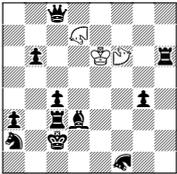
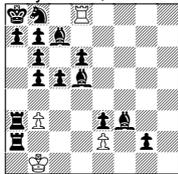
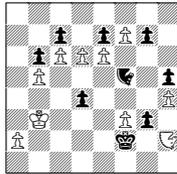
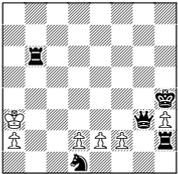


This tourney is from the final issue of the USPB (No.105-106). With the untimely and sad passing of the Judge, Vladimir Gurvich, I was asked to fill-in. I feel that six of the nine problems have merit for award.

<p>1st Prize, Juraj Lorinc USPB 1997</p>  <p>H#2 2 sols. (3+11) SpiralRiders d7, f1 DiagonalSpiralrider f6</p>	<p>2nd Prize Alexander Shvichenko Andrey Frolkin, USPB 1997</p>  <p>H#3 2 sols. (4+15) Andernach</p>	<p>Special Prize Unto Heinonen USPB 1997</p>  <p>ser.s#24 (10+9) Nightriders</p>	<p>Honorable Mention George P. Sphicas USPB 1997</p>  <p>ser.s=30 (6+5)</p>
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1st Prize – (Juraj Lorinc - #3511) Unpinned White battery play is a staple of many problems. But here, there is a unique idea of combining two pieces into one bi-directional battery: each of the pinned White pieces is *both* the base and the firing piece in neatly matched reciprocal openings. The domain of these Spiral Knights is difficult to visualize (i.e. their confusing zigzag paths of movement), but while I find tracking them unpleasant, this should not detract from the amazing result! Note that the wK's first moves are decided by the SRf1 (Ke7? or Kf7?), and further by his not interfering on either white Spiral's path. I. 1.Kb2 Kd5(Ke5?) 2.Rc2 SRxd3#, II. 1.Kd1 Ke5(Kd5?) 2.Bc2 DSxc3#

2nd Prize – (Alexander Shvichenko & Andrey Frolkin - #3512) This is a very fresh idea using reversing Andernach properties to perform capture clearances. The beautiful line openings are really "switchbacks" by Black, again, to effect Andernach mates. Also, both solutions neatly use the wK in the process for accuracy. These are perfectly matched solutions. To those new solvers to fairies, note that the position is not illegal since the bP formation (remember, this is Andernach!) would have been created by previous captures. And likewise, the argument for *economy of force* is almost irrelevant. I. 1.Rxe2(=wR) Ra2 2.Rxb3(=wR) Rxa7(=bR) 3.Ra2 Ra3#, II. 1.Bxe2(=wB) Bf3 2.Bxb3(=wB) Bxb7(=bB) 3.Bf3 Bd5#

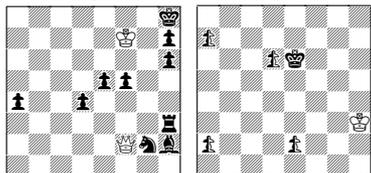
Special Prize – (Unto Heinonen - #3517) Task lovers can certainly be drawn to this culling of six new Nightriders! Including four capture clearances, the length is incidental (not of task nature). But, the surprising finalé cross-check, forcing mate, is the icing on the cake which gives this problem originality. 1.f8NR 2.NRxb6 3.NRc4 6.b8NR 7.NRxb5 8.NRhb2 11.hxg7 12.g8NR 13.NRxe7 14.NRc3 16.e8NR 17.NRxc7 18.NRca3 20.c8NR 21.NR8a4 23.d8NR 24.NRdb4+ d3#!!

Honorable Mention – (George P. Sphicas - #3518) A forté by this great composer, showing excelsiors and AUWs, including a stutter-step key (!) here, this task does well to show some nice strategy in arriving at the mating nest. 1.e3 6.d8N 8.Nb4 9.Kb3 14.a8R 15.Ra1 16.Ka2 21.e8B 23.Bb1 24.Nc2 29.f8Q 30.Qh6+ Rxb6=

Commended – (Volker Gulke - #3514) This seems too nifty and too cute not to be mentioned – most entertaining. The short-mate variations are very helpful in understanding the threats and cyclical sequence. 1.Qf3! (2.Qa8#, 1...Rxf3(=wR) 2.Rg3 Bxb3(=wB) 3.Bh4 Nxb4(=wN) 4.Ng6+ hxg6(=wP) 5.g7+ Kh7 6.g8Q#, 1...Rg3 2.Qa8+ Rg8 3.Qf8 ~ 4.Qg7+ Rxb7(=wR) 5.Rg8# , 1...e4 2.Qg3 Bxb3(=wB)/Rxb3(=wR) 3.Be5/Rg8#

Comm., Volker Gulke Comm., R.Tomašević
USPB 1997 USPB 1997

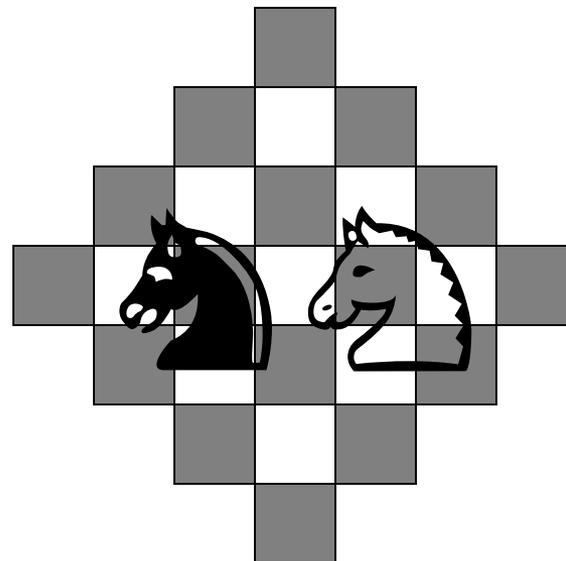
Commended – (Radovan Tomašević - #3516) Showing the now-usual AUW, but the forcing 10th move double-check is quite pleasing. 1.a8nR 2.nRxa2(nPa7) 3.a8nB 5.nBxe2(nPe7) 6.e8nN 7.nNxd6(nPd7) 8.d8nQ 9.nQg5 10.nRxe2(nBc8)+ Kxd6(nNg1)#



#6 Andernach (2+10) ser.s#10 Circe (1+1+4n)

StrateGems

2001 Supplement U.S.P.B. Awards



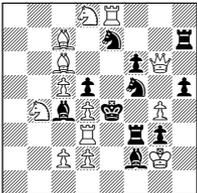
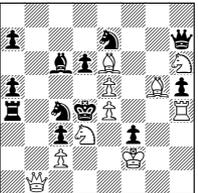
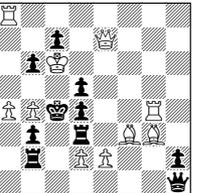
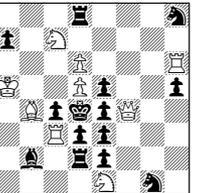
Claims of anticipations for all USPB awards to Dan Meinking by January 1, 2002 .

U.S. Problem Bulletin 1995-1997 #3 and #n Award

by Hemmo Axt

This award had been ready for a long time, then I was asked to include also the problems from the only issue published in 1997. In all, 33 problems were to be evaluated, 16 three-movers and 17 moremovers. Despite the relatively small total, I decided to judge these groups separately. The quality was pleasing, especially of the moremovers. Naturally, there were also some old-fashioned problems, mainly puzzles, pleasing to the solvers, but inappropriate for honors.

#3 (Threemovers)

<p>Prize Alexander Pankratiev USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#3* (13+11)</p>	<p>Honorable Mention Milan R. Vukcevic USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#3 (10+12)</p>	<p>Commended Gabor Cseh USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#3 (10+10)</p>	<p>Commended Vladimir Didenko & Sergey Tkachenko USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#3 (9+14)</p>
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Prize – (Alexander Pankratiev - #3192) I like this problem best by far -- rich content: modern (algebraic) theme quite adequate for a threemover, additional changes of mates, and a beautiful threat after a good key. In this case, the 24 pieces do not disturb me. *set:* 1...Rxd3 2.Qxf5+ Kxd4 3.Ne6#, 1...Bxd3 2.Bxd5+ Kxd4 3.Ne6#, 1.Ne6! (2.Ng5+ fxe5 3.Qe6#), 1...Rxd3 2.Bxd5+ Nxd5/Bxd5 3.Qxf5/cxd3#, 1...Bxd3 2.Qxf5+ Nxf5/Rxf5 3.Bxd5/cxd3#, (1...Be3 2.Qxf5+ Nxf5/Rxf5 3.Ng5/Rxe3#)

Honorable Mention – (Milan R. Vukcevic - #3334) A quite elegantly done 4-fold cycle with strategically and uniformly motivated play. 1.Qb5! (2.Qxc4+ Rxc4 3.Be3#), 1...Bxb5 2.Nf5+ Qxf5/Nxf5 3.exf5#, 1...Nf5 2.exf5+ Be4 3.Qd5#, 1...Qxh6 2.Qd5+ Bxd5/Nxd5 3.exd5#, 1...Nd5 2.exd5+ Qe4 3.Nf5#, (1...Bd5 2.exd6 & 3.Qc5#)

Commended – (Gabor Cseh - #3442) and (V.Didenko & S.Tkachenko - #3443) Both problems show the same (not new) theme; but one might imagine both could be done better yet.

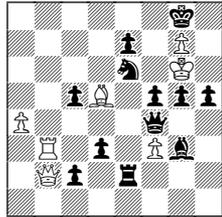
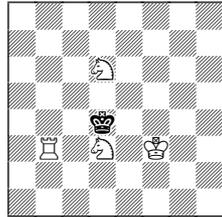
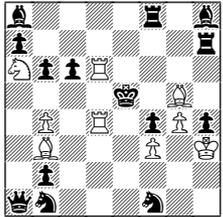
No. 3442: The tries are perfect, key and threat are good, the wQ mates three times. It would be nice though, if the three black defenses would not only be uniformly motivated but they also would lead to uniform damages; and the Ra8 has to be criticized. 1.Kb7! (2.Qxc7+ Kxb4 3.Bd6#), 1...Qc1 2.Bxd5+! Kxd5 3.Qf7#, 1...Rc2 2.exd3+! Kxd3 3.Qe2#, 1...Rc3 2.Rxd4+! Kxd4 3.Qh4#, 1...c5 2.Kxb6 & 3.Qxc5#, (1.Qxc7/Bxd5+/exd3+/Rxd4+? Rc2/Qxd5/Kxd3/Rxd4!)

No. 3443: Naturally, Q-sacrifices are more spectacular. With pretty small white force the 3 K-flights are controlled; however, this is at the expense of the logic -- no tries. 1.Ka4? (2.Bc5+) Ng6!; 1.Rf6! (2.Qxe3+), 1...Bxc3 2.Qxe5+! Kxe5 3.Bxc3#, 1...Ba3 2.Qxe4+! Kxe4 3.Rxc4#, 1...R2~ 2.Nc2+ dxc2 3.Qxe3#, 1...exf4 2.Rf5 ~ 3.Nb5/Ne6#

A remark on #3291 (G.Mirri): This problem should be reworked. The content is good, if the logic were better. The try 1.Nd6? is OK (1... Bc3+! 2.Kxc3? Qf6+); but not 1.Ne5? which is refuted twice (1... Rb6+/Bxe5!). Hence the key, with the nice threat as such, turns out to be also convenient and, consequently, it is not pure of aim. The construction is not ideal as well, e.g. the wRf3! Without these defects this problem might have been honored.

#n (Moremovers)

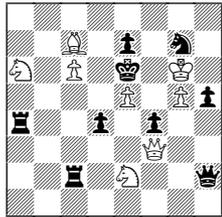
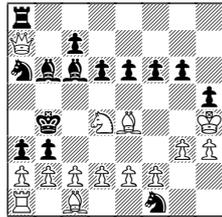
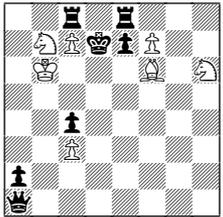
As will be clear in the following, it was not easy for me to find right honors here.

<p>1st Prize Milan R. Vukcevic USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#5 (7+12)</p>	<p>2nd Prize Edgar Holladay USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#6 b) Nd6→a4 (4+1) c/d) Kf3→g4/b6</p>	<p>Sp. Prize, Gerhard Mroczek & Hans Peter Rehm, USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#6 (9+14)</p>
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1st Prize – (Milan R. Vukcevic - #3444) Not such a large-scale picture as #3195, but a very precise and convincingly realized strategy. I also like the small steps by White at the beginning. The curious effect at the end is very exciting; after 4.Qxe5, a Nowotny position has been built, but it isn't a Nowotny. 1.Qa2! (2.Rb8+), 1...Qe3 2.f4! Bxf4 (Qxf4 3.Rb8+) 3.Qb2! Qg3/Qe5 4.Q(x)e5! Rxe5/Bxe5 5.Rb8/Bxe6#, 1...c4 2.Qa3! Qd6 3.Rb8+ Qxb8 4.Qxe7 etc.

2nd Prize – (Edgar Holladay - #3292) In general, I am not a fan of this style (dual-free main play leading to model or even, as here, to ideal mates, provided Black plays appropriately). But the fourfold setting with a not so nice, but not too obtrusive threat, seems to me pretty sensational after all. And Wolfgang A. Bruder (whom I thank for his search) did not find any predecessor in his collection of miniatures. a) 1.Ne4! Kc4/Kd5 2.Rb6 Kd4 3.Nb2 Ke5 4.Rf6 Kd4 5.Kf4 Kd5 6.Rd6#; b) 1.Ke2! (2.Rb6/Nb6) Kc4/Kd5 2.Rb6 Kd4 3.Kd2 Ke4 4.Rf6 Kd4/Kd5 5.Nb6(+) Ke4 6.Rf4#; c) 1.Kf5! (2.Ne5) Kd5 2.Nb7 Kc4 3.Na5+ Kd4 4.Ne5 Kd5/Kc5 5.Nb7(+) Kd4 6.Rd3#; d) 1.Kc7? Kf5 2. Kd7 Kd4 3. Nc1 Ke5 4.Rf3 Kd5 5. Nb3 Ke5 6. Rf5# but 1...Ke3!; 1.Nc5! (2.Nf7) Ke5 2.Rf3 Kd5 3.Nf7 Kc4 4.Rb3 Kd5 5.Kb5 Kd4 6.Rd3#

Special Prize – (G.Mroczek & H.P.Rehm - #3195) This problem uses the scheme of the problem by G. Mroczek which was quoted in the solutions. In my opinion, the extension to a logically founded moremover with not parallel, but consecutive strategy, comes as such a considerable enrichment that I would like to award a prize to this problem. Because of the predecessor this prize cannot be a usual one though. 1.Rd3! (2.Re6#), 1...Re8! (Rf6? 2.Bxf6+) 2.Nb8 (3.Be7 Rxe7/Rhxe7 4.Nd7+/Re6+) Qa6! (2...Rc7? 3.R3d4 Rf8 4.Re4+ Kxd6 5.Re6#) 3.R3d4 (4.Bxf4#) Rf8 (3...Re6 4.Nxc6+) 4.Bf7 Rxf7/Rhx7 5.Nd7+/Bf4+ Rxd7/Rxf4 6.Bxf4/Nxd4#, (1.Nb8?? (2.Bf7) c5 2.Bf7 cxd4 or 1...Qa2 2.Bxa2 c5)

<p>Honorable Mention Alois Johandl USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#6√ (8+9)</p>	<p>Special Honorable Mention David A. Durham USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#11 (14+14)</p>	<p>Commended Vladimir V. Nikitin USPB 1995-97</p>  <p>#18 (7+7)</p>
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Honorable Mention – (Alois Johandl - #3194) There is a simple foreplan only, but it makes the sophisticated defense no longer work, which in turn refutes the hasty Qb3+. I also like that, in the try, the Holzhausen interference does not play any role. In the solution, the wQ must return to her initial position before the R/R interference can be used. Quote an original conception. 1.Qb3+? Rac4! 2.Qh3+ Nf5! (2...Kd5? 3.Qf3+ Ke6 4.Nc5+ & 5.Nxd4#), (1...Rcc4? 2.Qh3+ Nf5 3.Qxf5+ Kd5 4.e6+ Kxc6 5.Qe4+ Kb5 6.Qb7#); **1.Bb8!** (2.Nc7+ Kxe5 3.Qd5#) Ne8 2.Qb3+ and now: 2... Rac4 3.Qh3+ Kd5 4.Qf3+ Ke6 5.Nc5+ Rxc5 6.Nxd4#, 2... Rcc4 3.Qh3+ Kd5 4.Qf3+ Ke6 5.Nxd4+ Rxd4 6.Nc5#

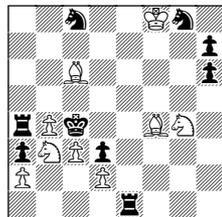
Special Honorable Mention – (David Durham - #3337) A task with the usual weaknesses -- checks only. The solution as such is not very interesting, hence not a "beautiful" problem. However, this task of 11 consecutive P-moves should be especially rendered. **1.bxa3+!** Kc4 2.axb3+ Kxd4 3.c3+ Kxe4 4.d3+ Kf5 5.g4+ hxg4 6.hxg4+ Ke5 7.f4+ Kd5 8.e4+ Kc5 9.d4+ Kb5 10.a4+ Ka5 11.b4# (Alternative moves by the bK lead to short mates: 1...Ka4 2.Bxc6+ & 3.Nxb3#; 1...Kc5 2.Nxb3+ 3.c4+ 4.Bd3+ 5.e4+ 6.f4#; 2...Kc5 3.Nxe6+ 4.c4+ 5.b4+ 6.Bc2#; 3...Ke5 4.d4+ 5.f3+ 6.g4+ 7.hxg4#; etc.)

1st Commended – (Nikitin - #3197) More or less a "little" monster. Clearly, the play must be violent. The order of the maneuvers is nicely justified. It is not easy to see that the bK needs the hole at c4. **1.Nc5+!** Kd6 2.Nf5+ Kd5 3.Ne3+ Kd6 4.fxe8N+ Rxe8 5.c8N+ Rxc8 6.Nf5+ Kd5 7.Nxe7+ Kd6 8.Nxc8+ Kd5 9.Ne7+ Kd6 10.Nf5+ Kd5 11.Ne3+ Kd6 12.Nxc4+ Kd5 13.Ne3+ Kd6 14.Nf5+ Kd5 15.c4+! Kxc4 16.Ne3+ Kb4 17.Bxa1 Ka3 18.Nc2#

2nd Commended – (Milan R. Vukcevič - #3485) Not at all modern, but such strategic problems -- here, with decoy of the bRs for the Plachutta -- are always pleasing. **1.Be3!** Rf1+ 2.Kg7 Rf5 3.Bf4! Ra7+ 4.Kh8 Re7 5.Be5! Rxe5/Rfxe5 6.Na5+/Ne3+ Rxa5/Rxe3 7.Ne3/ Na5#

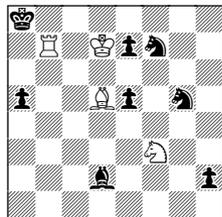
3rd Commended – (Baldur Kozdon - #3486) With his individual elegance and economy, the author varies his favorite scheme. 1.Nd4? h1Q!, 1.Kc7? Ne6+ 2.Kb6 Be3+!; **1.Rc7+!** Kb8 2.Nd4 exd4 3.Rb7+ Ka8 4.Kc7 Ne6+ 5.Kb6 Nc7 6.Rxc7+ Kb8 7.Rb7+ Ka8 8.Ra7+ Kb8 9.Ra8#; 7...Kc8 8.Be6+ Kd8 9.Rb8#

2nd Commendation
Milan R. Vukcevič
USPB 1995-97



#7 (9+9)

3rd Commendation
Baldur Kozdon
USPB 1995-97



#9√ (4+8)

Further remarks:

#3196 (A.Zhuravlev): Rather an endgame. Some duals are disturbing indeed. Except for that, there are various predecessors for N vs. B duels (W.Speckmann, *Die Schwalbe* 1956, #6, 32/3N2b1/3P4/5K1p7k; **1.Nb3!** or F.Fargette, 1st Prize, *Themes* 64 1965, #8; 6kr/4K2p/7B/8/2N5/8/6b1/8; **1.Nd6!**). **#3293 (A.Pankratiev & F.Muller)** In comparison with the clear and much more elegant predecessor (H.P.Rehm, 1st Prize, *Europe Echecs* 1980, #7; 1r1B4/r3p1Nn/3p1n2/3Bk1P1/p1R2N2/pK3P2/7p/8; **1.Bb7!**) shows nothing new; above all, everything here appears very symmetric and hence schematic.

U.S. Problem Bulletin 1995 Fairies Award

by Torsten Linß

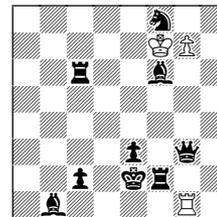
Apologies are due to the editor and to the readers of the U.S. Problem Bulletin and to the competitors of the tourney for the lateness of this award, which is entirely caused by my laziness. I wish to thank Stefanos Pantazis for inviting me to judge this tourney, which is a big honor for me.

Before getting to the main award I must comment on **#3455** by Pankratiev. An almost identical version of this problem has been published by the same author in collaboration with Dieter Müller as #9855 in *Die Schwalbe* 168, 12/1997. Although the priority belongs to the

earlier **#3455**, I strongly disapprove of this practice of double publications. Therefore, I did not consider this problem for inclusion in this award.

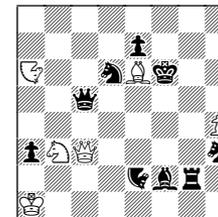
Of the remaining problems, 16 survived the first selection and 14 made it into this award. The overall standard was excellent, with a very clear winner. The selection and ranking of the problems is very subjective, but I hope you will enjoy the pieces I have chosen even if you would rank them differently. (Editor's note: for Chinese pieces L=Leo, P=Pao, V=Vao)

1st Prize, René J. Millour
dedicated to H.P. Rehm
USPB 1995



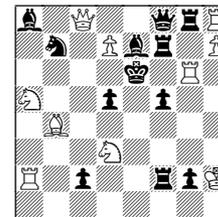
R=2 b) wQg1 (3+9)
Anticirce

2nd Prize
Klaus Wenda
USPB 1995



H#2 b) Kf6→f3 (6+9)
Circe, Madras, Nightriders

Special Prize
Mark Kirtley
USPB 1995



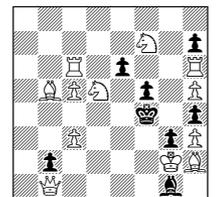
H#2 2 solutions (10+12)
Madras

1st Prize – (René Jean Millour - #3221) Despite its two checking keys this problem is the clear winner of the competition. Anticirce effects are cleverly used to celebrate four changed mates topped by a Babson task in b) -- many good composers would have been satisfied with either of these... a) **1.gxf8Q(Qd1)+!**, 1... cxd1N(Ng8) 2.Rg2 Qxg2(Qd8)=, 1... cxd1B(Bc8) 2.Rc1 Rxc1(Rh8)=, [2.Rg2? Qxg2(Qd8) 3.Kg6], 1... cxd1R(Ra8) 2.Rxg3(Ra1) Rxa1(Rh8)=, [2.Rg2? ... 3.Ke6], 1... cxd1Q(Qd8) 2.Rd1 Qxd1(Qd8)=, [2.Rg2? Qxg2 is illegal], b) **1.Qd1+!**, 1... cxd1N(Ng8) 2.gxf8N(Ng1) Qxg1(Qd8)=, 1... cxd1B(Bc8) 2.gxf8B(Bc1) Rxc1(Rh8)=, [2.cxd1N? Qxg1 3.Kg6], 1... cxd1R(Ra8) 2.gxf8R(Ra1) Rxa1(Rh8)=, [2.cxd1N? Qxg1 3.Ke6], 1... cxd1Q(Qd8) 2.gxf8Q(Qd1)+ Qxd1(Qd8)=, [2.cxd1N? Qxg1 illegal], [1.gxf8Q(Qd1)+? cxd1R(Ra8)!]

2nd Prize – (Klaus Wenda - #3362) A strategically very interesting helpmate with mates by "Madras-batteries" that have to be formed first. The black Queen could parry the mates by capturing N and NR if it were not for a check by the reborn piece. This determines the first black moves: a) 1.NRg6! instead of 1.Rg6? and b) 1.Nf4! instead of 1.NRf4? A well pointed concept. a) 1.NRg6 (Rg6?) Nxc5(Qd8)+ 2.Qa5 NRB4#, b) 1.Nf4 (NRf4?) NRxc5(Qd8)+ 2.Qh8 Nd4#

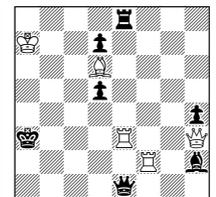
Special Prize – (Mark Kirtley - #3365) A tour de force: Changed AUW in the minimal number of moves, but the setting with promoted pieces is very, very heavy. I. 1.c1Q d8R 2.g1N hxg8B#, II. 1.c1B hxg8N+ 2.g1R d8Q#

1st Hon. Mention
Hubert Gockel
USPB 1995



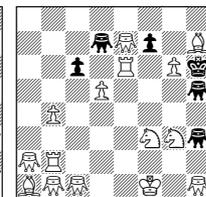
#2 Anticirce (12+8)

2nd Hon. Mention
Michal Dragoun
USPB 1995



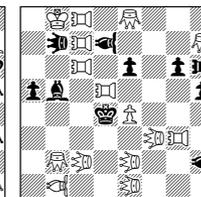
H#2 2 solutions (5+7)
Circe Madras

3rd HM Franz Pacht
& Markus Manhart
USPB 1995



#2√√√ (15+6)
Grasshoppers

4th HM Juraj Brabec
& Ludovit Lehen
USPB 1995



#2√√ Madras (15+10)
Gs., Leos, Paos, Vaos

1st Honorable Mention – (Hubert Gockel - #3458) Four flights by the black King followed by four white captures of the bBg1 with a wealth of direct and indirect Antircirce battery effects. **1.Rxe6(Rh1)!** (zz), 1...Kg4/Ke5/Kg5/Ke3 2.Qxg1(Qd1)/Rxc1(Ra1)/Kxc1(Ke1)/Bxg1(Bc1)#

2nd Honorable Mention – (Michal Dragoun - #3361) Nice Madrasi + Circe helpmate strategy with specific mates (Black cannot paralyze the mating piece because of a check by a captured and reborn white piece). Unfortunately the motivation of the wQ ‘sacrifices’ is two-fold: depa-ralyzing of a white piece (wRe3/wBd6) and the need for the wQ to get reborn and guard b3 and a4. I. 1.Qb4 Qg3 2.hxg3(Qd1) Be7#, II. 1.Qc3 Qe6 2.dxe6(Qd1) Rg3#

3rd Honorable Mention – (Franz Pachl & Markus Manhart - #3305) Four tries by wRb2 fail because of self-obstructions: each time the Rook shuts off a white Grasshopper. The re-putations form a Pickaninny. A fine achievement, although I would have liked to see more G-specific play. Tries: 1.Rb3/Rc2/Rd2/Rh2? (2.Bg7#) fxe6/fxg6/f6/f5!; **1.Rf2!** (2.Bg7#), 1...fxe6/fxg6/f6/f5 2.Gxe6/Rxc6/Gg5/g7#, 1... Gd4 2.Nf5#

4th Honorable Mention – (Juraj Brabec & Ludovit Lehen - #3306) Compare to problems from Kotesovec-40 and Die Schwalbe; see (B) (C) (D). 1.Lcb3? e5/g5/bB~ 2.Lelc3[A]/Lfc3[B]/Lbc3[C]# but 1...exd5! 1.Lb4? e5/exd5/bB~ 2.Lcc3[C]/Lfc3[B]/Lbc3[A]# but 1...g5!; **1.Lfb3!** (2.Pcc3#) e5/g5/exd5/bB~ 2.Pgc3/Lcc3[C]/Lec3(A)/Lbc3[B]

5th Honorable Mention
Waldemar Tura
USPB 1995

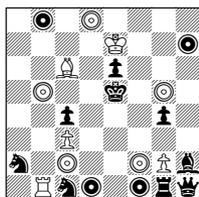
Commended
David L. Brown
USPB 1995

Commended
Michel Caillaud
USPB 1995

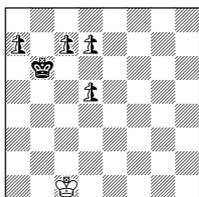
Commended
George P. Sphicas
USPB 1995



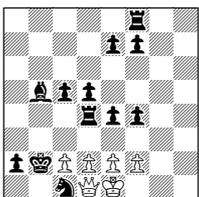
#2√ (13+7)
Grasshoppers, Lions



#2 Orphans (10+13)



ser.s#10 Circe (1+1+4n)



ser.s#33 (6+12)

5th Honorable Mention – (Waldemar Tura - #3303) The basic mechanism used to achieve the Dombrovskis is not new; see (A), for example, showing a four-fold setting of the theme. What justifies the distinction is the rich additional line play (battery mates and further hopper-specific line openings). The try pieces wGc2 and wGg1 are recycled in key and threat to form an anti-battery. 1.Gc4? (2.Ne7#) b3!, 1.Gd4? (2.Nf6#) Nd2!; **1.Gg5!** (2.Gf5#) b3/Nd2 2.Ne7/Nf6#

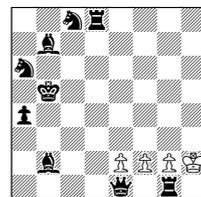
Commendations without ranking and (almost) without any comment:

Commended – (David L. Brown - #3223) 1.Ra1? (zz) Nxc3!; 1.Ba8! (zz) g3/Rxc2/Qxg2/Bg3/Nd3 2.Off4/Off6/Off5/Ofd4/Ofe4#, 1...Nxc3/Nb4/Bf4 2.Obd4/Ocd4/Ogf6#

Commended – (Michel Caillaud - #3225) 1.nPd8nQ 2.nQxd5(Pd7) 3.nQa2 4.Kd1 5.nPc8nR 6.nPdx8nB(Ra8) 7.nBa6 8.nRc8 9.nRc7 10.nPa8nN nNxc7(Ra1)#

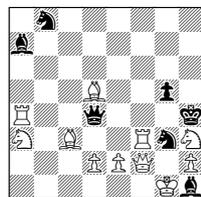
Commended – (George P. Sphicas - #3227v) 2.cxb5 5.b8N 7.Nxd4 8.Nc2 10.dxc5 13.c8N 15.Nxe4 16.Nd2 18.exd4 21.d8N 23.Nxf4 24.Ne2 28.fxe7 29.e8N 31.N8xf7 33.Nd3+ Nxd3#

Commended
Mark Kirtley
USPB 1995



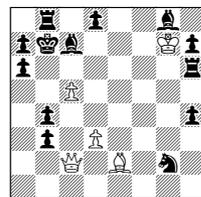
ser.s#23 (4+9)

Commended
John M. Rice
USPB 1995



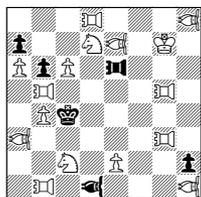
R#2√ (11+7)

Commended
Manfred Rittirsch
USPB 1995



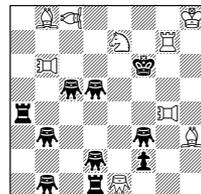
H#2 b) Pa6→c8 (5+13)
Circe Parrain

(A) Jean-Pierre Boyer
Rex Multiplex 1983



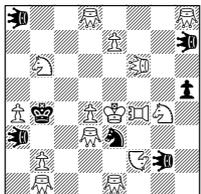
#2 Paos, Vaos (16+6)

(B) Juraj Brabec
1st Prize, *Lipskie*
Centrum Kultury 1997



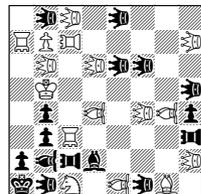
#2 Vaos, Paos (9+10)
Grasshoppers

(C) Juraj Brabec
Die Schwalbe 1997



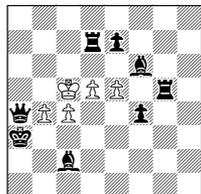
#2 4 solutions (15+7)
Pao, Leos, Nightriders,
Grasshoppers

(D) J.Brabec & L.Lehen
1st-2nd Prize
Kotěšovec 40JT 1996



#2 4 solutions (16+16)
Madrasi Leos, Paos
Vaos, Superpaos (♁)

(E) Markus Manhart
& Franz Pachl
Die Schwalbe 1996



ser.s=21 (5+8)

Commended – (Mark Kirtley - #3248) 1.Kg3 2.Kf4 7.g8N 9.Nc6 10.Ke4 15.f8N 16.Nd7 17.Kd5 22.e8N 23.Nc7 Nxc7# I think one principal comment on problems #3227v (Sphicas) and #3248 (Kirtley) is necessary. There has been an article on excelsiors in series-movers in USPB. Both problems are taken from that article. Long pawn marches are the most boring thing in series-movers -- so the theme almost automatically makes good problems impossible. #3227v is included because of the three switchbacks (see (E) for four switchbacks, but without excelsior), #3248 because of the subtle motivation (no captures!) of the white moves.

Commended – (John M. Rice - #3364) 1.Rf5? (2.Nf4) Kh5!; **1.Rd3!** 1...Qg4 2.e4 Qd1# 1...Qf4 2.Nxg5 Bxf2#, 1...Qe4 2.Bc4 Qg2#, 1...Qc4 2.Bb4 Qc1# (Bd4?), 1...Qb4 2.Nc4 Qb1#, 1...Kh5 2.Nxg5 Qxf2#

Commended – (Manfred Rittirsch - #3456) a) 1.Ne1 Kxh6 2.Nxc2(Rf7) Bg4(Qe4)#, b) 1.Nf4 Kxg8 2.Nxe2(Bf6) Qc4(Be4)#

Solutions to problems A,B,C,D,E

(A) 1.Vf3? (2.Ne5#) Pe3!, 1.Pg2,f3? (2.Pc8#) Pe4!, 1.Vc5? (2.Pc1#) Pe5!, 1.Pgc5? (2.Ne3#) Pd6!; **1.Kf6!** (zz) Pe3/Pe4/Pe5/Pd6 2.Ne5/Pc8/Pc1/Ne3#

(B) 1.Pd4? (2.Ng8#) 1...Gg3/G2g2/Gf7 2.Nc6/Nxd5/Ve6#, 1... Gf8! dual: 1... G5g2 2.Ve6,Bd6,Nc6#, 1.Pe4? (2.Ng8#) 1...Gg3/G2g2/Gf7 2.Bd6/Ve6/Nxd5#, 1... Gf8,g1 2.Be5#, 1...Gf5!; **1.Pc4!** (2.Ng8#), 1...Gg3/G2g2/Gf7 2.Nxd5/Nc6/Bd6#, 1... Gf8,g1 2.Pc6#, dual: 1... G5g2 2.Ve6,Bd6,Nc6# and idle Ge1!

(C) **1.Lh4!** (2.Gc3#) 1...Lxb2/Lg3/La1/Lxh8 2.Kd5/Kd5/Gf5/Kf3#; **1.Lg5!** (2.Gc3#) 1...La1/Lg7/Lxh8 2.Gf3/Kd5/Kf5#; **1.Ld6!** (2.Gc3#) 1...Lxb2/Lg7/Lxh8 2.Gf3/Gf5/Gd5#; **1.Lf8!** (2.Gc3#), 1...Lxb2/Lg3/La1/Lg7 2.Kf5/Kf5/Gd5/Kf3#

(D) **1.Vf3!** Lhg6/L8g6/Bxc1 2.Ka4/Ka5/SPc4#; **1.Lf3!** Lf3/L8g6/Bxc1 2.Ka4/ Ka6/SPc5#; **1.Le3!** 1...Lfd3/Lhg6/Bxc1 2.Ka5/Ka6/SPc6#; **1.Le3!** 1...Lfd3/Lhg6/ L8g6 2.SPc4/SPc5/SPc6#

(E) 2.dxe7 3.e8N 4.Nc7 5.Nd5 8.e8R 9.Re5 10.Kd4 14.c8B 16.Bc4 20.b8Q 21.Qb4+ Qxb4=