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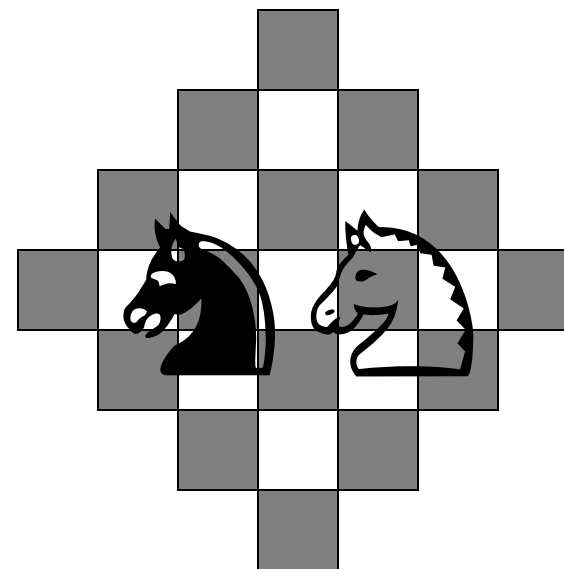
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StrateGems



A Poet Among Us

by Mike Prcic

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Nabokov, a renowned writer and avid chess composer. Born in St. Petersburg on April 23, 1899, he started composing in Crimea, where his family lived during the Russian revolution. Two years before that, when he was sixteen, he published his first poem. His first published collection of poems and chess compositions was called *Stikhi i Skhemy*—in Russian, the same title as his 1970 English language book *Poems and Problems* (a Father's Day gift from his daughter Ardis.)

By 1919, Nabokov's family moved to Germany, and he studied in England. A string of his mother's pearls paid for two years of education at Cambridge. Only three years after the move, his father was killed defending an opposition speaker at a political rally in Berlin. The death was a huge loss to Volodya (Vladimir's nickname) --- the elder Nabokov had been a warm friend and literary mentor.



Nabokov, Véra Slonim (a Russian woman he married in 1925), and their four-year-old son Dimitri left Europe in flight from World War II. They arrived in the USA in 1940. Nabokov was mostly unknown outside the impoverished Russian émigré literary circles. Better known newcomers included Einstein, Mann, Brecht, Huxley, Stravinsky, Bartok and Chagall.

Nabokov wrote in Russian, French, and English. He experienced anguish trying to improve his English, a task he was facing at the age of forty. In his unpublished archives he wrote: "The déménagement from my palatial Russian to the narrow quarters of my English was like moving from one darkened house to another on a starless night during a strike of candlemakers and torchbearers."

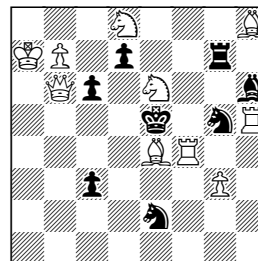
In America he lectured at various universities including Cambridge, Cornell, Harvard, Stanford, and Wellesley. His teaching subjects included European fiction and Russian fiction and poetry. He and Véra obtained their citizenships in 1945. They lived on a tight budget in the homes of professors on sabbatical in winter and in motels in summer. When the novel *Lolita* was published it made Nabokov's fortune. He was sixty. Large sales of *Lolita* were followed by a demand for all his previous works in translation. He seemed to feel at that point a loss of privacy, and he returned to Europe to continue writing. Véra translated various of his English works into Russian. Dimitri translated his Russian works into English. All this time Nabokov remained an American citizen. He died June 30, 1977, at Montreux, Switzerland. He missed seeing his works gain popularity in Russia, during "Perestroika."

While writing poetry and novels, Nabokov was also composing chess problems. A collection of his best problems was included in the 1970 book *Poems and Problems*. Said Nabokov: "Chess problems demand from the composer the same virtues that characterize all worthwhile art: originality, invention, conciseness, harmony, complexity, and splendid insincerity. The composing of those ivory-and-ebony riddles is a comparatively rare gift and an extravagantly sterile occupation; but then all art is inutile, and divinely so, if compared to a number of more popular human endeavors. Problems are the poetry of chess, and its poetry, as all poetry, is subject to changing trends with various conflicts between old and new schools."

Although Nabokov started chess composing in 1917, many of his problems

were lost or did not survive his later scrutiny. Out of 18 problems presented in his book, I have chosen 10, including his own comments for each one. Fittingly, one of his poems is included at the end of this article.

VN01



#2√

Composed in Paris, mid-May 1940 (a few days before migrating to America). Published in *Speak, Memory*, 1951, and included by Lipton, Matthews, and Rice in *Chess Problems*, London, 1963. The irresistible try is for the bafflement of sophisticated solvers.

1.b8N? c2!

1.Bc2! (ZZ)

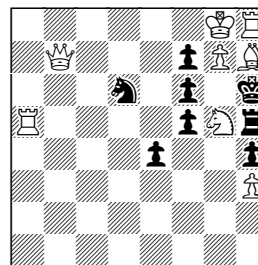
1...Kd5/Kd6 2.Qc5#

1...c5/d6 2.Rf5#

1...d5 2.Qc7#

1...N~ 2.Qd4#

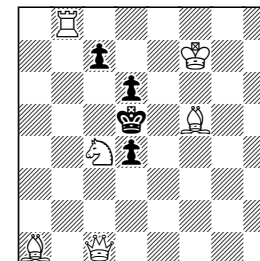
VN02



#2*

The key deceptively prevents the set play 2.Bxe4# after 1...f4. The interest of this problem (composed in Montreux, March 22, 1965, and published in *The Trinity Review*, Cambridge, England, Lent 1969) lies in the three main variations with the Bishop advancing one spasmodic step every time.

VN03



#2*

Camogli, June 8, 1967. The presence of the Bishop on a1 is a bit of not quite legal camouflage allowing set play 2.Ne3# after 1...d3, a possibility diverting the solver's attention from the key, which prevents 1...d3. The position of the Bishop on f5 (guarding the escape to d7 after 1...Kc6) provides another set play, 1...Kc6 2.Ne3# which is changed by the key.

1.Bd3! (ZZ)

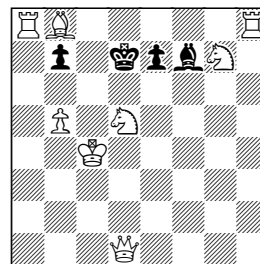
1...Kc5 2.Ne3#

1...Kc6 2.Nb6#

1...c6 2.Qg5#

1...c5 2.Qh1#

VN04



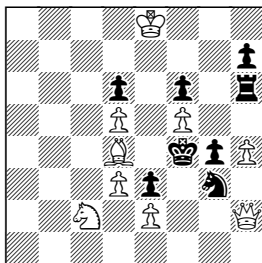
#2*

The key changes the set play 2.Nb6# after 1...Be8. This seems to be my most ingenious twomover. It was composed in Montreux, February 13, 1969, and appeared in *The Problemist*, January 1970.

1.Qh5! (ZZ)

1...Be8 2.Qxe8#

VN05



#3

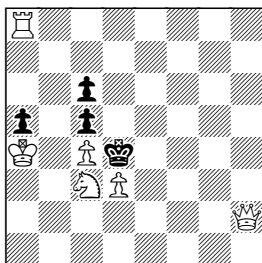
The point of this problem (Montreux, April 10, 1965; published in *The Sunday Times*, London, December 29, 1968) consists in that Black's Rook clears the way for White's mating piece by capturing an intervening white piece, so that when it (Black's Rook) returns to its initial square, it can be captured with mate. This is the so-called "Nabokov Theme."

1.Kf7! (2.Ke6 3.Bxe3)

1...Rxf4 2.Kxf6 Rh6+ 3.Qxh6#

1...Kxf5 2.Nxe3+ Kf4 3.Qf2#

VN06



#3

The key is deceptive, because it seems to interfere with the Queen's possible use of the square it involves. The main idea of the problem (composed at the Grande Albergo Excelsior, Ponte di Legno, North Italy, on July 18, 1966, a rainy break in some strenuous butterfly hunting, and published in *The Sunday Times*, London, November 5, 1967) lies in the black King's clearing the way to his doom by eliminating a white man. All in all, my most satisfying threemover.

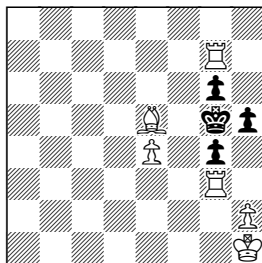
1.Rh8! (ZZ)

1...Kxc3 2.Rh3 Kd4 3...Qb2#

1...Kxd3 2.Rh3+ Kd4(xc4) 3.Qf4#

1...Ke3 2.Rh3+ Kd4 3.Ne2#

VN07



#3

The subtle key spoils the set play after: 1...Kh4 2.Bf6+ g5 3.Bxg5# The problem was composed in Montreux, October 1, 1966, and published in *The Problemist*, November 1969. It was placed third with a Second Prize in that journal's Intermediate Composing Tourney.

1.h3! (ZZ)

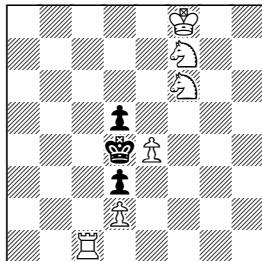
1...Kh6 2.h4 g5 3.hxg5#

1...Kh4 2.Rxg6 gxh3 3.Bf6#

1...h4 2.Rh7 hxg3 3.h4#

Try: 1.Kg1? (not Kg2 because of Black's second move, an added nicety); 1...Kh6 2.h4 gxh e.p. 3.R3xg6# (all this defeated by 1...h4!).

VN08



#3

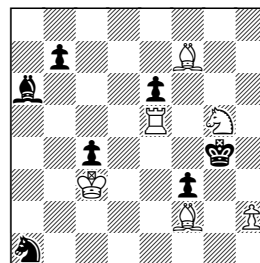
Composed at the Cenobio dei Dogi, Camogli, near Genoa, April 15, 1967, entomologically disappointing; and published in the *Evening News*, London, October 14, 1967. The main idea of this slightly old-fashioned miniature (?) is the white Knight's return to its initial square in the main variation

1.Nd7! (ZZ)

1...Kxe4 2.Rf1 d4/Kd4 3.Nf6/Rf4#

1...dxe4 2.Nb6 e3 3.Rc4#

VN09



#3

The prevention of duals after Black's Bishop and Pawn moves is one of the themes of this amusing problem composed in the gardens of the Palace Hotel, Montreux, August 13, 1967, and published in *The Problemist*, November 1970.

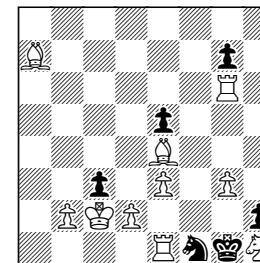
1.Kd4! (2.h3+ 3.Ne6)

1...Kf4 2.Nh3+ Kg4 3.Be6#

1...Nb3+ 2.Ke3 (Ke4?) ~ 3.h3#

1...Nc2+ 2.Ke4 (Ke3?) ~ 3.h3#

VN10



#3

Composed on the last day of 1968, in Montreux, and published in *The Problemist*, November 1969. The eyespot of this colorful problem is the prevention of duals after Black's Knight takes Pe3 or Pg3.

1.Rb1! (ZZ)

1...cxd2 2.Kd1 ~ 3.Kxd2#

1...cxb2 2.Kd1 with three variations:

2...Nxd2 3.Kxd2#

2...Nxe3 3.Ke2#

2...Nxe3 3.Kc2#

Lines Written in Oregon

Esmeralda! Now we rest
Here, in the bewitched and blest
Mountain forests of the West.

Here the very air is stranger,
Danzel, anchoret, and ranger
Share the woodland's dream and danger.

And to think I deemed you dead!
(In a dungeon, it was said;
Tortured, strangled); but instead--

Blue birds from the bluest fable,
Bear and hare in coats of sable,
Peacock moth on picnic table.

Huddled roadsigns softly speak
Of Lake Merlin, Castle Creek,
And (obliterated) Peak.

Do you recognize that clover?
Dandelions, *l'or du pauvre*?
(Europe, nonetheless, is over).

Up the turf, along the burn,
Latin lilies climb and turn
Into Gothic fir and fern.

Cornfields have befouled the prairies
But these canyons laugh! And there is
Still the forest with its fairies.

And I rest where I awoke
Into the sea shade--*l'ombre glauque*--
Of a legendary oak;

Where the woods get ever dimmer,
Where the Phantom Orchids glimmer--
Esmeralda, *immer, immer.*

1953

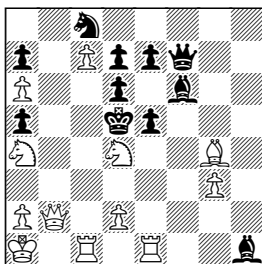




Recently Honored US Compositions by Mike Prcic

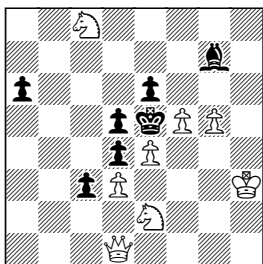
All comments and solutions have been obtained from the magazines which originally published the awards.

Robert Burger
Commended
The Problemist 1996/II



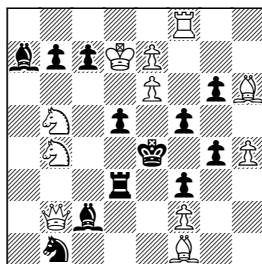
#2

Paul Steiner
Commended
The Problemist 1996/II



#2

Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
3rd Prize
Phénix 1997



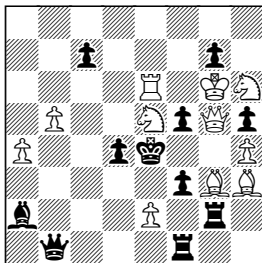
#3

Robert Burger, Commended, The Problemist 1996/II Something of an edifice, the Barnes theme with three threats and great solving with the threats coming back. 1.dN~? (2.Qb7/Qb3/Qb5) e4!, 1.Ne2? (2.Qb7) Nb6!, 1.Nf5? (2.Qb3) Nb6!, 1.Nc2! (2.Qb5) (Judge: Barry Barnes)

Paul Steiner, Commended, The Problemist 1996/II The pattern is Try? 1...a 2.A, 1...b! Try? 1...b 2.B, 1...a! Try? a/b 2.C/D. Key! a/b 2.E/F with 1...exf5/dxe4 as a/a. The execution is as good as one could wish for - - all (10!) tries, threats and mates by the wQ. 1.Qf1? (2.Qf4) dxe4!, 1.Qh1? (2.Qh2) exf5!, 1.Qb3? (2.Qb8) Bf8!, 1.Qa4! (2.Qxd4) (Judge: Barry Barnes)

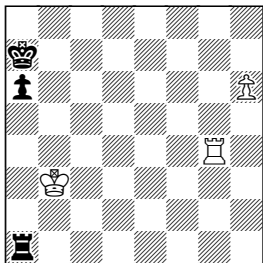
Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic, 3rd Prize, Phénix 1997 1.Qf6! (2.Qxg6 Ke5 3.Qxf5#), 1...R~ (on third rank) 2.Bg7 A (3.Qe5) Bd4 3.Qxd4#, 1...Re3! (correction) 2.Qg5! B (not 2.Bg7+? Kf4! 3.Qe5+? Rxe5!), 2...Ke5 3.Qf4#, 1...R~ (on d-file) 2.Qg5! B (3.Qf4) Be3 3.Qxe3#, 1...Rd4! (correction) 2.Bg7! A (not 2.Qg5? Ke5 3.Qf4+? Rxf4!), ~ 3.Qe5#, Side variations: 1...Bd4 2.Bxd3+ Bxd3 3.Qxd4#, 1...Nc3 2.Bxd3+ Bxd3 3.Nxc3# (Judge: Jean Morice)

R. Burger & R. Matthews
5th Honorable Mention
Rudenko-60JT



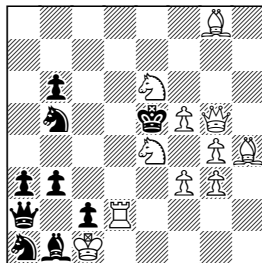
#3

D. Gurgenzidze & P. Benko
Special Prize
Neidze-60JT



Win

Miodrag Mladenovic
2nd Prize
Mat Plus 1996



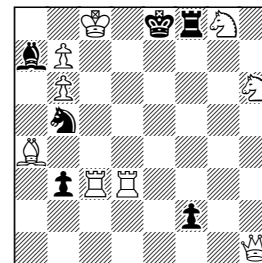
S#3

Robert Burger & Robin Matthews, 5th Honorable Mention, Rudenko-60JT 1.Nxf5! (2.Nd6+ cxd6 3.Nc4; 2...Kd5 3.Nd3), 1...Rg3 2.Nd3+ Kd5 3.Ne3#, 1...Qxb5 2.Nc4+ Kd5 3.Ne3#, (1...d3 2.Qe3+, 1...Rxe2 2.Ne7!) (Judge: Valentin Rudenko)

David Gurgenzidze & Pal Benko, Special Prize, Neidze-60JT 1.Rh4 Rb1+ 2.Kc3/i Rb8 3.h7 Rh8 4.Rh6 a5 5.Kd4 a4 6.Ke5 a3 7.Kf6 a2 8.Rh1, with: 8...Rd8 9.Ra1 Rd6+ 10.Kg5 Rd5+ 11.Kg4 Rd4+ 12.Kg3 Rd3+ 13.Kh2 Rd2+/ii 14.Kg1 Rd8 15.Rxa2+ Kb7 16.Rh2 Rh8 17.Kg2 Kc6 18.Kg3 Kd6 19.Kg4 Ke6 20.Kg5 Kf7 21.Kh6 wins, or 8...Rb8 9.Ra1 Rb6+ 10.Kg5 Rb5+ 11.Kg4 Rb4+ 12.Kg3 Rb3+ 13.Kg2 Rb2+ 14.Kf1 Rb1+ (14...Rh2 15.Rxa2+) 15.Ke2 Rb2+ 16.Kd1 Rb1+ 17.Kc2 wins. i) 2.Kc4? a5 3.Kd5 Rb5+ 4.Kc6 Rb6+ 5.Kc5 Rb8 6.h7 Rh8 draw. ii) 13...Rd8 14.Rxa2+ Kb7 15.Rg2 Rh8 16.Rg7+ Kc6 17.Kg3 Kd6 18.Kg4 wins. (Judge: Vasha Neidze)

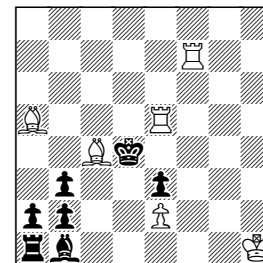
Miodrag Mladenovic, 2nd Prize, Mat Plus 1996 1.Qe3? (ZZ) Nc3/Nd6 2.Nd6+/Nc3+ Ne4 3.Nb5 Qb2/b2#, 1...Nc7/Nd4 2.Nxc7/Nxd4 b5 3.Nxb5 Qb2/b2#, but 1...Na7!, 1.Qe7! (ZZ) Nc3/Nd6 2.Nxc3/Nxd6 b5 3.Nxb5 Qb2/b2#, 1...Nc7/Nd4 2.Nd4+/Nc7+ Ne6 3.Nb5 Qb2/b2#, 1...Na7 2.Qxa7 b5 3.Qa5 Qb2/b2# Reciprocal change, Misha's favorite! (Judge: Z. Janevski)

Eugene Rosner
2nd Commendation
The Problemist 1995



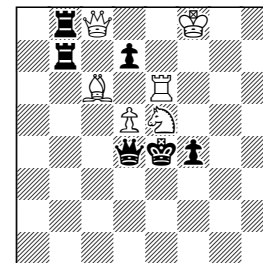
Semi R#2

Dan Meinking
6th Honorable Mention
The Problemist 1996



H#2** 2 solutions

Toma Garai
3rd Commended
Suomen Tehtävänäikat 1994



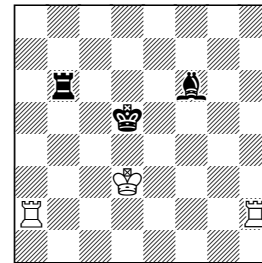
H#2 2 solutions

Eugene Rosner, 2nd Commendation, The Problemist 1995 I am not very fond of "semi-reflex-mates" as a rule, but this one pulls off quite a pleasant trick. 1.Rg3! (2.Ne7 Kxe7) 1...Rf6/Rf5/Rf4/Rf3/Rxg8/Rf7 2.Rcf3/Rcf3/Rcf3/Rg2/Ng4/Bxb3

Dan Meinking, 6th Honorable Mention, The Problemist 1996 White's set play moves recur inverted in the solution. Just a pity that the capturing bK does not return to his initial square both times. Two set plays plus two solutions. Set plays: 1...Bc3+ 2.Kxc4 Rc7#, 1...Rf4+ 2.Kxe5 Bc7# Solutions: 1.Kxc4 Rc7+ 2.Kd4 Bc3#, 1.Kxe5 Bc7+ 2.Ke4 Rf4# (Judge: Dieter Müller)

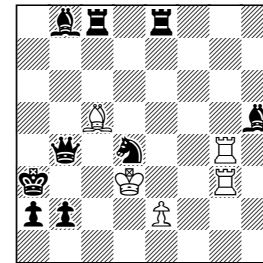
Toma Garai, 3rd Commended, Suomen Tehtävänäikat 1994 1.dxc6 Re8 2.Kxd5 Qxc6# 1.dxc6 Be8 2.Kxe5 Qxe6# (Judges: Thomas Maeder & Bruno Stucker)

Dan Meinking
Special Prize
diagrammes 1997



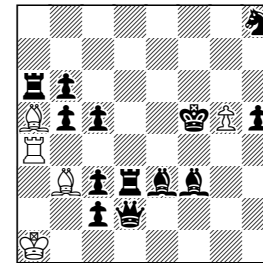
H#2 2 solutions

Toma Garai
2nd Honorable Mention
Phénix 1994



H#2 2 solutions

Toma Garai
3rd Honorable Mention
Phénix 1994



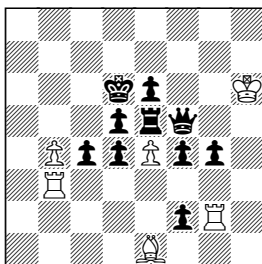
H#3 2 solutions

Dan Meinking, Special Prize, diagrammes 1997 1.Ba1 Ra6! (Rh6?) 2.Rb2 Rh5# 1.Rb1 Rh6! (Ra6?) 2.Bf2 Ra5# (Judge: Garen Yacoubian)

Toma Garai, 2nd Honorable Mention, Phénix 1994 1.Nc6 Be7 2.Qd6+ Kc2# 1.Ne6 Bd6 2.Qc5 Kd2# (Judge: Günter Büsing)

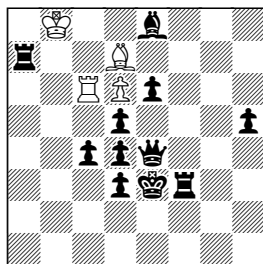
Toma Garai, 3rd Honorable Mention, Phénix 1994 1.Rd5 Bxb6 2.Qd4 Bc7 3.Ke4 Bxc2# 1.Bxg5 Bxc3 2.Qf4 Be1 3.Kg4 Be6# (Judge: Günter Büsing)

Toma Garai
1st Honorable Mention
Suomen Tehtävänäikat 1994



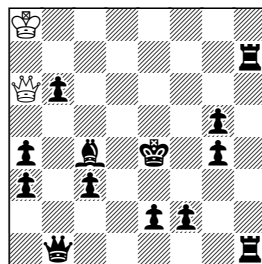
H#3 2 solutions

Toma Garai
2nd Prize
diagrammes 1997



H#3 b) Rc6->b7

Dan Meinking
3rd Honorable Mention
diagrammes 1997



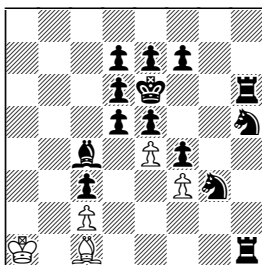
H#3 3 solutions

Toma Garai, 1st Honorable Mention, Suomen Tehtävänäikat 1994 1.Rxe4 Rxf2 2.Ke5 Rxf4 3.Kxf4 Bg3# 1.dxe4 Bxf2 2.Kd5 Bxd4 3.Kxd4 Rd2# (Judges: Thomas Maeder & Bruno Stucker)

Toma Garai, 2nd Prize, diagrammes 1997 1.d2 Rxc4 2.Kd3 Bb5 3.Re3 Rc6# b) 1.Rf4 Bxe6 2.Qf3 Re7 3.Ke4 Bd7# (Judge: Garen Yacoubian)

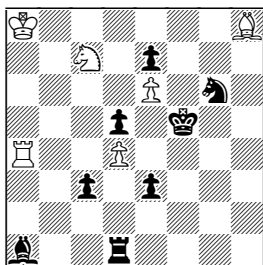
Dan Meinking, 3rd Honorable Mention, diagrammes 1997 1.Kf5 Qb5+ 2.Kg6 Qxb1+ 3.Kh5 Qxh7# 1.Kf3 Qa7 2.Kg2 Qxh7 3.Kf1 Qxh1# 1.Kd3 Qb7 2.Kc2 Qxh1 3.Kb3 Qxb1# (Judge: Garen Yacoubian)

Toma Garai
5th Honorable Mention
Suomen Tehtävänäikat 1994



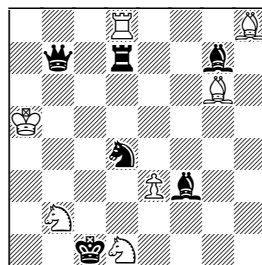
H#3 2 solutions

Toma Garai
4th Honorable Mention
digrammes 1997



H#3 b) Pc3->d3

Mike Prcic
Honorable Mention e.a.
Messigny 1999 (V)



H#2 2 solutions

Toma Garai, 5th Honorable Mention, Suomen Tehtävänäikat 1994 1.Bf1 Bd2 2.cxd2 c4 3.Rf6 cxd5# 1.Nf1 Be3 2.fxe3 f4 3.Nf6 f5# (Judges: Thomas Maeder & Bruno Stucker)

Toma Garai, 4th Honorable Mention, diagrammes 1997 a) 1.Rxd4 Ne8 2.Rg4 Bxc3 3.Rg5 Ng7# b) 1.Bxd4 Nb5! 2.Bf6 Rh4 3.Bg5 Nd4# (Judge: Garen Yacoubian)

Mike Prcic, Honorable Mention, Messigny 1999 1.Nb5 Rxd7 2.Bxb2 Bxb2# 1.Ne2 Bxg7 2.Rxd1 Rxd1#. Annihilation. (Judge: Yves Tallec)



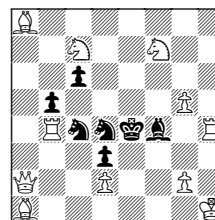
Book Review: F. Chlubna, *Lost Treasures*

by Mike Prcic

FIDE Albums have given us (hopefully) the best chess compositions of the post-1914 era. What about the work done prior to 1914? According to Friedrich Chlubna, who researched old books at length, there is limited documentation on pre-1914 compositions. Much good work was poorly documented. His latest book, *Lost Treasures (Versunkene Schätze)*, is an attempt to collect good compositions from the period 1891-1913 that might have qualified for a FIDE Album, had one been issued then. The book is in German with an English introduction, and it covers twomovers, threemovers, moremovers, selfmates and what we consider today as fairies. At the end of each section there are ten problems to solve. One of the featured composers in his book is Mrs. W. J. Baird (Edith Baird). The most prolific women composer of her time (over 1000 problems), Mrs. Baird remains one of the best known women composers as well. (Four of her problems from the book are shown below.)

To purchase this book, send a registered, opaque letter with \$25 enclosed (checks not recommended due to high bank charges in Europe) to: Friedrich Chlubna, Wilhelmstrasse 37/4, 1120 Wien (Vienna), Austria.

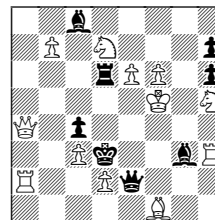
Mrs. W. J. Baird
Montreal Gazette 1892



#2

1.Qb3! (ZZ)
1...Kf5 2.Qxd3#, 1...Nc~ 2.Qe6#
1...Ne5! 2.Nd6#, 1...Nd~ 2.Nd6#
1...Nf5! 2.Bxc6#

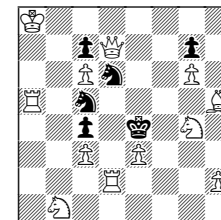
Mrs. W. J. Baird
Leeds Mercury 1892



S#2

1.Qc6! (ZZ), 1...Qxf1+ 2.Nf4+ Qxf4#
1...Rxc6 2.Nc5+ Rxc5#, 1...Rd5+/Rxe6
2.Ne5+ Rxe5#, 1...R(B)xd7 2.Qd5+ Rxd5#,
1...Rd4 2.Nf4+ Rxf4#, 1...Bxb7 2.Qe4+
Bxe4#

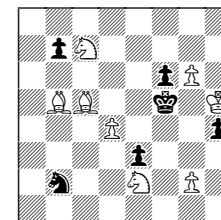
Mrs. W. J. Baird
2nd Prize
Sussex Chess Journal 1891



#2

1.Re2! (ZZ) The key gives two flights!
1...Kd5 2.e4#, 1...Kd3 2.Nf2#
1...Kf3 2.Nf6#, 1...Nc~ 2.Nf2#
1...Nd3! 2.Nd2#, 1...Nd~ 2.Nd2#

Mrs. W. J. Baird
Honorable Mention
Manchester Weekly Times 1895



#3

1.Ne8! (ZZ), 1...b6 2.Bc6 ~ 3.Ng7#
1...N~ 2.Bc4 ~ 3.Nd6#, 1...Nd3! 2.Bd7+
Ke4 3.Nxf6#, 1...Ke6 2.Ng7+ Kd5 3.Nc3#,
1...Ke4 2.Nd6+ Kd5 3.Nf4#, 1...h3 2.Ng3+
Ke6 3.Nc7#; 2...Kf4 3.Bd6#

ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS

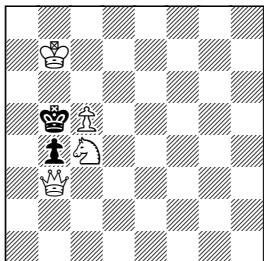
Problems published in this section are eligible for the 1999 competition. Please send your originals to individual editors. All solutions and comments are due by 2/15/2000 and should be sent to the Solutions Editor. The names and addresses of all editors are printed on the last page.

TWOMOVERS

Editor: **Miodrag Mladenovic**, Judge: **Rauf Aliovsadzade**

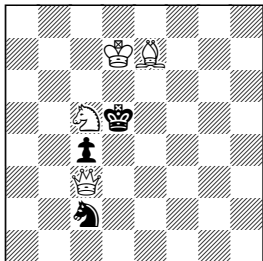
Welcome to the new contributors E. V. Fomichev, Eligiusz Zimmer, Marcel Segers, V. S. Vladimirov, Vyacheslav Kopaev and Zoran Janev. We start with two very nice miniatures. Good key in **T0134**. **T0135** presents double Salazar and Ruchlis with a double black correction. An early Christmas greetings from our fairies sub-editor (**T0136**). **T0137** shows white correction in tries with two changed mates. Black correction play in **T0138**. Fleck theme in **T0139**. Dual avoidance in **T014** and **T0142** by Joe, both of them with some very nice chess problem elements (unpinning, halfpinning, black correction etc.). **T0141** presents "Banny and Ruchlis" themes. Plenty of tries in **T0143** with a combination of several modern themes (Banny, Salazar, Zagoruiko + Ruchlis). Heavy position but very nice white half-battery play. Interesting play in **T0144**.

T0132 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



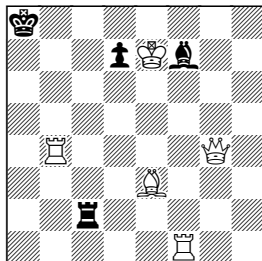
#2

T0132 Eligiusz Zimmer
Poland



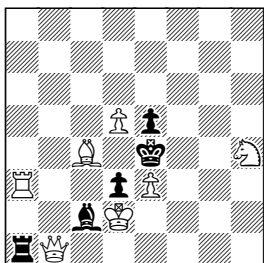
#2

T0134 Zoran Janev
Macedonia



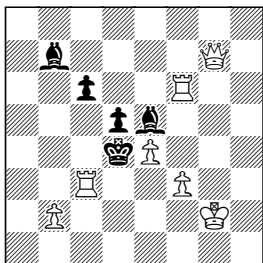
#2

T0135 E.V.Fomichev &
V.S.Vladimirov
Russia



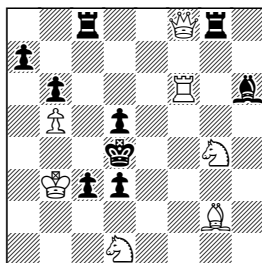
#2√

T0136 Gianni Donati
Princeton, NJ



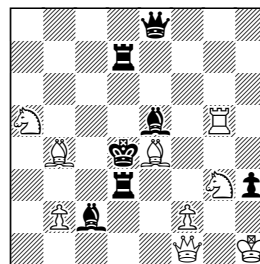
#2

T0137 Mike Prcic
Westlake Village, CA



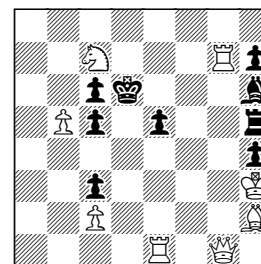
#2√

T0138 David Shire
England



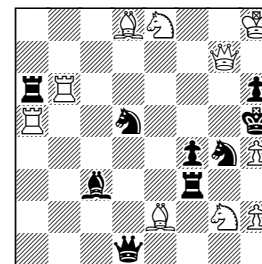
#2

M0139 Zoran Janev
Macedonia



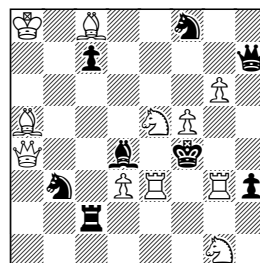
#2

T0140 Joe Youngs
Maple Grove, MN



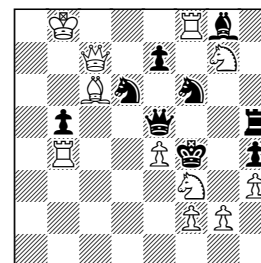
#2

T0141 Efren Petite
Spain



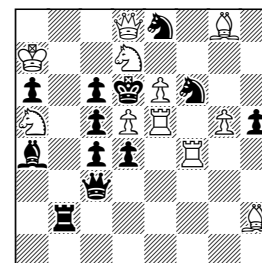
#2√

T0142 Joe Youngs
Maple Grove, MN



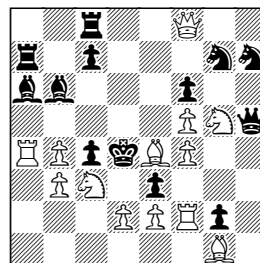
#2

T0143 Vyacheslav Kopaev
Russia



#2√√

T0144 Marcel Segers
Belgium



#2*√

Explanation of symbols

* (asterisk) means a Set Play. In other words, if Black were to play, White would have a mating move. In problems with an asterisk, the Set Play is an integral part of the theme, i.e., without it, the problem would diminish in value or, in some cases, be worthless.

√ (check mark) means a Try Play. There may be one or more White's tries that are refuted by one and only one black move. Again, the Try Play (or Try) is an integral part of the theme.

SG6 Solutions - TWOMOVERS

Comments from Joshua Green (JG), Efen Petite (EP), Paul Steiner (PS), Harry Tamvakis (HT), Israel Tzur (IT),

T0086 (Radchenko) Not 1.d8Q+? Kc5! but **1.d8N+**! For its size, nicely pointed! *Two model mates, but a checking key is unconvincing (EP).*

T0087 (Neyndorff) 1.Qb1+/Qb4+? Kc7! 1.Qd3? Ka8 2.Qa6# 1...Kxc6! So, **1.Qd4!** with star flights.

Good changed model mates (EP).

T0088 (Farion) 1.Nb3? Q~ 2.Rxd2 1...Qxc2 2.Qh5 1...Qb2! **1.Qd5!** Q~ 2.Qxd2# 1... Qxc2 2.Qh1#, 1...Kxc2 2.Qb3# Clever changes and a sparkling key! *Delightful (JG). Nice miniature with changed mates after a flight-giving key (EP).*

T0089 (Lincoln) Tries:1.Qg6? Nxc6! 1.Nxd8? N~ 2.Qc5#, 1...Ne7 2.Ne6# 1...Nd6! 1.Qd7? Nd6 2.Qe7# 1...Nxf7! **1.Ne5!** (2.Ng6#) 1...Nxf7 2.Qxf7#,1...Ne7 2.Nd7#, 1...Ke7 2.f8Q# A wealth of play! *Excellent changed mates. Another beautiful miniature (EP).*

T0090 (Lincoln) 1.Kf8? dP~ 2.Qe7# but 1... f5! **1.Nd3!** Kd5 2.Qxd7#, 1...Ke7 (set) 2.Re4# and changing 1...d6 2.Qf7# and 1...d5 2.Nc5#. With 1...f5 2.Qe5# rounding off a most active miniature. *A very rich and satisfying miniature (HT). Not easy to solve. Another nice miniature from Lincoln (JG). Four different mates with only seven pieces (PS). Waiting setting after a flight-giving key with fine mates (EP).*

T0091 (Rosberger) **1.Rd5!** A pleasing well-rounded sacrificial idea. *Good sacrificial flight-giving key (PS). Elegant key (IT). Pleasant sacrificial key (EP).*

T0092 (Fink) Two unproved flights, but the spiffy key grants two more! **1.Qg1!** (2.Qd4#) 1... Kd6 2.Qc5#, 1...Kf6 2.Nd7#, 1...Kf4 2.Nd3# and 1...Kd5 2.Qc5# Also, 1...Rd6 2.Qg5# *Careful key adding two more flights to bK (EP).*

T0093 (Farion) Set: 1...Kd5(a) 2.Bc4(A) and 1...Kf5(b) 2.Bg4(B). Key: **1.Nxf7!** with new mates for 1...Kd5(a) 2.Nc7# and 1...Kf5(b) 2.Ng7# while old mates are transferred to 1...Kxf7 2.Bc4(A)# and 1...Kd7 2.Bg4(B)#. Classic Ruchlis in its clearest form! *Two changed mates and two mate transferences (PS). Starlights. Nice changes and transfers of mates (IT). Refined Ruchlis theme (EP).*

T0094 (Veliky) 1.Nc7(A)? (threat 2.Ng4# throughout) 1...Rg2(a) 2.Ra5(C); 1...Qxc7 2.Qxe6. 1...Qg8(b)! nor 1.Nb4(B)? Qg8(b) 2.Ra5(C); 1...Rxb4 2.Bh2. 1...Rg2(a)! nor 1.Nb6? Qg8(b) 2.Nc4; 1...Rxb6 2.Bh2. 1... Rg2! Now! **1.Ra5(C)!** Rg2(a) 2.Nc7(A); 1...Qg8(b) 2.Nb4(B). Again changing 1...Rb5 2.Bh2 and 1...Qc5 2.Qxe6. So the primary pattern is: AaC/BbC/CaAbB. Composer claims a huge combination of a 4x2 Zagoruyko (not quite!), 3 Ruchlis + 2 Salazar + 2 Vladimirov themes (??) (and no wPs!). A gargantuan feast! *Delightful achievement – Banny and Ruchlis themes (EP).*

T0095 (Zirkwitz) Set: 1...Re4 2.Nb5 and 1...Rxe5 2.Rc4. 1.Qxe6? (2.Rc4) 1...Re4 2.Nf5 1...Rxe5 2.Qxe5 1...Bxe6 2.Nxe6 1...d3! Key: **1.Qxh7!** (2.Nb5#). 1...Re4 2.Qxe4#, 1...Rxe5 2.Qxd3#, 1...Bxh7 2.Nxe6# The hapless bR-in-a-box is the sole performer in this very attractive Zago-Dombrovskis! *Good 3x2 Zagoruiko. Two Dombrovskis involving set mates ? (PS). Brilliant showing of Zagoruiko – le Grand themes (EP).*

T0096 (Rosberger) **1.Nxb2!** (2.Qxd3) 1... Bxb2 2.Qh1# 1... Rxb3 2.Rc4# 1... Be6+ 2.Rxe6# 1... Rd4 2.Nc3#

T0097 (Petite) Changing set play for 1...Kf5/Qf2/Qg2/Qh2 2.Qe4/Re4/Rxe3/Re5# to **1.Be5!** Kf5 2.Nxe3#, 1...Qf2 2.Rg6#, 1...Qg2 2.Rf6#, 1...Qh2 2.Rxh6#! Somewhat of a symmetrical shift but a good workout for the wR on both axis.

T0098 (Bantush) 1...Bd6! defeats all three tries: 1.c6? (2.Qb4#) 1...a5 2.Bb5#; 1.Sc6? (2.Sa5#) 1...Bxb6 2.Se5; and 1.Bc6? (2.Bd5#) 1...f4 2.Re4#. So, **1.Rc6!** (2.Qe6#). 1...Bd6 2.cxd6# and 1...f4 2.Qe4#. Shown in four opening ploys with at least one variation. *The only problem is*

to find mate after 1...Bd6 (PS). Three tries and the key on the same square (c6) defeated by the same black defense! (EP).

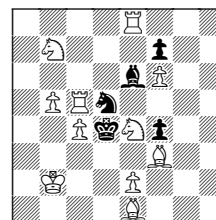
T0099 (Savourin & Cheylan) Set: 1...c4 2.Nxg6#, 1...exd5 2.Nxg6 and 1...cxd4 2.Bf4# A minor try 1.Nb5? c4! Now, after **1.Ndf5!** (2.Qd6#) we see inverse bP correction play: 1...c4 2.Bf4#, 1...exf5 2.Nxg6# and 1...exd5 2.Bf4# *Two good mate transferences (PS). Polished Ruchlis theme (EP).*

T0100 (Rosberger) **1.Bb7!** (2.Rxe4#) An amusing exploitation of each of four pins! *Enjoyable mates with black pieces pinned (EP).*

T0101 (Savourin) Observing the thematic set dual: 1...Rb4/Rb6 2.e3/e4#, we try 1.Rc8? (2.Rf8#) which fixes 1...Rb4/Rb6/Rxb3 with e3#! but not 2.e4? And note 1...Kf1 Rf8. But 1...e4! So, **1.Qb8!** (2.Qf8#) 1...Rxb8/Rb6/Rb4 2.e4# but not 2.e3?. 1...e4 2.Qf4# and changes 1...Kf1 2.Qf8# White anti-dual. *Fine battery mate allowed by opening of white lines (EP).*

T0102 (Lynn) Set: 1...Kd6 2.Bc7 1...Kd4 Rxe4 1...N~ Bc7 1...Nd6 2.Bxf6. **1.Ne3!** (ZZ)1...Kd6 2.Nc4#, 1...Kd4 2.Bxf6#, 1...Bc4+ 2.Nxc4#, 1...N~ 2.Bc7#,1...Nd6 2.Rxc5#, 1...Bb5 2.Rxe4# Correction play by both black pieces in actual play, spiced by K-flights and pinmates. This is a much improved version of the following:

David P. Lynn
5th Commended
Bjame Blikeng 80JT 1995

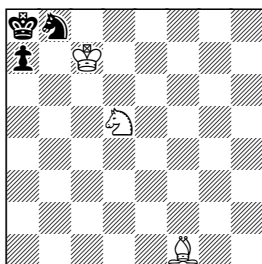


THREEMOVERS

Editor: **Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic**, Judge: **bernd ellinghoven**

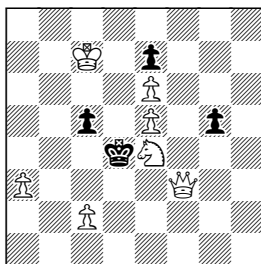
This time we start with an easy miniature that reminds me of an old study by Troitzki, and with another light piece without a particular theme. Next is our old reliable Rosberger with a set of ambush motives that will make solvers happy. After that there are two thematic problems by Makaronez, and then comes real trouble from Szwedowski. This is an unconventional problem with two solutions and with white moves that change in a cyclical manner between the two positions. Finally, the last threemover is mine – an unusual affair that took a lot of effort to compose. It has four thematic variations, and I will let you figure out the theme.

M0114 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



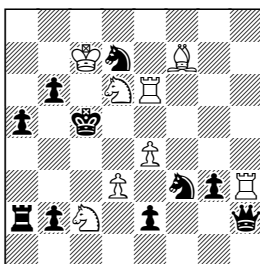
#3

M0115 Alex Markevitch
Jackson, NJ



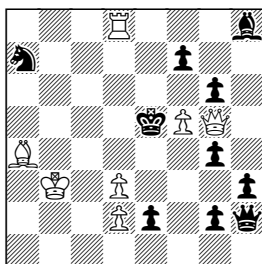
#3

M0116 Jack Rosberger
Miami Beach, FL



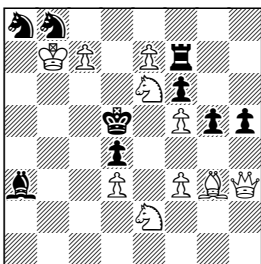
#3

M0117 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



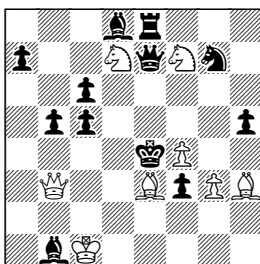
#3

M0118 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



#3

M0119 Leopold Szwedowski
Poland

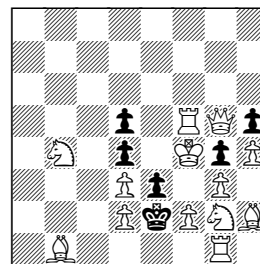


#3 b) Bd8→f8

CORRECTION from SG5.

Satoshi Hashimoto's P0021: 1R1q2nr/3ppk1p/3p1pp1/1p2b2b/B6P/5NP1/1PPPPP/2KQ4
Proof game in 17.5 moves. Solution: 1.h4 g6 2.Rh3 Bg7 3.Rd3 Be5 4.Rd6 cxd6 5.g3 Qa5
6.Bg2 Qxa2 7.Bc6 Qxb1 8.Rxa7 Qxc1 9.Rxa8 Qa1 10.Rxb8 Qa5 11.Qa1 Qd8 12.Qa8
f6 13.Ba4 b5 14.Qh1 Bb7 15.Kd1 Bf3 16.Kc1 Bh5 17.Nf3 Kf7 18.Qd1

M0120 Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
University Heights, OH



#3

SG6 Solutions - THREEMOVERS

Comments from Efen Petite (EP), Harry Tamvakis (HT), Israel Tzur (IT)

M0071 (Rudenko and Marandjuk) **1.c7!** ~ 2.c8Q+ Nc7 3.axb4#. There are two very complex and beautiful thematic variations, like two separate twomovers: 1...Rxc2 2.Ne3! Rd6 3.Nd5#; 1...Rxc4 2.Ne3! Rf6 3.Nf5#. A fantastic achievement. *A beautiful set of variations after 1...Rxc2 and 1...Rxc4 (HT). Fantastic play with black defenses by the Rooks placed in the half-pins line, and continuations and mates by the Knights of the white half battery (EP).*

M0072 (Lynn) A good try is 1.Nc8? Bc5 2.Bd8+!, but it is refuted by 1...Bd4!. The solution: **1.Nb7!** threatens 2.Rd6+ Nxd6 3.Nd8#. The variations are 1...Bd4,Rxa5,d6,d5 2.Bd8+,Nxa5+,Nd8+!,exd5+. *A beautiful problem in the classical style (EP).*

M0073 (Petite) A lot of strategy with beautiful model mates: **1.Qf1!** h1Q 2.Ne6! Qxf1 3.Nec7#. In the two main variations, Black interferes with his Re2, so that White can unpin it: 1...Nc3 2.Qf8!Nxd5 3.Qc8#; 1...Bc3 2.Qf6 Bxd4 3.Nc7#. In the side variation: 1...Bg3 2.Qf3 Rc2 3.Bb7#, Black interferes with his other Rook.

M0074 (Huseinly) Try: 1.Qg7? e5!, and White does not have a tempo move. Thus: **1.Qh8!** e5, and only now 2.Qg7!, with two beautiful mates: 2...Ke6,e4 3.Qg6,Bd7#. In the side variations there is another model mate 1...Kg6 2.Kg4 Kf7 3.Be8#, and a simple 1...Kg5 2.Be4 e5 3.Qh4#. *An absolutely phenomenal find! Elegant! If 1.Qg7? e5! (HT). An elegant miniature! (IT). Wonderful miniature with a spectacular key and model mates (EP).*

M0075 (Markevitch) After many tries, one finds that only one move provides for all mates: **1.Nf6!!** Kb5 2.Ne8! Kxa6,Kxc4,Ka4 3.Nc7,Nd6,Bc6# with first two being models. *It was not easy to find this going away key! (IT).*

M0076 (Markevitch) Some nice Queen moves and a key that gives up two white pieces: **1.Qd5!** fxe2 2.Qh1! Kxg3 3.Qh4#. Also 1...K~ 2.Qxf3. *A good model mate after bK flight (EP).*

M0077 (Kavnatsky and Kapustin) In 1950, Rudenko won the 1st Prize in *Arbajder Skaak* with this famous problem: W: Kb1 Nd3 f3 Bh6 f1 Pc2 g2 B: Kd1 Ne2 Pc3 g3 h7. Mate in three with set play: 1...Nc1, Nf4 2. Nf4, Nc1; and 1...Nd4, Ng1 2.Ng1, Nd4. After the key 1.Bf4! ~ 2.Bxg3, the answers are reciprocally changed: 1...Nc1, Nf4 2.Nxc1, Nxf4, and 1...Nd4, Ng1 2.Nxd4, Nxf1. In the present problem, the theme is the same, but the position is more open and economical. In the set: 1...Na5, Nd2 2.Nxa5, Nxd2, and 1...Nc5, Nc1 2.Nxc5, Nxc1. In the solution **1.e4!** Na5, Nd2 2.Nd2!, Na5!, and 1...Nc5, Nc1 2.Nc1!, Nc5!. The side variation 1...Nd4 2.cxd4. However, do not applaud until you see the next problem by the same authors! *Precious play of opposition between the bN and the wNs, with change of the white continuations of anti-Umnov effects in the solution (EP).*

M0078 (Kavnatsky and Kapustin) In (a): **1.h5!**, with four reciprocal changes after 1...Na5, Ne5; Nb6, Ne3. The changes are of the same type as in the previous problem. However, here we have the twin, and in (b): **1.Kxb6!**, with four other reciprocal changes after Na7, Nd4; Nc7, Nc3. In both positions, stopping the movement of the black Pawn on h6, changes the White's second moves from a simple grab to a squeeze. The motivation for the two different keys is the same: to have the white King in a safe place. It's unbelievable that it was possible to add something so new to this old idea. *The play totally identical to preceding, here in twin (EP).*

M0079 (Nahnybida) **1.Qg3!** (thr. 2.Qg5+) Nd4 2.c4+ Bxc4 3.Nb4#, and 1...Nd6 2.Qe5+ Rxe5 3.Nf4#. Double blocks of squares along the Rook and Bishop lines.

M0080 (Makaronez) The tries: 1.Qxc6? d3!, 1.Rxe7? Kf6!, 1.Bxa5? Rxa2!, are variations after **1.Bd2!** Re3,Be3,Re4 2.Qxc6!,Rxe7!,Bxa5! *Magnificent problem with sharp tries A,B and C, whose moves reappear as continuations in the play (EP).*

M0081 (Makaronez) A very good key, **1.Kg5!** ~ 2.Qd7+, with three nice self-block variations: 1...bxc5,Nc4,Nc6 2.Ne3+,Nb4+,Qxb3+. *A lovely work of traditional style with good continuations and model mates (EP).*

M0082 (Brada) In one solution, **1.Qf1!** (A), the threat is 2.Nxg3+(B) Kd4 3.Qd1#(C). After the defenses, 1...d4 (a) 2. Nxc3+!(E) dxc3 3.Qxc4#, and 1...f4 (b) 2.e8Q! (D) Nc6 3.Qg6#. In the other solution, white moves are cyclically changed: **1.Qd1!** (C) threatens 2.Nxc3+(D) Kf4 3.Qf1#. After defenses: 1...d4 (a) 2.e8Q! (E) Nc6 3.Qxc6#, and 1...f4 (b) 2.Nxg3+(B) fxg3 3.Qxg4#. A complicated affair in an illegal position with nine black pawns. It still amazes me to see what Miroslav and his neighbors can do with cyclical motives. *Nice play, although very symmetrical, but the setting is illegal...9 black Pawns (EP).*

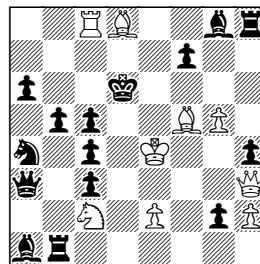
MOREMOVERS and STUDIES

Editor: **Dr. Milan R. Vukceвич**, Judges: #n **Hans Peter Rehm**, Studies **Milan Velimirovic**

To help you, the first fourmover is also mine, and it has some thematic similarity with the three-mover before it. Joselito keeps improving with every issue. This time he is exploring a couple of old themes, with some nice results. This is how all good composers started. They analyzed old themes, found their own settings, and developed their particular implementation techniques. Often they produced partly anticipated problems, but soon they developed completely new ideas, and went their own way, using the methods they learned while emulating classical work. Next is an interesting little piece by our chief editor, and another cyclic wonder from Slovakia. This last one may be partly anticipated, but it is a very good rendering of a well-known theme. Once more, there are two problems by Makaronez followed by a real Gamnitzer. I always wondered how I will introduce him to our readers when he sends me a problem for publication. Well, here it goes. Camillo will always have a very subtle thread going through a problem, but he will always do something to shock you. Most of the time, the mate will be something absolutely impossible to suspect from the initial position. Along the way, his pieces will not shy from conniving, hiding, ambushing, and outright brutality. He is one of my favorite composers, and I enjoy tremendously the challenge of solving his problems. But beware, in a typical Gamnitzer you have to watch very carefully for the best black defenses. Toward the end, Makaronez and Nahnybida show an interesting fore-plan, and Moskowitz a 100 percent classical play. As a matter of fact, the original position was set to look like a real game. I modernized it, added a move, and never changed the author's idea. That poses a serious question about the liberties and responsibilities of an editor. How do I encourage a new composer? This is especially important when the author does not have e-mail. If the problem is not complete, but its idea is good, do I just toss it into the garbage can, or do I make a correction and publish it under the author's name without any further comment? I do the latter, because there is hardly enough time to answer even by e-mail. Up to now, all composers have found that practice very helpful. They analyze the difference between their original and the published position. They learn from that, and I can always notice the improvement in their next set of problems. However, it is possible that somebody may object to being instructed in this manner. If that is the case with some of you, please include a note with your problem, and I will cease and desist! Well, after all this weighty discussion, let me introduce the last two pieces. The problem is a very clear and logical nine-mover from Georgia. It will not be easy to solve, but it will be very enjoyable trying to decode the position.

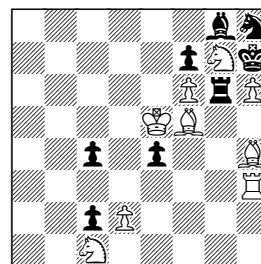
The study is from one of the great composers and chess-players, Pal Benko. Pal is a grandmaster, former candidate for the world championship, one of the most celebrated people in chess, and one of the nicest on the professional circuit. We have competed many times over the board and in composing tournaments, and after 42 years, he still has the upper hand.

M0121 Dr. Milan R. Vukceвич
University Heights, OH



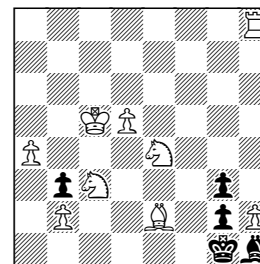
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M0122 Joselito Marcos
Philippines



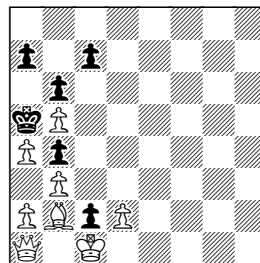
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M0123 Joselito Marcos
Philippines



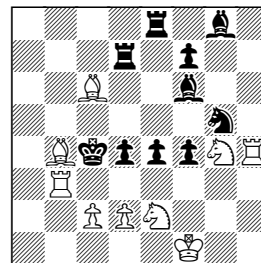
#4

M0124 Mike Prcic
Westlake Village, CA



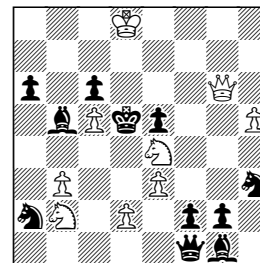
#4√

M0125 Ladislav Polacek
Slovakia



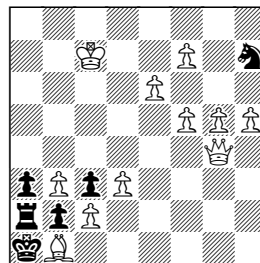
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M0126 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



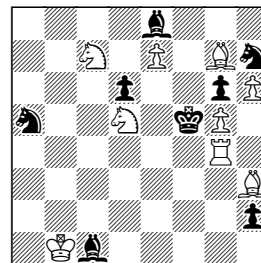
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M0127 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



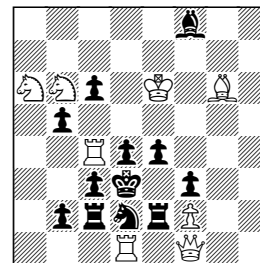
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M0128 Camillo Gamnitzer
Austria



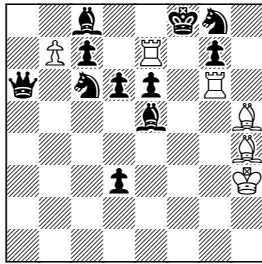
#5

M0129 Leonid Makaronez
and Mykola Nahnybida
Israel and Ukraine



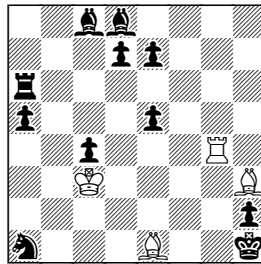
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M0130 Martin Moskowitz
Jamesburg, NJ



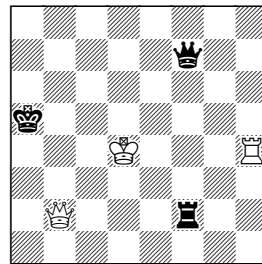
#7

M0131 Ferad Kakabadze
Georgia



#9

E0023 Pal Benko
Jersey City, NJ



Win

SG6 Solutions - MOREMOVERS and STUDIES

Comments from Joshua Green (JG), Efren Petite (EP), Harry Tamvakis (HT), Israel Tzur (IT), Luigi Vitale (LV)

M0083 (Shavyrin) In the set play, the white BR-battery plays a decisive role: 1...e3 2.Nd2+ Ke5 3.Bd6++ Kd4 4.Be5#, and 1...d2 2.Nc2! e3 3.Nd2+ Ke5 4.Bd4#. The key abandons this dangerous looking battery, **1.Ra4!** ~ 2.Ne3+ Ke5 3.Bd6+, and starts a totally new game with the indirect NR-battery: 1...Ne~ Nf5! 2.Nd6+ Nd2+/Ke5 3.Bd4+/Re4+. According to the author, the unifying thread is the significance of squares e3, d2, and d6 in the set and the solution. *Excellent showing of Siers theme (EP).*

M0084 (Deen) A simple affair, that still requires some precision: **1.Bc4!** Ka8 2.Kc7 d6 3.Bd5. *Cute (JG). Very simple play (EP).*

M0085 (Raican) The idea is in the switchbacks of white pieces as they manipulate the e5-square. **1.Rg5!** ~ 2.Rg4+ Kxf5 3.Rg5+ Ke4 4.Nd2#, 1...Bh6 2.Nd2+ Kxe5 3.Nf3+ Ke4 4.Re7#, 1...Bb4 2.Qxb4 Kxd5 3.Qb5+ Ke4 4.Nd2#. Also: 1...Nxd5 2.Rh4+ Nxh4 3.Rg4+ Kxf5 4.Qd7#, 1...Nf4 2.Rh4 Nxd5 3.Rxf4+, 1...Nc4 2.Qxc4 Rb4 3.Rg4+ Kxf5 4.Qc8#. *Pleasant activity of the wQ and the wRs in continuations and mates (EP).*

M0086 (Makaronez) An interesting find: **1.Qe4!** ~ 2.Rxc6+ Kb5 3.Qc4+ Ka5 4.Ra6#, with a diagonal echo after: 1...Kd6 2.Rxc6+ Kd7 3.Qe6+ Kc8 4.Rc8#. The side variation is a nice addition: 1...Kb5 2.Qxc6+ Kb4 3.Rb6+ Ka3, Ka5 4.Qa8, Qb5#, and all without duals. *A beautiful miniature with good model mates (EP).*

M0087 (Makaronez) A lot of well-known model mates, but nicely put together: **1.d5!** ~ 2.Qe6+ Kc7 3.Qc6+ Kd8 4.Bf6#, 1...a6! 2.Qc6+! Ke7 3.Qe6+ Kd8, Kf8 4.Bb6, Bh6#, 1...Kxd5 2.Qd7+ Kc4 3.Qc6+ Kb4 4.Qc5#, and 2...Ke5 3.Bd4+ Kf4 4.Qf7#. *Pretty model mates (EP).*

M0088 (Makaronez, Marandjuk, Nahnybida) A great switch-back problem with a very tightly unified thematic play in two variations. **1.Kh6!** ~ 2.Bxf5+ Kxf5 3.Nd6+. The star defenses are 1...Ng3 2.Nf2+ Kxf4 3.Qg4+!! Qxg4 4.Nd3#, and 1...Nc4 2.Nc3+ Kxd4 3.Qd5+!! Qxd5 4.Nb5#. A lot of wood, but it is still amazing that it was possible to materialize this idea. *Interesting play with nice sacrificial wQ continuations (EP).*

M0089 (Formanek) A nice little trick - or two. When White is on the move, he check-mates by a surprising **1.Qb1!** Kxg4 2.f3+ Kxf3 3.g4, or, 2...Kxh5 3.Qb8!. This last one explains why 1.Qc2? and Qd3+ are not solutions. Other variations: 1...a2, exd5 3.Qd1+ Ke4 3.f3+, and 1...e5 2.Qd1+ Ke4 3.f5+!. Also 1...Ke2 2.f5! Kd2 3.f3+, and not 2.f3+? Kxf3, and because White has one Rook more than in the first variation, he cannot now play 3.g4. This all is rather precise for an illegal joke. When Black is on the move, he check-mates by gobbling up all of the white wood that endangered him before: **1.exf5!** ~ 2.fxg4 ~ 3.gxh3, and finally 4.hxg2#.

All White can do is watch. Note that 1. gxf5? does not solve because White untangles with 1...g6! *I have never seen a duplex in a direct mate before. Compliments to Mr. Formanek (LV). Valuable play by the Pawns in both parts of the duplex (EP).*

M0090 (Golubenko) After the obvious **1.Bb3!** (threat 2.Ba2+ Ka1 3.Bg8+) Bg6!, follows a subtle 2.Ra7!, so that either white Bishop gets the black one with a standard method like 2...Be4 3.Ba2+ Ka1 4.Bd5+, or the white Rook becomes active after 2...Bh7 3.Rxh7! Ka1 4.Ra7+ Kb1 5.Bc2#. A nice surprise in such a small package.

M0091 (Johandl) The thematic try is refuted by two Queen promotions: 1.Bh5? Rg7 2.Nfe6 a1Q!, c1Q!. In the solution those two Pawns are forced to promote into Knights, so that the thematic try can be activated: **1.Be2!** c1N 2.Bd1! a1N 3.Bh5! Rg7 4.Nfe6 Nd3 5.Rf4+ Nxf4 6.Nd4#. A very clean and nice logical problem. Typical Johandl art. *A pleasure to solve such problems! White gradually chips away at Black's defenses, forcing two Knight promotions to boot (HT). Great! The first two Bishop moves render helpless the formidable looking black Pawns and the Rook sacrifice ensures the necessary selfblocks (IT).*

M0092 (Prcic) The immediate 1.Qd8? Qc1!, is not good. Thus, **1.Be7!** Qg6 2.Qd8 Bb6 3.Bb4! Qg1 4.Bc3+ Qd4 5.Bxd4+ Bxd4 6.Qxc7#, or 2...Ba1 3.Kb4 Qg7 4.Kc4! Qxe7 5.Qxe7, and 2...Bc3! 3.Bc5 Qg7 4.Qd3! Qg1 5.Qxc3+. A very active position! *Simple and ingenious! (LV). Delicate problem (IT).*

M0093 (Makaronez) Direct approach does not work: 1.Rg8? c4!, and after the preparatory 1.Nc4? follows 1...Rd1+. So another preparation is necessary: **1.Rh7!** Rxh4 2.Nc4! bxc4, and only now 3.Rh8 f5 4.Rf8 fxe4 5.Rf6+ Kd5 6.Rd6#, or 3...f6 4.Rf8 fxe5 5.f5+ Kd6 6.Rf6#. Nice finish with blocks by the black Pawn.

M0094 (Makaronez) This is a grand clearing house - a sale to make space for the white Queen that will appear on h8: **1.Kd7+!** Kb7 2.Qb8+! Kxb8 3.Rf8+ Kb7 4.Rb8+! Kxb8 5.Rf8+ Kb7 6.Rb8+! Kxb8 7.h8Q+ Kb7 8.Qb2#. A sequence of clearance sacrifices on a same square has been done before but the motivation is different in this problem. *Not new but always interesting (LV).*

M0095 (Wakashima) This unbelievable problem has six sequential en passant captures: **1.b4!** cxb3 e.p. 2.c4 dxc3 e.p. 3.d4+ exd3 e.p. 4.e4 fxe3 e.p. 5.f4+ gxf3 e.p. 6.g4 hxg3 e.p. 7.Nxf3+ Ke4 8.Nxc3#. All other defenses end in shorter mates (1...Qxc2 2.bxc5 Qa4+ 3.Kb7, 1...c3 2.Qxa2 cxd2 3.bxc5 Rb3 4.Qxb3 Kf6 5.Qf7+ Kxg5 6.Qg6#, and 2...Qxd2 3.Qg7+ Kf5 4.Qg6+ Ke5 5.Sf7#), but they are just constructional necessities. I saw others try this with any number of sequential captures, and the ingenuity of construction never ceased to amaze me. However, Wakashima-san uses less white material than those problems stored in my memory. *Quite economical for such a task (HT). Welcome Mr. Wakashima! (LV).*

E0014 (Rossi) This is an exceptionally nice battle that transfers from one corner to the other. **1.Nxc3! Nb4!!** (1...Nxc3 2.Bd4 wins easily) **2.Ba7!!** (moves the Bishop out of danger and guards the b8-square) **Nxa6 3.Nd5! Ka2 4.Kxc2 Ka3 5.Kc3 Ka4 6.Kc4 Ka5 7.Bb6+! Ka4 8.Bd8! Nb8** (8...Ka3 9.Kb5 Nb8 10.Nb6 with 11.Bd6 wins) **9.Nb6+ Ka5!** (again, 9...Ka3 10.Kb5 wins) **10.Nd7+ Ka6! 11.Nc5+!!** (not 11.Nxb8? Kb7 12.Nd7 Kc8 and draw) **Ka7 12.Kb5 Ka8 13.Bb6!** (avoiding the last trap: 13.Kb6? Nd7+! 14.Nxd7 stalemate).

E0015 (Topko) White wins by forcing black King into the corner: **1.Bf3! Rh8 2.Bd2+ Kh7 3.Kf7 Rc8** (3...d5 4. Bg4!) **4.Be4+ Kh8 5.Bg5! Rc6! 6.Bf4! Re6** (6...Rc5 7.Bh6, or 6...d6 7.Bxc6) **7.Bd3! Re1** (the only move available) **8.Bd2**, followed by **9.Bc3+**, and White check-mates.

E0016 (Topko) This is the sister study of the previous one. It ends with the same material, but with a different solution. **1.Rh8 h1Q 2.Rxh1 Rxh1 3.Be3+! Kb1 4.Kb3!**, and now **4...Ka1 5.Bd4+ Kb1 6.Be4+ Kc1 7.Be3+ Kd1 8.Bxf3+, or 4...Rd1 5.Be4+ Ka1 6.Bc2 f2 7.Bxd1 f1Q 8.Bd4+ Kb1 9.Bc2+ Kc1 10.Be3#, or 4...Rh4 5.Bxb5 Rg4 6.Bd3+ Ka1 7.Bd2**, etc.

E0017 (Raican) This one is full of surprises and it is nearly without solution. The main variation is: **1.gxf7 Rg3+! 2.Kf4! Rh3!! 3.Nc6+ Kf8 4.Rxh3 e5+ 5.Kg5 Bxh3 6.Kf6 Bf5! 7.Nxe5 a3 8.Kxf5 Ke7! 9.Kg6 a2 10.Kg7 a1Q 11.f8Q+ Ke6 12.Qf6+ Kd5 13.Qf3+ Ke6! 14.Qc6+ Kf5 15.Qf6+ Ke4 16.Qf3+ Kd4 17.Nc6#** - a check-mate by the unpinned Knight! The side variation is when Black attempts to stop the white Pawn's promotion by putting the Rook on

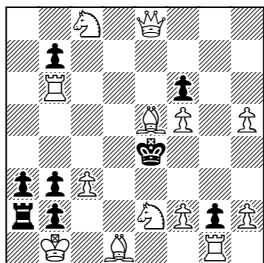
the f-file. Author gives **1...Rg5 2.Rh8 Rf5 3.Re8+ Kd7 4.f8Q Rxf8 5.Rxf8 a3 6.Nf7! a2 7.Ne5+ Kd6 8.Nxc4+ Kd5 9.Nb6+ Kb6 10.Rxc8+ Kxb6 11.Ra8** and wins. But there is also **1...Rg3+ 2.Kf4 Rf1! 3.Rh8 Rf1+**, and Black gained a crucial tempo. Fortunately, there is a better way: **3.Nc6+ Kf8 4.Ne5 Ke7!! 5.Rh8 Rf1+ 6.Ke3 Bb7 7.f8Q+ Rxf8 8.Ng6+ Kf6 9.Nxf8 Kg7 10.Rh7+ Kxg6 11.Rxb7** and wins. There are a few other branches, but they all work for White, making this beautiful study sound!

SELFMATES

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

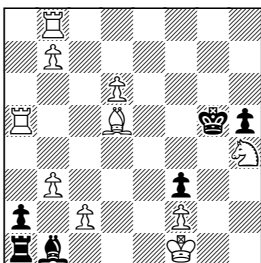
The problems by Kopaev and Buka have a similar theme. The first one is more complex, while the intention in the other one is much clearer. Iwanow's is a modern threemover, while Fomichev's is a classical piece with all the possibilities of the scheme carefully exploited. And then, again, a real Gamnitzer! For comments, please see the previous section. A Gamnitzer is a Gamnitzer, irrespective of the problem type! The three long selfmates are all beautiful problems with very systematic play. Once you discover the method of each one, you will proceed with little trouble.

S0069 Viacheslav Kopaev
Russia



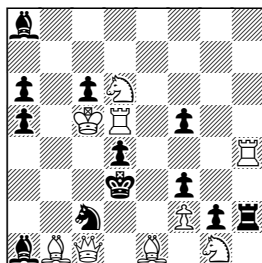
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S0070 V.V. Buka
Russia



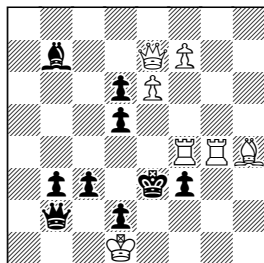
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S0071 Eugeniusz Iwanow
Poland



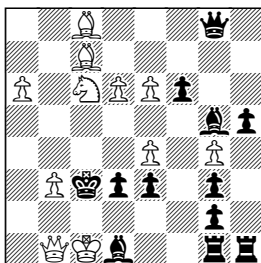
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S0072 Evgenij Fomichev
Russia



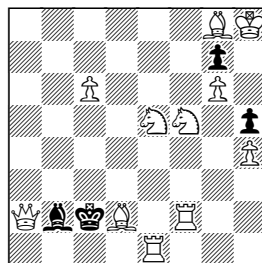
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S0073 Camillo Gamnitzer
Austria



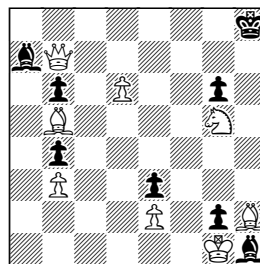
S#5

S0074 Leonid Makaronez
Israel



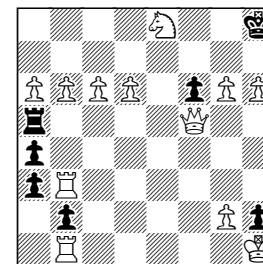
S#12

S0075 Vladimir Chernous
Ukraine



S#12

S0076 S. Tkachenko,
N. Rezvov & V. Chernous
Ukraine



S#21

SG6 Solutions – SELFMATES

Comments from Luigi Vitale (LV)

S0044 (Dugas) **1.Nc5? Qxa4!** Rather, **1.Nf8!** (ZZ) **1...exd6 2.cxb8N+ Rxb8#; 1...N~ 2.Rxa6+ Nxa6#; 1...Nd5!** (or **1...Qxa4**) **2.Bd7+ Nxd7#**. Tight quarters where Black must concede one of three unguards.

S0045 (Smimov) **1.Bh3!** (**2.Rd5+ Rxd5#**). **1... Rxe5 2.Ne4+ 1...Rxf6/hxg5 2.Re6+ Rxe6/Kxe6#; 1...Bxf6 2.Rxc6+; 1...Nxc3 2.Nxb5+ .** Cook try **1.Bf1? Rxe5!** Wonderful action involving the e5R.

S0046 (Petite) **1.Bb8!** **Bc5 2.Qc7+ Nxc7 3.Nd7+ Bxd7#** or **1...Nc7 2.Qc5+ Bxc5 3.Nd7+ Bxd7#**. The short threat (**2.Qe6+**) is the easiest way of luring the defenses, both reciprocally masking the b8-h2 diagonal.

S0047 (Whiteley) **1.Bf2!** (**2.Nc5+ Kc3 3.exd4+ Bd3#**). **1...dxe3 2.Rxd5+ Bd4 3.Rxd7 Bc2#** or **1...dxe4 2.Rxd4+ Bxd4 3.Rd6 Bc2#**. A mock bP-halfpin dissolves only to freeze the bB on that line.

S0048 (Makaronez) **1.N6xa5!** (**2.Bc5+ Kxc5 3.Qe5+ fxe5#**). **1...Rxb5 2.Nxb6+ Rxb6 3.Qe5+; 1...Rxb3 2.Bxb6+ Rxd3 3.Qe5+ fxe5#**. The halfpin of White twice follows a similar threat. **1...fxg4 2.e4+ Bxe4 3.Qxe4+ Qxe4#** give a bit of depth.

S0049 (Makaronez) **1.Ne6!** (**2.Rb4+ Rxh7 3.Rxb3+ Qxb3 4.Qxc2+.**) **1...d5 2.Nc5+ Kc3 3.Nxb3+ Kxb3 4.Qxc2+; 1... Rxh7 2.Re3+ fxe3 3.Qd5+ Kc3 4.Qd2+.** Pleasing open-board play all aimed at tickling the web of the spider bQ.

S0050 (Alaikow) **1.Ba8!** (**2.Qa7+ Kxc4 3.Qc7+ Kd4 4.Qb6+ Kc4 5.Qxb5+ Kd4 6.Qxd3+ Qxd3#**). **1...Qa1 2.Ne6+ Kxc4 3.Nxf4+ Kd4 4.Ne6+ Kc4 5.Ng5+ Kd4 6.Nf3+ Nxf3#; 1...bxc4 2.Rd5+ Kxe4 3.Rdx5+ Kd4 4.Rd5+ Kd4 5.Rdf5+ Kd4 6.Rxf4+ Qxf4#**. Difficult to see both defenses, which entice new batteries, different bK-two-steps and clearances. *An evergreen (LV).*

S0051 (Csak) **1.Kc4!** **c5 2.Rg8+ Kxf7 3.Kxc5+ Re6 4.Bb4 Kxg8 5.c8Q+ Kf7 6.Nh8+ Ke7 7.c4 Rxe5#** Careful maneuvering using pinning to nudge the bR into the "right" pin!

S0052 (Kirtley) **1.Nf3!** **exf3 2.Nb4 fxe2 3.Rc7+ Kd6 4.Qf6+ Be6 5.Qe7+ Ke5 6.Rc4+ Rd6 7.Qg5+ Bf5#** or **1...e3 2.Bd6+ Kxd5 3.Ng5+ Re4 4.Qf5+ Kd4 5.Rd3+ Bxd3 6.Bb4+ Kc4 7.Qe6+ Rxe6#**. The spectacular key introduces both white and black reciprocal battery formations. This feat rivals the masterpieces of Petkov, who specializes in altered battery play.

S0053 (Schreckenbach & Zucker) White would like to go with **1.Kb3? c4+ 2.Ka3 c5 3.Nxa2 Rxa2#** but **2...cxd3!** So, he must first dump that nasty Rook: **1.Qe1! Kc2 2.Rc3+ Kb1(Kb2) 3.Rb3+ Kc2 4.Rb2+ Kxb2 5.Qc3+ Kb1 6.Kb3 c4+ 7.Ka3 c5 8.Nxa2 Rxa2#**.

S0054 (Bernleitner & Wenda) **1.Ne1!** **Kc5 2.Rdd8 Kc4 3.f8B! Kc3 4.Ba3 Kc4 5.Bf7+ Kc3 6.Qa1+! Nxa1 7.Bc1 N~ 8.Bg7+ Nd4+ 9.Kd1 e2#**. Magnificent W-footwork to draw Black

into a position that seems temptingly obvious - but getting there isn't! 6.Qa1+ is a brilliant tempo-maker.

S0055 (Muller) **1.Ng3+!** Kg1 2.Rd1+ Kf2 3.Qf4+ Bf3 4.Ne4+ Ke2 5.Nc3+ Kf2 6.Qd2+ Be2 7.Qd4+ Kf3 8.Qf6+ Ke3 9.Nd5+ Ke4 10.Qe6+ Kf3 11.Qg4+ Kf2 12.Qh4+ Kf3 13.Rf1+ Bxf1#. Compare to S0013 (here, a twin: wRe6 to d6, and extended 4 moves!) with major differences in the solution. Escorting the bK is so subtle that the play is almost tranquilizing. *One of the best of this issue (LV).*

S0056 (Caillaud) **1.b4!** Ka7 2.b6+ Ka8 3.b7+ Ka7 4.b8N Ka8 5.b5 Ka7 6.Nc6+ Ka8 7.Ne7+! Ka7 8.c6! Ka8 9.Kb6! Kb8 10.c7+ Ka8 11.Kc6 Ka7 12.Nd5! Ka8 13.c8Q+ Ka7 14.Qc7+ Ka8 15.Qe5 Ka7 16.b6+ Ka8 17.b7+ Ka7 18.b8B+ Ka8 19.Bd6 Ka7 20.e7 Ka8 21.Qe6 Ka7 22.Nc7! Kb8 23.Nb5+ Ka8 24.Kd7 Kb7 25.Qd8 Bxb5#. An exceptionally tough problem with three promotions and an unexpected center-board mate - all in a light setting.

HELPMATES

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

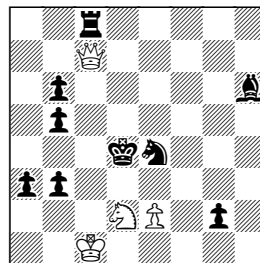
A number of composers make their debut in this issue: Arpad, Abdelaziz, Franz, Leopold, Roland, Valeri, Noam, Bernd, and Jozsef. To all of you: Take a Bow! And to our solvers, my "advance apologies" for the 22 moremovers, but I believe you'll be pleasantly surprised, or at least entertained, by most of them.

Arpad's new book, *Helpmate Problems*, is a must-have for every enthusiast! All the twomovers have their good points, with particularly strong effects in **H0237** and **H0240**. Threemovers are highlighted by **H0245** and **H0246**, with correspondence to the *n*th degree. Josh has beautifully re-worked his H0149 (H#2) in SG6, while Valeri adds new "punch" to an old cocktail. Of the middle moremovers, two stem from the *SG2TT* and three from my "Challenge" in SG7. Good solving! The dynamic duo of **H0255** surely will not disappoint, nor will Anatoly with his heroic pair. Good to have three of America's finest - Edgar, Aurel, and Pal in one batch! Has anyone seen a *longer* version of Reinhardt's theme?

Notes: **H0231**, **H0262**, and **H0270** all contain set-play, as indicated by the (*). White moves first in the halfmovers: **H0241**, **H0249**, **H0250**, **H0255**, **H0261** and **H0264**. The "zero-position" in **H0239** means the diagram is *not* for solving; both twins require a change from the diagram. The "NWK" in **H0257** and **H0265** means No White King is used. The NWK problems do not compete for the SG Informal Tourney awards, but are presented here for the new possibilities they avail.

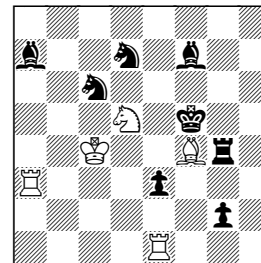
Correction. In SG7, **H0200** should have stipulated "4 solutions" instead of 2.

H0232 Dan-Constantin Gurgui
Romania



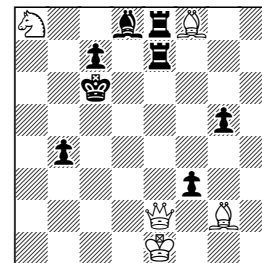
H#2 2 solutions

H0233 Abdelaziz Onkoud
& Vito Rallo
Morocco/Italy



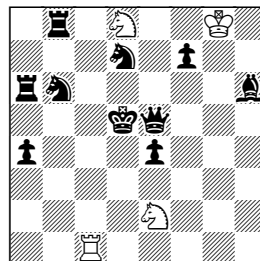
H#2 b) Ra3→a8

H0234 K. Muralidharan
India



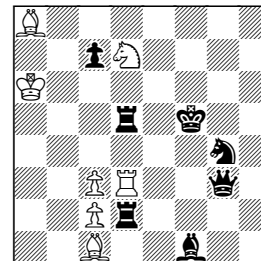
H#2 2 solutions

H0235 Christer Jonsson
Sweden



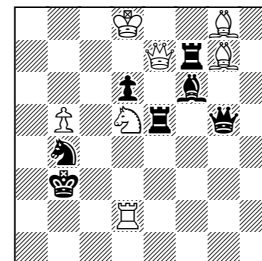
H#2 3 solutions

H0236 Mark Pevsner
Israel



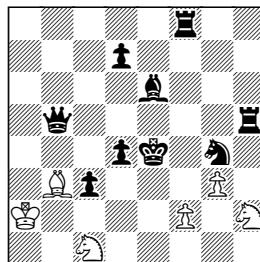
H#2 2 solutions

H0237 Franz Pacht
Germany



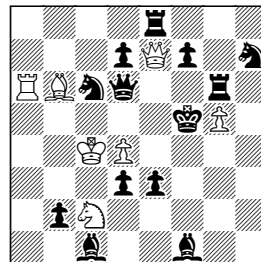
H#2 b) Nd5→d1

H0238 Joe Youngs
Maple Grove, MN



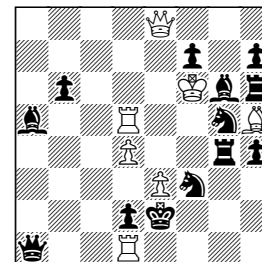
H#2 4 solutions

H0239 Mykola Nahnybida
Ukraine



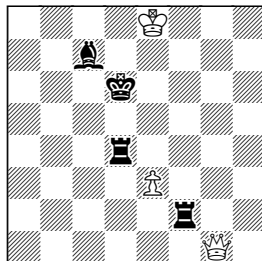
H#2 zero-position
a) -Pd4 b) Pg5→h4

H0240 Leopold Szwedowski
Poland



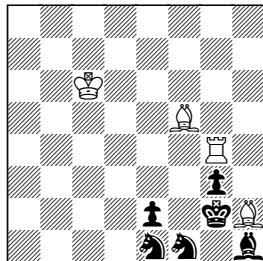
H#2 b) Rd1→f1

H0229 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



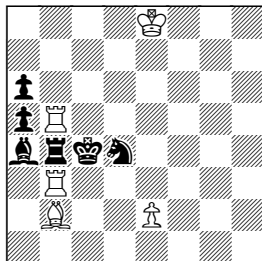
H#2 b) -Bc7

H0230 Arpad Molnar
Hungary



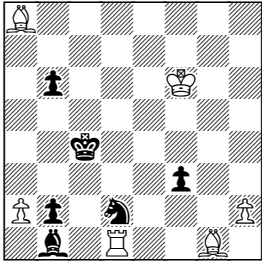
H#2 b) bBe1

H0231 Tode Ilievski
Macedonia



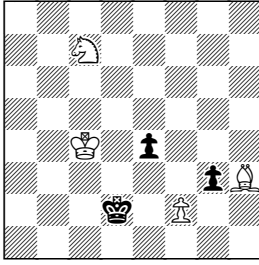
H#2*

H0241 Christer Jonsson
Sweden



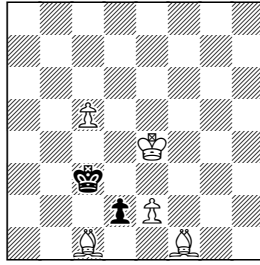
H#2½ 2 solutions

H0242 Albert Grigoryan
Armenia



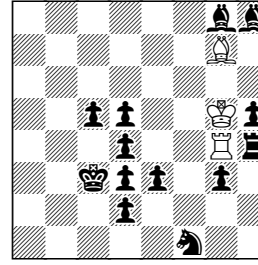
H#3 b) bK→d6

H0243 Robert Bales
Broadview, IL



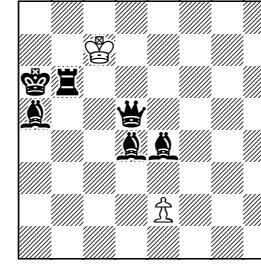
H#3 b) Bc1→e1

H0250 Valeri Gurov
Russia



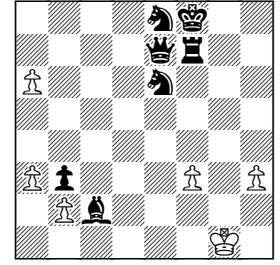
H#3½ b) bK→c4

H0251 Noam Livnat
Israel



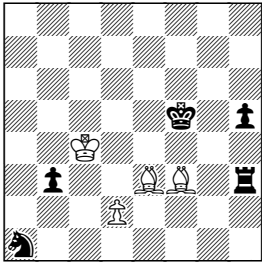
H#4 b) Ba5→b7, c) & -Be4
Three black Bishops

H0252 Aurel Karpati
& Rolf Wiehagen
USA/Germany



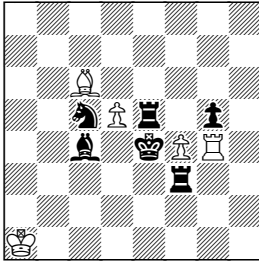
H#4 2 solutions

H0244 Mykola Nahnybida
& Olexandr Sobchuk
Ukraine



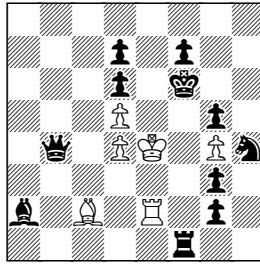
H#3 b) wK→c5

H0245 Zivko Janevski
Macedonia



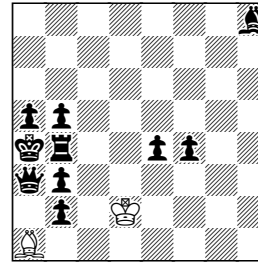
H#3 b) Pg5→d6

H0246 Vladislav Nefedov
& Rolf Wiehagen
Russia/Germany



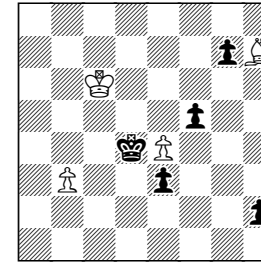
H#3 b) bNg4

H0253 Alexander Toger
Israel



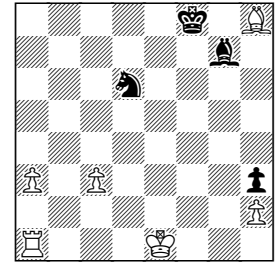
H#4 3 solutions

H0254 Christopher Jones
England



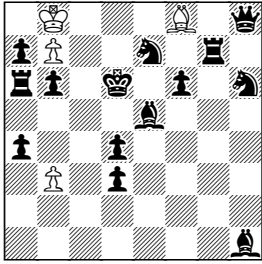
H#4

H0255 Fadil Abdurahmanovic
& bernd ellinghoven
Bosnia /Germany



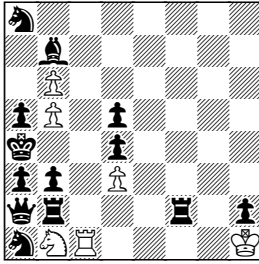
H#4½ (try)

H0247 Roland Lecomte
France



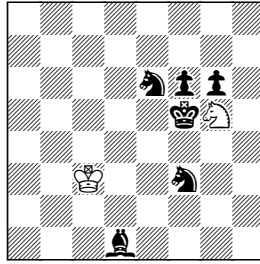
H#3 4 solutions

H0248 Tode Ilievski
Macedonia



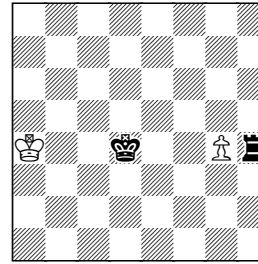
H#3 2 solutions

H0249 Joshua Green
Phoenix, AZ



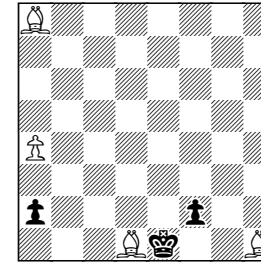
H#3½ 2 solutions

H0256 Edgar Holladay
Carmel, IN



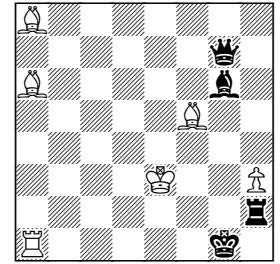
H#5 b) Pg4→c4

H0257 Gianni Donati
Princeton, NJ



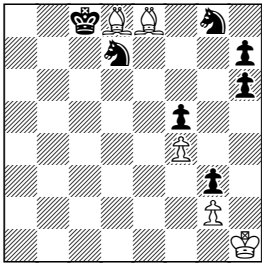
H#5 NWK
Three white Bishops

H0258 Gianni Donati
Princeton, NJ



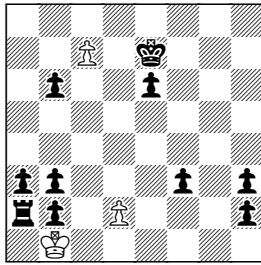
H#5 Three white Bishops

H0259 Anatoly Stepochnik
Russia



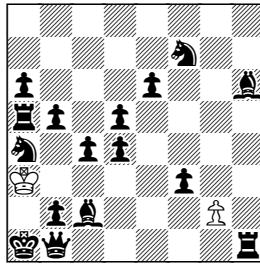
H#5

H0260 Jozsef Hutya
Hungary



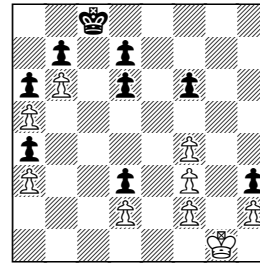
H#5

H0261 Anatoly Stepochnik
Russia



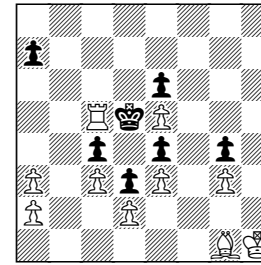
H#5½

H0268 Pal Benko
Jersey City, NJ



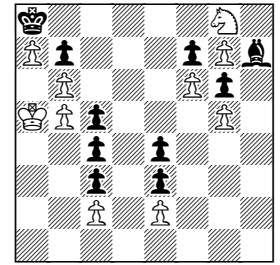
H#10 2 solutions

H0269 Reinhardt Fiebig
Germany



H#11

H0270 Vladimir Janal
Czech Republic

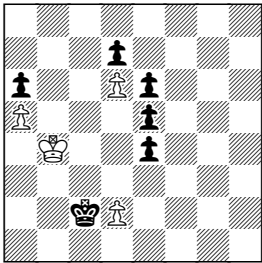


H#17*

SG6 Solutions - HELPMATES

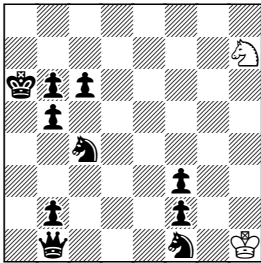
Comments from Harry Tamvakis (HT), Joshua Green (JG), Israel Tzur (IT), Efren Petite (EP), Luigi Vitale (LV), Danny Dunn (DD), Rolf Wiehagen (RW)

H0262 Christopher Jones
England



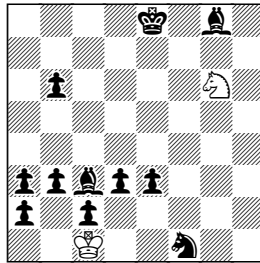
H#6*

H0263 Rashid K. Hatiamov
Russia



H#6

H0264 Michel Caillaud
France



H#7½

H0147 (Grigoryan) 1.Bf3 Be3 2.Be4 f4# 1.f4 f3 2.Bf5 Bf6# Ideal-mates, with change of e4/e5/f4/f5 guards and blocks. *Excellent harmony in the play of Bishops (EP).*

H0148 (Bales) 1.Rb8 Rxa7 2.Rd8 Nf6# 1.0-0-0 Rb6 2.Rxd7 Rb8# Tempo and castling motifs; capture of first-line mating unit in the second line. *Nice black play of castling and one waiting bR move (EP).*

H0149 (Green) a) 1.Nd5 Nf6 2.Ncd7 Ne4# b) 1.Ne6 Nc5 2.Nfd7 Nb7# Simple, but elegant follow-my-leader sequences with model mates. *Charming variations, Umnov and model mates, with all work for the horse! (EP).*

H0150 (Csak) a) 1.Qb8 0-0 (Rf1?) 2.Qe5 d8Q# b) 1.Ne7 0-0-0 (Rd1?) 2.Re5 d8N# Castling with familiar dual-avoidance logic, combined with changed battery-promotion mates. *Pleasing (JG). Refined achievement of white castlings with promotions (EP).*

H0151 (Frantsov/Rallo) 1.Rec6 Be4 2.Be6 Bg6# 1.Bc6 Bd5 2.Re4 Bf7# Unpins of White, and Black self-shutoffs. *Tricky (JG). Nice line closings by Black (IT). Clever black mutual interceptions between Rook and Bishop arranged with wB unpins (EP).*

H0152 (Aliovsadzade) a) 1.dxc4 Nd5 2.Qc5 Rd1# b) 1. exf4 Ne5 2.Qf5 Re1#. Zilahi captures and echoed mates, but very symmetrical. *I like the mating pattern (DD). A bit symmetrical chameleon-echo mates (IT). Pleasant black maneuvers of annihilation combined with self-blocks and model echo mates (EP).*

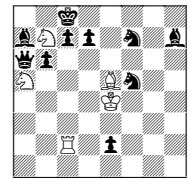
H0153 (Drazkowski) 1.Kd4 Nx d5 2.Kd3+ Nc3# 1.Nc8 Bxd5 2.Na7+ Bg8#. Black shutoff-unpin and White battery-arming keys, leading to double-switchback cross-check models. *Nice ideas (DD). Interesting switchbacks on both sides (IT). Brilliant Black-White switchback moves and white unpins (EP).*

Compare to the diagram on the right with the solution:

- 1.Qb5 Bxc7 2.Qe5+ Bxe5#
- 1.c6 Nxc6 2.Qa5 Nxa5#
- 1.c5 Nxc5 2.Qb7+ Nxb7#

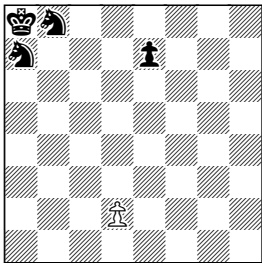
H0154 (Apro) a) 1.Rxf8+! (Qxd8?) exf8N 2.Rg6 Nh7# b) 1.Qxd8+! (Rxf8?) exd8N 2.Rh5 Nf7# Promoted Ns replace diagrammed Ns, minus the pin! Unfortunately, this is **self-anticipated** (see the diagram next page). Solutions unchanged, except for 2.Nh5 in b). Compare also to: V. Bene, Comm., **Thema Danicum** 1995,

Almiro E. Zarur
1st Commendation
USPB 1993



H#2 3 solutions

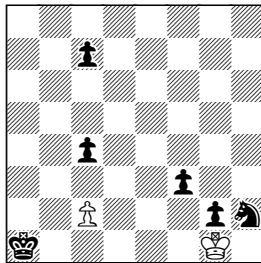
H0265 Aurel Karpati
Hollywood, CA



H#8

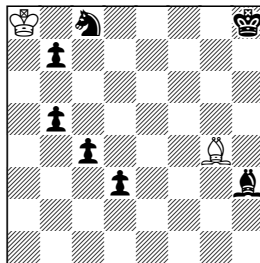
NWK

H0266 Luigi Vitale
Italy



H#8

H0267 Luigi Vitale
& Rolf Wiehagen
Italy/Germany



H#8 b) Pb5→d6

rNKQ2r1/1nP3p1/bq6/k7/p7/n5b1/8, and M. Caillaud, 1st Prize, *Olympic Tourney* 1984, 4BbNK/4nP1p/4k2r/2P1n3/q3p1r/8/4n3/8.

H0155 (Jonsson) a) 1.Nxd4 Ra4 2.Nf3 Bxd3# b) 1.Nxd5 Bb7 2.Nxf4 Re5# Nice anticipatory line-opening & occupation, ending in pin-models. *Fine play on both sides (IT). Enjoyable Black's strategy of preventing pins (EP).*

H0156 (Babic) 1.Qc3 Rb4+ 2.Kxb4 Qb1# 1.Qd5 Rc4 2.Kxc4 Qd3# Matched line-openings and closings, with flight-unguards leading to pin-mates. *Active sacrifice of wR after line-opening anticipatory selfpin by bQ (RW). Funny. The bQ anticipates the wR sacrifice (IT). Stimulating achievement of sacrificial wR moves with black preventive pins (EP).*

H0157 (Nahnybida) a) 1.Qc6 (Rc6?) Qc2 (Qb1?) 2.Qh6 e3# b) 1.Rc6 (Qc6?) Qd2 (Qc1?) 2.Rg6 e4# Dual-avoidance effects motivated by the need to open and close the correct lines; battery model-mates.

H0158 (Youngs) 1.Rf5 a3 2.Qxc6 Rxf5# 1.Ne7 a4 2.Rxc6 Bxe7# Echoed self-unpins and self-pins, ending with double pin-models. Compare to the diagram on the right, which uses line-opening/closing key effects: 1.Ng6 Rxf5 A 2.Rxa6 Bc7# B 1.Ng2 Bc7 B 2.Qxa6 Rxf5# A

H0159 (Ersek) a) 1.Nx(A)d6! N(B)xd6 2.Ra7 Bb5# b) 1.ex(B)f5! B(C)xf5 2.Ke3 Rxd3# c) 1.Rx(C)d7! R(A)xd7 2.Rg5 Nh4# Cycle of captured and guarding white units, achieving model-mates. *Remarkable show of critical Zilahi (EP).*

H0160 (Petkov) a) 1.Rg5 fxe5 2.Rf5 exf5# b) 1.Re5 fxe5 2.Rd5 exd5# Changed withdrawals by the black Rooks to smother the bQ, while activating all three white laterals. *Double Rook sacrifice for diverting the obstructing Pawns and closing bQ lines (IT). Charming bR sacrificial moves with Bristol effects (EP).*

H0161 (Janevski) 1.Kd5 Rxc5+ 2.Kxc5 Rc2# 1.Kxe5 Bf4+ 2.Kxf4 Qe3# Reciprocally paired sacrificed/pinning and opening/mating white units lead the bK to fertile mating ground. *Reciprocal change of functions of two pairs of white pieces - elegant! (RW). Lovely black play of preventive pins (EP).*

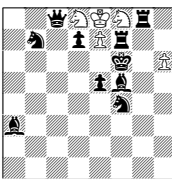
H0162 (Petite) 1.Nc2 d4+ (b4?) 2.Bxd4 Nd3# 1.d5 b4+ (d4?) 2.Rxb4 Nxe6# Matched checking tempos by White allow Black proper self-blocks, and preserve mate. *The overall good impression is enhanced by the role changes of black Rooks and Bishops (IT).*

H0163 (Apro) 1.Ne7 Nc5 2.Kd6 Rh6# 1.Nd6 Nb4+ 2.Kc5 Rc2# Fine echoed anticipatory and actual line effects, with pin-mates. A small blemish in that the wN doesn't guard a flight in the second line. *Bi-coloured "Island theme" with echo pin-mates (RW). Magnificent black strategy of double preventive pins (EP).*

H0164 (Alaikow) 1.Qxf8! Rdx7 2.Kxd3 Rd7# 1.Rxc8! Bxe7 2.Kxc3 Bb4# Capture keys by Black, and flight-giving withdrawals by White lead to surprising switchback model-mates! *Original treatment of the switchback motif (RW). Fantastic black play of annihilation with abandon of guard d7-e8 and b4-b8 lines, achieved with white switchback moves (EP).*

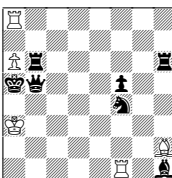
H0165 (Kopaev) a) 1.Qa1 Qb2+ 2.axb2 Nc3# b) 1.Qb2 Qc3 2.Qb8 Nxd6# c) 1.Qc3 Qd4 2.Qe1 Ng3# d) 1.Qd4 Qe5 2.Qxf2 Nxf2# e) 1.Qe5 Qf6 2.Bxe4 Qg5# Task of consecutive bQ/wQ Bristol keys. *Interesting, but unfortunate use of zero-position (JG).* However, the composer has published other works with this theme. Reference: #8469, *Springaren* 1996 and #H2248, *The Problemist* 1999. Also, mostly anticipated by (see diagram).

Laszlo Apro
2nd Prize
Schach-Aktiv 1989



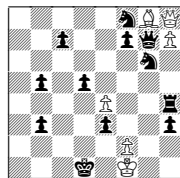
H#2 b) bKf6↔wPh6

Christer Jonsson
6th HM
Molnar 60JT 1988



H#2 2 solutions

K.Gandev & W.Alaikow
3rd Prize
Romania-Bulgaria 1975-76



H#2 b) bPf2→f3
c/d/e/f) bK→a5/c6/g4/e8

a) 1.Qa1 Qb2 2.Qc4 Qe2# b) 1.Qb2 Qc3 2.Qc2 Qe1# c) 1.Qc3 Qd4 2.Qb4 Qa7# d) 1.Qd4 Qe5 2.Qg3 Qxd5# e) 1.Qe5 Qf6 2.Qg3 Qf5# f) 1.Qf6 Qg7 2.Qd8 Qxf7# All moves by the Qs, and no zero-position. A small blemish: the wBg8 is idle.

H0166 (Nedeljkovic) 1.Nd5 Rc3 2.Qxd5 Nxe5# 1.Nxd6 Bd3 2.Qxd7 Be4# Good activation of half-pin and masked-pin lines. Some imbalances exist, but the double pin-mates are properly "built". *Pretty mates in this one! (HT). Delightful achievement of black half-pins and white mates with two pieces pinned (EP).*

H0167 (Grigoryan) a) 1.a1B Nc7 2.Be5 Ne6 3.Kd6 Bxf6# b) 1.a1N Nb6 2.Nb3 Nc4 3.Nc5 Na5# Distinct promotions and self-blocks, with mirrored mating maneuvers. *Beautiful miniature with precise black promotions, wN moves, and model mates (EP).*

H0168 (Toger) 1.Re7+ Rc3 2.Ke5 Bxe7 3.Kd4 Bxf6# 1.Rf5+ Ka2 2.Bd4 Rg6 3.Ke5 Bd6# Good checking keys and models, but some brutality in the first line. *Nice mate in second solution (DD).*

H0169 (Donati) 1.d2 Rf6 2.Kd4 Bh8 3.Kc3 Rf3# 1.Rb5 Bf6 2.Kc6 Rh6 3.Kb6 Bd8# Familiar Grimshaw leading to double-check mates, though second-move tempos may be an original touch; 3.Bd8# is a non-model, however. *Might be compared to the following: Josif Kricheli 1st Prize Shakmaty 1965 W: Kh8 Rc7 Bb7 Pc3d4e4 B: Kd3 Ra1g6 Be3h3 Nf8 Pc2f6 h#3 2 sols. (6+8) 1.Rd1 Rc6 2.Kxe4 Ba8 3.Rd3 Rxf6# 1.Bf1 Bc6 2.Kc4 Rc8 3.Bd3 Ba4# (RW). Very nice (IT). Clever white waiting moves after formation of the battery (EP).*

H0170 (Jonsson) 1.Rc4 Bc3! 2.dxc3! Kd6 3.Kd4 Nc2# 1.Kf4 Nf3! 2.exf3! Ke6 3.Be4 Bd2# Elegant active Zilahi sacrifices by White to setup model mating nets. *Pretty but easy to solve (HT). Exquisite model echo mates (EP).*

H0171 (Markov) 1.Re3 Ba1 2.Rd3 Rb2 3.Kd4 Rb4# 1.Rf3 Ra3 2.Rf4 Rc3 3.Ke5 Re3# 1.Be6 Ra4+ 2.Kf5 Rd4 3.Kf6 Rf4# Economical tripling of wR/wB battery-formation for double-check models. Compare to Csak's **H0056** in *SG3*, which has 3 wR promotions for battery formation on successive squares, though with a heavier setting and one non-thematic capture. *Three brilliant model mates (EP).*

H0172 (Bakcsi/Zoltan) a) 1.c1B b5 2.Rc2 Nb4 3.Bb2 Na2# b) 1.b1B Ne5 2.Rb2 Nxf3 3.Bc2 Bd2# Clever "change and re-change" theme, combined with promotions. Note that Black has no good tempos to allow the simple 3-move series-mate by White. *Platzwechsel with a good portion of humor (RW). Cute (HT).*

Compare to the diagram on the right, which was published concurrently: a) 1.Ne2 Be4 2.Bf4 Nd3 3.Ng3 Nf2# b) 1.Ne2 Nb3 2.Bg3 Nd4 3.Nf4 Bf5#

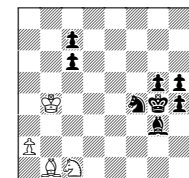
H0173 (Jones) 1.Nde5 dxe5 2.d4 Be8 3.Kd5 Bc6# 1.Nge5 dxe5 2.d4 Bh5 3.Kd5 Bf3# 1.Re5 fxe5 2.f4 Bg8 3.Kf5 Bh7# 1.Be5 fxe5 2.f4 Nb7 3.Kf5 Nd6#. Quadruple "Helsinki Theme" sequence: With 2 mutually blocking pawns (A/B), A is freed by capture, B moves to occupy A's home-square, then B's home-square is re-occupied by his King. Some inherent move duplication, but unified keys and good distribution of mates. *Fourfold setting of the Helsinki theme - remarkable task! (RW). A prizewinner? (LV). Four nice sacrifices on "e5" square (IT).*

H0174 (Gurgui) 1.Kb4 a4 2.Rb3 Bd4 3.Nc3 Bc5# 1.Kc4 Nf6 2.Rb5 Ng4 3.Nec5 Ne3# Cohesive self-unpinning/pinning/blocking effects by Black to allow White double-check mates. *Took awhile to solve (DD). Exquisite white play in the forming of batteries (EP).*

H0175 (Karpati/Wiehagen) 1.Bb2 h8Q 2.Bxa3 Qa1 3.Bb2 Q(a)a8# 1.Rh2 h8Q 2.Rxg2 Qh1 3.Rh2 Q(h)a8#. ODT line-clearance and line-opening effects. Repeated white keys and mates are necessary, but 2 stationary wNs should "tempt" solvers! *Beautiful! Black's lineclearing and switchbacks, while the wQ uses all corners of the board (IT).*

H0176 (Rehm) 1.Bg1 Rb6+ 2.Kf2 Rb7 3.Kg2 Rb2# 1.Qe5 Rd6+ 2.Kf4 Rd5 3.Ke4 Rxd4# Graceful sequence of moves: "... a battery is transformed by changing the position of the front piece on the battery line." (composer) *A harmonious problem (IT).* Another "less romantic" version considered by Hans Peter (see diagram on the next page):

Udo Wilk
#10266
Die Schwalbe 1999



H#3 b) bNf4↔bBg3

Solution: 1.Be5 Rb6+ 2.Kf4 Rb7 3.Ke4 Rb4# 1.Qg1 Rd6+ 2.Kf2 Rd5 3.Kg2 Rd2#

H0177 (Garai) 1.Rxh6 Bxg4! 2.hxg4! Rh8 3.Rxh2 Rxh2# 1.Bxc6 Rxd3! 2.exd3! Bb7 3.Bxg2 Bxg2# Pretty ODT of line-opening effects, especially the active Zilahi offerings of the wR/wB! *You know that the mates should be given on "h2" and "g2" respectively, but how? (IT). Marvellous strategy for opening mating lines. Bravo, Garai (EP).*

H0178 (Nahnybida/Sobchuk) 1.Qb2 h6 2.Qxe5 Rh5 3.Qd4 Nd7# 1.Ba4 Rh4 2.Bxb3 Rxd4 3.Bc4 Bd4# Paradoxical guard-removing captures to allow effective self-blocking of the just-unguarded flights. Slightly imbalanced line effects, but good model-mates.

H0179 (Jones) 1...Nd2 2.exd2 e3 3.Kd5 Ke2 4.Ke4 Nxf6# 1...Kc2 2.Be5 fxe5 3.f4 Kd3 4.Kf5 Ng7# Another "Helsinki theme" (see **H0173** for definition), but this time for *both* sides! Model-mates in each line. *Unbelievably difficult (LV). Charming model echo mates after white and black respective sacrificial moves (EP).*

H0180 (Anderson) 1.Rc5 Bc6+ 2.Ka6 Kc8 3.Ra5 Kb8 4.Nb5 Bb7# 1.Ka8 Ba6 2.Nb5 Kxc6 3.Na7+ Kc7 4.b5 Bb7# Triangle-shape problem; one ideal and one model mate with same mating move (arrival). *Nice symmetry in the initial position (DD). A little gem (LV). Nice miniature with good model mates (EP).*

H0181 (Karpati) 1.g1N! Bd4 2.Nf3 g7 3.Ne5 g8Q 4.Qc6 Qxd5# Original scheme: promotion to bN to provide the proper bP blockade. Only Aurel can make this look so easy! *Very surprising motivation of bN promotion! (RW). Overtime for this work (LV)* Compare to the diagram on the right, which shows bB promotion for blocking. 1.Qg8 Bd1 2.Bg7 Bd2 3.a1B Bc1 4.Baf6 Bc2#

H0182 (Benyovski) a) 1.Kb6 Kf5 2.Kb5 Ke6 3.Kc4 Kd6 4.Kd3 Kxc5# b) 1.Kc7 Kxh5 2.Kd6 Kxg6 3.Ke5 Kf7 4.Kf4 Ke6# A rare problem, in which the Kings do all the work in two phases. *Bellis-simo (LV).*

H0183 (Csak) 1...Nf8! 2.Kb6 Kc4 3.Kc6 Kb4 4.Kd5 Kb5 5.Ne4 c4# 1...c4+! 2.Kb4 Kc6 3.Kxc5 Kb6 4.Kd5 Kb5 5.Ne6 Nf6# Beautiful K-K Platzwechselfs, ending in ideal mates! Note the dual-avoidance (1...Nxc5?) and temporizing (1...c4+) mechanisms. *Economical and very elegant (HT). Splendid links (LV). Very economic double Platzwechsel of the Kings, with nice change of functions of wN/wP, all ending in ideal mates! (RW)*

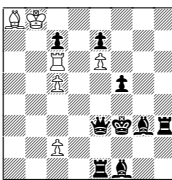
Compare to the *selfmate* by the same composer, with a K-K shuffle (see diagram). a) 1.Nb7! (ZZ) dxe5 2.Ka2 Kb4 3.Kb2 Ka4 4.Kc3 Ka3 5.Qc2 e4 6.Rxg7 Bxg7# b) 1.Rh1! (ZZ) dxe5 2.Ka4 Kb2 3.Kb4 Ka2 4.Kc3 Ka3 5.Qc2 e4 6.Nxg7 Bxg7#

H0184 (Hatiamov) 1.b1R! Kd5 2.Rg1 Ke4 3.f1N Kf3 4.Nh2+ Kf2+ 5.Rg2+ Bxg2# 1.b1B! Kxc5+ 2.Be4 Kxd4 3.Bg2 Ke3 4.f1N+ Kf2 5.Nh2 Bxg2# Accurate R/B promotions (not 1.b1Q?), made necessary by the need for White to play 4...Kf2 (i.e. bQ at g1 or g2 would prevent it). *More problems by this author please (LV). Brilliant! (IT).*

H0185 (Caillaud) 1.Nb8 e4+ 2.Kc6 e5 3.Nc5 e6 4.Kb7 exd7! 5.Ka8 d8N 6.Qa7 Ne6 7.Nb7 Nc7# 1.Ng7 e4+ 2.Ke6 e5 3.Kf7 e6+ 4.Kg8 e7! (exd7?) 5.Kh8 e8N 6.Ne7 Nd6 7.Ng8 Nf7# Excellent timing for Black, dictated by the wP-walk, with reflected model-mates in opposite corners! *Proving the impossible: a Knight is able to lose tempo!! (RW). Neat, with N-mates in two corners. Beautifully done (HT). The best helpmate in SG6! The symmetry of the two final mates achieved on opposite sides of the board is outstanding. Wow! (DD). Full of meat (LV).*

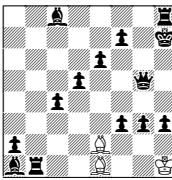
H0186 (Prcic) 1.b5 Ba2 2.Kxc2 Bb1+ 3.Kxb3 Ba2+ 4.Kc2 Bg8 5.Kxd3 Kf7 6.Kc4 Ke6 7.d3 Kxe5# *Mike, 5.Kf7 was a nice idea (DD). The run of the hopelessly enclosed wB is remarkable (IT).*

Hans Peter Rehm
original



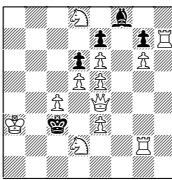
H#3 2 solutions

Aurel Karpati
2nd HM, MSV 1942



H#4

Janos Csak
1st HM, USPB 1994

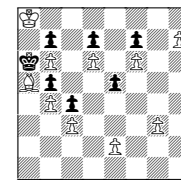


S#6 b) Nd8→e8

H0188 (Janal) 1.b5 a7 2.b4 a8N 3.b3 Nb6 4.cxb6 c7 5.b5 c8N 6.b4 Nd6 7.exd6 e7 8.d5 e8N 9.d4 Nxg7# Three consecutive promotions to wN in a single-line helpmate. *Obvious, but still attractive (JG).* However, this is anticipated, and bettered, by the following with 4 wN promotions (see diagram). 1.e4 h8N 2.e3 Ng6 3.fxg6 f7 4.g5 f8N 5.g4 Ne6 6.dxe6 d7 7.e5 d8N 8.e4 Nc6 9.bxc6 b7 10.c5 b8N#

Many thanks to **Chris Jones, Aurel Karpati, Jeremy Morse, and Rolf Wiehagen** for their anticipation and predecessor notices!

D.H.Hersom
Fairy Chess Review
1937(!)



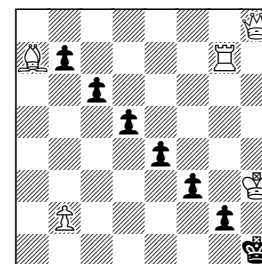
H#10

STALEMATES

Editor: **Dan Meinking**, Judge: **Petko A. Petkov**

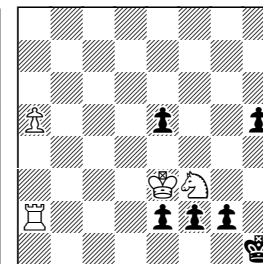
Mostly helpstalemates this time around. Josh, the "odd man out", shows a simple but enjoyable concept -- probably impossible in any other genre. Mike's mysterious twinning will make sense *afterwards*. **Q0008** and **Q0009** have not been fully tested, but solving them will bring a smile! Chris closes with a clever couplet.

Q0006 Joshua Green
Phoenix, AZ



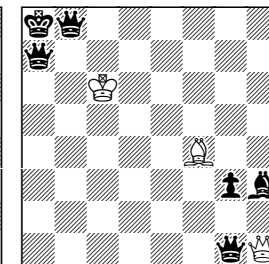
=6

Q0007 Mike Neumeier
Cincinnati, OH



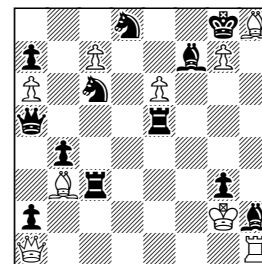
H=3 b) Pe5→h6

Q0008 Alex Markevitch
Jackson, NJ



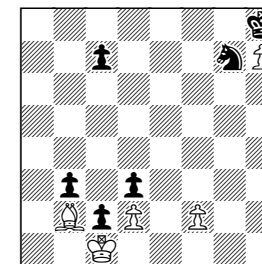
H=4 2 solutions
Three black Queens

Q0009 Arpad Molnar
Hungary



H=4½ b) Nc6→h6

Q0010 Christopher Jones
England



H=5 b) Pc7→a7

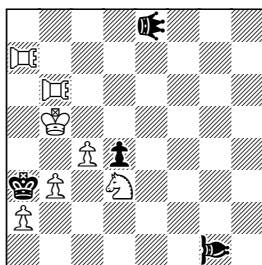
FAIRIES

Editor: **Gianni Donati**, Judge: **Petko A. Petkov**

Welcome to Stephen Emmerson, Brian Stephenson, Oleksandr Sobchuk, Laurent Bouchez, Jean Morice, Jeffrey Harris, Pal Benko, Newman Guttman, and Sergey Smotrov. Abject apologies to solvers and composers for two misprints in SG#7. A bB was missing from h2 in **F0107**. A bP at h2 in **F0109** mistakenly turned into a Bishop and the stipulation was incorrect. It is a helpDOUBLEstalemate in 10. These problems are reproduced here as **F0125** and **F0128**.

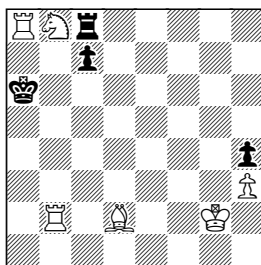
F0119 uses the semi-reflexmate condition, which means Black must mate if he can. The Koeko condition requires that a moving piece, following its arrival, be adjacent to an occupied square. **F0122** is what the composer calls "Trans-Positional". Solve as a regular helpmate, then replace the mating unit with a different White unit (here, a wN) and solve again. The twinning in **F0125** is consecutive, as follows: (a) diagram (b) Kg5→g6 (c) Kg1→h1 (d) Kg6→g5 (e) Rf5→e5. Joshua dedicates his **F0128** to David L. Brown, who until recently edited this column. Note: Anti-Andernach - - a unit changes color when it does NOT capture. Camel is a 3-1 hopper. Alfil is 2-2 hopper.

F0118 Stephen Emmerson
& Brian Stephenson
England



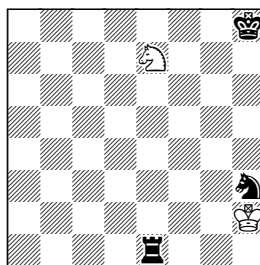
#2 PAO a7, b6
VAO g1, LEO e8

F0119 Jorg Kuhlmann
& Brian Stephenson
Germany/England



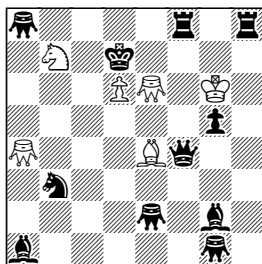
semi-r#2 Circe and Koeko

F0120 K. Muralidharan
India



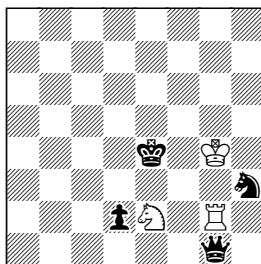
H#2 Anti-Andernach &
Circe

F0121 Mykola Nahnybida
& Oleksandr Sobchuk
Ukraine



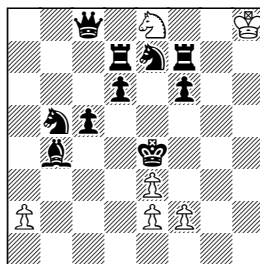
H#2 Grasshoppers
b) bGe6, c) -wBe4

F0122 Robert Bales
Broadview, IL



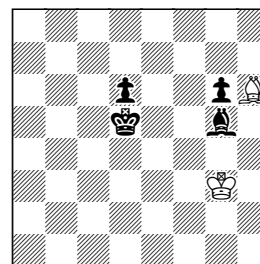
H#2 "Trans-Positional"
(see text)

F0123 Laurent Bouchez
& Jean Morice
France



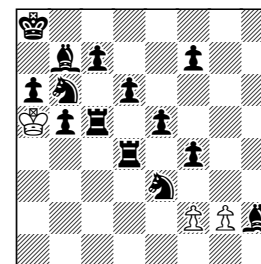
H#3 2 solutions Circe

F0124 Luigi Vitale
Italy



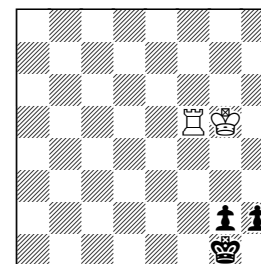
H#6 Circe

F0125 György Backsi
& Laszlo Zoltan
Hungary (reprint)



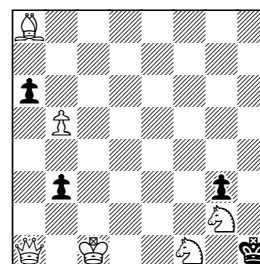
H#6 Madrasi

F0126 Pal Benko
Jersey City, NJ



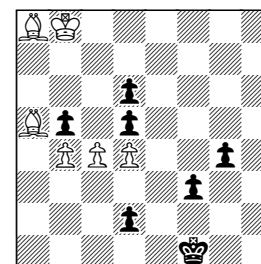
series H#4
(see text for twins)

F0127 György Bakcsi
& Laszlo Zoltan
Hungary



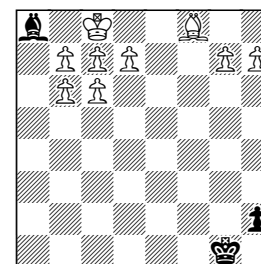
series H#19

F0128 Joshua Green
Phoenix, AZ
dedicated to David L. Brown



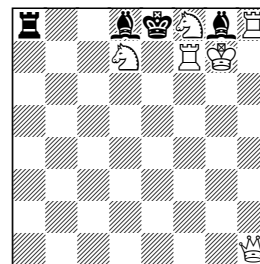
series H=26

F0129 Bernard Rothmann
& René J. Millour
Switzerland/France (reprint)



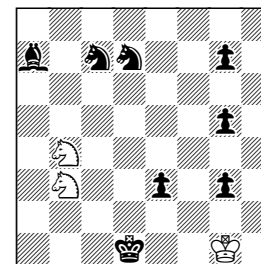
Mars Circe h= =10
(doublestalemate)

F0130 Janos Csak
Hungary



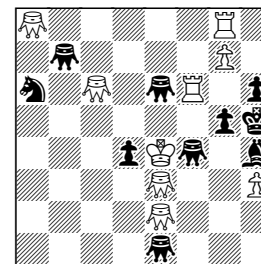
series H=7

F0131 Jeffrey Harris
Nashville, TN



series =17

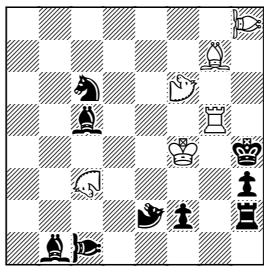
F0132 Newman Guttman
Evanston, IL



#2 Grasshoppers

SG6 Solutions - FAIRIES

F0133 Sergey Smotrov
Kazakhstan



S#16 Rose c3, Camels e2,f6
Alfils c1,h8

F0075 (Radchenko) a) 1.e1B b8Q 2.Bg3 Qxg3= and b) 1.e1N f8R 2.Nf3 Rxf3=. Economical means of achieving the split AUW.

F0076 (Good) 1.Rd8 Sg8 2.Sd7 Kc3+ 3.Kd5 Sh1!(Sb7?) 4.e5 Sd1=. The Soucie (¥) is a remarkable discovery by Mr. Good! The main stalemate feature is the triple pin on the d-file (B-men can't leave!), accompanied without captures! The other two wSs (on h1 and g8) complement each other by both providing guards and prohibiting bP moves (BPs can't enter!). Excellently constructed, and an idyllic debut for this fascinating new piece.

F0077 (Heinonen) ... 5.h1Q ... 7.Qa2 8.Bb1 ...11.fxg3 ... 13.g1R ... 15.Rxe5 16.Rxb5 ... 20.exd2 21.d1B 22.Ba4 23.Kb3 24.Rb4 25.b5 ... 29.dxe2 30.e1N 31.Nc2 Bd1=. Four Black excelsiors and AUW in order Q/R/B/N - a stupendous achievement!

F0078 (Caillaud) 1.Bb1! (2.Qc5#). 1...Kc4 2.g8B#; 1...Kd5 2.g8Q#; 1...Ke5 2.Qe6#; 1...Kc3 2.Qb4#; and 1...Ke3 2.Qf2#. Five directmates after five flights (battery mates are more likely in this case), and three of the mates are fairy.

F0079 (Rehm) 1.Nd5! threat 2.Nb6#. 1...qGxd5[Qd8] 2.Qa3+ Qdd1 3.Bb3#; 2...Qhd1 3.Rb4#. 1...Qhxd5[Qd8] 2.Bb3+ Qgf1 3.Rb4#; 2...Qdf1 3.Qa3 #. 1...Qdxd5[Qd8] 2.Rb4+ Qhh1 3.Qa3#; 2...Qgh1 3.Bb3#. The spectacular 2x3 cycle produces 6 Anti-Circe bQ pins (2 each on d1, f1, h1). Also note 1...~Qd1 2.Sb6+ Ka3 3.Rb3#. A thoughtful gesture by Dr. Rehm to publish this in the USA since the theme is a version of the Jacobs theme with pins. The short threat is inconsequential.

F0080 (Lorinc) 1.d5? (2.Pg4+ Pg7 3.Pxb4#). 1...Pc1 2.Pc7+ Pg7 3.Pxc4#; 1...Pa3 2.Pb7+ Pg7 3.Pxb5#; 1...Ph3 2.Pg5+ Pg7 3.Pxc5#; 1...Cd6! 2.Pg4+? Vf4!! Solution: 1.Pc6! (2.Pb7+ Pg7 3.Pxb4#). 1...Pc1 2.Pg4+ Pg7 3.Pxc4#; 1...Pa3 2.Pg5+ Pg7 3.Pxb5#; 1...Ph3 2.Pc7+ Pg7 3.Pxc5#. Theme: 4-fold threat form of Lacny theme - cyclic shift of threat and 3 attacks after the same defenses. The motivation of the refutation is far from obvious as it frees the h6V so it can stop Rf8+ and close the g4-c4 line. This is good and pure fairy in itself, not just add-on stuff to make an orthodox idea function.

F0081 (Makaronez) 1.Bc7 e4 2.f4 e3 3.Bxb6+ Ke4 4.Rxe3+ Kxf4 5.Gg3#. Not easy to visualize the guard of e5 and mate on f4, all introduced by short threats..

F0082 (Makaronez) a) 1.Kd5 e3 2.Rc4 Gd3# and b) 1.Gb4 Ba4 2.Rd5 Nb5#. Bulky but sharp mating nets.

F0083 (Stepochkin) a) 1.Rxe6 Nxa3 2.Be7 Nxc4# and b) 1.Bxe6 Nxd2 2.Qc7 Nxe4# On occasion, as here, it's nice to see good Circe play without Circe mates.

F0084 (Markevitch) a) 1.Ne7 Gf8 2.Nf5 Gf4 3.Nd4 Gc4# and b) 1.Nf4 Kd2 2.Nh3 Gh2 3.Ng5 Kc1#. The bN's escort service covers six squares. Sweet, long-range maneuvers in a miniature.

F0085 (Good) 1.Qf7 Kc6 2.Kf5 Gc7 3.Gf6 Gg7 4.Ke6 Nd4# and 1.Qf8+ Kc7 2.Kf6 Nc3 3.Gf7 Gg8 4.Ke7 Nd5# Ideal chameleon echo mates. Beautiful, since one suspects that both Ks would move toward the h-file!

F0086 (Dikusarov) 1.Bc4 f4 2.Rd2 Nf3 3.N1d3 Qh1 4.Qb7 Nd4# The only reason this task can be 7 bKs is because the mating-N needs a path into the center.

F0087 (Raican) 1.c1R+ Kd2 2.Rc6 Bf4 3.Ra6 Kc3 4.g1B Bd2 5.Rc6# and 5.Bb6 Kc4#. It seems the nature of reciprocity has its own reward, for both solver and composer. A good example.

F0088 (Dikusarov) Several cook-like tries fail since one bK has an escape. Only 1.Kg3 Bf3 2.Rd2 Bxd5+ 3.Kd3 Bb3 4.Bf3 0-0 5.e2 Nf7 6.Kh3 Rxf3# does the trick.

F0089 (Sabot) 1.Qa3! a1Q 2.f3+ Qxd4#. 1...a1R 2.Bxa1; 1...a1B 2.Qb2; 1...a1N 2.Qxa1+! A pleasing variety of resources to exploit the AUW.

F0090 (Alaikow) 1.b8G! Zugzwang, but not just freezing the g8G. 1...gxh6 2.Be3+ Kxf3 3.Gb3+ axb1G#; 1...gxf6 2.Bg3+ Kxh3 3.NR5+ axb1NR; 1...g5 2.Be5+ Kf5 3.Cc4+ axb1C#; 1...g6 2.Bg5+ Kh5 3.Ze3+ axb1Z#. Brilliant use of Madras: check parry via paralysis, by capture which frees the bQ! A fabulous foursome of favorite four-play motifs: 1)bK Star-flights, 2)Star by the f4B, 3)a Pickaninny by the g7P, and 4)a fairy-AUW of forced mates! Whew! [Note that the g1N prevents the dual: 1...gxh6 2.Bxh6+ Kxf3 3.Rxh4 N~!]

F0091 (Raican) 1.Qc8! Ba6 2.Qf8+ Ng7 3.Rb5 Bc8 4.Rb6 Bh3 5.Re6 Bxe6# okay, but very surprising is 1.Rf8! Ba6 2.Ne8+ Nf6 3.Qxd5 Bf1 4.Ng8+ Nxg8 5.Qc4 Bxc4# with a beautiful reversal of N-motives.

F0092 (Stepochkin) 1.g8B! O-O-O 2.Bxe6 Rh8 3.Bg8 h5 4.gxh6 e.p. Rxh6 5.Ba2 Rh1#. The pleasing and eclectic Valladao Theme always fits together beautifully.

F0093 (Stepochkin) The set: 1.0-0-0# is a cute teaser, forcing the tempo changing solution: 1.Kc7! Rd8 2.Qe7+ Nxe7 3.Kb7 O-O 4.c7 Rf4 5.Bf6 Rb4# to change castling. Delightful!

F0094 (Benyovszki & Brown) Not 1.d8R? Qxe3! nor 1.d8B? Qa4! Why? Black must be allowed to choose how she's trapped: 1.a4! Qxe3 2.d8B! Qa3 3.Bxf6 Qf3 4.Bc3 Qxc3 5.Kg8 Qh8# or 1...Qa3 2.d8R! Qxe3 3.Rxd5 Qa3 4.Rd3 Qxd3 5.Ke8 Qd8#. Lastly, 1.a3? Qxa3! etc. 4.Rd3 Qa6! So, the key simply closes this well-hidden escape. This is the most satisfying joint problem I've done.

F0095 (Shifrin) 1.e8N! Bd8 2.e7 Bh3 3.exd8R+ Kb7 4.Rc8 Bxc8 5.Kh2 Bh3 6.Nd6+ Bxd6#. Very gratifying and impressive use of Circe and promotions-reborn.

F0096 (Ersek) 1.Qa7 2.Qd4 3.Ke4 4.Rf5 5.Rd5 d3# and 1.Qa5 2.Qb4 3.Kc4 4.Rd4 5.d5 Rc3#. Pairs of pinmates nicely formed.

F0097 (Smirnov) 1.Rc5 2.Rc3 3.Kc5 4.Ra4 5.Kb4 6.Qb5 7.Nc5 8.Bc4 dxc3# and 1.Qg3 2.Kc5 3.Ra4 4.Kb4 5.Rb5 6.Nc5 7.Bc4 8.Qc3+ dxc3# Virtually identical lines of play with the Q/R exchanging roles.

F0098 (Markevitch) ... 4.Kxc3 ... 6.Kxc1 ... 9.Kxf3 10.Kf4 Rundlauf! 11.c1B ... 13.Be5 14.Bxd6 15.Be5 Rf6# A very satisfying Ideal Pinmate!

F0099 (Grigorian) ... 5.d1Q 6.Qxb3 7.Qxb4 8.Qe7 ... 12.b1B 13.Bxa2 14.Bf7 ... 16.a1R 17.Ra8 18.Re8 g7#. Nice promote-and-clear succession.

F0100 (Caillaud) 1.g8=nQ 2.nQxg6[nPg7] 3.g8=nQ 4.nQa2! 5.nQxb2[nPb7] 6.b8=nB 7.nQxb4[nPb7] 8.nQf8 9.nBxe5[nPe7] 10.b8=nQ 11.e8=nQ+ nQxe5[nBc1]#. As expected, a bevy of nQs must arrest movement of both Ks. Circe capturing expedites their promotion, but a nB is necessary for the double-checkmate - a fabulous sequence of moves!

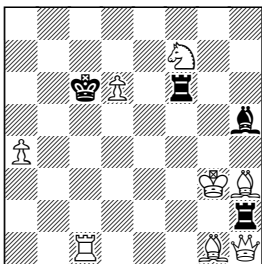
F0101 (Wenda) 1.a8G 2.Ka7 3.Ga6 4.Ra8 5.e8G 6.Gc6 7.d8G 8.Gb6 9.e8G 10.Gb8 11.g8G 12.g7 13.Gg6 14.g8G 15.h8G+ Gh7# The plague of Grasshopper promotions (?!) and the mating fulcrum being a wB is almost unbelievable. The f1N is essential for cook-stopping.

RETROS and PROOF GAMES

Editor: **Gianni Donati**, Judges: Retros **Thomas Volet**, Proof Games **Peter van den Heuvel**

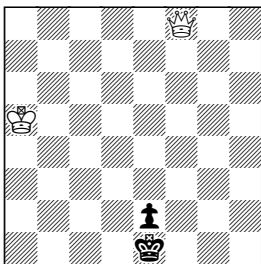
Welcome to Pal Benko, Morey Rosner, and Klaus Wenda! Pal's **R0032** seems, at first sight, to be impossible. Look again. **R0034** is a charming lightweight, followed by some heavier fare celebrating Thomas Volet's fiftieth birthday (Please see the TOURNEY ANNOUNCEMENT on page 194). Klaus gives us a fairy retro; retract 4 consecutive white moves to reach a position from which White can then play a forward S#2. And **R0037** is also a fairy retro of sorts, by eight-year-old composer Morey Rosner. It might take longer to absorb the conditions than to solve, but give it a go: White has given odds of an officer, and the players have now reached a position which resembles the game array position with the exception that all 15 white units, including both Rooks, appear 4 squares above their game-array squares. Odds? Last 2 moves? One more thing (not required by Morey): solve this without using a board! On the proof game front, Satoshi serves up a feast of three problems which the discerning solver will find to be related. Michel duplicates a feat achieved in another recent problem of his. Finally, Noam's diagram is 100% symmetrical, but you will discover that moving symmetrically and arriving symmetrically are not the same thing.

R0033 Pal Benko
Jersey City, NJ



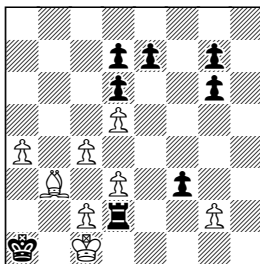
Is the position legal?

R0034 Pal Benko
Jersey City, NJ



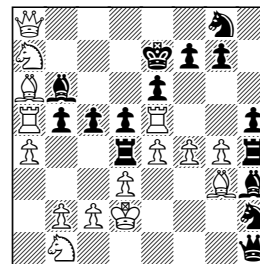
-1 and H#1 3 solutions

R0035 Leonid N. Borodatov
Ukraine, dedicated to
Thomas Volet-50th birthday



Who wins? b) Add wPe2

P0049 Noam Livnat
Israel



Proof game in 23.0 moves

R0023 (Livnat) (a) Black's Pawns have made 10 captures, the last being h7xg6+. Since 6 white units remain, the white a-file Pawn and the white h-file Pawn had to be included in the captures. This would require 3 captures of black units (axb, b2xc3, and hxg), and 14 units remain. so the position is not legal. (b) The white a-file Pawn could promote at b8, so the position is legal.

R0024 (Cuppini) 1.e4 Bc1 2.h7 Bh6 3.Kd6 Bc1 4.hxg8Q# Not 1.h7?? because then Black may answer with 1..0-0-0, as that is his longest move. (Note: a bP should be at e5 to prevent a dual by 3.e5).

R0025 (Vokal) (a) Black's 0-0-0 is not illegal. The solution is 1.Rf5!, thr. 2.Rf8# (b) Now 1.Rf5? is defeated by 1..O-O-O. So 1.O-O! and 2.Rf8#. Consider the history of white Rd5. Is this the white Ra1 or did Rd5 appeared after the

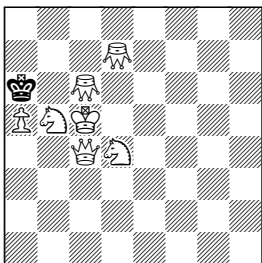
promotion of white pawn? In the first case (wRa1) the WK moved before and White O-O is not possible. In the second case Black Ke8 was checked by white pawn when it moved on 8th row or was checked by WR after the promotion (for example Pg2-g6xQh7-h8R-Rf8+), so Black castling is not possible. By playing 1.O-O! White makes Black's castling illegal.

R0026 (Liskovets) INTENTION. Mutually exclusive (ordinary) and postponed (rare) castlings (subordination) enriched with two (presumably) new ideas. 1. BIDIRECTIONAL use of the castling incompatibility in the actual solution: (A) b0-0 excludes w0-0-0 (which would have been a DUAL); (B) w0-0-0 excludes b0-0 (which would have given NO SOLUTION) 2.(C) MUTUAL SELF-DESTRUCTION of castlings (White in reply to Black's). 1.O-O-O? Nxe2! 2.Bxc2/Kb2 bxc6/Nd4! (Set play: 1..O-O?? 2.Nxe7+ 3.Nxg3+ 4.Rh1#). 1.Bxg3/Ra8/Rd1? O-O! 1.Nxg3! →postponed castling A. 1.. 0-0 2.Nxe7+! Kh8 3.Ra4! (4.Rh4#) 3.0-0-0?? → b0-0 excludes w0-0-0! (3.Kd2? Rd8+) B 1... bxc6 2.0-0-0! Rh1/@ 3.Rxh1/Bxc6+ (4.Rh8#/Rd8#) 2... 0-0?? → w0-0-0 excludes b0-0 2.Ra8? 0-0! (2.Bxc6+? Kf8 3.0-0-0/Ra8 Rh1(+)) C 1... Rh4! 2.Ra8! Rh1+ 3.Sxh1 → mutually self-destroying castlings! 2.0-0-0? Rd4! (3.R*d4 b*c6) 1... Rh1+ 2.Sxh1 Ba7/@ 3.Rxa7/Ra8 (4.Ra8#/Rxb8#) GENESIS. Bishops f3 and b8 have been promoted. Suppose b0-0 is legal. Then wBf3 has been promoted by h7xg8B. White Ps captured 5: h7*g8B, a*b*c, d*e and f*g. 9+5+1(Bf8)=15. So that, one of bPs a, d or h was captured among them and not on its own file. Because of wPh, black Ph could not reach g1, and because of wPc2, bPd could not reach c1 not disturbing wK. In order not to disturb wR, bPa had to be promoted on c1: a3*b2*c1B. Thus we have 13+2+1(Bf1)=16. But in order to be captured, bP d or h had to take once. Impossible, therefore White's castling is illegal. Now suppose that Bf3 has been promoted on c(e)8. Again wPs captured 5: d7*c(e)8B, a*b*c, f*e and h*g. This time, however, bPh could reach g1: h7-h2*g1B! Now, to be captured, bPa or d could take once: 13+1+1+1=16. White's castling is legal.

R0027 (Borodatov) If White may play 0-0, then earlier a bR promoted at c1, not at h1. In that case White did not play d5xc5 (White did not promote at f8, but rather h8, and Black may not play 0-0). Retroplay: 1. - b7-b5! 2.b6xBa7 Play: 1. - cxb e.p.! 2.Ba6 0-0! 3.0-0-0 a8Q# Valladao Theme. (Although some maintain Valladao requires underpromotion - GD). If Black may play 0-0, then White did not promote at h8, nor at f8; Black promoted at h1, so White may not play 0-0. Prior play: a6-a7, f4xBe5, f7xPe6! Play: 1. - Rxb3! (Rh7?) 2.0-0! Rbh3 3.Rf7 Rh8#. Author notes an analogous problem by A. Hazebrouck, Die Schwalbe 1977, 4th Prize: r1b1k2r/P2p4/2p1n2p/ppPq4/1np5/p7/P2PP3/R3K2R, H# 2 1/2 (b) Partial analysis, 2 sols.

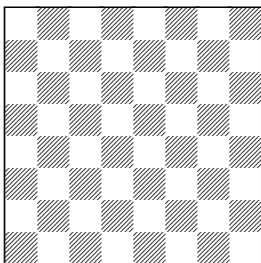
R0028 (Kornilov & Frokin) Retract: 1. Ba5-c3 2.d5-d4 Bd8-a5 3.c6-d5 4.c7xNd8 4.Nc6xQd8! Qe8-d8 5.Nb4-c6 c6-c7 6.c7xNd6 Qd8-e8 7.N~ Ne8-d6 8.N~ Ng7xe8 9.N~ Ne8xRg7 10.Rh7-g7 Ng7-e8 11.N~ Qh8-g8 12.N~ Kg8-f8 13.N~ Qf8-d8 14.Re8-e7 c5-c6 15.Rd8-e8 Qe8-f8; wPa2xb>b6xRa7>a8Q; b1Ph7>h3xSg2-g1R

R0036 Klaus Wenda
Austria



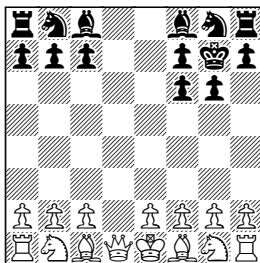
-4W & S#2
Grasshoppers c6, d7

R0037 Morey Rosner
Havertown, PA



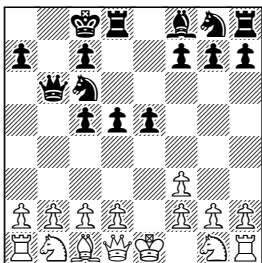
See text!

P0045 Satoshi Hashimoto
Japan



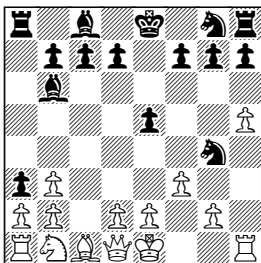
Proof game in 9.0 moves

P0046 Satoshi Hashimoto
Japan



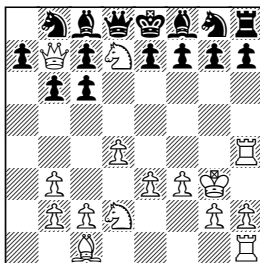
Proof game in 10.5 moves

P0047 Satoshi Hashimoto
Japan



Proof game in 15.5 moves

P0048 Michel Caillaud
France



Proof game in 16.0 moves

P0028 (Tomasevic) 1.h3! e5 2.h4 e4 3.Rh3(B) e3 4.Bg4(N) exf2(N) 5.Kxf2 Bc5 6.Ke1 Ne6(P) 7.Nf2(P)

P0029 (Wassong) 1.g4 Nf6 2.g5 Ne4 3.g6 Nxd2 4.gxh7 Nb3 5.Bh6 g5 6.e3 g4 7.Be2 g3 8.Bh5 g2 9.Ne2 g1N 10.axb3 Nh3 11.Ra4 Ng5 12.Rh4 Ne6 13.b4 Ng7 14.Bxg7

P0030 (LeGleuher) 1.d4 g5 2.Bf4 g4 3.Kd2 g3 4.hxg3 Nc6 5.Rh6 Ne5 6.Rb6 Nf3+ 7.exf3 axb6 8.Bc4 Ra3 9.Qf1 Rc3 10.Na3 h5 11.Re1 h4 12.Re6 h3 13.Rc6 dxc6 14.Ke2 Bf5 15.Be6 Qa8 16.Bc8 e6 17.d5 Ne7 18.d6 Ng6 19.d7+ Ne7 20.d8R Rh4 21.Rd1 Nh8 22.Ra1 Kd8 23.Nb1 Ba3 24.Bc1 Rb4 25.Bd7 Be4 26. Qd1

P0031 (LeGleuher) 1.a4 h5 2.Ra3 h4 3.Rg3 hxg3 4.h3 Rh4 5.Rh2 gxh2 6.Nc3 h1N 7.Nd5 Ng3 Nxe7 Nxf1 9.Nd5 Nh2 10.Nxc7+ Qxc7 11.Nf3 Nxf3+ 12.Kf1 Qh2 13.Qe1 Bd6 14.Qd1 Bc7 15.Qe1 d6 16.Qd1 Bd7 17.Qe1 Bb5 18.Qd1 Nd7 19.Qe1 Rc8 20.Qd1 Bb8 21.Qe1 Rc5 22.Qd1 Rg5 23.Qe1 f5 24. Qd1 Kf7 25.Qe1 Kg6 26.Qd1 Kh5 27.Qe1 g6 28.Qd1 Ne1

P0032 (Caillaud) 1.h4 a5 2.h5 a4 3.h6 a3 4.Rh5 axb2 5.a4 b5 6.a5 b4 7.a6 b3 8.Rha5 f5 9.hxg7 h5 10.a7 h4 11.axb8R h3 12.Rb7 Rh4 13.Rba7 Ra4 14.c4 Nh6 5.Nc3 b1R 16.g8R Rb2 17.Rg6 Rba2 18.Rga6 b2 19.Qb3 b1R 20.Qb8 Rb3 21.Bb2 Rba3

P0033 (Caillaud) 1.c4 Nf6 2.c5 Nd5 3.c6 Nb4 4.cxb7 c5 5.d4 c4 6.d5 c3 7.d6 c2 8.dxe7 d5 9.exd8N Bd6 10.bxc8N Be5 11.Nb6 Ke7 12.Nb7 Rc8 13.Nf3 Rc3 14.Nd4 Rh3 15.Nb5 d4 16.Be3 d3 17.Bd4 c1N 18.e3 Nb3 19.Qc1 d2+ 20.Ke2 d1N 21.Rg1 Nxb2

P0034 (Caillaud) 1.d4 c5 2.d5 c4 3.d6 c3 4.dxe7 cxb2 5.c4 d5 6.c5 d4 7.c6 d3 8.c7 dxe2 9.cxb8B exd1B 10.Bc4 Bc2 11.Ke2 bxa1B 12.Kf3 Bc3 13.Kg3 Qd3+ 14.Kh4 Kd7 15.e8B+ Kd8 16.Bc6 Bc5 17.Bc7+

P0035 (Caillaud) 1.d4 a5 2.d5 a4 3.d6 a3 4.dxc7 axb2 5.a4 h5 6.a5 h4 7.a6 h3 8.a7 hxg2 9.axb8Q gxh1Q 10.Bh3 Rh4 11.Be6 dxe6 12.Ra7 Bd7 13.c8Q Bc6 14.Qbd6 Bg2 15.Qc3 Bf1 16.Nh3 Qd5 17.f3 Re4 18.Nf4 g5 19.h4 g4 20.h5 g3 21.h6 g2 22.h7 g1Q 23.Ng2 Qgd4 24.Be3 Bh6 25.Bg1 Bc1 26.Qcd2 Qd3 27.Nc3 b1Q 28.h8Q Qbb5 29.Qd4 Qbd7

Solutions to **P0036** and **P0037** will appear next issue.

STRATEGEMS TOURNEY ANNOUNCEMENT Thomas Volet 50th Jubilee Tourney – TV50JT

StrateGems announces a formal tourney to celebrate Thomas Volet's 50th birthday, for orthodox retros (no proof games, no Illegal Clusters) in which the White King's Knight Pawn is at b7. Judge: Thomas Volet. Please submit entries (up to 3 per composer) to Gianni Donati, 175 Bertrand Drive, Princeton, NJ 08540 (or by email at Gianchess@aol.com) by March 1, 2000. First prize \$50. Book prizes at the discretion of the judge.



Last 3 captures?

1.e6xNd5 c2xBd3. The Knight at d5 allows the white Rook at e8 to be freed and return to its home square at a1. The white Bishop h2 also returns to c1, which permits the retraction d2xRe3. This Rook returns to h8, which permits the retraction h7xg6 (taking care first to unpromote a white Knight at h8) and opens the route for the black Bishop to return to c8 via g6, e8, and d7.

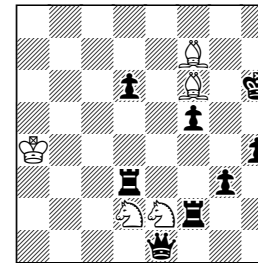
Solution: The seven missing black units were captured by White's Pawns: cxd, d2xe3, g2xf3xe4xd5xc6xb7. Black pawns captured: d7xc6, f7xe6xd5, and h7xg6. The black a7 pawn also was captured, but not on the a-file. Since it could capture only once, it must be the pawn at b6. The b7 pawn did not capture, and thus it was captured on its home square by the g2 pawn. The black c8 Bishop was freed after the capture d7xc6. Thus, it was captured by c2xd3. The black King reached b8 via a7. The capture a7xb6 was played before the freeing of the black Rook a8 and the arrival of the black King. The move f7xe6 was played to free the black King and black Queen. To open the cage, one must uncapture d7xc6 and interpose a Knight at c8 to allow the white Rook at e8 to exit from the 8th rank. To avoid an immediate retrostalemate, retract: d3-d4

One combination without logic

by Fadil Abdurahmanovic

Introduction. Sometimes composers do things which defy logic. Looking at diagram No.1 we get an impression that the black King is already in the mating net. All that's left is to block h7 square followed by an easy mate. However, that is not possible. The mating net will have to be destroyed first, and then Black and White will have to build a new one ending in a forced double-check mate. Sounds strange!?

No.1 F. Abdurahmanovic
1st Prize, diagrammes 1996

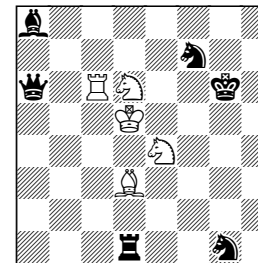


H#3 2 solutions

1.Qxe2 Bb2 2.Kg5 Bc1 3.Qg4+ Ne4#
1.Qxd2 Bb3 2.Kh5 Bd1 3.Qh6 Nf4#

This article illustrates a theme with a similar paradox: the creation and destruction of the white battery. Both construction

No.2 F. Abdurahmanovic
feenschach 1997



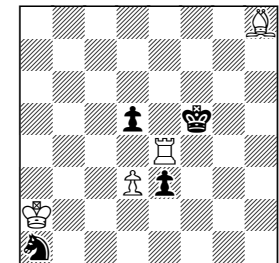
H#2½ 2 solutions

1...Nb7+ 2.Kh7 Rg6! 3.Nh8 Ng5#
1...Nd2+ 2.Kh6 Bg6! 3.Ng5 Nf5#

and destruction have the same basis, i.e., the battery, but the utilization is different. In example No.2, we have two powerful white batteries. It is reasonable to expect that they will participate in both mates, but that is not the case. Both batteries are decoys. In each solution, one of the batteries opens in order to close the other battery. The mechanism is somewhat similar to other thematic devices: pinning-unpinning, line(s) opening-closing, etc., and it promises harmony between solutions.

Sometimes the battery does not exist. In a simple example No.3, White first creates a B/R battery, then destroys it, only to create a new B/K battery. To make matters worse, it takes several moves to create the battery and only one to destroy it. Pretty silly but it works!

No.3 F. Abdurahmanovic
feenschach 1996



H#4

1.Nb3 Ba1 2.Nc5 Rd4
3.Ke5 Kb2! 4.Kxd4 Kc2#

Elements of destruction of the white battery.

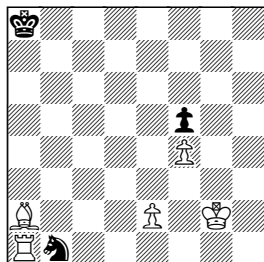
There are four basic elements here:

- Removal of the black King from the battery line (RBK)
- Removal of the rear piece from the battery line (RRP)
- Arrival of a white piece on the battery line (AWP)
- Arrival of a black piece on the battery line (ABP)

These four elements may include capture of a front or rear piece. Although the finale of this combination amounts to only one move, the move characterizes the theme.

RBK The characteristic of this type of combination is transformation of a direct battery into an indirect battery. In example No.4, the initial white direct battery Ba2-Ra1, transforms into two new batteries in the set-play and in the try. It seems the solution will follow the same line of thought. After 1.Kb7 Rb1+ 2.Kc6 Rb3 3.Kd5! we again have a new direct battery. Suddenly, the newly-created battery transforms itself into an indirect battery: 3...Kf2! 4.Ke4 Rb4#

No.4 F. Abdurahmanovic
Thema Danicum 1997

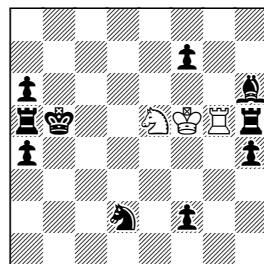


H#4*√

Set: 1...Bg8+! 2.Na3 Rh1 3.Nb5 Rh8 4.Na7 Bd5#
Try: 1.Nc3 Rc1 2.Nb5 Rc6 3.Na7 Bd5 4.?? Rc8#
Sol.: 1.Kb7 Rxb1+ 2.Kc6 Rb3 3.Kd5 Kf2! 4.Ke4 Rb4#

RRP This type of battery destruction yields many possibilities. Examples No.5 shows one way of doing it. In the miniature, example No.6, this theme is combined with two well-known elements: Grimshaw and switchback.

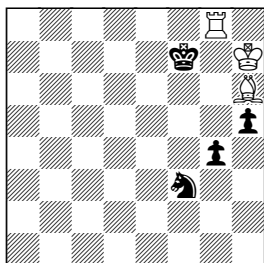
No.5 F. Abdurahmanovic
2nd Prize, Die Schwalbe TT 1995



H#3 4 solutions

1.Bg7 Nd3 2.Rh6 Rg4 3.Rc6 Rb4#
1.Nc4 Ke4 2.Kc5 Rg6 3.Rb5 Nd3#
1.f1R+ Kg4 2.Rc1 Rg8 3.Rc5 Rb8#
1.h3 Nd7 2.Rh4 Rg6 3.Rc4 Rb6#

No.6 F. Abdurahmanovic
1st Prize
Devchic MT 1998

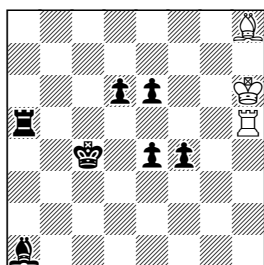


H#3 2 solutions

1.Ne5 Rg7+ 2.Kf8 Bg5! 3.Nf7 Rg8#
1.Kf6 Bg7+ 2.Kg5 Rf8! 3.Nh4 Bh6#

AWP With the arrival of a white piece on the white battery line, the direct battery is transformed into an indirect battery. In a beautiful example, No.7, this element is combined with a white Grimshaw and sacrifices of powerful white pieces.

No.7 W. von Alvensleben
feenschach 1997



H#3 2 solutions

1.Rd5 Re5 2.Kd4 Kg7! 3.Kxe5 Kg6#
1.Bd4 Be5 2.Kd5 Kg5! 3.Kxe5 Kg6#

ABP This is similar to AWP. I don't have an example of it, but perhaps one will show up in the next issue of *StrateGems*.

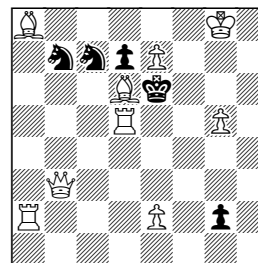


Recent Tourney Winners

by Mike Prcic

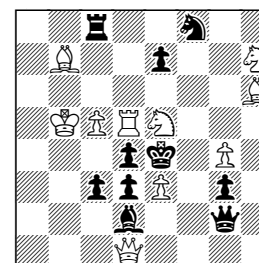
The comments and solutions here were obtained from the magazines which originally published the awards. In the case of Studies, some comments and solutions were obtained from a recent issue of *End Games (EG)*.

Anatolij Slesarenko
I-II Prize
Uralski Problemist TT 1999



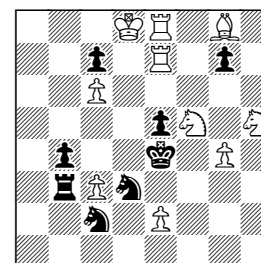
#2

Vasyl Dyachuk
I-II Prize
Uralski Problemist TT 1999



#2

Gheorghe Leu
I-II Place, Romanian
Federation Cup 1998

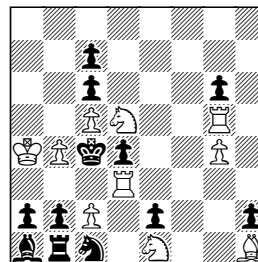


#2

Anatolij Slesarenko, I-II Prize, Uralski Problemist Thematic Tourney 1999 1.Rad2? (2.Qe3/Qh3/Re5) but 1...Nxd6!; 1.Raa5? (2.Qe3/Qh3), 1...Nxd6 2.Re5#, 1...Nxd5 2.Qxd5#, but 1...g1Q!; **1.Ra6!** (2.Re5), 1...Nxd6 2.Qe3#, 1...Nxd5 2.Qh3# (Judge: E. Bogdanov)
Vasyl Dyachuk, I-II Prize, Uralski Problemist Thematic Tourney 1999 In the try White threatens at least 3 mates. In the solution all three mates reappear. Set: 1...dxe 2.Qa4#, 1...Bxe3 2.Qxd3#, 1...Rxc5+ 2.Rxc5#. Tries: 1.Nc4? (2.Rxd4/Ng5/Re5) but 1...dxe!; 1.Bf4? (2.Rxd4/Ng5) but 1...Bxe3!; **1.Nxd3!** (2.Rxd4), 1...dxe 2.Ng5#, 1...Bxe3 2.Re5# Also, changed mates from set-play. (Judge: E. Bogdanov)

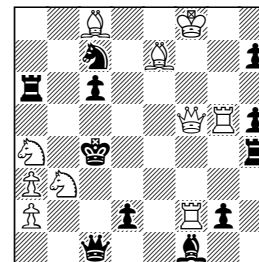
Gheorghe Leu, I-II Place, Romanian Federation Cup 1998 Set: 1...Ne3 2.Nfg3#, 1...Nf4 2.Nhg3/Rxe5#, c4? (2.Bd5), 1...Nf4 2.Rxe5# (2.Nhg3?), 1...Ne3!, **1.Rd7!** (2.Bd5), 1...Nf4 2.Nhg3# (2.Rxe5?), 1...Ne3 2.Nfg3# Dual avoidance. (Judge: Mihai Olariu)

Jan Strydom
1st Prize
The Problemist 1996/II



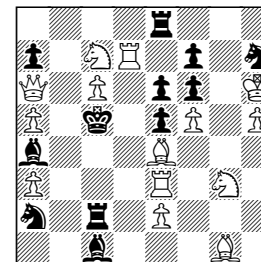
#2

Marjan Kovacevic
1st Prize
diagrammes 1997



#2√√

Zoran Gavrilovski
1st Place
Macedonian Championship 1998



#2

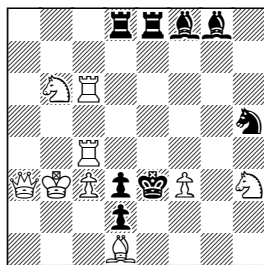
Jan Strydom, 1st Prize, The Problemist 1996/II Almost certainly, there has never been a Block Threat like this! Three set mates are readily seen – but then the disruption is unexpectedly radical. White threatens 3 mates: Black has 7 available moves that permit them in all possible

combinations. The release of bPe2 (bPe2 is vital in its pre-key use for stopping 1...Ne2, for which White would have no set mate) for its four promotions, (AUW) is amazing. Almost certainly, there has never been a Combinative Separation like this! Solvers and composers alike can enjoy this remarkable problem. Set: 1...Nxd3/Nb3/cxd5 2.cxd3/cxb3/Bxd5. **1.Nf3!** (2.Rxd4/Ne5/Nd2-A/B/C), 1...e1Q/Nb3/Nxd3/e1B/cxd5/e1R/e1N 2.A/B/C/AB/BC/AC/ABC. (Judge: Barry Barnes)

Marjan Kovacevic, 1st Prize, diagrammes 1997 Three excellent tries, of which two are interferences by the white Queen with minor pieces, combined with five changed mates. The authors technique is extraordinary. Set: 1...Qxa3 2.Qc2#, 1.Qxh7? (2.Rc5) Qxa3/Ne6+/Rf4+ 2.Qc2/Bxe6/Rxf4#, but 1...Ra5!, 1.Qd7? (2.Rc5) Qxa3/Ra5 2.Nxd2/Nxa5#, but 1...Ne6+! and white Queen interferes with the white Bishop. 1.Qf3? (2.Rc5) Qxa3/Ra5 2.Qc3/Nb6#, but 1...Rf4+! and this time the white Queen interferes with the white Rook. **1.Rg3!** (2.Qc5) Qxa3/Ra5/Ne6+/Rf4/Nd5 2.Rc3/Nb6/Bxe6/Rxf4/Bxa6# (Judge: Claude Wiedenhoff)

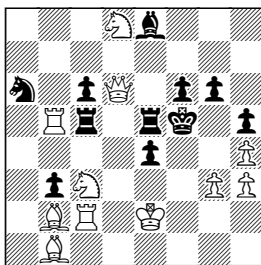
Zoran Gavrilovski, 1st Place, Macedonian Championship 1998 Despite heavy and unattractive construction, this problem has four changed mates, two by the Queen and two by the R/B battery. Set: 1...Rc4/Bxc6/Bxa3/Ng5 2.Qxa7/Qxc6/Rb3/Rc3# 1.Qd3? (2.Na6) Rc4 2.Qd6#, but 1...Nb4!, **1.Bd3!** (2.Ne4) Rc4/Bxc6/Bxa3/Ng5 2.Qxc4/Qxa7/Re4/Re5# (Judge: Milan Velimirovic)

Jean-Marc Loustau
1st Prize
Phénix 1995-96



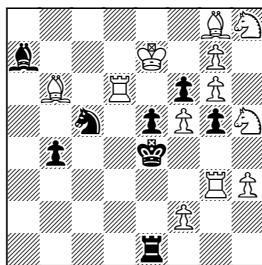
#3

Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
1st Prize
Phénix 1997



#3

Alexander Zidek
1st Prize
Schach-Aktiv 1997



#3

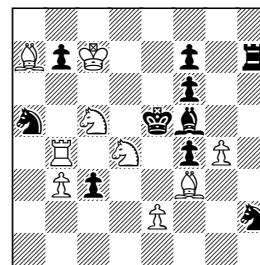
Jean-Marc Loustau, 1st Prize, Phénix 1995-96 1.Qa5! (2.Qg5+ Nf4 3.Qg1/Qxf4); 1...Rd5 2.Re6+ Rxe6/Bxe6 3.Nxd5/Re4#; 2...Re5 3.Qxe5/Nd5#, 1...Bd5 2.Rd6 Rxd6/Bxd6 3.Qc5/Nxd5#; 2...Bxc4+ 3.Nxc4#, 1...Bh6 2.Qc5+ Rd4 3.Qxd4# (Judge: Robin Matthews)

Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic, 1st Prize, Phénix 1997 1.Qd2? (2.Qf4) g5!, 1.Rc1? (2.Rf1) g5!, 1.Ne6? (2.Ng7/Nd4) g5!, The key: 1.Nxe4! self-pins its own Knight and creates three threats: 2.Qxf6+ Kxe4 3.R2xc5/Qf3; 2.Rxc5 (3.Qe6/Qxf6); 2.Rc4 Rxe4+/Re6 3.Bxe4/Qxe6/Qf4. Thematic variations: 1...Rxc2+ 2.Kf3! Rc3+/Rf2+ 3.Nxc3/Nxf2#, 1...Rxe4+ 2.Kf2! Re2+/Rf4+ 3.Rxe2/Qxf4#; 2...Rce5 3.Qe6# or 2...Ree5/Rxh4 3.Rxc5# (Judge: Jean Morice)

Alexander Zidek, 1st Prize, Schach-Aktiv 1997 Set: 1...Kxf5 2.Rg4 Ne4 3.Be6#, 1.Rd2? (2.Bd5+ A Kxf5 3.Rf3) Nd3 a 2.f3+ B Kxf5 3.Be6#, 1...g4 2.hxg4 (3.Bd5 A) Nd3 a 3.f3# B, 1...Kxf5 2.Rf3+ Ke4 3.Bd5#, but 1...Re3!; 1.Rgd3! (2.f3+ B Kxf5 3.Rxf6), 1...Nxd3 a 2.Bd5+ A Kxf5 3.Rxf6#, 1...g4 2.hxg4 (3.f3 B) Nxd3 a 3.Bd5# B, 1...Kxf5 2.Ng3+ Kf4 3.Rxf6#, 1...Re3 2.Rxe3+ Kxf5 3.Rxf6#, 1...Ne6/Ne7 2.f3+ Kxf5 3.B(x)e6# (Judge: Ivan Soroka)

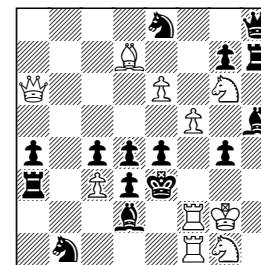
I.Agapov & A.Baharev, 1st Prize, Valentin Rudenko-60JT Excellent work! Quiet threat, sacrifices by the white Knight and Rook, half-batteries. **1.Rb6!** (2.Rd6! ~ 3.Rd5) Nc6 2.Nd7+! Bxd7 3.Rb5#; 2...Kxd4 3.Rb4#, 1...Nc4 2.Nd3+! Bxd3 3.Rb5#; 2...Kxd4 3.Rd6#, 1...Rh8 2.Re6+! fxe6 3.Nd7#; 2...Bxe6 3.Nd3#; 2...Kxd4 3.Nxb7#, 1...Nxg4 2.Rb5! b6 3.Nce6# (Judge: Valentin Rudenko)

I.Agapov & A.Baharev
1st Prize
Rudenko-60JT



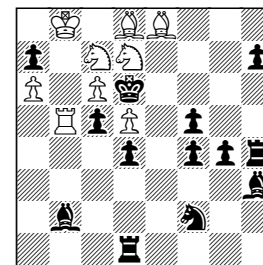
#3

R. Larin
1st Place, Russian Fed.
13th Championship 1998



#4

Viktor Chepizhny
1st Prize
Shakhmatnaia Kompositsia 1998

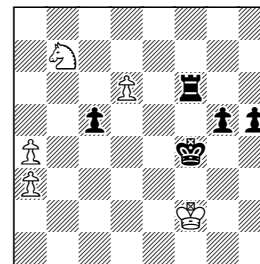


#5

R. Larin, 1st Place Russian Federation 13th Championship 1.Ne7? (2.Nd5) 1...Nxc3!, 1.Ne5? (2.Nxc4) 1...Rxc3!, 1.Nf4? (2.Nd5) 1...Nxc3!; **1.Qb6!** (2.Qxd4), 1...Bxc3 2.Qb8! Nd6 3.Nf4 ~ 4.Nd5#; 2...Nc7 3.Ne5 ~ 4.Nxc4#, 1...Nxc3 2.Qd8! Nf6 3.Ne5 ~ 4.Nxc4#, 1...Rxc3 2.Ne7 Nf6 3.Nc6 ~ 4.Qxd4# (Judge: Mikhail Marandiyuk)

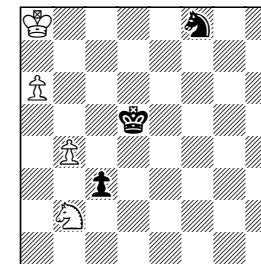
Viktor Chepizhny, 1st Prize, Shakhmatnaia Kompositsia 1998 1.Bf7? (2.Ne8), 1...Re1! and 1.Rxc5? (2.Nb5), 1...Bf1!, **1.Bg5!** Re1 2.Bxf4+ (threat) Re5 3.Bxe5+ Ke7 4.d6+ Kd8 5.Bf6#, 1...Bc1 2.Bf7! Re1 3.Rb2! Bf1 4.Re2! Rxe2 (4...Rb1?) 5.Nb5#; 4...Bxe2 5.Ne8#, 1...g3 2.Rxc5! Bf1 3.Bh5! Re1 4.Be2! Rxe2 5.Nb5#; 4...Bxe2 5.Ne8# (Judge: Yakov Vladimirov)

A. Fouguelman &
Z. Caputo, I-III Prize
Jubilee E.I. Dvizov 1997



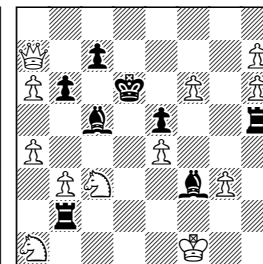
Win

Sergei Osintsev
1st Place, Russian Fed.
13th Championship 1998



Win

M. Olariu & V. Petrovici
1st Prize
Buletin Problemistic 25th AT



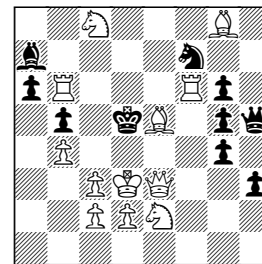
Win

A.Fouguelman & Z. Caputo, I-III Prize, Jubilee E.I. Dvizov **1.d7 Ke5+ 2.Ke3 Rf4! 3.Nd6!!** (3.d8Q? Re4+ 4.Kd3 Rd4+ 5.Qxd4 cxd4 6.a5 Kd5 7.a6 Kc6 8.Nc5 Kb6 9.Kxd4 h4 10.Ke4 h3 11.Kf3 g4+ 12.Kg3 Ka7 13.a4 Kb6 14.a5+ Ka7 15.Kh2 Ka8 16.Nd3 Ka7 17.Nb4 Ka8! 18.Nc6 g3+ 19.Kxg3 h2 20.Kxh2 stalemate) **Rf8 4.Ne8 Rf4 5.d8Q Re4+ 6.Kd3 Rd4+ 7.Qxd4+ cxd4 8.a5 g4** (8...Kd5 9.Nf6+ Kc5 10.Nxh5 Kb5 11.Kxd4 Kxa5 12.Kc3 g4 13.Kb3+) **9.a6 g3 10.a7 g2 11.a8Q g1Q 12.Qe4#** (Judge: Enrico Paoli)

Sergei Osintsev, 1st Place Russian Federation 13th Championship **1.Nd1 c2 2.Ne3+ Kc6 3.Nxc2 Kb6 4.b5** (not 4.a7? Kc6! 5.Nd4 Kc7 6.Nb5 Kc8 7.d6 Kc7 8.b5 Nd7 9.Nc4 Kc8 – with mutual Zugzwang) **Nd7 5.Na3!** (weak is 5.Nd4? Nc5! 6.a7 Kc7! 7.Ne6! Nxe6 8.b6 Kb6 9.Kb8 Nc7= with mutual Zugzwang) **5...Ne5** (5...Nc5 6.a7 Kc7 7.Nc4 Nb7 8.b6 Kc8 9.Ne5 Nd8 10.Ng6 wins) **6.a7!** (if 6.Kb8? Nd7 7.Kc8 Nc5 8.Nc4 Ka7 9.b6 Ka6 10.Kc7 Kb5 or 6.Nb1? Kb5 7.Kb7 Nc6 8.Na3 Ka5 9.Nc4 Kb5 10.Ne5 Nd8 11.Ka7 Ka5 draw) **6...Kc7 7.b6+! Kxb6 8.Nc4+! Nxc4 9.Kb8! or 8...Kc6! 9.Kb8! Nd7+ 10.Kc8** wins. (Judge: S. Tkachenko)

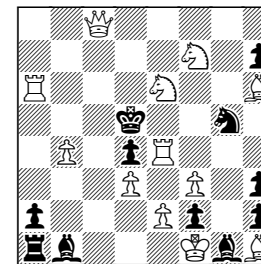
M. Olariu & V. Petrovici, 1st Prize, Buletin Problemistic 25th AT 1.Nb5+ Ke6/ 2.Nxc7+ Kd6/ii 3.Ne8+ Ke6 4.Ng7+iii Kxf6/iv 5.Nxh5+ Ke6/v 6.Ng7+ Kf6/vi 7.Ne8+ Ke6 (Kg5:Qg7+) 8.Nc7+ Kd6/vii 9.Nb5+ Ke6 10.Nc3/viii Rh2/ix 11.Ke1/x Be3 12.Qxb6+/xi Bxb6 13.h8Q and White wins. i) 1...Kd7 2.Qxc7+ Ke6 3.Qc6+ Kf7 4.Qd7+ followed by mate. ii) 2...K-7 3.Ne8+ Ke6 leads to Black being mated. iii) 4.Qe7+? Bxe7 5.Ng7+ Kd7 6.Nxh5 Be5 7.Ke1 Be3 and Black wins. iv) 4...Kd6 5.Qe7+ Kc6 6.Qb7+ Kd6 7.Qd5+ Kc7 8.Ne6+ mates. v) 5...Kg5 6.Qg7+ Kxh5 7.Qxe5+ Kxh6 8.Qxb2 Kxh7 9.Qh2+ wins. vi) 6...Kd6 7.Qb8+ Kc6(Kd7) 8.Qb7+ Kd6 9.Qd5+, and Kc7 10.Ne6+, or 9...Ke7 10.Nf5+, mating. vii) 8...Ke7 9.Nd5+ Ke6/xii 10.Qxb6+ Bxb6 11.Nxb6 and 12.h8Q winning. viii) 10...Rh2 11.Ke1 Bb4 12.Kf1 Bc5 draw. Also 10...Rf2+. ix)10...Rg2 11.Ke1 Be3 12.Qxb6+ wins. X) 11.Qxb6? Bxb6 12.Ke1 Be3. If 11.Qe7+? Kxe7 12.Nd5+ Kd6 13.Ke1 Re2+ 14.Kd1 Rh2+. xi) 12.Qe7+? Kxe7 13.Nd5+ Ke6 14.Nxe3 Rxh6 15.Nc4 (a7;Bxe4) Rxh7 16.b4 Bxe4 draw. xii) 9...Kd6 10.Qc7+ Ke6 11.Qxe5+ Kxe5 12.h8Q+ Kxe4 13.Qxb2 wins. "A valuable study in which the hard-working wNc3 captures bRh5 and returns by the same route, to make a decisive contribution to the victory - an impressive 'switchback'." (Judge: Gheorghe Telbis).

Yakov Vladimirov
1st Prize
Shakhmatnaia Kompositsia 1998



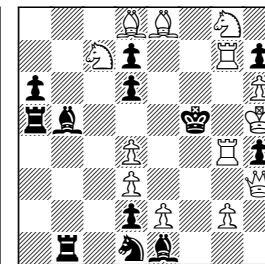
S#4

John Rice
1st Prize
The Problemist 1995



S#2

Wenelin Alaikow
1st Prize
The Problemist 1995



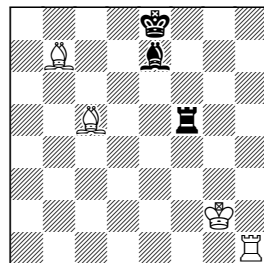
S#4

Yakov Vladimirov, 1st Prize, Shakhmatnaia Kompositsia 1998 **1.Bc7!** (2.Nf4+ gxf4 3.Qe5+! Qxe5 4.c4+ bxc4), 1...Qh4 2.Rxb5+ Bc5 3.Qf3+! gxf3 4.c4+ Qxc4#, 1...Qh6 2.Rf5+ gxf5 3.Rd6+! Qxd6 4.Qe4+ fxe4#, 1...Qh7 2.Bxf7+ Qxf7 3.Ne7+! Qxe7 4.Qe4+ Qxe4# (Judge: Andrey Lobusov)

John Rice, 1st Prize, The Problemist 1995 A clever idea: four masked pinnings of the bN leading to four white interferences on the line h6-c1 (two of them Umnov variations). The thematic key forms a half-battery, and the setting is very nice. **1.Qg8!** (ZZ) Nxe6/Nxf7/Nxe4/Nxf3 2.Nfg5/Neg5/f4/Rf4 (Judge: Yves Tallec)

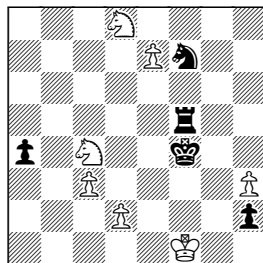
Wenelin Alaikow, 1st Prize, The Problemist 1995 A brisk struggle between a wR-battery and a black royal half-battery with three distinct pin-mates. One of those complex strategic machinery's the selfmate is good at! **1.Re7!** (2.Bxd7+ Bxd7 3.Rg5+ Kf4 4.Qg4+ Bxg4), 1...Bc4 2.Rf7+ Bxf7 3.Rg6+ Kf4+ 4.Bg5+ Rxg5#, 1...Bxd3 2.e4+ Bxe4 3.Qf3+ Bxf3 4.Bg6+ hxg6#. (1...d5/Ra2 2.Bxd7+ Bxd7 3.Rf4+ Kxf4 4.Qg4+ Bxg4.) (Judge: Yves Tallec)

Axel Ornstein
1st Prize
Springaren 1996



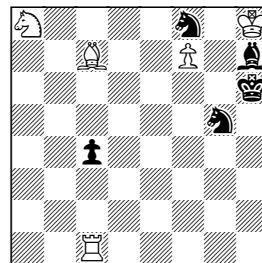
Win

V. Prigunov
Prize
Tidskrift för Schack 1996



Win

Jan Rusinek
1st Prize
diagrammes 1996/97



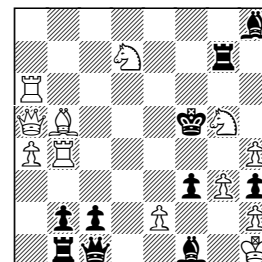
Win

Axel Ornstein, 1st Prize, Springaren 1996 1.Rh8+ Kf7 (Kd7;Bc8+) 2.Rh7+ Kg8/i 3.Bxe7 Rb5/ii 4.Be4 Re5 5.Bg6 Re2+ 6.Kf3 Rf2+ 7.Ke3/iii Rf3+ 8.Kd4 Rd3+ 9.Ke5 Re3+ 10.Kf5, with: 10...Re5+ 11.Kg4 Re4+ 12.Kh5 Re5+ 13.Bg5 wins, not 13.Kh6? Rh5+, or 10...Rf3+ 11.Ke6 Re3+ 12.Kd7 Rd3+ 13.Bd6 wins, not 13.Ke8? Rd8+. i) 2...Kg6 3.Be4 Bxc5 4.Bxf5+ Kxf5 5.Rh5+ K- 6.Rxc5 wins. ii) 3...Re5 4.Rh8+ Kg7 5.Bh4 Rb5 6.Rb8 wins. iii) 7.Ke4? Rg2 8.Bf5 Re2+ 9.Kf4 Rf2+ 10.Kg5 Rxf5+ draw. "A first class study using the back-breaking ('brisant') GBR class 0450 material. The composition has finesses and beautiful by-play, space is well utilized, and a pair of echoed stalemates surface if White drops his guard in the long King march. Despite the lengthy solution there is crystal clarity." (Judge: Hans Gruber)

V. Prigunov, Prize, Tidskrift för Schack 1996 1.Kg2 h1Q+/i 2.Kxh1 Kg3 3.Ne3 (Kg1? Ng5) Re5 4.Nxf7 Rxe7 (Re6;Nd6) 5.Nf5+ Kf2/ii 6.Nxe7 a3 7.Ne5 a2/iii 8.Nd3+, with: 8...Kf1 9.Nf5 a1Q 10.Ng3 mate, or 8...Kg3 9.Nf5+ Kxh3 10.Nf2 mate. i) 1...Rg5+ 2.Kxh2 Rg8 3.Nxf7 Re8 4.Nfe5 a3 5.Nd3+ Kf3 6.Nxa3 Rxe7 7.Nc4 Re2+ 8.Kg1 Kg3 9.Kf1 wins. ii) 5...Kxh3 6.Nxe7 a3 7.Ng5+ Kg4 8.Nd5 a2 9.Ne3+ Kxg5 10.Nc2 wins. iii) 7...Ke2 8.N7c6 a2 9.Nd4+ Kxd2 10.Nb3+ Kxc3 11.Nd3 wins. (Judge: Alexander Hildebrand)

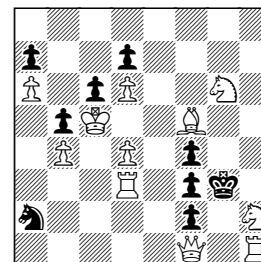
Jan Rusinek, 1st Prize, diagrammes 1996/97 **1.Rh1+ Kg6 2.Rg1 Kh6 3.Rxg5 Kxg5** (3...Bg6 4.Bd8+ Kf5 5.Kg7 wins) **4.Kg7** (4.Bd6? Kf6 5.Bxf8 Kxf7) **Bg6** (4...Be4 5.Kxf8 Bd5 6.Nb6) **5.Kxf8** (5.Bd8+? Kg4! 6.Kxf8 c3 7.Ba5 c2 8.Bd2 Kf3 9.Nb6 Ke2 10.Bh6 Kd1) **Kf6** (5...c3 6.Be5 c2 7.Bb2) **6.Bd8+!** (6.Nb6? Bxf7 7.Nd7+ Ke6, 6.Bb6? Bxf7) **Ke6 7.Bb6!** (7.Ba5? Bxf7 8.Nc7+ Kf6 9.Bf3+ Kg6 10.Ke7 Bg8 Draw) **Bxf7 8.Nc7+ Kf6 9.Bd4+ Kg6 10.Bc3** (Judge: Michal Hlinka)

A. Kurjatnikov & E. Markov
1st Prize
Jan Knöppel MT 1998-99



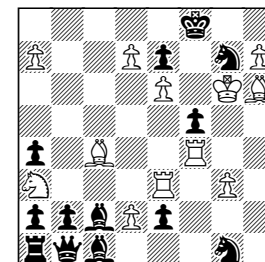
S#3

Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic
1st Prize
Mat Plus 1996



S#6

Hartmut Laue
1st Prize
feenschach 1994



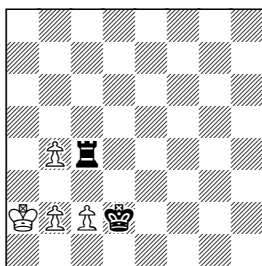
S#21

Anatolij Kurjatnikov & Evgenij Markov, 1st Prize, Jan Knöppel MT 1998-99 **1.e3!** (2.Bc4+ Kg4 3.Bf7+ Bc4), 1...Q~ 2.Be2+ Q~5 3.Bd3+ Bxd3#, 1...Rg~ 2.Be2+ B,R~5 3.Bd3+ Bxd3#, 1...Qe1! 2.Bc6+ Kg6 3.Bxf3+ Bxa6#, 1...Rxd7! 2.g4+ Ke5 3.Bxd7+ Bb5# (Judge: Bo Lindgren)

Dr. Milan R. Vukcevic, 1st Prize, Mat Plus 1996 1.Be4! (ZZ) 1...Nxb4/Nc1 2.Qh3+ Kxh3 3.Rxf3+ Kg2 4.Rd3+ f3 5.Bxf3+ Kg3 6.Bd5+ Nxd3#, 1...Nc3 2.Qg2+ Kxg2 3.Bxf3+ Kg3 4.Be4+ f3 5.Rxf3+ Kg2 6.Rd3+ Nxe4# White's reciprocal batteries and Nowotny on f3. Masterpiece!! (Judge: Zivko Janevski)

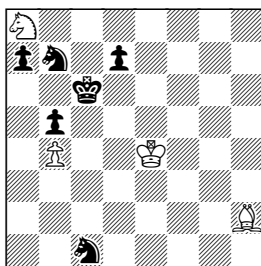
Hartmut Laue, 1st Prize, feenschach 1994 1.Ref3! (2.Rxf5+ Bxf5+ 3.Rxf5+ Qxf5) Bd1 (1...Bb3? 2.Rxb3 3.Rxf5+ Qxf5#) 2.Rb3 Bc2 3.Rb5 Bd1 (3...Bb3? 4.Rxb3) 4.Bd5 Bc2 5.Bg2!! Bd1 6.Rxa4 Bc2 7.Raa5 Bd1 (7...Bb3, Ba4 8.RxB) 8.Bb4 (8.Rb3? Bc2 9.Rf3 f4+) Bc2 9.Rf4 Bd1, Bb3 10.Nb5 Bc2 (10...Bxe6? 11.h8Q,R+ Bg8 14.Rxf5+ Qxf5#) 11.Nc7! Bd1, Bb3 12.Ra3 Bc2 (12...Bxe6? 13.h8Q,R+ Bg8 14.Rxf5+ Qxf5#) 13.Raf3 Bd1 (13...Bb3, Ba4? 14.R[x]b3) 14.Re3! Bc2 15.Re5 Bd1 16.Rxe2 Bc2 17.Re1 Ne2 18.Rxe2 Bd3 19.Re5! Bf1/Bb5 20.Re2/Rc4 ~ (20...Bh3??) 21.Rxf5+ Qxf5# The so-called "mousetrap" device (shut-offs by White following critical black moves) becomes effective after two preparatory maneuvers are completed (and a Platzwechsel of the white Rook's pair takes place as if by accident). First, the black Bishop's route to h3 (via f1) must be blocked, and then, as a result of the steps previously taken, a second guard on e8 is needed to neutralize Bb5xd7. White's first 19 moves may appear quite obscure: both main and secondary plans are carried out long before the thematic black threats come into being. We must wait for the 20th move to cast some light upon "the method behind the madness." An intricate and rewarding journey. (Judge: Uri Avner)

William Anderson
Prize, Ideal-Mate
Review 1999



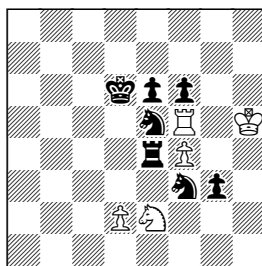
H#5 2 solutions

Andrey Zhuravlev
1st Place, Russian Fed.
13th Championship 1998



H#3 b) Bh2→c5

A. Pankratiev & D. Müller
1st Prize
Shakhmatnaia Kompositsia 1998



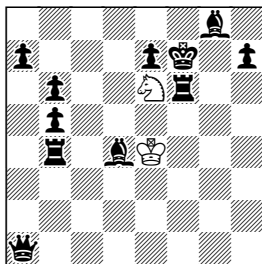
H#3 2 solutions

William Anderson, Prize, Ideal-Mate Review 1999 1.Rc5 c3 2.Kc2 Ka1 3.Kb3 Kb1 4.Ka4 Ka2 5.Rb5 b3#, 1.Rc6 b3 2.Kc3 b5 3.Kb4 c4 4.Ka5 Ka3 5.Rb6 b4# Echo ideal-mates. (Judge: Eugene Albert)

Andrey Zhuravlev, 1st Place Russian Federation 13th Championship a) 1.Na5 Nb6? 2.Nc4 Nxc4 3.Nb6?? Na5#?, 1.Na5 Nc7!! 2.Nc4 Ne6 3.Nb6 Nd8#, b) 1.Nd8 Nc7? 2.Ne6 Nxe6 3.Nc7?? Nd8#?, 1.Nd8 Nb6! 2.Ne6 Nc4 3.Nc7 Na5# (Judge: R. Zalotkizki)

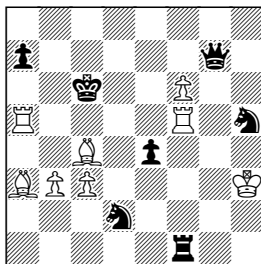
Aleksandr Pankratiev & Dieter Müller, 1st Prize, Shakhmatnaia Kompositsia 1998 1.Rxf4 Rxe5 2.Kxe5 d4+ 3.Kf5 Nxc3#, 1.exf5 fxe+ 2.Kxe5 Nc1 3.Kf4 Nd3# (Judge: Georgy Evsiev)

Boris B. Shorochow
1st Prize
Günter Büsing 50JT



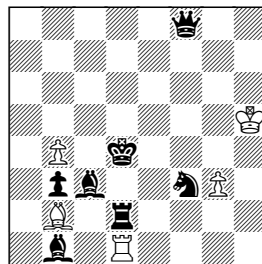
H#4 b) Ne6→f8

Fadil Abdurahmanovic
1st Prize
The Problemist 1996



H#2 2 solutions

C.J. Feather
1st Prize
Suomen Tehtäväniekat 1994



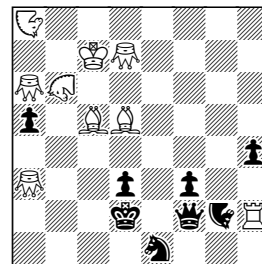
H#3 2 solutions

Boris B. Shorochow, 1st Prize, Günter Büsing 50JT a) 1.Qa4 Nc7 2.Kf8 Nxb5 3.Rf7 Nc7 4.Qe8 Ne6#, b) 1.Qa6 Nd7 2.Ke6 Nxb6 3.Bf7 Nd7 4.Qd6 Nf8# (Judge: Dieter Müller)

Fadil Abdurahmanovic, 1st Prize, The Problemist 1996 Four-fold cycle of front and rear battery-pieces, a notable constructional feat especially in 4-solution form. 1.Rxf5 Bb5+ 2.Kd5 Bd7#, 1.Kd7 Rfd5+ 2.Ke6 Rd6#, 1.Kb6 Bc5+ 2.Kxa5 Bf2#, 1.Qd7 Rac5+ 2.Kd6 Rc8# (Judge: Dieter Müller)

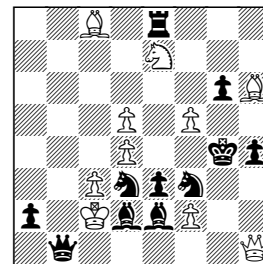
C.J. Feather, 1st Prize, Suomen Tehtäväniekat 1994 1.Ke3 Rxd2 2.Bf6 Be5 3.Be4 Bf4# 1.Kc4 Bxc3 2.Rd6 Rd5 3.Bd3 Rc5#

Wenelin Alaikow
1st Prize
Phénix 1997



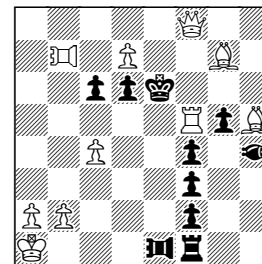
H#2 2 solutions, Zebra on b6
Nightriders on a8,g2
Grasshoppers on a3,a6,d7

S.K. Balasubramanian
1st Prize
The Problemist 1993



H#2 b) Qb1→d1
Circe, Madrasi

Petko Petkov
1st Prize
diagrammes 1997



S#3 PAO b7, e1 VAO h4

Wenelin Alaikow, 1st Prize, Phénix 1997 1.Qd4 Bb3 2.Qd5 Ze4#, 1.NRc4 Ze4 2.NRb6 Bb3# (Judge: Christian Poisson)

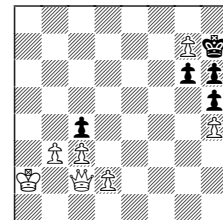
S.K. Balasubramanian, 1st Prize, The Problemist 1993 Dedicated to N. Shankar Ram. This is the clear winner for its impressive firework of Circe and Madrasi effects and motives with strategic depth. It is an almost perfect example of a fairy helpmate in two, or three (at least to my taste). It is full of strategic elements, just like an orthodox helpmate, but motivated by specific effects of the fairy conditions used. The analogy of the two lines is not quite perfect, but the richness of the fairy strategy makes up for this. a) 1.Rxe7 (wNg1)+ Kxd2 (bBf8) 2.Kf4 Qxh4 (bPh7)# b) 1.Rxc8 (wBf1)+ Kxd3 (bNg8) 2.Kxf5 Qxf3# (Judge: Torsten Linß)

Petko Petkov, 1st Prize, diagrammes 1997 Set: 1...Kxd7 2.Rf7+ Ke6 3.Qe8+; 1.Qc8! (2.d8R Ke7 3.Re8+) 1...Kxf5 2.d8P Ke4 3.Qe6+, 1...Pd1 2.Re5+ dxe5 3.d8Q+, 1...Pc1 2.d8N+ Ke7 3.Nxc6+, 1...Pb1 2.d8V+ Ke7 3.Vc7+, 1...d5 2.e8B+ Kd6 3.Bf8+ Fantastic! (Judge: Unto Heinonen)

Gideon Husserl, Prize, feenschach 1993-94 a) 1.cxb3+ Qxb3 2.g5 g8Q# b) 1.Kg8 2.Kh7, 1.g8R 2.Qxg6# c) 1.g8B+, 1.Kh8 2.g5 Qh7# (Judge: Manfred Rittirsch)

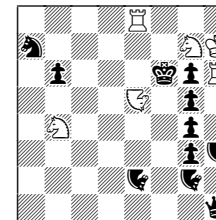
B. Kampmann, 1st Prize, Phénix 1996 Triple Holzhausen. 1.NRd3 (2.Nh5+ Kf5 3.Re5/NRb7), 1...NRgf4 2.Rxg6+! A NRxg6 3.Re6# B (2.Nd5? Qxd5), 1...NRhf4 2.Re6+! B NRxe6 3.Nd5# C (2.Rxg6?), 1...NRef4 2.Nd5+! C NRxd5 3.Rxg6# A (2.Re6+? NRxe6 3.Rxg6+ Ke7!) (Judge: Jean-Michel Trillon)

Gideon Husserl
Prize
feenschach 1993-94



a) H#2 b) Ser. H#2/2
c) 1w→Ser. H#2

B. Kampmann
1st Prize
Phénix 1996



#3
Nightriders on e2,e5,g2,h3

Book Review: *Ideal-Mate Encyclopedia: Volume 1*

by Dan Meinking

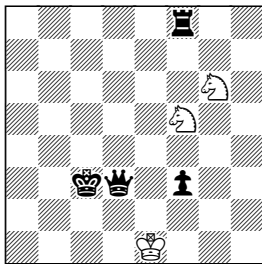
The first installment of the eagerly awaited *IME* series is now available. And I must say: It was worth the wait! The author, Eugene Albert, has compiled 2200 of the best single-line ideal-mate Helpmates. This labor of love, representing some 535 composers, is extremely well organized, making it a tremendous tool for reference and research.

A good percentage of the problems originate from *Ideal-Mate Review*, as one might expect, but this collection taps every conceivable source, as the selections below indicate. *IME-1* is an invaluable work for its sheer wealth of material, but more so for the countless hours of pleasurable study it offers. This classic belongs in every problemist's library!

For a copy of *IME-1*, send \$20 USD (surface mail) or \$25 USD (air mail) to: Eugene Albert / 1740 Interlachen Road #39-G / Seal Beach, CA 90740-4252 / USA

I01 Jeno Ban

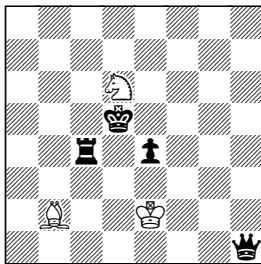
Prize, *Schwalbe* 1964



H#4

I02 E. Wikstrom

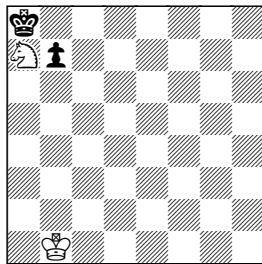
Tidskrift för Schack 1964



H#4

I03 Edgar Holladay

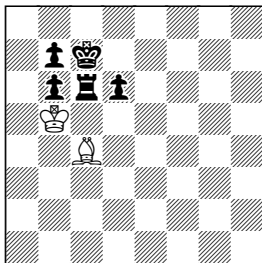
Sinfonie Scacchistiche. 1970



H#7

I04 Eugene Albert

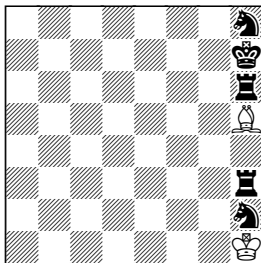
2nd HM, *USPB* 1965



H#4

I05 David L. Brown

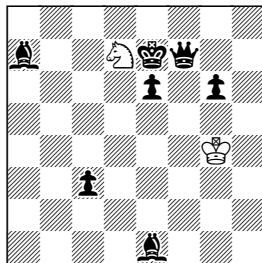
Schach-Echo 1983



H#5

I06 M. Kirtley &

D. Meinking, HM *IMR* 1997



H#5½

I01: 1.Re8+! Nfe7! 2.Kd4 Nh4 3.Ke3 Neg6 4.Re4 Nf5#

I02: 1.Qa1! Bh8! 2.Qe5 Ne8 3.Kd4 Ng7 4.Qd5 Ne6#

I03: 1.b5 Kc2! 2.b4 Kd3! 3.b3 Kc4 4.b2 Kb5 5.b1R+ Ka6 6.Rb7! Nb5 7.Rb8 Nc7#

I04: 1.Kd7 Kb4 2.Rc8! Ba6! 3.Kc6 Kc4 4.Rc7 Bb5#

I05: 1.Nf3+! Kg2 2.Ng5 Bg4! 3.Kg6 Bxh3 4.Kh5 Kg3 5.Ng6 Bg4#

I06: 1....Nf6! 2.Bd4 Ne4 3.Bg7 Nxc3 4.Kf6 Na4! 5.Bb4 Nb6 6.Be7 Nd7# ♟️♟️

William A. Shinkman - Profile of an American Composer

(From K. S. Howard's book *Chess Problem Gems by Eight Eminent American Composers*)

by Mike Prcic

William A. Shinkman was born in Bohemia in 1847. He came to Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1854. He began composing problems about 1870 and continued to compose throughout his life. He was the most prolific American composer of his time (some thirty-five hundred problems). Because of his facility in securing marvelous effects with a minimum number of men, Shinkman became known as "The Wizard of Grand Rapids".

His style of composition was similar to Loyd's, but while Loyd frequently was content with showing a single example of a theme, Shinkman would experiment with various illustrations of it. Said Alain White: "Loyd toyed with themes; Shinkman mastered them."

In the introduction to *The Golden Argosy*, written by Otto Wurzburg (Shinkman's nephew), he stated, "Loyd is reported to have admired Shinkman's work beyond all others and without qualification, and of all composers of all times Shinkman holds Loyd as his favorite." Shinkman died in 1933 at eighty-five.

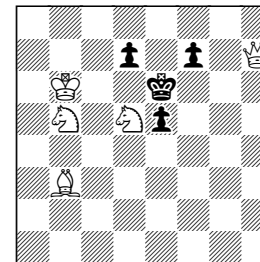
Among many excellent problems composed by Shinkman I have selected nine.

We start with **WS01**. An identical problem by Carpenter (with unnecessary black pawn on e7) was published in the October 20, 1877, issue of the *Detroit Free Press*. Shinkman's problem was composed two or three months earlier, being one of a set of three problems entered in a tourney.

WS01 First Prize

Huddersfield College

Magazine, October, 1877



#2

1.Ba4! (ZZ)

1...d6 2.Nc7#

1...Kxd5 2.Bb3#

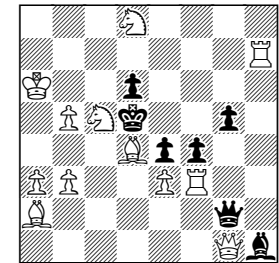
1...f5 2.Qg8#

1...f6 2.Ndc7#

WS02 is one of Shinkman's oldest problems, and it remained one of his favorite twomovers. The exact square to which the key Bishop must move is determined by Black's possible move 1...Qb2.

WS02 Dubuque Chess

Journal, December, 1870



#2

1.Bc3! (ZZ)

1...Kxc5 2.b4#

1...exf3 2.e4#

1...g4 2.Rh5#

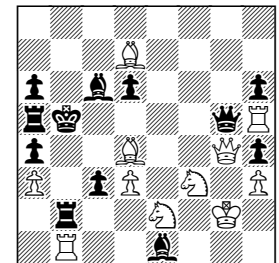
1...Q~ 2.Qg5#

1...Qxg1 2.b4#

1...fxe3 2.Rf5#

WS03 First Prize (V)

Southern Trade Gazette 1883



#2

WS03 was one of the earliest examples of unpinning three white pieces. For many years the problem ranked as the champion all-around pin problem. Shinkman later made a slight revision providing a more striking key.

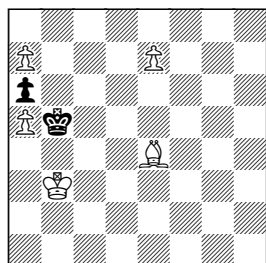
1.Ba7! (ZZ)

1...d5 2.Nfd4#
1...Bd2 2.Ned4#
1...Bg3 2.Qc4#
1...Bf2 2.Nxc3#

He was always interested in Pawn promotion play, especially where the promotion was to a piece other than a Queen. The miniature **WS04** is an early and excellent example.

WS04

Western Advertiser 1872

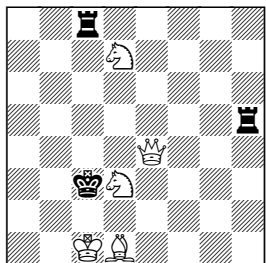


#3

1.e8R! (ZZ)

1...Kxa5 2.a8N! Kb5 3.Re5#
1...Kc5 2.a8Q! Kd6/Kb5 3.Qc6/Qd5#

WS05 *The Pittsburgh Gazette Times* 1916



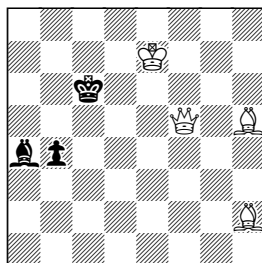
#3

1.N7c5! (2.Na4/Qb4)

1...Rxc5 2.Nb2 (3.Na4) Ra5 3.Qc4#
1...Rhxc5 2.Nf4 (3.Ne2) Rc4 3.Nd5#

The miniature **WS06**, with the two Queen sacrifices leading to chameleon echoed model mates, was one of Shinkman's favorite compositions.

WS06 *Dubuque Chess Journal* 1890



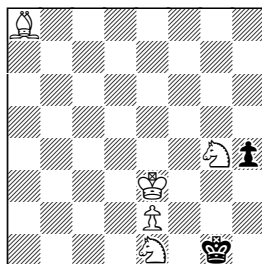
#3

1.Be2! (ZZ)

1...Kb7 2.Qc8+ Kxc8/Kb6 2.Ba6/Qc7#
1...Kb6 2.Qa5+ Kxa5/Kb7 3.Bc7/Qa6#

The spectacular key in the miniature **WS07** is followed by a subtle second move when Black plays 1...h3 and two of the ensuing mates are models.

WS07 *Deutsche Schachzeitung* 1893



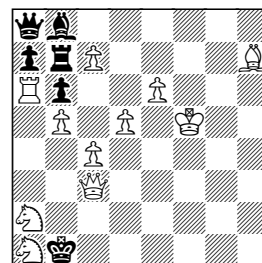
#4

1.Bh1!

1...h3 2.Bg2 hxc2 3.Nf3+ Kf1/Kh1
4.Nh2/Nf2#
2...h2 3.Ne5 h1~ 4.Nf3#
1...Kxh1 2.Kf2 h3 3.Kf1 h2 4.Nf2#

Shinkman's interest in selfmates, of which he became one of the most eminent exponents, began early in his composing career. In many of his selfmate problems the white King is placed initially far from any apparent mating position. In **WS08** the King wanders toward his doom.

WS08 *La Strategie* 1877



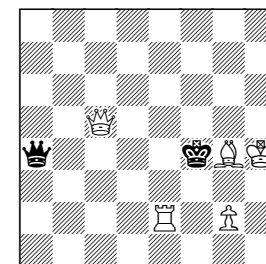
S#3

1.Qg7!

1...Rxc7 2.Ke5+ K~ 3.Kd6+ Rxc7#
1...Bxc7 2.Kf6+ K~ 3.Ke7+ Be5#

In the view of the minimal black force in the **WS09** and the apparent freedom of movement of the black Queen, it is remarkable that she can be forced to checkmate the white King in four moves.

WS09 *Chess Player's Chronicle*
October 10, 1883



S#4

1.Bh3!

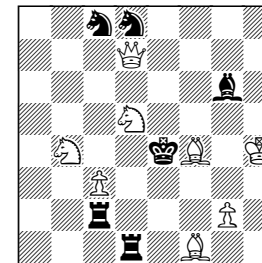
1...Qa8/Qe8 2.Qd4+ Qe4 3.Qf6+ Qf5
4.Qg5+ Qxg5#
1...Q~ 2.Qb4+/Qc4+/Qd4+ QxQ 3.g3+
Kf3+ 4.Bg4+ Qxg4#

American Teen's Chess Problem Tourney

Joshua Green, 17, of Phoenix, Arizona, has won the 1999 American Teen's Chess Problem Tourney. The tournament director, David L. Brown writes: "Seventeen-year-old Joshua Green hits a striking concept that courts modern trends. In all, the well-conceived play shows eight (!) different thematic black checks. Two tries even introduce checks which are refuting defenses! Note that 1...Rxc2+ is technically different in all the phases; so arguably one could say there are ten checks. Despite that the mates are achieved by basic direct captures, all the checks importantly adhere to the theme ('The white King exposes himself to two or more checks'). And Mr. Green produces rich content indeed! The idea is fresh and original. The construction is top-notch, and the problem is a most deserving winner."



Joshua Green, 1st Prize
American Teen's Chess
Problem Tourney 1999



#2√

1.Kg5? (2.Nf6)
1...Rxd5+ 2.Qxd5#
1...Ne6+ 2.Qxe6#
1...Rxc2+ 2.Bxc2#
but Nf7+!
1.Kg4? (2.Nf6)
1...Bf5+ 2.Qxf5#
1...Rxc2+ 2.Bxc2#
but Bh5+!
1.Kg3! (2.Nf6)
1...Rxc3+ 2.Nxc3#
1...Rxc2+ 2.Bxc2#
1...Rd3+ 2.Bxd3#