



INTERNATIONAL CHESS COMPOSITION MAGAZINE
SPECIAL ISSUE NO. 65 April/2016

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EDITORIAL

Respected fellow problemists,

As announced in the Editorial of the last, regular, issue of Orbit 64, in front of you is a special issue of our magazine, containing 12 awards of Orbit's informal tourneys. At the time of the preparation and publication of this issue we had not received, and thus are not able to publish, the award by M. Caillaud for the group Retro, 2010.

With this the awards are announced, ready for your comments and suggestions. The deadline is three months from the date of publication, after which we will publish the final awards.

The Editorial team again thank all collaborators who participated in the creation of the magazine Orbit. We believe that the magazine will have its place in the history of chess problems in the world.

Orbit Informal tourney award 2011

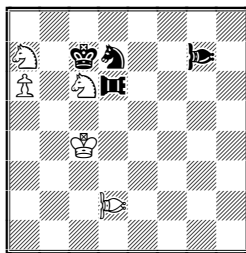
Faires

There were 27 problems published in №49-52 of "Orbit" (h#,h=/hs#) in 2 moves and seriesshelfmates (ser-h#) in not more than 9 moves. It think that this regulation was rather restrictive, especially for the genre hs#2 where two moves are a very "short distance" to express more complex content. However, the level of the tournament can be considered as very good.

1st Prize – no.F27 Hans Peter Rehm: In my opinion - a clear logical problem! If in the initial setting the DL stands on "b6" it is possible to immediately play Kb4# with creation of anti-battery Kb4/DLd2. But how to perform this plan in 9 moves? The answer is paradoxical - through 2 round trips by the S and the DT!! **1.Sf6 2.DTe6(via g6) 3.Se4 4.DTe5(via e3) 5.Sc5 6.DLb6(via d4) 7.DTd5(via b5) 8.Sd7 9.DTd6(via d8) Kb4#.**

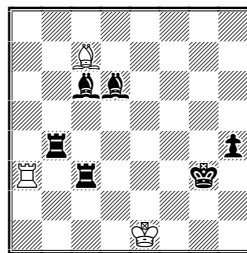
2nd Prize – no.F4 Pierre Tritten: A perfectly composed Meredith (only 9 pieces!) in which the black moves in both phases are executed in the order AB/BA. But the most interesting moment here is the specific form of theme "Umnov" combined with battery-creation, switchbacks and of course - interchange of functions! Four years previously such content had been rather modern! **1.Lg2 Txc3-c6 2.Tg4 Txd6-a3# & 1.Tg4 Lxd6-b4 2.Lg2 Lxc3-c7#.**

1. Pr. no.F27
Hans Peter Rehm



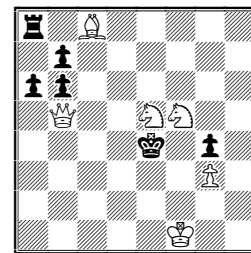
ser-h#9 5+4
double T/L-hoppers

2. Pr. no.F4
Pierre Tritten



h#2 2111 3+6
Take & Make

3. Pr. no.F15
Boris Shorokhov &
Chris Feather



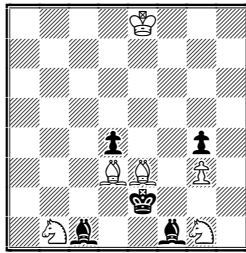
ser-h#4 6+6
2 solutions

3rd Prize – no.F15 Boris Shorokhov & Chris Feather. An unusually motivated Zilahi with extra captures and BK switchbacks! A light setting (Meredith!) but in my opinion the key-moves are rather obvious - de facto - in the initial setting Black has only 5 possible moves: 1.Rb8, 1.Ra7, 1.a5 (all these possibilities make no sense!), so

only the 2 key-moves remain. However, the originality of the idea deserves a prize! **I. 1.axb5 2.Kxe5 3.Ke4 4.Kf3 Lxb7# II. 1.Txc8 2.Kxf5 3.Ke4 4.Ke3 Dd3#.**

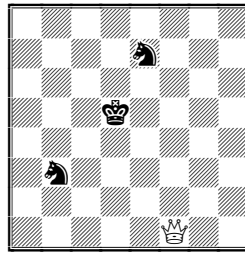
4th Prize – no.F6 Vlaicu Crisan: Excellent play of reciprocal white S/S batteries and many other interesting Anti-Circe (Cheylan) effects! Here there are also almost full Chameleon-echo finales. But the play in both phases obviously has a rather symmetrical character. The problem deserves a prize because after the nice thematic try: 1.Ld2? (aiming at 2.Le1 Sc3#), White has no tempo move - an important paradoxical motive! **1...Lf2 2.Ld2 Sc3# & 1.Kd2 Lc2 2.Le2 Sf3#.**

4. Pr. no.F6
Vlaicu Crisan



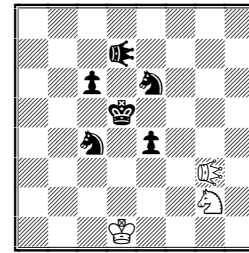
h#2* 6+5
antiCirce Cheylan

Sp. Pr. no.F24
Geoff Foster



h#2½ 4 solutions 1+3
PWC [no ♔]

1. H.M. no.F3
Klaus Wenda



h#2 b) DGd7→g6 3+6
Double Grasshoppers

Special Prize – no.F24 Geoff Foster: In PWC there are only two types of model mates (pictures) in the middle of the board using wQ, bK and 2bSs! Without wK on the board we have ideal-mates of course. This problem is really sensational in that we see 4 solutions (two pairs of beautiful ideal mates), without twins in a problem in 2.5 moves! Here I also hope that no predecessors will be found! **I. 1...Db5+ 2.Kd6 Dxb3[bSb5] 3.Sc7 Dd5#; II. 1...De2 2.Sc5 Dxe7[bSe2] 3.Sd4 De6#; III. 1...De1 2.Kc4 Dxe7[bSe1] 3.Sd3 Dc5# IV. 1...Df6 2.Sd4 Dxd4[bSf6]+ 3.Ke6 Dd5#.**

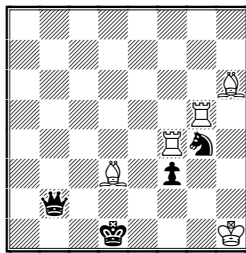
1st Honourable Mention – no.F3 Klaus Wenda: Attractive model echoes in which the mating moves each realise two indirect white anti-batteries using the wDG. **a) 1.DGc5 DGc1 2.Se5 Se3# b) 1.Sd4 DGg5 2.DGd6 Sf4#.**

2nd Honourable Mention – no.F2 Mario Parrinello: Interesting play of white indirect half-battery Rf4,Rg5/Bh6. Black creates two nice batteries Q/Pg7 and Q/Sg4, then follows Annihilation captures of one wR, cross checks and mates with reborn Rooks on square "h1". A rich complex but I think that this concept can be improved - for example, by such a position that allows mates with white Rooks from the squares "a1" and "h1". **1.Dg7 Kg2 2.Dxg5[bDd8]+ Txf3[wTh1]# & 1.Db8 Kh2 2.Dxf4[bDd8]+ Txx4[wTh1]#.**

3rd Honourable Mention – no. F13 Chris Feather: The same Bishop mates from all possible directions - undoubtedly this is a very difficult task problem that deserves attention! But on the other hand it is obvious that the solutions are not

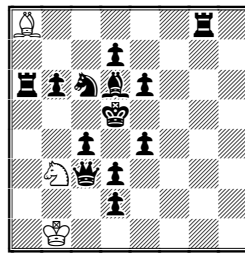
equivalent thematically. There is also some unpleasant repetition of moves. I. 1.Taxa8[wLa6] Ka2 2.De5 Lxc4[bPa6]#; II. 1.Le5 Lb7 2.d6 Lxc6[bSb7]#; III. 1.e5 Lxc6[bSa8]+ 2.dxc6[wLd7] Le6#; IV. 1.Tgxa8[wLg8] Lh7 2.Se5 Lxe4[bPh7]#.

2. H.M. no.F2
Mario Parrinello



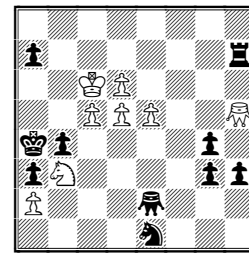
h#2 2111 5+4
antiCirce

3. H.M. no.F13
Chris Feather



h#2 4111 3+13
PWC

4. H.M. no.F9
Diyan Kostadinov



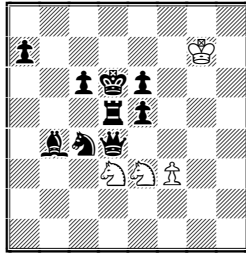
hs#2 Grasshoppers 8+10
b/c) BLe1/BGe1

4th Honourable Mention – no.F9 Diyan Kostadinov: A triple duel between white and black Grasshoppers. Interesting twins - this complex is also not a cure for implementation. But the construction is heavy and White has a very limited number of possible moves in the beginning - in other words it means that the key-moves are obvious. a) 1.Gh8 Sd3 2.Gd4+ Gc4# b) 1.Gf3 Ld2 2.Gd1+ Gc2# c) 1.Gh2 Ge3 2.Gf4+ Ge4#.

5th Honourable Mention – no.F17 Pierre Tritten: Editors note: PWC offers unique possibilities for paradoxical white round trips in the serieshelpmate. Here two such circuits, one by each S, are skilfully combined with follow-my-leader effects in a highly original composition. But I think that PWC in this type of problems does not deserve so high a score because here the fairy condition helps too much for the realization of such "special round-trips" in which the thematic white piece makes only one move. On the other hand I think that it cannot be considered that the mate finales are quite perfect. But in general, the problem is a good achievement. I. 1.Dxe3[wSd4] 2.Txd4[wSd5] 3.Kxd5[wSd6] 4.Sxd6[wSc4] Sxe3[bDc4]#; II. 1.Dxd3[wSd4] 2.exd4[wSe5] 3.Kxe5[wSd6] 4.Lxd6[wSb4] Sxd3[bDb4]#.

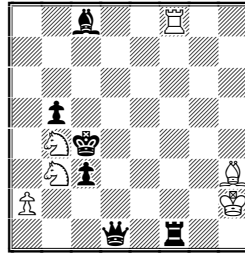
6th Honourable Mention – no.F7 S.K.Balasubramanian: The editor Chris Feather notes: "Typical Madrasi interferences in a very economical TF-style setting, with pin-mates in one pair and double check mates in the other". Unfortunately, the repetition of black key-moves in both duos (1.Df3 and 1.Dd7) is an essential minus! a) 1.Df3 Tf4+ 2.Dg4 Lxf1# & 1.Dd7 Lxf1+ 2.Dd3 Tf4# b) 1.Dd7 Le6+ 2.Df7 Txc8# & 1.Df3 Txc8+ 2.Dc6 Le6#.

5. H.M. no.F17
Pierre Tritten



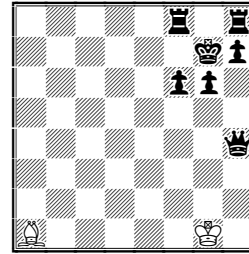
ser-h#4 2 sols 4+9

6. H.M. no.F7
S.K.Balasubramanian



h#2 2111 6+6
b) Pa2→a3 Madrasi

Comm. no.F1
John M. Rice

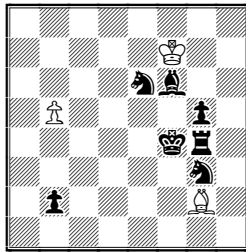


h#2 Circe 2+7
b) WTal

Comendations (without rank and comments):

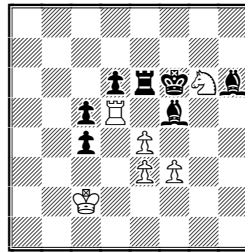
– no.F1 John M. Rice: a) 1.Tfg8 Lxf6[bPf7]+ 2.Dxf6[wLc1] Lh6# b) 1.Thg8 Ta4 2.Dxa4[wTh1] Txb7#.

Comm. no.F5
Chris Feather



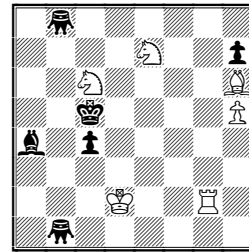
h#2 2111 3+7
CouscousCirce

Comm. no.F18
Friedrich Hariuc



ser-h#5 6+7
2 solutions

Comm. no.F23
Valerio Agostini &
Antonio Garofalo



h#2 b) ♞a4→a7 6+6
Grasshopper ♞

– no.F5 Chris Feather: 1.b1=D Kxe6[bSe1] (Kxf6?) 2.Dxb5[wPd8=D] Dd2# & 1.b1=T Kxf6[bLe1] (Kxe6?) 2.Txb5[wPa8=D] Df3#.

– no.F18 Friedrich Hariuc: I. 1.Txe4 2.Ke6 3.Kxd5 4.Le6 5.Te5 Se7#; II. 1.Lxe3 2.Kg5 3.Txg6 4.Kf4 5.Tg3 Txf5#.

– no.F23 Valerio Agostini & Antonio Garofalo: a) 1.Lb5 Lf4 2.Gb6 Tg5# (1...Tg6? 2.Gb6 Le3+? 3.Gd4!) b) 1.Lb6 Tg6 2.Gb5 Le3# (1...Lf4? 2.Gb5 Tg5? 3.Gd5!).

International Judge of FIDE, IGM Petko Petkov

Orbit Informal tourney award 2012

Selfmates in 2 and 3 moves

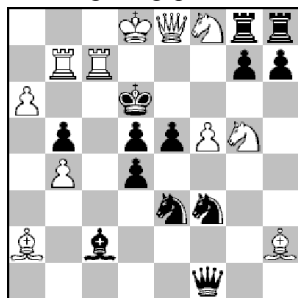
There were 12 problems in 2 or 3 moves published in №53-56 of "Orbit". The level of the tournament can be considered as good, considering that nowadays this genre is experiencing a severe crisis: it is evident that there is a depletion of the most effective mechanisms, as well as depletion in thematic terms.

In this situation, it is inevitable to have repetition of mechanisms, themes and ideas - especially on "short distances" - in 2 and 3 moves. In this repetition, problems which showcased some fresh motives and ideas based on already well known structures and concepts have "right to life".

In this "originality only in the details", I think, as a general trend in the new s#2 and s#3, the quality is not of the greatest level and each judge is required to allow some compromises in aesthetic and constructive attitude.

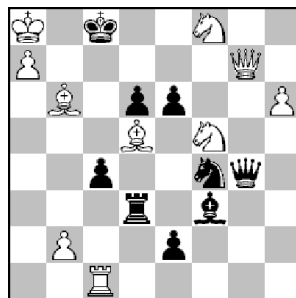
1st Prize – no.3475 Andrey Selivanov & Igor Agapov: Without a doubt the best job in the tournament. The authors comment: "Choice of the key. Theme: mates in two variations with pin of white Queen, and mates in two variations with white Queen's sacrifices after silent second moves". Though it is true that in the second duo (after 1...Lb3 2.Kc8 and 1...Sc4 2.Sh4) the play is not fully identical (the variation with 2.Kc8! is better), the problem deserves 1st prize! *1.Sfe6? Lb3!; 1.Sfh7:? Sc4!; 1.Sg6! (2.Td7+ Kc6 3.Td5:+ Te8:#); 1.- Lf5: 2.Le5:+ Se5: 3.Tc6+ Sc6:#; 1.- Dc4 2.Tc6+ Dc6: 3.Td7+ Dd7:#; 1.- Lb3 2.Kc8! 3.Dd8+ Td8:# (2.Sh4!? 3.Df8+ Tf8:#; 2.- Sf5:!) ; 1.- Sc4 2.Sh4! 3.Df8+ Tf8:# (2.Se5:!? 3.Df8+ Tf8:#; 2.- Sh2:!).*

1. Pr. no.3475
Andrey Selivanov &
Igor Agapov



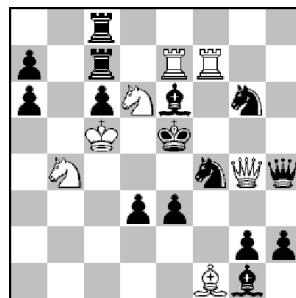
s#3 11+13

2. Pr. no.3532
Zoran Gavrilovski



s#2 10+9

3. Pr. no.3368
Eugeniusz Iwanow



s#2 7+15

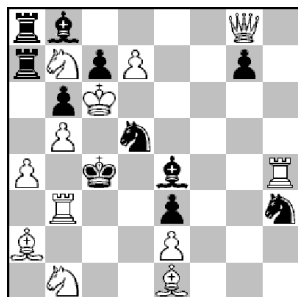
2nd Prize – no.3532 Zoran Gavrilovski: This mechanism for creation of black batteries has long been known in all kinds of selfmates (from 2 to "n" - moves!), but here the author has managed to add to the old concept very interesting thematic tries

that give a rich and modern look to the content. This is probably one of the possible acceptable perspectives of contemporary authors of s#2, 3. 1.- Ld5:+(m) 2.Db7+ Lb7:#, 1.- Dg7: 2.Lb7+ Db7:#; 1.Dd4?(2.Lb7+ Lb7:#) Ld5:+!(m), 1.- ed5(x) 2.Dc4:+ dc4#, 1.- Sd5:(y) 2.Tc4:+(A) Sc7#; 1.Dg8?(2.Lb7+ Lb7:#) ed5!(x); 1.Df6?(2.Lb7+ Lb7:#) Sd5:!(y); 1.Dc3?(2.Lb7+ Lb7:#) Td5:!(z); 1.Dh8!(2.Lb7+ Lb7:#), 1.- ed5(x) 2.Tc4:+(A) dc4#, 1.- Sd5:(y) 2.Se7+ Se7:#, 1.- Td5:(z) 2.Sd6:+ Td6:#.

3rd Prize – no.3368 Eugeniusz Iwanow. Author's comment: "Zagoruyko-Ruchlis with black Correction + anti-dual". But I cannot accept that such a difficult complex is shown in a clean and complete form here. I mostly agree with the evaluation of the editor Živko Janevski: "A good modern selfmate in two with changed and transferred white continuations and Black Correction". I would add that I think there is a blend of modern elements that make a good impression. 1.Df4:+? Sgf4:!: 1.- Df4:(a) 2.Sc6+(A) (2.Sc4+ Ke4!) Tc6:#; 1.Lg2:?[2.Sd3+(B) Sd3:#] Se2!; 1.- Sf~(b) 2.Dd4+ (2.Sc6+? Tc6:+ 3.Kb4!) Dd4:#; 1.De2?(2.De3+ Le3:#) gf1S!; 1.- Sf~(b) 2.Sc6+(A) (2.Sc4+? Ke4) Tc6:#; 1.- de2 2.Sd3+(B) Sd3:#; 1.Df3!(2.De3+ Le3:#); 1.- Sf~ 2.Sc4+(D) (2.Sc6+?) Dc4:#; 1.- Sd5! 2.Sc6+(A) (2.Sc4+?) Tc6:#; 1.- gf1S 2.Sd3+ cd3#.

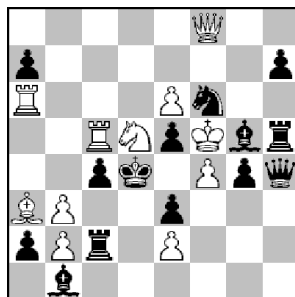
1st Honourable Mention – no.3473 Živko Janevski: Black against white battery plus unpins by the Sd5! Unfortunately, this formula is seen only in the threat and after 1...Ta4:. After 1.- Shf4 only the black battery plays, though this variant is sufficiently interesting. 1.De6?(2.Tb2+ Kd4 3.Tb4+ Sb4#) Ta4:!: 1.Lg3!(2.Tb2+ Kd4 3.Tb4+ Sb4:#); 1.- Ta4: 2.Tb4+ Kb4: 3.Df8+ Se7#; 1.- Shf4 2.Sa3+ Kd4 3.Dg7:+ Sf6#.

1. H.M. no.3473
Živko Janevski



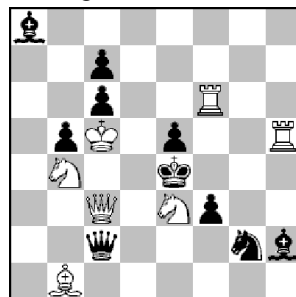
s#3 12+11

2. H.M. no.3533
Frank Richter



s#2 11+14

Comm. no.3534
Eugeniusz Iwanow



s#3 7+10

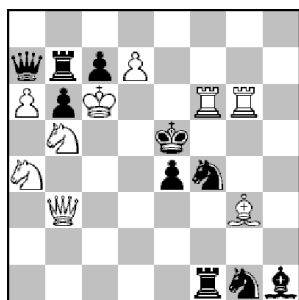
2nd Honourable Mention – no.3533 Frank Richter: This also has a good set of different modern motifs, but I think it lacks a more clear determination of the main theme. 1.Ta4,Taa5,Sc7?(2.Tc4:+ Tc4:#) Se4!; 1.Td6? (2.Tc4:+ Tc4:#) cb3!; 1.Dd6?(2.Tc4:+ Tc4:#) e4!; 1.Sb6?(2.Tc4:+ Tc4:#) ab6!; 1.Se7!(2.Tc4+ Tc4:#), 1.- Se4 2.Td6+ Sd6:#, 1.- e4 2.Df6:+ Lf6:#, 1.- cb3 2.Ta4+ Tc4#, 1.- c3 2.bc3+ Tc3:#.

Comendations (without rank and comments):

– **no.3534 Eugeniusz Iwanow:** 1.- Dd3,Dd1 2.Te5:+ Le5: 3.Dd4+ Ld4:#, 1.- Lg1 2.Dc2:+ Ke3 3.Dd2+ Kd2:#; 1.Sc4! (2.Te5:+ Le5: 3.Dd4+ Ld4:#), 1.- Lg1+ 2.De3+ Se3: 3.Th4+ Sg4#, 1.- Sf4 2.Dd4+ ed4 3.Te6+ Se6:#.

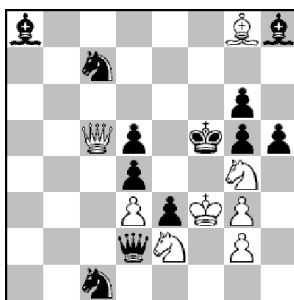
– **no.3535 Nicolae Chivu:** 1.Sb2!(2.Sd3+ ed3 3.Dd5+ Ld5:#), 1.- Tf3 2.Dc3+ Tc3: 3.Sc4+ Tc4:#, 1.- Sf3 2.Te6+ Kf5 3.Sd4+ Sd4:#, 1.- Td1 2.Dc3+ Td4 3.Sd3+ ed3#, 1.- Tc1+ 2.Dc3+ Tc3:+ 3.Sc4+ Tc4:#.

Comm. no.3535
Nicolae Chivu



s#3 9+10

Comm. no.3536
Živko Janevski



s#3 8+12

– **no.3536 Živko Janevski:** * 1.- Se6 2.Dd5:+ Le5 3.Sd4:+ Sd4:#; 1.De7!(2.De4+ de4 3.de4+ Le4#), 1.- Le5 2.Se3:+ de3 3.g4+ hg4#, 1.- Se6 2.Df7+ Lf6 3.Sd4:+ Sd4:#.

International Judge of FIDE, IGM Petko Petkov

***Orbit* Informal tourney award 2012**

Faires

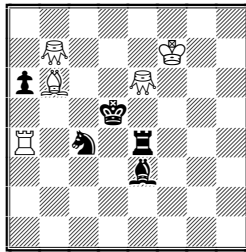
There were 36 problems published in №53-56 of “Orbit” (h#,h=hs#) in 2 moves and serieshelpmates (ser-h#) in not more than 9 moves. The level of the tournament was very high - especially with regard to problems that are awarded with prizes! I enjoyed the diversity of genres and themes and also the participation of many world-famous masters in the tournament!

1st - 2nd Prize e.a. – no.F37 S.K. Balasubramanian & K. Seetharaman & Chris Feather: So far only a small number of problems in which the conditions A and B are successfully combined are known. I think that Meredith is the most successful form in this regard. The role of white Grasshoppers is especially interesting. Overall the problem presents brilliant play of three duos of figures: Bb6/Be3; Ra4/Re4;

Gb7/Ge6. Excellent model pin-mates! **a) 1.Sb2 Gxe3-d4 (Gxe4-d4?) 2.Kxd4-a1 Ld4# b) 1.Sd7 Gxe4-d4 (Gxe3-d4?) 2.Kxd4-d8 Td4#.**

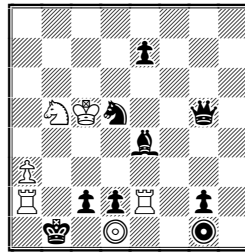
1st - 2nd Prize e.a. – no.F65 Kjell Widlert: This is the most original problem in the competition although the content here has only one phase! In the standard fairy practice so-called "null - moves" are not allowed. Such moves are only allowed when an additional condition "(null moves allowed)" is specified! But the big question here is: why you need zero moves and what will you do with them? About this problem Kjell answers: "Black's Rose promotion is motivated only by the need for a later tempo, otherwise any promotion would do. Also the first move by White is determined by the need to keep a tempo for Black". C. Feather's comment: "Both white and (promoted) black roses make null moves ("circular round trips") from the same square!" This super paradoxical idea is implemented as follows: **1.ROd1 c2xd1=RO 2.Taxd2 ROd1 3.Txd1+ Dc1#!**

1-2. Pr. no.F37
S.K.Balasubramanian &
K.Seetharaman & C.Feather



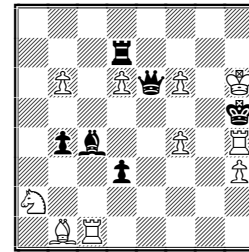
h#2 b) ♗c4→c5 5+5
Take&Make +Madrasi G♙

1-2. Pr. no.F65
Kjell Widlert



hs#3 Rose⊙⊙ 6+9
(null moves allowed!)

3. Pr. no.F63
Juraj Lörinc



h=(pat)2.5 3 sols 10+6
AssassinCirce + Patrol

3rd Prize – no.F63 Juraj Lörinc. Another very original problem with an exotic combination of conditions: Assassin Circe + Patrol Chess! According to the comments in "Orbit" this combination works as follows: "AssassinCirce is used to remove the active BT & BD; there is important interplay as the order of white captures determines the square where the BD is removed, thus affecting the black play. Patrol motivates the cyclic white play (observations a2-c1-b1-a2) as well as aiding the construction (e.g. the BD may not go to d5 or e8)."

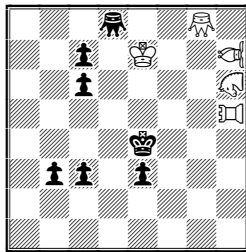
This ambitious plan with surprising effects is implemented in three solutions in a very good construction! **I. 1...Sxb4[BPb7] 2.Dg8 Lxd3[BPd7] 3.Dc8 Lxc4[BBc8]= II. 1...Lxd3 [BPd7] 2.De4 Txc4[BBc8] 3.Db7 Txb4[BPb7]= III. 1...Txc4[BBc8] 2.Tb7 Sxb4[BPb7] 3.Dd7 Sxd3 [BPd7]=.**

4th Prize – no.F50 Diyan Kostadinov: This matrix for cyclic creation of anti-batteries with PAO/VAO/NAO is well known from many genres in fairy-chess: direct mates, S#, HS#, ser-#N etc. In particular, so far in h#2 over 100 problems with similar

cyclical content have been composed. Also well-known are many h#2 with a "mobile black king" which makes the key-moves followed by blocks of fields around it, as in F50. But despite the familiar style of play, I think that F50 demonstrates some new, very interesting moments which deserve special attention. First we must note the excellent Meredith construction of this problem in which all 4 thematic pieces (the Chinese trio + w.Grasshopper) play perfectly. The black Grasshopper that blocks and simultaneously includes the white G also has an excellent role.

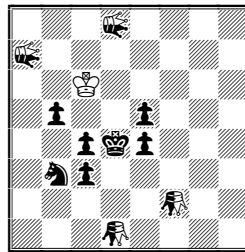
In other words: in every solution we see cyclic creation of a direct white anti-battery, two indirect white anti-batteries, one "special indirect anti-battery" created by both grasshoppers and of course - black self-block and model mate! On these grounds I think that this problem is a major step forward in the development of these types of mechanisms! a) 1.Kd3 Ga2 2.Gd2 PAf5# b) 1.Kd4 Ge2 2.Gd3 VAf5# c) 1.Kd5 Gf4 2.Gd4 NAf5#.

4. Pr. no.F50
Diyan Kostadinov



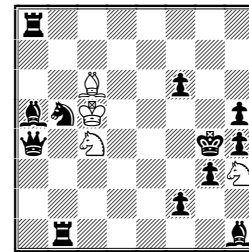
h#2 b/c) ♞g8>e5/d2 5+7
G♞♞ Pao♞ Vao♞ Nao♞

5. Pr. no.F38
Julia Vysotska



h#2 b) ♞b3→f4 1+7+4
neutrals: G ♞ Lion ♞

Sp. Pr. no.F48
Manfred Rittirsch



h#2 ABC 4+12
b) reflect a1:a8

5th Prize – no.F38 Julia Vysotska: Another highly original problem! Here I will cite the comment of the author Julia Vysotska who about this problem wrote in her website "Julias Fairies" the following: "Creation of neutral anti-batteries (nG/nLi) with 3 tries of a neutral G on the mating move in each solution, which gives a self-check, creating a specific anti-battery. Opening of line (for the nGs) and self-blocks on the black second moves" (the problem is №17 in Julia's collection, composed on 21.12.2011).

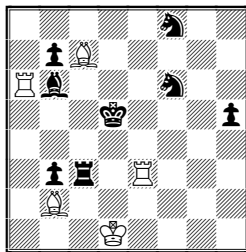
The theme of this problem I would name "Preventive neutral anti-batteries." They show their power when Black tries to avoid the mate through a move of a piece that belongs to the mating neutral anti-battery!. a) 1.Sc1 nGb1 2.Sd3 nGb6# (3.nGd6/?nGe3/?nLlc5/?nGb4?) b) 1.Sg2 nGh2 2.Se3 nGd6# (3.nGb6/?nGd3/?nLld5/?nGf4?).

Special Prize – no.F48 Manfred Rittirsch: Author's comment: "Twice activation of the mating piece by annihilation of two pieces which must otherwise move first; S/L Zilahi; BT/BL function exchange; model mates". This thematic

complex appears to me quite rich, interesting and unusual. Manfred has found an interesting mechanism presented here in a beautiful form. a) 1.Dc2 Lg2 2.Lc3 Se3 b) 1.Tc1 Sd7 2.Lc2 Ld2#.

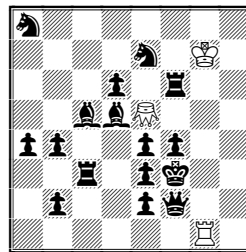
Special Prize – no.F32 Vlaicu Crisan & S. K. Balasubramanian: Exchange of functions between three pairs of pieces: Re3/Bc7, Ra6/Bb2, Rc3/Bb6. Anticipatory self-block by BSf6 with double line opening, orthogonal and diagonal echo batteries plus line-openings realized from three black pieces! A very rich thematic complex and mechanism. But here I must note that analogical opuses have been composed by this wonderful duo more than once. However, it seems to me, that this wonderful work deserves a special prize! I. 1.S6h7 Txc3-c6 2.Kxc6-h6 Lxb6-e3# II.1.Sg8 Lxb6-d4 2.Kxd4-g7 Txc3-c7#.

Sp. Pr. no.F32
Vlaicu Crisan &
S.K. Balasubramanian



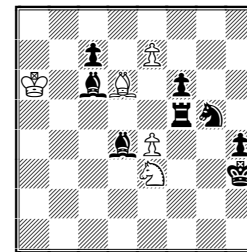
h#2 2111 5+8
Take&Make

1. H.M. no.F59
Mario Parrinello



h#2 3111 3+16
Grasshopper ♟

2. H.M. no.F64
Pierre Tritten



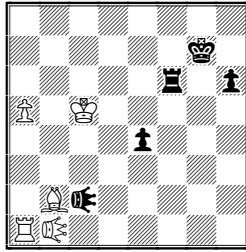
hs#2 3111 5+8
antiCirce

1st Honourable Mention – no.F59 Mario Parrinello: Three times the white G makes paradoxical mates on the squares vacated by the thematic black pieces which make critical moves! This super-paradoxical idea unfortunately is realized in a very heavy position, which contains all 16 black pieces!... I. 1.Ta3 Ga1 2.b3 Gc3# II. 1.Lb7 Gb5 2.Sc6 Gd5# III. 1.Th6 Gh8 2.Sg6 Gf6#.

2nd Honourable Mention – no.F64 Pierre Tritten: Editor's note: "A problem with remarkable, genre-specific parallelism between the attacks on the two kings. Bravo!" I can also add that the play around both Kings has a specific echo-character. A very nice work but without sufficient new elements in its content. I. 1.e8=S Sf3 2.Sxf6[WS>g1]+ Sxg1[BS>b8]# II. 1.e8=L Sf7 2.Lxf7 [WL>f1]+ Txf1[BT>a8]# III. 1.e8=T Sxe4[BS>g8] 2.Txg8[WT>h1]+ Lxh1[BB>c8]#.

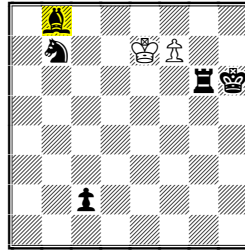
3rd Honourable Mention – no.F42 Klaus Wenda: An interesting strategy, nice pin-mates but in the initial setting wRa1 stands rather passive. The DGb1 is a very important thematic piece but unfortunately static. I. 1...Ta3 2.DGf7 Tc3 3.Tg6 Tg3# II. 1...Ta4 2.DGg6 Td4 3.Tf7 Td7#.

3. H.M. no.F42
Klaus Wenda



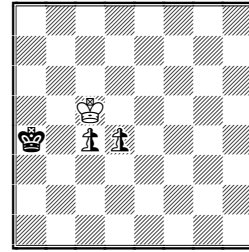
h#2.5 21111 5+5
Double Grasshopper ♖♗

4. H.M. no.F28
Michael McDowell



h#2 b) ♖c8 2+5
Chameleon - ♗b8

5. H.M. no.F53
Geoff Foster



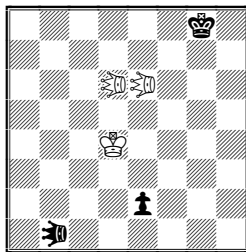
h#2.5 21111 1+1+2
Couscous neutral P ♗

4th Honourable Mention – no.F28 Michael McDowell: A very nice miniature that demonstrates Chameleon - AUV. Unfortunately here the black cLb8 has only one function - to legitimise the promotions to Chameleon! a) 1.c1=cL f8=cT 2.cLg5[=cT] cTh8[=cD]# b) 1.c1=cD f8=cS 2.cDc7[=cS] cSd7[=cB]#.

5th Honourable Mention – no.F53 Geoff Foster: Couscous promotions in a four-men position characteristic of the composer. I. 1...Kxc4[nPe1=nT] 2.Ka3 nTe3+ 3.nPxe3[nTe7] nTxe3[nPa1=nD]# II. 1...Kxd4[nPe1=nL] 2.nLc3+ Kxc4[nPe1=nD] 3.nLa1 nDxa1[nLd1]#.

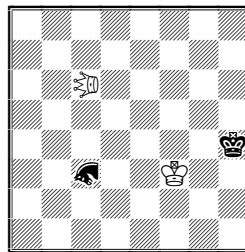
6th Honourable Mention – no.F54 Hans Peter Rehm: Each white sparrow supports the other in the two similar mates on opposite sides of the board. Nice under-promotions in both phases! 1.e1=T 2.Th1 3.Th8 4.Kh7 5.SWh6 SWg7# b) 1.e1=SW 2.SWb5 3.SWa4 4.SWb6 5.SWa6 SWb5#.

6. H.M. no.F54
Hans Peter Rehm



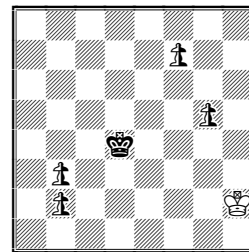
ser-h#5 b) ♖g8>a5 3+3
Sparrow ♖♗

Comm. no.F66
Karol Mlynka



ser-h#9 b) ♖e1 2+2
Locust ♖ (2,5)-leaper ♗

Comm. no.F44
Boris Shorokhov



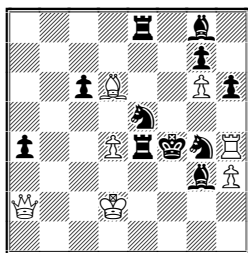
ser-h#4 1+1+4
Couscous neutral P ♗

Comendations (without rank and comments):

– no.F66 Karol Mlynka: a) 1.25h5 2.25c7 3.25a2 4.25f4 5.25a6 6.25f8 7.25d3 8.25b8 9.25g6 Lxg6-h6# b) 1.25e8 2.25g3 3.25b1 4.25d6 5.25f1 6.25a3 7.25f5 8.25a7 9.25c2 Lxc2-c1#.

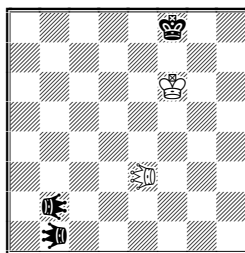
– no.F44 Boris Shorokhov: 1.nPb1=nD 2.nDxb3[nPd8=nS] 3.nSxf7[nPg8=nT] 4.nSd6 nTxc5[nPa1 =nL]#.

Comm. no.F39
Manfred Rittirsch



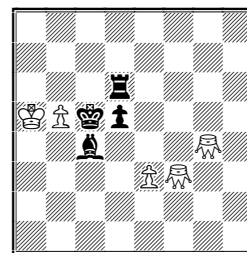
h#2 b) ♖d2→d1 7+11
Rifle Chess [C+ WinChloe]

Comm. no.F36
Harald Grubert



ser-h#9 2 sols 2+3
Sparrow ♔♚ Moose ♙♘

Comm. no.F61
Julia Vysotska



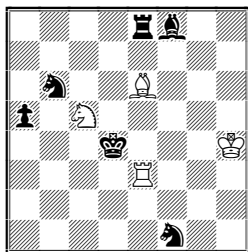
h#2.5 01111&11111 5+4
Grasshopper ♙

– no.F39 Manfred Rittirsch: a) 1.Lh7 Le7 (Th5? 2.Sf/h2... 3.Sxf7!) 2.Sd3 Df7# b) 1.Lh2 Th5 (Le7? 2.Sc4/d7/f7... 3.Sxf2!) 2.Sf6 Df2#.

– no.F36 Harald Grubert: I. 1.SWa1 2.SWa2 3.SWa3 4.Ma4 5.SWe8 6.Kg8 7.Mf8 8.Mh7 9.Kf8 SWf7# II. 1.Kg8 2.Kh7 3.SWh6 4.SWg5 5.Mg6 6.Mh4 7.Mg8 8.Kh6 9.SWh5 SWg6#.

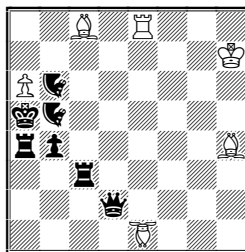
– no.F61 Julia Vysotska: 1.Td7 Gc8 2.Td6 Gc6# Sol.: 1...Gd3 2.Lb3 Ga3 3.Lc4 Gb4#.

Comm. no.F31
Antonio Garofalo



h#2 Take&Make 4+6
b) ♖f6 c) ♗f8>h6

Comm. no.F58
Valerio Agostini & Antonio Garofalo



h#2 2111 6+7
Nightrider ♞ Bishopper ♗

– no.F31 **Antonio Garofalo**: [Dedicated to Pierre Tritten] a) 1.Kxc5-a4 Ld5 2.Lb4 Lc6# b) 1.Kxe6-f5 Kh5 2.Te5 Tf3# c) 1.Kxe3-e1 Lg4 2.Ld2 Sd3#.

– no.F58 **Valerio Agostini & Antonio Garofalo**: [Dedicated to Chris Feather]
I. 1.Nh2 Ld8 2.Tf3 Te5# II. 1.Nh3 Te5 2.Df4 Ld8#.

International Judge of FIDE, IGM Petko Petkov

***Orbit* Informal tourney award 2013**

Helpmates in two moves

101 helpmates in 2 moves took part in the Orbit 2013 IT (in the Originals section, articles and Appendix). As usual for this magazine the level of the tourney was very high. With such a huge number of entries and many excellent problems the judge's work was not an easy task.

Some words about the problems which are not included into the award: **no.3693 Yuri Bilokin** – unusual and nice problem, but the play is too simple. **No.3647 Shaul Shamir** – anticipatory self-pins, delayed Umnov, Grimshaw, change of functions and pin mates, but the mechanism is well known; Fadil Abdurahmanović, 1st Place WCCT, 1972-1975, H#2. The difference is that here Umnov is included instead of gate-opening and two black pieces are involved. The twin with movement of the thematic white piece is a weakness. Even though the problem is not fully anticipated, the pluses and minuses between the problems do not give me enough reasons to include this new realization of the old mechanism in the award. **No.3642 Kenan Velikhanov** – the captures of the bS and bR are too brutal for this content. **No.3556 Abdelaziz Onkoud** – triple selfblocks on the BK's initial square and the first two solutions are excellent, but the third is different and so brutal. **No.3597 Antal Harl & Janos Csak** – I like such a twin form with rotation of the board, but the play is not identical; in 1st solution there are two consecutive unpins on both black moves instead of unpins of both white pieces on B1 in the second solution. The ranking is as follows:

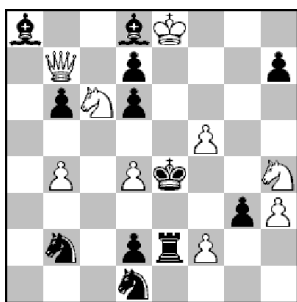
1st Prize – no.3602 Michal Dragoun & Ladislav Salai jr. & Emil Klemanič:
A very original problem with 6 solutions in form of 4+2. In the first 4 solutions we can see a fourfold cycle and the next 2 are a very nice addition with perfect analogy. A difficult complex by great composers! I. 1.Sf2: Sg2(A) 2.Kf3+ Se5#(B); II. 1.Sc3 Se5+(B) 2.Kd4: Shf3#(C); III. 1.Sc4 Sf3(C) 2.Kd5+ Se7#(D); IV. 1.Lg5 Se7+(D) 2.Kf4 Sg2#(A); V. 1.Se3 Dd7: 2.Sf5: Df5:#; VI. 1.Lf6 Db6: 2.Ld4: Dd4:#.

2nd Prize – no.3603 Janos Csak: A fantastic 3x2 HOTF where the main actors are the initial pawn half-batteries. Creation of 6 solutions with such a rich thematic content is not an easy task, so I completely accept the heavy construction and the twins form. a) 1.Kd4: de6+ 2.Ke4: Sc3#; b) 1.Ke4: fe6+ 2.Kd4: Se2#; c) 1.Sf5: Tc7 2.Sd4: Tc3#; d) 1.Ld5: Lh5 2.Le4: Le2#; e) 1.Dd5: fe6 2.De5 de5#; f) 1.Tf5: de6 2.Tc5 e5#.

3rd Prize – no.3552 Živko Janevski & Fadil Abdurahmanović: Elegant realization of black half-pin and anticipatory self-pin with white Royal battery play, double-pin-mates and change of functions between the white Rook and Bishop. *I. 1.Sd4+ Kd1+ 2.Kc3 Th3#; II. 1.De5 Ke3+ 2.Kc5 Lf8#.*

1. Pr. no.3602

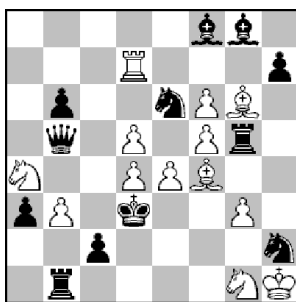
M. Dragoun & L. Salai jr.
& Emil Klemanič



h#2 6.1.1.1. 9+12

2. Pr. no.3603

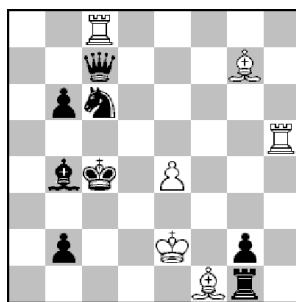
Janos Csak



h#2 b) Tb1→c4 13+12
c) Se6→e7 d) Se6→g2
e) Lf8→a5 f) Ph7→b4

3. Pr. no.3552

Živko Janevski &
Fadil Abdurahmanović



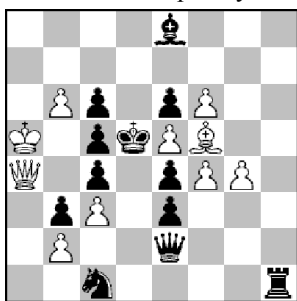
h#2 2.1.1.1. 6+8

4th Prize – no.3708 Viktor Chepizhny: Four distant selfblocks, BK Star, Zilahi and fourfold cycle of white moves. Looks a little schematic, but the complex is rich enough. [Dedicated to Živko Janevski for 60 Jubilee birthday]. *I. 1.Lf7 Le6:+(A) 2.Ke6: Dc6: #(B); II. 1.Ld7 Dc6: +(B) 2.Kc6: Le4: #(C); III. 1.Df3 Le4: +(C) 2.Ke4: Dc4: #(D); IV. 1.Sd3 Dc4: +(D) 2.Kc4: Le6: #(A).*

5th Prize – no.3646 Vitaly Medintsev: Excellent combination of two black half-pin systems, black interference, gate-opening, Umnov effects and pin-mates. *I. 1.g4 Lb1 2.Ta2 Le4#; II. 1.Tg3 Th6 2.Lh5 Td6#.*

4. Pr. no.3708

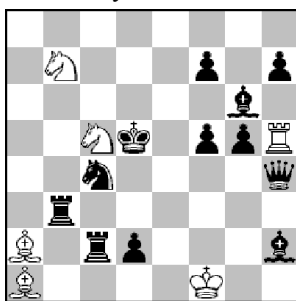
Viktor Chepizhny



h#2 4.1.1.1. 10+12

5. Pr. no.3646

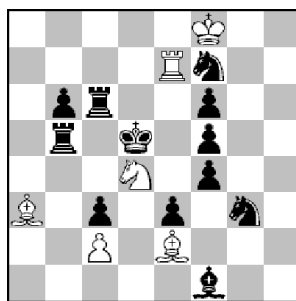
Vitaly Medintsev



h#2 2.1.1.1. 6+12

6. Pr. no.3600

Abdelaziz Onkoud



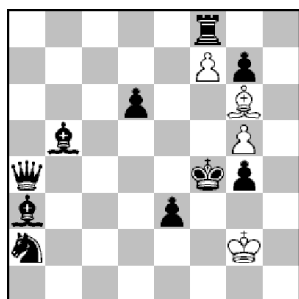
h#2 4.1.1.1. 6+12

6th Prize – no.3600 Abdelaziz Onkoud: Nice four-solution helpmate with fourfold black anticipatory self-pin on two diagonal/orthogonal lines and two mates with Umnov effects. *I. 1.Se5 Lc5 2.Ke4 Lf3#; II. 1.Tb4 Td7+ 2.Kc5 Sb3#; III. 1.Tbc5 Lc4+ 2.Kd6 Sb5#; IV. 1.Te6 Lf3+ 2.Ke5 Sc6#.*

Special Prize – no.3644 Rolf Wiehagen & Christer Jonsson: Very original combination of Forsberg Strip and AUV! Unfortunately in zero position. *a) 1.Td8 f8T 2.Td7 Te8#; b) 1.Sd7 f8S 2.Se5 Se6#; c) 1.Le7 f8L 2.Lg5: Ld6:#; d) 1.Dc8 f8D+ 2.Df5 Df5:#.*

Special Prize – no.3703 Fadil Abdurahmanović: Difficult task with 3 Umnov effects on f5 and cyclic square vacations and change of functions. The white mechanism is known (Byron Zappas, H#2, *Probleemblad* 1999, Prize), but here Fadil has found a perfect form and created a task. *I. 1.Dh5 Lf5 2.Kg5 Se6#; II. 1.Dg5 Sf5 2.Tf3 Td4#; III. 1.Dd3: Tf5+ 2.Ke4 Ld5#.*

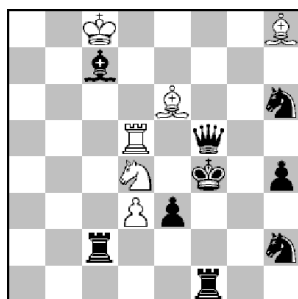
Sp. Pr. no.3644
Rolf Wiehagen &
Christer Jonsson



h#2 0 Position 4+10

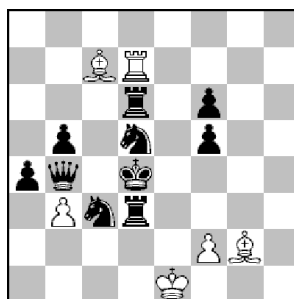
a) Kf4→e7 b) Sa2→f8
c)=b La3→f8 d)=c Da4→f8

Sp. Pr. no.3703
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 3.1.1.1. 6+9

1. H.M. K (Chatting... no.60)
Fadil Abdurahmanović &
Živko Janevski

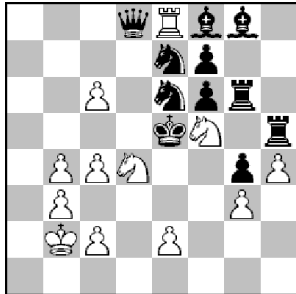


h#2 4.1.1.1. 6+10

1st Honourable Mention – problem K (Chatting..., Orbit no.60, p.134) Fadil Abdurahmanović & Živko Janevski: Difficult content in HOTF form with black half-pin and pin mates by the wBc7 in the first 2 solutions and direct self-pins of the black initially half-pinned pieces and pin-mates by the wRd7. Unfortunately the play is not so harmonious. The problem has similar content as problem J on the same page, but I prefer the light and twinless form here. *I. 1.Tc6 Ld8 2.Tc5 Lf6:#; II. 1.Da3 f4 2.Sb4 Lb6#; III. 1.Se3 fe3+ 2.Ke5 Te7#; IV. 1.Kc5 La5 2.Kc6 Tc7#.*

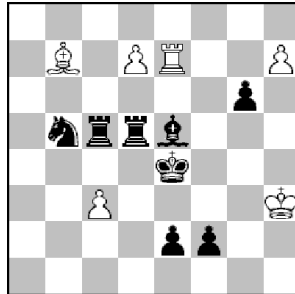
2nd Honourable Mention – no.3709 Anatoly Styopochkin: HOTF with two pairs of thematically connected solutions – unguard of flights with reciprocal captures of the wSs and mates by the wPs in first pair; Zilahi and mates after creation of white indirect batteries and switchbacks in the second pair. *I. 1.Sd4: Te7:+ 2.Kf5: e4#; II. 1.Sf5: Te6:+ 2.Kd4: c3#; III. 1.Sd5 Se6: 2.Kf5: Sd4#; IV. 1.Sg5 Se7: 2.Kd4: Sf5#.*

2. H.M. no.3709
Anatoly Styopochkin



h#2 4.1.1.1. 12+11

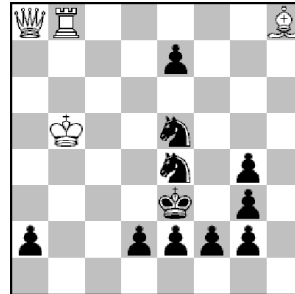
3. H.M. no.3553
Janos Csak



h#2 2.1.1.1. 6+8

b) Sb5→f6

4. H.M. no.3701
Živko Janevski

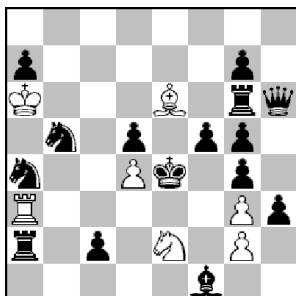


h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+11

3rd Honourable Mention – no.3553 Janos Csak: Another HOTF problem and nice thematic content. a) I. 1.Kf3 h8D 2.Lf6! (2.L~?) Df6:#; II. 1.Ke3 Tf7 2.Td2 Tf3#; b) I. 1.Ke3 d8D 2.Td4! (2.Td~?) Dd4:#; II. 1.Kf3 La6 2.Lf4 Le2:#.

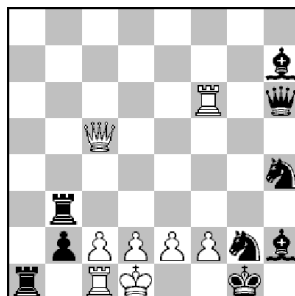
4th Honourable Mention – no.3701 Živko Janevski: Gate openings, self-pins, change of functions and pin mates. Very clear idea and realization. I. 1.Sg5! (1.S4~?) Df3+ 2.Kd4 Td8#; II. 1.Sc4! (1.S5~?) Ld4+ 2.Kf3 Tf8#.

5. H.M. no.3558
Emanuel Navon



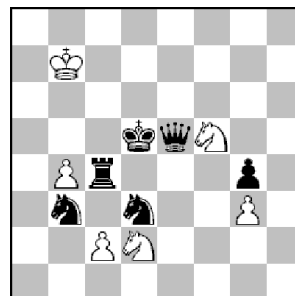
h#2 b) Pg2→e3 7+15

6. H.M. no.3599
Mario Parrinello



h#2 2.1.1.1. 8+9

7. H.M. A (Chatting... no.58)
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 4.1.1.1. 6+6

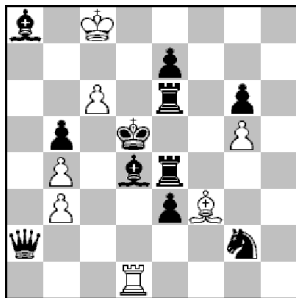
5th Honourable Mention – no.3558 Emanuel Navon: Anticipatory unpins on the masked pin lines and indirect unpins with thematic tries. a) 1.Sd6? Tf3 2.- Lf5??, 1.Sb6? Tf3?, 1.Tb2 Tf3 2.Sb6 Lf5:#; b) 1.Sb6? Sf4 2.- Ld5?, 1.Sd6? Sf4?, 1.Lg2 Sf4 2.Sd6 Ld5:#.

6th Honourable Mention – no.3599 Mario Parrinello: White square vacations after black minor promotions and interferences with change of functions of the white pieces, pins and dual avoidance. I. 1.b1S Dg5 (1.- Tg6?) 2.Lc2:+ Kc2:#; II. 1.b1L Tg6 (1.- Dg5?) 2.Dd2:+ Kd2:#.

7th Honourable Mention – problem A (Chatting..., Orbit no.58, p.43) Fadil Abdurahmanović: Elegant helpmate with Albino, Many ways theme and 4 different black selfblocks on e6. *I. 1.Sd4 cd3 2.Se6 dc4#; II. 1.Sf4 cb3 2.Se6 bc4#; III. 1.Tc6 c3 2.Te6 c3-c4#; IV. 1.Tf4 gf4 2.De6 c4#.*

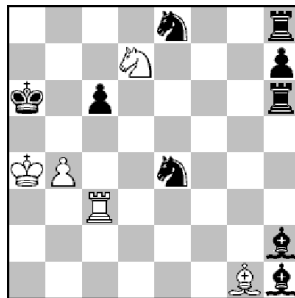
8th Honourable Mention – no.3648 Abdelaziz Onkoud: 3x2 matched solutions are always difficult to do and the heavy twins form here proves this. *a) 1.Ke5 Td4: 2.Tf4 Td5#; b) 1.Kc4 Le4: 2.Lc3 Ld5#; c) 1.Se5 Le4:+ 2.Kd6 Td4:#; d) 1.Tb6 Td4:+ 2.Kc6 Le4:#; e) 1.Kd6 Tc1 2.T4e5 Tc6:#; f) 1.Kc6: Lh5 2.Lb6 Le8#.*

8. H.M. no.3648
Abdelaziz Onkoud



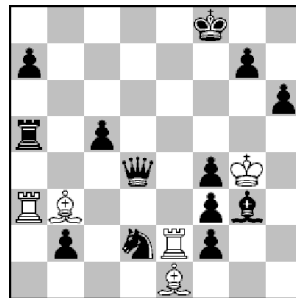
h#2 b) Pb3→a3 7+11
c) Lf3↔Sg2 d) -Pc6
e) La8→c6 f) Pg6→f4

9. H.M. no.3595
Ricardo Vieira



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+9

10. H.M. no.3705
Borislav Gadjanski



h#2 b) Pf2→a4 5+13

9th Honourable Mention – no.3595 Ricardo Vieira: Change of functions between white pieces, mixed interferences and selfblocks. *I. 1.S4d6 Tg3! (1.- Sf6?) 2.Sb7 Sb8#; II. 1.S8d6 Sf6! (1.- Tg3?) 2.Sb7 Tc6:#.*

10th Honourable Mention – no.3705 Borislav Gadjanski: Interesting problem with an unusual Zilahi and ODT. *a) 1.Ta3:!! Lf2: 2.Da4 Lc5:#; 1.Ta4? Lf2: 2.Da4??; 1.Da4? Lf2:?? 2.Ta~?; b) 1.Le1:!! Ta4: 2.Df2 Tf4:#; 1.Lf2? Ta4: 2.Df2??; 1.Df2? Ta4: 2.Lg~?.*

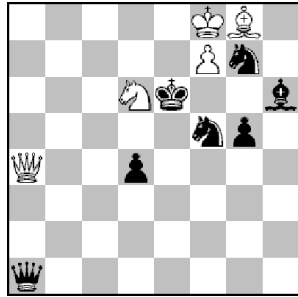
11th Honourable Mention – problem E (Chatting..., Orbit no.57, p.4) Fadil Abdurahmanović: Excellent Phoenix where first the white piece is captured and after that the black capturer sacrifices on another square, combined with mixed Phoenix. *1.- Se4? 2.- De8?; I. 1.Da4: Se4 2.De8+ fe8D#; 1.- Db5? 2.- Se8?; II. 1.Sd6: Db5 2.Sde8 fe8S#.*

12th Honourable Mention – no.3707 Misha Shapiro: Rich strategic problem with black half-pin and masked half-pin mechanisms, white unpins, double pin mates on the same square and change of functions. Unfortunately W1 in the first solution is also interference of the bBg7. *a) 1.Lg7 Lf6 2.De2 Dd4#; b) 1.Sg7 Lc5 2.Sd2 Ld4:#.*

13th Honourable Mention – no.3643 Anatoly Styopochkin: Another HOTS with 2x2 thematically connected solutions with Grimshaw, creation of batteries, black selfblocks and first white moves becoming second. *a) I. 1.Ld8 (1.Tb7?) Ta5 2.Lc7*

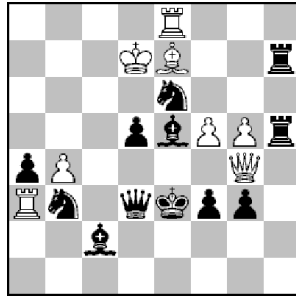
Ld5#(A); II. 1.a6 Ld5+(A) 2.Kb5 Le4#; b) I. 1.Tb7 (1.Ld8?) Lf7: 2.Tc7 Td5#(B); II.1.f6 Td5+(B) 2.Ke6 Td3#.

11. H.M. E (Chatting... no.57)
Fadil Abdurahmanović



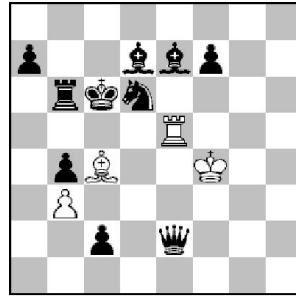
h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+7

12. H.M. no.3707
Misha Shapiro



h#2 b) Pf3→d4 8+12

13. H.M. no.3643
Anatoly Styopochkin



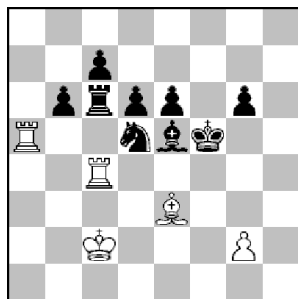
h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+10
b) Kc6↔Sd6

14th Honourable Mention – problem 10 (Orbit no.57, p.9) Živko Janevski: Black half-pin and pin-mates on the same square in interesting continuous twins. a) * 1.- Lh6 2.Sc3 Tf4#; 1.Lf6 g4+ 2.Ke5 Lf4#; b) * 1.- g4+ 2.Ke5 Lf4#; 1.Le5 Lh6 2.Sc3 Tf4#.

15th Honourable Mention – problem 17 (Orbit no.57, p.10) Fadil Abdurahmanović: Very original presentation of the task of three mates on f3 by different white pieces in form of set, try and solution. * 1.- Se2 2.Se3 f3#; 1.Sf4 Kc3 2.? Lf3#; 1.Kd4 Le2 2.Te4 Sf3#.

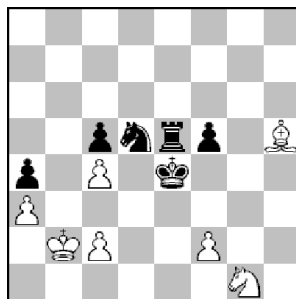
16th Honourable Mention – problem B (Chatting..., Orbit no.60, p.131) Fadil Abdurahmanović: Very elegant 3/4 A UW with black anticipatory self-pins. I. 1.Sc5 f8S+ 2.Kd6 Dd7#; II. 1.Sd6 f8T 2.Ke7 De8#; III. 1.Sc6 f8D 2.Kd7 De7#.

14. H.M. pr.10 (no.57, p.9)
Živko Janevski



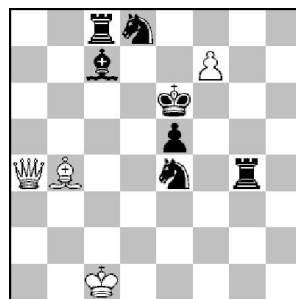
h#2* b) Le5→f6 5+9

15. H.M. pr.17 (no.57, p.10)
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2*v 7+6

16. H.M. B (Chatting... no.60)
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 3.1.1.1. 4+7

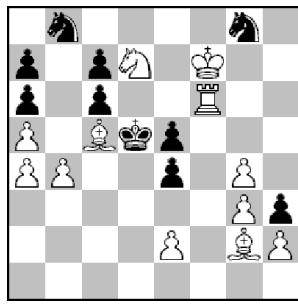
Special Honourable Mention – problem I (Appendix, Orbit no.59, p.118) Aleksandr Pankratiev & Mikhail Gershinsky: Cyclic Zilahi with cyclic passive and

active captures of white pieces. Excellent content, but it's not new – the problem is composed after Pankratiev's H#2, 1. Pr. *Telescacco*, 1999. In this new realization some black major pieces are saved and the form is twinless. I. 1.Sd7: Tc6: 2.Kc6: Le4: #; II. 1.Sf6: Le4: + 2.Ke4: Sf6: #; III. 1.hg2 Se5: 2.Ke5: Tf5#.

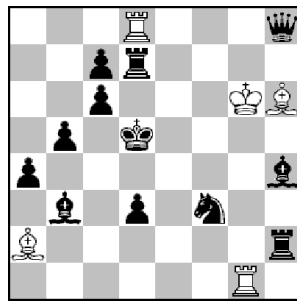
Sp. H.M. pr.I (Appendix, no.59) Aleksandr Pankratiev & Mikhail Gershinsky

Sp. H.M. pr.III (Appendix, no.59) Vitaly Medintsev

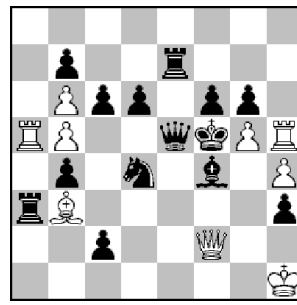
1. Comm. no.3559 Mario Parrinello



h#2 3.1.1.1. 12+10



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+12



h#2 b) Kf5→c5 9+14

Special Honourable Mention – problem III (Appendix, Orbit no.59, p.118)

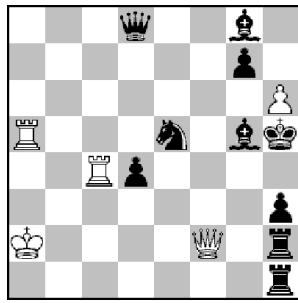
Vitaly Medintsev: New interpretation of an old very interesting and rich mechanism (the original is by Janevski – H#2, 7. Pl. Israel-Macedonia, 2006). Here Medintsev avoids the twin form and includes dual avoidance on W1. But in Zivko's problem the W1 looks more paradoxical. I. 1.Kd6 Tg5 (1.- Te1?) 2.Lg8 Lf8#; II. 1.Kc4 Ld2 (1.- Lf8?) 2.Td4 Tc1#.

1st Commendation – no.3559 Mario Parrinello: Good thematic content but in a heavy setting. a) 1.Sf3 bc6 2.Lg5: Df3: #; b) 1.Le3 gf6 2.Sb5: De3: #.

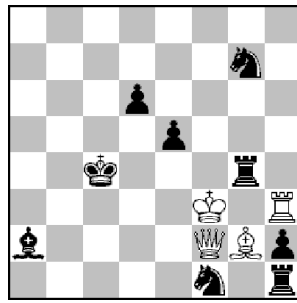
2. Comm. no.3596 Misha Shapiro

3. Comm. no.3699 Valery Kirillov & Rolf Wiehagen

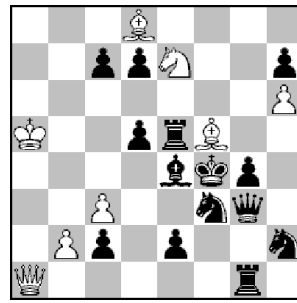
4. Comm. no.3650 Emanuel Navon & Jean Haymann



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+10



h#2 b) Tg4→e6 4+9
c=b) Kc4→e6



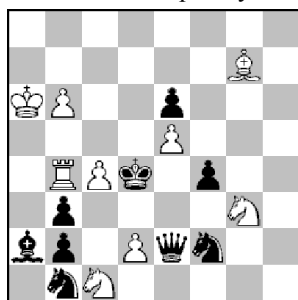
h#2 b) Se7→f7 8+14
c) Lf5→e2

2nd Commendation – no.3596 Misha Shapiro: Change of functions, black half-pin, different blocks and pin mates. Nice and clear. *I. 1.Sf7 Td4: 2.g6 Th6#; II. 1.Ld2 Dd4: 2.gh6 Dg4#.*

3rd Commendation – no.3699 Valery Kirillov & Rolf Wiehagen: Difficult complex of white Royal batteries in three different directions, but the twin form is not good. *a) 1.Kc3 Lf1: 2.Tb4 Kg2#; b) 1.Kd5 Th5 2.Lc4 Kg4#; c) 1.Kf5 Tg3 2.Le6 Ke2#.*

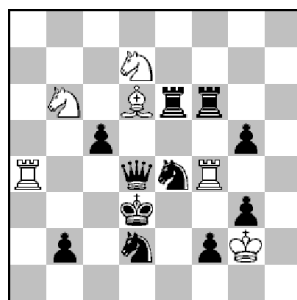
4th Commendation – no.3650 Emanuel Navon & Jean Haymann: Very good cyclic effects, but unfortunately bad twins and not identical first moves. *a) 1.Se1 Lc7: 2.Lf3 Dc1#; b) 1.Lf5: Df1 2.Te4 Lg5#; c) 1.Tf5 Da4 2.Se5 Sd5: #.*

5. Comm. no.3649
Viktor Chepizhny



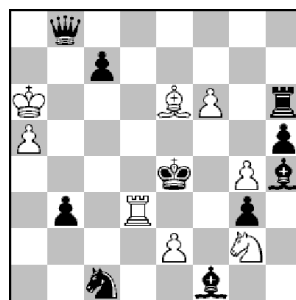
h#2** 2.1.1.1. 9+9

6. Comm. pr.4 (no.59, p.125)
Živko Janevski



h#2 2.1.1.1. 6+11

7. Comm. no.3706
Menachem Witztum



h#2 2.1.1.1. 8+10

5th Commendation – 3649 Viktor Chepizhny: Delayed Umnov and interesting set play form. * *1.- Kb5 2.Sd3 Sce2: #; ** 1.- Kb5 2.Se4 Sge2: #; I. 1.Dc4: + Tb5 2.Sd3 (2.Se4?) Sce2#; II. 1.De5: Lf8 2.Se4 (2.Sd3?) Sge2#.*

6th Commendation – problem 4 (Orbit no.59, p.125) Živko Janevski: Three pairs of pieces change their roles, black square vacations, self-pins and pin mates. *I. 1.De3 Ta3+ 2.Kd4 Lc5: #; II. 1.Sc3 Tf3+ 2.Ke4 Sc5: #.*

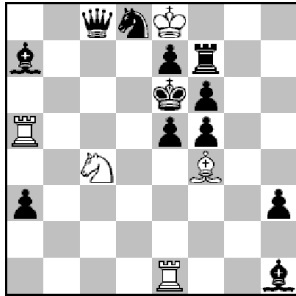
7th Commendation – no.3706 Menachem Witztum: Enjoable problem with ODT, change of functions, annihilations, pins and unpins. *I. 1.Se2: Lc4 2.Sd4 Te3#; II. 1.Lf6: Td6 2.Le5 Lf5#.*

8th Commendation – no.3598 Almiro Zarur: Very visual black moves and creation of white batteries. *I. 1.Lg1 Se5: 2.Lh2 Sf3#; II. 1.Lb7 Le5: 2.La6 Ld4#.*

9th Commendation – no.3557 Paz Einat & Shaul Shamir: Double white unpins, black half-pin, black interferences and pin mates, but unfortunately B2 in the first solution is also a selfblock. *a) 1.Lh5 Sf8 2.Sd6 Ld7: #; b) 1.Sh6 Sf6 2.Ld3 Te6#.*

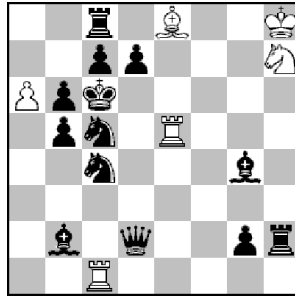
10th Commendation – no.3601 Kenan Velikhanov: Original and interesting play, but the repetition of B2 detracts... * *1.- Sbd6(A) 2.ed6 (2.cd6?) Sf6#; ** 1.- Sed6(B) 2.cd6 (2.ed6?) Sc7#; I. 1.Kc6: Tc1 2.Ld5 Sbd6#(A). II. 1.Ke6: Lb3: 2.Ld5 Sed6#(B).*

8. Comm. no.3598
Almiro Zarur



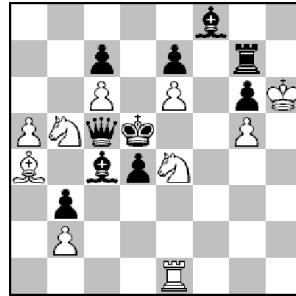
h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+12

9. Comm. no.3557
Paz Einat & Shaul Shamir



h#2 Sc4↔Lg4 6+13

10. Comm. no.3601
Kenan Velikhanov



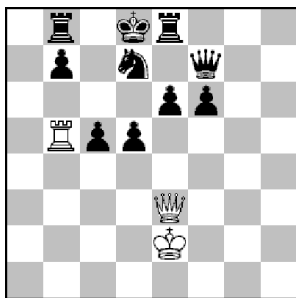
h#2** 2.1.1.1. 10+10

11th Commendation – no.3698 Nikola Stolev: Different selfblocks on the initial bK square, change of functions of the wQ/wR and pin mates. *I. 1.Ke7 Tb7: 2.Tbd8 Dc5:♯; II. 1.Kc8 De6: 2.Ted8 Tc5:♯.*

12th Commendation – no.3700 Aleksandr Pankratiev & Mikhail Gershinsky: Cyclic Zilahi with promotions and selfblocks by the promoted pieces. Bad twins form. *a) 1.hg1S Td5 2.Sf3 Sc3:♯; b) 1.cb1T Le3: 2.Tb3 Td4♯; c) 1.cd1L Sd2 2.Lf3 Lh2:♯.*

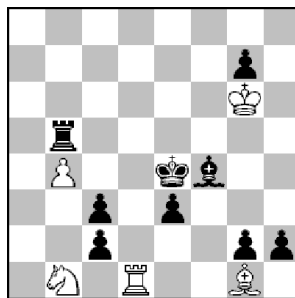
13th Commendation – no.3697 Emanuel Navon: Nice Meredith with triple set play and tempo moves. ** 1.- Te2♯; ** 1.- Sf7♯; *** 1.- f4♯; I. 1.f5 Sg8 2.f4 (2.fg4?) Te2♯; II. 1.dc3 Td2 2.c2 (2.cd2?) Sf7♯; III. 1.d3 Sf5 2.dc2 (2.d2?) f4♯.*

11. Comm. no.3698
Nikola Stolev



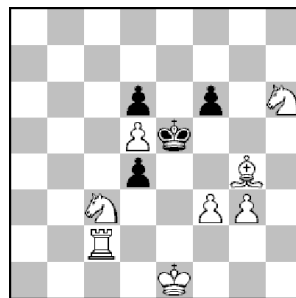
h#2 2.1.1.1. 3+10

12. Comm. no.3700
Aleksandr Pankratiev &
Mikhail Gershinsky



h#2 b) Ke4→c4 5+9
c) Ke4→f4

13. Comm. no.3697
Emanuel Navon

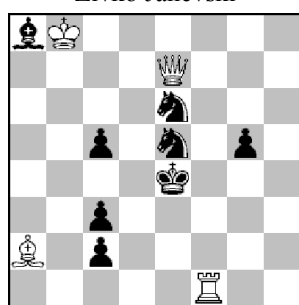


h#2*** 3.1.1.1. 8+4

14th Commendation – problem I (Chatting..., Orbit no.60, p.133) Živko Janevski: Elegant realization of pseudo half-pin mechanism and anticipatory self-pin with pin mates. *I. 1.Sc4 Te1+ 2.Kd5 Dd7♯; II. 1.Sf4 Ld5+ 2.Kf5 De6♯.*

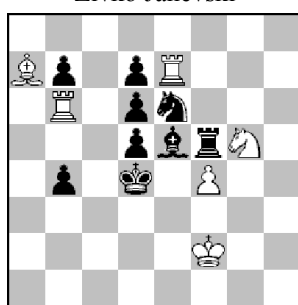
15th Commendation – problem I (Chatting..., Orbit no.57, p.5) Živko Janevski: Black indirect half-pin, unguard of flight for the BK and pin mates by both white battery pieces on the BK's initial square. Very good complex, but I don't like that the bK moves to the BB's initial square (which cannot be done to the BS's initial square in the other solution). a) 1.Lf4: Tb4:+ 2.Ke5 Ld4#; b) 1.Sg5: Td6:+ 2.Ke4 Td4#.

14. Comm. I (Chatting... no.60)
Živko Janevski



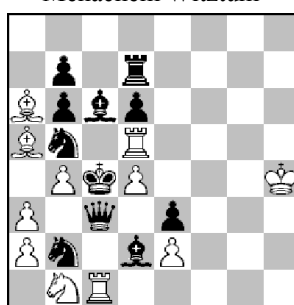
h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+8

15. Comm. I (Chatting... no.57)
Živko Janevski



h#2 b) - BPd5 6+9

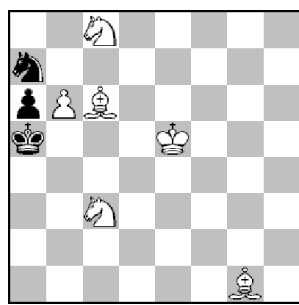
16. Comm. no.3651
Menachem Witztum



h#2 2.1.1.1. 11+11

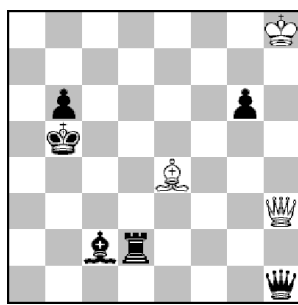
16th Commendation – no.3651 Menachem Witztum: Sacrifices after unpins, dual avoidance and pin mates, but the play is not harmonious. I. 1.Lc1: Lb6: (1.- Td6:? 2.Da3: Sa3:?) 2.Dd4:+ Td4:#; II. 1.ba6 Td6: (1.- Lb6:? 2.Se4: Te4:?) 2.Sa3: Sa3:#.

17. Comm. pr.VIII (Appendix, no.57) Viktor Syzonenko



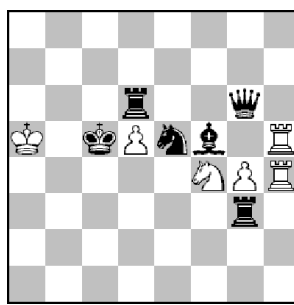
h#2* 2.1.1.1. 6+3

18. Comm. no.3691
Vassily Mateush



h#2 b) Le4→a2 3+6

19. Comm. no.3550
Nikola Stolev & Gligor
Denkovski & Ivan Denkovski



h#2 b) WLf4 6+6

17th Commendation – problem VIII (Appendix, Orbit no.57, p.36) Viktor Syzonenko: Better harmony in the play than the original by Pankratiev and three model mates after square vacation. (After Aleksandr Pankratiev 7003 *diagrames*)

2011). * I.- Se7 2.Sc6:+ Sc6:#; I. 1.Sb5 Ld4 2.Sc3: Lc3:#; II. 1.Sc8: Sd5 2.Sb6: Lb6:#.

18th Commendation – no.3691 Vassily Mateush: Unpins with corner-to-corner play and change of functions between wQ/wB in an elegant position. a) 1.Da1+ Dc3 2.Da6 Lc6#; b) 1.Da8+ Dc8 2.Da5 Dc4#.

19th Commendation – no.3550 Nikola Stolev & Gligor Denkovski & Ivan Denkovski: Annihilations and mixed Bi-Valve. a) 1.Sg4: Tf5: 2.Se3 (2.Sg~?) Sd3#; b) 1.Lg4: Te5: 2.Lf3 (2.Lg~?) Le3#.

International Judge of FIDE, IM Diyan Kostadinov

***Orbit* Informal tourney award 2013**

Proof Games & Retros

First of all, I would like to thank Zivko Janevski and Roberto Osorio for having invited me to judge retro problems from Orbit 2013, the last year of publication for this magazine. I personally highly regret this death - good chess magazines offering a large audience to retro problems are not numerous...

Let me begin with a review of the various entries from each issue, together with some preliminary remarks: **Volume 57** contains 3 proof games, numbers **3586**, **3587** and **3588**. The first one is a bit too schematic, nevertheless I decided to award it as it shows an interesting theme which seems to be new, although asking for further deeper developments. The second one is also a bit short regarding the thematic content, but is also awarded as showing a clear-cut and pleasant theme. The last one is anecdotal - I didn't find any remarkable content in it.

Volume 58 contains 1 proca retractor, number **3632**, and 1 proof game, number **3633**. Both are solid entries and hence are awarded.

Volume 59 contains 3 proof games, numbers **3684**, **3685** and **3687**, as well as a classic retro, number **3686**. The first proof game is fairy – a piece is removed from the initial position. I didn't find enough strong motivation to justify abandoning the orthodox setting, and hence this problem is not awarded. The second proof game is in the same vein as entry 3586 – mostly a basic illustration of an idea which deserves attention, and hence is included in the award. The last proof game is very solid and hence awarded too, although suffering from some disharmony regarding the content. Finally the classic retro didn't convince me – the retracted series of 5 single moves is too obvious, even if compensated by the creation of 2 Volet Pawns.

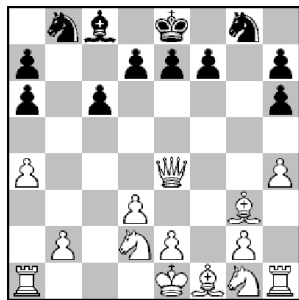
Volume 60 doesn't contain any retro problems. In summary, I awarded **6 problems among 9**. Maybe that is too generous but well, everybody knows that distinctions do not have the same weight when coming from distinct magazines...

Here is my ranking – 2 Prizes, 2 Honorable Mentions and 2 Commendations, including diagrams, solutions and some new comments:

1st Prize – no.3633 Roberto Osorio: The white side shows 2 “enlarged” impostor Pawns, Pa4 and Ph4. It means that those Pawns do not come from their natural original squares a2 and h2, nor from their adjacent b/g-columns, but from their farthest possible c/f-columns – each of them capturing 2 black pieces. The opposing side performs 2 switchbacks, one from each of their 2 Knights. The full thematic content is therefore very homogeneous – making this very beautiful entry a bicolored future proof game. It is moreover cleverly constructed, without any conceptual defect.

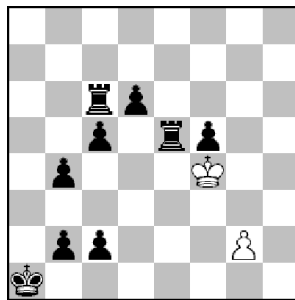
1.a4 Sc6 2.a5 Tb8 3.a6 b×a6 4.h4 Tb3 5.h5 Sb8 6.h6 g×h6 7.c×b3 Lg7 8.Dc2 Lf6 9.De4 Lh4 10.d3 Sf6 11.Lf4 Tg8 12.Sd2 Tg3 13.f×g3 c6 14.g×h4 Da5 15.Lg3 Da4 16.b×a4 Sg8.

1. Pr. no.3633
Roberto Osorio



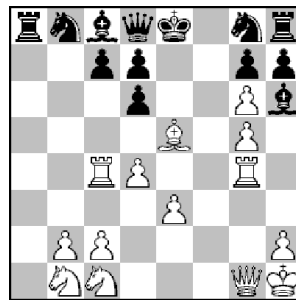
PG16.0 14+12

2. Pr. no.3632
Gunther Weeth &
Klaus Wenda



-12 & #1 2+9
Proca retracter
AntiCirce Calvet MagSq II d7

1. H.M. no.3687
Michel Caillaud



PG 24,0 14+13

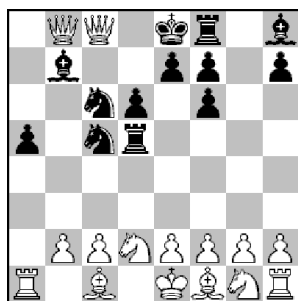
2nd Prize – no.3632 Gunther Weeth & Klaus Wenda: Remember that, in AntiCirce Calvet, a capture is allowed on the rebirth square, i.e. a piece may capture normally an opposing piece standing on the original square of the capturing piece. Remember too that a piece (King excluded) changes its color when its arrival square is magic. A capture on a magic square is allowed for type II. The white side clearly needs a new piece stronger than its Pawn to be able to checkmate, hence it must force the black side to retro-move a Pawn on the magic square d7, which will become a Queen after a de-capture by the white Pawn. All the white strategy revolves around this feature. -1.Pf2xLg3(Pg2) Lh4-g3+ -2.Ke3-f4 Td5-e5+ -3.Kd3-e3 Te5-d5+ -4.Kd4-d3 d7-d6+ There is now a black piece on the magic square. -5.Ke3-d4 Td5-e5+ -6.Kd2-e3 Te5-d5+ -7.Kd1-d2 c3-c2+ -8.Ke1-d1 Td5-e5+ -9.Kc2xPb3(Ke1) Tc7-c6+ -10.Kd1-c2 Te5-d5 -11.e6xDd7[bPd7] Ld8-h4+ This is the only way to explain the threat of the bQ against the wK, indeed this Queen can't retro-play (as a black move) because it stands on the magic square! But now white can by itself retro-play this Queen! -12.Da4-d7[bDd7] & 1.Kc2#. Note that the last retro-move is legal as the bK is not in-check as the wK stands on the wQ rebirth square. Note also the de-

capture of Pb3 to force black to retro-play Te7-e6, hence opening the diagonal a4-d7 for the wQ. Finally note the de-capture of Lg3 which is retro-playing to h4 and then to d8, in order to legalize the de-capture of Dd7. A very pleasant problem full of various subtleties!

1st Honourable Mention – no.3687 Michel Caillaud: A Pronkin consists on an original piece which is captured and replaced, on its initial square, by a promoted piece of the same type and nature. Here the Pronkin piece Lc8 is reinforced in two ways: The original Lc8 first captures Lf1, which has to be evacuated as square f1 is the one where the promotion will occur. Then the black thematic Bishop returns to its home-square c8, to be captured in turn. It is finally replaced on the thematic square c8 by a promoted Bishop on square f1. This full procedure is called an “anticipatory” Pronkin and this difficult feature is cleverly constructed. I’m less convinced by the end of the entry - showing an ordinary Pronkin Ta8, as it leads to a non-perfect harmony between the 2 thematic Pronkin pieces. 1.d4 b6 2.Lf4 La6 3.e3 L×f1 4.a4 La6 5.a5 Lc8 6.a×b6 a5 7.b7 Ta6 8.b×c8=S Tg6 9.Sd6+ e×d6 10.Le5 Le7 11.f4 Lg5 12.f5 Lh6 13.f×g6 f5 14.Se2 f4 15.0-0 f3 16.Kh1 f2 17.Tg1 f1=L 18.Sc1 La6 19.Ta4 Lc8 20.Tc4 a4 21.g4 a3 22.g5 a2 23.Tg4 a1=T 24.Dg1 Ta8.

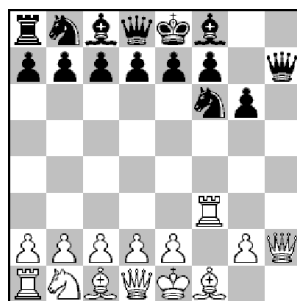
2nd Honourable Mention – no. 3587 Andrey Frolkin & Kostas Prentos: The original Dd1 is captured and replaced by 2 promoted white Queens on adjacent squares b8 and c8. Then those 2 thematic pieces exchange their places. This is nice but suffers from a constructional defect – the non-thematic capture of the bQ. Moreover I have the feeling that the 2 prestigious authors didn’t give their best here. One may dream of a “cleaning procedure” – one of the thematic promoted wQ being captured and the second reaching its Pronkin square d1. 1.d4 Sf6 2.d5 Se4 3.Dd4 Sc5 4.Df6 g×f6 5.a4 Lg7 6.a5 Tf8 7.a6 Lh8 8.a×b7 a5 9.d6 Ta6 10.d×c7 Td6 11.Sd2 Sc6 12.b8=D Lb7 13.c8=D Td5 14.Dbc7 d6 15.D8b8 Dc8 16.Dc×c8+.

2. H.M. no.3587
Andrey Frolkin &
Kostas Prentos



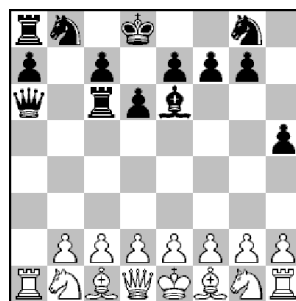
PG 15,5 15+13

1. Comm. no.3586
Michael Barth



PG 11,5 14+15

2. Comm. no.3685
Michael Barth &
Roberto Osorio



PG 10,0 15+14

1st Commendation – no.3586 Michael Barth: The 2 original Pawns h2 and h7 exchange their places, then promote to Queen, and finally those thematic Queens also

exchange their places! A very fine and homogeneous idea but the rendition is a bit too schematic, in particular because of the visible promotions. It is probably possible to reinforce this entry such that the original Dd1 and Dd8 are captured, in order to add some more mystery, in particular for the solver. 1.h4 h5 2.Th3 Th6 3.Tf3 Tg6 4.Sh3 Tg3 5.f×g3 g6 6.g4 h×g4 7.h5 g×h3 8.h6 h2 9.h7 h1=D 10.h8=D Dh7 11.De5 Sf6 12.Dh2.

2nd Commendation – no. 3685 Michael Barth & Roberto Osorio: At ply 2.5, the thematic Pa2 stands on a6 and the thematic Sb8 is still home-based. Those 2 units exchange twice their places (Lois theme), but of course Pb8 being promoted! This leads to a curious and interesting approach of the double exchange (with a modification of the piece type via a promotion during the procedure). But as with the first Commendation this entry needs to be reinforced in some way to become a really deep achievement. For example doubling the thematic content, while keeping alive the promoted units, may be feasible. 1.a4 h5 2.a5 Th6 3.a6 Tc6 4.a×b7 Sa6 5.b8=S d6 6.Sd7 Sb8 7.S×f8 Le6 8.Sd7 Dc8 9.Sc5 Kd8 10.Sa6 D×a6.

Judge, FIDE Master for Chess Compositions, Nicolas Dupont

***Orbit* Informal tourney award 2013**

Faires

First, I would like to express my thanks for the invitation to judge the tourney and my apologies for the delay of the award. At last it is here.

Most interested readers probably have noticed my reservations about the current explosion of help-play in the fairy section. I feel that non-help genres are currently under-appreciated by fairy lovers and surely are under-composed by authors. As a result many substandard works appear in the popular genres h# and hs#. Fortunately this can be mitigated by proper editing, especially in printed magazines with limited space. And it is not an issue of the present tourney – the top problems are very good and most problems in the competition were at least decent.

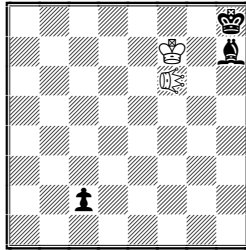
Another issue is that as least in my view, series-movers are handicapped in comparison with ordinary helpmates: it is more difficult to compose a decent series-helpmate than a decent helpmate. I have tried to take this into account in the preparation of the award.

Besides the awarded problems, I also considered the following problems: F72 (Stephenson), F75 (Foster), F77 (Foster), F85 (Simoni).

And now the dozen awarded problems in my preferred order (reverse).

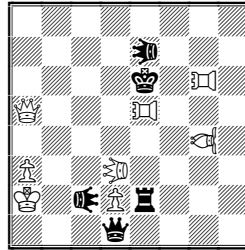
5th Commendation – no.F78 Chris Feather: It is enough to get an immobile piece to e5 for checkmate. This requires G3-promotion, round-trip of bB and multiple relay handovers between black pieces. With minimum material it is a noteworthy scenario. 1.c1=G3 2.Lc2 3.Ld1 4.G3g1 5.G3a1 6.Lc2 7.Lb1 8.G3e1 9.Ld3 Le2 11.G3e5 12.Ld3 13.Lh7 G3b2#.

5. Comm. no.F78
Chris Feather



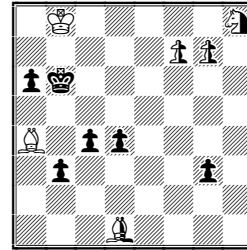
ser-h#13 2+3
Grasshopper-3 ♖♗♘

4. Comm. no.F91
Klaus Wenda &
Hans Peter Rehm



hs#3 2 sols 8+5
Equihopper♞
Leo♘ Pao♙ Vao♚

3. Comm. no.F82
Julia Vysotska

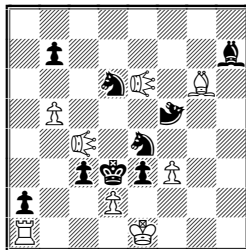


h#2 2111 T&M 2+6+4
4 neutrals (♞=Nightrider)

4th Commendation – no.F91 Klaus Wenda & Hans Peter Rehm: Analogy of solutions is satisfactory, with W1 determining rear anti-battery piece and in turn squares to be visited by bK, and squares visited by wP to provide double-check mates. However the means used are quite heavy (3 types of Chinese pieces plus equihopper), LEd7 is just a blocker and personally I would use the capture-less version with anti-battery rear pieces one square further from bK. I. 1.LEe3+ Kd7(Kd6?) 2.d3(d4?) LEd6 3.PAg6+ EQxg4# II. 1.LEe4+ Kd6(Kd7?) 2.d4(d3?) LEd7 3.VAc6+ EQxg6#.

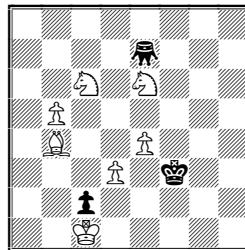
3th Commendation – no.F82 Julia Vysotska: An extended Zilahi in Circe and related conditions is easier to motivate than under most other fairy conditions. Here both captured pieces serve as devices to transport non-captured counterparts to correct squares. The analogy is again satisfactory and the position is relatively light (especially taking into account potential nightrider mobility). I. 1.nLe2 nPg8=nN 2.nNxe2-d3 nPxg8-a5# II. 1.nNe2 nPf8=nL 2.nLxe2-c3 nPxf8-c5#.

2. Comm. no.F84
Anatoliy Styopochkin



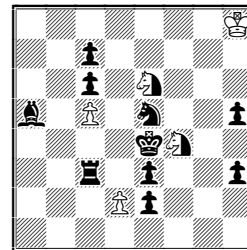
h#2 2111 8+9
Lion♘ Zebra♙

1. Comm. no.F92
Kjell Widlert



ser-h#8 7+3
Andernach-G♞

3. H.M. no.F89
Kjell Widlert



h#3 b)♞>h7 3+9+2
half-neutral S♞

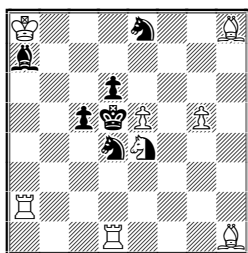
2nd Commendation – no.F84 Anatoliy Styopochkin: Double-pin mates distinguishing between 0-0-0# and Rd1# is an interesting achievement. It is a pity there is also a feeling of symmetry given by the geometry of pin lines and checkmates. **I. 1.Sxd2 LIca6+ 2.Sc4 0-0-0# (Td1?) II.1.Zxd2 LIea6 2.Zxb5 Td1# (0-0-0?).**

1st Commendation – no.F92 Kjell Widlert: The grasshopper is a very handy piece for capture-less round-trips in series-movers, if one can find a suitable reason why the grasshopper should move in the first place. Here bK wants to walk across an impenetrable minefield, so that Andernach grasshopper has to temporarily switch the mines off and then on again. As a result we get a pointed repeated triangular round-trip. **1.AGa3[b4>BL] 2.AGe3[d3>BP] 3.Kxe4 4.Kd5 5.AGe7[e6>BS] 6.AGa3 [b4>WL] 7.AGe3[d3>WP] 8.AGe7[e6>WS] Sf4# (Sc??).**

3rd Honourable Mention – no.F89 Kjell Widlert: The theme is in a sense similar to that of the 1st Commendation – capture-less exchange of places of two knights in two different directions. It would be in the sphere of prizes if there weren't two "buts". There is the repetition of 2...d3 and the fact that half-neutrals facilitate the task considerably: it is clear that the checkmating knight has to make an odd number of moves in any case to finish as white. **a) 1.hSf8[>black] hSe6[>white] 2.Kd5 d3 3.hSg6[>neut.]+ hSf4[>white]#; b) 1.hSg6[>black] hSf4[>white] 2.Kd4 d3 3.hSf8[>neut.]+ hSe6[>white]#.**

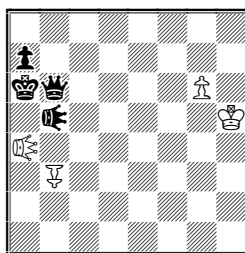
2nd Honourable Mention – no.F73 Kjell Widlert: The most complex example I know of h#2 with this twinning (white, neutral and black piece of the same type in the Forsberg twin). **EXB** comes far behind. F73 excels especially thanks to the analogous battery-selfpin neutral checkmates. **a) 1.c4 Ta5+ 2.Lc5 nSxc5# b) 1.Td2 e6 2.Sxe6 nSxd2# c) 1.nTa4 nSd2+ 2.nSf3 nSxd4#.**

2. H.M. no.F73
Kjell Widlert



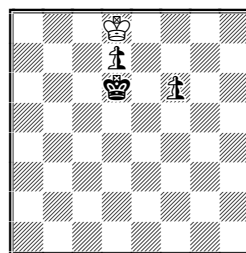
h#2 neutral Se4 7+6+1
b/c) ♖a2=> black/neutral

1. H.M. no.F87
Hans Peter Rehm



ser-h#10 4+4
Moose ♖♗♘ Eagle ♗

Sp. Pr. no.F76
Geoff Foster



h#4 2 sols 1+1+2
T&M+PWC neutral P ♗

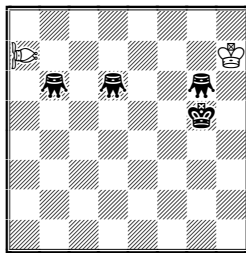
1st Honourable Mention – no.F87 Hans Peter Rehm: Again a series-mover (compare to 5th Commendation) with relatively small expected change in position during black play, involving cooperation of two black pieces, but this time with a more complicated underlying logic. There are some unpins and check preventions,

with good use of fairy means. 1...Mc5+? 2.Dxc5; 1.Db7? 2.Ma8 3.Db4 4.Mb6+??; 1.Ma2?? illegal (M pinned by EA), so **1.Df6! 2.Ma2 3.Mc3 4.Mxg6 5.Dd6 6.Mc5 7.Ma8 8.Db4 9.Mb6 10.Db5+ Mc5#.**

Special Prize for Wenigsteiner: – no.F76 Geoff Foster: Not only AUW that can reasonably be expected, but also unbelievable analogy starting already from W1. I was unable to place this among all heavyweight opponents, so that the special prize seems to me just right. **I. 1.Ke6 Kc8 2.Kf7 nPd8=nS+ 3.Ke8 Kxd8-e6[nSc8] 4.nSe7 nPxe7-c8=nT [nSf6]# II. 1.nPf5 Ke8 2.Kc7 nPd8=nL+ 3.Kc8 Kxd8-b6[nBe8] 4.nBg6 nPxc6-e8=nD [nBf5]#.**

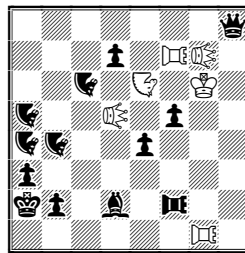
3rd Prize – no.F96 Václav Kotěšovec. The initial position promises nothing – it looks like a random scattering of pieces. This would be so if the positions were not backed by deep computer research that ensures three solutions of equal length, good use of PWC and model mates. F96 could be compared to EXA, but the geometry is totally different and thus the problem remains original. **I. 1.Kf6 2.Ke7 3.Gf8 4.Kd6 5.Gc5 6.G×a7(GIc5) 7.Gd4 8.Gd7 9.Ke7 10.Kf8 11.Ge7 12.Gf7 13.Ge8 GIg4# II. 1.Kf4 2.Gg3 3.Gg2 4.Gg1 5.G×a7(GIg1) 6.Ke3 7.Gf2 8.Ke2 9.Kf1 10.K×g1(GIgf1) 11.Kh1 12.Gg1 13.Gh2 GIg5# III. 1.Kf5 2.Ge4 3.Ke5 4.Kd5 5.Gd4 6.Kc6 7.Gb7 8.Kb5 9.Ka6 10.K×a7(GIa6) 11.Ka8 12.Ga7 13.Gb8 GIe7#.**

3. Pr. no.F96
Václav Kotěšovec



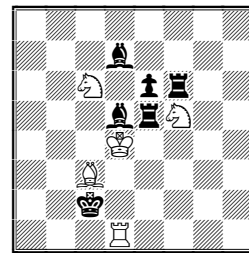
ser-h#13 3 sol. 2+4
PWC Grasshopper Giraffe

2. Pr. no.101
Ladislav Salai Jr. &
Michal Dragoun



h#2 3111 6+13
antiCirce Nightrider ♞♞
Lion ♞ Rook-Lion ♞♞

1. Pr. no.F88
Pierre Tritten



h#2 2111 5+6
Take&Make

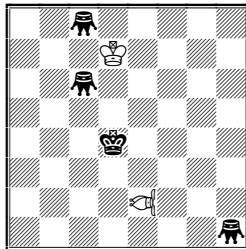
2nd Prize – no.F101 Ladislav Salai Jr. & Michal Dragoun: The first moves construct lion-typical triple half-batteries on the diagonal g8-a2. It is activated by means of Anticirce annihilation on B2 (activating guard on the 1st rank in the process) and battery double-check mate. Although the cyclic Zilahi is comprehensible and analogy is perfect, the black material playing in each phase just sits there in other solutions so the overall impression is heavy. **I. 1.Lg5 LIg×g5(LIg8) 2.TL×f7(TLf1) LIg2# II. 1.Ng4 LI×g4(LIg8) 2.N×d5(Nd1) Nd8# III. 1.Ng2 LIg×g2(LIg8) 2.N×e6(Ne1) TLa7#.**

1st Prize – no.F88 Pierre Tritten: Although this problem with only two phases was in my Top 5 from the beginning, it entered the highest spot only at a late stage of judgement. Two solutions only ("only" in a sense "compared to other three-phase prizewinners"), but the depth, analogy and economy seem very well balanced. The D-O echo of subsequent line clearances is perfect to the point allowed by the geometry of existing orthogonal and diagonal lines: B1 opens line for W1 that in turn clears line for B2 and opens line for W2. Note also that bK is checkmated on square vacated on B1 and the extended Zilahi is just a formal result of the employed strategy rather than an aim (and I see as a plus if a formal theme is just a consequence of strategy, not an aim). Well done! **I. 1.Txf5-g7 Kxe5-h5 2.Kxc3-f6 Txd5-f3# II. 1.L7xc6-d8 Kxd5-b7 2.Kxd1-d7 Lxe5-b5#.**

Congratulations to winners and thanks to authors of all problems!

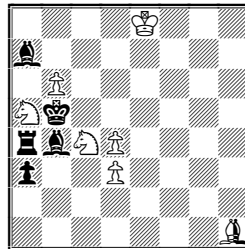
Examples

EXA - Václav Kotěšovec
StrateGems 2013



sh‡14 3 sols (2+4)
Circé échange C+
♖=Sauterelle ♘=Alfil

EXB - Kjell Widlert
StrateGems 2013



h‡2 C+ (6+5+1)
b) ♖Lh1 c) ♗h1

EXA - I. 1.Sc5 2.Sc4 3.Sc3 4.Sc2 5.Se5 6.Re3 7.S×e2(ALe5) 8.Rd2 9.Rc1 10.Sb1 11.Rb2 12.Ra1 13.Sb2 14.Sa2 ALc3‡; **II.** 1.Re3 2.R×e2(ALe3) 3.Rf3 4.Rf4 5.R×e3(ALf4) 6.Rd4 7.Rc5 8.Rb6 9.Sc5 10.Sa7 11.Rb7 12.Rb8 13.Sb7 14.Sa8 ALd6‡; **III.** 1.Rc3 2.Sc2 3.Sf2 4.Sc2 5.Rd2 6.Rd1 7.R×e2(ALd1) 8.Rf1 9.Se1 10.Sg1 11.Rg2 12.Rh1 13.Sg2 14.Sh2 ALf3‡.

EXB - a) 1.Fna8 Cb7 2.Rc6 Cbd6‡; **b)** 1.T×a5 Rd7 2.Ta6 Fc6‡; **c)** 1.Fb7 Cc6 2.Fa6 C×a7‡

International Judge of FIDE, IM Juraj Lörinc

Orbit Informal tourney award 2014

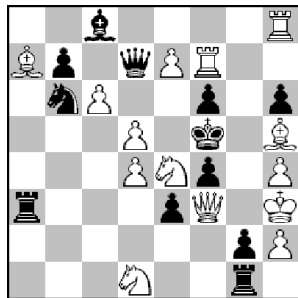
Selfmates in 2 and 3 moves

Only ten problems participated in the 2014 informal tourney of *Orbit* in the section of shorter selfmates (up to 3 moves). Their quality was rather good, so I decided to include 6 problems in the award. No.3851 is similar to the same author's problem from *diagrammes* 2003 (see issue 62 of *Orbit*, p. 260), so I did not include it in the award.

1st Prize – no.3905 Andrey Selivanov: This problem shows an ambitious content of self-pinning of white pieces after the black Queen Correction. The position is heavy and some pieces are not ideally utilised, but still this is a clear winner of the tourney.
1.Thh7!(2.Lg6+ Kg6:+ 3.Dg4+ Dg4:#), 1.- D~ 2.Se3:+! Te3: 3.Lg6+ Kg6:#, 1.- Dd5:! 2.Lg4+! Kg6 3.h5+ Dh5:#, 1.- Sd5:! 2.Dg4+! Ke4: 3.Sf2+ ef2#, 1.- e2 2.Sd6+ Dd6: 3.Lg6+ Kg6:#.

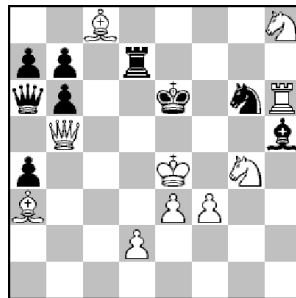
2nd Prize – no.3790 ver. Živko Janevski: Change of play with exchange of squares of arrival of white pieces at W2 moves in an inherently (though not fully) symmetrical matrix. The content is enriched by actual separation of the set play dual continuation (Mäkihovi theme). * *1.- Da5(x) 2.Dd5+(A) Dd5:# & 2.Df5+(B) Df5:#, 1.- Lg4: 2.Df5+ Lf5:#; 1.f4? zz Lg4:!, 1.- Da5(x) 2.Dd5+(A) Dd5:#, 1.- Db5: 2.f5+ Df5:#; 1.d4! zz 1.- Da5(x) 2.Df5+(B) Df5:#, 1.- Db5: 2.d5+ Dd5:#, 1.- Lg4: 2.Df5+ Lf5:#.*

1. Pr. no.3905
Andrey Selivanov



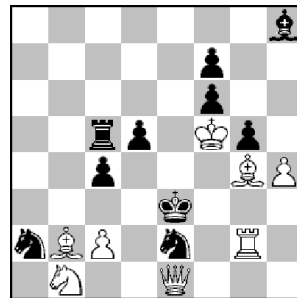
s#3 14+12

2. Pr. no.3790 ver.
Živko Janevski



s#2 10+9

1. H.M. no.3960
Živko Janevski



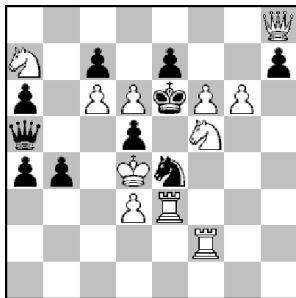
s#3 8+10

1st Honourable Mention – no.3960 Živko Janevski: A good selfmate showing the “Theme of the Future” (two pairs of related variations), in spite of repetition of the mate 3.- Sd4:# and varied character of the battery mate 3...de4# in comparison with the mates by the unpinned bSe2 (which is unfortunately captured after 1.- c3). Duals at W2 moves are avoided by guarding a square by a black defensive unit. * *1.- Sc3 2.Te2:+ Se2: 3.Dg3:+ Sg3:#, 2.- Kd4 3.Te4+ de4#; 1.Tg1![2.Df2+ (2.Dd2+?) Kf2: 3.Ld4+ Sd4:#), 1.- gh4 2.Tg3+ (2.Dg3+?) hg3 3.Dg3:+ Sg3:#, 1.- Sc3 2.Dd2+ (2.De2+?) Kf2*

3.Dd4+ Sd4:#, 1.- c3 2.De2:+ (2.Dd2+?) Kd4 3.De4+ de4#: 1.Th2?(2.Dg3+ Sg3:#) gh4!.

2nd Honourable Mention – no.3791 Živko Janevski: An excellent key granting a flight to the bK and selfmate-specific defensive blocking of this flight (so that the threat check becomes a mate) and quiet continuations, separated nicely. The repetition of the mate 3.- Dd5:# detracts a little, while the seemingly same mate 3.- de5# is of no concern, as it is performed by a different black pawn. 1.S~?(2.Dg8+ Kd6: 3.Dd5:+ Dd5:#) ed6!; 1.Sh6!(2.Dg8+ Kd6: 3.Dd5:+ Dd5:#), 1.- cd6 2.f7! (2.Tf5?) 3.De5+ de5#, 1.- ed6 2.Tf5! (2.f7?) 3.Te5+ de5#, 1.- Kd6: 2.Dd8+ Ke6 3.Dd5:+ Dd5:#, 1.- ef6 2.De8+ Kd6: 3.De5+ fe5#.

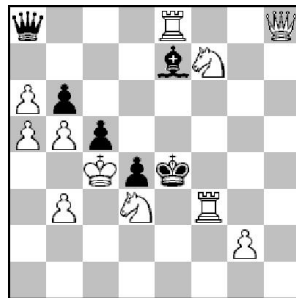
2. H.M. no.3791
Živko Janevski



s#3

11+10

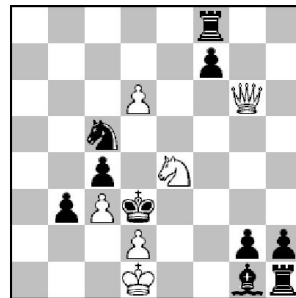
1. Comm. pr.3 (issue 64, p.320)
Mihajlo Smiljanić



s#3

-11+6

2. Comm. no.3849
Eugeniusz Iwanow



s#2

6+10

1st Commendation – Mihajlo Smiljanić, problem 3 in “First Steps in composition”, issue 64 (Dec.), p. 320: The 13-year-old author in his first problem shows decoy of the black queen in five variations. 1.Dh6! zz, 1.- Da7,Db7,Dd8 2.Te7:+ De7: 3.De6+ De6:#, 1.- Db8 2.De6+ De5 3.Dd5+ Dd5:#, 1.- ba5 2.Dc6+ Dc6: 3.Sc5:+ Dc5:#, 1.- Da6: 2.Sc5:+ bc5 3.De6+ De6:#, 1.- De8: 2.Sg5+ (2.Sd6+?) Lg5: 3.De6+ De6:#; 1.Dh3? ba5!; 1.Df6!? De8:! 2.Sg5+?.

2nd Commendation – no.3849 Eugeniusz Iwanow: Separation of play after elimination of the sacrificial white Queen. Duals are avoided by different means: escape of the Sc5 from this square or opening of a black line. There is a pseudo form of Mäkihovi theme, as the set defence 1.- f5 does not feature in the solution. * 1.- f5(a) 2.Sc5:+(A) Lc5:# & 2.Sf2+(B) Lf2:#, 1.- fg6(b) 2.Sc5:+(A) Lc5:# [2.Sf2+? (B)]; 1.Dg4?[2.Sc5:+(A) Lc5:#, 2.Sf2+(B) Lf2:#] Se4:;!; 1.De6![2.Dd5+(C) Ld4#], 1.- fe6(c) 2.Sc5:+!(A) Lc5:# (2.Sf2+? Tf2:!), 1.- Se6:(d) 2.Sf2+!(B) Lf2:# (2.Sc5+? Sc5:!).

I thank the editor for his invitation to judge the tourney and the participants for sending their entries for the tourney.

International Judge of FIDE, IM Zoran Gavrilovski

Informal tourney award 2014

Selfmates in more moves

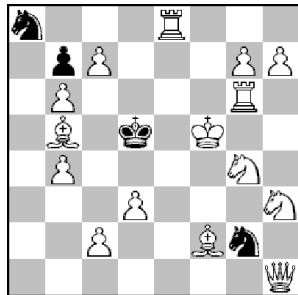
I have prepared my award with some nostalgia being my last one for Orbit. My thanks to the organizers of this tourney who have repeatedly given me the chance to be a judge, and to editors as well. Thank you, dear friends, you deserve appreciation for all your efforts in editing the splendid Orbit for so many years!

Altogether 24 longer selfmates from 4 to 15 moves by 18 authors were published in the 2014 tourney. I enjoyed them all as their standard was high enough. Many thanks to all composers!

With regard to the selfmate No.3856, unfortunately it has, in my opinion, too many similar features in comparison with the problem by G. Kozyura, 1 HM Uralskiy Problemist 20 JT 2013 (see: **A**). The same content in six moves with 13 pieces.

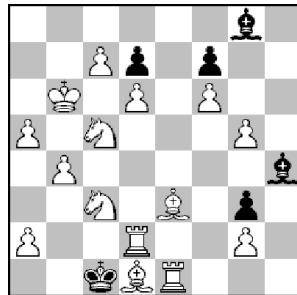
1st - 2nd Prize e.a. – no.3793 Evgeny Fomichev: Classical chameleon echo with assistance of two black Knights supported by bK is well known, e.g. Andrey Selivanov, 2 Pr Springaren 2002 (see: **B**). However, here for the first time, I assume, these mates are shown with wK situated on neighbouring squares of the same diagonal line, leading to monochromatic echo. A very original scheme, perfect construction, and the overall impression is extraordinary. *1.c8S! zz; 1.- Sb6: 2.c4+ Sc4: 3.Te5+ Se5: 4.g8D,L+ Sf7 5.Tg7! b6 6.Kg6! Ke6 7.Sf4+ Sf4:, 1.- Sc7 2.g8D+,L Se6 3.Lh4! Kd4 4.Da1+ Kd5 5.Dd4+ Kd4: 6.Lf6+ Kd5 7.Se3+ Se3:#.*

1. – 2. Pr. no.3793
Evgeny Fomichev



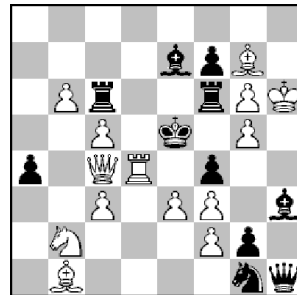
s#7 15+4

1. – 2. Pr. no.3962
Nikola Predrag



s#5 15+6

1. H.M. no.3961a
Zoran Gavrilovski

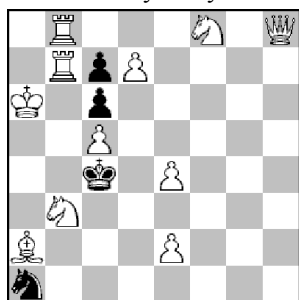


s#4 14+11

1st - 2nd Prize e.a. – no. 3962 Nikola Predrag: Highly original chameleon echo model mates thanks to two black Bishops, enriched by dual avoidance effects and an impressive critical key to the corner. Play of the front battery wBd1 blocking a square in each variation deserves attention as well. And wQ is not even used! Harmonious and elegant! [*Dedicated to Zivko Janevski*]; *1.Th1! zz, 1.- Lg5: 2.Te2+! (2.Tf2+?) Le3: 3.La4+ Lg1 4.Kb5 Lh7 5.Sd3+ Ld3:#, 1.- Lh7 2.Sd3+ Ld3: 3.Lf3+ Lf1 4.Lb7 Lg5: 5.Tf2+! (5.Te2+?) Le3:#.*

1st Honourable Mention – no.3961a correction (1st publication) Zoran Gavrilovski: Creation of four white batteries leading to battery mates by bQ with help from the front battery piece bB ending on squares d7, e6, f5 and g4. One pair of variations shows mates enforced by the rear white battery unit, whereas the mates in the second pair of variants are enforced by the front white battery piece, each time on a different square. A good idea! *1.Df7:?(2.Te4+ Kf5 3.Tf4:+ Ke5 4.Tf5+ Lf5:#) Te6!, 1.- fe3 2.Td5+(A) Kf4 3.Tf5+ Tf5: 4.Df5:+ Lf5:#; 1.Dd3?(2.Df5+ Lf5:#) fg6!, 1.- Ke6 2.Te4+ Kf5 3.Tf4:+ Ke5 4.Tf5+ Lf5:#; 1.Da2!(2.Te4+ Kf5 3.Tf4:+ Ke5 4.Tf5+ Lf5:#), 1.- fg6 2.Td5+(A) Ke6 3.Td6+ Ke5 4.De6+ Le6:#, 1.- fe3 2.Sc4+ Ke6 3.Se3:+ Ke5 4.Sg4+ Lg4:#, 1.- Tc5:,Lc5: 2.Sd3+ Kf5 3.Sc5:+ Ke5 4.Sd7+ Ld7:#.*

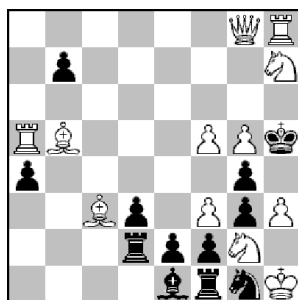
2. H.M. no.3966
Valery Kopyl &
Gennady Kozyura



s#7

11+4

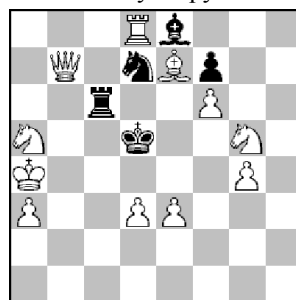
3. H.M. no.3963
Andrey Selivanov



s#6

12+12

4. - 5. H.M. no.3906
Gennady Kozyura &
Valery Kopyl



s#4*

11+5

2nd Honourable Mention – no.3966 Valery Kopyl & Gennady Kozyura: A famous composing team has offered this substantially better setting and very elegant position to show the chameleon echo known from Zdenek Libis, 1 HM Sachova skladba 2000 (see: C). However here the mates are given to the wK on the edge of the board, which is easier compared with Zdenek's original concept. *1.Ka5! zz, 1.- Sc2 2.Tb4+ Sb4: 3.Sd2+ Kc5: 4.Dc3+ Kd6 5.Df6+ Kc5 6.Tb5+ cb5 7.Db6+ cb6#, 1.- Sb3:+ 2.Ka4 Kc5: 3.De5+ Kc4 4.Se6 c5 5.Tb4+ cb4 6.Sc5 c6 7.Tb5+ cb5#.*

3rd Honourable Mention – no. 3963 Andrey Selivanov: Creation of batteries and their transformation becomes a strong instrument in Andrey's hands. This time we can see the Zabunov theme in two good variations with Siers battery play in addition. An inventive complex of ideas! [*Dedicated to Diyan Kostadinov*]; *1.g6! 1.- Tb2 2.fg4+ (threat) Kh6 3.g5+ Kh5 4.Dd5 Tb4 5.Lb4: 6.Df3+ Sf3:#, 1.- gf3 2.Sf6+ Kg5 3.Se4+ Kf5: 4.Ld3:+ b5 5.Sd2:+ Kg5 6.Sf3:+ Sf3:, 1.- gh3 2.Sf8+ Kg5 3.Se6+ Kf5: 4.Ld7+ b5 5.Sf4+ Kg5 6.Sh3:+ Sh3:#.*

4th - 5th Honourable Mention – no.3906 Gennady Kozyura & Valery Kopyl: Svoboda Theme! See my article in Sachova skladba No. 123/2014 & 124/2014 that has probably inspired the authors of this problem. Two black pieces (Knight, Rook) exchange their roles in variants, whereas one officer is captured in the play (or in a set

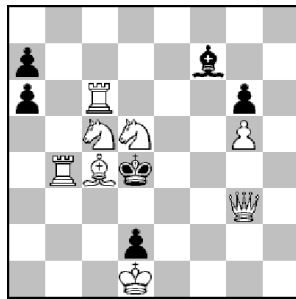
play), the second one gives a mate, and vice versa. Yes, you know it from the helpmate by Zilahi (1944) where it is easier to realise, but how about in the selfmate with changed colours of men? Robert Svoboda (of Czech origin) was the first to compose it 100 years ago in selfmate: *Casopis ceskych sachistu* 1915 (see: **D**). My opinion is that in this genre R. Svoboda has the right for the theme to be called after him! In the awarded prize, wQ is a real hero: active enough, and she blocks important squares in the mates. An unexpected key to the corner enables her to get to the square a5 that the Knight leaves. An enjoyable problem!. * 1.- Ke5 2.d4+ Kd5 3.Td7:+ Ld7:+ 4.Db3+ Tc4#; 1.Da8! Ke5 2.Sc6:+ Kd5 3.Sb4+ Ke5 4.Da5+ Sc5#.

4th - 5th Honourable Mention – no.3907 Alexander Fica: Another good example of the Svoboda theme. After a very good key; the free bBf7 is masterly managed by white batteries. There are three interesting variants of which two end in model mates. 1.Sc7! a5 2.Lf7:+! ab4 3.Df4+ Kc3 4.Sa4+ Kd3 5.Tc3+ bc3 6.Sa6 c2#, 1.- Le8 2.Ld3+ Kc3 3.Sa6:+ Lc6: 4.De5+ Kd3: 5.De2+ Kc3 6.Df3+ Lf3:#, 1.- Ld5:;Le6,Lg8 2.La2+ Lc4 3.Df4+ Kc3 4.Sd5+ Ld5: 5.Sa4+ Kd3 6.Df3+ Lf3:#.

4. - 5. H.M. no.3907
Alexander Fica

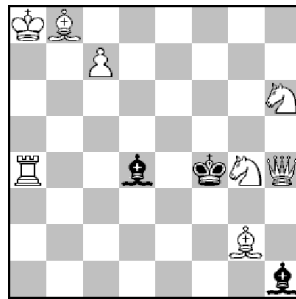
Comm. no.3852
Steven Dowd

Comm. no.3854
Harald Grubert &
Jorma Pitkänen



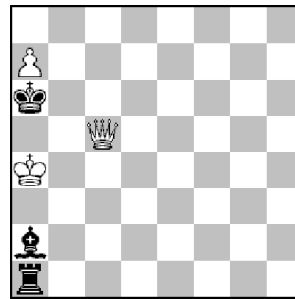
s#6

8+6



s#5*

8+3



s#8

b) Ka6→d8

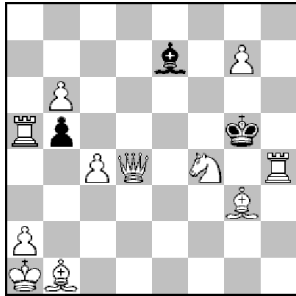
3+3

Commendations without order :

– **no.3852 Steven Dowd:** An interesting problem of the Fata Morgana type, tries, promotions of the same pawn to Bishop and Rook, and 3 different mates from the set, in Meredith.. * 1.- Lg2:#; 1.Se3+? Ke3:!: 1.- Ke5 2.c8T+ as in the solution. 1.Sf2+?, Sh2+? Ke3!: 1.Se5+!, 1.- Ke3 2.De1+ Kf4 3.Sf3! Lg2: 4.c8S+ Kf3: 5.De2+ Ke2:#, 1.- Ke5: 2.c8T+ Ke6 3.Ta6+ Lb6 4.Dd8! Lg2:+ 5.Tc6+ Lc6:#, 3.- Kd7 4.Td6+ Kc8: 5.Lb7+ Lb7:#.

– **no.3854 Harald Grubert & Jorma Pitkänen:** Twinning in a miniature enables two model mates by the existing battery, thanks to promotions to Rook or Queen. Very nice! a) 1.a8T+! Kb7 2.Dc8+ Kb6 3.Tb8+ Ka7 4.Tb7+ Ka6 5.Td7+ Kb6 6.Db7+ Kc5 7.Td5+ Kc4 8.Db3+ Lb3:#; b) 1.a8D+! Kd7 2.Dac6+ Kd8 3.D6d6+ Ke8 4.Df8+ Kd7 5.Dce7+ Kc6 6.Da8+ Kb6 7.Ded8+ Kc5 8.Dad5+ Ld5:#.

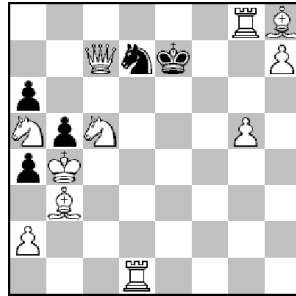
Comm. no.3908
Steven Dowd



s#6

11+3

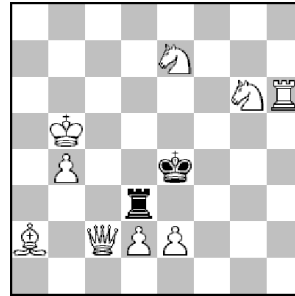
Comm. no.3909
Gennady Kozyura



s#6

11+5

Comm. no.3911
Milomir Babić



s#8

b) WLh6

9+2

– **no.3908 Steven Dowd:** Good tries and an unexpected key. A free bB (and relatively free bK as well) create altogether a challenging situation. White has to work very intensively to control their moves on almost the whole board. There are mates by the bB on the squares c3, d4 and f6, but unfortunately not on e5. *1.Th6? Kg4!, 1.Ta7? Ld8!, 1.g8L! zz, 1.- La3,Lc5 2.Dd8+ Le7 3.Dd5+ Kf6 4.Th6+ Kg7 5.Df7+ Kh6 6.Df6+ Lf6:#, 1.- Ld8! 2.b7! zz, 2.- La5: 3.Th5+ Kg4 4.Dg7+ Kf3 5.Ld5+ Ke3 6.Dc3+ Lc3:#, 2.- Lb6 3.Dd5+ Kf6 4.Sh5+ Ke7 5.Df7+ Kd8 6.Td4+ Ld4:#, 2.- Le7 3.Dd5+ Kf6 4.Th6+ Kg7 5.Df7+ Kh6: 6.Df6+ Lf6:#, [1.- Lb4? 2.Th5+ Kg4 3.Dg7+ Kf3 4.Ld5+ Ke3 5.Dc3+ Lc3#].*

– **no.3909 Gennady Kozyura:** Almost the same chameleon mates are present in the problem by G. Kozyura & V. Kopyl, 4 Comm D. Kostadinov 25 JT 2007 (see: E). No. 3909 however shows same mates by the bS from the opposite side, and instead of two solutions there are two variants, as well as fewer pieces used, thus giving improved construction. *1.Lc2! zz, 1.- a3 2.Sb7 K~ 3.Sd8+ Ke7 4.Kb3 b4 5.Sc4 a5 6.Dc5+ Sc5:#, 1.- Kf7 2.a3 Ke7 3.Lc3 Kf7 4.Lg6+ Ke7 5.De5+ Se5: 6.Sc6+ Sc6:#.*

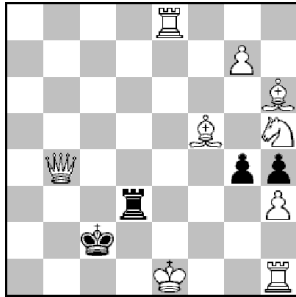
– **no.3911 Milomir Babić:** A charming (half) Forsberg theme in selfmate, but the replaced officer is white! I would rather expect the change in the black camp, e.g. J. Jelinek, 1 HM I.Mikan 100 MT 2011 (see: F). I enjoy inventive solutions, and a chameleon impure echo as well!. *a) 1.Th5 Kd4 2.Td5+ Ke4 3.Dc4+ Td4 4.Ka4 Tc4: 5.Lb1+ Tc2 6.Te5+ Kd4 7.Sf5+ Kc4 8.La2+ Ta2:#; b) 1.Ka5 Kd4 2.Sf5 Ke4+ 3.Sg3+ Kd4 4.Db2+ Tc3 5.b5 Kc5 6.Lf8+ Kd4 7.Lg7+ Kc5 8.Da3+ Ta3:#.*

Appendix

A) 1.Tb8! g3 2.Tg1 g2 3.Sg3 hg3 4.Lc1! Kc1 : 5.Dc5+ Tc3 6.De3+ Te3 :#, 1.- gh3 2.g8L! h2 3.Ld5 h3 4.Kf1 Kd1 5.Db3+ Tb3 6.Lf3+ Tf3:#; 1.Tg1? gh3!; 1.g8L? g3!.

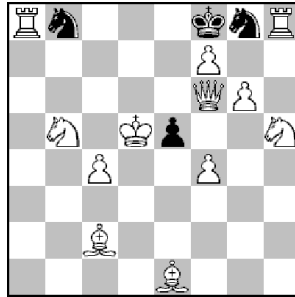
B) 1.Sa7 e4 2.Ke5 e3 3.Lf5 e2 4.Dg7 Ke7 5.Lh4 Sf6 6.Sc6 Sc6#; 1.- ef4 2.Lf2 f3 3.Db6 Ke7 4.Lc5 Kd7 5.La4 Sc6 6.Sf6 Sf6#.

A) Gennady Kozyura
1.HM Uralski Problemist
20 JT 2013



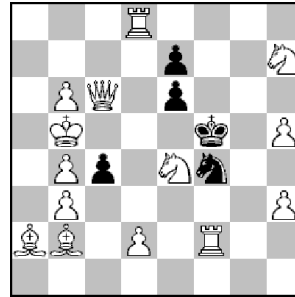
s#6 9+4

B) Andrey Selivanov
2 Pr Springaren 2002



s#6 12+4

C) Zdenek Libis
1.HM Sachova Skladba
2000



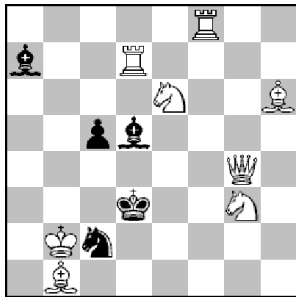
s#6 14+5
b) Pb3→e5 & La2→c1

C) a) 1.Kc4: e5 2.b5 e6 3.Dc5 Ke4: 4.Sb1+ Sd3 5.Td4+ ed4 6.Dd5 ed5#; b) 1.Kc5 c3 2.Sg3+ Ke5: 3.Te2+ Se2: 4.d4+ Sd4: 5.Td5+ ed5 6.Dd6+ ed6#.

D) 1.Ta8!, 1.- Lb6 2.Sc5:+ Lc5: 3.Ta3+ La3:#, 1.- Lb8 2.Tb8: c4 3.Lc1 c3#, 1.- c4 2.Df3+ Le3 3.Sf1 c3#.

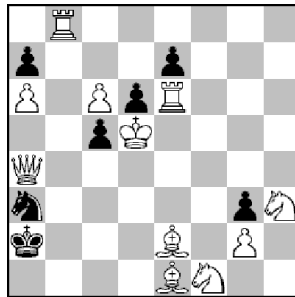
E) I. 1.Lc4+! Ka1 2.Sf2 gf2 3.Da5 fe1 4.De1:+ Sb1 5.Dc3+ Sc3:#; II. 1.Lc3! c4 2.Kd4 d5 3.Te5 e6 4.Tb6 ab6 5.Dc2+ Sc2:#.

D) Robert Svoboda
Chasopis cheskych
schachistu 1915



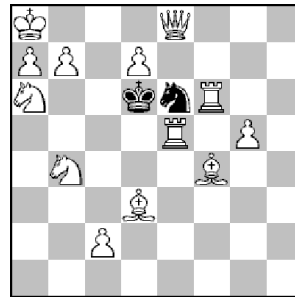
s#3 8+5

**E) Gennady Kozyura &
Valery Kopyl 4.Com
D. Kostadinov 25JT 2007**



s#5 2 sols 11+7

F) Jiri Jelinek
1.HM I.Mikan 100 MT 2011



s#4 13+2
b) BLe6 c) BTe6

F) a) 1.Le3 Ke5: 2.Sb8 Kd6 3.Dd8 Ke5 4.Dc7+ Sc7:#; b) 1.Lc1 Ke5: 2.b8L+ Kd4 3.Tf4+ Kc3 4.Sd5+ Ld5:#; c) 1.d8S T:f6 2.Sf7+ T:f7 3.Dd8+ Td7 4.Kb8 Td8:#.

International Judge of FIDE, Jiri Jelinek

***Orbit* Informal tourney award 2014**

Helpmates in two moves

In the last, as announced, year of regular publication of *Orbit*, no fewer than 110 (!) original problems with the stipulation h#2 were published. Composers and lovers of helpmates and selfmates were displeased to hear about the cessation of the magazine at the symbolic number of issue 64. Infinite gratitude must go to its creator, Živko Janevski, who granted such a magazine to us. This is not an illustrated magazine that lives only as long as the appearance of the next issue; on the contrary, it will endure as long as there are those who are dedicated to chess composition. Expert articles and reviews, as well as excellent originally published works gave this outlet true value. There is no other magazine with so many helpmates of permanent value. The last four issues achieved a very high level, with plenty of master works to be found among 110 helpmate twomovers. So much joy for the judge, and so much work. For me it was a great honour that Živko asked me to be the judge in the h#2 section. I gladly accepted this exceptional offer, although I knew that I would have an extensive work to complete. I was simply forced to divide the award into two sections. The first part of the award relates to the problems published in issues 61 and 62, and the second part relates to problems published in issues 63 and 64.

H#2 2014 / part I

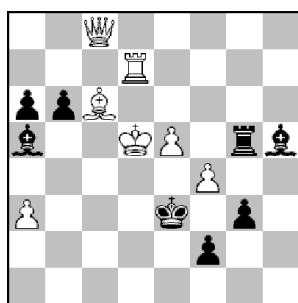
The award includes 50 compositions published in the "Originals" column and 7 in expert articles. Among the originals there are many four-phases problems - "Helpmate of The Future" (the most paradoxical theme-name in problem chess in which the emphasis is on the last word, and the theme is full of examples from the previous century). It was not simple to rank these problems, and the ranking largely resulted from my current personal feeling, because of small differences in the quality of the works.

In making the award I was guided by believing that advantage should be given to problems showing convincing and original content, but I highly appreciated significant improvements to existing ideas and mechanisms. I hope that such a belief did not lead to committing serious errors.

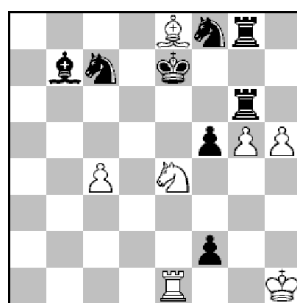
1st Prize – no.3758 Fadil Abdurahmanović: A magnificent balanced play by 4 white batteries with mates to the BK on 4 different squares. Each white move activates a battery. WD is an immobile rear piece for two indirect batteries and the WK plays as a front piece on 4 different squares. T and L change functions as front and rear pieces. Another brilliant task by probably the greatest master of the helpmate genre. *I. 1.Le1 (1.Kd2?) Lb5 2.Kd2 Ke4#; II. 1.Le2 (1.Kf3?) Tf7 2.Kf3 Kd4#; III. 1.Kd3 Ke6+ 2.Kc4 La4#; IV. 1.Kf4: Kc4 2.Kg4 Td4#.*

2nd Prize – no.3814 Zoran Gavrilovski: Živko Janevski and Zoran Gavrilovski presented the Abdurahmanović theme very expertly in issue 63. They reminded us of a very successful round of the popular "Liga Problemista" {League of [Yugoslav] Problemists"} from distant 1983, when composers did not have a computer as a main tool. This round resulted in the composition of a few valuable works. Here the author refreshed the theme in an excellent way, presented in HOTF form, in which the mating moves from the first pair of solutions become the first moves of the Siers battery in the second pair. The play of the BK on 4 different squares and 4 mates by the unpinned WS give additional value to this top composition. *I. 1.Td6 Kh2 Ke6 Sc5#(B); II. 1.T6g7 Lc6 2.Kf7 Sd6#(A); III. 1.Lc8 Sd6+(A) 2.Kd8 Sf7#; IV. 1.Tc6 Sc5+(B) 2.Kd6 Sb7:#.*

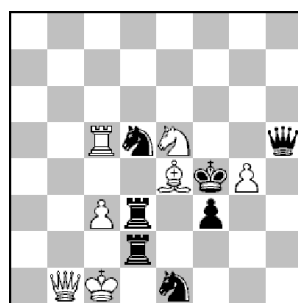
1. Pr. no.3758
Fadil Abdurahmanović



2. Pr. no.3814
Zoran Gavrilovski



3. Pr. no.3809
Živko Janevski &
Fadil Abdurahmanović



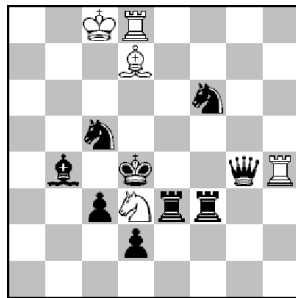
3rd Prize – no.3809 Živko Janevski & Fadil Abdurahmanović: A convincing diagonal/orthogonal mechanism with perfectly harmonious phases, reciprocally changed functions of two pairs of white pieces (D/T and L/S) and one pair of black pieces (Td3/Sd5), white interference, Umnov effects, black self-blocks and capture of white pieces. *I. 1.Te3 Sd3+ 2.Ke4: Tc4#; II. 1.Sf6 Ld5 2.Ke5: Db8#.*

4th Prize – no.3756 Viktor Syzonenko: An exceptional four-phase composition with rich strategy and well-paired phases. The WL, BK and BD play in all four phases, always on different squares. The BK creates a cross, the BD in one pair of solutions makes prolonged self-pin (play along the pin-line), but in the second pair she is unpinned and self-blocks squares. White L battery play on the first move after unpinning by Black is shown in one pair, while in the second pair the WL gives battery mates. *I. 1.De4! La4+ 2.Kc4 Se5#, (1.Kc4? Th5? 2.Sb3 Lb5?); II. 1.Df4! Le8+ 2.Ke4 Lg6#, (1.Ke4? Th5 2.Se6 Lc6? 3.Sd5!); III. 1.Kd5 Kc7 2.De6! Lc6#; IV. 1.Kd3: Th2 2.Dc4 Lf5#.*

5th Prize – no.3760 Anatoly Styopochkin: TF with pin-mates on the same squares (d4 and e6), with alternate capturing of the black initially-pinned knights connecting both pair of solutions. WPG2 one-two-play in the first pair and different

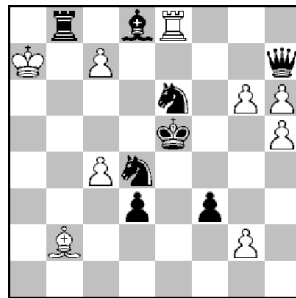
promotions by WpC7 in the second pair complete the impression. *I. 1.Ke4 g3 2.Sf5 Te6#; II. 1.Kf6 g4 2.Sg5 Ld4#; III. 1.Dh6: c8D 2.Df4 De6#; IV. 1.Dg6: cd8D 2.Df5 Dd4#.*

4. Pr. no. 3756
Viktor Syzonenko



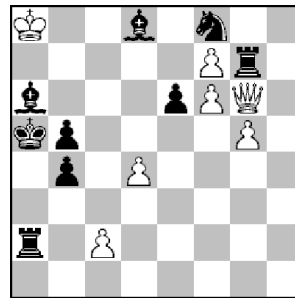
h#2 4.1.1.1. 5+9

5. Pr. no.3760
Anatoly Styopochkin



h#2 4.1.1.1. 9+8

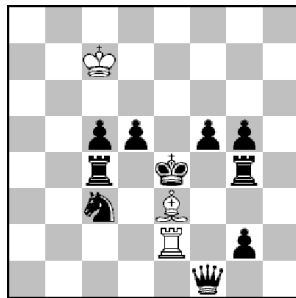
6. Pr. no.3759
M. Dragoun & L. Salai &
Emil Klemanič



h#2 4.1.1.1. 7+9

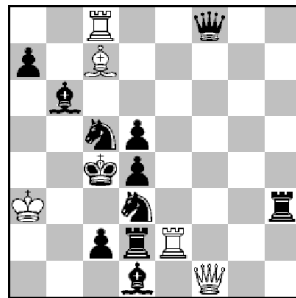
6th Prize – no.3759 Michal Dragoun & Ladisav Salai & Emil Klemanič: The play is strategically simple, but the solutions are harmoniously paired with diagonal-orthogonal analogy. *I. 1.Tc2: Dc2: 2.Lb6 Da2#; II. 1.Lf6: Df6: 2.Ta4 Dd8#; III. 1.Kb6 Df5 2.Ta5 Dc5#; IV. 1.Ka4 Dd3 2.La5 Db3#.*

7. Pr. no.3752
Živko Janevski



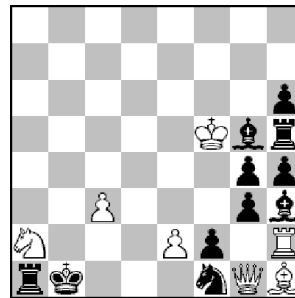
h#2 4.1.1.1. 3+10

1. H.M. no.3817
Vasil Krizhanivskiy



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+12

2. H.M. no.3762
Vitaly Medintsev



h#2 b) Pf2→g2 7+11

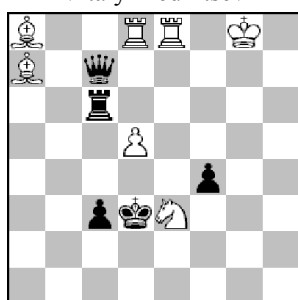
7th Prize – no.3752 Živko Janevski: TF-helpmate with white battery mechanism. The BK plays on 4 different squares. 4 different self-blocks. Good paired solutions with mates on the same square in the first pair and echo model mates in the second pair. Perfect white economy. *I. 1.d4 Lf4+ 2.Kd5 Te5#; II. 1.Df3 Ld4+ 2.Kf4 Le5#; III. 1.Kd3 Lg5: 2.Tge4 Td2#; IV. 1.Kf3 Lg1 2.Tcf4 Te3#.*

1st Honourable Mention – no.3817 Vasil Krizhanivskiy: Complex black self-pin with capture of white pieces and interference on black lines. Complete diagonal/orthogonal harmonious white and black play, pin-mates and reciprocally changed functions of BSs, BLb6 & BTd2, WD & WTc8 and WTe2 & WL. *I. 1.Lc7: Td2: 2.Lg3 Dd3: #; II. 1.Te2: Lb6: 2.Te7 Tc5: #.*

2nd Honourable Mention – no.3762 Vitaly Medintsev: BPf2 and WPe2 must be removed from the second rank, and they do it with the help of promotion, tempo play of the promoted piece and anti-dual white Pawn play. The eternal Zilahi theme is here realised in a very original way. *a) 1.fg1L e3 (1.- e4?) 2.L1e3! (tempo) Le4#; b) 1.gh1L e4 (1.- e3?) 2.Lf3! (tempo) Db6#.*

3. H.M. no.3803

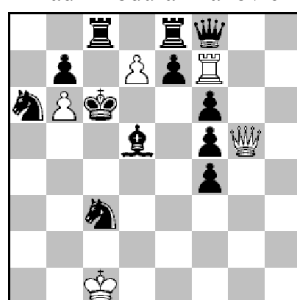
Vitaly Medintsev



h#2 2.1.1.1. 7+5

4. H.M. A (Chatting... no.61)

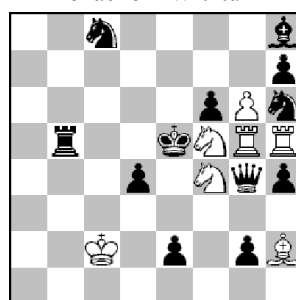
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+12
b) Ld5→c7

5. H.M. no.3821

Menachem Witztum



h#2 2.1.1.1. 7+12

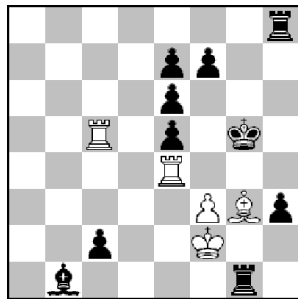
3rd Honourable Mention – no.3803 Vitaly Medintsev: A nice diagonal/orthogonal setting of alternate anticipatory self-pin and capture of the black thematic pieces Dc7/Tc6 with battery pin-mates on the same squares. *I. 1.De5 dc6+ 2.Kce4 c7#; II. 1.Tc5 d6 2.Kd4 dc7#.*

4th Honourable Mention – problem A (Chatting..., Orbit no.61, p.179) Fadil Abdurahmanović: Gavrilov Pickaninny. A successful presentation of an orthodox twomover theme in a helpmate. *a) I. 1.Kd7: Tf6: 2.Kd8! Td6# (3.ed6?); II. 1.Kd6 de8D 2.Ke6 Df6: # (3.ef6?); b) I. 1.Ld6 de8T+ 2.Kd7 Df5: # (3.e6?); II. 1.Lb6: de8D+ 2.Kc7 Df4: # (3.e5?).*

5th Honourable Mention – no.3821 Menachem Witztum: Combination of Nagnibida theme (Black self-blocks on squares initially guarded by White) with black self-pin, gate-opening and pin-mate. *I. 1.Df4: (1.Dh3?, 1.Df3?) Tg2: 2.Td5 Te2: #; II. 1.Sf5: (1.Sf7?, 1.Sg8?) Th7: 2.Sd6 Te7#.*

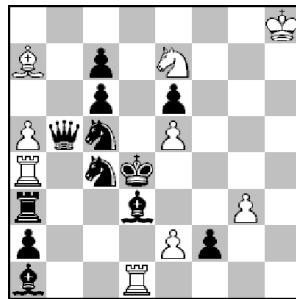
6th Honourable Mention – no.3811 Zoran Gavrilovski: Fine HOTF with passive Zilahi, annihilation and switchbacks in one pair of solutions. In the 2nd pair a black line is opened to allow black self-blocks. [Dedicated to Živko Janevski]. *a) I. 1.Tg3: Tee5: + 2.Kf4 Te4#; II. 1.Kf5 Lh4 2.Tg6 Tce5: #; b) I. 1.Le4: Le5: 2.Kh4 Lg3#; II. 1.Kf6 Tg4 2.Lf5 Le5: #.*

6. H.M. no.3811
Zoran Gavrilovski



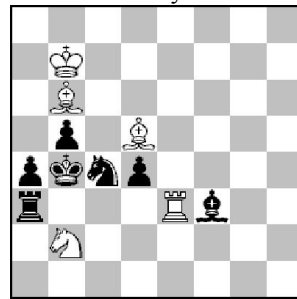
h#2 b) Pc2→g2 5+10

7. H.M. no.3764
Menachem Witztum



h#2 b) Se7→a6 9+12
c) Se7→d6

8. H.M. no.3751
Shaul Shamir &
Jean Hayman

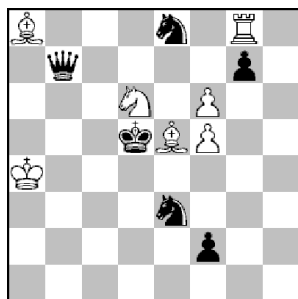


h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+7

7th Honourable Mention – no.3764 Menachem Witztum: A complex combination of triple alternate unpin of the 3 initially-pinned black pieces with black prolonged self-pin and black interference. Pin-mates and cyclically changed functions of the black pieces. An extremely complex and nice mechanism where, unfortunately, the play on B2 move is strategically heterogeneous: black interference, self-block and removal of square-guard by means of sacrifice on the square. a) 1.Ke4 Td3: 2.Sb3 Te3#; b) 1.Kd5 Lc5: 2.Se5: e4#; c) 1.Ke3 Tc4: 2.Le4 Te4:#.

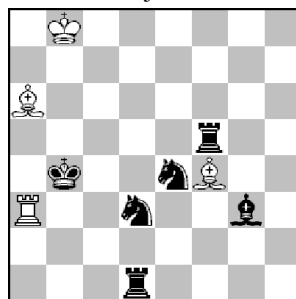
8th Honourable Mention – no.3751 Shaul Shamir & Jean Hayman: A new idea with virtual and actual Zilahi. A passive Zilahi with capture of a white piece in the first move is shown in tries, which fail because the captured piece is necessary for the mate. The solutions present an active Zilahi with capture of the same pieces on the second move. A very brave and well-realised idea. I. 1.Sd2 (1.Se3:?) Tc3 (1.- Sa4:?) 2.dc3 Sd3#; II. 1.Se5 (1.Sb2:?) Sa4: (1.- Tc3?) 2.Ta4: Tb3#.

9. H.M. no.3754
Anton Harl



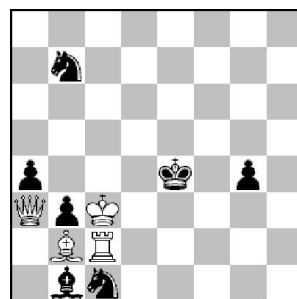
h#2 b) Kd5→f3 7+6

10. H.M. no.3745
Walter Alejandro Diaz



h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+6

SP. H.M. no.3747
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 b) Lb1→d6 4+7
c) Pg4→e6

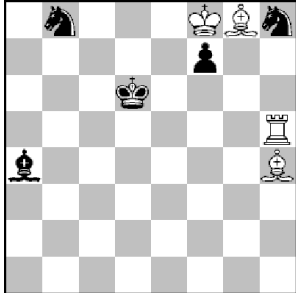
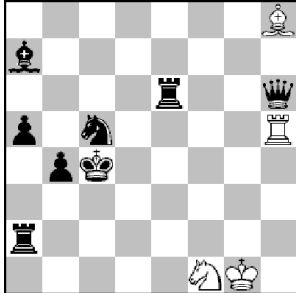
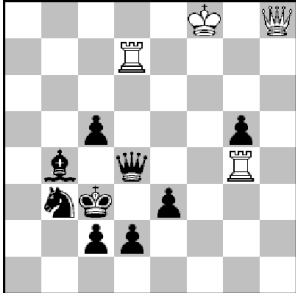
9th Honourable Mention – no.3754 Anton Harl: Pelle movement or prolonged self-pin with gate-opening, cross-check and pin-mates. Play on the same square on B1 move. *a) 1.Sf6: Tb8 2.Dc6+ Tb5#; b) 1.gf6 Sb5 2.De4+ Sd4#.*

10th Honourable Mention – no.3745 Walter Alejandro Diaz: Double unpin of WLf4 and black interference with reciprocal black moves and model mates. Witty play changes as a result of the black reciprocal play. A simple, but very pleasant problem. *I. 1.Se5(a) Lg5 2.Sd2(b) Le7#; II. 1.Sd2(b) Lc7 2.Se5(a) Ld6#.*

Special Honourable Mention – no.3747 Fadil Abdurahmanović: Triple white Royal battery on different lines with cyclic change of functions of the white line pieces in a light position. A masterful improvement of the composition by Valery Kirillov & Rolf Wiehagen (Orbit no.60-2013, 3699). *a) 1.Kf3 Lc1: 2.b2 Kd4#; b) 1.Kd5 Db3:+ 2.Kc5 Kd2#; c) 1.Ke5 Tf2 2.Le4 Kc4#.*

Comendations without order:

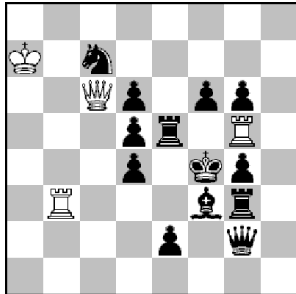
– **no.3744 Velko Aleksandrov:** Black anti-dual play in both moves. Motivation of the second move is completely pure, with white line-opening, but it is heterogeneous on the first move. Reciprocally changed functions of WTh5/WLh4. An elegant Meredith position. *I. 1.Ld7 (1.Sd7?) Tc5 2.f5 (2.f6?) Le7#; II. 1.Sc6 (1.Lc6?) Ld8 2.f6 (2.f5?) Td5#.*

<p>Comm. no.3744 Velko Aleksandrov</p>  <p>h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+5</p>	<p>Comm. no.3749 Zoran Nikolić</p>  <p>h#2 b) WSd5 4+8</p>	<p>Comm. no.3753 Janos Csak</p>  <p>h#2 4.1.1.1. 4+9</p>
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– **no.3749 Zoran Nikolić:** Combination of double black anticipatory interference with mixed interference and black self-block in an elegant Meredith position. *a) 1.Te3 Lb2 2.Sd3 Sd2#; b) 1.Tb6 Sf4 2.Sb3 Se3#.*

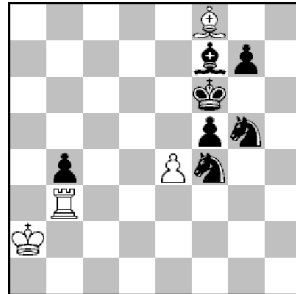
– **no.3753 Janos Csak:** HOTF, white battery creation and reciprocal capturing of white and black piece. Perhaps I am too rigorous in my evaluation of this good problem, but I do not like this kind of symmetry. *I. 1.c1S Tdd4: 2.Sd3 Tc4#; II. 1.Sa5 Tgd4: 2.Sc4 Td3#; III.1.Kc4 Dh7 2.Dg4: Dd3#; IV. 1.Kd3 Dg8 2.Dd7: Dc4#.*

Comm. no.E3, Page 215
Zoran Gavrilovski



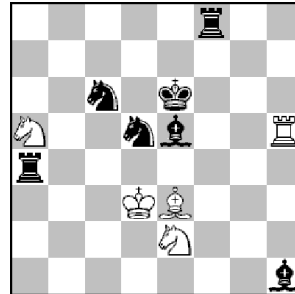
h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+13

Comm. no.3801
K. R. Chandrasekaran



h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+7

Comm. no.3802
Mihajlo Milanović



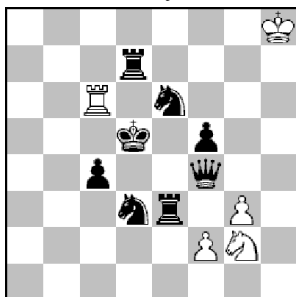
h#2 b) Sa5↔Th5 5+7

– **no.E3, Page 215, Zoran Gavrilovski:** Very nice mechanism with anti-dual self-blocks on the square e4 and active sacrifices by white pieces. *I. 1.Le4 Tf3+ 2.gf3 Dc1#; II. 1.Te4 Te5 2.de5 Df6:#.*

– **no.3801 K. R. Chandrasekaran:** The problem shows two unpins and self-blocks at e6. There are two other self-blocks at g6 and a change of functions of WT/WP (support/mate). *I. 1.Sfe6 Te3 2.g6 e5#; II. 1.Sge6 Tf3 2.Sg6 Tf5:#.*

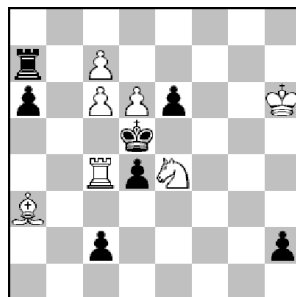
– **no.3802 Mihajlo Milanović:** An aristocratic Meredith position in which black play on the first move and mates are both on the same squares. Mixed interference, black self-pin and pin-mates. The twinning device of exchange of places of white thematic pieces detracts from the impression of this problem. *a) 1.Sf6 Sc4 (1.- Sb7?) 2.Kd5 Sf4# b) 1.Lf6 Sd4+ (1.- Sg7+?) 2.Ke5 Lf4#.*

Comm. no.3805
Kenan Velikhanov &
Umut Sayman



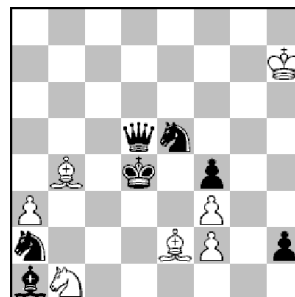
h#2 4.1.1.1. 5+8

Comm. no.3807
Semion Shifrin



h#2 b) Pe6→e5 7+7

Comm. no.3808
Vilmantas Satkus



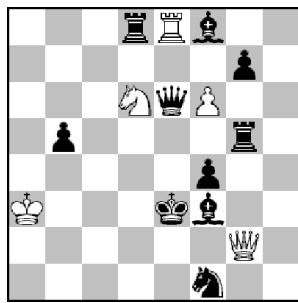
h#2 b) Se5→e4 7+7

– **no.3805 Kenan Velikhanov & Umut Sayman:** Two pairs of solutions with reciprocal white moves, black self-blocks and model mates. *I. 1.Sd4 (1.Sdc5?) Te6(A) 2.Sc5 Sf4:#(B); II. 1.Ke5 (1.Sd4?) Sf4:(B) 2.Td4 Te6:#(A); III. 1.Dd6 (1.Td6?) Tc4:(C) 2.Se5 Se3:#(D); IV. 1.Te5 (1.Kd4?) Se3+(D) 2.Kd4 Tc4:#(A).*

– **no.3807 Semion Shifrin:** Zilahi with mixed AUW, self-blocks and model mates. *a) 1.h1L c8S 2.Le4: Tc5#; b) 1.c1T c8D 2.Tc4: Sf6#.*

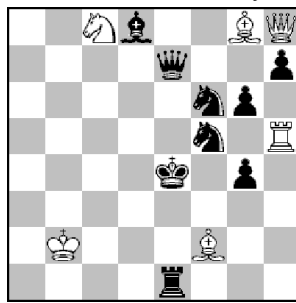
– **no.3808 Vilmantas Satkus:** Binomial pairs. All moves are two-step moves by the same unit. *a) 1.h1S Le1 2.Sf2: Lf2:#; b) 1.h1L Sd2 2.Lf3: Sf3:#.*

Comm. no.3810
Pier Giorgio Soranzo



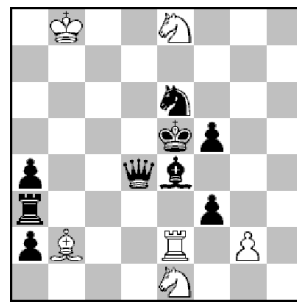
h#2 b) WLD6 5+10

Comm. no.3812
Aleksandr Pankratiev &
Mikhail Gershinsky



h#2 b) Sf6→g5 6+9

Comm. no.3813
Nicolae Chivu



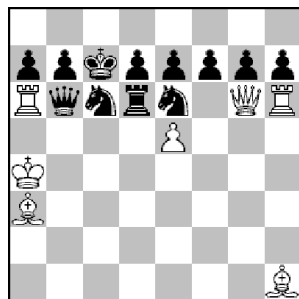
h#2 2.1.1.1. 6+9

– **no.3810 Pier Giorgio Soranzo:** Leibovici interferences with strategically rich but inharmonious solutions. *a) 1.Tc5 Dc2 2.De5 Sf5#; b) 1.Le2 Dd5 2.De7 Lc5#.*

– **no.3812 Aleksandr Pankratiev & Mikhail Gershinsky:** Combination of black anticipatory self-pin with self-pin and double pin-mates. The movement of a thematic piece in the twin decreases the impression. *a) 1.Se3 Sd6+ 2.Kd4 Td5#; b) 1.Se6 Sa7 2.Kd5 Dd4#.*

– **no.3813 Nicolae Chivu:** A harmonious D/O setting of black transferred pin with double self-blocks on d5 and double pin-mates by the WSe1. *a) 1.Tc3 g3 2.Dd5 Sf3:#; II. 1.Te3 gf3 2.Ld5 Sd3#.*

Comm. no.3820
Paz Einat & Shaul Shamir



h#2 b) Pe5→b5 7+12

– **no.3820 Paz Einat & Shaul Shamir:** A setting of triple-pin mates with heavy twinning. Not new. a) 1.Dc5 ed6+ 2.Kd6: Dg3#; b) 1.Td5 bc6 2.Kc6: Dc2#.

H#2 2014 / part II

In the final two issues of *Orbit* (63 and 64) 53 original helpmate compositions in 2 moves were published. The quality of the problems is in accordance with the magazine's reputation. The two highest-ranked compositions are distinctive because of their originality. The first prize is of exceptional theoretical significance, as it opens a new view and indicates new possibilities in help play.

I did not include several good quality compositions in the award: **3869** – I found in the “WinChloe” database a number of similar problems with preventive pinning of BD and double pin mates. **3875** – the twinning by moving the BK or by arrival of a piece on another piece's place radically changes the position, which I could not accept. **3877** – it looks interesting, although there are similar examples with a knight's round-trip in twins. I did not include it in the award because of the double change in the twinning, though I considered awarding it a special tourney honour. **3879** – a sacrifice for attraction of WP has often been used, but here it is presented in HOTF form in 4 phases. The composition looks very convincing, but its systemic flaw is that each of the 4 thematic WPs is idle in 3 phases. This can be shown with only one WP by moving it in twins (b2, g2, g3, g4). **3881** – there are many problems with a similar mechanism. The WD's play to the corner is too small an addition for including the problem in the award. **3925** – HOF with anticipated self-pin of pieces from the half-pin system in the first pair and chameleon echo mates by WD in the second pair of solutions. The absence of almost any link between the pairs detracts. **3926** – a composition in a scheme lacking originality. Variations of the mechanism with WSs adjacent to the BK can be seen in tens of problems. **3932** – a lot of content, but with repetition of moves.

For some of the remaining problems I had a dilemma. I would have certainly included them in the award of a smaller tourney, but in such a big and strong tourney some good compositions have to be omitted from the tourney in the situation of competing against a wealth of good works.

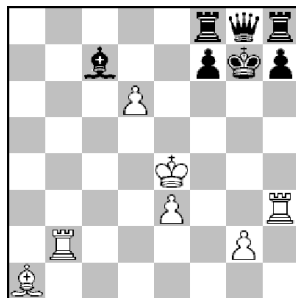
1st Prize – no.3870 Marjan Kovačević: One of the most original and most complex approaches to help play comes from the best composer of orthodox twomovers. It is not simple for a helpmate specialist to accept such a radically different view. The author presented his concept of *Contrasting Effects* in a very convincing manner in his article “Organized disharmony - A different reading of helpmate content” (*Orbit*, No. 64). In search for tempo, which would allow the mate from the set play, the black bishop attacks the a1-g7 diagonal line and thus prevents a mate (a negative/harmful effect). However, there is a possibility to correct the plan, by turning the harmful effect into a positive/useful one, by pinning the bishop on the main diagonal line. Subtle play, corresponding to a direct twomover's strategy, ends with a

pin mate in all three phases. * I.- Kf5 2.Lb8! Tb7#, (2.Ld6:~? Tb7 3.Le5!, 2.Ld8? Tb7 3.Lf6!); II. 1.Ld6:~! Tb6+ 2.Le5! Tg3#; II. 1.Ld8! Tb5+ 2.Lf6! Tg5#; (1.L~? Kf5?, Tb6+?, Tb5+?).

2nd Prize – no.3923 Fadil Abdurahmanović: Combination of virtual Pickaninny, virtual S-wheel and virtual black AUW. An original and unexpected blend, extraordinarily constructed in a twinless three-phase setting. I. 1.e6! (1.Pe7~?) Ta8 2.Se7 Th8#; II. 1.Sc5! (1.Se4~?) Ta3: 2.Th4 Tf3:~#; III. 1.a2 Ta2: 2.g1S! (g1L,D,T?) Th2#.

1. Pr. no.3870

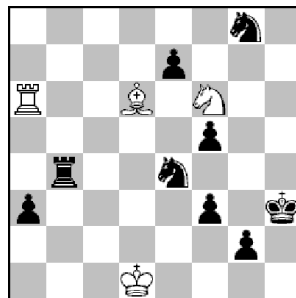
Marjan Kovačević



h#2* 2.1.1.1. 7+7

2. Pr. no.3923

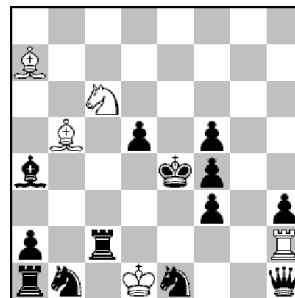
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 3.1.1.1. 4+9

3. Pr. no.3876

Viktor Chepizhny



h#2 b) Sc6→e5 5+13

3rd Prize – no.3876 Viktor Chepizhny: Someone has said that the Zilahi theme has already become boring, as it has been seen in thousands of problems. It seems to me that it will remain attractive in combination with other strategic elements. This grandmaster's piece of art confirms this statement. A reciprocal Zilahi effect gives special charm to destruction of black batteries. The black strategy is matched with consecutive captures of black pieces, so both batteries disappear in both phases. Everything is packed in diagonal/orthogonal harmony with reciprocally changed functions of three pairs of pieces: WT & Wlb5, BD & BLa4 and BSe1 & BTc2. a) 1.Dh2: La4: 2.Sg2 Lc2:~#; b) 1.Lb5: Th1: 2.Tc4 Te1:~#.

4th Prize – problem L (Chatting..., Orbit no.63, p.278). Živko Janevski: A composition which the author "polished" for a long time. The result is a perfect HOTF D/O mechanism with black self-blocks, corrective unpins of the black Ss, reciprocal captures, mixed Bristols, Zilahi, model mates ... All the above has been nicely presented by the author in his article (*Orbit*, No. 63). I. 1.Td2: Lf2: 2.Se5 Lc5#; II. 1.Ld4 Lf2 2.Le5! (Se5?) Lc5#; III. 1.Lg3: Te2: 2.Sd5 Te6#; IV. 1.Te5 Te2 2.Td5! (Sd5?) Te6#.

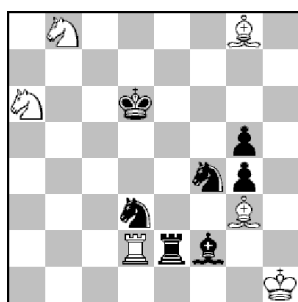
5th Prize – no.3878 Michal Dragoun & Ladislav Salai & Emil Klemanič: HOTF with three pairs of thematically connected solutions. Black L & T sacrifice themselves on 3 different squares each. Three mates are given on the c3-c8 orthogonal line and the remaining three mates on the c3-h8 diagonal line. De5 and Dc6 are white first (W1) moves, in the other pair they are only tries and in the third pair they feature

as mating (W2) moves. Although the play is simple in each individual solution, all the phases together construct a matching, compact and convincing mechanism, to which nothing can be added or removed. *I. 1.Ld6 De5(A) (1.- Dh8?) 2.Lc5 dc5#; II. 1.Td6 Dc6(B) (1.- Dc8?) 2.Td5:+ cd5#; III. 1.Le5 Dh8 (1.- De5:?) 2.Ld4: Dd4:#; IV. 1.Tc6 Dc8 (1.- Dc6:?) 2.Tc4: Dc4:#; V. 1.Lf4 ef4 2.Kd4: De5#(A); VI. 1.Ta5:+ Ka5: 2.Kc4: Dc6#(B).*

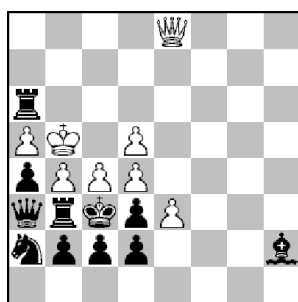
4. Pr. L (*Chatting...* no.63)
Živko Janevski

5. Pr. no.3878
M. Dragoun & L. Salai &
Emil Klemanič

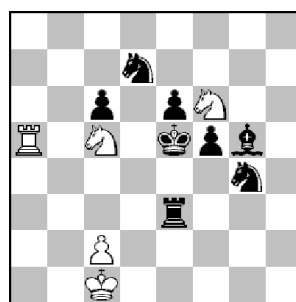
1. H.M. D (*Chatting...* no.64)
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 4.1.1.1. 6+7



h#2 6.1.1.1. 8+11



h#2 3.1.1.1. 5+8

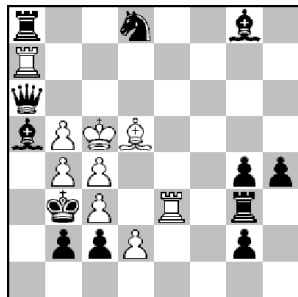
1st Honourable Mention – problem D (*Chatting...*, *Orbit* no.64, p.316) Fadil Abdurahmanović: Cyclic change of functions of black pieces (Te3, Sg4, Pe6) and white pieces (Sf6, Ta5, Sc5). The thematic black pieces make active or passive self-blocks and have no other role. White pieces cyclically change their functions: A = mate, B = active guard, C = passive guard. The author presented his composition as a scheme and challenge for further pursuit of a genuine mechanism (“door ajar”). This is, however, a very successful and worthy piece of work, and it remains only to wait for whether and when a better problem with mutual cycle of change of play will be composed. *I. 1.Kf4 Ta3 2.Te5 Sh5#; II. 1.Kd4 Sce4 2.e5 Ta4#; III. 1.Kd6 Sd5 2.Sge5 Sb7#.*

2nd Honourable Mention – no.3882 Almiro Zarur: In the diagram position a mate is possible only by activating the P/L or P/T batteries. It is necessary to make a preliminary opening of the a-file for WTa7. Therefore BL and BD either hide away or sacrifice, while a rear white battery piece covers in the “background” the line of the other battery. Exceptional diagonal-orthogonal content with reciprocally changed functions of black and white protagonists. *I. 1.Lc7 Te6 2.Db5:+ cb5#; II. 1.Db7 Lf3 2.Lb4:+ cb4#.*

3rd Honourable Mention – no.3873 Abdelaziz Onkoud: A complex anti-dual mechanism with reciprocal change of active roles of BLc4 & BPe5 and of WTa4 & WTe8, as well as reciprocal change of passive roles of BDa5 & BLd8. A move by a black piece (Lc4, Pe5) at B1 move opens a black line along which BT interferes with a line of BD or BLd8, opens a white line along which one WT controls e4 and a black

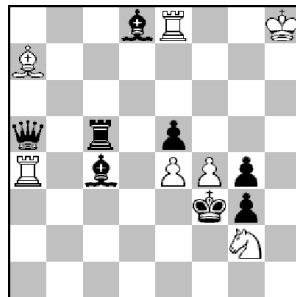
piece self-blocks e2 or f4. White rooks reciprocally (passively) control e4, and also (actively) control f4 or e2 by the W1 move. Of two potential mates by the knight, one is allowed by the B1 move and one is prevented. *I. 1.Le2 Tf8 2.Tc3 Se1#; II. 1.ef4 Ta2 2.Tg5 Sh4#.*

2. H.M. no.3882
Almiro Zarur



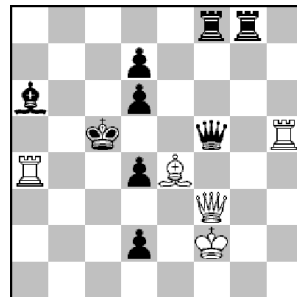
h#2 2.1.1.1. 9+12

3. H.M. no.3873
Abdelaziz Onkoud



h#2 2.1.1.1. 7+8

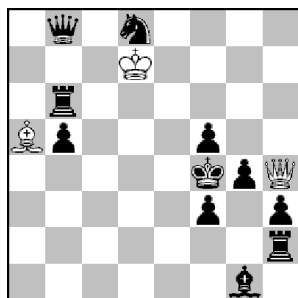
4. H.M. no.3868
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+9

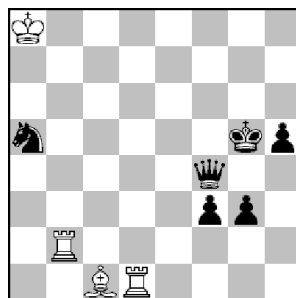
4th Honourable Mention – no.3868 Fadil Abdurahmanović: An original combination of black and white prolonged pin, with movement of both kings and both pieces on the pin line (mutual extended Pelle movement). A kind of strategic positive and negative. *I. 1.Kb5 Ke2 2.Dc5 Db3#; II. 1.d3 Kf1 2.Lb5 Df2#.*

5. H.M. no.3927
Jozef Ložek



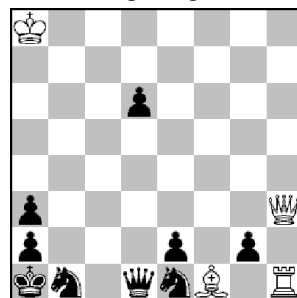
h#2 2.1.1.1. 3+11

6. H.M. no.3864
Živko Janevski



h#2 3.1.1.1. 4+6

7. H.M. no.3924
Georg Pongrac



h#2 b) -BPa2 4+9

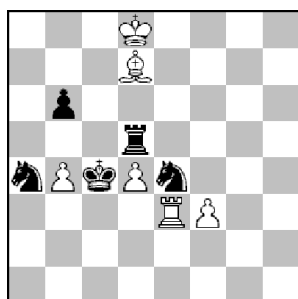
5th Honourable Mention – no.3927 Jozef Ložek: Analogous play of “hiding” of two pairs of black line pieces. One piece goes to the corner and vacates a square for the other piece. Echo mating final positions connect both phases. *I. 1.Th1 De1 2.Lh2 Ld2#; II. 1.Da8 De7 2.Tb8 Lc7#.*

6th Honourable Mention – no.3864 Živko Janevski: An elegant three-phase form of prolonged self-pin of BD, enriched with dual avoidance. The author needed only ten pieces for a perfect rendering of the idea. *I. 1.De3 Tb5+ (1.- Td5+?) 2.Kf4 Td4#; II. 1.Kh6 Tb7 (1.- Td7?) 2.Dg5 Td6#; III. 1.Kh4 Tb4 (1.- Td4?) 2.Dg4 Th1#.*

7th Honourable Mention – no.3924 Georg Pongrac: Masked third-pin with sacrifice by a white masking piece. *a) 1.Sc2 Le2: 2.De2: Dc3#; b) 1.Dd4 Lg2: 2.Sg2: Da3: #.*

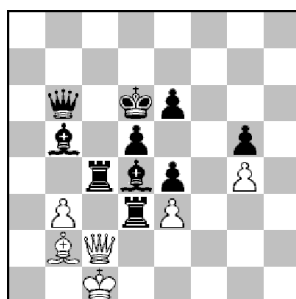
8th Honourable Mention – no.3866 Živko Janevski: HOTF with 4 different mates by WT. B2 moves by the BK in the first pair are B1 moves in the other pair. Distant self-blocks with direct unpin in the first pair of solutions. Good content in a light setting. *I. 1.Ta5 Le6+ 2.Kb4:(a) Tb3#; II. 1.Te5 Lb5+ 2.Kd4:(b) Td3#; III. 1.Kb4:(a) Ta3 2.Ka5 Ta4: #; IV. 1.Kd4:(b) Ke7 2.Ke5 Te4: #.*

8. H.M. no.3866
Živko Janevski



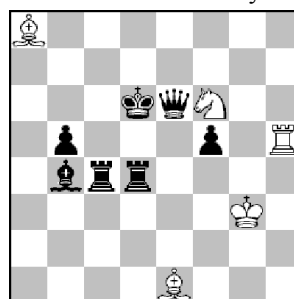
h#2 4.1.1.1. 6+5

1. Comm. no.3931
Zoran Gavrilovski



h#2 b) Kc1→a1 6+10

2. Comm. no.3922
Aleksandr Pankratiev &
Mikhail Gershinsky



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+7

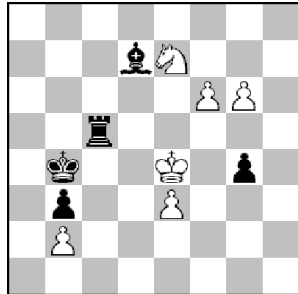
1st Commendation – no.3931 Zoran Gavrilovski: Such a combination of Zilahi and mixed Bristol is not new. It has been seen many times in h#2 and h#3. A good composition, but it lacks originality. *a) 1.Tc6 (1.Lf6?) Dc5+! 2.Kc5: La3#; b) 1.Lf6 (1.Tc6?) Le5+! 2.Ke5: Dh2#.*

2nd Commendation – no.3922 Aleksandr Pankratiev & Mikhail Gershinsky: Meredith with double self-pin of BTd4 & BPf5 and model mates with pin of two pieces on different squares. Reciprocal active and passive self-blocks by BL and BD. The idea is familiar, but it seems that the mechanism is original. *I. 1.Kc5 Lf2 2.Db6 Se4#; II. 1.Ke5 Lc3 2.Ld6 Sg4#.*

3rd Commendation – no.3921 Slobodan Šaletić: An unusual setting of duplex form with Forsberg twins. *a) A) 1.La4 Kd4 2.Tb5 Sc6#; B) 1.Sd5+ Kc4 2.Sf4 Lf5#; b) A) 1.Lb5 Td7 2.Kc4 Td4#; B) 1.Kd4 Lc6 2.Te4 Td5#.*

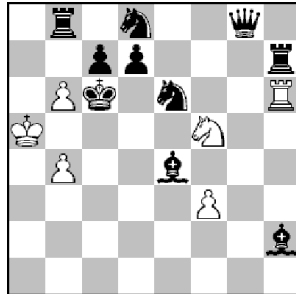
4th Commendation – no.3930 Abdelaziz Onkoud: Abdurahmanović I theme in a good setting. Compare very similar, but 30 years older composition: S. Đulinac, 9.Pl LP 1984 (see *Orbit* 63 p. 282, problem no.11), which was produced without computer help. *I. 1.d5 Th7: 2.Sf4 Tc7: #; II. 1.Kd5 f4 2.Sd4 Se3#; III. 1.Ld5 Sd6 2.Sc5 b5#; 1.Ld6 Ka6 2.Sg7 Se7#.*

3. Comm. no.3921
Slobodan Šaletić



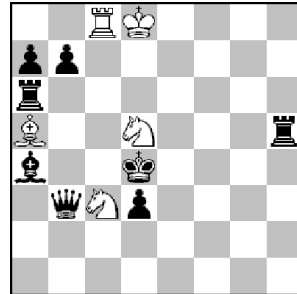
h#2 Duplex 6+5
b) WTe7

4. Comm. no.3930
Abdelaziz Onkoud



h#2 4.1.1.1. 6+10

5. Comm. ea. no.1, Page 320
Marko Ložajić



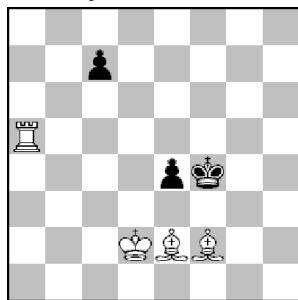
h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+8

Shoulder to shoulder with top helpmate composers in this award were two very young and exceptionally talented authors, whose original compositions featured in the last issue of *Orbit* (article “First step in composition” by Marjan Kovačević).

5th Commendation ea. – no.1, Page 320 Marko Ložajić: Combination of reciprocal interferences on the black lines by B & W, white battery creation with interference by W on the same square (c7). Reciprocally changed function of WL & Wsd5. *I. 1.b6 Sc7 2.Kc5 S7b5#; II. 1.b5 Lc7 2.Kc4 Lb6#.*

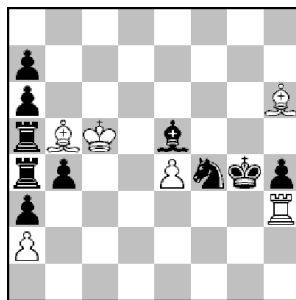
5th Commendation ea. – no.2, Page 320 Ilija Serafimović: Miniature with two pairs of tempo moves by the Pc7. *I. 1.c6 Tg5 2.c5 Le3#; II. 1.c5 Lg1 2.c4 Lh2#.*

5. Comm. ea. no.2, Page 320
Ilija Serafimović



h#2 2.1.1.1. 4+3

7. Comm. no.3874
Stefan Parzuch



h#2* 6+10

At the very end, like icing the cake, I left one beautiful classical problem with set play.

7th Commendation – no.3874 Stefan Parzuch: Reciprocal dual avoidance with indirect self-pin of WL and self-blocks by BS in set-play form. * *1.- Kc4 (1.- Kc6?) 2.Sh5 Ld7#; 1.Sh3: Kc6 (1.- Kc4?) 2.Lg3 Le2#.*

After all, I ask you to accept this award with 20 compositions as a personal view of one, not very productive helpmate composer. It is surely possible to make a different order of the tourney honours, but I think that this way is good.

Judge, FIDE Master Borislav Gadjanski

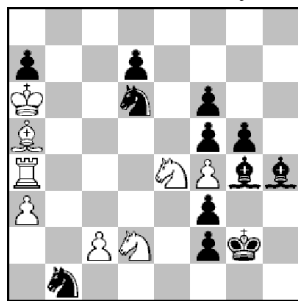
Orbit Informal tourney award 2014 **Helpmates in three moves**

During 2014 51 original h#3s were published in *Orbit*. The level of the tourney was high. My main criteria in judging were originality, complexity, economy, and the overall artistic effect. I excluded the following problems because of anticipation: no.H3767 Jozef Ložek by Semion Shifrin 3.HM H3099 *The Problemist*, 2007 (A), no.3834 Kenan Velikhanov anticipated by Abdelaziz Onkoud 3294 *Orbit* 2011 (B) and no.G Petre Stojoski (Chatting, *Orbit* no.62, page 229) anticipated by Evgeny Fomichev 2288 *Schach-Aktiv* 1999 (C). From the remaining problems I propose the following ranking.

1st Prize – no.3836 Vasil Krizhanivskiy: An attractive diagonal/orthogonal setting of black masked anticipatory self-pin with creation of a flight for the BK by alternate capture of the white Knights, reciprocal white masked battery creation, white Grimshaw, and pin-mates with delayed Umnov effect. A memorable problem. *I. 1.Se4:! Lb4 2.Kg3 Sf1+! (2.- Sc4?) 3.Kf4: Ld6#; II. 1.Sd2:! Tb4 2.Kf1 Sg3+! (2.- Sc3?) 3.Ke1 Tb1#.*

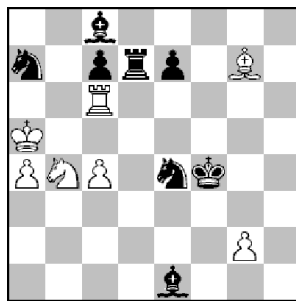
2nd Prize – no.3826 Fadil Abdurahmanović: An original and unusual presentation of mixed critical Grimshaw on d4 and black/white indirect unpinning of WS. *I. 1.- Lc3! 2.Td4! g4 3.Ke5 Sd3#; II. 1.- Tg6! 2.Td2! Ld4! 3.Lf5 Sd5#.*

1. Pr. no.3836
Vasil Krizhanivskiy



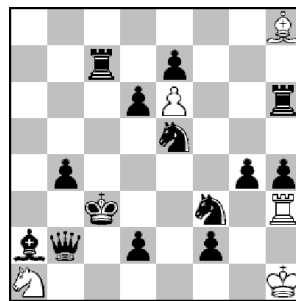
h#3 2 sols 8+12

2. Pr. no.3826
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#2,5 2 sols 7+8

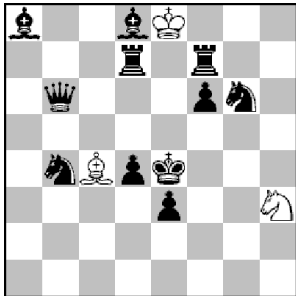
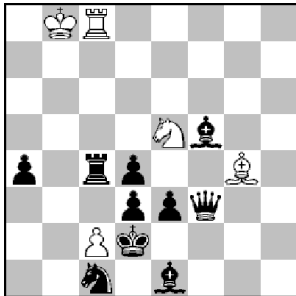
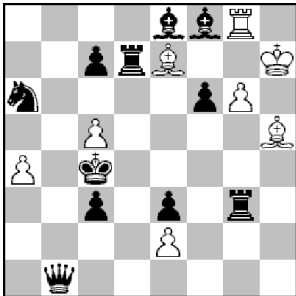
3. Pr. no.3774
Janos Csak



h#3 2 sols 5+14

3rd Prize – no.3774 Janos Csak. An attractive diagonal/orthogonal setting of reciprocal white battery creation with black anti-dual self-block on c4, black transferred pin, black delayed sacrifice and battery switchback pin-mates. Reciprocally changed functions of the white and black pieces from the two initial pin mechanisms. *I. 1.g3 Le5:+ 2.Sd4 Lg3: 3.Tc4 (3.Lc4?) Le5#; II.1.Tf6 Tf3:+ 2.Sd3 Tf6: 3.Lc4 (3.Tc4) Tf3#.*

4th Prize – no.3941 Abdelazis Onkoud: An interesting combination of black battery creation with consecutive black interferences by the same black piece, black bi-valve, alternate capture of the black Rooks, black self-block and model mates in a well constructed position without white pawns. *I. 1.Se7 Kd7: 2.Sec6+ Ke6 3.Sd3 Ld5#; II. 1.Le7 Kf7: 2.Ld6+ Kf6: 3.Sf4 Sg5#.*

<p>4. Pr. no.3941 Abdelazis Onkoud</p>  <p>h#3 2 sols 3+11</p>	<p>5. Pr. no.3935 Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>h#2,5 2 sols 5+10</p>	<p>1. H.M. no.3835 Viktor Chepizhny</p>  <p>h#3 2 sols 8+11</p>
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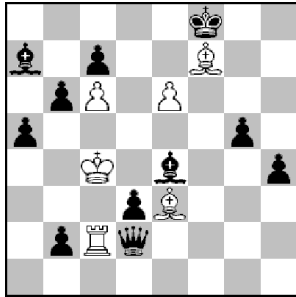
5th Prize – no.3935 Zoran Gavrilovski: A diagonal/orthogonal setting of Chumakov theme with mixed Bristol clearance, sacrifice of white line pieces, consecutive black self-blocks and mates with delayed Umnov effect. *I. 1.- Tc4: 2.Dd1 Le2! 3.de2 Sf3#; II. 1.- Lf3: 2.Tc2: Tc3! 3.dc3 Sc4#.*

1st Honourable Mention – no.3835 Viktor Chepizhny: A complex diagonal/orthogonal strategic setup of white self-pin on the same square, direct unpin of the white self-pinned piece, white reciprocal line vacation, black complex pin, pin-mate and reciprocally changed functions of WTg8 and WLh5. *I. Tg6: Lg6:! (Tg6:?) 2.Db3 Lf7+ 3.Td5 Tg4#; II. 1.Lg6:+ Tg6:! (Lg6:?) 2.Db4 Tg4+ 3.Td4 Lf7#.*

2nd Honourable Mention – no.3768b Nikola Stolev (Version by Viktor Syzonenko): A diagonal/orthogonal setting of Zilahi with mixed sacrificial line-clearance, white ambush play, consecutive gate-opening and reciprocally changed functions of WT and WL. *I. 1.- Tb2: 2.Db2: Lc1 3.Dg7 La3#; II. 1.- Lg5: 2.Dg5: Tg2 3.De7 Tg8#.*

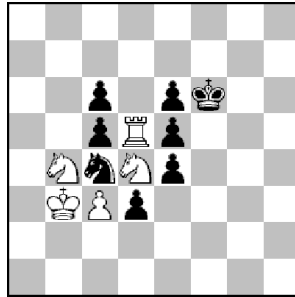
3rd Honourable Mention – no.3829 Jorge Lois & Jorge Kapros & Christer Jonsson: A presentation of reciprocal consecutive active and passive capture of the white pieces Sd4 & Td5 with double distant self-block by BSc4 and chameleon echo model mates by WSb4. *I. 1.Sd6 Se6: 2.Ke6: Sa6 3.Kd5: Sc7#; II. 1.Se3 Te5: 2.Ke5: c4 3.Kd4: Sbc6:#.*

2. H.M. no.3768b
Nikola Stolev
(Ver. by Viktor Syzonenko)



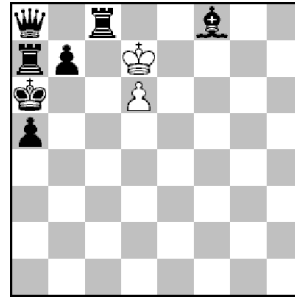
h#2,5 2 sols 6+11

3. H.M. no.3829
Jorge Lois & Jorge Kapros
& Christer Jonsson



h#3 2 sols 5+8

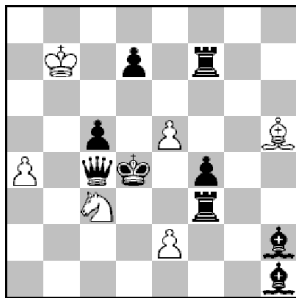
4. H.M. no.3938
Slobodan Šaletić



h#3 2 sols 2+7

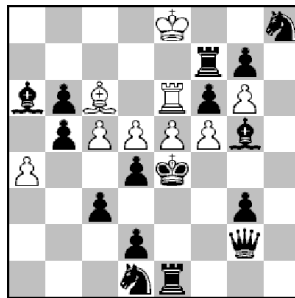
4th Honourable Mention – no.3938 Slobodan Šaletić: A combination of Chumakov theme with black sacrifice, white promotions, double self-block on b6 and model mates in a well constructed minimal Meredith position. *I. 1.Le7 de7 2.Tc6 e8S 3.Tb6 Sc7#; II. 1.Tc7+ dc7 2.Lc5 c8D 3.Lb6 Dc4#.*

1. Comm. no.3772
Jozef Ložek &
Emil Klemanič



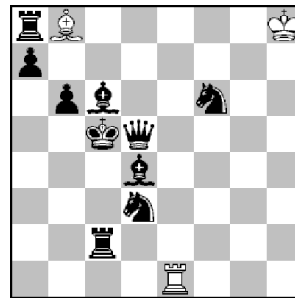
h#3 2 sols 6+9

2. Comm. no.3893
Abdelaziz Onkoud



h#3 4 sols 9+16

3. Comm. no.3888
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#3 2 sols 3+10

1st Commendation – no.3772 Jozef Ložek & Emil Klemanič: A presentation of black and white en-passant capture in multi solution form. An enjoyable problem for lovers of en-passant capture. *I. 1.Td3+ e4 2.fe3 e.p.+ Lf3 3.Le5: Se2#; II. 1.Db4+ Sb5+ 2.Kc4 Lf7:+ 3.d5 ed6 e.p.#.*

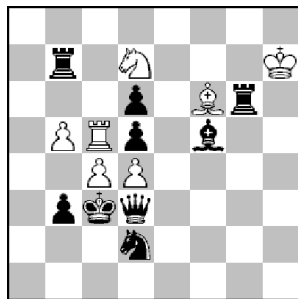
2nd Commendation – no.3893 Abdelaziz Onkoud: TF-helpmate with two pairs of thematically connected solutions with diagonal/orthogonal matched play using well-known white battery mechanisms. Chumakov theme, annihilation capture of white piece, white line-vacation, white anti-critical play and model mates on the BK's initial square is shown in the 1st pair, while the 2nd pair presents annihilation capture of

black piece, gate-opening and white switchback. Self-blocks on the same squares c4 & f5 and black play on the 2nd move on the same squares d5 & e5 connects the thematic content of both pairs. I. 1.Kd3 e f6 2.Dd5: Te1 3.Dc4 Le4#; II. 1.Kf4 d6 2.Te5: Lg2: 3.Tf5: Te4#; III. 1.bc5 Lb5: 2.Kd5: Ld7 3.Lc4 Lc6#; IV. 1.Lf4 Tf6: 2.Ke5: Td6 3.Tf5: Te6#.

3rd Commendation – no.3888 Zlatko Mihajloski: Combination of bicour unpin of the WL with black square vacation, self-block, white anti-critical play and model mates in a well constructed position without white pawns. I. 1.Tc4 (1.Lc3?) Te8! (1.- Te7?) 2.Lc3 Lf4 3.Kd4 Le3#; 1.Lb5 (1.Sg8?) Te7! (1.- Te8?) 2.Sg8+! (2.Se8?) Le5 3.Kc6 Tc7#.

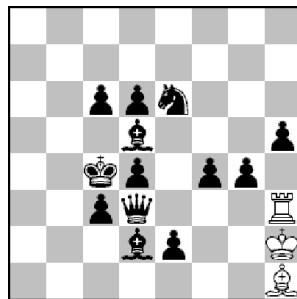
Appendix

A) Semion Shifrin 3.HM
H3099 *The Problemist*, 2007



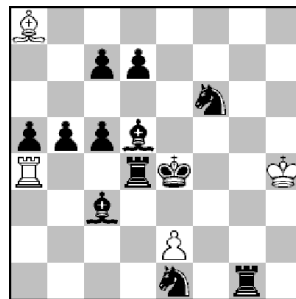
h#3 2 sols 7+9

B) Abdelaziz Onkoud
3294 *Orbit* 2011



h#3 2 sols 3+13

C) Evgeny Fomichev
2288 *Schach-Aktiv* 1999



h#3 b) Pb5→b3 4+12

A) I. 1.Dc4: Tc7 2.Ld3 Sc5 3.Db4 Sa4#; II. 1.Dd4: Lg7 2.Lc2 Sf6 3.Dd3 Sd5#.

B) I. 1.Le4 Tf3 2.Kd5 Tf4: 3.Dc4 Tf5#; II. 1.De3 Lf3 2.Kd3 Lg4: 3.Lc4 Lf5#.

C) a) 1.Lb7 Ta5: 2.Kd5+ e4+ 3.Kc6 Ta6#; b) 1.Tb4 Lb7 2.Kd4 e3+ 3.Kc4 La6#.

International Judge of FIDE, Živko Janevski

Orbit Informal tourney award 2014

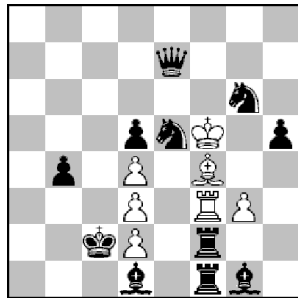
Helpmates in more than 3 moves

This year a total number of 55 chess compositions participated in the h#n tourney (1 in the column "Chatting about helpmates and selfmates", E, p. 180 and its versions N & O on pp. 233, and 54 in the column of "Original problems"). I think that the quality and the number of the received entries is satisfying and up to the level of the magazine's reputation. After reviewing the problems I make the following award, considering it open for 3 months after its publication. I propose the following ranking.

1st Prize – problem O (Chatting..., Orbit no.62, p.233, Version – 2 of E, Chatt. Orbit no.61, 2014) Fadil Abdurahmanović: A pendulum problem rich with problem motifs, including unpin of white mating pieces (T/L). An excellent work. *I. 1.- Te3 (1.- Le5:?) 2.Kd2: Tf3+! 3.Ke2 Lc1 4.Sf4! Te3#; II. 1.- Le3 (1.- Tf2:?) 2.Kd3: Lf4+! 3.Kd4 Tc3 4.Lf3! Le3#.*

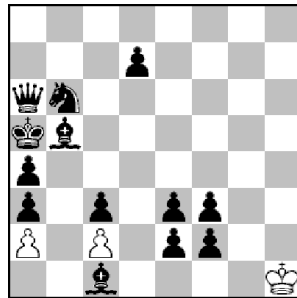
2nd Prize – no.3787 Zlatko Mihajloski & Fadil Abdurahmanović: An interesting conception by the famous authors with many problem motifs: Bristol line-clearance, Phoenix theme, sacrifice of thematic pieces, Excelsior, model mate. *1.Ld3! cd3 2.Dc4 dc4 3.f1L! c5 4.e1D! c6 5.De2 c7 6.Da6! c8D 7.Lb5 Dc3:#.*

1. Pr. O (Chatting... no.62)
Fadil Abdurahmanović



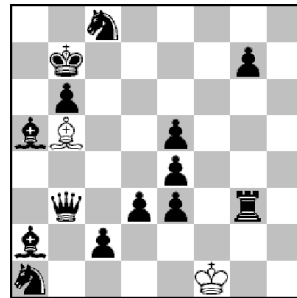
h#3,5 2 sols 7+11

2. Pr. no.3787
Zlatko Mihajloski &
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#7 3+13

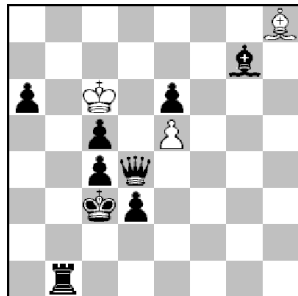
3. Pr. no.3842
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#6,5 2+14

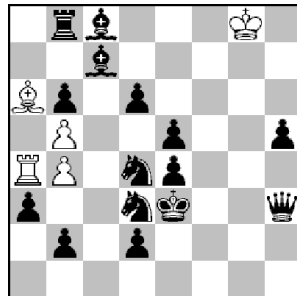
3rd Prize – no.3842 Zlatko Mihajloski: A moreover in which the author has shown Bristol line-clearance and round-trip. *1.- Ld3: 2.Df7+! Ke2 3.Ld5 Le4: 4.Ka6 Kd3 5.La8!! Lc6! 6.Da7 Kc4 7.Lb7 Lb5#.*

4. Pr. no.3779
Valery Gurov &
Boris Shorokhov



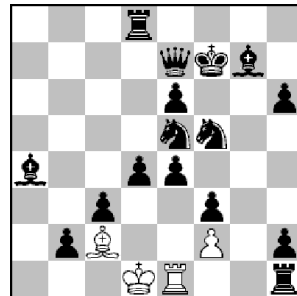
h#4 2 sols 3+9

5. Pr. no.3897 M. Kolesnik
& Aleksandar Semenkeno
& Valery Semenkeno



h#4 2 sols 5+15

6. Pr. no.3837
János Csák



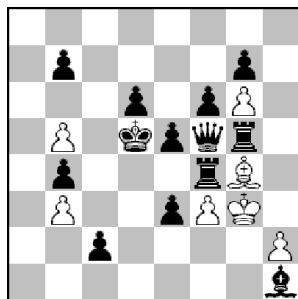
h#3,5 b) Se5→f6 4+16
c) Pe6→g4 d) Sf5→d6

4th Prize – no.3779 Valery Gurov & Boris Shorokhov: [Dedicated to Živko Janevski]. Pleasant play with self-pin on the a1-h8 diagonal line ending with a pin-mate. An excellent position. *I. 1.Dd6+ ed6 2.Kb2 d7 3.Ka1 d8D 4.Lb2 Da5#; II. 1.Lf6 ef6 2.De5 f7 3.Kd4 f8D 4.c3 Df4#.*

5th Prize – no.3897 Mikola Kolesnik & Aleksandar Semenenko & Valery Semenenko: A beautiful presentation of mates on the same square in combination with several problem motifs. *I. 1.Sb4: Lb7 2.Kd3 Ld5 3.Kc3 La2 4.Sd3! Tc4#; II. 1.Sb5: Ta3: 2.Kd4 Tc3 3.Kd5 Tc7: 4.Sd4! Lc4#.*

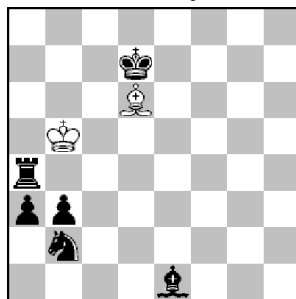
6th Prize – no.3837 János Csák: Basically this is a TF problem. A good achievement in which the double check-mate in the c-twin is a small drawback. *a) 1.- Lb3 2.Dg5 Kc2 3.Kf6 Te4: 4.Sf7 Te6:#; b) 1.- Tg1 2.Tg8 Ke1 3.Lf8 Le4: 4.Sg7 Lg6#; c) 1.- La4: 2.Df8 Lc2 3.Ke8 Le4: 4.Sf7 Lc6#; d) 1.- Th1: 2.Kf6 Te1 3.Sdf7 Te4: 4.Sg5 Tf4#.*

1. H.M. no. 3945
Zoran Gavrilovski



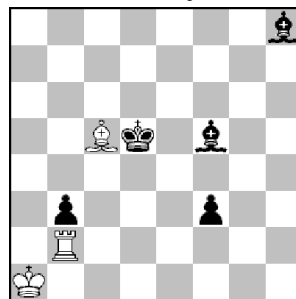
h#3,5 b) WTg4 7+13

2. H.M. no.3957
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#6,5 2+6

3. H.M. no.3944
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#3,5 2 sols 3+5

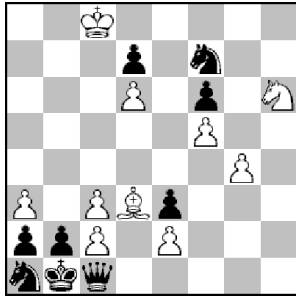
1st Honourable Mention – no.3945 Zoran Gavrilovski: The problem starts with change of the pinning line and then continues with mixed Bristol clearance and ends with double self-block. This good achievement also has anti-dual play. *a) 1.- Kh3! (1.- Kh4?) 2.Dc8! Ld7 3.Dc5 Le8 4.Td4 Lf7#; b) 1.- Kh4! (1.- Kh3?) 2.Tc4! Te4 3.Tc5 Te3: 4.De6 Td3#.*

2nd Honourable Mention – no.3957 Zlatko Mihajloski: Round-trip by WK and switchback by WL in a minimal position. *1.- La3:!! 2.Lh4 Ld6 3.Ta2 Kb4 4.Kc6 Kc3 5.Kb5 Kd4 6.Ka4 Kc5 7.Ka3 Kb5#.*

3rd Honourable Mention – no.3944 Zlatko Mihajloski: Unpin of the WT by the BK on the diagonal line b2-h8, with paradoxical Umnov effects. A pleasant problem with model mates. *I. 1.- La3! 2.Kd4 Td2+ 3.Kc3 Td4 4.Lc2 Lb2#; II. 1.- Lg1 2.Ke5 Te2+ 3.Kf4+ Te5 4.Lg4 Lh2#.*

4th Honourable Mention – no.3948 Mihajlo Milanović: A classical idea with an interesting try. *1.Se5! Sf7 2.Sc4 Se5 3.Sa3: Sc4 4.Sc2: Sa3#; 1.Sg5? Sf7 2.Se4 Sg5 3.Sc3: Se4 4.?? Sc3:#.*

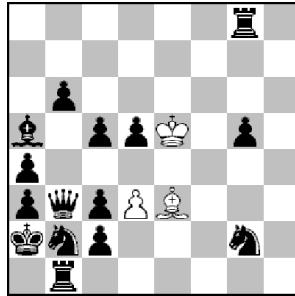
4. H.M. no.3948
Mihajlo Milanović



h#4

10+9

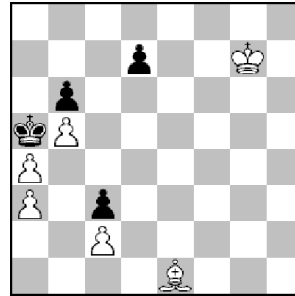
5. H.M. no.3950
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#4,5

b) Sg2→b5 3+15

Comm. no.3781
Christopher Jones



h#5

6+4

5th Honourable Mention – no.3950 Zlatko Mihajloski: A heavy setting in which the author has shown: double Indian theme, self-blocks, white tempo and switchback. a) 1.- Lc5: 2.Dc4! (2.- D~?) Lf8! 3.Kb3 Kd6 4.Kb4 Le7! 5.Db3 Kc6#; b) 1.- Lg5: 2.Ta1! (2.- T~?) Kf4 3.Kb1 Ke3 4.Kc1 Lf4! 5.Tb1 Ke2#.

Commendations without order:

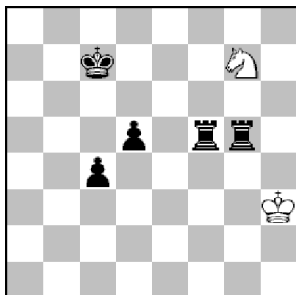
– **no.3781 Christopher Jones:** 1.d5! (1.d6?) Kf6 2.d4 Ke5 3.d3 Kd4 4.d2! (4.dc2?) Kc3: 5.d1L! Kb3#.

– **no.3786 Nebojša Joksimović:** 1.- Sh5 2.Tg8 Sg7 3.Tff8 Kg4 4.Td8 Kf5 5.Kd7 Sh5 6.Ke8 Ke6 7.Tf8 Sg7#.

– **no.3841 Nebojša Joksimović:** 1.- Lf1 2.Tg2 Kc4! 3.f2 Ld3! 4.Kf3 Lf1! 5.Df4+ Kd3 6.g3 Le2#.

– **no.3848 Milomir Babić:** 1.- La4 2.c5 Lb3:+ 3.c4 La4! 4.Dh8 Kc2: 5.c3 Kd3 6.c2 Ke4 7.c1L Kf5 8.La3 Kg6 9.Lf8 Lb3#.

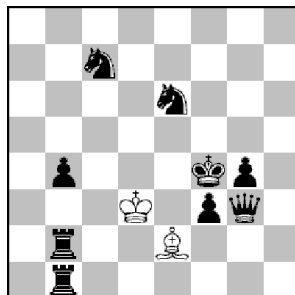
Comm. no.3786
Nebojša Joksimović



h#6,5

2+5

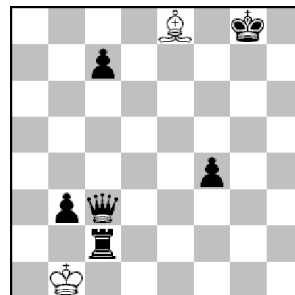
Comm. no.3841
Nebojša Joksimović



h#5,5

2+9

Comm. no.3848
Milomir Babić



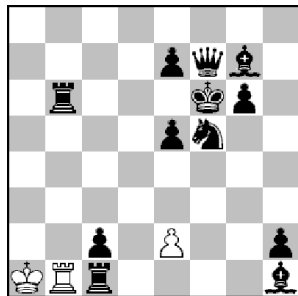
h#8,5

2+6

– **no.3896 Alexey Ivunin & Aleksandr Pankratiev**: I. 1.Td1 Td1: 2.Ke6 Td8!
3.Ld5 e4 4.Lf6 ed5#; II. 1.Lf3 ef3 2.Tg1 f4 3.Tg5 Tg1 4.Te6 fg5#.

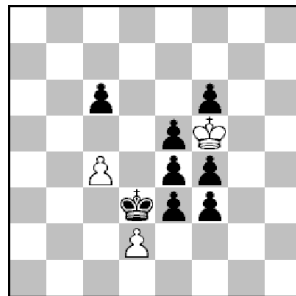
– **no.3898 Zlatko Mihajloski**: 1.Kc4: Ke4: 2.Kc5 Kd3 3.Kd5 Kc3 4.Ke4 Kc4
5.f5 d3#.

Comm. no.3896
Alexey Ivunin &
Aleksandr Pankratiev



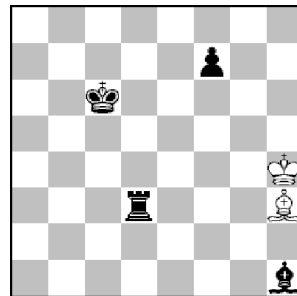
h#4 2 sols 3+12

Comm. no.3898
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#5 3+8

Comm. no.3958
Viktoras Paliulionis



h#11 2+4

– **no.3958 Viktoras Paliulionis**: 1.f5 Lf1! 2.f4 Lg2+ 3.f3 Lh1: 4.Kd5 Lg2 5.Ke4
Lf1 6.f2 Ld3:+ 7.Kf3 Lf5 8.Kg2 Lh3+ 9.Kh1 Kg3 10.f1S+ Kf2 11.Sh2 Lg2#.

International Judge of FIDE, Nikola Stolev

Orbit Informal tourney award 2014 Fairies

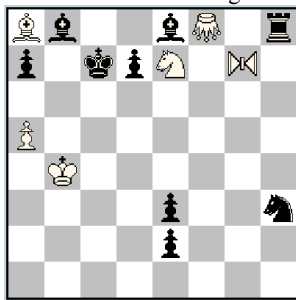
The pleasure of being invited to judge this tourney is mingled with regret at the disappearance, soon after *MatPlus* ceased publication, of yet another renowned problem magazine from south-eastern Europe, a region which has always been rich in outstanding composers.

This 2014 tourney was limited to heterodox helpmates and series helpmates. The quality was pleasing, without however reaching the very high standard of the orthodox helpmates in *Orbit* (cf. the 2013 h#n award in issue 63, 2014, page: 298). The chief missing feature was problems with genuine strategic depth.

There were 46 works to judge, including 20 miniatures, a relatively high proportion. A notable number of entries used combinations of (sometimes unusual) fairy conditions. I am inclined to treat such compositions as experimental in nature, so that they appear in the award only if they show condition-specific themes in perfect construction.

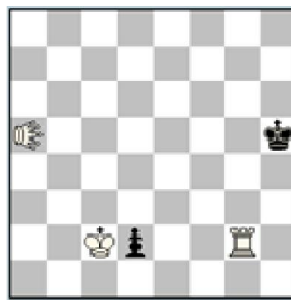
Prize – no. F128: Emil Klemanic, Ladislav Salai Jr. & Michal Dragoun: An ambitious concept in which black or white hurdles are provided for the mating EQg7 on twelve different squares, impressively achieving six lines of play with only 15 units. Even only four such lines would have been enough for a place in this award, but the presence of two extra solutions with subtly differentiated promotions to black EQ and G ensures this problem its position as the best of the year. **I. 1.Sf2 Le4 2.Sg4 EQg1#; II. 1.Sf4 Kb5 2.Sd5 EQa3#; III. 1.Th5 Ld5 2.Tf5 EQ×e3#; IV. 1.Th6 Lc6 2.Te6 EQc5#; V. 1.e1=G Kc4 2.Ge4 EQc1#; VI. 1.e1=EA Kc5 2.EAe5 EQc3#.**

Pr. no.F128
Emil Klemanic &
L. Salai Jr. & M. Dragoun



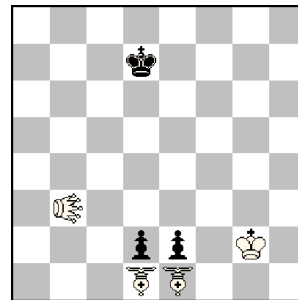
h#2 6111 6+9
Equihopper ♘ Grasshopper ♗

1. H.M. no.F103
Anatoly Styopochkin



h#4 Köko Lion ♘ 3+2
b) c) d) e) see sol!

2. H.M. no.F136
Anatoly Styopochkin



h#3 b,c,d: see sol! 4+3
Köko ♘ Lion
Reflecting Bishop ♗

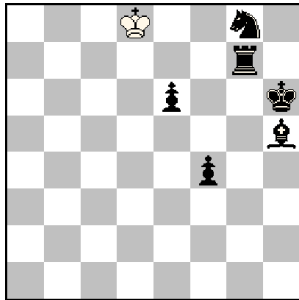
1st Honourable Mention – no.F103 Anatoly Styopochkin: a) 1.d1=D Tg4 2.Dd2 Kd3 3.De3 Ke4 4.Dh3 Kf5# b) ♗a5>h8 1.d1=LI Kd2 2.LId3 Ke3 3.LIh3 Kf3 4.LIh7 Tg5# c) ♗a5>d7 1.d1=T Kc1 2.Td6 LId1 3.Tg6 Kd2 4.Th6 Ke2# d) ♗g2>a1 1.d1=L Ta4 2.Lg4 Kb3 3.Kg5 Kb4 4.Kf5 Kb5# e) ♗g2>f2 1.d1=S Kc1 2.Se3 Tf4 3.Sf5 Tb4 4.Kg6 Tb6#. &

2nd Honourable Mention – no.F136 Anatoly Styopochkin: In the 1990s the Cologne Contact Chess conditions (“Kölner Kontaktschach” or “Köko”) was very popular in German-language chess magazines, but more recently it has been rather neglected. Here the Russian composer breathes new life into it with five and four lines of play respectively. Admittedly there are some familiar thematic ideas (AUW-plus and reciprocal fairy promotions) but technically these miniatures are very well arranged, creating a lasting positive impression. a) 1.e×d1=LI RBc3 2.LIa4 LId3 3.LIe8 LIId1#; b) ♗b3→h2, 1.d×e1=LI Kg3 2.LIc1 RBc2 3.LIc6 RBd3# c) ♗d7→b7, 1.e×d1=L RBg3 2.Lg4 Kf2 3.Lc8 Rbb4#; d) ♗d7→f8, 1.d×e1=L Kf3 2.Lb4 LIb5 3.Le7 LIId1#.

3rd Honourable Mention – no.F138 S.K. Balasubramanian & Pierre Tritten: Specific features of the two fairy elements presented are faultlessly combined in king-minimal form; this looks very much like an optimal setting. In the context of Back-to-

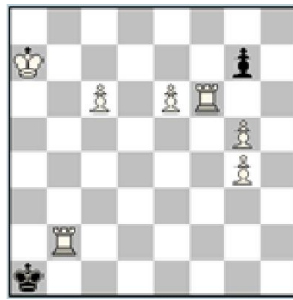
back, where the vertically adjacent placing of two units of opposite colour plays a condition-specific role, the rotational twinning is a stroke of genius. **a) 1.Td7+ Kf8 2.Tg7 Kxg7#; b) 1.Lh4+ Kd1 2.Le1 Kxe1#.**

3. H.M. no.F138
S.K. Balasubramanian &
Pierre Tritten



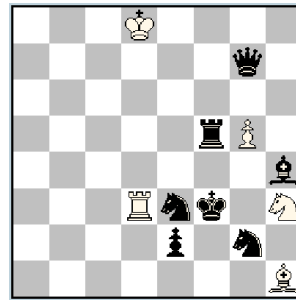
h#2 b) 90° clockwise 1+6
Back-to-Back
KoBul Kings

1. Comm. no.F104
Chris Feather



ser-h#15* 7+2
Symmetry antiCirce

2. Comm. no.F120
Mario Parrinello



h#2 2.1.1.1. 5+7
Take & Make

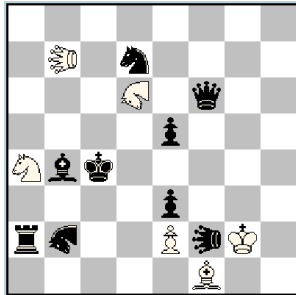
1st Commendation – no.F104 Chris Feather: The best series mover in the tourney. Black makes a condition-typical accelerated promotion to a queen, which then occupies g5 so as to allow the black king to cross b1 and march on to h1, a rather surprising square for the mate. An elegant, stylistically confident piece of work. The set mate makes an interesting addition. **1...Tf1#; 1.gxf6(c3) 2.c2 3.c1=D 4.Dxg5(Db4) 5.Dxg4(Db5) 6.Dg5 7.Dg8 8.Kb1 9.Kc1 10.Kd1 11.Ke1 12.Kf1 13.Kg1 14.Kh1 15.Dg1+ Th2#.**

2nd Commendation – no.F120 Mario Parrinello: Concentrated Take & Make strategy with some constructional subtleties. Such problems show why this fairy type has become very popular within only a few years of its invention. **I. 1.Dc7+ Kxc7-h2 2.Lxg5-g6 Kxg2-h4#; II. 1.Dd7+ Kxd7-d4 2.Txg5-g6 Kxe3-f5#.**

3rd Commendation – no.F121 Abdelaziz Onkoud: A pretty interchange of lion and zebra functions in two nicely synchronized lines of play. The change of blocks at B2 (Zd5/LId4) determines the final battery mate (e3/e4 at W3). **I. 1...Zg4 2.Zd5 Zd2 3.exd2 e3#; II. 1...LIf7 2.LId4 LIf2 3.exf2 e4#.**

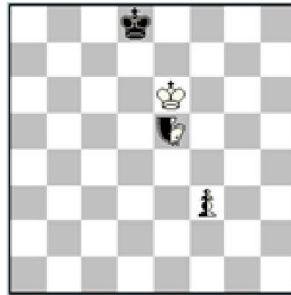
4th Commendation – no.F105 Sébastien Luce: Combining these two conditions means that in the case of captures both the captured and capturing units remain on the board, but in changed positions. When neutrals are added to the mix, a composer who is well versed in these types can conjure up spectacular sequences of moves. Compensation for the multiplicity of fairy elements here is found in the elegant form, using very few units. **a) 1...Kd6 2.nNg4 fxg4(nTe8;nNg1)+ 3.nTe2 nNxe2(nNg2; nTa8)#. b) 1...fxe5(a7;nNe1) 2.Ke8 a8=nT+ 3.nTa3 nNxa3(nNa6;nTh8)#.**

3. Comm. no.F121
Abdelaziz Onkoud



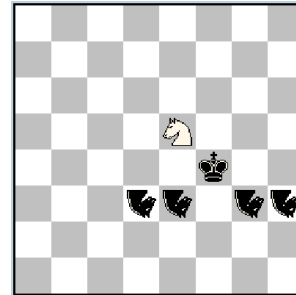
h#2.5 021111 6+9
Zebra Lion Kings
KoBul Kings

4. Comm. no.F105
Sébastien Luce



h#2.5 b) f3→f4 1+1+2
Take & Make Circe
neutral Nightrider, Pawn

Sp. Comm. no.F116
Ken Seehofer



ser-h#12 1+5
Kangaroo

Special Commendation – no.F116 Ken Seehofer: Ken, the 21-year-old son of Wilfried Seehofer, has been fairly intensively occupied with chess composition for about four years and has recently been venturing into fairy chess. I hope that an award for this little six-piece problem, in which the kangaroos are skilfully and imaginatively managed, will encourage him to explore further in this direction. **1.Kf5 2.Ke6 3.KAe7 4.KAe4 5.Kf5 6.KAg6 7.KAh7 8.Kg5 9.KAg7 10.Kh6 11.KAh8 12.KAh5 Sf7#.**

International Judge of FIDE, IGM Klaus Wenda

The judge and the editors would like to express their warm thanks to Chris Feather for the translation of the German text into English.