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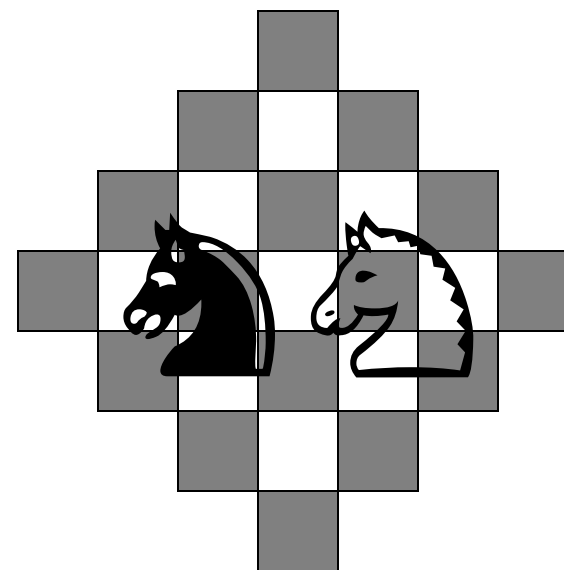
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StrateGems



Twomover Award -- 1998

by Robert Lincoln

I was very gratified to have the opportunity to consider such a collection of high quality problems. Given that *StrateGems* has only been in business for a year, the standard proved exceptional. My inclination was to seek out those specimens which reflect the modern predilection for thematic designs. However, it will be seen that “traditional” approaches still wear well and are amply represented with honors. I had to defer to simple personal taste in many cases. Nonetheless, I am confident the following appraisal bestows due credit where deserved.

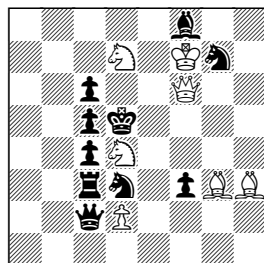
1st Prize - (Farion & Soroka - T0033) This is definitely a notch above the field. There is an artistic blend of the Barnes and Sushkov themes. 1.Be5? (2.Qxf3/Qxc6) 1...Nb4! -- a shrewd measure made possible because White has blocked (2.Qe5?). 1.Bf2? (2.Qxc6) 1...Ke4/Bd6 2.Qxf3, 1...cxd4 2.Qxd4, but 1...Qa4! **1.Ne2!** (2.Qxf3) 1...Ke4 2.Qxc6, 1...Nf4 2.Qe5, 1...fxe2 2.Bg2, and 1...Nf5 2.Qe6. A lot of action is contained within a small compass. The winner should be satisfying to both solvers and pattern specialists.

2nd Prize - (Zhuravlev - T0035) A delightful plot where White pins one black Knight and then the other in tries: 1.Qb8? (2.Nd3) 1...dN~ 2.Ne2, 1...Nxf3 2.Re4, but 1...Rd6! 1.Qb4? (2.Ne2) 1...Nc4 2.Nd3, 1...Nxf3 2.Re4, but 1...g1N! **1.Bh5!** (2.Re4) 1...eNxf3 2.Nd3 and 1...dNxf3 2.Ne2. White's Re4, Nd3 and Ne2 form a merry-go-round of threats and variations across three phases. Finally, 1...f5 2.Qh6 comes as a pleasant jolt.

3rd Prize - (Vukcevic - T0006) Set play highlights an intricate White correction scheme. 1...fxe6 2.Ng6, 1...Qa5 2.d7 and 1...Bxe4 2.f4. A general try with two refinements permits these defenses to operate with impunity. 1.dN~? fxe6! 1.Nc7? fxe6 2.Rxe6, but 1...Qa5! 1.Nf4? Bxe4! The flight-giving **1.Nf6!** (2.Qd5) fetches revised mates – 1...fxe6 2.Qc3, 1...Qa5 2.Nd7 and 1...Bxe4 2.Ng4. In my estimation, those seven white Pawns do not detract at all.

1st Prize

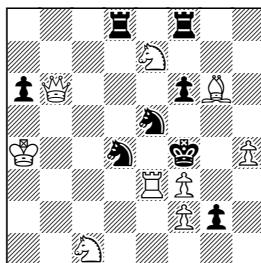
Petro Farion & Ivan Soroka
StrateGems 1998



#2√

2nd Prize

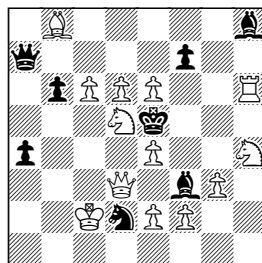
Andrey Zhuravlev
StrateGems 1998



#2√

3rd Prize

Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
StrateGems 1998



#2*√√

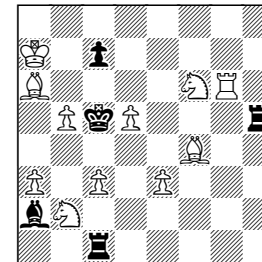
4th Prize - (Kavnatsky - T0004) A skillful interpretation of the Odessa theme with mostly minor officers. This plain but disarming layout juggles four Knight ripostes accordingly: 1.b6? (2.Nd3/Na4) 1...Rxd5 2.Ne4, 1...Bxd5 2.Nd7, but 1...Re5! **1.c4!** (2.Ne4/Nd7) 1...Rxc4 2.Nd3 and 1...Bxc4 2.Na4.

5th Prize - (Reitman - T0050) Yes indeed, a Meredith *waiter* makes the prize list. This harks back to the WCCT3 stipulation of granting two flights by try and key. Additionally, set mates are in readiness for 1...Kg3 2.Qg5 and 1...Kh4 2.Qf4. 1.Qe1? alters the escape routes to 1...Kf4 2.Qh4, 1...Kg5 2.Qg3, but 1...f4! lingers. **1.Nxf5!** again co-opts the original egress and supplants a pair of new ones – 1...Kxf5 2.Bh3 and 1...Kh5 2.Bf3. The paramount virtue here is economy. Immaculate piece placement yields maximum usage of every component.

1st HM - (Groeneveld - T0060) The e-Knight ushers solvers on a sportive romp while predicating miscellaneous continuations. 1.Nd1? (2.Nf2) Rxd4! (2.Qe1?) 1.Nd5? (2.Nxf6) Bxd4! (2.Qxa8?) 1.Nc2? d2! (2.Qb1?) 1.Nf5? (2.Qe1/Qxa8) Bd5+! (2.Bxd5?). Some vital White line is intercepted by these faulty launches. **1.Nf1!** (2.Nd2) does not trip over anything.

4th Prize

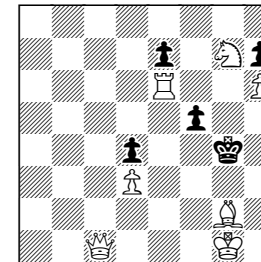
Isaak Kavnatsky
StrateGems 1998



#2√

5th Prize

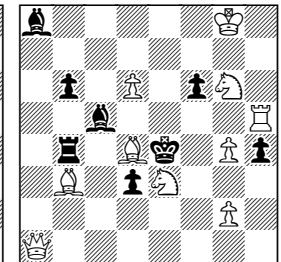
Mark Reitman
StrateGems 1998



#2√

1st Honorable Mention

Cor Groeneveld
StrateGems 1998



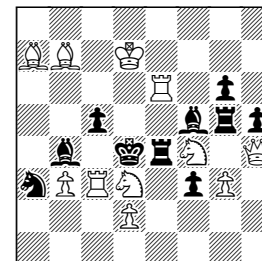
#2√√

2nd HM - (Barnes - T0018) A stunning **1.Ke8!** introduces an unexpected zugzwang. The White Rook at e6 is skewed afresh from a new direction. Watch the grouped functionality of two responses against four particular moves: 1...eR~ 2.Ne2 and 1...Rxe6+ 2.Nxe6 (both are double check). 1...f2 2.Ne2 and 1...Bxe6 2.Nxe6 (both are pin mate). An abundant treasure of over-the-top content.

3rd HM - (Barnes - T0039) The ingenious twinning mechanism causes an amusing turn-about. Note how that b-Rook alights on three spots along the rank in the first part: a) **1.Kb5!** (2.Rd6) 1...Nxd7 2.Rxe6 and 1...Nxe4 2.Rc6. After the bishop's relocation, activity shifts to the file – b) **1.bxa5!** (2.Rb4) 1...Nxd7 2.Rb5 and 1...Nxe4 2.Rb3.

2nd Honorable Mention

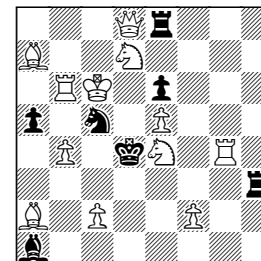
Barry P. Barnes
StrateGems 1998



#2

3rd Honorable Mention

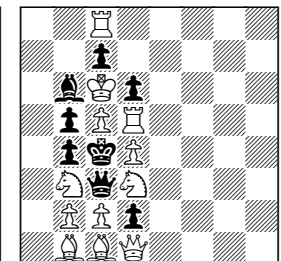
Barry P. Barnes
StrateGems 1998



#2 b) a2B→d3

4th Honorable Mention

Luke Neyndorff
StrateGems 1998



#2

4th HM – (Neyndorff - T0042) Three soaring vertical columns are sure to grab attention. The salient feature here is six captures by the black Queen which are repaid with capture mates. **1.Bxd2!** Qxd2 2.Nxd2, 1...Qxb3 2.cxb3, 1...Qxd3 2.cxd3, 1...Qxd4 2.Rxd4, 1...Qxc2 2.Qxc2 and 1...Qxb2 2.Nxb2.

5th HM – (Dyachuk & Veselenchuk - T0048) An astonishing idea for a twin where Black sheds the sole defender. Initially, a) **1.c4+!** leads to 1...Ke6 2.Bh3, 1...Ke4 2.Qf4, and 1...Ke5 2.Qe7 – a prosaic Y-flight. The radical transformation of the second stage has b) **1.Kc7!** with 1...Ke6 2.Bc4, 1...Ke4 2.Bg2 and 1...Kc5 2.Bc3. A pawn at f7 does not work because of 1.c4+ Ke6 2.Bh3 f5!

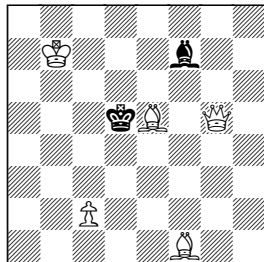
6th HM – (Petite - T0058) The notion of white Bishop reaching hither and yon for a safe landing is hardly novel. Notwithstanding, I admire this minimalist construction enhanced by absence of queens. Five tries are germane: 1.Ba6? b5! 1.Bb3? Nb2! 1.Be6? Ne3! 1.Bf7? e6! 1.Bf1? Re2! Two others do not really count since 1.Bd3? has 1...Re4! or 1...Bg8! and 1.Bb5? fails to 1...cxb5! or 1...Nxc7! At last, **1.Ba2!** (2.Rc4) scores by staying out of harm's way.

Commendations are unranked and appear in the order published.

(Aliovsadzade - T0003) The unpin-pin switch was a popular favorite for the WCCT5 requirement (same mates in set and post-key versus contrasting Black's motivations). The start position shows 1...Nf6 2.Bxg3, 1...Nf4 2.exf4 and 1...Nb6 2.exd4. Following **1.Qb5!** (2.Qxd5), identical blows attend 1...N~, 1...Nf4 and Nc5 respectively.

5th Honorable Mention

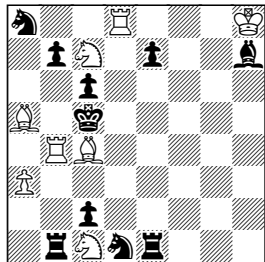
Vasyl Dyachuk &
Semen Veselenchuk
StrateGems 1998



#2 b) Remove bBf7

6th Honorable Mention

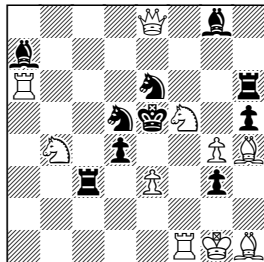
Efren Petite
StrateGems 1998



#2 ~~~~~

Commended

Rauf Aliovsadzade
StrateGems 1998



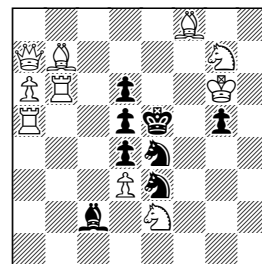
#2

(Prcic - T0005) Vigorous assertion of a try complex which includes white Grimshaw. 1.bR~? (2.Qxd4) Nc5! 1.Rc6? Nf5! 1.Bc8? Nf5! 1.Bc6? Nc5! **1.Ba8!** (2.Qe7) 1...Nc5 2.Bxd6 and 1...Nf5 2.Rxd5. The black Knights perform nobly with reciprocal refutations.

(Youngs - T0008) At the outset, 1...d5 and 1...Kd5 are greeted by 2.Qe7 and 2.Ne6. An off-beat **1.Qxa5!** (2.Bxa4) steers the focus toward the left side. Now 1...d5 and 1...Kd5 are punished by different actors – 2.Be7 and 2.Bc6. A slight but pleasing hors d'oeuvre.

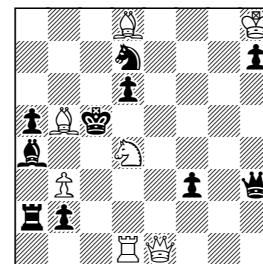
(Markevitch - T0009) The intimidated and free roaming black King dictates that **1.Qa2!** will be necessary to run down 1...Ke5 2.Qd5 and 1...Ke3 2.Qa7. A jolly boon occurs upon 1...Kxc3 when a gorgeous ideal mate 2.Qa1 arises from nowhere. This would probably get better recognition in a miniature tourney.

Commended
Mike Prcic
StrateGems 1998



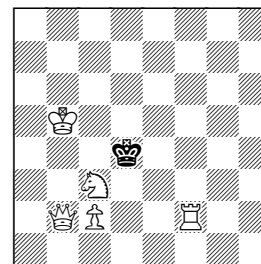
#2 ~~~~~

Commended
Joe Youngs
StrateGems 1998



#2

Commended
Alex Markevitch
StrateGems 1998



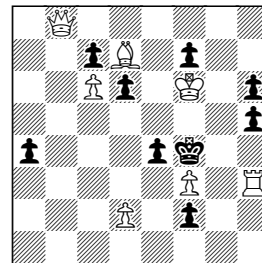
#2

(Groeneveld - T0014) Set replies are sanctioned for 1...d5 2.Qxc7 and 1...exf3 2.Qb4. They serve as stoppers for 1.Qb4? (2.Qxe4) d5! and 1.Qxc7? (2.Qxd6) exf3! Once more into the breach goes **1.Qe8!** (2.Qxe4) where 1...d5 and 1...exf3 crash to 2.Qe5 and Qe3. The substitutions are scarcely profound, yet the whole picture suggests good chess.

(Vukcevic - T0019) **1.Rd5!** (2.Qd3) portends a great gift opening with two Mansfieldesque cross-checks in the bargain – 1...exd5+ 2.f5 and 1...e5+ 2.Rd7. There is merely one sideline for White's queen 1...bxc3 2.Qe4. It seems a pity more mileage could not be extracted from this powerful unit.

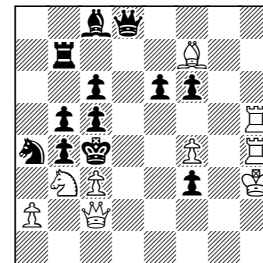
(Steiner - T0026) An unorthodox treatment of try and solution where principals are brought out of hibernation. 1.Bc4? looks promising for 1...Kf3 2.Qxh3, 1...Kf5 2.Qh5 and 1...f5 2.Be2. Unfortunately, the effort unhinges with 1...a2! Correct is **1.Nc4!** Kf3 2.Qh5, 1...Kf5 2.Qxh3 and 1...f5 2.Ne5. Reciprocal swap of queen strikes is expertly engineered. The extra change associated with 1...f5 is a lucky bonus.

Commended
Cor Groeneveld
StrateGems 1998



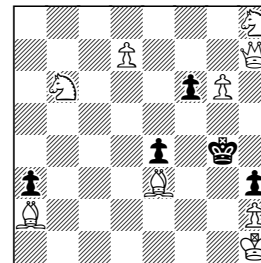
#2 ~~~~~

Commended
Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
StrateGems 1998



#2

Commended
Paul Steiner
StrateGems 1998



#2 ~

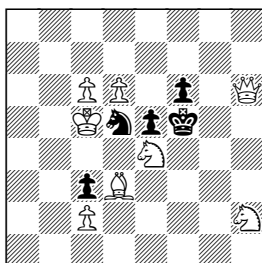
(Lewis - T0051) The c3-c2 *plug* strongly indicates a mutate in the offing. Prepared variants 1...N~ 2.Qxf6 and 1...Ke6 2.Ng5 cannot be maintained. So, **1.Bc4!** replaces 1...N~ 2.Ng3 and 1...Ke6 2.Qxf6 thusly. It is quite clever that the c2 pawn props the switchback added mate 1...Kxe4 2.Bd3.

(Dyachuk - T0052) Queen and Rook hits at f4 receive evolving roles as set rejoinders to 1...Bd5 and 1...fxe3. 1.Kc4? (2.Qxf4) has 1...Qxf3 2.Qxe7 and 1...Bd5+ 2.Qxd5 but is defeated thanks to 1...Re5! **1.Kd2!** (2.Rxf4) boasts 1...fxe3+ 2.Rxe3, 1...Qxf3 2.Bxd3 and 1...Kxf3 2.Qxf4. Extremely close combat in a tightly restricted arena.

(Förster - T0059) Modern composers are inextricably drawn to the Le Grand theme. This straightforward sample proceeds 1.bRf4? (2.Bd4) Ne4 2.Nd5, 1...Rd3 2.Nc4 but 1...Be4! The proper **1.Qe7!** adverts two dive bomber pin mates. The first (2.Nd5) is the threat and 2.Nf5 ensues if 1...Rd3. The Le Grand “reversal” element is 1...Ne4 2.Bd4.

Commended

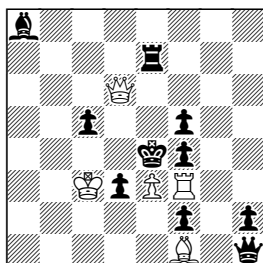
Tony Lewis
StrateGems 1998



#2*

Commended

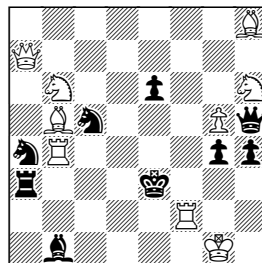
Vasyl Dyachuk
StrateGems 1998



#2√

Commended

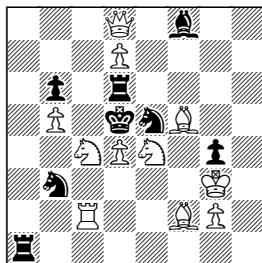
Klaus Förster
StrateGems 1998



#2√

Commended

Mosiashvili Amirosevich
StrateGems 1998



#2√

(Amirosevich - T0061) Preliminary probes are 1.Qxb6? (2.Ne3) Re1! and 1.Qc7? (2.Nc3) Ne5! These tries are not convincing. Nevertheless, **1.Qf6!** (2.Qxe5) offers plenty of post-key episodes – 1...eN~/Nxd4 2.Ne3, 1...Nxe4 2.Nc3, 1...Bg7 2.Qxd6, 1...Re6 2.Qxe6 and 1...Rxf6 2.Nxf6.

Many thanks to **Bob Lincoln** for his speedy and thorough award. Any claims of anticipation should be reported immediately to the Chief Editor of *StrateGems*. After six months this award becomes final.

Changes in the Editorial Staff

As you may have noticed on the last page, there are several changes in our editorial staff. David L. Brown has stepped down as the editor for twomovers, selfmates, and fairies. David was one of the originators of *StrateGems* and worked diligently to make *StrateGems* a success. He will be missed dearly. The new editor for twomovers is Miodrag Mladenovic, selfmates Dr. Milan Vukcevic, and fairies Gianni Donati. Please start sending your originals and correspondence to the new editors. The addresses of all editors can be found on the last page.

Master of Endgame Studies

by Mike Prcic

Genrikh Kasparyan (1910-1995) was the greatest composer of endgame studies to date. His book *The Complete Studies of Genrikh Kasparyan* was recently edited and translated into English by John Roycroft. The book contains 545 studies beautifully annotated with detailed analysis of every possible variation. It is easy to follow and very educational. Furthermore, all the studies are classified into several categories of which Positional draw, Stalemate, and Checkmate are most represented.

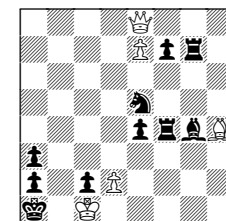
Born in Tiflis (Tbilisi) Georgia in 1910, Kasparyan soon moved to Erevan, the Armenian capital, where he spent most of his life and died in 1995. He learned chess from his older brother at the age of 13. Two years later he started competing. His first success came at the age of 16 when he won first place in a 600 player competition. While playing chess, Kasparyan became interested in chess problems. His problem-composing phase lasted from 1927 to 1930, with an output of about 40 problems. Then he quickly parted company with problems and devoted his entire attention to studies. Kasparyan continued playing chess until 1956 when he retired from chess and concentrated entirely on chess composition. In 1950 he was awarded the title of international chess master.



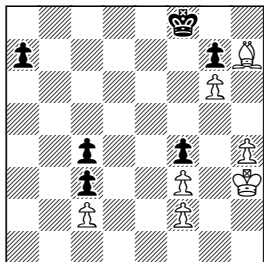
Kasparyan's composing career was spectacular. He composed over 500 studies, 300 of which won tourney honors. Eighty took first place honors. He was six times the USSR composing champion. His FIDE Albums total is 174.17 points! (Each study scores 1.67 points in a FIDE Album). He became FIDE International Grandmaster of Chess Composition in 1972. There were too many titles and honors bestowed on Kasparyan to mention here. Kasparyan wrote some 20 books in Russian, Armenian and German. In editing and translating to English Kasparyan's book, John Roycroft has done an excellent job. Most chess composers are not much interested in composing or solving studies. However, if you happen to read this book (highly recommended), you may get hooked and try some composing yourself. The book is published by Russel Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 30, Milford, CT 06460 USA. Some selections from the book follow.

GK01 1.Qb5/i Nd3+ 2.Qxd3!/ii exd3 3.e8Q Be6/iii 4.Qxe6 Rg5/iv 5.Bf2/v with: 5...Rg1+ 6.Be1 Rb4 7.Qxa2+ Kxa2 stalemate with g-Rook pinning the Bishop, or 5...Rb5/vi 6.Bd4+ Rb2 7.Qf6 Rxf6 8.Bxf6 stalemate with Bishop pinning the g-Rook – in a position of reciprocal zugzwang, a fact that is of vital importance. i) White may try something else, but he would be ill-advised to do so: 1.Kxc2? Bf5, and 2.Bf6 e3+ 3.Kb3 exd2 4.Bxe5+ Kb1, or 2.Qb5 e3+ 3.Kb3 exd2 4.Qxe5+ Kb1. If 1.Qb8? Rf1+ 2.Kxc2 Bd1+ 3.Kc3 Rf3+ 4.Kd4 Nc6+ 5.K~ Nxb8. If 1.Qd8(Qh8)? Rf1+ 2.Kxc2 Bd1+ 3.Kc3 Kb1. ii) A necessary sacrifice, as Black wins if: 2.Kxc2? Bd1+ 3.Kxd1 Rg1+, and 4.Kc2 Rc1+ 5.Kb3 Rb1+, or 4.Ke2 Rxh4 5.Ke3 Re1+ 6.Kd4 Nb2 7.e8Q e3+. iii) Rg5 4.Qh8+ f6 5.Bf2 Rb5 6.Qxf6+ Rb2 7.Bd4 Rxf6 8.Bxf6 positional draw. iv) The position may have been simplified, but it still has points: Black threatens to play 5...Rb5. v) 5.Qe3? Rf1+ 6.Be1 Rb5 7.Qxd3 Rxe1+ 8.Kxc2 Rb2+ 9.Kc3 Rc1+ 10.Kd4 Rb4+ 11.K~ Kb2. vi) 5...Rb4 6.Qf6+ Rb2 7.Bd4, is also a draw.

GK01 1st Prize
J. Roycroft Jubilee
(50 years) Tourney

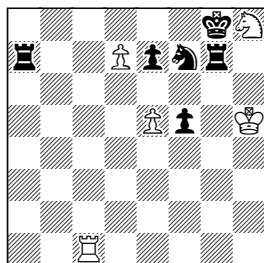


Draw

GK02 Molodoy Rabochy, 1929

Draw

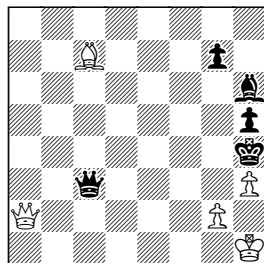
GK03 is a Checkmate Study. **1.Qf7! Be3! 2.Qe7+ g5 3.Kh2 Bg1+! 4.Kxg1 Qc1+! 5.Qe1+! 6.Qxe1+ 7.Bd6! 8.g3+ Qxg3+ 9.Bxg3 mate.** i) Black seizes the chance to play for stalemate. ii) Or Qd4+ 5.Qe3!! Qxe3+ 6.Kh2, transposing to the main line. iii) Not 5.Kh2? Qg1+! 6.Kxg1 stalemate. iv) This position is one of zugzwang.

GK04 4th Honorable Mention
Turkmenskaya Iskra, 1940

Win

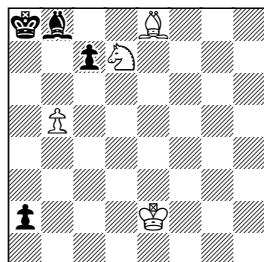
GK05 is a Positional Draw Study. **1.Nc5 a1Q 2.Bc6+ Ka7/ 3.Kd3! 4.Qa3+ 4.Kc4 Qc1+ 5.Kb4 Qd2+ 6.Kc4! 7.Qf4+ 7.Kc3 Qe3+ 8.Kc4 Kb6 9.Nb3/iv Qe1 10.Kd3! Qb4 11.Kc2 Qa3 12.Kc3** positional draw. i) One wants Black's King and Bishop to be permanently shut in, but by what means? Here are some tries: 3.Nd7? Qc3 4.Kf2 Qd3, and White's King will be driven to the board's edge. Or, 3.Na4? Qd4 4.Kf3 Qe5 5.Kf2 Qe7 6.Kf3 Qe1 7.Kf4 Qe2 8.Kf5 Qe3 9.Kf6 Qf4+ 10.Ke6 Qg5, after which the white King will find himself on e8 with Black's Queen on the e7 square. Finally, 3.Nb7? Kb6 4.K~ Qa7 5.K~ Qxb7. ii) The authentic blockade-cum-fortress is to be set up with this move, and with no other. iii) The b3 square must be kept free for the Knight: 6.Kb3? Kb6. iv) White's goal (jail construction) is completed on time, putting the black King and Bishop permanently out of play.

GK02 is a Stalemate Study. **1.h5 a5 2.h6 a4/i 3.Bg8! Kxg8 4.h7+ Kh8 5.Kg2/ii a3 6.Kf1 a2 7.Ke2 a1Q/iii,** and White is stalemated. i) gxh6? is bad because of 3.g7+ Kxg7 4.Be4. ii) The white King is making his way to the e2 square. iii) If a1N 8.Kd1 Nxc2 9.Kxc2, and it is Black's turn to be stalemated. While if a1B 8.Kf1, and it is a positional draw.

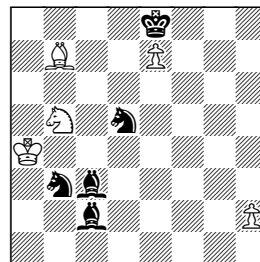
GK03 Shakhmaty v SSSR, 1934

Win

GK04 is a Fork Study. **1.Rc8+ Nd8!/i 2.Rxd8+ Kh7 3.Nf7!/ii Rxf7/iii 4.Re8!/iv Rxd7 5.e6!** and Black, with an extra rook, loses. The white Pawn cannot be stopped. Now we can appreciate the significance of 4.Re8! The e8 square is a staging post for the promotion, whether via the d7 or f7 square. i) To obstruct the white Pawn. White wins at once after Kh7 2.Nxf7. ii) The other square for the Knight (Ng6?) would be fatal: Rxg6 4.Rh8+ Kxh8 5.d8Q+ Kg7 and Black has the upper hand. iii) White must now act with energy, but neither 4.Rh8+? Kxh8 5.d8Q+ nor 4.e6? Rg7, is of any avail, seeing that White can be double-Rook mated on the h-file. iv) Only this self-effacing move guarantees victory. 4.Rc8? Rxd7 5.e6 Rd8 draws. [Nowhere but on the e8 square will the white Rook be protected after his e-Pawn has captured a black Rook!]

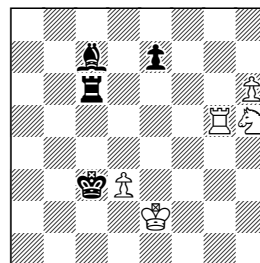
GK05 1st Honorable Mention
Tidskrift för Schack, 1959

Draw

GK06 1st Prize, L. Kubbel
Memorial Tourney, 1953

Draw

GK06 is a Positional Draw Study. **1.Ka3! Bb4+ 2.Kb2 Ne3/ 3.Nc7+ Kxe7 4.Nd5+ Nxd5 5.Kxc2!/ii Na1+! 6.Kb1/v Ne3+! 7.Kb2! 8.h4! 9.Kf6! 8.h4!/vii Kf5/viii 9.h5!/ix Kg5 10.Bf3/x Kh6/xi 11.Bg4!/xii Kg5 12.Bf3,** positional draw courtesy of reciprocal zugzwang. The black Knight on the a1 square is *en prise*, but there is a dynamic balance in effect, for White can no more afford to capture it (allowing the reply Ba3;) than Black can effect its escape (as long as the white King stays put on the b2 square). i) Black has succeeded in defending his pieces, but White's resources are by no means at an end. ii) 5.Bxd5? Nd4! But now both black Knights are in jeopardy. iii) The other move, 5...Nd4+, loses a piece to 6.Kd3. iv) And not the blunder of 6.Kb2? Bc3+, winning. v) The exclamation mark is justified! White is being herded into the mating corner. vi) White replies to a surprise with a surprise! It would be curtains after 7.Kxa1? Ba3 8.h4 Kf6, and 9.h5 Kg5 10.Bf3 Bc1!, with zugzwang, Pawn loss, and worse to follow, or 9.Bc8 Ke5 10.h5 Kd4 11.h6 Kd3 12.h7 Kc2 13.h8Q Bb2 mate. vii) 8.Kxa1? loses as before. With 8.h4! White ties the black King to the locality of the advancing h-Pawn and keeps him away from the d2 square. A waiting move by the white Bishop is met by Black rather simply: playing the King down to the d2 square, then playing his Bishop via f8 to g7, after which White would be obliged to capture the a1-Knight, only to be mated. To give an example: 8.Bc8? Kg5 9.Bd7 Kf4 10.h4 Ke3 11.h5 Kd2 12.Bf5 (h6,Nc2;) Bf8! 13.Bg6 Bg7! 14.Kxa1 Kc1 15.Bf5 Bf8, with Ba3, and Bb2 mate. viii) If Kg6 9.Bf3 (Kxa1? Ba3;) Kf5 10.Bh5/xiii Kf4 11.Bg6/xiv Ke3 12.h5 Kd2 13.h6 Bf8 14.h7 Bg7 15.Kxa1 (now only!) Kc1 16.Bf5, and the position is drawn because the black Bishop is hamstrung, tantalizingly unable to deliver the mate on the b2 square. ix) 9.Bc8+? Kf4! xv 10.Bd7 Ke3! 11.h5 Kd2 12.h6 Nc2 wins. Also bad is 9.Bf3? Kf4. x) Now a position of reciprocal zugzwang has arisen: White to play loses, but with Black to play it's a draw. xi) It is curious how Black finds himself unable to triangulate to lose a tempo and pass the move to White. For example, Kf4 11.Bc6 Kf5 12.Be8, and the draw is plain. xii) 11.Kxa1? Ba3 12.Bg4 Kg5 13.Bf3 Bc1. xiii) But not 10.h5? Kg5!, when White is in zugzwang toils. This line should be compared with (x), where Black has the move in the main line. xiv) 11.Bf7? Ke3 12.h5 Kd2 13.h6 Nc2! 14.h7 Nd1+ and Bc3 winning. xv) Ke4? 10.h5 Kd3 11.h6, and Black does no more than draw.

GK07 1st Prize, Kubbel
Memorial Tourney, 1946

Win

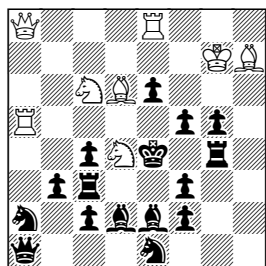
GK07 According to Kasparian among his best achievements. **1.Ng7!/i Rxb6 2.Rc5+ Kd4 3.Rc4+ Ke5 4.Rxc7 Kf6 5.Ne8+ Kf7 6.Rc8/ii Re6+! 7.Kd1! 8.Rxc7 8.Nc7!/v Rc6! 9.Kd2!/vi Rc5/vii 10.Rf8+! wins.** i) 1.h7? Re6! and 2...Rh6, secures Black the draw. ii) White has protected his Knight, but still stands badly. iii) The point becomes clear later on. iv) Black now threatens to play Rg8. v) There is a great temptation to play 8.Ra8?, but it meets an interesting riposte: Rc6! 9.Ke2 Rc2+ 10.Ke3 Rc1 11.Ke4 Rc2 12.Kd5 Rc1 13.d4 Rc2 14.Nd6+ (unavoidable at some point) exd6 15.Kxd6 Rd2 16.d5 Rd1, and this position is known to endgame theory to be drawn. vi) Now we know why White played 7.Kd1!! Had White played 7.Kd2? then after Rg6! 8.Nc7! Rc6, it would be White's turn to play, and there would be no win. For example, 9.d4 Rc4 10.d5 Kg6, drawn. So the point is that 7.Kd1!! engineers the zugzwang in White's favor. vii) e6 10.Nb5, or Kg6 10.Nd5, are no better.

Recent Tourney Winners

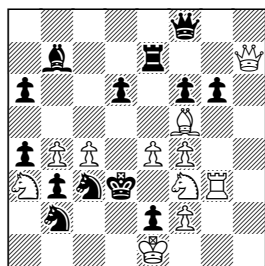
by Mike Preic

The comments and solutions have been obtained from the magazines which originally published the awards. In the case of Studies the comments and solutions have been obtained from the January issue of *End Games (EG)*.

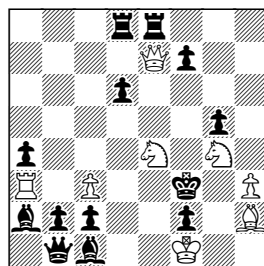
Milan Velimirovic
1st Prize, Wola Gulowska 1998
Evgenij Fomichev
1st Prize, Wola Gulowska 1998
Waldemar Tura
1st Prize, Wola Gulowska 1998



#2



#4



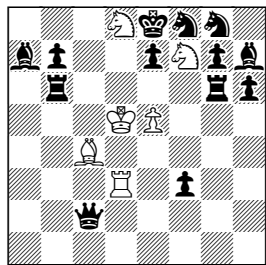
S#2

Milan Velimirovic, 1st Prize, Wola Gulowska, 1998 Zagorujko 2+3+3 with very interesting execution. Unusual and original mechanism. Set play: 1...Rd3/Re3 2.Rxe6/Bxf5#. Try 1.Nxf5? (2.Nb4), 1...Rd3+/Re3+/Kd3 2.cNd4/fNd4/Ne5#, but 1...e5! **1.Nxe6!** (2.Nf4), 1...Rd3+/Re3+/Kd3/Ke3/Nd3 2.eNd4/Ne5/Nc5/Nf4/Ng5#.

Eugene Fomichev, 1st Prize, Wola Gulowska, 1998 In the set play: 1...Bxe4 2.Ng5+ (A) Kd4 3.Ne6+ (C) Rxe6 4.Qa7#, 1...Rxe4 2.Ne5+ (B) Kd4 3.Nc6+ (D) Bxc6 4.Qa7# two black pieces open the line for the white Queen. **1.Qh1!** (2.Ng1+ Kd4 3.Qf3! Nd1 4.Ne2); 1...Bxe4 2.Ne5+ (B) Kd4 3.Qe4+! Nxe4 4.Nc6# (D); 1...Rxe4 2.Ng5+ (A) Kd4 3.Qxe4+! Nxe4 4.Ne6# (C).

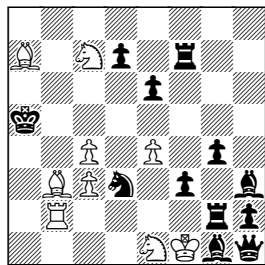
Waldemar Tura, 1st Prize, Wola Gulowska, 1998 In the set play: 1...Be6 provides for two possibilities: 2.Nd2+ and Nxg5+ followed by 2...Bxd2/Bxg5#. In the solution: **1.Qe5!** White threatens 2.Qf5+ Bf4#. Two of Black's defenses provide for mates from the set play with dual avoidance. 1...Rxe5 2.Nd2+ (Nxg5+?) Bxd2# and 1...dxe5 2.Nxg5 (Nd2+?) Bxg5#. The third defence 1...Be6 2.c4+ Be3# changes the mate from the set play.

Viktor Chepizny
1st Prize, Wola Gulowska 1998



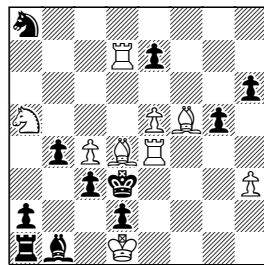
H#2 2 solutions

Sven Trommler
1st Prize, Wola Gulowska 1998



S#2 Madrasi

Udo Degener
1st Prize, harmonie 1996/97



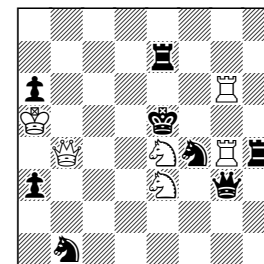
S#5

Viktor Chepizny, 1st Prize, Wola Gulowska, 1998 Very interesting dual avoidance with the pinning of white pieces. 1.bRf6 Ke4 2.Rxf7 Bxf7#, 1.bRd6+? Ke4 2.Rxd8 Rxd8??: 1.gRd6+ Kc5 2.Rxd8 Rxd8#, 1.gRf6? Kc5 2.Rxf7 Bxf7??

Sven Trommler, 1st Prize, Wola Gulowska, 1998 Beautifully executed Le Grand theme. 1.c5? (2.Bb6+ Bxc5#), 1...f2 2.Ra2+ fxe1#, but 1...d6!; **1.Bc2!** (2.Ra2+ Rxc2#, 1...f2 2.Bb6+ fxe1#

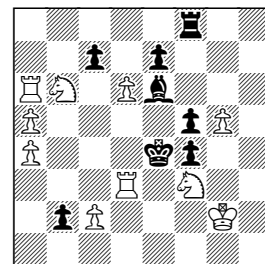
Udo Degener, 1st Prize, harmonie, 1996/97 Very original transformation of white batteries. **1.Rd5!** (2.Rb5 ~ 3.Re3+ Kd4 4.Rd3+ Bd3), 1...Nb6/c7 2.Be5+ Nxd5 3.Rd4+ Ke3 4.Rg4+ Kf3 5.Be4+ Bxe4#, 1...e6 2.Re2+ exf5 3.Be3+ Ke4 4.Bxg5+ Kf3 5.Rd3+ Bxd3#

Yves Cheylan
1st Prize, Mémorial Di Scala



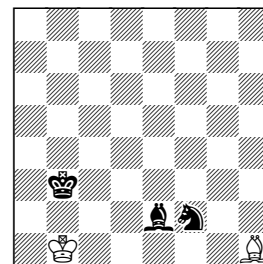
#2*√

Brian Stephenson
1st HM, S. Tehtäväniekat
1997 Informal Tourney



#4

Henry Tanner
1st Prize, S. Tehtäväniekat
1997 Informal Tourney



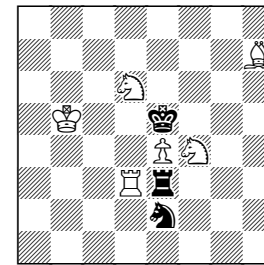
H#8 1/2

Yves Cheylan, 1st Prize, Mémorial Di Scala, 1998 Set play: 1...Re6 2.6Rg5#, 1...Ne6 (Nxg6) 2.Qd6# (2.Qc5?); Thematic tries: 1.Rd6? (2.Qd4), 1...Ne2 2.Qc5# (2.Qd6?), 1...Ne6 2.Rd5# (2.Qc5?), but 1...Nd5!; 1.Nd6? (2.Qe4), 1...Re6 2.Nf7#, 1...Ne6 2.dNc4# (2.Qc5?), but 1...Nxg6!; **1.Nc5!** (2.Qe4), 1...Re6 2.Nd7#, 1...Ne6 2.Nd3# (2.Qd4?), 1...Nxg6 2.Qd4# (2.Nd3?). Also 1...Qg2 2.Qxf4#, 1...Qf3/Qxe3/Qe1 2.4Rg5#, 1...Nd2 (Nc3) 2.Q(x)c3#

Brian Stephenson, 1st HM, Suomen Tehtäväniekat, 1997 A Palitz-Dresden scheme with B/P de-interference/interference producing a "harmonic" substitute defense (3...e5 versus 1...e5). The double threat 2.Nd2/Nc5 is a minus. **1.Nd7!** (2.Nc5/Nd2) Bxd7 2.Rc6 (3.Rc4) Bxc6 3.Kf2 e5/~ 4.Nd2/Rd4#.

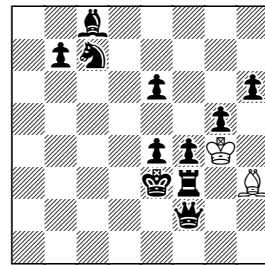
Henry Tanner, 1st Prize, Suomen Tehtäväniekat, 1997 1...Bf3 2.Kc3 Bxe2 3.Kd2 Bf1 4.Ke1 Kc2 5.Nh3 Kd3 6.Kf2 Ke4 7.Kg1 Kf3 8.Kh1 Kg3 9.Ng1 Bg2#

Raimo Sailas
1st Prize, Suomen Tehtäväniekat
1995 Informal Tourney



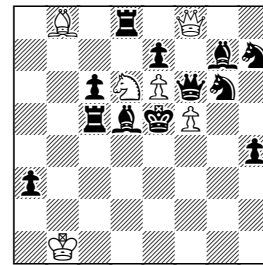
H#2 b) wKb5→c6

Unto Heinonen
1st Prize, Timo Koistisen 50JT



H#5

Rolf Wiehagen & C.J. Feather
1st Prize, Schach-Aktiv
1996 Informal Tourney



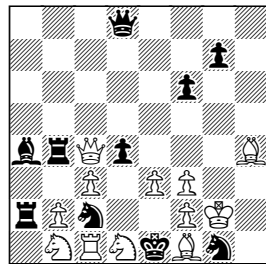
H#2 2 solutions

Raimo Sailas, 1st Prize, Suomen Tehtävienkat, 1997 1.Rxd3 Nc4+ 2.Kd4 Nxe2#, b) 1.Nxf4 Nf5 2.Kxe4 Rxe3#.

Unto Heinonen, 1st Prize, Timo Koistisen 50JT 1.Qc2 Bf1 2.Rf2 Kh3 3.Kf3 Bd3 4.e3 Bf5 5.Qe4 Bg4#

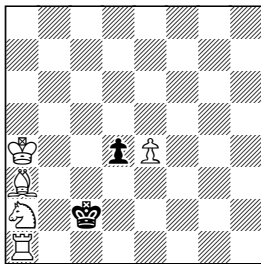
Rolf Wiehagen & C.J. Feather, 1st Prize, Schach-Aktiv, 1996 1.Rxb8+? Ka1 2.Kxd6+ Qxb8??, 1.Rxd6! Bxd6+ 2.Kxd6 Qb8#; 1.Qxf5+? Ka1 2.Kxe6+ Qxf5??, 1.Qxe6! fxe6 2.Kxe6 Qf5#

Alexander Zidek
1st Prize, Schach-Aktiv
1997 Informal Tourney



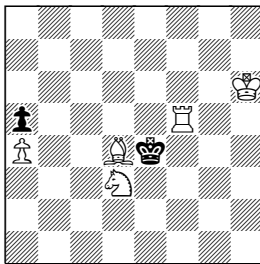
#2

Doris Decker
1st Prize, H.C. Krumm
Memorial Tourney



#7

Doris Decker
HM, H.C. Krumm
Memorial Tourney



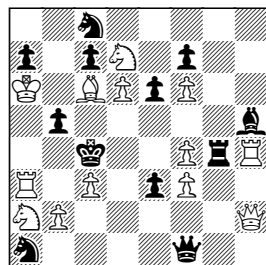
H#4 2 solutions

Alexander Zidek, 1st Prize, Schach-Aktiv, 1997 1.b3? (2.Nb2), 1...Ne3+ 2.Nxe3#, 1...dxe3 2.fxe3#, but 1...dxc3!; **1.Qd3!** (2.Qd2), 1...Ne3+ 2.fxe3#, 1...dxc3 2.Nxe3#.

Doris Decker, 1st Prize, H.C. Krumm Memorial Tourney **1.Re1!** Kd2(I) 2.Bb4+ Kc2 3.Re2+ Kd1!(II) 4.Rg2 d3 5.Nc3+ Ke1 6.Bc5 d2/Kf1 7.Rg1#; 2...Kd3 3.Kb5! (Kb3?) Kc2 4.Kc4 Kb2(III) 5.Re2+ Ka1/Kb1 6.Kb3 ~ 7.Re1#; 1...d3 2.Bc5 d2!(IV) 3.Nb4+ Kc3 4.Rd1 Kc4 5.Bc3 Kc3 6.Rxd2 ~ 7.Rc2#; (I): 1...Kd3? 2.Kb3 Kd2 3.Bb4+ Kd3 4.Nc1; (II): 3...Kb1/Kd3? 4.Kb3/Nc1+ ~/Kc4 5.Re1/Rc2; (III): 4...d3? 5.Bc3 d2 6.Nb4; (IV): 2...Kd2? 3.Bf2 4.Bd4 Kd2 5.Bc3+ ~ 6.Rc1 or 3.Bb4+ 4.Rc1+ 5.Bc3+ 6.Ra1; 2...Kb2? 3.Rc1 d2 4.Bd4+ Kxa2 5.Ra1.

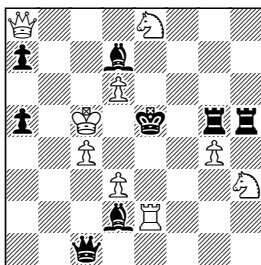
Doris Decker, HM, H.C. Krumm Memorial Tourney 1.Kxf5 Nf4 2.Kg4 Kg6 3.Kg3! Kf5 4.Kh4 Bf2#, 1.Kxd3 Rxa5 2.Kc4 Ra8! 3.Kb4 Ba7 4.Ka5 Bc5#.

Mikhail Marandjuk
1st Prize, Die Schwalbe
1996 Informal Tourney



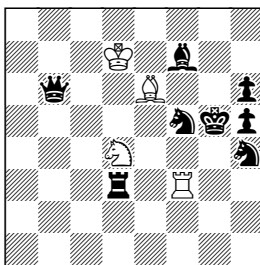
#3*√

Karlheinz Bachmann
1st Prize, Die Schwalbe
1994 Informal Tourney



H#6

Shaul Shamir
1st Prize, Manne Persson 80
Jubilee Tourney



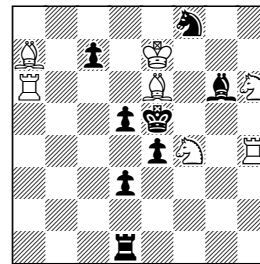
H#2 b) Kd7→f2

Mikhail Marandjuk, 1st Prize, Die Schwalbe, 1996 Set play: 1...Nxd6 2.Ne5+ Kc5 3.b4# (2.b4? Rg5!); 1...cxd6 2.Bb5+ Kd5 3.Nb4# (2.Nb4? Rg5!); Tries: 1.b4? (2.Ne5), 1...cxd6!; 1.Nb4? (2.Bxb5), 1...Nxd6!; **1.f5!** (2.Bxb5+ Kd5 3.Qe5), 1...Nxd6 2.b4 ~ 3.Ne5#, 1...cxd6 2.Nb4 ~ 3.Bxb5# (1...Rf4 2.Rxf4+).

Karlheinz Bachmann, 1st Prize, Die Schwalbe, 1994 Twelve checks in a row. Must be some sort of a task. 1.Be3+ Rxe3+ 2.Qxe3+ d4+ 3.Ke6+ Nxe5+ 4.Qxe5+ d5+ 5.Qxd5+ cxd5+ 6.Rxd5+ Qxd5#.

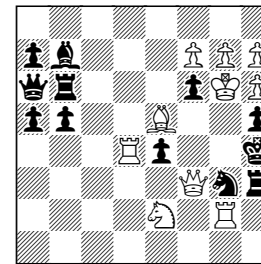
Shaul Shamir, 1st Prize, Manne Persson 80 1.Nd6 (Ne3?) Bh3 (Rxf7?) 2.Bg6 Ne6#, b) 1.Ne3 (Nd6?) Rxf7 (Bh3?) 2.Ng6 Nf3#.

Christer Jonsson
1st Prize, Springaren
National Tourney 1998



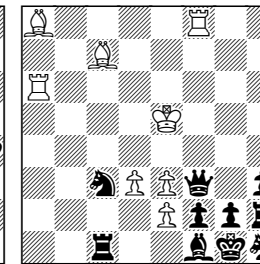
#2

Hartmut Laue
1st Prize, feenschach
Informal Tourney 1992



S#3

Fadil Abdurahmanovic
Prize, feenschach
Informal Tourney, 1994



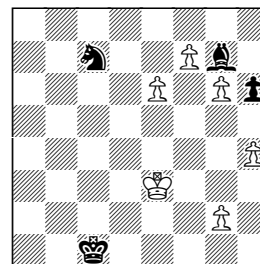
H#3 2 solutions

Christer Jonsson, 1st Prize, Springaren National Tourney, 1998 1.Ng2? (2.Ng4) A, 1...e3 2.Bd4# B, 1...Bf5/Bh5/Ne6 2.Nf7/Rh5/Re6#, 1...c5!; **1.Ra4!** (2.Bd4) B, 1...e3 2.Ng4# A, 1...c5/Ne6 2.Bb8/Ng6#.

Hartmut Laue, 1st Prize, feenschach, 1992 **1.Ng1!** (2.Qg4+ hxg4/Kxg4 3.Bxf6+/Rxe4+), 1...Rc6 2.Qxe4+ Nxe4 3.Bxf6+ Rxf6#, 1...Bc6 2.Qxf6+ Kg4 3.Rxe4+ Bxe4#.

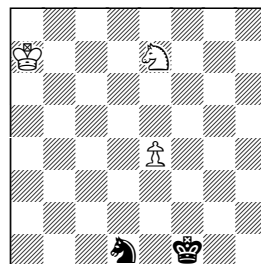
Fadil Abdurahmanovic, Prize, feenschach, 1994 1.Qxa8 Rxf2 2.Kxf2 Ra2 3.Kxe3 Bb6#, 1.Qxf8 Bxg2 2.Kxg2 Bd8 3.Kg3 Rg6#.

S. Zakharov
1st Prize, Springaren
Informal Tourney, 1994



Draw

Axel Ornstein
1st Prize, Springaren
Informal Tourney, 1995



Win

S. Zakharov, Prize, Springaren, 1994 1.e7/i Nd5+ 2.Ke4 Nxe7 3.h5/ii Kd2/iii 4.g4 Ke2 5.g5 hxg5 6.h6 Bxh6 7.f8Q Bxf8 8.g7 Bxg7 stalemate. i) 1.Ke4? Nxe6 2.Kf5 Nf8 3.h5 Kd2 4.g4 Ke3 5.g5 Kf3 6.gxh6 Bxh6 7.Kf6 Kf4 8.g7 Bg5 mate. ii) This creates a reciprocal zugzwang. iii) 3...Kd1 (Kc2) 4.g4? Kd2 wins, but 4.f8Q+ draws.

Axel Ornstein, 1st Prize, Springaren, 1995 1.Nd5 Nf2/i 2.e5 Ng4 3.e6 Ne5 4.Ne7!/ii Ke2/iii 5.Kb6 Kd3/iv 6.Kc5 (Kc7/Kb5? Ke4); Ke4 7.Kb5 Kd3(Kf3)/v 8.Nc6 Ng6 9.Ne5+ Nxe5 10.e7 wins. i) Nb2 2.e5 Nc4 (Nd3;e6) 3.e6 Nd6 4.Kb8 Nf5 5.Ne3+. ii) 4.Kb7? Ng6 5.Nf4 Ne7 6.Kc7 Kf2, and 7.Kd7 Nf5 8.Ng6 Kg3 9.Nh8 Kf3 10.Nf7 Kf4 11.Nd6 Nh6 draw, or 7.Kd6 Ng8 8.Nd5 Ke2 9.Ne7 Nh6 10.Ke5 Kd3, also a draw. iii) Kg2 5.Kb6 Kh3 6.Kc7 Kg4 7.Nc6 Ng6 8.Ne5/vi Kf5 9.Kd6 Nxe5 10.e7 wins. iv) Kd2 6.Kc7 Ke2 7.Kd6. Or Kf3 6.Nf5 Kf4 (Ng6;Nh4+) 7.Nh4(Ne7) Ng4 8.e7 Nf6 9.Kb7 Ke5 10.Kc8 wins. v) Ng4 8.Ng8. Or Nc4 8.Nc8. vi) 8.Kd6? Kf4 9.Ne5 Nh4 draw. ♠

ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS

Problems published in this section are eligible for the 1999 competition. Please send your originals to individual editors. All solutions and comments are due by 8/15/1999 and should be sent to the Solutions Editor. The names and addresses of all editors are printed on the last page. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue, David L. Brown has stepped down as sub-editor for twomovers, selfmates and fairies. The new editors, starting with the next issue, are Miodrag Mladenovic (#2), Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic (S#) and Gianni Donati (F#). The editorial staff of *StrateGems* thanks David for a job well done and wishes him success in his new endeavor. We hope David will rejoin us at some future time.

TWOMOVERS Editor: David L. Brown, Judge: Rauf Aliovsadzade

Good miniatures keep springing up - you'll enjoy these! Due to a misprint of **T0076**, it is given again as **T0094**. Did you know that years ago Jack Rosberger (**T0091**,**T0096**,**T100**) was also a strong player in France and Poland, winning 12 city and regional championships? At a simul-exhibition in Metz, 1932, he won a brilliant game over none other than Alexander Alekhine, then the World Champion! Nikolai's **T0098** presents a new angle in try-play. Give it a close look. The focus of the French joint, **T0099**, should be on those bPs and how sweet the before and after harmonize. Lynn's **T0102** is a revision of an tourney award that's even better now! Greetings to the excellent twomovers editor from Great Britain, David Shire.

THREEMOVERS, MOREMOVERS and STUDIES Editor: Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic, Judge: Milan Velimirovic

We start the threemovers with a dream-piece from two great composers. Please, study this one carefully. Petite presents a strategic problem with Bohemian mates. Huseinly specializes in miniatures, and this one is hard to believe - White has to avoid falling into a zugzwang! Markevitch has some surprising moves in both pieces. Kavnatsky and Kapustin produce two shockers in what is known as the reciprocal grab-theme. First, they found another setting for a classical record by Rudenko. But then they expanded the idea into a problem with a twin. Brada will puzzle all who use a normal chess-set: they will not have enough black pawns! This is not an error. Just keep going, find both solutions, and compare the white moves. There is a beautiful cycle between the twins.

The first fourmover, by Shavyrin, has a surprising key. After you lose a few hours there, the light piece by Reverend Deen will delight you with a simple logic. Raican's fourmover has a nice set of white switchbacks. The first Makaronez is a nice find. Formanek, the President of the Problem Commission of FIDE, dedicates his problem to Samuel Loyd and the Editors of *StrateGems*. He wishes us a long and prosperous future. In this problem both black and white can mate in four moves! The position is illegal, rather than misprinted, and it is a delightful piece of art. Golubenko shows a new twist in what would otherwise be an old battery-mill. Johandl shows a lot of pre-plans leading to a beautiful model mate. The last two problems, both in eight moves, extend some known records. Makaronez has three sacrifices where Kraemer had only two fifty years ago. However, I cannot tell you which record is equaled by Wakashima, without divulging the solution.

Among the endgames, Rossi just manages to avoid stalemating black, and Topko elaborates on the theme of space supremacy. Raican's study is an unbelievable fight. Until you checkmate in the middle of the board, seventeen moves from now, you have not found the sequence of best defenses.

SELFMATES Editor: David L. Brown, Judge: Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic

Of high interest in this issue are Alaikow's **S0050** with two thematic defenses and Csak's **S0051** which, not surprisingly, requires a moveable pin. Mark Kirtley's **S0052** takes the spotlight, however, with battery play that pushes this rendering into grade-A heights. The **S0054** joint features an eye-opening tempo where one would least expect. A good example of persistent revising (a slight change from **S0013**) that can provide golden yields is seen in Muller's new **S0055**. Michel Caillaud's beautiful **S0056** should, I hope, survive cooking - I trust that solvers will look hard at this.

Problem not fully computer tested: **S0056**

HELPMATES Editor: Daniel Meinking, Judges: H#2 C.J. Feather, H#2.5 & H#3 Fadil Abdurahmanovic, H#3.5 & H#n Viktor Bene & Christer Jonsson

Warm greetings to four U.S. composers new to the column: newcomer Green, veteran Anderson, and seasoned masters Garai and Karpati. Good to have so many first-timers from afar: Messrs. Apro, Babic, Benyovszki, Hatiamov, Markov, Nedeljkovic, Petite, Sobchuk, and Zoltan. Welcome to all!

We begin with a potpourri of two-movers: simple, but economically shown ideas. Janos demonstrates well-known dual-avoidances, but with a twist. Laszlo's **H0154** seems quite original! Plenty of good, unified effects in the heftier two-ers, especially from Petko & Zivko. Kopaev's task will surprise a few, I'm sure. Special thanks to Tibor Ersek for his "88 *Selected Problems...*" booklet! Three-movers start off slow, but not necessarily easy. Pretty play in **H0170**, and a good Meredith construction in **H0171**, though not entirely new. Chris offers two examples of an interesting theme; I will leave it to solvers to decide which is the better brew! Strong thematic features, as one would expect, from our American and German friends. More-movers are showcased by the refreshing **H0181**, **H0183**, and **H0185**.

Notes: **H0165** is a zero-position, which means the diagram position is *not* for solving; twins are: a) bK→b1; b) bPc5→c7; c/d/e) bK→e2/h1/f4. The half-move stipulations of **H0179** and **H0183** mean that White begins, and mates (respectively) on his 4th and 5th move.

FAIRIES Editor: David L. Brown, Judge: Petko A. Petkov

The new fairy piece, **Soucie** (S) by Ben Good, is derived from a game invention by Claude Soucie. The Soucie (♘♙) is a Queen-lines hopper, whose move length is determined by the number of all men (incl. the S itself) on that particular file, rank, or diagonal. In diagram **F0076**, the d6S could move: to a3 (3 men on the a3-f8 diagonal), to c7 or e5 (1 man on the b8/h2 diagonal), a6 or g6 (3 men on the 6th rank), or to d1 (5 men on the d-file). Note that 1.exd6? (now 2 men on the file!) would be an illegal self-check from the e4S, as would 1...wKb3? from the d3S. **Anti-Circe**: a capturing unit (including K) is reborn on its own rebirth square, which must be vacant (also in case of the K, unchecked), else the capture is illegal; the captured unit vanishes. Check is likewise invalid if *capturing the K* finds the capturer's rebirth square occupied. A piece cannot capture, and does not check a K, on its own rebirth square. Thus, in **F0079**, if 1.Rb4+?, illegal replies are 1...cxb4 (since b7 is occupied) and 1...Kxb4 (since e8 is checked), but either 1...gQh1! or 1...hQh1! nulls the check. **Paralyzing** pieces (**F0080**) move normally but may not check or capture -- any opposing piece while under their control loses total movement. Members of the Chinese family, the **Pao** (♙♚) and **Vao** (♜♞) move normally as R or B, but must hop in order to capture (or check) over one man of either color to any square beyond that man on the same line; the **Camel** (♝) is a 3,1

"knight". In Dikusarov's **F0086** and **F0088**, all **bKs** must be mated simultaneously, i.e. it is not mate if even a single **bK** can avoid check. In **F0087**, on his 5th move Black must be able to play both Mate and Helpmate in one. The **Zebra** (N) is a 3,2 "knight". **Neutral Pieces: (F0100)** can move, capture or be captured by either side. Neutral Pawns promote to Neutral pieces. Hint: double check is the usual means of giving mate.

Problems not fully computer testable: **F0076, F0077, F0086, F0088, F0100**

A Final Word: With *StrateGems* off to a tremendous start and already established as a world-class problem platform, I am making this my last issue as a sub-editor. My time will be taken with publishing several books (which are long overdue!). I urge all composers to participate with the new section editors, who are more able to accommodate all your wonderful work. - D. L. Brown

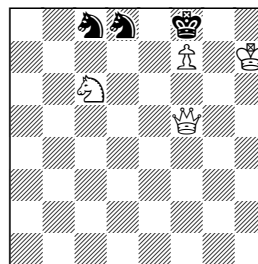
RETROS and **PROOF GAMES** Editor: **Gianni Donati**, Judges: **RETROS: Thomas Volet**, **PROOF GAMES: Peter van den Heuvel**

Welcome to new contributors Andrey Kornilov, Valery Liskovets, Leonid Borodatow, Radovan Tomasevic, and Pascal Wassong.

We start with a little warm-up from Noam, featuring a Kings and Pawns-only position. Then three direct-mate problems and a helpmate, all involving castling. Or not. Then from Andrey & Andrey, a classical puzzle to release the kings from their cages. Radovan's proof game has the Einstein Chess condition: units "grow" when they capture (P→N→B→R→Q→Q) and "shrink" when they move without capturing (Q→R→B→N→P→P). This condition makes it a tricky proposition to maintain anything resembling the initial array.

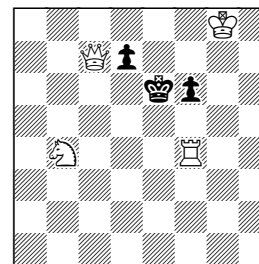
Pascal's proof game should come with a warning label: "don't assume!" The first of Thierry's proof games is just the sort of thing Loyd would have dreamed up. **P0031** is a task effort - is it a record? And now, take a deep breath! In the last issue, I challenged composers to see how many like-kind units could be arranged in a "file," as Charles Frankiss showed in two proof games published in this column. (See **P0015** and **P0023**, the latter was incorrectly printed with a **bB** instead of **bN** at f7.) Michel Caillaud took up the challenge and has demonstrated that 8 units of each type (Q,R,B, and N) is possible! Satoshi and Mikhail return us to non-linear proof games.

T0089 Robert Lincoln
Chatham, NJ



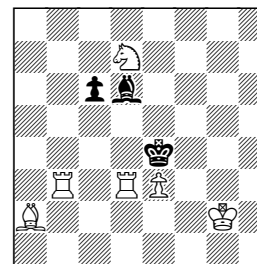
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T0090 Robert Lincoln
Chatham, NJ



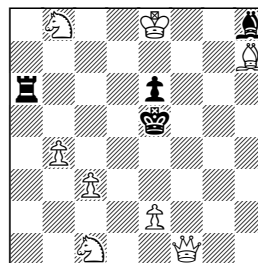
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Miami Beach, FL



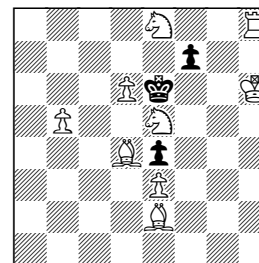
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T0092 Andrew Fink
Lexington, MA



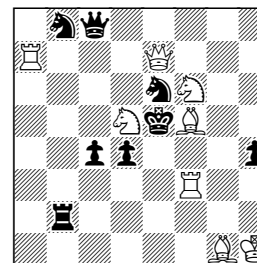
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T0093 Petro Farion
Ukraine



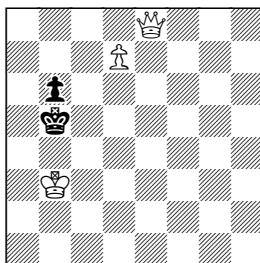
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T0094 Nikola Veliky
Ukraine



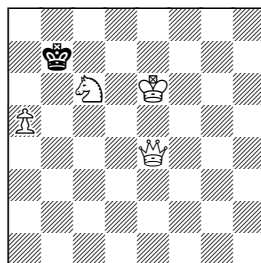
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Russia



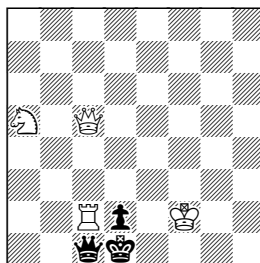
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T0087 Luke Neyndorff
El Cajon, CA



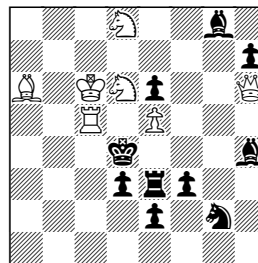
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Ukraine



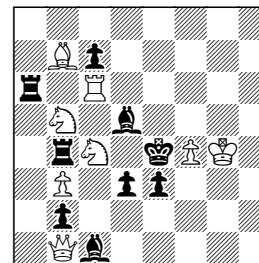
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Germany



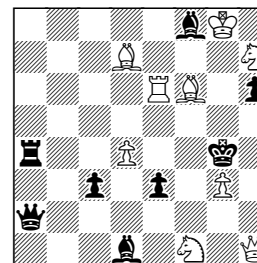
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Miami Beach, FL



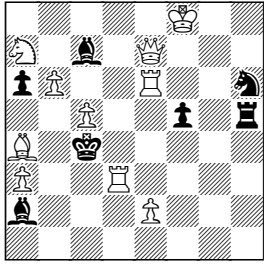
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Spain



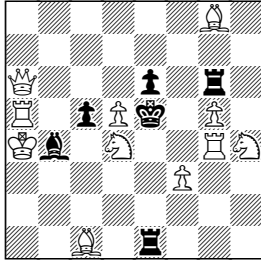
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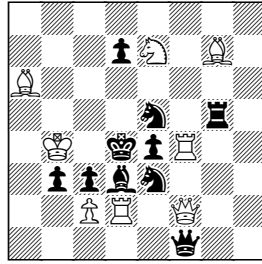
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T0099 Jacques Savournin &
Yves Cheylan, France



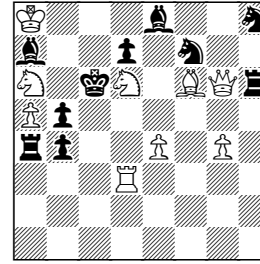
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T0100 Jack Rosberger
Miami Beach, FL



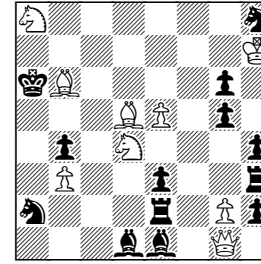
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M0072 David P. Lynn
San Antonio, TX



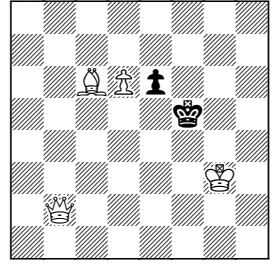
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M0073 Efrén Petite
Spain



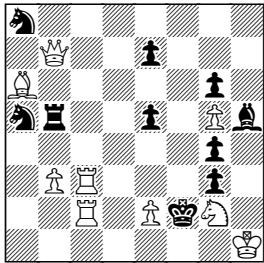
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M0074 Hadzhibaba Huseinly
Azerbaijan



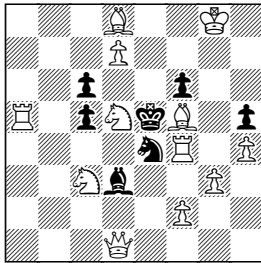
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T0101 Jacques Savournin
France



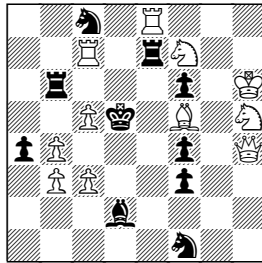
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T0102 David P. Lynn
San Antonio, TX



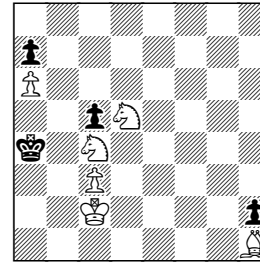
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T0103 Mimir Nedeljkovic
Yugoslavia



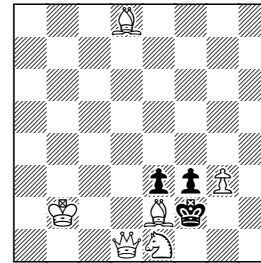
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M0075 Alex Markevitch
Jackson, NJ



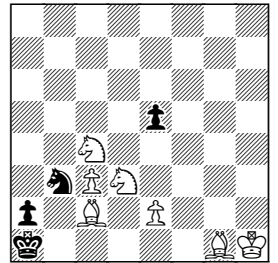
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Jackson, NJ



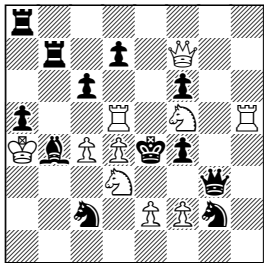
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Fedor Kapustin, Oak Park, MI



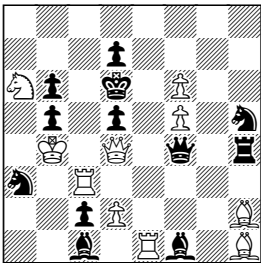
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T0104 David Shire
England



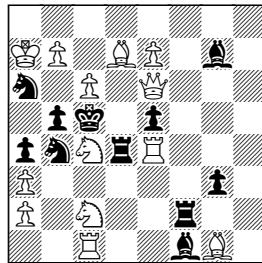
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T0105 Cor Groeneveld &
Henk Prins, Holland



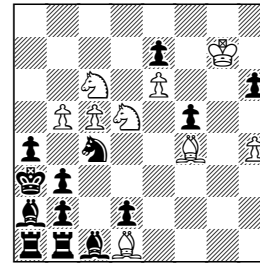
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M0071 Valentin Rudenko &
Mikhail Marandjuk, Ukraine



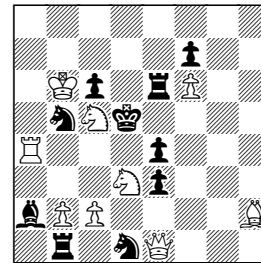
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M0078 Isaak Kavnaty &
Fedor Kapustin, Oak Park, MI



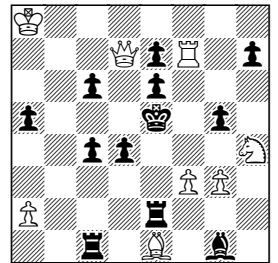
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M0079 Nikolai Nagnibida
& O. Sobchuk, Ukraine



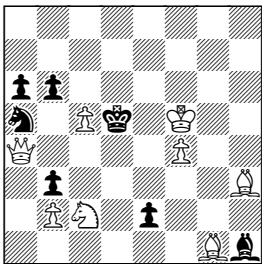
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Israel



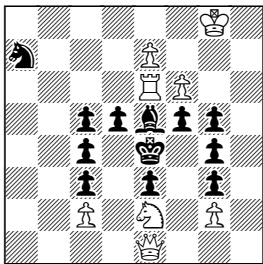
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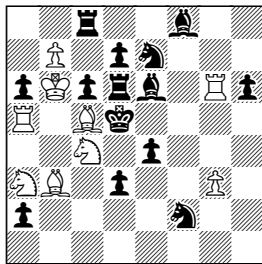
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Czech Republic



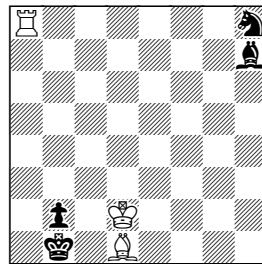
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Russia



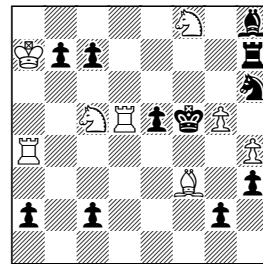
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Russia



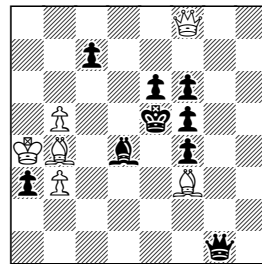
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Austria



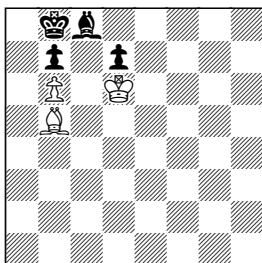
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M0092 Mike Prcic
Westlake Village, CA



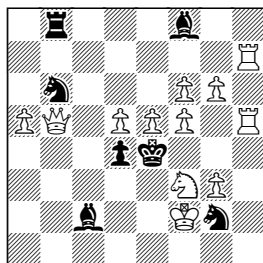
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M0084 Rev. W.L. Deen
Springbrook, IL



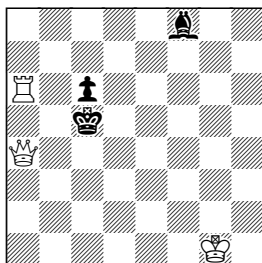
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M0085 Paul Raican
Romania



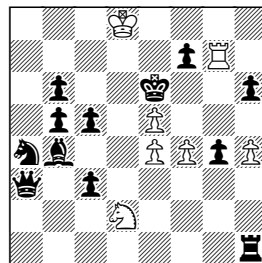
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M0086 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



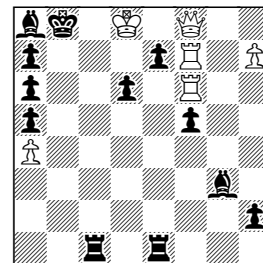
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M0093 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



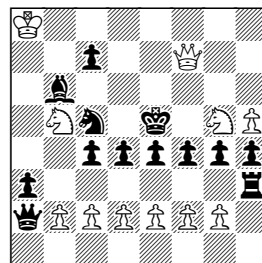
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Israel



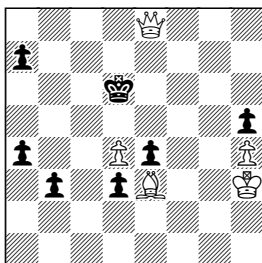
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M0095 Tadashi Wakashima
Japan



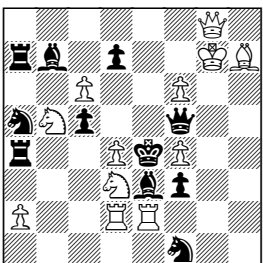
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M0087 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



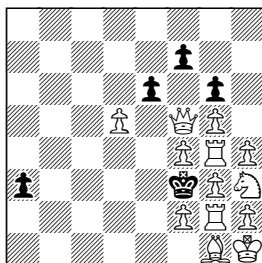
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M0088 L. Makaronez,
M. Marandjuk & N. Nagnibida
Israel/Ukraine



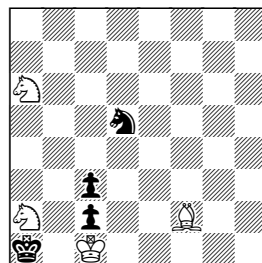
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M0089 Bedrich Formanek
Slovakia



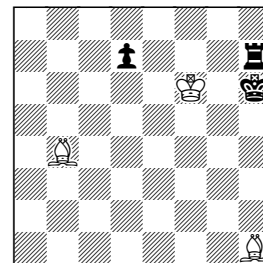
#4 duplex

E0014 Pietro Rossi
Italy



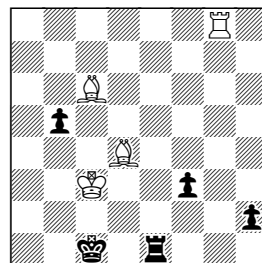
Win

E0015 Leonid Topko
Ukraine



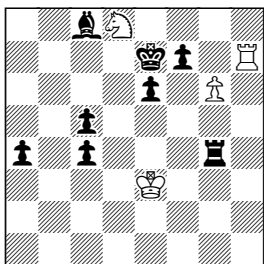
Win

E0016 Leonid Topko
Ukraine



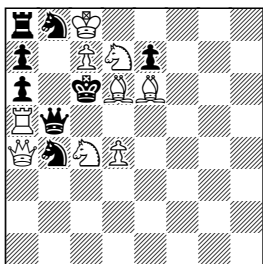
Win

E0017 Paul Raican
Romania



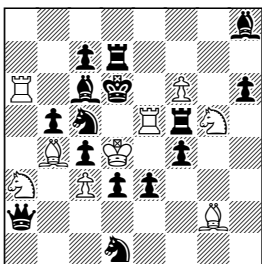
Win

S0044 Eugene A. Dugas
Windham, ME



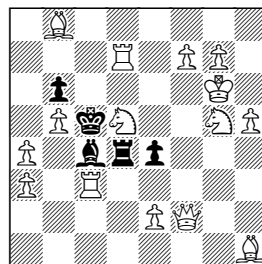
S#2√

S0045 Valery Smirnov
Russia



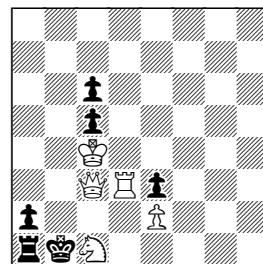
S#2

S0052 Mark Kirtley
Alpine, TX



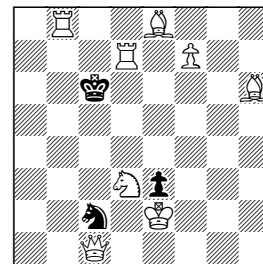
S#7

S0053 Michael Schreckenbach
& Manfred Zucker, Germany



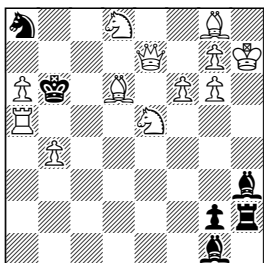
S#8√

S0054 Hans Bernleitner &
Klaus Wenda, Austria



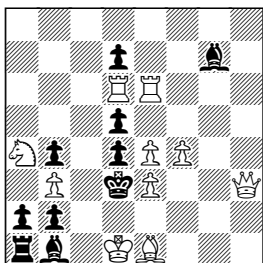
S#9

S0046 Efren Petite
Spain



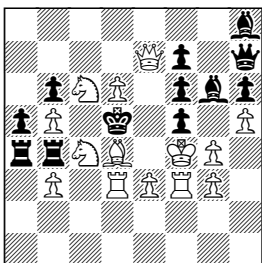
S#3

S0047 Joseph Whiteley
Phoenix, AZ



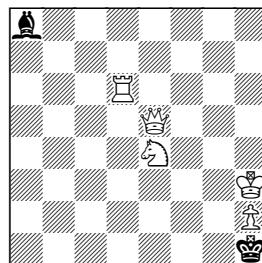
S#3

S0048 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



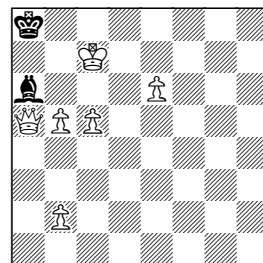
S#3

S0055 Frank Müller
Germany



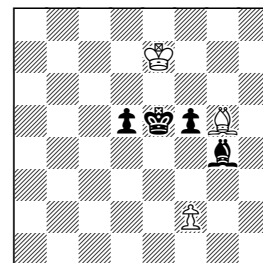
S#13

S0056 Michel Caillaud
France



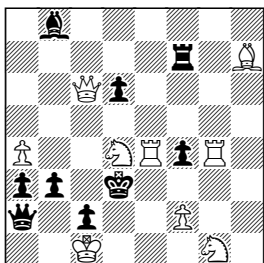
S#25

H00147 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



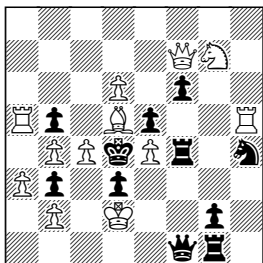
H#2 2 solutions

S0049 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



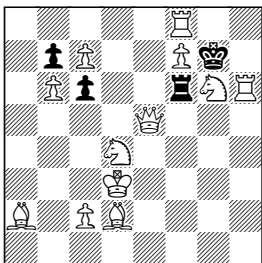
S#4

S0050 Wenelin Alaikow
Bulgaria



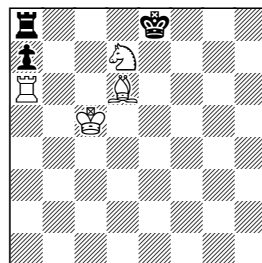
S#6

S0051 Janos Csak
Hungary



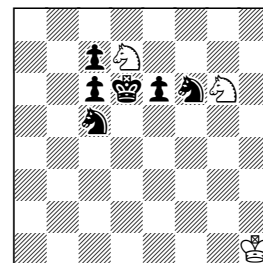
S#7

H0148 Robert Bales
Broadview, IL



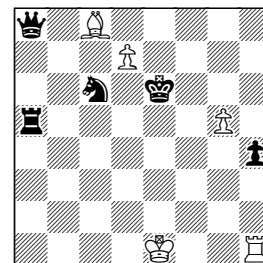
H#2 2 solutions

H0149 Joshua Green
Phoenix, AZ



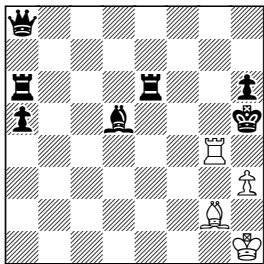
H#2 b) bPe6→d5

H0150 Janos Csak
Hungary



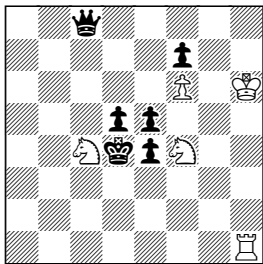
H#2 b) wR→a1

H0151 Georgy M. Francov & Vito Rallo, Bulgaria/Italy



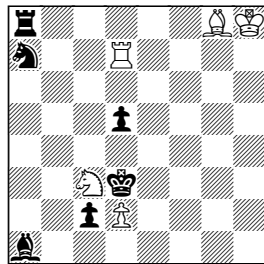
H#2 2 solutions

H0152 Rauf Aliovsadzade Lincoln, NE



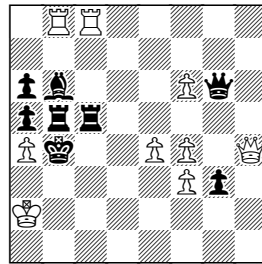
H#2 b) bKd4↔bPe4

H0153 Krzysztof Drazkowski Poland



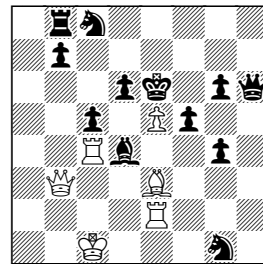
H#2 2 solutions

H0160 Petko A. Petkov Bulgaria



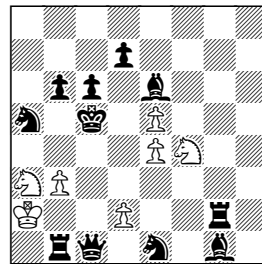
H#2 b) bQ→d6

H0161 Zivko Janevski Macedonia



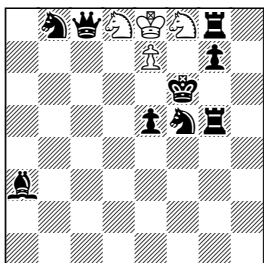
H#2 2 solutions

H0162 Efren Petite Spain



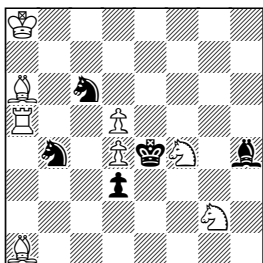
H#2 2 solutions

H0154 Laszlo Apro Hungary



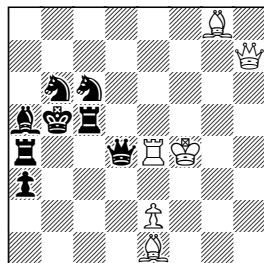
H#2 b) bK→h6

H0155 Christer Jonsson Sweden



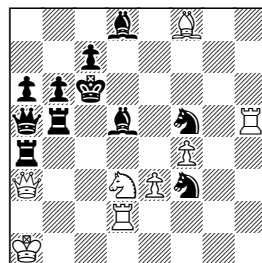
H#2 b) wNg2→h2

H0156 Milomir Babic Yugoslavia



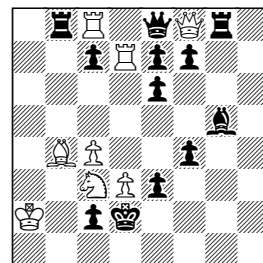
H#2 2 solutions

H0163 Laszlo Apro Hungary



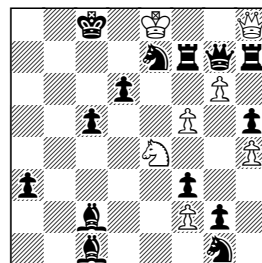
H#2 2 solutions

H0164 Welin Alaiikov Bulgaria



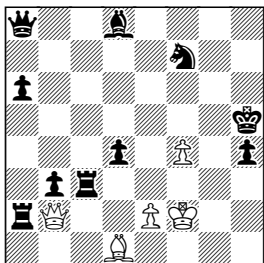
H#2 2 solutions

H0165 Vatsjeslav Kopaev Russia



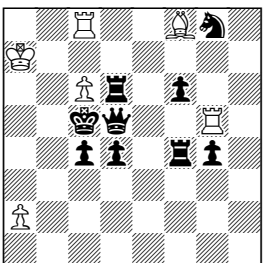
H#2 see text!

H0157 Nikolai Nagnibida Ukraine



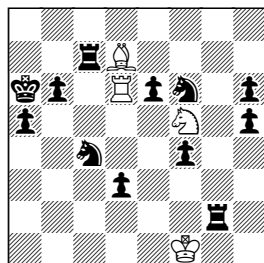
H#2 b) wPf4→g5

H0158 Joe Youngs Maple Grove, MN



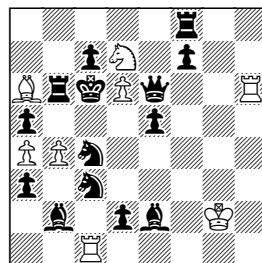
H#2 2 solutions

H0159 Tibor Ersek Hungary



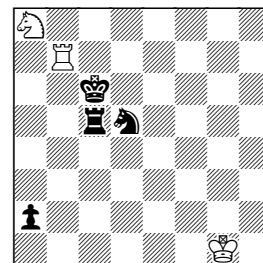
H#2 b/c) bK→d2/g6

H0166 Mimir Nedeljkovic Yugoslavia



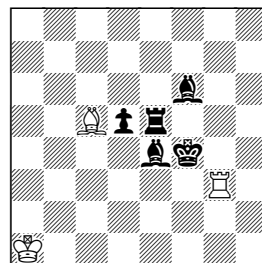
H#2 2 solutions

H0167 Albert Grigoryan Armenia



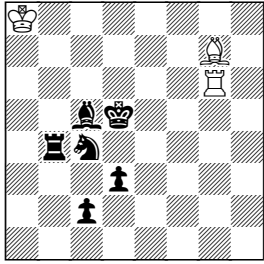
H#3 b) bR→d6

H0168 Alexander Toger Israel



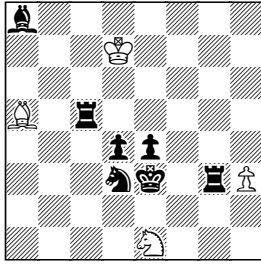
H#3 2 solutions

H0169 Gianni Donati
Princeton, NJ



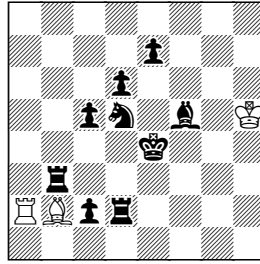
H#3 2 solutions

H0170 Christer Jonsson
Sweden



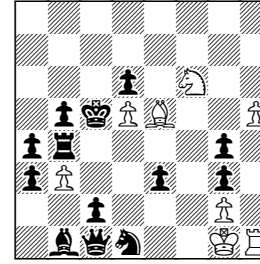
H#3 2 solutions

H0171 Evgenij Markov
Russia



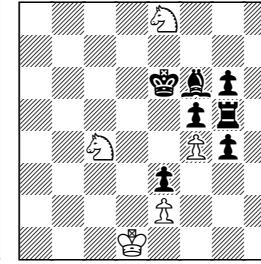
H#3 3 solutions

H0178 Nikolai Nagnibida &
O. Sobchuk, Ukraine



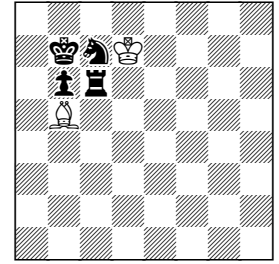
H#3 2 solutions

H0179 Christopher Jones
England



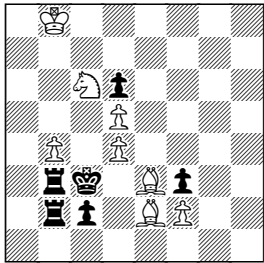
H#3½ 2 solutions

H0180 William Anderson
Hollywood, CA



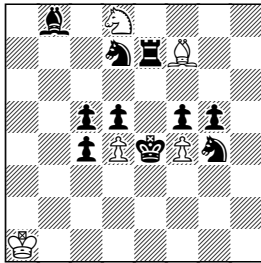
H#4 2 solutions

H0172 Gyorgy Bakcsi &
Laszlo Zoltan, Hungary



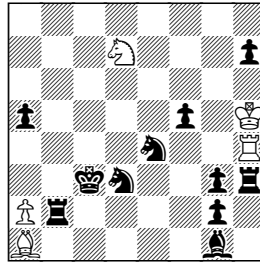
H#3 b) bRb2↔bPc2

H0173 Christopher Jones
England



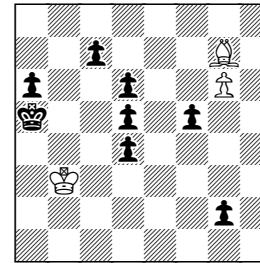
H#3 4 solutions

H0174 Dan-Constantin Gurgui
Romania



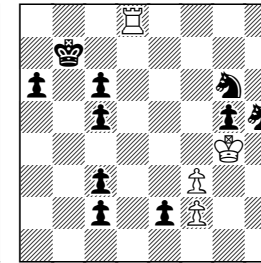
H#3 2 solutions

H0181 Aurel Karpati
Hollywood, CA



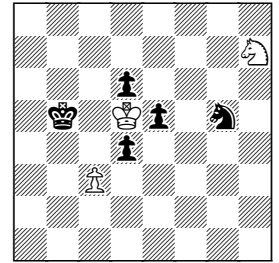
H#4

H0182 Pal Benyovszki
Hungary



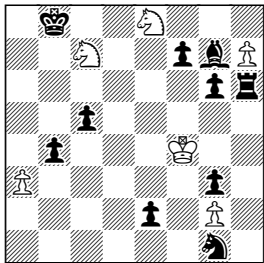
H#4 b) wR→f8

H0183 Janos Csak
Hungary



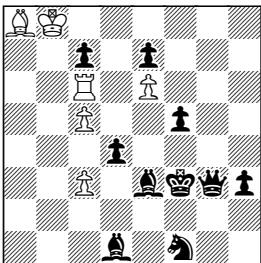
H#4½ 2 solutions

H0175 Aurel Karpati
& Rolf Wiehagen
USA/Germany



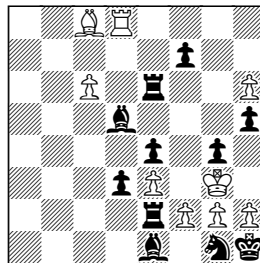
H#3 2 solutions

H0176 Han Peter Rehm
Germany



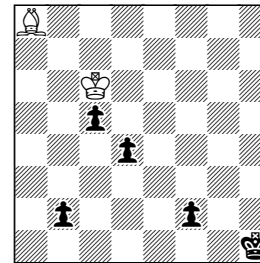
H#3 2 solutions

H0177 Toma Garai
Van Nuys, CA



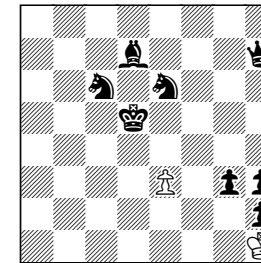
H#3 2 solutions

H0184 Rashid K. Hatiamov
Russia



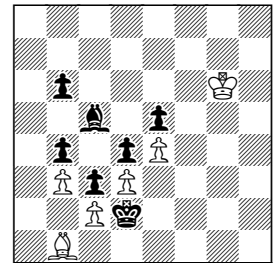
H#5 2 solutions

H0185 Michel Caillaud
France



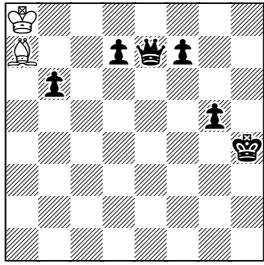
H#7 2 solutions

H0186 Mike Prcic
Westlake Village, CA



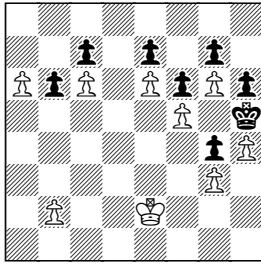
H#7

H0187 Luigi Vitale
Italy



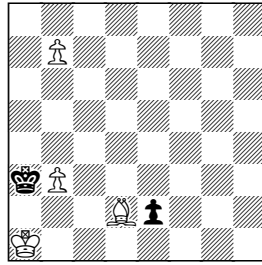
H#8 b) wB→h6

H0188 Vladimir Janal
Czech Republic



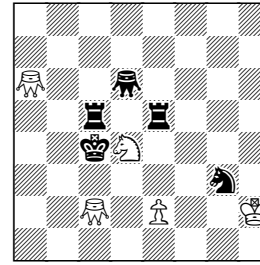
H#9

F0075 Sergei Radchenko
Russia



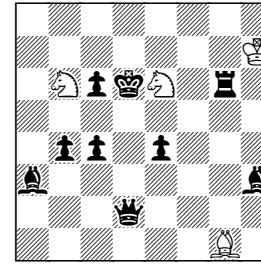
H=2 b) b7P→f7

F0082 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



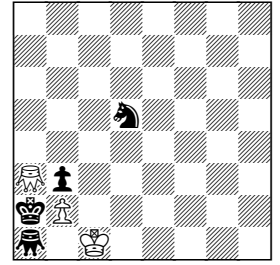
H#2 b) wBc2

F0083 Anatoly Stepochkin
Russia



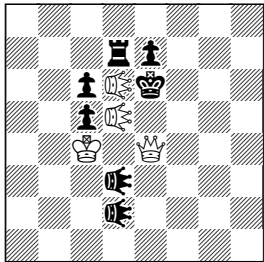
H#2 Circe b) g1B→g7

F0084 Alex Markevitch
Jackson, NJ



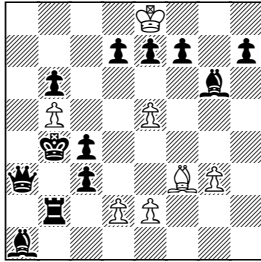
H#3 b) a3G→h8

F0076 Benjamin Good
Pittsburgh, PA



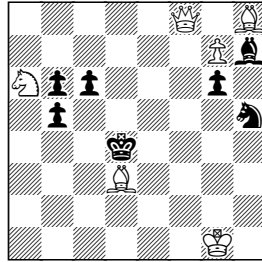
H=4 (Soucies)

F0077 Unto Heinonen
Finland



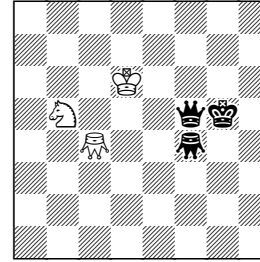
Series H=31

F0078 Michel Caillaud
France



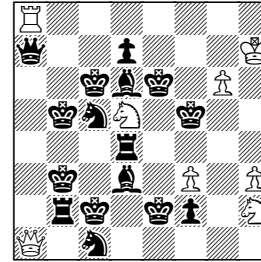
#2 Circe

F0085 Benjamin Good
Pittsburgh, PA



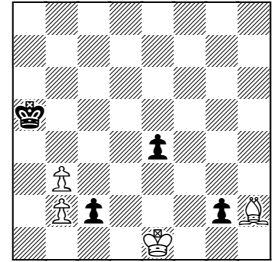
H#4 2 solutions

F0086 Andrej Dikusarov
Russia



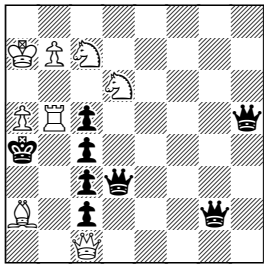
H#4 (7 bKs!)

F0087 Paul Raican
Romania



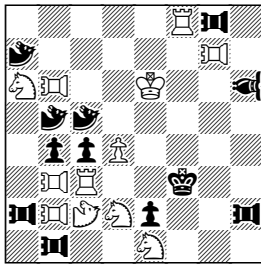
Help Reciprocal #5

F0079 Hans Peter Rehm
Germany



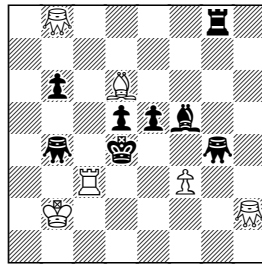
#3 Anti-Circe (3 bQs)

F0080 Juraj Lorinc
Slovakia



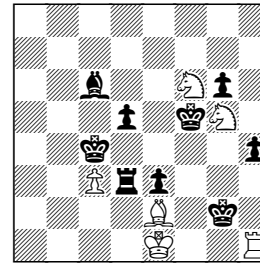
#3√ Paralyzing men on a6, b2, b4, b5, b6, c4, c5, d4, e1, e6, h6. Camels, Paos & Vao

F0081 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



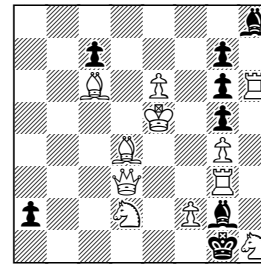
#5

F0088 Andrej Dikusarov
Russia



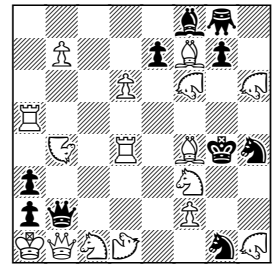
H#6 (3 bKs!)

F0089 Frantisek Sabol
Czech Republic



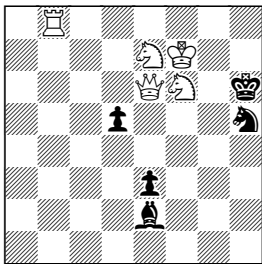
S#2 Circe

F0090 Wenzel Alaiow
Bulgaria



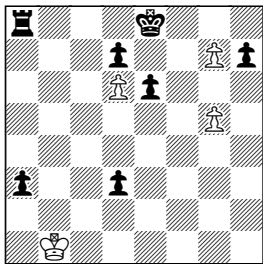
S#3 Madrasi (G, NR, Camel & Zebras)

F0091 Paul Raican
Romania



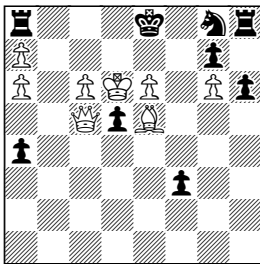
S#5 Maxi, 2 solutions

F0092 Anatoly Stepochnik
Russia



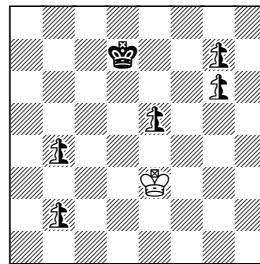
S#5 Maxi

F0093 Anatoly Stepochnik
Russia



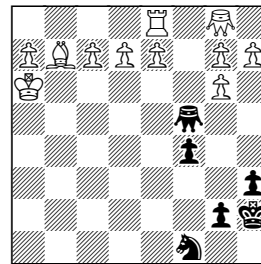
S#5* Maxi

F0100 Michel Caillaud
France



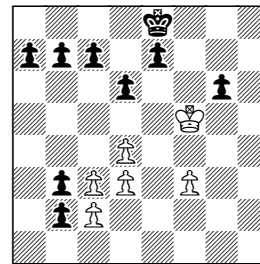
Series S#11 Circe
(5 Neutral Ps)

F0101 Klaus Wenda
Austria



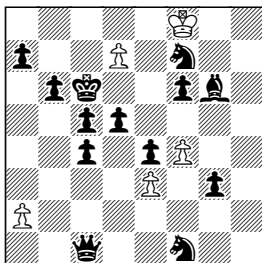
Series S#15

R0023 Noam Livnat
Israel



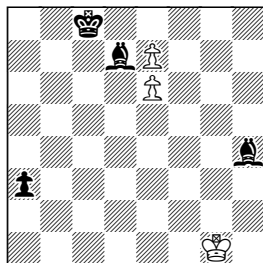
Is the position legal?
b) Pb7→b6

F0094 Pal Benyovszki
& David L. Brown
Hungary/U.S.A.



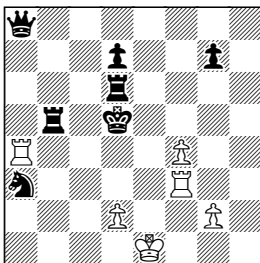
S#5√√ Maxi

F0095 Semion Shifrin
Israel



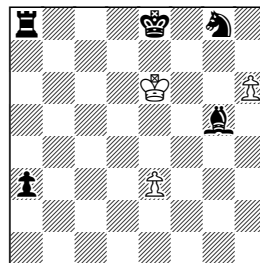
S#6 Maxi Circe

F0096 Tibor Ersek
Hungary



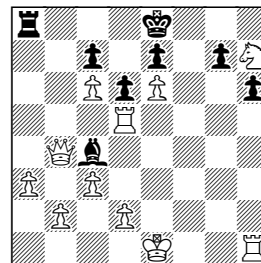
Series H#5 2 solutions

R0024 Alessandro Cuppini
Italy



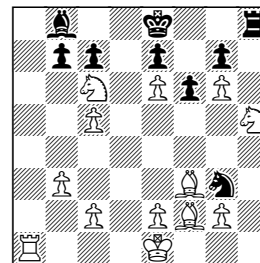
#4 Maxi

R0025 Stanislav Vokal
Slovakia



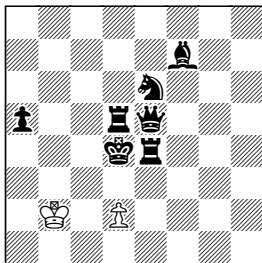
#2 b) wQb4→d3

R0026 Valery Liskovets
Belarus
Ded. to Anatoly Kuznetsov



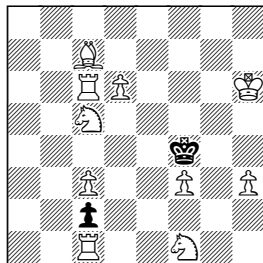
#4

F0097 Valery Smimov
Russia



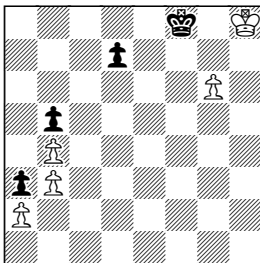
Series H#8 2 solutions

F0098 Alex Markevitch
Jackson, NJ



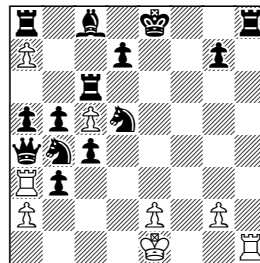
Series H#15

F0099 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



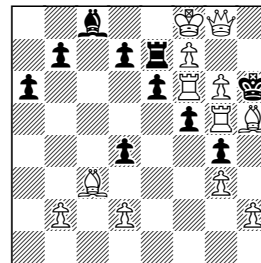
Series H#18

R0027 Leonid Borodatov
Ukraine



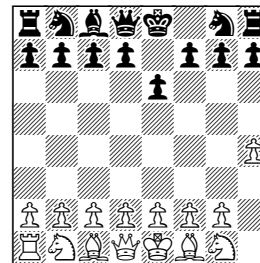
H#2½ Partial Analysis

R0028 Andrey Kornilov
& Andrey Frolkin
Russia/Ukraine



Resolve the position

P0028 Radovan Tomasevic
Yugoslavia

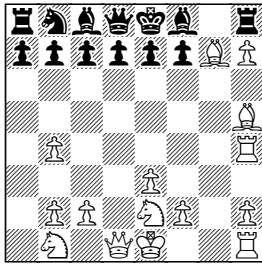


Proof game in 6.5 moves,
Einstein Chess

SHAPE PROBLEMS

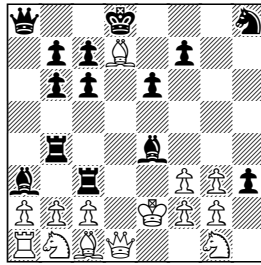
by Edgar Holladay

P0029 Pascal Wassong
France



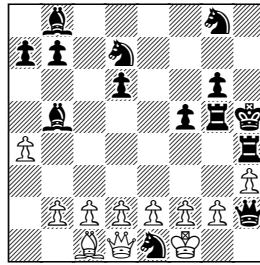
Proof game in 13.5 moves

P0030 Thierry LeGleuher
France
Ded. to Sam Loyd



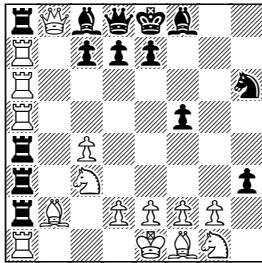
Proof game in 25.5 moves

P0031 Thierry LeGleuher
France



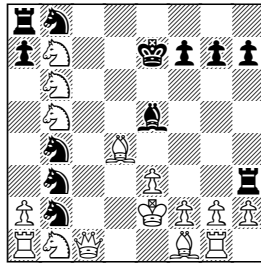
Proof game in 28.0 moves

P0032 Michel Caillaud
France



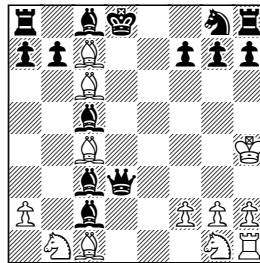
Proof game in 21.0 moves

P0033 Michel Caillaud
France



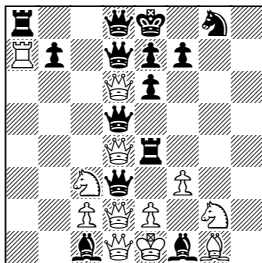
Proof game in 21.0 moves

P0034 Michel Caillaud
France



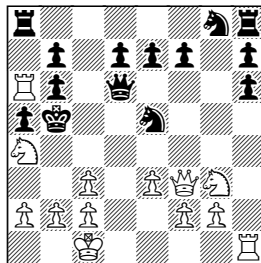
Proof game in 16.5 moves

P0035 Michel Caillaud
France



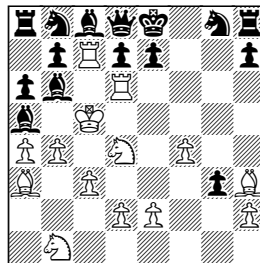
Proof game in 29.0 moves

P0036 Satoshi Hashimoto
Japan



Proof game in 19.0 moves

P0037 Mikhail Kozulya
Ukraine



Proof game in 20.0 moves

For some time I have been collecting shape (or symbol) problems. Usually the significant shape can be seen in the setting, but it can also occur later in the play. Or the shape can be traced out by moves themselves (see No. 13 in this article). A future book on shape problems is a possibility.

A high percentage of existing shape problems would not qualify for such a book because of uninteresting play. Generally, a successful candidate should have something worthwhile about it other than the shape. It is anticipated that most of the examples chosen will be orthodox-element directmates, selfmates, and helpmates (and their stalemate equivalents), but less orthodox problems of unusual merit will not be ruled out.

The sixteen problems in this article are arranged by stipulation, but the collection as a whole has been divided into the following, somewhat overlapping categories: Mathematics (geometric shapes, numbers, etc.); Language (letters, punctuation, etc.); Things; and Abstract Shapes.

The pyramid-shaped **SP01** commemorated a winter spent in Egypt by the composer. A large, filled triangle could also be construed.

It is fun to find shapes where composers may not be aware of their significance. This article has several examples. Thus, in **SP02** a mitten is seen (thumb to d6, etc.). Unusual variety for an en passant problem.

SP03. “Sea creature” may be a controversial interpretation here. Impressionism on the chessboard! An outstanding blend of halfpin, selfpin by capture, and crosscheck.

Anthony Taff’s several alphabets of good three-movers are a landmark achievement in letter problems. **SP04** (letter K) has one pin-model in the 1.Qa8? try and three more in the solution.

SP05 suggests a “running ostrich,” but one can guess that the composers and the judges involved (FIDE Album judges gave maximum points) did not have that shape in mind. The pinned wQ follows the pinning bQ. Four withdrawal unpins of the wQ (including 1...Qxe4) and three self-obstruction tries by the e5B. An amazing problem, shape or not!

SP06: a goose. Yes, the bill is assumed to be extending off the chessboard at the upper left. Bristol key and two Turtons. Sixteen white men versus a lone bK.

A forklift is suggested by **SP07**. A subtle duel between bR and wR.

SP08: overhead view of a supersonic airliner or side view of a rocket about to be launched. In either case, Pauly (an early giant in the field of asymmetry) was ahead of his time!

SP09 can be construed as a circle, an octagon, a letter O, or a zero.

SP10 shows a tiny letter Q. As originally published, the bN was already on the board. An AUW from only six men.

SP11 seems best presented as an abstract shape although a nail or a T-square might be thought of. Critical moves by the a2R and three echo ideal mates.

What more appropriate shape for a chess problem than a checkmate sign? **SP12** shows one with asymmetry and wK tempo moves.

In the extraordinary **SP13** the shapes are found in the play. The wN Rundlaufs (round trips) form echo hexagons.

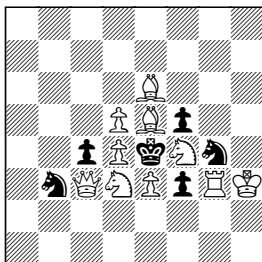
In **SP14**, the massive interchange of 16 black men is like black ants swarming on the tree trunk in the middle of the board.

SP15. An American buffalo (bison), even to the beard extending to g2. Four unpins of the d4G.

A letter need not be a capital one. A “small” R is seen in **SP16**. Three echo ideal mates.

Editor’s Note. If you have a shape problem, or know of one, please send it to: Edgar Holladay, 1580 White Ash Drive, Carmel, Indiana 46033. Edgar has a large collection of shape problems and has been working on the book for some time.

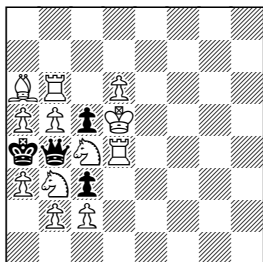
SP01 Alain White
British Chess Mag. 1906



#2

1.d6! (ZZ)
1...f2 2.Bd5#
1...bN~ 2.Nc5#
1...Nxd4 2.Qxd4#
1...gN~ 2.Nf2#
1...Kxe3 2.Qe1#
1...cxd3 2.Qxd3#

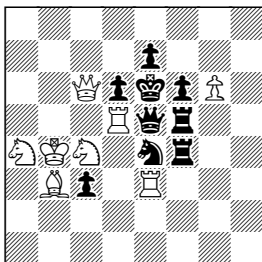
SP02 Henk Prins, Comm.
Schackend Ned. 1981



#2

1.bxc6 e.p.! (2.Rxb4)
1...Qc5+ 2.Nxc5#
1...Qb5 2.Bxb5#
1...Qxb3 2.cxb3#
1...Qxc4+ 2.Rxc4#
1...Qxd6+ 2.Nxd6#
1...Qxa3 2.Nxa3#
1...Qxa5+ 2.cNxa5#
1...Qxb6 2.Nxb6#

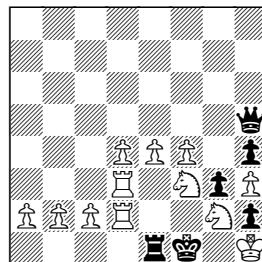
SP03 Charles G. Watney
(after C.Promislo) 2nd Prize
Good Companions 1922 (V)



#2

1.Nxd6! (2.Qc8)
1...Qxd6+ 2.Nc5#
1...Nxd6+ 2.Rd4#
1...Nc5+/Nd2+ 2.Nc4#
(Ne4?)
1...Qd4+ 2.Nc4#
1...Qxd5 2.Nf7# (Nc4?)

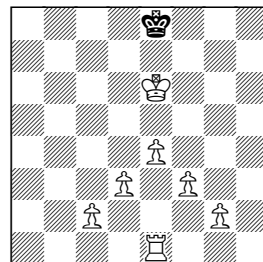
SP07 Hans Peter Rehm
1st Prize, Hannoversche
Allgemeine Zeitung 1957



#5

1.Re3! Rc1 Rc2 c.c4 Rb1/Ra1
3.Rc3 Re1 4.Rc1; 2...Rd1
3.Rxd1+ Kf2 4.Rd2+;
1...Rb1 2.b4 Ra1/Rc1
3.Rb3; 1...Ra1 2.a4
Rc1/Rb1 3.Ra3

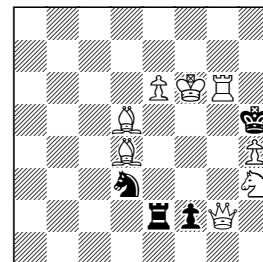
SP08 Wolfgang Pauly
Deutsche Schachzeitung
1914



#5

Try: 1.Rh1? Kf8 2.f4 Kg7
3.Ke7 Kg6 4.Kf8; 3...Kg8
4.Kf6, 1...Kd8!
1.Rb1! Kd8 2.d4 Kc7
3.Ke7 Kc6 4.Kd8 Kd6
5.Rb6#; 3...Kc8 4.Kd6 Kd8
5.Rb8#, 1...Kf8 2.Rb7 Kg8
3.Kf6 Kh8 4.Kg6 Kg8
5.Rb8# (2.Rb8+? Kg7!
3.Kf5 Kf7!)

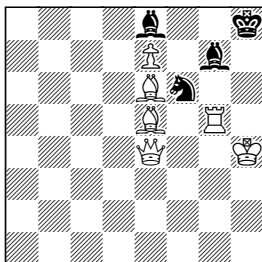
SP09 George P. Sphicas
1st Prize, Ideal-Mate
Review 1984-85



S#9

1.Qf3+! Kxh4 2.Qg3+ Kh5
3.Nf4+ Nxf4 4.Qf3+ Kh4
5.Bxf2+ Rxf2 6.Qg3+ Kh5
7.Bf3+ Rxf3 8.Rh6+ Kxh6
9.Qg6+ Nxc6#

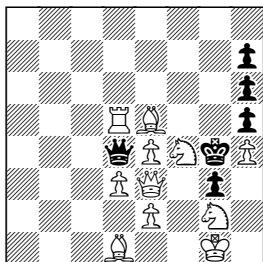
SP04 Anthony Taffs
Special Prize
Northwest Chess 1977



#3

1.Qa8? (ZZ), 1...Bh6
2.Bxf6+ Bg7 3.Rh5#, Kh7!
1.Qf5! (ZZ)
1...Nh5 2.Rxh5+ Bxh5
3.Qxh5#
1...Bf7 2.Bxf7 Bh6 3.Rg8#
1...Bh5 2.Rxh5+ Bh6
3.Bxf6#

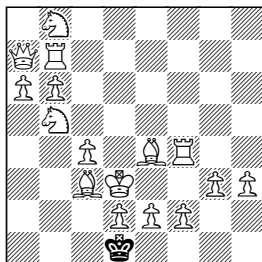
SP05 V. Rudenko &
V. Chepizhny
1st Prize, PT&S-60,1983-84



#3

1.Bb8! (ZZ)
1...Qc5 2.Qd4 Qc1 3.Qg7#,
1...Qb6 2.Qc5 (Qd4?,
Qb2!) Qb2 3.Qc8#, 1...Qa7
2.Qb6 (2.Qd4? Qa1! &
2.Qc5? Qa4!) Qa1/a4
3.Qe6#, 1...Qxe4 2.Qf3+,
1...Qxe3+ 2.Nxe3
Tries: 1.Bg7? Qc5!, 1.Bc7?
Qb6!, 1.Bd6? Qa7!, 1.Bh8?
Qxe3+!

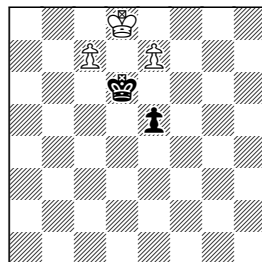
SP06 Julian Quike
Figaro 1958



#4

1.Rh7! Ke1 2.Ba8 Kd1/Kf1
3.Qb7 Ke1/Kc1 4.Qh1#,
1...Kc1 2.Bh8 Kd1/Kb1,
3.Qg7 Kc1/Ke1 4.Qa1#;
3...Ka2 4.Qb2#

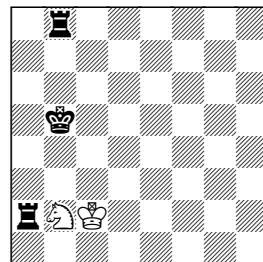
SP10 Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
1st Prize, Bucharest-Belgrade
Match 1960 (V)



Add bNa8 for a duplex H#2

White mates:
1.Nb6 c8Q 2.Nd5 e8N#
Black mates:
1.c8R Nc7 2.e8B Ne6#

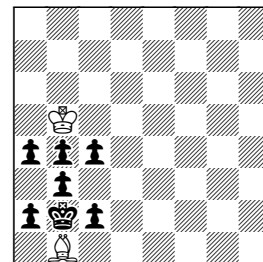
SP11 Edgar Holladay
Prize
Ideal-Mate Review 1996 (V)



H#3½ 3 solutions

1.Kb1 Ra5 2.Nd1 Ka4+
3.Ka2 Rb4 4.Nc3#
1.Kc3 Ra6 2.Kb3 Ka5+
3.Ka3 Rb5 4.Nc4#
1.Kb3 Ra7 2.Nd3 Ka6+
3.Ka4 Rb6 4.Nc5#

SP12 Eugene Albert
Ideal-Mate Review
1983 (V)



H#4 b) b2K<->b5K

a) 1.Ka3 Kxc4 2.b2 Kd4
(Kd3?) 3.Kb3 Kd3 4.a3
Bxc2#
b) 1.a3+ Kc1 2.b2+ Kxc2
(Kd2?) 3.Ka4 Kd2 4.Kb3
Bc2#

Continued on page 103

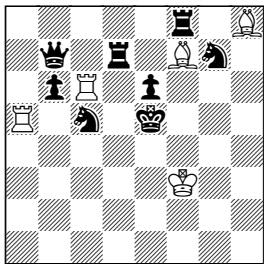
Helpmates to Enjoy by Dan Meinking

The Air of Spring is upon us again, with its promise of warmth and renewal. We hope you'll find this bouquet of Helpmate blossoms as refreshing and invigorating. Enjoy!

In **H1**, the Black components are electrically drawn to d5, scrambling the anticipatory g5→a5 line. More subtly, they open circuits, which are charged by the wR and wB. The polarized K-flights spark attractive model-mates!

- 1.Nd5 Rb3 2.Kf4 Bg3#
1.Bd5 Rc7 2.Kd4 Bc3#
1.d5 Bb4 2.Ke6 Re7#

H2 Gabor Cseh, 1st HM
Toma Garai 60JT 1996

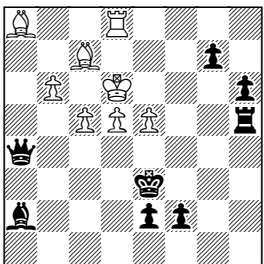


H#2 2 solutions

H3 shows a lively leap-frog affair. Hoppers spring to unpin their counterparts which, in turn, hurdle to open anticipatory Rook and Bishop channels. As though carried by momentum, they vault again for the big splash: cross double-check mates!

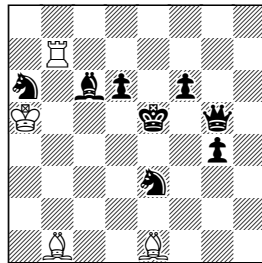
- 1.Nd5 Nxc5 2.Nxb4+ Nb7#
1.Nd5 Nxe4 2.Nxe3+ Ng5#

H4 Shaul Shamir, 1st Prize
3rd TT, Tel Aviv 1996



H#3 b) bQ→h7

H1 Tibor Ersek &
Tibor Szabo, 1st HM
Levelezési Sakkhírado 1987

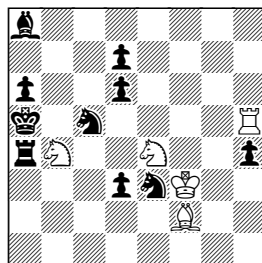


H#2 3 solutions

The pendular play of **H2** is both rhythmical and logical! Everything swings to the left, then to the right, in perfect harmony, with Black causing two unpins and a self-unpin along the way. The graceful, effortless motion concludes with natural pin-mate pinnales.

- 1.Kd5 Rxb6 2.Nf5 Bxe6#
1.Kf6 Bg8 2.Ne4 Rxe6#

H3 Colin Sydenham, 1st Prize
Probleemblad 1993



H#2 duplex

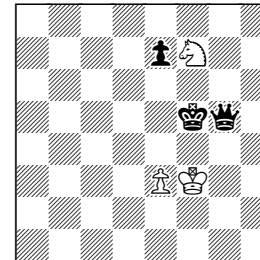
Any PacMan buff will appreciate **H4**. Black munches through the Pawn crust, while the wK crunches onward to seal his adversary's fate. At last, those little goblins emerge, chiming that familiar arcade jingle: "Game Over"!

- a) 1.Rxe5 Kxe5 2.Bxd5 Kf5 3.Bc4 Bf4#
b) 1.Bxd5 Kxd5 2.Rxe5+ Kc4 3.Rf5 Rd3#

The striking geometry of **H5** is simply enchanting! The Queen zigs and zags to pry open lines, then zooms home to pose for pin-blocks. The sweeping, angular Rook moves, dual-purpose Pawn captures, and mirrored pin-models extend its artistic bent.

- 1.Qxg8 Rg3 2.Qxa2 axb4 3.Qa7 Rg8#
1.Qxa2 Rxh3 2.Qxg8 Rh8 3.Qb8 axb4#

H6 Edgar Holladay
HM, USPB 1985

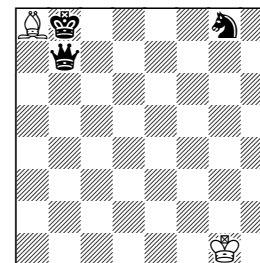


H#3½ 3 solutions

White weaves a tangled web in **H7**. The spider (wK) "spins" to unpin, once for the Pawn and again for the Rook, with delicate stitching. When the net is set, he snares his prey, completing *two* successive rundlaufs -- an *Otterly Rehmarkable* concept!

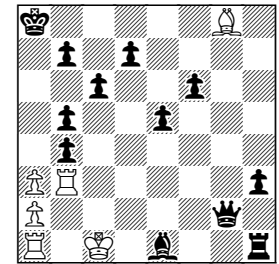
- 1.Na3 Ka2! 2.Be4 Kb2 3.d3 Kb3+!
4.Rd4 Kc3! 5.Rd5 Kb2 6.Kd4 Kb3#

H8 Viktor Zheglov
1st Prize, Shakhmatnaya
Kompozitsiya 1997



H#7

H5 Nikolai Dolginovich
2nd Prize (v)
Israel Ring Ty. 1992-93

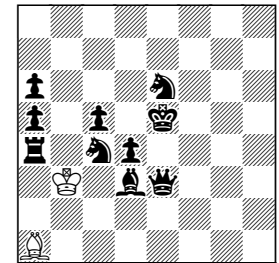


H#3 2 solutions

H6 is a *prime* numeral "3", as the diagram suggests! In sum, three bK-flights lead to three chameleon echo ideal-mates, with the wN thrice "falling" into place. The numerous timing elements (line-openings and -closings, unguards, and unblocks) add up to a winning formula.

- 1...Ke2 2.Ke4 Nh6 3.Qd5 Nf5 4.e5 Ng3#
1...Nd6+ 2.Ke5 e4 3.Qf6+ Ke3 4.e6 Nc4#
1...e4+ 2.Ke6 e5 3.Qd2 Ke4 4.Qd7 Ng5#

H7 Markus Ott &
Hans Peter Rehm
USPB 1995



H#6

The modest-looking **H8** is chock-full of adventure. The preparatory Queen and Bishop sojourns, which allow both Kings safe passage, are strategically rich and unexpected. But their return-trips, and the ideal-mate finale, are what makes this problem such a treasure!

- 1.Qg7+! Kf2 2.Ne7! (Nf6?) Bh1! 3.Qg2+ Ke3
4.Ka8 Kd4 5.Nc6+ Kc5 6.Nb8 Kb6 7.Qb7+ Bxb7#



Marcel Aschenazi, a little-known great talent

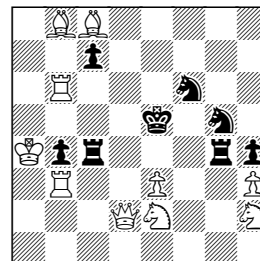
by Toma Garai

When the results of the 2nd WCCT tourney in 1983 became known, the American delegates to the Congress were approached from many directions with the question “Who is this Aschenazi?” The composer, unknown to the world, had landed in second place in both threemover groups (B1 and B2) ahead of some prestigious composers. He also received a selected entry in twomovers. He proved to be one of the world’s best in his area of preference, direct threemovers.

Born in 1924 in Marasesti, Romania, Marcel Aschenazi studied and worked in the capital, Bucharest, until 1966, when he moved with his wife to Forest Hills, New York. He started composing in 1952 accidentally. Confined to his bed by a case of flu, he was reading chess magazines to kill time. When he ran out of over-the-board chess material, he glanced at the problem column. To his surprise, he discovered that he could easily solve twomovers. When the flu ended, he continued solving. One threemover proved so difficult that he left the position on the board and tried in vain day after day to crack it. One day his grandmother cleaned off the dust, tipped over a piece and replaced it elsewhere. Marcel came home to find the key move executed!

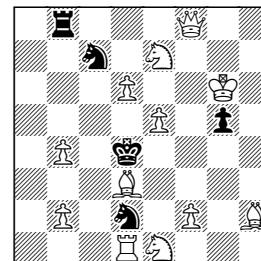
Aschenazi started composing and in the same year finished second in the Romanian National Championship in twomovers. By 1954 he was Champion of that section. Two years later he decided to go after threemovers, and afterwards he was the National Champion of this genre as long as he participated, on four occasions. Among others, he contributed decisively to the Romanian victory against Ukraine in 1959, finishing first and third in the threemovers section. However, in a book titled *Romanian Chess Composition*, published in 1973, Marcel became perhaps the only composer ever to be left out of a national review book after being multiple national champion. At that time, it was politically incorrect to mention a person who had left the country. That made it easier to consider Marcel as an American composer from New York. He has composed about 100 problems, mostly direct twomovers and threemovers. They are of high quality, receiving many awards, including about 15 first prizes, an impressive percentage. He has only four problems in the FIDE Album, as he has hardly submitted his work. His forte consists of a keen ability to exploit to the maximum a given idea in an economical setting. He has contributed new ideas as well. He has produced his best work in the heat of competition, such as national or world championships. Marcel has been semi-retired in the nineties. For the time being perhaps? The problems which follow are a random selection which should encourage the reader to look for more.

MA01 2nd Prize
Romanian Championship, 1953



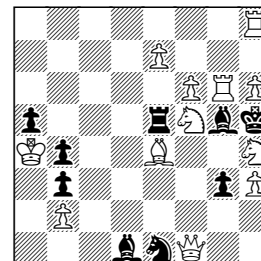
#2

MA02 1st Prize
Revista de Sah, 1955



#2

MA03 1st Prize
Revista de Sah, 1958



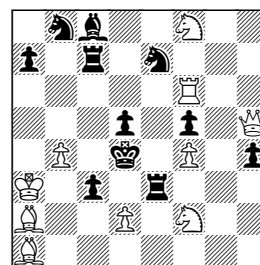
#3

MA01 1.e4! (ZZ), 1...cR~cRxe4 2.Qd4/Bxc7#, 1...gR~gRxe4 2.Qf4/Qxg5#, 1...fN~/fNxe4 2.Qd5/Nxg4#, 1...gN~/gNxe4 2.Re6/Nf3#. Four black corrections on the same square.

MA02 Try 1.f4? (2.Bg1), 1...Nf1 2.Nc2#, 1...Nd5 2.Nf5#, but 1...gxf4! **1.Bg1!** (2.f4), 1...Nf1 2.Nf3#, 1...Nd5 2.Nc6#, also 1...Kxe5 2.Qf6#. Changed mates from try to key following the same defenses by Black.

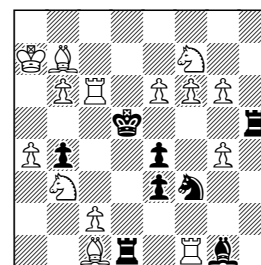
MA03 1.Rg7! (2.Ng2, 3.Nxg3), 1...Bg4 2.Qf4, 1...Rxe4 2.Qc4, 1...Bxh4 2.Qb5. Three Queen sacrifices.

MA04 1st Prize
Romanian Championship
Thematic section, 1962



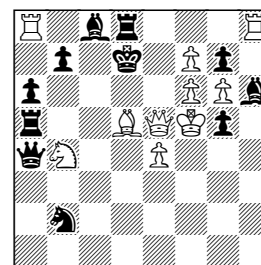
#3

MA05 1st Prize
Romanian Championship
Thematic section (Dresden), 1964



#3

MA06 16th Place
1st WCCT (F1), 1972-75



S#2

MA04 1.Rd6! (2.Qh8), 1...Nc6 2.Qe2, 1...Nd7 2.Qf3.

MA05 Tries: 1.Bc8? (2.Rc5) e2!, 1.Ba6? (2.Rd6) Bh2!, **1.Bb2!** (2.Rc7), 1...Rd4 2.Bc8 Rc4 3.Rd6#, 1...Re5 2.Ba6 Rxe6 3.Rc5#, 1...Nd4 2.Rc5+, 1...Ne5 2.Rd6+.

MA06 1.Ra7! (2.Qd6+), 1...gxf6 2.Qe7+, 1...Nc4 2.Qc7+, 1...Qxb4 2.Bc6+, 1...Qc6 2.Be6+, 1...Rxd5 2.Rxe8+.

The 1998 *StrateGems* solving ladder is completed. Congratulations to our top two solvers: Vladimir Gurvich with 1537 points, and C.C. Frankiss right behind him with 1480. Both men not only solved practically everything thrown at them, but also earned bonus points by finding cooks, diagram errors and illegal positions. A complete list of solvers, total points per section, and top section finishers can be found on page 100.

Due to problems with my computer and E-mail server, any solvers sending solutions to SG4 (and possibly SG3) via E-mail, may not have their scores figured into the ladder. Those with any problems with their scores, please send me a letter or wait for my new E-mail address. I apologize for any inconvenience. This may also have affected comments by solvers.

Thanks to everyone for making 1998 a success. I am looking forward to an even better 1999.

Solvers' names and initials: Carlos Grassano (CG), Dailon Stauvers (DS), Matthew Dickey (MD), Efen Petite (EP), Luigi Vitale (LV), Radovan Tomasevic (RT), Israel Tzur (IT), C.C. Frankiss (CCF), Vladimir Gurvich (VG).

TWOMOVERS

T0046 (Rosberger) Tries: 1.Nc7? Kf5 2.Qf4, 1...Kf3! 1.N3f4? Kf3 2.Qg2, 1...Kf5! Solution: **1.Nxf6+!** Kf5 2.Qe5, 1...Kf3 2.Qf2 and **1.Nc3!** 1...Kf5 2.Qh3, 1...Kf3 2.Qh3, (1...f5 2.Ne5#). A marvelous Zagoruyko in miniature! "A great work, instructive and economic" – CG.

T0047 (Dikusarov) **1.g4!** and a fracas between the pawns

T0048 (Dyachuk & Veselenchuk) A) **1.c4+!** with the Y-flights (Ke6/e4/c5) all changed after B) **1.Kc7!** A remarkable miniature twin!

T0049 (Wakashima) 1.Qa8? > 2.Nf3(A) 1...Nd4 2.Nc4(B) 1...Nb7! But, **1.Rf4!** thr./Kxf4 2.Nc4(B), 1...d5 2.Nf3(A), 1...Nxf4 2.Bd2. Good critical key showing a Pseudo le Grand.

T0050 (Reitman) Set: 1...Kg3 2.Qg5, 1...Kh4 2.Qf4. Try: 1.Qe1? Kf4 2.Qh4 1...Kg5 2.Qg3 1...f4! Key: **1.Nxf5!** Kxf5 2.Bh3, 1...Kh5 2.Bf3# Cat and mouse: six bK flights!

T0051 (Lewis) Set: 1...N~ 2.Qxf6, 1...Ke6 2.Ng5. With W. in block, the pretty **1.Bc4!** now changes 1...N~ 2.Ng3, 1...Ke6 2.Qxf6 plus gives the switchback 1...Kxe4 2.Bd3. A rare and attractive mutate.

T0052 (Dyachuk) Set: 1...Bd5 2.Qxf4(A), 1...fxe3 2.Rf4(B). Try: 1.Kc4? > 2.Qxf4(A), 1...Bd5+ 2.Qxd5, 1...Qxf3 2.Qxe7, 1...Re1! Key: **1.Kd2!** > 2.Rxf4(B). 1...fxe3+ 2.Rxe3, 1...Qxf3 2.Bxd3. The Dombrovskis paradox, fueled by Black's ab/ac/bc cycle. The hanging f3R is spicy.

T0053 (Mazul) Set: 1...Bd4(a) 2.Sc7(A) and 1...dxe5(b) 2.Qa8(B). Tries: 1.Rc4? > 2.Sc7(A) 1...dxe5!(b); 1.Sc4? > 2.Qa8(B) 1...Be3 2.Sxe3, 1...Bd4(a)! nor 1.Sd7? > 2.Qa8(B) 1...Kc6(x)! So, **1.Nc6!** > 2.Ne7, 1...dxc6 2.Nc7(A), 1...Kxc6(x) 2.Qa8(B). Theme Hannelius, where set defenses 'b' defeats 'A' and 'a' defeats 'B' in tries, and new defenses provide for mates 'A & B'.

T0054 (Mlynka) Set: 1...Qc8 2.bxc8N, 1...Qf8 2.gxf8Q, 1...dxe6 2.Qxe6, 1...N~ 2.Qg5. Try: 1.b8Q? Qc8! wow! Key: **1.exd7!** with two threats. 1...Kxd7 2.bxa8Q, 1...Kxf7 2.gxh8Q, 1...Qxf7 2.d8Q, 1...Qxd7 2.g8N. A promotion poppin' party!

T0055 (Meyers) **1.Nh5!** > 2.Nxf4. 1...B~ 2.Rxd4, and corrections: 1...Be3! 2.Re5, 1...Be5! 2.Ne7. Tertiary correction of a black bishop and two white interferences by wNc6. Also nice is 1...Nxc5 2.Nb4.

T0056 (Mirkail) **1.Qe3!** (2.Qxe4). A nice sacrificial key!

T0057 (Narayanan) 1.Qh3? (2.Q/Bxc3). 1...cN~ 2.Qd7, 1...Nb5 2.Qd3, 1...Nd5 2.Nc2, 1...Ne4 2.Qe3. But, 1...Bg3!; **1.Qc1!** cN~ 2.Rd7, 1...Nb5 2.Qc4, 1...Nd5 2.Nc6, 1...Ne4 2.Be3. Exquisite line control changes mates for random and 3 corrections by the c3N. "Black correction with four splendid changed mates" – EP, "The best twomover of the issue" – CG.

T0058 (Petite) W. obstruction tries: 1.Ba6? b5! 1.Bb3? Nb2! and 1.Be6? Ne3! Others: 1.Bf7? e6! 1.Bf1? Re2! All that remains, **1.Ba2!**

T0059 (Forster) 1.bRf4? > 2.Bd4(A), 1...Ne4 2.Nd5(B), 1...Rd3 2.Nc4 1...Be4! Key: **1.Qe7!** > 2.Nd5(B), 1...Ne4 2.Bd4(A). 1...Rd3 2.Nf5. Le Grand theme: switching the threat and response to 1...Ne4, as well as changing 1...Rd3. 1...Be4 2.Bd4.

T0060 (Groeneveld) 1.Nd1? (2.Nf2) Rxd4! 1.Nd5? (2.Nxf6) Bxd4! 1.Nc2? (2.Qe1/Qxa8) d2! 1.Nf5? (2.Qe1/Qxa8) Bd5+! **1.Nf1!** (2.Nd2). White obstruction tries.

T0061 (Amirosievich) Tries: 1.Qxb6? > 2.Ne3(A). 1...Nxc4 2.Nc3(B), 1...Re1! and 1.Qc7? > 2.Nc3(B). 1...Rc6 2.Qxe5(C) 1...Nc5! Key: **1.Qf6!** > 2.Qxe5(C). 1...eN~ 2.Ne3(A), 1...Nxc4

2.Nc3(B). Six by-play mates enrich the vibrant W.-cycle.

T0062 (Kavnatsky) **1.Rxd5!** with 3 crosses formed by the R-battery mates - but outshined by the classic, full task of 14 mates by N. Schalit & T. Maendl, GC 1921.

T0063 (Rosberger) **1.Rb5!** (2.cxb5). Two half-used halpins.

THREEMOVERS

M0037 (Rudenko & Chepizhny) 1.Ra1! ~ 2.Rd1+ Rd3, Bd4 3.Bf3#,Re5#; 1...Rd3 2.e4+! PxP ep. 3.Bf3#; 1...Ba1 2.c4+! PxP ep. 3.Re5#; 1... Qh8 2.Nxf4+ Nxf4 3.e4#!; 1... Bd4 2.Nxb4+ Nxb4 3.c4#!. An interesting fight around two e.p.-captures.

M0038 (Savoumin) 1.Nd5! ~ 2.Rxd7+; 1... fNe5 2.Na5!; 1... gNe5 2.Nd8!. A nice half-pin with pins and dual prevention.

M0039 (Chandrasekaran) In the set position, white has an answer to the only black move: 1...Pxe4 2.Bxe4, but what can he play? The key changes and adds: 1. Ke7!! Pxe4 2.Kd6!; 1...Kc5, Ke5 2.Qxd3. A nice mutate.

M0040 (Makaronez) White pawn missing on e2. 1.Bh6 ~ 2.e3+; 1...Pxc3 2.Qe4+; 1... Rxc3 2.Qd6+; 1... Nxc3 2.Qb6+. Dual prevention of second and third moves. Watch how white Queen and Knight obstruct each other.

M0041 (Makaronez) 1. Kg2! ~ 2.Ng3+!; 1...d3 2.Re3+!; 1...Ng6 2.Bf3+; 1...f3+ 2.Rxf3. Opening of a white battery.

M0042 (Petit) 1. Qxe5 ~ 2.Qxh2+!; 1...Na6, bNc6, Nd7 2.Qxb5, Qg3, Qa1!. Bi-valve with a black knight.

M0043 (Shavyrin) 1. Qf4 ~ 2.Rd3+ Pxd3 3.c3#; 1...cN~ 2.c3+; 1...Ne6! 2.Rxd5+. An incomplete cycle of white moves. Author corrects a minor dual by changing bPh4 to bNh4.

M0044 (Shavyrin) 1. d7! ~ 2.Nf3+; 1... cRc6 2.Nc5! ~ 3.Nc4#; black excludes wBa8, white excludes wRc5. Nearly the same happens in the other variation, 1... hRc6 2.Nd6!, but there is no equivalent of 3.Nc4#. Appropriately, the author calls this the theme of emotional equivalents.

M0045 (Markovic) 1. Nh5! ~ 2.Ne5+; 1...dB~ 2.Qf4+; 1...Be5! 2.Nd4+; 1...Be3! 2.Nd4+; 1...Bc5! 2.Ne5+. A hard problem with nice secondary defenses and self-blocks by the black bishop. There is one nearly successful try 1. Ng6? Kd5!

M0046 (Markovic) In the set: 1...N~ 2.Qe8+; 1...Nf4 2. Ne4+; 1...Be4 2.Qe8+; 1...Re4 2.Ne8+. The key, 1. Ne7!, threatens 2.Nd7+, exposes white King to checks, and changes answers to all main variations: 1...N~+ 2. fNd5+; 2...Nf4+

A lot of strategy. Does this guy specialize in difficulty?

M0047 (Pric) A white pawn is missing from g3. 1. Bd8? Bb6!, 1. Bf8? Bh6!. The solution is 1.Bb4! Bd4 2. Bf8, and 1...c5 2. Ba5! Logical foreplans in light setting.

M0048 (Rosberger) 1. Qc4! ~ 2.Qc5+; 1...Pxf2 2.Qe2+; 1...Bxd6 2.Rd5+!; 1...gNh5 2. Qxe6+!. Nice sacrifices of white pieces.

M0049 (Sushkov) In both starting positions, there is an answer to 1...c3 2. Qd5+, but white does not have a waiting move in either. So, in (a) 1. Qa5! Kd4 2.Kf3; 1...Ke3 2.Qd5!; and in (b) 1. Qd6! Kf5 2.Qe6+, 1... Ke3 2.Qd5!. A very nice find!

M0050 (Zimmer) 1. Kc4 Ka5 2.Bf8+; 1...PxP 2.b3+, with nice model mates after an easy key.

M0051 (Vukcevic) 1. Qh7!! ~ 2.Rh1+; 1...Qxh7+ 2.Kc3!; 1...Bxh7+ 2.Kb3!; and 1...Nxb7 2.Kd3!. A triple queen sacrifice. Also: 1...Kf1 2.Rh1+ Ke2 3.Qd3# with queen returning, and 1...g6 2.Rh1+ Kxg2 3.Qb7#, with a long-range mate. 'Very impressive' – DS.

MOREMOVERS

M0052 (Godbout) 1.Bc5 Kc6 2. Rh1!!; a nice unexpected move after an obvious key. 2...Kb5 3.Nd4+ Ka4 4.Ra1#, and 2...Kd7 3.Rh7+ Kxe6 4.Re7#. Unfortunately, this problem is completely anticipated.

M0053 (Makaronez) 1. Rg6, Zugzwang. 1...a5 2.Bxc5+ Kxc5 3.Rc6+; 1...c4 2.Nf3+ Ke4 3.bNd2+; 1...h4 2.Rh6! e4 3.Re6! A far-away blockade of black King.

M0054 (Vukcevic) A lesson in self-obstructions. If 1. Bf4? Nf7!, which prevents Bf7, but white now cannot play 2.Nf4. If he tries 2.Bd2+ Rxd2 3.Nf4, black has 3... Rxa2!. Similarly, if 1. Nf4? Bf7!, which prevents Nf7, but white now does not have 2.Bf4. Again, if now 2.Nxd3+ Rxd3 3.Bf4, black has 3... Rxb3!. So, white waits with 1. Ka6!. Black bishop on a1 has two moves, but each prevents one of the last-move defenses by the black rook: 1...Bb2 2. Bf4! Nf7 3. Bd2+! Rxd2 4. Nf4!, and 1...Bc3 2. Nf4! Bf7 3. Nxd3+! Rxd3 4. Bf4!. The idea is not new, but the execution is much better than in the older problems. "Zugzwang helps accomplish what White couldn't do in the tries. An enjoyable problem" – IT.

M0055 (Sushkov) In the set, 1...b5+ 2.Qxb5+ 3.Kxa5 4.Kb6. In the solution, 1. Qc7! b5+ 2. Kb3! a4+ 3.Kb4, and 2...b4 3. Kc4. Also, 1...b6 2. Qc8+ Ka7 3.Kb5, with a chameleon-echo of the previous variation. The last variation, 1...Ka7 2.Kxa5 Ka8 3.Qc5! b6+ 4.Kxb6, is rather difficult. "Very elegant" – LV.

M0056 (Bales) 1.Rg6!! is the only and the most surprising key. However, there are duals after 1...Ba8 2.Rg7+ and 2.Rb6. This is easy to prevent by adding a black pawn on h2. In that case, 1. Rg6!! Ba8 2. Rg7+ Kd8 3. Rb6 Bb7 4. Rxb7.

M0057 (Makaronez) As corrected in SG#5, this is a four-mover! 1, Qe2! Nb6 2.Nxg5+! Bxg5 3.Bf6+; and 1...Bg6 2.Nc5+! Bxc5 3. Bd6+. Very nice shut-off of two black rooks and the black bishop.

M0058 (Kratschmer) It starts with practically the only moves available, 1. Re2 Pxf5 2. Re3 h1N 3. Rf3 Bd2, but then becomes difficult: 4. Bc5! d6 5. Bxd6! Pxd6 6. Rf4+!! Bxf4 7. Nf3+ Kg4 8. Nf6#. "Nice logical sequence" – CCF.

STUDIES

E0005 (Markovic) 1. Nxd2+ Kc5 (1...Ka4, Ka5 2.Rxd4) 2. Bg2! Nxg2 3. Rxd4! Kxd4 (3...h1Q 4.Nb3+ Kb5 5.Nd5!) 4.Nxg4 h1Q 5. Nf2, and a draw, because the black queen is trapped! Another hard fare by Markovic.

E0006 (Brieger) 1. h6! (1.f6? Kg8 2.g6 h6!) Kg8 2. g6 Pxd6 3. f6! g5 4. Kf1 g2+ 5.Kg1! g4 6.Kf2 g3+ 7.Kg1, and white wins. Throughout the play, black loses because he is on the move. A true Zugzwang!

E0007 (Aliyev) In (a) after 1. Be3+! Qxe3 2. g7 Qe5 3.e8N! Qxe8+ 4.g8N+! Kg6 5.Bd3+ Kf7 6. Bg6+! Kxg6, white is stalemated after two minor promotions. In (b), after 1.Ne6! Qxe6 2.g7 Qe5 3.Be3+! Qxe3 4. g8N+! Kg6 5.e8Q+ Qxe8, we again have the same stalemate, but the order of promotions is different. An extremely exciting study in twinning.

E0008 (Meinking and Benko) 1. e6 b5 (a) 2. e7 b4 3. e8Q b3 (b) 4.Qe1+! (c) Kc2 (d) 5.Qf2+! (e) Kd3 6.Qf1+! (f) Kd2 7. Qf4+! (g) Ke2 (h) 8. Qc4+! (i) Kf3 9.Qc6+ (j) and wins. (a) Or 1... Nb3+! 2.Kxa2 Nc1+ (2...b5 transposes) 3.Kxa3! (a1) b5 4.e7 b4+ 5.Ka4 b3 6. e8Q b2 7. Qg6!! (a2) Nd3 8. Qb6!! Kc2 (8...Kd2 9.Ka3 wins) 9. Qb3+ and wins. (a1) 3. Ka1!! Nb3+ 4.Ka2 repeats, but *not* 4.Kb1? Nd2+ 5.Ka2 Nc4! and Black wins. Also... 3. Kb1? a2+! 4.Ka1 Kb3! and Black mates in two! (a2) Not 7.Qe4? Nd3 8.Qc6+ (8.Qb7? Nc5+!) Kd2 9.Qb5 Kc1! (9...Kc2? 10.Qb3+ wins) 10.Qc4+ Kd2 11.Qb5= (11.Qb3? Nc5+!). The difference between 7.Qg6!! and 7.Qe4? is that White can force Qb3 *with check*, so that Black will not then be able to play the ...Nc5+ fork. (b) In this "static" position, the play is governed by the following rules:

White has two ways to win: (1) White must aim to (a) win the bPa3 *via continuous checks*; the exception being (b) if White can pin the b3P with

wQa4 and bKc2/d1 (thus winning the bPa3).
.....**OR.....**(2) White must win the bNc1 *with check*. **Black has two ways to draw:** (3) Reach the square b4 safely (ie. without immediate loss of bPa3).**OR.....**(4) Reach the square h3 (!) safely (ie. without immediate loss of bPa3). (c) Other checks allow 4...Kb4! drawing (Rule 3). (d) If 4...Kd3 5.Qf1+ transposes. (e) If 5...Qe4+! Kc3, White must again play 6.Qe1+ to prevent 6...Kb4! (Rule 3). (f) White checks while eyeing the bNc1, to prevent the bK escaping via the c-file (Rule 2) to the b-file box (Rule 3). (g) Still eyeing the bNc1 (Rule 2). (h) As a side note, 7...Kd1 allows 8.Qa4! (Rule 1b), altho White can still win via checking. (i) The only move! And... still watching the bNc1. All other checks allow Black to safely reach h3 (Rule 4), and thereby drawing. Example: 8.Qe4+? Kf1! and White will *not* be able to force bPa3 nor bNc1 capture (Rules 1a and 2) before Black reaches h3 (Rule 4). (j) Game over! White will either win the bNc1 (Rule 2) or bPa3 (Rule 1a) with check.

E0009 (Jasik) 1...Bg8+! 2. Re6 Rf5+ 3.Be5 Rd8+ 4.Nd6 h1Q+ 5. Re4, and now when white is all tied-up, black tries the quiet move: 5...Nc6! But, 6.Qb6+! Kxb6 7.c5+ Ka6, stalemate with four pinned white pieces! Is this the record?

E0010 (Jasik) 1.3Rxb6, threatening the perpetual check. 1...b1Q+! 2.Rxb1 R4+ 3.Kg8! Rg4+ 4.Rg7 Rxg7+ 5.Kh8!! (5.Kxg7? Pxd2, and black wins) Rh7+ 6.Kxh7 Pxd2 7.Rb8+ Kf7 8.Rb7+! (8.Rg8? Bd3+ 9.Kh8 Bg6 wins) Kf6 9.Rg7 Bd3+ 10.Kh6, draw. A neat ending.

E0011 (Rusinek) A few solvers thought that this one is won for White. They found the correct start: 1.Ng4+! Qxg4 2.Re2+ Kh1 3.Rh2+! Kxh2 4.b8Q+, but drunk with white sacrifices, they pronounced the position won for White due to 4...f4 5.Qh8+ Qh3 6.Qxh3+ Kxh3 7.Nxc6, etc. However, they forgot that Black can sacrifice too: 5...Rc7!! 5. Qxc7+ f4, and now the h7 is guarded. Still, white succeeds to draw: 6.Bf2! Qd1+ 7.Be1 Bd3+ 8.Kf2 Qg4 9.Nf3+ Kh1 10.Qxf4! Qxf4, stalemate. An extremely violent study, with a shocking and beautiful finish. The best endgame of the year, and not just in SG!

SELFMATES

S0023 (Rudenko & Chepizhny) A) Set: 1...Ke4 2.Qxf7, 1...e4 Bd4. **1.Kb4!** Ke4 2.Kc5, 1...e4 2.Kc3. And in case you ignored the set in A), you must see it (reversed) in B) Set: 1...Ke4 2.Kc5!, 1...e4 Kc3. **1.Kc3!** etc. "Magnificent twin with waiting keys and changes of continuations and black mates" - EP.

S0024 (Bunka) **1.Qd7!** 2.Bd4+. 1...R1xe5 2.Ne4+, 1...R8xe5 2.Ne6+, 1...Nxe5 2.Qc6+

three new B. batteries, plus 1...dxe2 2.Qd4+, 1...Re4 2.Rxc4+. Interesting drop of the wQ.
S0025 (Bakcsi) 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...Rxc5 2.Qd4+.

S0026 (Selivanov & Kirillov) **1.Qg6!** thr. 2.Nf2+ gxf2 3.f6+ hxg6! 1...h6 2.Nb2+ Ke3 3.Qg5+ hxg5#, 1...h5 2.Rd7+ Kxe4 3.Qg4+ hxg4# Thrice the h-file is cleverly opened. "Highly original strategy" – CCF.

S0027 (Makaronez) **1.Nxe4!** > 2.Nxg3+ Kxg3 3.Qf3+ Kxf3# 1...dxe2 2.Nxc5+ Ke3 3.Nxg4+; 1...Kxe2 2.Nc3+ Ke3 3.Nxg4+ or 2...Ke1 3.Qe4+. Not so much a heavy-handed key, there just ain't any more bPs!

S0028 (Funk) **1.Rc4+!** Kd6 2.Rc6+ Ke5 3.Rxe6+ Kd4 4.Re4+ Kc5 rundlauf by wR and bK, and now to lock the lid shut, 5.Bf4 axb6#.

S0029 (Csak) Set block exists, therefore **1.Bxf3!** gxf3 2.Nh5 Kxe4 3.Qe6+ Be5 4.Bb2 h6 5.Bd4 Kxd4 reversing the Black battery! 6.Qc4+ Kxc4# Neat feat, huh!

S0030 (Prsic) **1.Bc8!** Kf3 2.Qf2+ Kxe4 3.Qe3+ Kxd5 4.Bb7+ Kc4 5.Bd5+ Kxd5 6.Qe6+ Kxe6# Cute bK escort up the diagonal.

S0031 (Bales) **1.Bc6!** Bg8 2.Ra5+ bxa5 3.Nb4+ axb4 4.Be4+ Bxe6 5.Qd6+ exd6 6.Nc5+ dxc5# Wholesale slaughter of W. (only the Bs remain!) to get the needed e4 selfblock. Fine use of the e6R!

S0032 (Makaronez) **1.Re1!** g5 2.Bg1 g4+ 3.Kf2 Kd4 4.Ke2+ Ne3 5.Rb5 e5 6.Bf2 e4 7.Qd3+ exd3# Impressive and economical!

S0033 (Auhagen & Zucker) **1.Qd1!** d2 2.Ra1+ Kxb2 3.Rb1+ Ka2 4.Qc1 d3 5.Bxf7 d5 6.Ra1+ Nxa1 7.Rxd2+ Nc2+ 8.Kc3 b4# Double switchbacks by Q/R clear the 2nd rank to force the bN to c2 - a pretty and surprising mate net. "Most difficult" – VG, "One of the finest selfmates I saw all year" – LV.

S0034 (Csak & Durham) **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# A very tasteful promotion-sandwich of 3Ns, 2Qs, 3Ns.

S0035 (Moutecidis) Set: 1...Rxf7# Another signature of the composer - **1.Qd7+!** Re6 2.Ne7+ Kf6 3.Nd5+ Kf5 4.Nf5 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+ Kxh6 15.Rf6+ Rxf6 16.Qf8+ Rxf8# Very difficult to foresee this new mating nest.

HELPMATES

H0066 (Muralidharan) 1.Kc3 Nd6 2.d4 Qa3# 1.Kc4 Qa3 2.Nd4 Nd6# Reciprocal W moves, choice of self-block on d4, and model-mates.

H0067 (Neumeier) 1.Rd8+ cxd8+ 2.Ke8 Rg8# 1.Re8 c8N+ 2.Kf8 Nd7# 1.Rf8 Rg6 2.Ke8 Re6# 1.Rg8 c8N+ 2.Ke8 Rxc8# Progressive keys and underpromotions.

H0068 (Benko) Set: 1.....Nxc3 2.exf2 Rd1# Play: 1.e2 Ne3 2.cxd2 Nd3# 1.exf2 Nxc3 2.f1N Re2# Captures of W, and model-mates, in each line.

H0069 (Fasher) 1.Ke4 Bc3 2.Ne3 Ng3# 1.Kxe5 Ng3 2.Nd6 Bc3# B self-unpins, reciprocal W moves, model-mates.

H0070 (Grigoryan) 1.Nd2 Rxb4 2.Ne4 Nb5# 1.Rb3 Rxf1 2.Rxc3 Rf4# Reciprocal functions (and captures) of bR & bN; ideal-mates.

H0071 (Chepizhny) 1.h1N (h1B?) Ng2 2.Nf2 Nf4# b) 1.h1B (h1N?) Nf3 2.Bg2 g4#

Key-move promotions dual-avoidance to allow tempi at Black's second.

H0072 (Kopaev) 1.Bg6 Qh7 2.Ke8 Qg8# 1.e5 Qxh8 2.Ke7 Qf6# 1.Qg4 Qh1 2.Kd7 Qd5# 1.c5 Qh6 2.Kc7 Qb6# Flight-vacating keys with avoided W line-closings; model-mates.

H0073 (Youngs) a) 1.Re6 axb4 2.aRd6 Rxc5# b) 1.Bd6 f3 2.Qe5 Bb3# Matching Bristol self-block/clearances, pseudo-unpins, and model-mates.

H0074 (Feather) a) 1.Qxe6 fRe8 2.Qe5 Rxe5# b) 1.Qxf7+ Kh8 2.Qg8+ Bxg8# c) 1.Qxe7 fxe8Q 2.Qxe6+ Qxe6# Cycle of W-removals and bQ sacrifice/clearances to allow mating moves. "Some fancy hoofing to effect the needed line clearances" – MD.

H0075 (Racz) 1.dNxe6 Ng4 (Nd3?) 2.Nc7 Qe3# 1.fNxe6 Nd3 (Ng4?) 2.Nc5 Be5# Unified keys with mixed line openings and closings.

H0076 (Jonsson) a) 1.Re4 Bd8 2.Bd5 Bg5# b) 1.Nd4 Ra8 2.Rd5 Ra3# Self-unpin keys and Gamage-unpins withdrawals; Grimshaw on d5; pin-models.

H0077 (Prsic) a) 1.Bh5 Bxh5 2.Rxf7+ Bxf7# b) 1.Rf1 Rxf1 2.Bxd1 Rxd1# Forward & reverse cycles of captured/capturing units, with Zihali.

H0078 (Chumakov) a) 1.Rxf3 Bxf3+ 2.Kf4 Nd3# b) 1.Qxf3+ Bxf3+ 2.Kg3 Nf1# c) 1.gNxf3 Bxf3+ 2.Kg5 Nf7# d) 1.hNxf3 Bxf3+ 2.Kh4 Nxg6# Unified capture-keys with flight-square vacations; model-mates.

H0079 (Gavriloski & Feather) a) 1.d5 Bxf5 2.Be7 Bd7# b) 1.g5 Rxf5 2.hRe7 Rf8# c) 1.c5 Nx5 2.aRe7 Nxd6# Anticipatory line-opening/unpin keys; wB/R/N pass thru f5 in turn. "Beautiful problem" – RT.

H0080 (Petkov) a) 1.Nd6 Bxd4 2.Kxd4 Ng4# b) 1.Rg4 Nx4+ 2.Kxc4 Rd6# Matched line opening/closing and annihilation effects by Rs and Ns. "Harmonious line play" – IT.

H0081 (Alaikow) a) 1.Qe3 Qe8 2.Bc4 Nd4# b) 1.Be3 Qc8 2.Bd5 Ng5# Unpinning keys with anticipatory (B) self-pin and (W) guard effects.

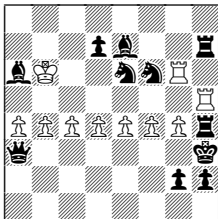
H0082 (Vladimirov & Nefedov) a) 1.Rd4 Nxb5 2.Bxb5 Qxc3# b) 1.Bd4 Qxb5+ 2.Rxb5 Nxc4# Grimshaw keys to d4, with help-Grimshaw on b5 to remove bP dual-guard. "Stupendous achievement of Grimshaw and Novotny after sacrificial white moves" – EP.

H0083 (Dragoun) 1.Re5 Bxe2 2.Nxe2 Rxc6# 1.Be5 Rxc2 2.Nxc2 Bg4# Self-block keys, and active Zihali sacrifices to give bNd4 an escape.

H0084 (Dikusarov) 1.Nxg2 Rg3 2.Ne1 Rg1# 1.Nxf2 Rf3 2.Nd1 Rf1# 1.Nxe2 Re3 2.Nc1 Re1# 1.Nxd2 Rd3 2.Nb1 Rd1# 1.Bxc2 Rc3 2.Bb1 Rc1# 1.Qxb2+ Rb3 2.Qb1 Rxb1# 1.Qxa2 Ra3 2.Qa1 Rxa1# Task rendering of wP-capture line-openings and 1st-rank guard-removals.

Note: The position is **illegal!** Score 1 extra point for solvers who catch this. The author offers the following (legal) version with the 8th line being: 1.h1N 6Rh6 2.Ng3 Rxb4#.

H0084 (V) Andrej Dikusarov, Russia



H#2 8 solutions

H0085 (Petrovic) 1.axb3(e.p.) O-O-O 2.a1B cxb3# "Valladao" theme: Black's key-move can ONLY be justified by White's reply. Proof: The wPh5/h6 account for all 5 missing B units, so W couldn't have just captured, which means wRg3 & wPa3 couldn't have moved last. Therefore, 1...O-O-O (which implies the wK & wRa1 have never moved) "proves" White's previous move (leading to the diagram) was Pb2-b4.

H0086 (Leysens) 1.Ne6 c8Q+ 2.Nd8 Kc7 3.Bf8 Qd7# 1.Ng6 c8N 2.Bf8 Kc7 3.Ne7 Nd6# bN mask in one line, and bN/bB Platzwechsel in the other.

H0087 (Menkis) a) 1.Kg6 Kg3 2.Kh6 Bg7+ 3.Kh5 Bf7# 1.Kxf4 Be5+ 2.Kg4 Bg3 3.Kh3

Be6# b) 1.Kd3 Bf8 2.Kc2 Bg6+ 3.Kc1 Ba3# 1.Kxe3 Kf1 2.Kd2 Bh6+ 3.Kd1 Bb3# Variety of elements, with 2 line-opening wP captures; 3 of 4 mates ideal.

H0088 (Brieger) 1.a1B Rc2 2.Be5 Rc6 3.Bd4 Bf3# 1.Bc5 Re6 2.a1B Bd1 3.Bd4 Bb3# Reflected echo mates; sequence dictated by line openings & closings.

H0089 (Bene) 1.c3 Bd5 2.Rc5 Bxc6 3.Rc4 b5# 1.c5 bxc5 2.Rb3 c6 3.Rd3 Bxc4# White keys force accurate bR moves to shutoff bB; model-mates.

H0090 (Nagnibida) a) 1.Bd4 Kg1 2.Bb6 Be2 3.Nd4 Bd2# b) 1.Bc6 Bg5 2.Bb7 Bd8 3.c6 Be2# Echoed pin-line withdrawals and unpins by Black; model-mates.

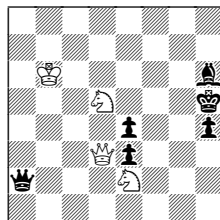
H0091 (Csak) a) 1.Nd7 Rxxg6 2.Ra6 Rxxg7 3.6Ra3 Rg2# b) 1.Re6 Rg5 2.Ra7 Rxe5 3.7Ra3 Re2# c) 1.Rd7 Rxf4 2.Nc4 Rxf6 3.Na3 Rf2# bN/bR/bR cycle of line-openings, unpins, self-blocks and self-removals.

H0092 (Chernous & Kavratsky) 1.Rc3 f8Q 2.Qh5+ Qf7 3.Qe2 Qxh7# 1.Be4 f8N 2.Qe5+ Ne6 3.Qc3 Nf4# Choice of promotion to match choice of mating net; dual-avoidances achieved by the need to meet bQ 2nd-move checks.

H0093 (Heinonen) 1.Bf4 Qxe4+ 2.Kxe4 Kg2 3.Qe3 Nc3# 1.Qc5 Nf2 2.gxf2 Kxh2 3.Nc6 Qg8# Active Zihali-sacrifices and self-unpins by White; model-mates.

H0094 (Alaikow) a) 1.Bd3 Rxc1 2.Bxb5 Re1 3.Bd7 Nd6# b) 1.Re1 Bxc2 2.Rxe4 Bxa4 3.Re7 Nd6# ODT with incidental Zihali to provide correct self-block; model-mates. Michel Caillaud: "I don't see the interest of the problem as it can (apparently) be made in 2 moves with more echo between the solutions."

H0094 Version by Michel Caillaud



H#2 2 solutions

1.Qxd5 Qd1 2.Qg5 Nf4#
1.Qxe2 Qb5 2.Qg4 Nf4#

H0095 (Nagnibida) a) 1.Ne5 Bxxg4+ 2.Kxxg4 g8N 3.Nf3 Nh6# b) 1.Qc8 Bxe4+ 2.Kxe4 g8Q 3.Qf5

Qa8# Flight-giving wB sacrifices, and distinct promotions to match mating nets.

H0096 (Masanek & Funk) 1...Nd3 2.d1R Ne5 3.Re1+ Kd2 4.Re4 Nf3# 1...Kf2 2.d1R Kg3 3.Rd2 Kf4 4.Rd3 Ne2# Ideal-mates determined by promoted bR's choice self-block squares.

H0097 (Pricic & Abdurahmanovic) Set: 1.Kd4 Be5+ 2.Ke4 Kc4 3.Ke3+ Bf4# Play: 1.....Ka3 2.Kc5 Re5+ 3.Kd6 Kb4 4.Kc7+ Re7# bK unpins of wR & wB lead to flight-giving Grimshaw on e4, then echoed K/K shuffles leading to cross-double-check models.

H0098 (Bales) 1.b1B c4 2.Bf5 e3 3.Ke4 Ke2 4.Be5 d3# Passive promotion.

H0099 (Henrych) 1.Rc5 c3 2.cRe5 Kc8 3.Kd5 Kc7 4.Nc5 c4# 1.Nf6 c4 2.cRe7 Kc8 3.Nc6 d4 4.Nd5 c5# Chameleon-echo ideal-mates, with reversal of bRs & bNs self-block roles.

H0100 (Bales) 1.bxc2+ Ke1 2.c1N d3 3.Nb3 Ke2 4.Nc5 Bxb2# 1.Kc4 Ke2 2.b1N Bd4 3.Na3 c3 4.Nb5 d3# Matched N-promotions and movements, leading to ideal-mates.

H0101 (Toger) 1.Rc4 Kxd3 2.Rc6 Ke2 3.Re6 Ke3 4.Nd6 Nd7# 1.Qe6 Kf3 2.Nd6 Kf2 3.Rf4+ Ke3 4.Rf5 Ng4# Temporizing wK rundlaufs motivated by Black guard-removals; model-mates.

H0102 (Meinking & Caillaud) 1.Rd5 Bc6 2.Rxxg5 e5 3.Rg3 e4 4.Rd3 Ba4# 1.Bf6 e5 2.Bxxg5 e4 3.Bd2 Bc6 4.Bc3 Ba4# Echoed Black rundlaufs to open h6-c1; 2-pawn shuffle forces W sequence.

H0103 (Chebanov & Moldoveanu) a) 1.g1N g4 2.Nf3 g5 3.Ne5 g6 4.Nd7 g7 5.Nf8 g8N# b) 1.g1R g4 2.Rf1 g5 3.Rf6 g6 4.Bf5 gx7 5.Ke6 fxe8Q# Accurate promotions for both sides; B self-blocks journeys nicely forced; ideal mates.

H0104 (Jones) 1.....Ne8 2.Bd3 cxb4 3.Kg8 bxc5 4.Qb8 c6 5.Bh7 cxd7 6.Qxe8+ dxe8Q# Surprise key to avoid checking or line-closing; remaining sequence by both sides of interest.

H0105 (Janal) 1.f1B a4 2.Kf2 a5 3.Kg3 a6 4.Kxh3 a7 5.Kh2 a8Q 6.h3 Qb8# 1.Kd1 a4 2.Re1 a5 3.Re2 a6 4.Kxd2 a7 5.Kc3 a8Q 6.Rd2 Qh8# Long bK walks to setup mates on opposite sides of the board.

H0106 (Vitale) 1.Nd5 Ba5 2.Nb6 Ke7 3.d5 Kd6 4.Kf4 Kc5 5.Ke5 Kb4 6.Kd6 Kc3 7.Kc5 Bb4# Keen sequence of moves, including wB switch-back; almost all moving units interact with each other to force the correct order.

H0107 (Nemes) 1.Ke1 Kg1 2.Kd2 Kh1 3.Kc3 Kg1 4.Kb4 Kh1 5.Ka5 Kg1 6.Kb6 Kh1 7.Kc7 Kg1 8.Kd6 Kh1 9.Ke5 Kg1 10.Kxf5 Kh1 11.Kg4 Kg1 12.f5 Kh1 13.f4 Kg1 14.f3 Kh1 15.fxx2+ Bxx2 16.Bh4 Be4 17.Kh3 Bf5# Near-rundlauf by bK to setup up model-mate on h3.

FAIRIES

F0033 (Pricic) Grab of the d5N wheel is set. But W is in a block! So, only **1.Qc5!** which changes to a new grab wheel of the d6N. Is the changed-pin element in this task new?

F0034 (Gartsner) 1...Be4 2.c5 Kxa4= and 1.Kc5! Bxa4 2.c6 Bb3=. Perfect Ideal-stalemates. "Deceptive work" – LV.

F0035 (Gartsner) 1...Bxc4+ 2.Nb3 Qc1= and 1.Bd3 Bxc3 2.Kb3 Qxa1=. A playful little thing.

F0036 (Makaronez) Set: 1...d3 2.Gg4, 1...N-2.Qxd6. **1.Gc2!** d3 2.Ge4, 1...N-2.Qa5. Hard to believe this is a mutate.

F0037 (Szwedowski) Tries: 1.Kb7? 2.e3(A), 1...Gc5!(a) nor 1.Qb1? 2.Be5(B), 1...Gc3!(b). So, **1.Ga3!** 2.Qe4. 1...Gc5(a) 2.e3(A), 1...Gc3(b) 2.Be5(B). A heavy-duty Dombrovskis.

F0038 (Makaronez) A) 1.Bf2 e6 2.Ge3 Kd4 3.Gxe6# and B) 1.Ba2 e6 2.Gb3 Kd5 3.Gxe6# An unusual pair of batteries. "The trivial Indian idea looks fresh in this nice composition" – VG.

F0039 (Pricic) **1.NRg1!** Gc3 2.Ba6+ NRg4 3.Bb7+ Ga7 4.NRg7+ Ge6 5.Bf3! h5 6.Gg2! Gxg7. An intricate weave of spectacular sweeping moves to pin Black and set-up the 7th rank. 5.Bf3! is a surprising interference on the g1NR.

F0040 (Shifrin) **1.Nc5!** Bxf3 2.e3 Ba8 3.Ne4 Bf8 4.Kf3 Ba3 5.Kxf4 Bf8 6.c5 Bxe4 7.c6 Ba3 8.c7 Bf8 9.c8N Ba3 10.Nd6+ Bxd6# A most inventive way of managing the crosscrossing bBs while W trades one N for another.

F0041 (Toger) 1.Nc1 Rd2 2.Nxe2[WN] Nc1#; 1.Bd3 Nc4 2.Bxe2[WB] Bd1# and 1.Re7 Nc2 2.Rxe2[WR] Na1. Not the prettiest mates, but the tri-focus on e2 is good Andernach.

F0042 (Vitale) W: 1.Kd4[+bPd3] Kg4[+wPf4] 2.Ke3[+bPd4] Ba4 3.Ke4[+bPe3] Bc6[+wPa4]# If 1...Kg5? then not mate since 4.Kf3[+bPe4]! B: 1.Bf3 Kd2[+bPd3] 2.Be4[+wPf3] Kc3[+bPd2] 3.Ke3[+wPf4] d1=N# Okay, I'll ask it: Is there an anomaly in the Sentinelles theory, like, in preceding play? What happened to all the pre-position Pawns???

F0043 (Masonek) 1.Ge7 Kg6 2.Ke6 NRc4 3.Gd5 NRc5# Ideal-mate.

F0044 (Makaronez & Ettinger) A) 1.Nd5 Ge8 2.Nf4 Re5 3.Ng6 Rh5# and B) 1.Nc4 Gb5 2.Nd6 Re1 3.Nf5 Rh1#

F0045 (Guttman) 1.g1G g5 2.Gg4 g6 3.Gg2 Gh6#; 1.h1Q+ Kd2 2.Qg1 Gd1 3.Qh2 Gh5# and 1.Gc7 g5 2.Ge5 Gf4 3.Gg3 Gh6# Three Black rundlaufs (not switchbacks!).

F0046 (Wenda) A) 1.g1G gxh6[Ph7] 2.Gg7 hxg7[Gg1] 3.Gxc5[Pc2] g8G# and B) 1.h1NR

gx6f[Pf7] 2.NRc6[7] 3.NRxc5[2] 4.e8NR# Perfect harmony in a very fairyland idea with idyllic long-range moves (and re-births)!

F0047 (Kotesovec) 1...Kd1 2.Ke3 Ke1 3.Ge2 Fe5 4.Ge4 Rb3#; 1...Kd1 2.Gg7 Fe7 3.Gd7 Fd6 4.Ge5 Rb4# and 1...Fe7 2.Kd5 Kc6 4.d5 5.Be7 4.Ge6 Rb5#. Excellent use of the fairies, showing Ideal echo mates.

F0048 (Sobey) 1.Kd4 c4 2.Ke4 c5 3.Kf5 c6 4.Kg4 c7 5.Kh5 c8Rose# Ideal-mate. Two Roses cover a lot of territory on this board - figuring out which squares are guarded is a puzzle in itself!

F0049 (Bunka) A) 1.Gb4 2.Ge4 3.Bc4 4.Kd5 5.Bd4 Nf4# and B) 1.Bf7 2.Kd5 3.Ke6 4.d5 5.Be7 Ng7# Ideal-mates, well constructed, and a mere wiggle for a twin.

F0050 (Heinonen)A) 1.h1N 2.Nxg3 3.Ne4 ~ 6.g1N 7.Nxe2 8.Nd4 ~ 10.e1N 11.Nd3 12.Nc5 Ne7# and B) 1.h1B 2.Bf3 3.Bxe2 4.Bc4 ~ 6.e1B 7.Bxg3 8.Be5 ~ 11.g1B 12.Bc5 Bb7# The two sets of three same-like promotions at this length is a real achievement; the a7P is needed for soundness. "Excellent" - RT.

F0051 (Brown) 2.Fe8 ~ 5.Kxb8 6.Ka8 7.Fxf6 ~ 9.Fd8 ~ 11.Fc6 12.b8N 13.Fb7 14.Nd7# A pin-unpin complex where Bishops won't work.

F0052 (Nemes) 5.Kxb2 6.Ka1 ~ 8.b1B 9.Bxf5 10.Bb1 ~ 15.f1B 16.Bc4 17.Bca2 Bg7#

F0053 (Nemes) 4.c1B ~ 6.Bxh2 7.Be5 ~ 9.h1R ~ 11.Rxa5 12.Rc5 ~ 17.a1B 18.Bd4 e4# Ideal-mate.

F0054 (Bales) +BKe8! play 1.Bh1! (tempo) Kg6 2.0-0 Nd5 3.Bh8 Ne7# This is asymmetric because of Black's need to castle!

RETROS

R0011 (Juel) a) Kc8 Pa4 c4 d5 d7 - Ka8* Nb6; b) Ke8 Pa6 b5 d5 e6 - Ka8* Nc7; c) Kd6 Pa6 b7 c6 c7 - Ka8* Na7; d) Kc6 Pa7 b7 c5 c7 - Ka8* Na6.

R0012 (Livnat) Ne4* Kf1 Qh1 Nf2 - Kh2

R0013 (Frolkin) Retract: 1.d5-d4 g3-g4 2.e6xBd5 Ba2-d5 3.e7-e6 Qa1-b1 4.h6-h5 Qf6-a2 5.h7-h6 Bg8-a2! 6.Ka2-a3 g7-g8B+! 7.Ka3-a2 g6-g7; 10...h3xPg4; 11...Qf1-f6 12.Ka2-a3 Qh1-f1 13.Ka3-12 Kb1-c1 14.g5-g4 Ka1-b1 15.g6-g5 Qb1-h1 16.Rd1-d2 d2-d3(h2-h3), etc.

R0014 (Volet) 1...Kh2-g1 2.h4-h3 Kg1-f1 3.h3-h2 Kf1-e2 4.Rd2-d3 Ke2-d2 5.Rd3-e3 f3-f4 6.Re8-e3 f4-f5 7.e8(R)-e7 f5-f6 8.e7-e6 f6-f7 9.e6-e5 g6-g7 10.e5-e4 h5-h6 11.e4-e2 e5x(P)d4 12.Rd4-f4 h6-h7 13.Rf4-f3 e5-e6 14.Rf3-c3 Kd2-d1 15.d5-d4 Be1-d2 16.Rc3-f3 Bd2-g5. The WKP must retract a double step (e4-e2) to avoid interfering with the path of the WR.

P0014 (de Heer) 1.g4 d6 2.Bg2 Bxg4 3.Bxd5 Bxe2 4.Bxb7 Bxd1 5.Ne2 Bxc2 6.0-0 Bxb1 7.Rd1

Bxa2 8.Kf1 Bc4 9.Rxa7 Rxa7 10.Ke1 Rxb7 11.Nc3 Rxb2

P0015 (Frankiss) 1.h4 d6 2.h5 Qd7 3.h6 Kd8 4.hxg7 h5 5.f4 Nh6 6.g8N h4 7.Nf6 h3 8.Nh5 hxg2 9.Rh4 Qh3 10.f5 Qh2 11.Nh3 g1N 12.Bg2 Nf3+ 13.Kf1 Ng5 14.Bh1 Nh7

P0016 (Meyers) 1.e3 h6 2.Ba6 bxa6 3.a4 Bb7 4.Ra3 Be4 5.Rb3 Nc6 6.Rb8 Bh7 7.Rc8 Rb8 8.a5 Rb6 9.axb6 g6 10.b7 Bg7 11.b8B Bc3 12.bxc3 Nf6 13.Ba3 Rg8 14.Bc5 Rf8 15.Bb6 axb6 16.Ba7

P0017 (Frolkin) 1.Nf3 a5 2.Nd4 a4 3.Nb3 axb3 4.a4 Ra5 5.Ra2 bxa2 6.Rg1 axb1N 7.Rh1 Nc3 8.Rg1 Nxd1 9.Rh1 Ne3 10.Rg1 Nxf1 11.Rh1 Ng3 12.hxg3 Rg5 13.Kf1 e5 14.Kg1 Bc5 15.Kh2 Ne7 16.Rf1 0-0 17.Kg1

P0018 (Kozulya) 1.b4 f5 2.b5 Kf7 3.b6 axb6 4.e4 Ra3 5.e5 Rg3 6.hxg3 Ke6 7.Rh6+ Kd5 8.Rg6 hxg6 9.Qg4 Rh4 10.Qh3 Ra4 11.d4 Ra8 12.a4 Ke4 13.a5 d5 14.a6 Be6 15.a7 Nd7 16.Ra6 Rc8 17.a8R bxa6

P0019 (Caillaud & Livnat) 1.c4 b5 2.Qa4 b4 3.Qb5 g6 4.a4 Bg7 5.Ra3 Kf8 6.Rd3 d6 7.Rxd6 a6 8.d3 Ra7 9.Bf4 Rb7 10.Be5 Rb6 11.f4 Rc6 12.Kf2 Rc5 13.Kg3 Rd5 14.Kh4 Rd4 15.g3 Re4 16.Bh3 Re3 17.Bg4 Rf3 18.Nh3 Rf2 19.Rf1 Rg2 20.Rf3 Rg1 21.Rc3 Rh1 22.Re4. "Very nice" - IT, "Excellent realization of bRa8 to h1 in single steps" - CCF.

P0020 (Heinonen) 1.Nc3 Nc6 2.Nd5 Nd4 3.Nxe7 Kxe7 4.h4 Kf6 5.Rh3 Bx6 6.Rb3 Bf4 7.Rb6+ axb6 8.Nf3 Ra3 9.Nh2 Rg3 10.h5 Kg5 11.a4 Nf6 12.Ra3 Re8 13.Rf3 Re3 14.Ng4 Ra3 15.e3 Qg8 16.Qe2 Ne8 17.Qa6 bxa6 18.Nf6 Bb7 19.Nd5 f6 20.Nc3 Be4 21.Ne2 Qd5 22.Ng1. "Brilliant and fantastically difficult" - VG.

P0021 (Hashimoto) 1.h4 g6 2.Rh3 Bg7 3.Rd3 Be5 4.Rd6 cxd6 5.g3 Qa5 6.Bh3 Qxa2 7.Bf5 Qxb1 8.Rxa7 Qxc1 9.Rxa8 Qa1 10.Rxb8 Qa5 11.Qa1 Qd8 12.Qa8 b6 13.Qh1 Bb7 14.Kd1 Bf3 15.Kc1 Bh5 16.Nf3 f6 17.Qd1. The white Queen describes a large triangle.



Corrections from previous issues

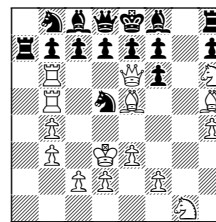
In **SG1** we published M0010 #7 by Edgar Holladay. Edgar was not quite happy with a scant solution we gave. He asked us to publish the rest of the play. Set: 1...Kc5 2.Ne6+ Kb6 3.Rb3+ Ka7 4.Bc8 Ka8 5.Nc7+ Ka7 6.Rb7#; Tries: 1.Bc6+? Kc5 2.Kc3 Kd6 3.Re3 Kc7 4.Re6 Kb6 5.Kb4 Kc7 6.Nb5+ Kd8/Kc8 7.Re8#; 5...Ka7 6.Nb5+ Ka6 7.Bd5 (etc)#, but 1...Ke5! 2.Ke3 Kd6 3.Ke4 Ke7

4.Ke5 Kf7 5.Rg3 Ke7 6.Ne6 Kf7 7.Rg7#, 3...Kc5! 1.Nc6+? Kc7 2.Nb8 Kc5 3.Bc6 Kb4 4.Nd7 Kc4 5.Kc2 Kb4 6.Rd4+ Ka5 7.Ra4#, 3...Kb6!, 1.Ne2+? Kc5 2.Nf4 Kb6 3.Rc3 Kb7 4.Nd5 Ka7 5.Bc6 Kb8 6.Ra3 Kc8 7.Ra8#, 1...Ke5! 2.Nc3 Kf4 3.Rd5 Kg3 4.Rh5 Kf2 5.Ne2 Kg2 6.Bc6+ Kf1 7.Rf5#, 2...Kf6!; Key: 1.Nf3+ Kc5 2.Ne5 Kb6 3.Rc3 Kb7 4.Rc6 Ka8 5.Bc8 Kb8 6.Nd7+ Ka8 7.Ra6#; 1.Nf5+ Ke4 2.Re3+ Kf4 3.Kd3 Kg5 4.Ke4 Kg6 5.Be8+ Kh7 6.Bf7 Kh8 7.Rh3#. Asymmetry. All mates listed are model.

SG4 M0040 (Makaronez) White Pawn missing from e2.
SG5 M0067 (Holladay) Twinning information: A) Diagram, B) d3K→h3, C) then g7B→f8, D) then f8B→f4, E) then h3K→b6, F) then a2Q→a5. H0131 (Prcic) White King should be on g4 instead of f3.

Page 8, Unto Heinonen Proof game in 39.5 moves, solution: 1.a4 h5 2.a5 h4 3.a6 h3 4.Ra5 hxg2 5.h4 Rh6 6.h5 Rc6 7.h6 g5 8.h7 g4 9.Rg5 f5 10.h8B f4 11.Be5 f3 12.Rh8 fxe2 13.f4 g3 14.Nf3 g1B 15.Bg2 Bb6 16.Bh1 g2 17.f5 g1B 18.f6 gBc5 19.d4 d5 20.dxc5 Bh3 21.cxb6 Bf1 22.Rg2 Kf7 23.Bg3 Kg6 24.f7 Bh6 25.f8B e5 26.fBd6 Qh4 27.Bg5 e4 28.Kd2 e1B+ 29.Kc1 Ba5 30.Nc3 e3 31.Kb1 e2 32.Ka1 e1B 33.Qe2 d4 34.Qe7 d3 35.Ne2 Bb4 36.c3 d2 37.cxb4 d1B 38.bxa5 Ba4 39.b3 Kh5 40.bxa4.

Retros:
Satoshi Hashimoto reports the following cook in **Thierry le Gueher's Commendation from SG's 1st TT**: 1.Nc3 Nf6 2.Nd5 Ne4 3.Nf6+ gxf6 4.h4 Bh6 5.Rh3 Kf8 6.Rb3 Kg7 7.Rb6 Qg8 8.b4 Kf8 9.Bb2 Qg3 10.Be5 Qb3 11.axb3 a6 12.Ra5 Ra7 13.Ra5 a5 14.e3 a4 15.Be2 a3 16.Bh5 a2 17.g4 a1Q 18.Bg3 Qe5 19.Ke2 Qg5 20.Kf3 Qg8 21.g5 Kg7 22.Kf4 Qd8 23.Qg4 Kf8 24.Qe6 Ke8 25.Kf5 Bf8, in which the moves by the bK and bQ are different from the intention. Thierry proposes the following correction:

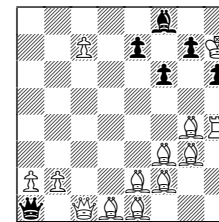


Proof game in 25.5 moves

1.Nc3 Nf6 2.Ne4 Nd5 3.Nf6 gxf6 4.h4 Bh6 5.Rh3 Kf8 6.Rb3 Kg7 7.Rb6 Qg8 8.b4 Kf8

9.Bb2 Qg3 10.Be5 Qb3 11.axb3 a6! 12.Ra5 Ra7 13.Rb5 a5 14.e3 a4 15.Be2 a3 16.Bh5 a2 17.Qg4 a1Q+ 18.Ke2 Qd4 19.Qe6 Qg4+ 20.Kd3 Qg8 21.g4 Kg7 22.g5 Qd8 23.g6 Kf8 24.g7+ Ke8 25.g8 Bf8 26.Nh6
Noam Livnat's **R0020** was printed with a wQ missing from c1. The correct diagram is:

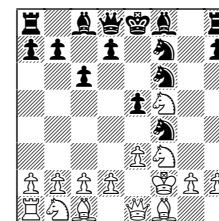
R0020 Noam Livnat, Israel



Add the bK where he is legally mated

Several solvers correctly guessed that **P0023** should have a bN, not a bB, at f7:

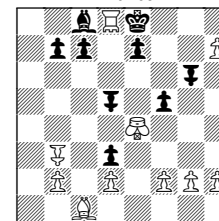
P0023 C.C.Frankiss, England



Proof game in 13.0 moves

The stipulation for Rene Millour's Alice Chess problem **R0022** appeared under the wrong problem! Here we give a reprint with the correct stipulation.

R0022 René J. Millour
France



Alice A(7+7) B(3+2)

a) Where were the Bishops captured? b) Did 0,1, or 2 castlings occur?

The stipulation for John Meyers' **P0022** should have read simply "Proof game in 10.5 moves."

STRATEGEMS 1998 SOLVERS LADDER

Solvers Name	T	M	E	S	H	F	R	P	Total
Vladimir Gurvich	134	231	51	159	548	267	53	94	1537
C.C. Frankiss	134	224	0	161	559	266	48	88	1480
Israel Tzur	128	158	9	38	544	91	5	62	1035
Dr. Richard Fellrath	76	144	0	109	373	104	0	46	852
Radovan Tomasevic	40	82	30	56	207	107	16	41	579
Luigi Vitale	0	89	0	115	245	125	0	0	574
Tom Langland	58	99	0	52	240	6	0	10	465
Todd Barre	94	47	0	20	224	47	0	3	435
Harry Tamvakis	54	56	7	19	163	67	15	13	394
William Longren	36	55	9	17	140	40	12	27	336
Kenneth Davenport	38	64	0	40	170	6	0	0	318
Mark Ridley	0	0	0	0	250	47	0	3	300
Efren Petite	40	49	0	14	117	0	0	0	220
Eliahu Fasher	0	0	0	0	208	0	0	0	208
Alex Markevitch	38	40	0	32	73	7	5	0	195
Matthew Dickey	14	0	0	0	153	23	5	0	195
Barry Keith	8	3	0	0	137	43	0	0	191
Paul Steiner	130	12	0	0	16	0	0	0	158
Dailon Stauvers	84	17	7	0	44	0	0	0	152
Benjamin Good	16	0	0	0	17	18	0	0	51
Ray Tomanek	24	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	41
Carlos Grassano	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
Frank Lee	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	30
Dean Hightower	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Maurice Keady	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Individual Category Winners

T	1 st & 2 nd Vladimir Gurvich & C.C. Frankiss, 3 rd Paul Steiner
M	1 st Vladimir Gurvich, 2 nd C.C. Frankiss, 3 rd Israel Tzur
E	1 st Vladimir Gurvich, 2 nd Radovan Tomasevic, tie for 3 rd Israel Tzur & William Longren
S	1 st C.C. Frankiss, 2 nd Vladimir Gurvich, 3 rd Luigi Vitale
H	1 st C.C. Frankiss, 2 nd Vladimir Gurvich, 3 rd Israel Tzur
F	1 st Vladimir Gurvich, 2 nd C.C. Frankiss, 3 rd Luigi Vitale
R	1 st Vladimir Gurvich, 2 nd C.C. Frankiss, 3 rd Radovan Tomasevic
P	1 st Vladimir Gurvich, 2 nd C.C. Frankiss, 3 rd Israel Tzur

Congratulations to all winners and participants.

Tourney Announcements

The Ukrainian Chess Federation, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Commission for Chess Composition, newspaper *Sportyvna Gazeta* and chess magazine *Vertycal*, announces an international non-thematic tourney for #2 to commemorate the 60th birthday of the outstanding Ukrainian chess composition grandmaster Viktor Melnichenko, who will be judging the event. A special prize of \$50 from Mark Basisty (Kiev) for a Meredith combining no less than three distinct themes of any sort. Also, the committee for sports of the municipal council of Kotovsk, a town in Odessa region where V. Melnichenko resides, announces an international non-thematic tourney for #3. Money prizes plus chess books signed by Melnichenko. The preliminary results will be published in newspapers *Sportyvna Gazeta* and *Kotovsk Visti*. The final results of the two tourneys will appear in a special issue of *Vertycal*, which will be part of a series: "Ukraine's Prominent Grandmasters." Problems are to be sent in duplicate before August 1, 1999 to: "Melnichenko-60," Yevhen reitsen, P.O.Box 47, Kiev-186, 252186 Ukraine.

Thema Danicun theme tourney announcement: "We ask for problems where the diagram position just has white King and black King on a normal board. Apart from this any condition and stipulation is allowed. A maximum of 2 problems per composer should reach the judge, Henrik Juel, Bygvaenget 265, DK-2980 Kokkedal, Denmark, before May 1, 1999. A small book prize is awarded." Example: WKa2 bKh7; Add WQ, bB, and bP for a 2+3 IC; 4 solutions. {Add: Qa4 - Bc4 Pb3; Qb2 - Bb1 Pc2; Qh8 - Bf8 Pg7; Qh1 - Bg1 Pg2}.

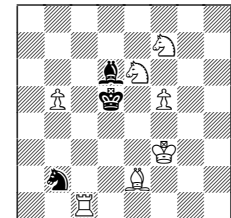
International Chess Composing Tourney SCACCO! 1999. The Italian chess review *SCACCO* announces an informal tourney for the following sections: #2, judge Francesco Simoni, H#2 & H#3, Judge M. Parrinello. Prizes for each section: 1st Prize, free annual subscription to *SCACCO*, 2nd Prize, six-month subscription to *SCACCO* and 3rd Prize quarterly subscription to *SCACCO*. Entries to Vito Rallo, Via Manzoni 162 C.S.-9100 Trapani, Italy.

The Italian Correspondence Chess Association (ASIGC) announces the 3rd International Chess composing Tourney for 1999. Free theme original chess problems are requested for the following sections: #2, judge Oscar Bonivento, H#2, judge Antonio Garofalo. The originals will appear in "Telescacco 92" in 1999. Prizes for each section in books. Mail your entries to: Vito Rallo, Via Manzoni 162 C.S.-91100 Trapani, Italy.

Wola Gulowska 1999. The organizing Committee of Gen. Franciszek Kleeberg's Chess Tournament announces the tenth formal competition for original chess compositions in the following sections: #2, judge Leopold Szwedowski; #3, judge Jan Rusinek; S#2, judge Ryszard Kapica; H#2, judge Wladyslaw Rosolak; S#2 andernach, judge Eugeniusz Iwanow. In each group there will be 3 prizes. Closing date: May 15th 1999. Award will be ready by September 30th 1999. Send problems on diagram with the complete solution to: Dom Kultury-Pomnik Czynu, Bojowego Kleeberczykow, 21-481 Wola Gulowska, POLAND

American Teen's Chess Problem Tourney. White mates in two moves. The white king exposes himself to two or more checks. Example: **1.Ke3!** threat 2.Bf3, 1...Nc4+ 2.Bxc4#, 1...Nd1+ 2.Rxd1#, 1...Bc5+ 2.Rxc5#, 1...Bf4+ 2.Nxf4#. FIDE Judge David L. Brown. Cash prizes and awards. Up to three entries postmarked May 31st to Mr. Robert Clyde Moore, 423 W. Delaware, Tahlequah, OK 74464.

Example



#2

MF60JT & FA60JT correction. In SG5, the prize fund for these tourneys was incorrect. Prizes for each section (#2, #3, #n & H#2, H#3, H#n) will be: \$40/\$25/\$10 plus free subscription to *StrateGems* for the next three finishers.

The Last Letter of Loyd

by Eugene A. Dugas

There are many stories to be found in the book "Sam Loyd and his Chess Problems" by Alan C. White, to whom Loyd addressed much of his correspondence. One of them is located on page 140. Though one of Loyd's first published problems, it would be almost sixty years before its true theme came to light, shortly before the composer's death.

As the story goes, Loyd had originally put a black Knight on b1 and did not find the error until noting it in his last letter to White. What a fortunate correction! This work has to be one of the earliest examples of the triple threat with black correction. The key 1.Qb8! threatens 2.Nf7, Ne5 and Qxa8. Black's defenses separate these mates when 1...Rxb8, gxf3 and Bf5 (not Be4 as was reported in the book) and allows only one line of play to follow each defense. But 1...Ba2 stops all three threats in their tracks. It opens up a new line of attack by White, however, that would otherwise have been thwarted by the defense 1...Ra2! Yes, Black's correction has a fatal flaw 2.Qh2! which not only solves but lifts the work into a superior mode.

One truly has to wonder how Loyd could have put a black Knight on b1 to begin with as it adds nothing to the work. I could believe in a misprint here, easier than I could believe in a mistake in judgment, as the whole setting seems to revolve around a2 blockage. Loyd was a genius, and geniuses often work at what seems like breakneck speed to us mere mortals. Perhaps a black Knight on b1 was simply the result of feverish activity and a wrong grab out of the box. The play certainly justifies such a thought. Loyd's comment, "I only saw this in time to make a silly problem a good one before closing my problem career" and the correction itself seems a fitting end to a great composer's opera.

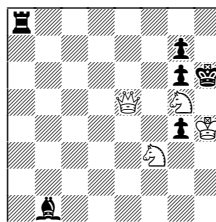
.....

Then there is on page 428--- A Tale of Two Kitties, one of which is an impossible position. But that, as they say, is another story.

1.Qb8!

(triple threat): 2.Qxa8 3.Qh8, 2.Ne5 3.eNf7, 2.Nf7+ 3.fNg5;
1...Rxb8 2.Ne5 (Nf7+, Qxa8?)
1...gxf3 2.Qxa8 (Nf7+, Ne5?)
1...Bf5 2.Nf7+ (Qxa8?, Ne5?)
1...Ba2 2.Qh2 (Qxa8?, Ne5?, Nf7+?)

Sam Loyd
Saturday Courier, 1855



#3

Corrections to FIDE Album 1989-91

Ilkka Blom, the creator of Alybadix, has tested some 1000 problems from the most recent FIDE Album 1989-91. He found the following inaccuracies (cooks):

C106 (Sacharov, #19) Solutions in 17 and 19 moves: 1.Qc8!/ 1.Qe8!/ 1.Qf6+!

F078 (Sphicas, #17) Solutions in 15 and 16 moves: 1.e8Q+!/ 1.f8Q+!/ 1.g8Q+!/ 1.e8R+

F084 (Mintz, #44) Dual 31.Rf1+

G023 (Wenda & Rehm, r#8) No solution (100% Tested): ...5.Nd2+ Kc2! 6.Ne4+ Kxd3! 7.Rd2/Rh3#

G057 (Gandew, #14 Circe) Solutions in 8,9,10,11, and 12 moves: 1.a8Q+!/ 1.Qd3+!/ 1.Qe5+!/ 1.Qf4+!

G059 (Gandew, #38 Circe) Solution in 23 moves: 1.Qd4+ Ke2 2.Bb5+!...

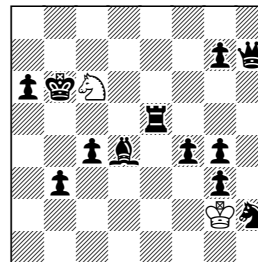
G117 (Rehm, #13) Diagram misprint, correct is +bNa7, Pg7→f7, incorrect solution:...5.VAOe6+ VAOd8! 6.VAOe7+ PAOxe8!

G131 (Dupin & Kerhuel, H#2) Missing twinning information: b) +bPb3 c) +bLocust e4

Shape Problems

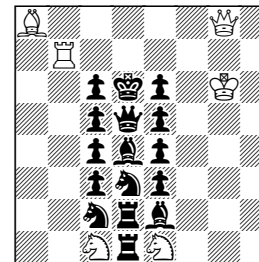
continued from page 85

SP13 Mark Kirtley
U.S. Problem Bulletin 1997



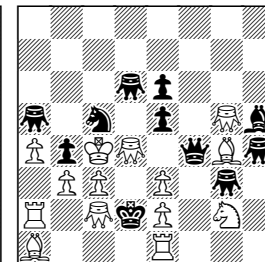
H#5½ b) c4P→g6

SP14 Peter Kahl
Die Schwalbe 1955



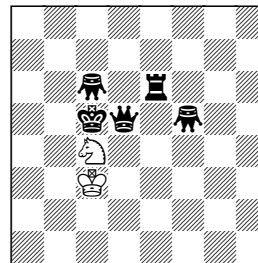
Series H=19

SP15 John M. Rice
Probleemblad 1963



#2 (Grasshoppers g5, d4, c2, d6, a5, h4 & g3)

SP16 Vaclav Kotesovec
Prize, Ideal-Mate Review 1997



H#4 3 solutions
(Grasshoppers c6, f5)

SP13

a) 1.Na5 Rb5 2.Nxb3 Qc2+ 3.Nd2 Qa4 4.Nf3 Ka5 5.Ne5 Bb6 6.Nc6#
b) 1.Ne7 Ka5 2.Nxg6 Bb6 3.Nh4 Qe4+ 4.Nf3 Qa4 5.Nd4 Rb5 6.Nc6#

SP14

1.cNb4, c2, c3, c4, Ne5, Rd3, 1Rd2, Bd1, e2, e3, e4, e5, Ne6, Bc5, Qd4, Kd5, Bd6, c5, 19.Nc6 Rd7=

SP15

1.Bf5! (2.Gg6), 1...Qxg5+ 2.Gb2#, 1...Ge4+ 2.Gf2# (Gb2?)
1...Ne4 2.Gxb4# (Gb2?), 1...e4 2.Gxf4# (Gb2?)
1...Bxe2+ 2.Qxe2#, 1...Nxa4 2.Gxa4#

SP16

1.Re4 Kc2 2.Kd4 Kd2 3.Gc5 Ne5 4.Gc4 Nf3#
1.Qd6 Ne5 2.Kd5 Ng6 3.Gc5 Kd3 4.Re5 Nf4#
1.Qd7 Ne3 2.Kd6 Kd3 3.Gc2 Kd4 4.Gc7 Nf5#



Puzzle Corner Solutions from SG5. Who ARE these guys? 1)Mihalek & Gabor, 2)Shinkmann & Youngs, 3)Karpati & Benko, 4)Holladay & Babson, 5)Promislo & Buchwald, 6)Carpenter & Loyd, 7)Wilson & Eaton, 8)Gamage & White, 9)Garai & Volet, 10)Lincoln & Barclay, 11)Fink & Albert, 12)Jacobs & Meredith, 13)Howard & Dalton, 14)Sphicas & Moore, 15)Rice & Kirtley, 16)Becker & Cheney, 17)Sheppard & Cook, 18)Anderson & Burger. Teasers from "The Puzzle King". PZ1 (1) 1.c4 c5 2.Qa4 Qa5 3.Qc6 Qc3 4.Qxc8# or 1.d4 d5 2.Qd3 Qd6 3.Qh3 Qh6 4.Qxc8#; (2) 1.e4 e5 2.Ke2 Ke7 3.Ke3 Ke6 4.Qf3 Qf6 5.Ne2 Ne7 6.b3 b6 7.Ba3 Ba6 8.Nd4+ exd4#; (3) 1.f3 e5 2.Kf2 h5 3.Kg3 h4+ 4.Kg4 d5#; (4) 1.e3 a5 2.Qh5 Ra6 3.Qxa5 h5 4.Qxc7 aRh6 5.h4 f6 6.Qxd7+ Kf7 7.Qxb7 Qd3 8.Qxb8 Qh7 9.Qxc8 Kg6 10.Qe6=; (5) 1.f4 e5 2.Kf2 Qf6 3.Kg3, and black can force a perpetual. (PZ2) Kingto White's next move to last move, White had a pawn on g2, with the white King on f3, and Black had a pawn on f4. Then White played 1.g4 fxg3+ 2.Kxg3+, producing the diagrammed position. (PZ3) 1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Qh5 Qxa2 4.Qxh7 Qxb1 5.Qxg7 Rxb2 6.Rxa7 Rxb2 7.Rxb7 Rxb1 8.Rxc7 Qxb2 9.Rxc8+ Kd7 10.Rxb8 Rxb8 11.Bxb2 Rxb2 12.Rxg1 Rxc2 13.Qxf7 Rxd2 14.Qxe7+ Kxe7 15.Rxg8 Rxf2 16.Rxf8 Rxf1+ 17.Kxf1 Kxf8; (PZ4) 1.c4 d5 2.cxd5 Qxd5 3.Qc2 Qxg2 4.Qxc7 Qxg1 5.Qxb7 Qxh2 6.Qxb8 Qe5 7.Qxc8+ Rxc8 8.Rxh7 Qxb2 9.Rxh8 Qxa2 10.Rxg8 Qxd2+ 11.Kxd2 Rxc1 12.Rxg7 Rxb1 13.Rxf7 Rxf1 14.Rxf8+ Kxf8 15.Rxa7 Rxf2 16.Rxe7 Rxe2+ 17.Kxe2 Kxe7 ♠♣