

1st Prize: No. 1347, Zoltán Labai

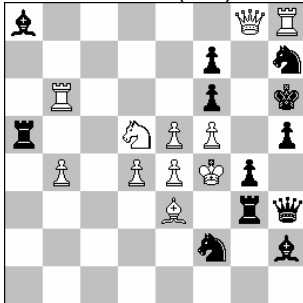
The royal battery in the diagram position promises fireworks – and it duly delivers. The key provides a flight, used in both threat and a by-variation, finished by knight battery mates. However, two other variations with bBs closing bRs' lines, giving flights to wK. In replies. wK enters the newly provided flights e3 and e4, and wQ forces checkmate in W3s, given by direct bishop batteries. All in all, the richest strategy in a reasonable form.

1. Qb5! threat 2. Kc4+ Kxe6 3. Qc6+ Sd6#, 1. ... Bg3 2. Kxe3+ Kxe6 3. Qe5+ Bxe5#, 1. ... Bg4 2. Kxe4+ Kxe6 3. Qf5+ Bxf5#, 1. ... Kxe6 2. Qxf5+ Kd6 3. Qf6+ Sxf6#.

2nd Prize

Daniel Papack

1440 Gaudium (171) 11/16



s#2 (11+12)

1st Prize

Zoltán Labai

1347 Gaudium (164) 05/16



s#3 (10+10)

Finally, thanks to all authors participating in the tourney!

Juraj Lörinc
Marianka, 26.08.2017

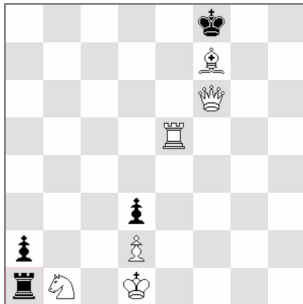
Mein großer Dank für den profunden Bericht geht an den Preisrichter, der neben dem Richteramt im FIDE-Album auch Zeit für Gaudium gefunden hat!

Für eventuelle Einsprüche gilt die übliche 3-Monatsfrist.

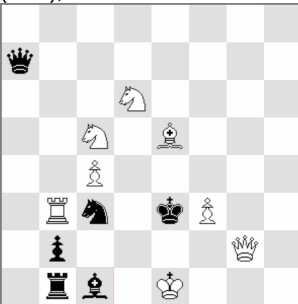
Gunter Jordan, Jena

Examples:

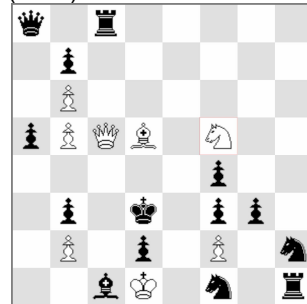
EXST Anatoli Stepotschkin
Springaren 2016, s#8, (6+4)



EXSO Zivko Janevski
StrateGems 2006, s#3,
(8+6), 1st Commendation



EXJO Rainer Paslack
Schach-Aktiv 1992, s#7,
(8+14)



EXST: 1. Tg5! (blocus) a×b1S 2. Bc4+ Ke8 3. Rg8+ Kd7 4. Bb5+ Kc7 5. Qe7+ Kb6 6. Rb8+ Ka5 7. Qc7+ Kb4 8. Qc3+ S×c3#, 1. ... a×b1B 2. Bc4+ Ke8 3. Qc6+ Ke7 4. Rg7+ Kd8, Kf8 5. Rg8+ Ke7 6. Qc7+ Kf6 7. Qd6+ Kf5 8. B×d3+ B×d3#

EXSO: 1. Bh2! threat 2. Qe2+ Kd4 3. Qf2+ Be3#, 1. ... Q×c5 2. Qf2+ Kd3 3. Qd2+ B×d2#, 1. Qe7 2. Qd2+ K×f3+ 3. Qe2+ Q×e2#

EXJO: 1. Qe3+? f×e3!, 1. Qe7! (threat 2. Qe2+ f×e2#) Re8 2. Qc7 (thr. 3. Qc2+ b×c2#) Rc8 3. Q×f4 (thr. 4. Qe3+ S×e3#) Re8 4. Qc7 Rc8 5. Qe7 Re8 6. Qc5 Rc8 7. Qe3+ S×e3#

Herausgeber:	Gunter Jordan, Grillparzerweg 14, D-07749 Jena
Abonnement:	Anmeldung an gaudiumprobleme@versanet.de oder durch Einsendung von mindestens 1 Original an Gaudium

Entscheid im Informalturnier Gaudium 2015/2016 Selbstmatts Preisrichter: Juraj Lörinc (Marianka, SVK)

I would like to thank Gunter Jordan for entrusting me with the judge's role of the tourney. Since that moment, I have been also selected as FIDE Album judge for fairies and already made a lot of work over that judgment, and this is actually a reason for a slight delay of Gaudium award, for which I apologize.

There were 35 original selfmates published during two years in Gaudium, of them one was found incorrect, but author managed to provide the corrected version very quickly. Maybe there are some incorrect longer selfmates still standing (because nobody found a cook), but at least the top problems were proven to be sound.

The overall level of competition was not very high. I missed especially multiple-variation middle-movers (4 to 6 moves long) that tend to provide the top quality in the contemporary selfmate competitions. Also, there were a lot of single-variation originals without any profound idea, just enough for publication. Fortunately, a few good problems appeared too.

The award is presented in my preferred form (from good to the best). But before that a few awards about some non-awarded problems:

1201 (G152) - 3 variations, but the use of black pieces is limited.

1395 (G167) - brutal massacre, it was a candidate for special honours, but then the strong theme is not clearly identifiable.

1441 (G171) - WCCT theme was there, but not enough content to get into award.

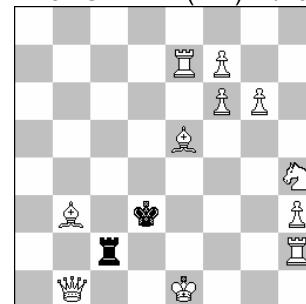
1456 (G172) - the author has worked with the idea of B/S-promotions with limited white material to cope with them, a few months earlier **EXST** is better and thus anticipated 1456.

1458 (G172) - the better of two similar positions with bB oscillation, but is still requires something more.

Special Commendation

Alexander Fica

1457 Gaudium (172) 12/16

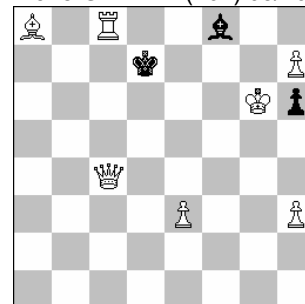


s#7 b) wKg1 c) wKg3 (11+2)

4th Commendation

Jozef Holubec

1348 Gaudium (164) 05/16

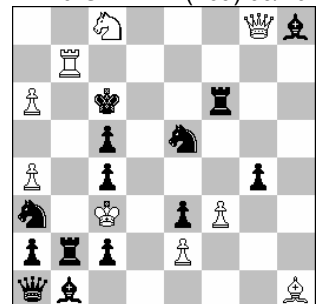


s#9 b) sPh6->h5 (7+3)

3rd Commendation

Rodolfo Riva

1410 Gaudium (169) 09/16



s#2 (9+14)

Special Commendation: No. 1457, Alexander Fica

Trio of model mates (considerable achievement) is shown using twinning form by moving white king, but I do not like humble role of Re7 in two phases and especially flight-taking key in a). a) 1.Sf5! Ke4 2.Rf2 Kd3 3.Ba2 Ke4 4.Rf4+ Kd3 5.Qb3+ Rc3 6.Kd1 Rxb3 7.Bb1+ Rxb1#, b) 1.f8Q! Ke3 2.Qh6+ Kd3 3.g7 Ke4 4.g8R Kd3 5.Qh7+ Ke3 6.Qe1+ Re2 7.Rg2 Rxe1# 2. ... Ke4 3.g7 Kd3 4.g8R Ke4 5.Qh7+ ..., c) 1.Ba2! K~ 2.Ba1+ Kd3 3.Qb5+ Rc4 4.Qf5+ Re4 5.Re5 Kg3 6.Bb1 Rxe5 7.Qg5+ Rxe5#.

4th Commendation: No. 1348, Jozef Holubec

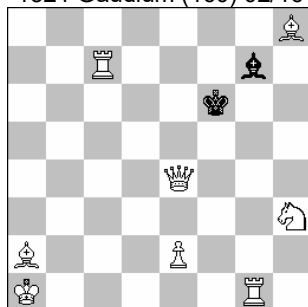
Two similar (but not echo) mates are attained in a ways differentiated by mere single pawn move (un)availability. If only this could be presented in the variation form (e.g. with defences single- and double-step of the pawn). Inspiration for the future work?

a) 1.Qc6+ Ke7 2.Rc7+ Kd8 3.Rd7+ Ke8 4.Qe6+ Be7 5.Kg7 h5 6.Bc6 h4 7.Kh8 Kf8 8.Rd8+ Bxd8 9.Qf6+ Bxf6#, b) 1.Qc7+ Ke6 2.Re8+ Be7 3.Bf3 h4 4.Qc6+ Ke5 5.Kh6 Kf5 6.Bg4+ Ke5 7.Bh5 Kf5 8.Qd5+ Kf6 9.Rf8+ Bxf8#.

3rd Commendation: No. 1410, Rodolfo Riva

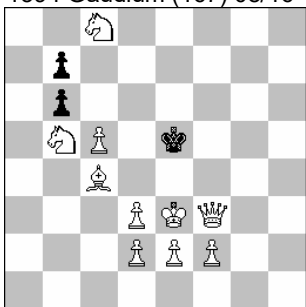
2+2 related variations are produced using half-battery mechanism. One pair of variations is connected by play on the same squares in both B1 and B2 (f7,f3), while the other pair shows inversion of black moves Sd7 and Re6. 1.Qf7! thr. 2.Rb6+ Rxb6#, 1. ... Rxf7/Sxf7 2.f4+fxg4+ Sf3/Rf3#, 1. ... Re6/Sd7 2.Qd7+/Qe6+ Sxd7/Rxe6#, 1. ... Sb5+ 2.axb5+ Rxb5#.

2nd Commendation
Milomir Babić
1321 Gaudium (160) 02/16



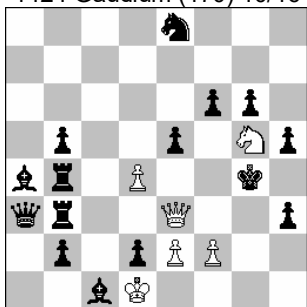
s#9 2 Solutions (8+2)

1st Commendation
Anatoly Stepotschkin
1394 Gaudium (167) 08/16



s#8 (10+3)

4th Honorable Mention
Iwan Soroka
1424 Gaudium (170) 10/16



s#3 (6+15)

2nd Commendation: No. 1321, Milomir Babić

A pair of echo mates is shown without twinning, in the form of two solutions. Of course, white king does not move and the echo is just reflected, but still it is technically better than just using twinning.

I) 1.Rc3! Bxh8 2.Rf1+ Kg7 3.Qh4 Kg6 4.Rg1+ Kf5 5.Qg5+ Ke4 6.Bb1+ Kd4 7.Rg4+ Kxc3 8.Qc1+ Kb3+ 9.Qb2+ Bxb2#, II) 1.Qd3! Bxh8! (1. ... Ke5? 2.Re7+: s#8) 2.Rf7+ Ke5 3.Re7+ Kf6 4.Qd7 Bg7 5.Rf7+ Ke5 6.Qe7+ Kd4 7.Rf4+ Kc3 8.Qb4+ Kc2+ 9.Qb2+ Bxb2#.

1st Commendation: No. 1394, Anatoly Stepotschkin

The set play is not a real one, it has a helping element. It however strongly suggests to a solver that is enough to win a zugzwang battle and the mating picture can be kept. This is just an illusion - actually it is necessary to change two selfblocks (!) before the checkmate can be forced.

1.Sc6! bxc5 2.Qxb7 Kf6 3.Qh7 ~ 4.f3 Kf6 5.Se4+ Ke5 6.Qh6 Kf5 7.Sf2 Ke5 8.Sd4 cxd4#.

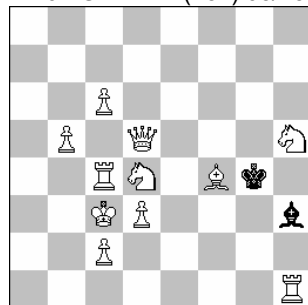
4th Honourable Mention: No. 1424, Iwan Soroka

Rotation of the 2nd and the 3rd moves was shown many times in s#3, even the

mechanism with wQ moves to neighbouring squares. The most similar example known to me is **EXSO**. The use of the same battery playing along the of Q-squares here might be novelty, but one had to pay by heavy black material needed.

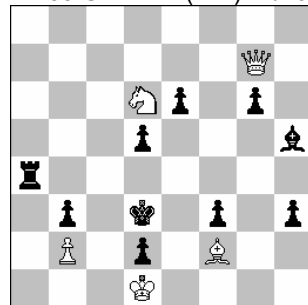
1.Se6! threat 2.Qf3+ [A] Kh4 3.Qg3+ [B] Rxe3#, 1. ... e4 2.Qg3+ [B] Kf5 3.Qh3+ [C] Rxe3#, 1. ... Kf5 2.Qh3+ [C] Ke4 3.Qf3+ [A] Rxe3#.

3rd Honorable Mention
Jozef Holubec
1202 Gaudium (152) 05/15



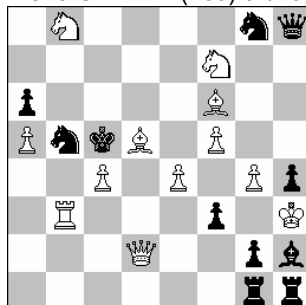
s#9 (11+2)

2nd Honorable Mention
Gunter Jordan
1455 Gaudium (172) 12/16



s#5 (5+10)

1st Honorable Mention
Rodolfo Riva
1320 Gaudium (160) 02/16



s#3 (12+11)

3rd Honorable Mention: No. 1202, Jozef Holubec

Example of dynamic echo (1,1) shown in the form of two variations is technically well executed except the checking key (with quiet key this would be a prize) and a pair of white pawns determining 2.Sb3. The final result is strong. 1.Qe6+! Kh4 2.Sf3+ Kxh5 3.Se1 Kh4 4.Kd4 Kh5 5.Ke4 Kh4 6.Rd4 Kh5 7.Be3 Kh4 8.Qe5 Kg4 9.Sg2 Bxg2#, 1. ... Kxh5 2.Sb3 Kh4 3.d4 Kh5 4.Kd3 Kh4 5.Rc3 Kh5 6.Bd2 Kh4 7.Qe5 Kg4 8.Qg5+ Kf3 9.Rf1+ Bxf1#.

2nd Honourable Mention: No. 1455, Gunter Jordan

Duel of the wQ with the bR is based on varied vertical Q lines of attack and ability of bR to interfere with lines of action. Comparison of the try with the real play shows there is a well motivated need to remove a defender Pe6. Compare to **EXJO** based on the similar idea but with complete pendulum. 1.Qf7? Rg4 2.Qc7 Rc4!, 1.Qf8! (thr. 2.Qxf3+ Bxf3#) Rg4! 2.Qc8 (3.Qc2+ bxc2#) Rc4 3.Qxe6! (thr. 4.Qe2+ fxe2#) Re4 4.Qxd5+ Rd4 5.Qxf3+ Bxf3#.

1st Honourable Mention: No. 1320, Rodolfo Riva

Very good selfmate motivation of two variations. Black defends by captures of f6 and seemingly allows multiple white continuations, but specific captures provide additional guards for dual avoidance: Qf6 guards both a6 and e5, Sf6 guards d7 and e4. If only the defence motif was pure: while 1...Sxf6 only provides flight d4, 1...Qxf6 additionally guards d6. One cannot have everything.

1.Qf4! thr. 2.Rxb5+ axb5 3.Qd6+ Bxd6#, 1. ... Sxf6 2.Sxa6+ (2.Sd7+?) Kd4 3.Qe5+ (3.e5+?) Bxe5#, 1. ... Qxf6 2.Sd7+ (2.Sxa6+?) Kd4 3.e5+ (3.Qe5+?) Bxf4#.

2nd Prize: No. 1440, Daniel Papack

To fully understand the depth of the strategy, it is probably the best to study two variations of the solution first. Clearly, two pins of Sd5 play a crucial role in checkmates. Then, however, wrong moves (i.e. tries) by wR arrive on two lines that would become a pins if they were not interfered in anticipation. Very good s#2.

1.Rb5? (2.Qg5+) Sxe4? 2.Kxe4+ Rxe3#, but 1. ... fxe5+! (2.Kxe5+ Rxe3+ 3.Sf4!), 1.Rb7? (2.Qg5+) fxe5+? 2.Kxe5+ Rxe3#, aber 1. ... Sxe4! (2.Kxe4+ Rxe3+ 3.Sxe3!); 1.Rb8! threat 2.Qg5+ fxe5#, 1. ... fxe5+ 2.Kxe5+ Rxe3#, 1. ... Sxe4 2.Kxe4+ Rxe3#.

Diagram see next page.