingenious, but it also produces a new record of 4 successive bN promotions in a helpmate, beating No. 672 in my book, with beautifully varied motives for underpromotions. Another delight is the delayed explanation for rejecting 5...Kxe2 and hence also 4.h1B. Congratulations to the composer! (JM), I have no words: this is a problem from another planet!! (LV), Instantly my favorite helpmate of all-time. I am still reeling. One might ask himself, "What more can come of the next 999 years of this millennium in helpmates?" Whatever it is, it will have to be good ... damn good! (MN), Before working out the solution, one must figure out how to keep White from being mated (DD), An incredible problem. Will bN promotions never cease? (RM)*

H0311 (Fiebig/Degenkolbe) 1.Kxf8 c4 2.Ke8 c3 3.Kd7 c6+ 4.Kxc6 c5 5.Kxc5 c4 6.Kd4 c5 7.Kxe5 c6 8.Kf4 e5 9.Kxg5 h4+ 10.Kh6 h3 11.g5 hxg5+ 12.Kg7 g6 13.Kf8 g7+ 14.Ke8 g8Q# White seemingly has many ways to use up his available tempi, but there's only one correct way to allow the bK to circle the board! *Black King creates a number of tempo moves for White. Good composition (CCF), The Kingless White has to exercise his Pawns very carefully (IT), A confounding calculus! I dub thee, "The Abacus Problem."* (MN), A huge bK circuit combined with precise tempo-play by White (RM)

H0312 (Fiebig) 1...Bb1 2.Kb5 Ba2 3.Kc6 Bb1 4.Kd7 Ba2 5.Ke8 Bb1 6.Kf8 Ba2 7.Kg7 Bb1 8.Kh6 Ba2 9.Kg5 Bb1 10.Kf4 Ba2 11.Ke3 Bb1 12.Kd2 Ba2 13.Kc1 Bb1 14.Kb2 Ba2 15.Kxa1 Bb1 16.Kb2 Ba2 17.Kxc2 Bb1+ 18.Kxb3 Ba2+ 19.Ka4 Be6 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Bd8 e7 22.Kb5 exd8Q 23.Kc5 Qd5# Another long bK Rundlauf courtesy of NWK; the black Bishop's dual role is noteworthy. *Moves 1-18 fairly obvious but improves from then on (CCF), The White King is dead, but long live his heirs. An extraordinary epic! (MN), The prophet fortells a long bK march, but must search diligently for the final mate (RM)*

Joshua Green, H0249(v)



H#3½ 2 sol. (2+6)

Addendum: In his rush to compile the SG8 solutions for SG10, your humble Helpmate editor goofed! I'd intended to show the following version of H0249, which eliminates the key-move imbalances. Although the improved setting did not figure in the 1999 award (elsewhere this issue), it deserves another diagram: I. 1...Kd4 2.Ne6+ Ke4 3.Bg5 Nf4 4.Ng6 Nd5#, II. 1...Kc4 2.Nf5 Ne7 3.Ng6 Kd5 4.Bg5 Ng8#

FAIRIES

Editor: **Gianni Donati**, Judge: **Yves Cheylan**

Welcome to M.J. Elbaz, Stefano Spinelli, Gaspar Perrone, and V.V. Buka. The condition "BeamtenChess" in **F0168** provides that nothing whatsoever can move unless it is attacked by something on the opposing side. Brian, an ex-civil servant, explains that the English translation is 'Civil Servant Chess,' on the theory that public officials don't work unless somebody is watching them. In F0179, Black plays a single move, then White plays 4 consecutive moves to mate. Please note that **F0190** calls for an "ideal mate." Finally, personal thanks to Noam Livnat for the dedication to my son.

Description of Fairy pieces and conditions

Andernach Chess - On making a capture, units other than Kings change color.

Anti-Circe - On making a capture, any unit (including a King) is reborn on its game-array square. The captured unit disappears, as in normal chess. Since rebirth is obligatory, a capture is legal only if the relevant rebirth-square is unoccupied. A capture may be made either from or on a rebirth-square; promotion with capture is legal provided the rebirth-square of the promoted unit is unoccupied.

Berolina Pawns - Capture orthogonally, move diagonally.

Circe - When captured, a piece (other than a King) is reborn on its game-array square. Rook, Bishop and Knight are reborn on the square that is the same color as the square of the capture, Pawns on the file of capture. If the game-array is occupied, the captured piece disappears, as in a normal capture. Castling is permitted with a reborn Rook. Fairy pieces are regarded as being the result of promotion and so are reborn on the promotion-square on the file of the capture.

Empress - S+R (Em) : N+ R

Grasshopper - Moves along Queen-lines over another unit of either color to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival, but the hurdle is not affected.

Kamikaze unit - Disappears, along with the captured unit, when capturing. In combination with Circe, a kamikaze unit may be reborn.

LEO - The Chinese Queen, moves like a normal Queen but captures like a **Lion**.

Lion - moves and captures like a **Grasshopper**, but its arrival square may be any number of squares beyond the hurdle, provided the line is free.

MAO - The Chinese Knight, a Rider, moves along a bent line to the arrival square of a normal Knight, first orthogonally then diagonally. The MAO can be interfered with on the intervening square.

Mars Circe - In order to capture, any unit (including King) is first replaced on its rebirth-square (as for captured units in **Circe**) and then captures from this square. The captured unit disappears.

Maxi - Black must play his geometrically longest move or may choose from among longest moves of equal length, distances being measured from the center of each square.

Non-stop Equihopper - An Equihopper may hop over any unit (friend or enemy) and will land on the square which is the diametrical opposite of its springboard (hence the name). When it leaps along Q-lines, all squares between the Equihopper, the springboard and the destination must be empty (otherwise the leap is not possible.) Non-stop Equihopper: These variant beasts do not suffer from the restriction that Q-line leaps must be over free lines.

PAO - The Chinese Rook, moves like a normal Rook but captures like a **Lion**, on Rook-lines only.

Series-mover (ser.) - One side remains stationary while the stipulated number of moves is made by the other side. In a series-helpmate (ser.h#n) Black plays n moves to reach a position where White can mate in one, avoiding checks until the final move of the sequence. In a series-selfmate White plays n moves to reach a position where Black is forced to mate in one, checks again being avoided until the last move.

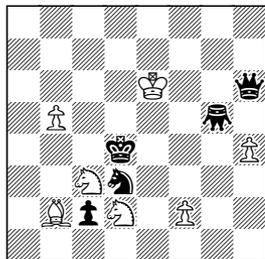
Ultraschachzwang - Black must check.

VAO - The Chinese Bishop, moves like a normal Bishop, but captures like a **Lion**, on Bishop lines only.

Vaulting King - when in check, takes the power(s) of the checking unit(s) in place of its own.

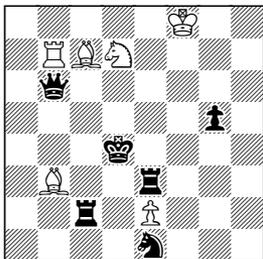


F0168 Jorg Kuhlmann
& Brian Stephenson
Germany/England



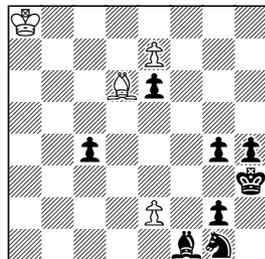
#2 BeamtenChess (7+5)
Grasshopper g5

F0169 M.J.Elbaz
Morocco



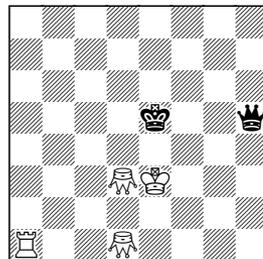
H#2 2 solutions (6+6)
Circe

F0170 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



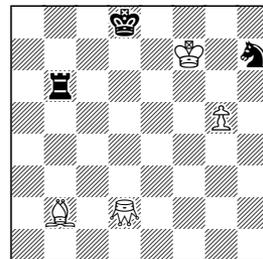
H#2 b) -Pg2 (4+8)
AntiCirce

F0177 Stefano Spinelli
Italy



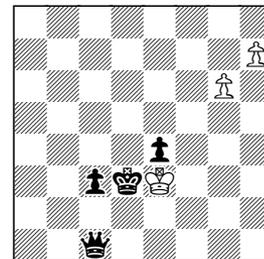
S#5 Maxi (4+2)
Grasshoppers

F0178 Stefano Spinelli
Italy



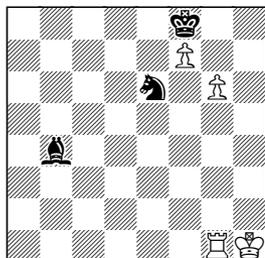
S#5 Maxi (4+3)
Grasshopper

F0179 Gaspar J. Perrone
Argentina



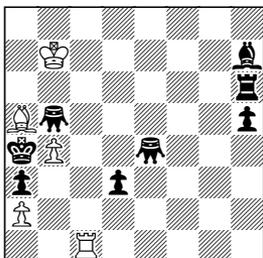
ser.#4 2 solutions (3+4)
Mars Circe

F0171 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



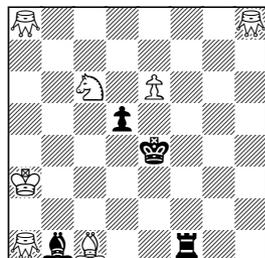
H#2 2 solutions (4+3)
Andernach Chess

F0172 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



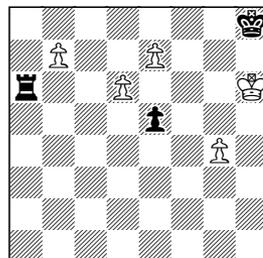
H#2 b) Ge4→a6 (5+8)
Andernach Chess
Grasshoppers

F0173 Newman Guttman
Evanston, IL



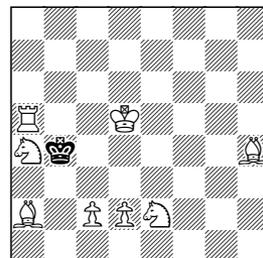
H#2 b) Bb1→d8 (7+4)
Grasshoppers

F0180 V.V.Buka
Russia



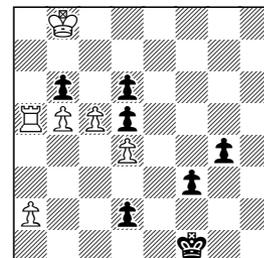
ser.s#16 (5+3)
White Berolina Pawns
(normal black Pawn)

F0181 Luigi Vitale
Italy



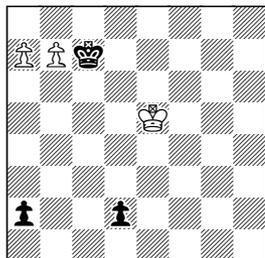
ser.h#16 Circe (8+1)

F0182 Joshua Green
Arizona



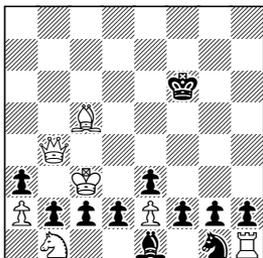
ser.h=27 (6+7)

F0174 Michael Neumeier
Cincinnati, OH



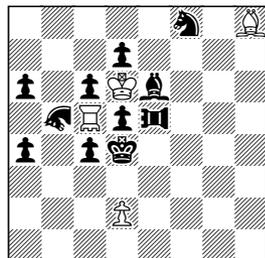
H=3 Vaulting Kings (3+3)

F0175 Michael Neumeier
Cincinnati, OH



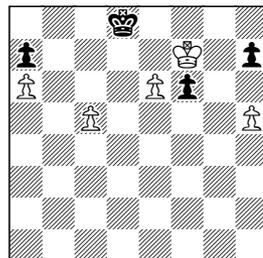
H=4 Vaulting Kings (7+11)

F0176 Mike Prcic
Los Angeles, CA



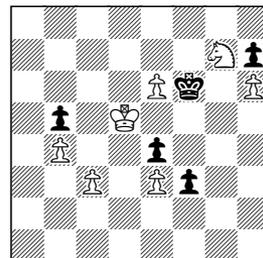
R#2 Kamikaze (4+11)
Empress on c5
MAO on b5, PAO on e5

F0183 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



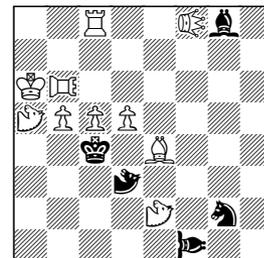
ser.h#23 (5+4)

F0184 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



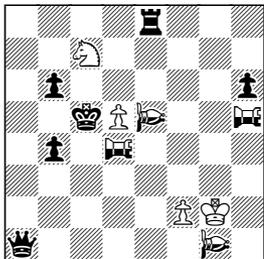
ser.h#24 (7+5)

F0185 Mike Prcic
Los Angeles, CA



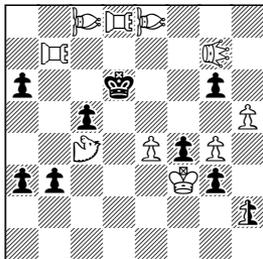
#2*√√ (10+5)
LEO, MAOs, PAO, VAO

F0186 Petko A. Petkov
Bulgaria
dedicated to Mike Prcic



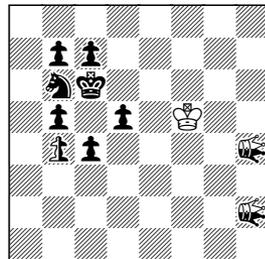
H#2 2 solutions (4+6+4n)
Neutral PAOs and VAOs

F0187 Petko A. Petkov
Bulgaria
dedicated to Virginia Prcic



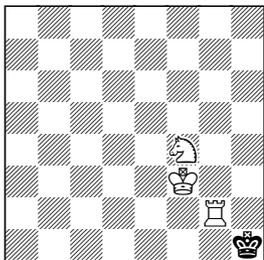
ser.h#3 (10+8+1n)
b) ♠h2→c2 c) ♠g3→h3
d) ♠g4→a7
LEO, MAO, PAOs, VAOs,
Neutral Pawn

F0188 Petko A. Petkov
Bulgaria
Dedicated to David L. Brown



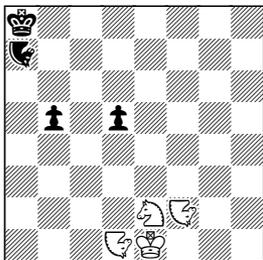
H#3 b) ♠d5→d7 (1+7+3n)
Neutral LEOs and Pawn

F0189 David L. Brown
Rockford, IL



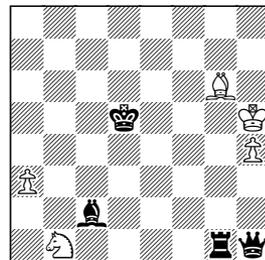
Ideal #3 (2+2)
a) diagram
b) after key in a)

F0190 Tadashi Wakashima
Japan



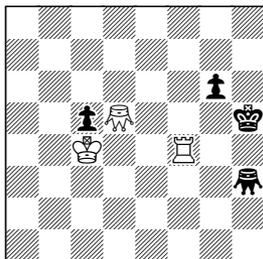
H#11 (4+4)
Ultraschachzwang
Non-stop Equihoppers

F0191 Noam Livnat
Israel
for Benjamin Raphael Donati's
Bar Mitzvah



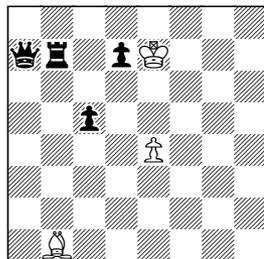
S#4 Maxi (5+4)

F0192 Vaclav Kotesovec
Czech Republic



H#3½ 3 solutions (3+4)
Grasshoppers

F0193 K. Muralidharan
India



Place the bK, then H#3 (3+4)

SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions – FAIRIES

Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), Laurent Bouchez (LB), C.C.Frankiss (CCF), Ryan McCracken (RM), Israel Tzur (IT), Luigi Vitale (LV)

F0134 (Guttman) 1.Bd5? (2.Exg8#), 1...Exa2 2.Rxa2#, 1...b3 2.Ec4#, 1...Exa6 2.Exa6#, 1...Exe2 2.Exc2#, 1...**Ec6!**; 1.Bc4! (2.Ee6#), 1...d5 2.Ec6# (complex), 1...b3 2.Bb5# (change), 1...Exa6 2.Exa6#, 1...Exe2 2.Exc2# **Diagram error: move Pe7 to d7.**

F0135 (Morice & Bouchez) 1.Bd5? (2.Rf7#), 1...Rxd5 2.Ng5(+Be7)# 1...Qb7!, 1.Ng5? (2.Nh7/Rf7#), 1...Bxd6!; **1.Rg7!** (2.Rg6#), 1...Qxd6 2.Rc5(+Q/Rf8)#, 1...Rxd6 2.d4(+Q/Bd8)#, 1...Nxd6 2.Ng5(+Ne8)#, 1...Bxd6 2.Bb2(+Pe5)#, [1...Nxg7 2.Ra5(+Rg6)#] 4 *autoclouages noirs sur une même case permettant 4 mats par renaissance d'un même pion blanc dont 3 avec promotions (LB)*, *Five black captures allow 5 different rebirth-mates! Highly entertaining (RM)*

F0136 (Petkov) I. 1.LEOd4 LEOf1 (LEOe2?) 2.LEOf4+ LEOe2#, II. 1.PAOd4 LEOc6 (LEOc5?) 2.PAOd6+ LEOc5#, III. 1.Sd4 LEOff4+ (LEOe4+?) 2.Sf5+ LEOe4# *Spectacular! Black unpin/selfblock moves set up white LEO battery mates (RM)*

F0137 (Petkov) I.1.MAOf3 PAOf2 2.MAOd4 PAOd2 3.MAOf5 PAOe4#, II. 1.MAOe4 PAOc2 2.Kd6 PAOc2 3.MAOc5 PAOd4# **The stipulation should have been: H#3. Easy to visualize the final mates, but getting the limited MAO to its destination makes it interesting (RM)**

F0138 (Ilievski) Set: 1...Ne4 2.Ge5 Nd4#, Sol: 1.Ne5 Nd4 2.Gc4 Ne4# *Interchange of white moves (IT)*

F0139 (Neumeier) I. 1.d1N Kd3 2.Nb2+ Ke5 3.a1B Kd4=, II. 1.d1R Kxd1 2.a1Q+ Kd3 3.Qd4+ Kxd4= *The first variation was easy, the second - fiendishly difficult and very nice, skilfully using fairy rules, very nice problem with AUW(AB), AUW! amusing N/B stalemate (RM)*

F0140 (Bales) 1.Rxd7 Rf4+ 2.Ke6 Rxe3#, b) replace Re3 with a wN, then: 1.Ke7 Nd5+ 2.Kd8 Rf8#, c) replace Rf8 with a wN, then: 1.Re7 bxc6 2.Re8 c7#

F0141 (Chernous) No solution. The intended solution is illegal: a) 1.Kc8 Kb5 2.NRc6 Kxc6(NRa8)# b) 1.Kd8 Ke5 2.NRd6 Kxd6(NRh8)#

F0142 (Chernous) a) 1.e1N! Rnxel(Nb8) 2.Rnb1 Rxb1(Rna8)#, b) 1.f1N! Rnxfl(Ng8) 2.Rng1 Rxgl(Rnh8)# *Who says you need a double-check to mate with a neutral piece? (RM)*

F0143 (Muralidharan) I. 1.Qc5+(A) Bc4(A) 2.Kd4(B) Nc6(B)#, II. 1.Qf5+(A) Ne4(A) 2.Kg4(B) Ng6(B)# *Critical Grimshaw with Alice used to make pieces invincible (RM)*

F0144 (Nahnybida) I. 1.NRxb5 Gh4 2.NRf7! Ge7#, II. 1.Gxf4 NRxc7 2.Gf2! NRa6# *Neat black switchbacks (RM)*

F0145 (Nahnybida) a) 1.Rf8 Rxf4(bPf7) 2.Nxf4(wRa1) Rxg1#, b) 1.Qg8 Bxg6(bPg7) 2.Bxg6(wBf1) Bxg2# *Anticipatory blocks plus unpinning in Circe style, very nice (AB), Anticipatory avoidance of rebirth. Never seen the like of it (IT), It only "looks" pinned! (RM)*

F0146 (Janev) I. 1.Rxa1(Rh8) Bxd3(Bf1) 2.Ra8 Bxb5(Bf1)#, 1.Rxf1(Ra8) Rxa3(Ra1) 2.Rh8 Rxa5(Ra1)# *Interesting Zilahi with intensive use of anticirce rules (AB), One black Rook incapacitates the other while one white piece vaporizes both Pawns in its path (RM)*

F0147 (Rallo) a) 1.Rnxa7(+nPa2) Rna3 2.Pna1Q+ Qnxa3(+nRh8)#, b) 1.Rng7 Pnh8N 2.Rng6+ Nnxg6(+Rna8)# **Our apology, we omitted the twin: b) nPa7→h7**

F0148 (Vitale) I. 1.Rf7+ Ke8 2.Rd7 cxd7 3.Nc6 d8Q+ 4.Nb8 Qxb8#, II. 1.Rf8 Kd7 2.Rb8 Kxc7(Pc2) 3.c1R Kd7 4.Rxc6 cxb8Q# *very, very complicated (IT)*

F0149 (Kirtley) **1.g5!** (2.Qc5+ Rxc5 3.c8Q+ Kxd6 4.e8B+ Kxe6 5.d8K+ Rxd8#), 1...Nxf7 2.Qxb6+ Bxb6 3.c8R+ Kxd6 4.e8K+ Kxe6 5.d8N+ Nxd8#, (1...Bxb4/Rc5 2.c8Q+ etc. with 4.Rxd8#) *With K promotions on different squares + AUW. A refreshing idea! (RM)*

F0150 (Millour) Set play: 1...cxb1 N B R Q (Id5) 2.Ka7(Id4) Nc6(Ie2)#, **1.Rh7(Ih6)!** 1...Rc8(Ig6) 2.Ka7(Ig5) Nc6(Ih3)#, 1...Na6(Ig4)+ 2.Ka7(Ig3) Kxb6(Ih4)#, 1...cxb1N(Ig5) 2.cxd8(Ih6) Nxa3(Ig8) 3.Ne6(Ih6) Na6(Ig6) 4.Ka7(Ig3) Kxb6(Ih6)#, 1...cxb1B(Ig5) 2.cxd8B(Ih6) Ba2(Ig7) 3.Be7(Ih6) Na6(Ig4) 4.Ka7(Ig3) Kxb6(Ih4)#, (3.Ka7[Ig6]? Nc6[Ih4]+ is not mate: 4.Rc7[Ic4]! and 2.cxd8Q[Ih6]? Ba6[Ig7] 3.Qe7[Ih6] Na6[Ig4] reflex mate: 4.Qb4[I d1]#, 1...cxb1R(Ig5) 2.cxd8R(Ih6) Ra1(Ig6) 3.Re8(Ih6) Na6(Ig4) 4.Ka7(Ig3) Kxb6(Ih4)#, (3.Ka7[Ig5]? Kxb6[Ih6]+ is not mate: 4.Rc7[Ic6]! and 2.cxd8Q[Ih6]? Ra1[Ig6] 3.Qe8[Ih6] Na6[Ig4] reflex mate: 4.Qb5[I d1]#, 1...cxb1Q(Ig5) 2.cxd8Q(Ih6) Qa2(Ig7) 3.Qe7(Ih6) Na6(Ig4) 4.Ka7(Ig3) Kxb6(Ih4)#, (4.Qb4[I d1]+ is not a reflex mate: 4...Qb2[Ie1]!!) 2...Qa1(Ig6) 3.Qe8(Ih6) Na6(Ig4) 4.Ka7(Ig3) Kxb6(Ih4)#, (2.cxd8B[Ih6]? Qa1[Ig6]!; 2.cxd8R(Ih6)? Qa2(Ig7)! **Babson task!**

F0151 (Csak) I. 1.Nd2! 2.Rf2! (2.Qe3?) 3.Kc5 4.b5, Bxf2#, II. 1.Ne2! 2.Qg2 (2.Rf3?) 3.Kc6 4.Kd5, Bxg2# *Strategic play and model mates, very good (AB), Beautiful chameleon mates. For a very similar idea of the same author in other kind of problem see PS966, The Problemist Supplement, Jan. 2000 (IT), Almost every move of the mechanism is shifted by one file! (RM)*

F0152 (Ilievski) I. 1.fxe6 5.exd2 6.d1N 7.Nc3 8.Nd5 Be5#, II. 1.f6 2.fxg5 3.gxf4 6.f1R 8.Rc6 Rd7# *Two variations with underpromotions, less spectacular than the next problem (AB), Nice underpromotions (IT), Two surprising ideas (LV)*

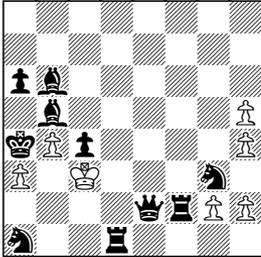
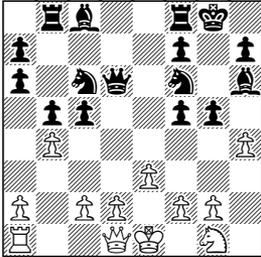
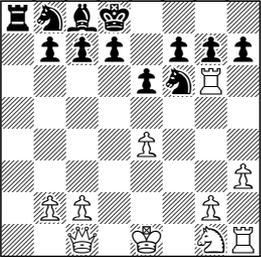
F0153 (Ersek) I. 2.g1N 4.Nc1 5.Be4 8.Rd3 Nc2#, II. 4.Kc1 5.Bc2 6.Rb1 7.a1B 8.Bb2 Na2# *Two very different variations with underpromotions, very good (AB), The slogan of this problem: shield the wK. The two underpromotions and the play in the two phases are very different from each other (IT), Absolutely perfect (LV)*

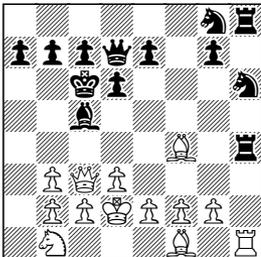
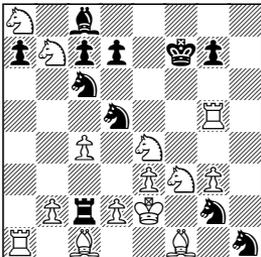
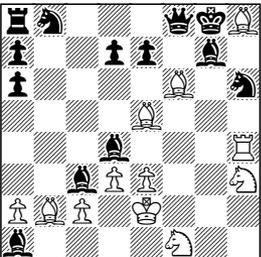
RETROS and PROOF GAMES

Editor: **Gianni Donati**, Judges: Retros **Henrik Juel**, Proof Games **Satoshi Hashimoto**

Welcome to Joshua Green, who submits his first retro problem. If it seems disorienting at first, don't be too tied to convention! Welcome also to George Sphicas, who is returning to composition after a brief hiatus. His "shc" (series helpmate consequent) requires that the legality of the position be tested after each black move. In the proof game field, we have some more diagonalizing from Michel, some thematic play from Mark and Thierry, and a very handsome looking collection of black pieces from Satoshi. (Thank you!)

APOLOGIES to Paul Raican, whose **R0039** had an incomplete stipulation. It should have read "Add wK, wR, 2 wN's, 6 wP's, bB, and 3 bP's for an IC, Circe." The six white Pawns make a difference!

<p>R0047 George P. Sphicas New York, NY</p>  <p>shc.#10 (7+10)</p>	<p>P0060 Satoshi Hashimoto Japan dedicated to Gianni Donati</p>  <p>Proof game in 13.0 moves (12+16)</p>	<p>P0061 Mark Kirtley Alpine, TX</p>  <p>Proof game in 15.5 moves 2 variations (10+12)</p>
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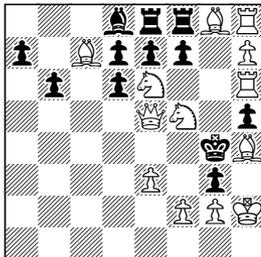
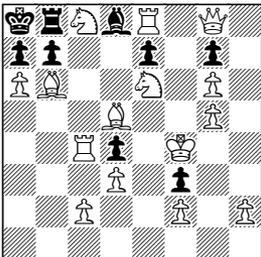
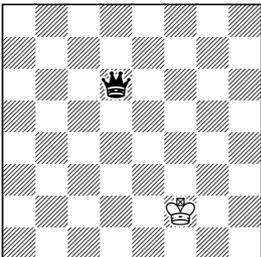
<p>P0062 Thierry LeGleuher France</p>  <p>Proof game in 20.0 moves (13+13)</p>	<p>P0063 Michel Caillaud France</p>  <p>Proof game in 21.0 moves (14+11)</p>	<p>P0064 Michel Caillaud France</p>  <p>Proof game in 26.5 moves (12+13)</p>
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SG9 (January-March 2000) Solutions – RETROS and PROOF GAMES

Comments from Andrzej Baniak (AB), C.C.Frankiss (CCF), Joshua Green (JG), Erich Hoffmann (EH), Ryan McCracken (RM), Israel Tzur (IT)

R0038 (Livnat) Consider (a) the blocked structure on the 7th and 8th ranks and (b) the last 6 moves: (a) The block:

1. The bBf8 was captured at home. The two wBs were promoted on g8 and h8 by wPh2 and wPe2, which captured the 4 remaining black pieces. bPh7xg6 was played long ago. The wPb7 came straight from b2.
2. The wK entered the 8th row via a6 and b7, while the bK waited outside. The block was sealed after bNe6-f8, wKc8-d8. Black's final move, Kb7-b8, was made when bRa8 was in its place, hence a white piece had to be blocking the bR-wK open line, either on b8 or on c8.
3. On c8: clearly not a wQ,R or B (bKb7-b8 would have been impossible), → it was a wN. On b8: not a wQ since the bK couldn't have entered b7, nor a wB since there are no free wP's to promote: → it must have been a wR (wRc8-b8+ bKb7:Rb8) or a wN (with another wN on c8, i.e.: wNa6(c6)-b8+ bKc6(a6)-b7 with bKb7:Nb8 etc.).

<p>R0044 Arpad Molnar Hungary</p>  <p>Last 7 single moves? (13+12)</p>	<p>R0045 Joshua Green Arizona</p>  <p>#1 (15+9)</p>	<p>R0046 Nikita Plaksin Russia</p>  <p>Add 3 wQ's, wN, bK, bQ and bB for a 5+4 Illegal Cluster, Circe</p>
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An Introduction to PatCh

by Noam Livnat

(b) The last 6 moves:

4. Only after bKb7-b8 were white moves: Bc8, Pb7 made. Black's moves were with it's Pc3. A careful observation will prove that the wNb5 position forces 4 white last moves: 2 with the B, one with the N, one with the P. Black Pc6 must have started on the 6 row. If from b6 (capturing, say, wBc5), White would need an extra Pb5-b6 move: impossible. So, coming from c6, it leaves no R or N capture for the bK to make on b8 (bPb7xc6 and bPh7xg6 captured white-squares white pieces, namely the R and the N, and NOT the wBc1!).

5. So: wK on d8, wN on c8, wB on c4(d3), wPb6 - bKa6 (under check), Ra8, Pc6. And now: bKa6-b7 wBc4-a6+ Kb8 Nd6 c5 Bc8 c4 b7 c3 Nb5.

6. Now, after wKc8-d8 was made, wNd6(b6) came to c8 WITHOUT CAPTURING. So bRa8 couldn't have been there at the time (b7xc6 being done a long time ago, and having no extra pieces, white or black, to block on b8.)

7. Conclusion: Only after wNc8 sealed the block was bRb8-a8 played, and no other piece was there to visit b8 afterwards. So the bRa8 was the last piece to visit b8 before the bK. *And bRa8 must exit via b8 to unpin the wN (RM)*

R0039 (Raican) Solution will appear in SG 12.

P0050 (Caillaud) 1.h4 a5 2.h5 a4 3.h6 a3 4.hxg7 axb2 5.a4 h5 6.Ra3 Rh6 7.Rf3 Rc6 8.Na3 Nh6 9.g8R b1R 10.Rg4 Rb5 11.Re4 Rd5 12.g4 b5 13.g5 b4 14.g6 b3 15.g7 b2 16.g8R b1R 17.Rg2 Rb7 *Very symmetrical solution (CCF), This was perhaps not very difficult to solve, but the idea is nice and might lead to my own experiments on the theme. A good one to start with, too. I fear it is impossible to avoid the two ways of positioning the central Rooks (EH), The symmetric diagram with its eight Rooks on the main diagonal is pleasing to the eyes, but the total symmetry of the solution is a bit disappointing (IT), Smooth, totally symmetrical realization of task...but that made it easy to solve (RM)*

P0051 (Kirtley) 1.h4 Nf6 2.h5 Ne4 3.Rh4 Nxd2 4.Rg4 Ne4 5.Qd6 Nc6 6.Qh2 d6 7.Bf4 d5 8.e3 d4 9.Bb5 d3 10.Nf3 d2+ 11.Ke2 d1R 12.Nd4 Rd3 13.Nd2 Rc3 14.Rh1 Rc5 15.Qg1 Rd5 16.Qd1 Rd7 17.Bd6 Nb8 18.Bxd7+ *Circle trip by black Bishop, quite spectacular. The main problem is how to put black Rook on f6 before putting white Queen on e6, very nice (AB), Attractive bB Rundlauf, well executed (CCF), A very intricate mutual fitting of the moves with the witty idea of the Bishop running in a circle. I am looking forward to the comments to learn the name of the theme (EH), Circuit of the bB (IT)*

P0052 (Kirtley) 1.a4 b5 2.axb5 h5 3.Rxa7 Rh6 4.Rxc7 Rha6 5.Rxc8 Nc6 6.Rxc6 Nf6 7.Rxf6 Qc7 8.Rxf7 O-O-O 9.Rxf8 Qxh2 10.Rf4 Qxg2 11.Bxg2 Ra1 12.Be4 Rxb1 13.Nf3 Rxc1 14.O-O Rxd1 15.Rh4 Ra1 16.Rh1 Ra8 17.Ra1 Rh8 **Cooked!** See the improved version, P0057, in SG10. *Rundlauf of the bPd7 and circuit of the wQ (IT)*

P0053 (Hashimoto) 1.Nc3 e5 2.Nd5 e4 3.Nf6+ Qxg6 4.Nh3 Qf3 5.Nf4 f5 6.Nd5 Kf7 7.Nc3 Kg6 8.Nb1 Kh6 *Interesting, not 'proper' Knight stays on b1. The idea is that Knight should be taken on black square, hence, if it is g1N, then white have no waiting move, very good (AB), Neat Knight switch over (CCF), The (really delightful!) logic lies in the numerical sequence of the Knight's moves; you better count them or he will become a »Knight Mayor« (Lewis Carroll: Phantasmagoria, Canto 5). One N is captured, no promotion. If it is Ng1, then this has to be done with the last move, e.g. on a white square; but this is impossible with an even number of moves for the Ng1 on a black one. So it has to be Nb1 captured on a black square, because Ng1 moves to b1 in an odd number of moves so that odd+odd adds up to even; the only square in question is f6 (EH), The easiest of Mr. Hashimoto's problems I had seen so far, but not without its fine point: the Nb1 of the diagram originally stood on g1 (IT), N-switch motivated by the need to make an odd number of moves with each N (RM), The N-switch is very cleverly concealed (JG)*

Solving Points in this issue

#2 54	#3 45	#n 68	Studies 14
S# 64	Q# 26	H# 197	F# 126
Retro 64	TOTAL POINTS 658		

Chess - The New Generation??

Chess, you know, is only a game, and its rules are not really sacred. The game is so rich though - and so are the chess problems: the orthodox, the helpmates, selfmates etc. - that anyone trying to present a new rule should have something GOOD up his sleeve, or it wouldn't be accepted. And besides, many imaginative fairy rules are already out there. But, humbly, I'll try to suggest something new: I call it PatCh.

I'd love to see PatCh catch.

PatCh means Patience Chess. The official definition of the PatCh rule is thus: "When a piece moves, the square it leaves becomes temporarily restricted from being reoccupied (but not from being passed through!), until after the next move of this piece's side."

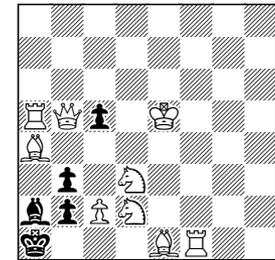
For example, the game 1. e2-e4 d7-d5 2. Ng1-e2?? is illegal, PatCh speaking. (I'll use ?? to mark any illegal PatCh move, and !! to mark a move that makes use of the PatCh rule). 1. e4 d5 2. Qf3 d:e4 3. Q:e4 Bd7 4. Kd1 is perfectly all right, but 3. Nf3?? Or 3. ...Qd5?? would be wrong.

The idea, to put it philosophically, is that every piece, when it moves, leaves somewhat of a "presence" behind it, as if there is some odor which stays until the next move, or as if there is a temporary "patch" on this empty place... Meanwhile, although it is all right to go through this vacant square, no man can re-enter the abandoned post: nor white, neither black, and not even the same piece, until the next move revives this possibility

Note, please, that PatCh affects only empty squares: it can never prevent a capture, since the target square could not have been deserted the move before, no matter what! If I managed to complicate a simple idea, please forgive me; but it is quite simple: No bizarre ideas, no complicated new moves, no wild board rules. But it does have some interesting effects, and it is quite tricky and not very easy to master. It appealed to me because of its naturalness, the moral edge (Have patience, s'il-vous-plait...), - and also

for another reason, which I'll refer to later. Let's take a look at some examples.

PatCh No.1



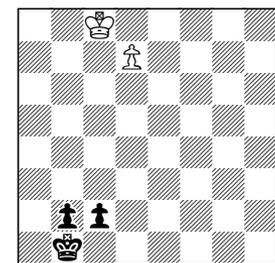
{PatCh} #2 (9+5)

There is no solution in this position in 'Normal' chess; in PatCh, though, the play becomes quite interesting, with two tries and a thematic key. Please try to solve it before you look at the solution!

Tries: 1.Qxb3? (2.Qxb2#), 1...b1Q/R 2.Qc3!!# (2.Qb2??), but 1...b1N! (2.Qb2#??), 1.Nxb3+? BxNb3 2.Bc3!!# (2...Ka2??), but 1...Kb1 (2.Nd2??) Two White threats on b3, two Black answers on b1. Solution: **1.Nc4!** (zz) No threats but have PATIENCE... 1...Bb1 2.Bb3!!# (2...Ba2??), 1..b1Q/R 2.Bc3!!# (2...b2??), 1...Kb1 2.Na3# (2...Ka1??)

Got it? Let's proceed. Here is a helpmate sketch, which shows how easy it is to reach 4 promotions.

PatCh No.2

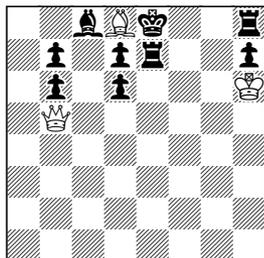


{PatCh}H#2 2 sol. (2+3)

1.Ka1? d8Q 2.b1R?? Qa5# Sols: 1.c1N d8Q 2.Na2 Qd1# 1.c1B d8Q 2.Ka1 Qa5#

Usually, as you have noticed, there are two empty squares on the board which are blocked by the PatCh rule; but look what can happen in this helpstalemate.

PatCh No.3

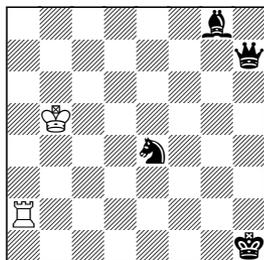


{PatCh} H=2 2 sol. (3+9)

The first solution is simple: get rid of one black Rook, and block the other and the free Pawn: 1.Kf7 Bxe7 2.Kg8 Bxd6!=(3.Kf7??) But what about the second solution? Watch how the wQ and the wB change their duties: 1.Rf7 Qd5 2.0-0 Bxb6!=(3.Kh8??, Re8??, Rd8??). We have here THREE blocked squares, and a very unexpected stalemate in a seemingly open position.

And what about selfmates? First, I'd like you to see what PatCh can do to maximummers in the following sketch.

PatCh No.4

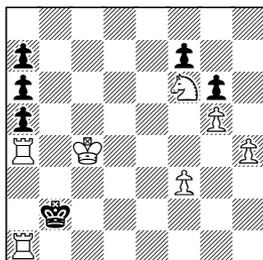


{PatCh} S#2 Maxi (2+4)

The solution, 1.Ra7! Bb3 (Ba2?) 2.Ra5! Qb7# (Bg8?, Qa7?) shows how rich a PatCh maximummer can get.

But here is a tough cookie.

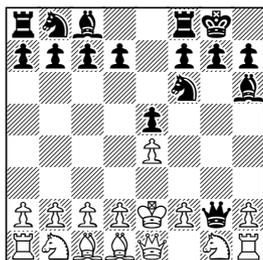
PatCh No.5



{PatCh} S#9 (6+6)

Three different aspects of PatCh are shown here. Enjoy! 1.Rxa5! Kc2 2.Rxa6! (What for?) Kd2 (Kb2??) 3.Kd4 (The royal shuffle starts) Ke2 (Kc2?? etc.) 4.Ke4 Kf2 5.Kf4 Kg2 6.Kg4 Kh2 7.R6a4!! (f4??) (The crucial tempo! That's what for...there is no other way to lose a move) a5 (Kg2??, a6??) 8.f4 Kg2 9.Ne4!! f5# (Kh2??, f6??) (10...gxf e.p.??).

PatCh No.6



{PatCh} PG 8.0 (15+16)

But the most revolutionary effect of PatCh is probably in retros; and this is what captured my heart. PatCh, you see, is a unique innovation. It may be the only rule that makes retroanalysis an integral part of the play. It is not enough to see the position itself in order to know which moves are legal, you have to know the previous White-Black moves too. Black's sequence is standard: 1...e5 2...Qg5 (Be7??) 3...Qxg2 (Be7 4...Qxg2 5...Bg5??) 4...Be7 5...Bg5 6...Nf6 7...Bh6 for instance. But the normal-chess 6-moves-White-sequence (e4-Be2-Kf1-Qe1-Bd1-Ke2), proves to be rather difficult to achieve in PatCh.

If you already gained some control of this tricky business and were careful, you could find the single White line 1. e4 2. Qf3! 3. Be2 4. Qe3 (or Bd1) 5. Kf1 6. Bd1 (or Qe3) 7. Qe1 8. Ke2. But what about the bQ on g2? So Black must lead his Bishop via c5 and not e7, in order to delay the BQ from an early check on g2; and this maneuver decides the dual of the white moves. So: 1. e2 e5 2. Qf3 Bc5 3. Be2 Be3 4. Bd1 Bh6 5. Kf1 Qg5 6. Qe3 Nf6 7. Qe1 Q:g2+ 8. Ke2 0-0!

And, finally, three short observations: **Ideal mate:** If a square by the King is guarded but is also blocked by the PatCh condition, does this harm an ideal mate? Or

maybe this square simply does not exist, as if it's outside the board for one move? Well, it seems that, since this square can be passed through, it does exist, and therefore ruins the ideal chess! That's my feeling, anyhow. **Serial problems:** The final move should avoid, by the above definition, only the last counter-color move. And note please that in retro-inclined serials, the series-moving side should avoid entering the last retro-proven deserted square.

Circe: wRg8xNe8 cannot recreate the bNg8!

That's all, folks! Hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Happy PatChing!

StrateGems 1999 Solvers Ladder (Corrected)

by Mike Prcic

As you might remember, during the early months of 1999, we made a change in solutions editor. After John Meyers stepped down, I took over. During the transition period, some SG5 solutions got lost. After the publication of the 1999 solvers' ladder, some of you complained, and rightly so, about not having all solutions accounted for. Our apologies to any solvers who were effected. I received the copies of several SG5 solutions and I revised the final ladder. It is shown on the following page along with individual categories winners. As you can see, there are some minor changes. I hope this type of problem will not repeat itself in the year 2000. Having said that, I must warn you that sometimes mail does not reach its destination. On the average, I have to re-mail five issues to our subscribers. The same may happen to letters sent to me. If you can, please e-mail your solutions to me--especially if you have comments. It saves me from having to retype them, and also I can e-mail back confirming the receipt of your mail.

Being solutions editor is a big job. Combing through thousands of solutions per issue takes some stamina. Many times, the solutions have typos. I always try to give the benefit of the doubt to the solvers. Sometimes I err, but on the average, you the solvers get ahead. So if you see an error, it is not intentional. Do let me know, and I will correct it.

Some of you suggested ratings for individual categories. We will be considering this at our yearly meeting in October.

Here are the latest updates for Experts (E), Ascents (A) and points carry-over (xxx).

Israel Tzur E1-A2 (480), Richard Fellrath E1-A1 (198), C.C.Frankis E1-A1 (192), William Longren E1-A1 (13), Harry Tamvakis E1 (534), Kenneth Davenport A2 (441), Todd Barre A2 (378), Tom Langland A2 (244), Luigi Vitale A2 (224), Ryan McCracken A2 (178), Barry Keith A2 (110), Matthew Dickey A1 (448), Efren Petite A1 (421), Eliahu Fasher A1 (413), Eloy Martinelli A1 (387), Mark Ridley A1 (173), Danny Dunn A1 (169), Henryk Kalafut A1 (1), Frank Phelan (468), Dailon Stauvers (462), Gabriel Balinth (380), Paul Steiner (320), Takeshi Honoue (282), Laurent Bouchez (259), Joshua Green (252), Ray Tomanek (216), Benjamin Good (198), Alex Markevitch (195), Martin Lubell (179), Carlos Grassano (138), Frank Lee (55), Michael Neumeier (22), Dean Hightower (8), Maurice Keady (2)

NAME	#2	#n	E	S#	H#	F#	Q#	R	P	Total	Place
William Longren	160	268	35	32	860	256	37	87	175	1910	1
Harry Tamvakis	156	202	21	20	874	240	32	72	119	1736	2
Israel Tzur	158	243	42	52	862	175	41	0	112	1685	3
Ryan McCracken	114	217	14	50	676	223	49	38	63	1444	4
Kenny Davenport	160	231	35	51	819	51	15	7	28	1397	5
Richard Fellrath	152	251	0	62	693	71	0	21	14	1264	6
Barry Keith	42	24	0	8	730	203	37	44	105	1193	7
Eloy Martinelli	80	148	0	45	461	141	51	28	70	1024	8
Todd Barre	160	14	0	14	572	126	2	14	0	902	9
Matthew Dickey	112	21	0	8	537	98	6	52	56	890	10
Eiahu Fasher	40	46	0	18	725	13	0	0	0	842	11
Efren Petite	120	169	0	36	491	20	2	0	0	838	12
Danny Dunn	112	7	0	0	681	0	6	0	0	806	13
Tom Langland	80	135	35	54	434	0	0	0	0	738	14
Henryk Kalafut	40	110	21	48	228	115	0	27	49	638	15
Luigi Vitale	0	51	0	34	331	147	46	0	0	609	16
Mark Ridley	2	0	0	4	391	110	0	3		510	17
Frank Phelan	164	304	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	468	18
Gabriel Balinth	148	225	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	380	19
Dailon Stauvers	132	19	0	0	159	0	0	0	0	310	20
Valerij Smirnov	44	0	0	0	250	3	0	0	0	297	21
Takeshi Honoue	18	0	0	2	173	61	0	0	28	282	22
Laurent Bouchez	80	77	0	0	96	6	0	0	0	259	23
Joshua Green	42	22	7	6	70	51	6	41	7	252	24
Martin Lubell	82	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	179	25
Paul Steiner	162	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	162	26
Ben Good	10	0	0	0	77	60	0	0	0	147	27
Carlos Grassano	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	106	28
Frank Lee	16	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	25	29
Michael Neumeier	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	30
Ray Tomanek	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	31

Individual category winners:

#2	1 st Frank Phelan, 2 nd Paul Steiner 3 rd Kenny Davenport & William Longren
#n	1 st Frank Phelan, 2 nd William Longren, 3 rd Richard Fellrath
E	1 st Israel Tzur, tied for 2 nd Kenny Davenport, William Longren & Tom Langland
S#	1 st Richard Fellrath, 2 nd Tom Langland, 3 rd Israel Tzur
H#	1 st Harry Tamvakis, 2 nd Israel Tzur, 3 rd William Longren
F#	1 st William Longren, 2 nd Harry Tamvakis, 3 rd Ryan McCracken
Q#	1 st Eloy Martinelli, 2 nd Ryan McCracken, 3 rd Luigi Vitale
R	1 st William Longren, 2 nd Harry Tamvakis, 3 rd Matthew Dickey
P	1 st William Longren, 2 nd Harry Tamvakis, 3 rd Israel Tzur

by Mike Prcic

This book (Volume III), the last of the three books, completes the work of Grandmaster Comins Mansfield. It consists of 1190 compositions, some of them originals. It covers the period from 1963-1984. Said the author: "At the start of this period, Comins Mansfield was 67. At that age, most composers have run out of enthusiasm, inspiration, energy, and even life itself, but CM continued his joyous path of chess problem composition for almost another 20 years until he died aged 87 on 28th March 1984."

The book itself was written with great care. Each composition is diagrammed with complete solution and comprehensive comment. Extensive biographical information is given at the end of the book. The cost of the book is \$17.50 (check on an American bank). Send check to: BCPS Book Sales, P.M.Fayers, 2 Beechwood Avenue, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2PA, England. The first two volumes are also available at \$8.50 and \$15.50 from Peter Fayers.

From the book, I have selected three unpublished problems.

No. 1178 1.Rd4! (2.Rf4#), 1...N~ 2.Qc5#, 1...Nb6 2.Be4#, 1...Nd6 2.Bd7#, 1...Ne5 2.Ne7#, 1...Ne3/Rf3 2.R(x)f3#

This is the first of CM's evidently unpublished problems in the best order I can deduce. Traced in the White-Hume Collection, and sent in by Michael McDowell, **1178** (not in CM's Albums) is a remarkably good example of *black correction* combined with unpins of the wBc6. The bPa2, there for accuracy, is another indication of the time of this composition, circa 1920s.

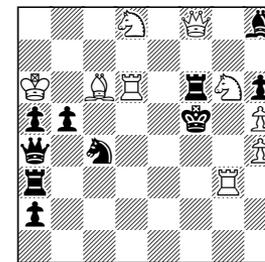
No. 1179 1.Ndc1? (zz), 1...B~ 2.N(x)d4# and/or 2.N(x)d2#, 1...Qd2 2.Nxd2#, 1...Qe2 2.Qxe2#, 1...Qxc1/Qd3 2.Qxf2#, 1...Qe1!; **1.Nbc1!** (zz), 1...B~ 2.N(x)e1 and/or 2.N(x)e5, 1...Qe2 2.Qxe2#, 1...Qxd3/Qe4/Qe6-e8 2.Qxf2#, 1...N~ 2.Qg2#

"Sent to Finnish tourney 14.4.66" (CM). In preparation for my book *Comins Mansfield MBE: Chess Problems of a Grandmaster (BCPS 1976)*, I solved the problem en route by train for the 1966 FIDE Problem Congress in Barcelona. Has this skilful combination of *half-battery* and *half-pin* really gone unpublished for more than 30 years?

No. 1190 1.Kd7? (zz), 1...Nxf4 2.Kd6#, 1...Nd8 2.Kxd8, 1...Nxc5+ 2.Qxc5#, 1...Nf8+/Ng7/Nxd4 2.Q(x)f8, 1...Ng5!; **1.Rd7!** (2.Rf7#), 1.Nxf4 2.Re7#, 1...Nc7+ 2.Rxc7#, 1...Ng7+ .Rxc7#

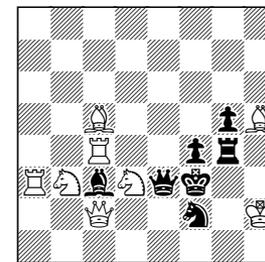
"Solving Tourney" is the only clue – but even that serves as a reminder of CM's life-long generosity in supplying obscure columns with perfectly good problems. What solver would not jump at 1.Kd7 to release stalemate – or should it be 1.Rd7? A Meredith and a gentle finale. The pieces are put back in the box for the last time.

No. 1178 Unpublished?



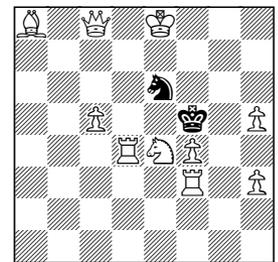
#2 (9+10)

No. 1179 Unpublished?



#2 (8+7)

No. 1190 Unpublished?



#2 (10+2)