

# THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST

The best of Macedonia!

№ 72

September – December 2023

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Danila Pavlov, the World solving champion at Batumi 2023

<https://www.linkedin.com/posts/wfcc-chess-composition-98351225a-wccc-batumi-georgia-activity-7104432852024385536-1KhX>



John Nunn, the judge of the 7<sup>th</sup> T.T. of TMP

<https://www.chesscampus.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/avatar-46.jpg>



Oleg Pervakov, the winner of the 7<sup>th</sup> T.T. of TMP

<https://chessentials.com/oleg-pervakov-study/>

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Dear problem chess friends

Issue 72 of *The Macedonian Problemist* (TMP) is published in the spring 2024 (instead of the end of 2023, as planned), owing to unforeseen circumstances. We apologise to our readers for the delay.

We regret the recent demise of Aleksandar Popovski (at the age of 91), the Macedonian problem chess doyen whose problem chess deeds (described at pp. 40-42) inspired many Macedonian problemists. To commemorate the late Aleksandar Popovski, we announce a memorial tourney (p. 43) and kindly invite tourney composers to support this MT. Other causes of our sorrow are the demises of: the famous chess publisher Bernd Ellinghoven (pp. 43-44); the former PCCC President and the WFCC Honorary President Bedrich Formánek (p. 44); Michael Lipton and Colin Sydenham (p. 45); Evgeny Fomichev and Vasil Krizhanivsky (p. 46); and Gennady Koziura (p. 47). In spite of the above sad news, we are glad to be able to publish a brief article by Anatoly Vasylenko and Andriy Frolkin on the recent celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Anatoly Moisiyenko and Viktor Kapusta (pp. 47-48). Our traditional column “Let’s not forget ...” pays tribute to deceased or living “chess composers who with their works have left (or are leaving) their mark on one or more genres” (pp. 51-52).

The “Original chess compositions” column comprises 96 original contributions of good quality (pp. 18-39). The 7<sup>th</sup> thematic tourney for endgame studies attracted entries of very high quality which feature in GM John Nunn’s award (pp. 13-17). Other awards pertinent to issue 72 feature in supplements to this issue: the awards of the 4-section formal tourney *The Macedonian Problemist* League 2023 (issue 72-a), and of Zoran Gavrilovski – 55 JT (issue 72-b). The column “Selected awards” covers tourneys with honoured problems by Macedonian chess composers (pp. 49-50).

The review of the 65<sup>th</sup> WCCC in Batumi includes the highlights and decisions from the 65<sup>th</sup> WFCC meeting (p. 3); the results of the solving competitions (pp. 4-5); and the results of the composing tourneys (pp. 6-8). The list of composing news includes: the results of the FIDE Album 2019 – 2021 and the list of FIDE Album points 1914 – 2021 as of 11.11.2023 (pp. 9-10); Composers’ names in various alphabets; Composing Calendar; and Announcement of the 8<sup>th</sup> Youth Composing Challenge 2024 (p. 11). The solving news includes: the results of the World Solving Cups 2022 – 23 and 2023 – 24; other rated/remarkable solving tournaments 2023; and the Solvers’ Rating as of 1.1.2024 (pp. 12-13)

**THE 65<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF CHESS COMPOSITION (WCCC)***Batumi (Georgia), 2 – 9 September 2023***MINUTES ON THE 65<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WFCC: HIGHLIGHTS AND DECISIONS**

31 member countries were present, 4 of them via Zoom connection.

**Armenia** was welcomed as the 44<sup>th</sup> member country of the Federation.**Legal and financial matters:** Attempts to open a WFCC bank account continued. Urgent expenses in 2023 were covered from the Fujairah Government financial support of 5.000 €.**WCCT:** The 12<sup>th</sup> WCCT should be started in 2024 or 2025. It was decided to search for a director, and to ask for proposals for themes and judging possibilities from member countries.**WCCI:** After hard work by the new spokesman Marco Guida and the WCCI 2022 – 2024 director Narayan Shankar Ram, including, *inter alia*, completion of a proposal for a panel of all 40 judges from 27 countries who have kindly accepted to judge the WCCI 2022 – 2024 in eight sections, the WCCI Committee discussed and preliminarily accepted the complete panel. The WCCI Committee suggested a new text of the General Rules for WCCI which, *inter alia*, removes the requirement that judges shall be ranked among the top-15 in the previous WCCI.**FIDE Album:** All sections of the current FIDE Album 2019 – 2021, except for the endgame studies (where a replacement judge was found), have been finalised. The selection of judges and directors for the 2022 – 2024 Album has started. The FIDE Album Committee suggested to the Assembly to include a sub-section G3 for help-self problems in the fairies section of the next Album 2022-24, but the spokesman Harry Fougiaxis stated that the Committee will revisit the issue in the next congress with the intention to ask the delegates to vote. The Committee agreed to publish an updated errata list of all Albums, but did not support a suggestion to change the submission limit for problemists who have many joint compositions with other composers.**Youth:** The Youth Committee expressed satisfaction with the rise in quality of the 7<sup>th</sup> Youth Chess Composing Challenge 2023 (which attracted 42 participants from 16 countries with 64 entries) and suggested holding other competitions for juniors in 2024: Synthetics (proposed and directed by Vlaicu Crişan), and an online Solving Challenge (proposed and directed by Brian Cook).**New titles:**

- **International Grandmaster of the FIDE for Chess Compositions:** Mikola Kolesnik (UKR); Václav Kotěšovec (CZE); Gennady Koziura (UKR); Pavel Murashev (RUS); Abdelaziz Onkoud (FRA); Manfred Rittirsch (GER).
- **International Master of the FIDE for Chess Compositions:** Eric Huber (ROU); Anatoly Skripnik (RUS); Mihailo Stojnić (SRB); Dmitry Turevsky (RUS); Igor Yarmonov (UKR).
- **FIDE Master for Chess Compositions:** Marcin Banaszek (GER); Sergey Bilyk (RUS); Oleg Efrosinin (RUS); Volker Gülke (GER); Kenan Velikhanov (AZE); Viktor Zaitsev (BLR); Saturnin Limbach (POL) (†), upon request by the country; Dawid Przepiórka (POL) (†), upon request by the country.
- **International Solving Grandmaster of the FIDE:** Ural Khasanov (RUS).
- **International Solving Master of the FIDE:** Kevinas Kuznecovas (LTU); Ulrich Voigt (GER).
- **FIDE Solving Master:** Mihnea Costachi (ROU); Jakub Marcinişzyn (POL); Nikita Ushakov (RUS).
- **International Judge of the FIDE for Chess Compositions:** Vlaicu Crişan (ROU) – fairies, retros and helpmates; Gérard Doukhan (FRA) – twomovers and threemovers; Paul Răican (ROU) – retros and fairies; Manfred Rittirsch (GER) – extension to helpmates.

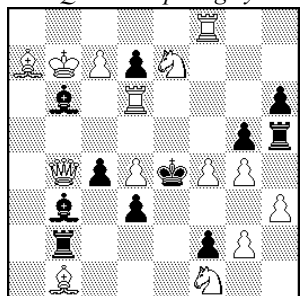
**20<sup>th</sup> International Solving Contest:** 21.1.2024. Central organizers; L. Palmans & A. Mockus.**17<sup>th</sup> European Chess Solving Championship:** in Hagen, Germany 19.-21.4.2024.**66<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Chess Composition** and 47<sup>th</sup> World Chess Solving Championship (WCSC) 2024: the decision postponed for the WFCC online meeting.The WFCC decisions in whole are available at: <https://www.wfcc.ch/meetings/65wccc-decisions/>



COMPOSING TOURNEYS AT THE BATUMI WCCC 2023

Marco Guida

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Quick Composing Ty 2023



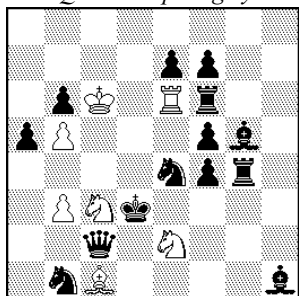
#2 vvv 14+11

1. ♘g6? A (2. ♖e8# D) c3! x  
1...g:f4/♗:d4 2. ♖:f4#/♖:d4#  
1. ♘f5? B (2. ♘5g3#) ♖:h3!  
1...g:f4 2. ♖e8# D  
1. ♘d5? C (2. ♘c3#) ♖c2!  
1...♗:d4 2. ♘g3#  
1. ♖e8! D (2. ♘g6# A)  
1...g:f4/c3 x/♗:d4  
2. ♘f5# B/♘d5# C/♖:d4#

Theme: Change of the white moves' functions.

Abdelaziz Onkoud

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Quick Composing Ty 2023



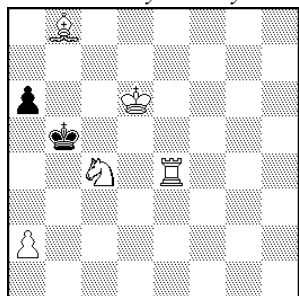
H#2 2 solutions 7+14

1. ♗c5+ ♘e4 2. f3 [♖g2?] ♘f2#  
1. ♗d6+ ♖e4 2. ♖g2 [f3?] ♖d4#  
Theme: In different phases, Black frees a white pinned piece by playing on different squares.

The judge commented that 23 problemes of an average overall level participated and 3 of them entered the award by scoring a prize.

Valery Kopyl

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Five-Day Tourney 2023



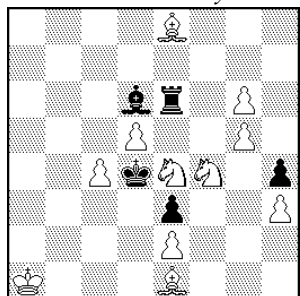
#3 5+2

1. ♘a5! (zugzwang)  
1...♖:a5 2. ♗c7+ A ♖b5  
3. a4# B  
1...♖b6 2. a4 B (zz) ♖:a5  
3. ♗c7# A

Theme: A #3 with sacrifice(s) by a white piece (not a pawn) on the white first move.  
The Judge Ferhat Karmil praised the exchange of W2 and W3 moves.

Dimitrios Liakos

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. 26<sup>th</sup> Sabra Ty 2023



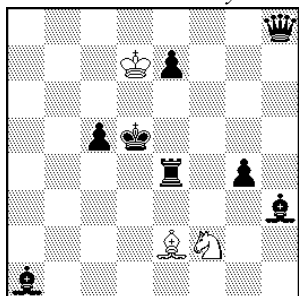
H#2 b) ♖d4→f5 11+5

- a) 1. ♗e5? ♘d6 2.?? ♘:e6#  
1. ♖:e4 ♗b5 2. ♗e5 ♘e6#  
b) 1. ♖e5? ♘e6 2.?? ♘:d6#  
1. ♗:f4 ♗:h4 2. ♖e5 ♘d6#

Theme: A critical move by a black piece and interference of its line.  
Judge: Menachem Witztum.

Zlatko Mihajloski

5<sup>th</sup> H.M. 26<sup>th</sup> Sabra Ty 2023

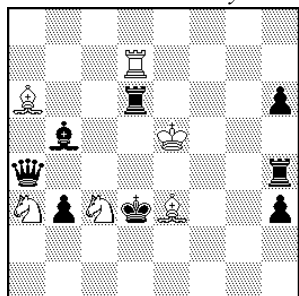


H#2 3 solutions 3+8

1. ♗e5 ♘d1 [♘:e4?] 2. ♖d4 ♘c3#  
1. ♖d4 ♘:e4 [♘:g4?] 2. e5 ♘f6#  
1. ♖c4 ♘:g4 [♘d3?] 2. ♗d4 ♗f3#

Zoran Gavrilovski

14<sup>th</sup> H.M. 26<sup>th</sup> Sabra Ty 2023

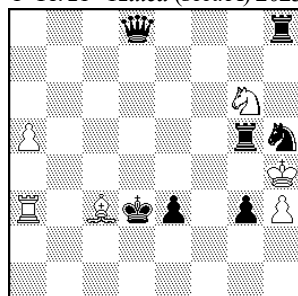


H#2 2 solutions 6+8

1. ♖g4 [♖~??] ♘d1 [♗d2?]  
2. ♖d4 ♗:b5#  
1. ♖b4 [♖h4~??] ♗d2 [♘d1?]  
2. ♗c4 ♖:d6#

F. Simoni, A. Garofalo & M. Parrinello

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. 21<sup>st</sup> Tzuica (sect. A) 2023



HS#3½ 2 solutions 6+7

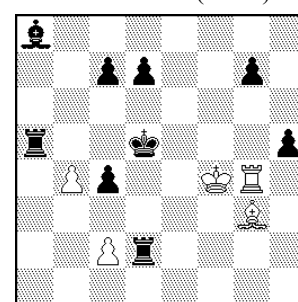
- 1...♖g8 2. ♖a4 ♖c5  
3. ♗e1 ♖c2 4. ♘f4+ ♗:f4#  
1...♖g8 2. ♖a2 ♗f6  
3. ♗a1 ♗e4 4. ♘e5+ ♖:e5#

Dismantling of a white and two black batteries. (Judges)

Theme: Helpself compositions (hs#n/hs=n) with at least 2 solutions each showing at least one battery dismantling. Judges: Vlaicu Crişan and Eric Huber.

Zoran Gavrilovski

2<sup>nd</sup> H.M. 21<sup>st</sup> Tzuica (sect. A) 2023



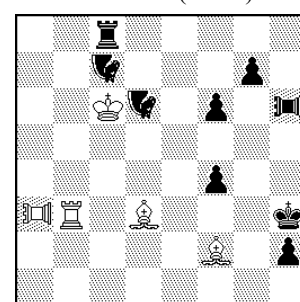
HS#3½ b) ♗g3→f8 5+9

- a) 1...♖d6 2. ♗h4 ♗d5  
3. ♗f5 ♖d4 4. ♖g6+ ♗e6#  
b) 1...♖d4 2. ♖g3 ♖d5  
3. ♗f3 g5 4. ♗g7+ ♖e5#

This problem should find its place in anthologies. (Judges)

Petko Petkov

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. 21<sup>st</sup> Tzuica (sect. B) 2023



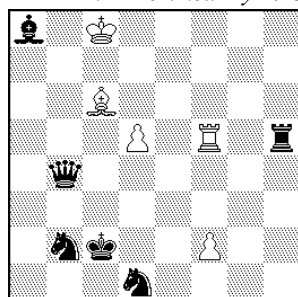
HS#3 2 sols. Ns, pao 5+9

1. ♖a2 ♖d8 2. ♖b5 ♗a6  
3. ♗f5+ ♗:f5#  
1. ♖a4 ♖h7 2. ♖b6 ♗h8  
3. ♗f1+ ♗:f1#

"Intensive thematic density". (Judges)

Michel Caillaud

1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. 9<sup>th</sup> Azemmour Ty 2023



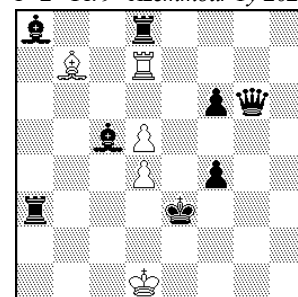
H#3 2 solutions 5+6

1. ♖b3 ♖f7 2. ♖:d5 ♖c7  
3. ♖d2 ♗e4#  
1. ♖d2 ♗e8 2. ♗:d5 ♗g6  
3. ♗b3 ♖c5#

♖f5 A opens the line of ♖h5 B & ♗c6 C, ♖h5 B opens the line of ♗c6 C, ♗c6 C opens the line of ♗a8 D & ♖f5 A, ♗a8 D opens the line of ♖f5 A.

Valery Gurov

1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. 9<sup>th</sup> Azemmour Ty 2023



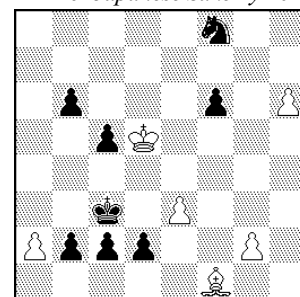
H#3 2 solutions 5+8

1. ♖:d4 ♖e7 2. ♖:d5 ♗d2  
3. ♖f5 ♖e4#  
1. ♖e4 ♗a6 2. ♗:d5 ♗e2  
3. ♗b3 ♗d3#

♖d7 A opens the line of ♖d8 B, ♖d8 B' opens the line of ♗b7 C, ♗b7 C opens the line of ♗a8 D, ♗a8 D opens the line of ♖d7 A. Theme: Cycle of line openings. Judge: Abdelaziz Onkoud

Thomas Maeder

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. 20<sup>th</sup> Japanese Sake Ty 2023



H#2 Series capture 6+8

- b) ♖g2→f5  
a) 1. b1 ♖e4 2. ♖:f1:g2-g7  
2...h:g7:f8 ♖!f6:b6-b3#  
b) 1. d1 ♗e4 2. ♗:e3:f5-g7  
2...h:g7:f8 ♗!c5:b6-a5#

Specific check prevention to avoid interruption of black capture series. AUW. Theme: H#2 Series capture. Judges: Tadashi Wakashima & Sanjiro Yasunaga.

## CHESS COMPOSITION NEWS

### RESULTS OF THE FORTHCOMING FIDE ALBUM 2019-2021

The FIDE Album Committee Spokesman Harry Fougiaxis praised the directors and judges for their work and revealed statistical data concerning each section of the forthcoming Album:

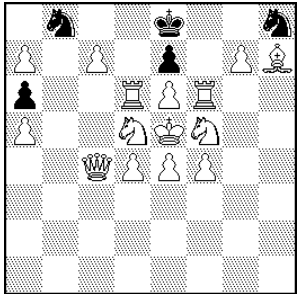
FIDE Album 2019–2021	#2	#3	#4-n	Studies	H#	S#	Fairies	Retros	Total
Submitted (excluding duplicates)	1250	950	849	1015	2380	994	1479	375	9,292
Selected, including those that qualified from WCCI	233	169	167	179	362	270	383	77	1,840
% of selected entries	18.64%	17.79%	19.67%	17.64%	15.21%	27.16%	25.90%	20.63%	19.80%

Each problem scores 1 FIDE Album point and each study scores 1,666 such points (the number of points for joint compositions is divided according to the number of co-authors). On the basis of the information from the "Current list of FIDE Album points" of 11.11.2023 (see the link at p. 10), the editor of *The Macedonian Problemist* identified 62 chess composers with two-digit points that are scored for the chess compositions which were selected for the FIDE Album 2019-2021:

Place	Name	Country	FA pts	Place	Name	Country	FA pts
1.	Michal Dragoun	CZE	50.67	32.	Olivier Schmitt	FRA	18
2.	Pavel Murashev	RUS	47.83	33.	Abdelaziz Onkoud	FRA	16.5
3.	Aleksandr Kuzovkov	RUS	46.5	34.	Valery Gurov	RUS	16.33
4.	Gennady Koziura†	UKR	41.83	35.	Vladislav Tarasyuk	UKR	16
5.	Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen	DEN	40.83	36.	Uwe Karbowiak	GER	15.75
6.	Zoran Gavrilovski	MKD	39	37.=	Yuri Bazlov	RUS	15
7.	Anatoly Slesarenko	RUS	37.5	37.=	Waldemar Tura	POL	15
8.	Michel Caillaud	FRA	34.33	39.	Franz Pachl	GER	14.5
9.	Torsten Linß	GER	31.5	40.	Viktor Volchek	BLR	14.34
10.	Ivan Soroka	UKR	29.5	41.	Jan Sprenger	GER	14.17
11.	Valery Shavyrin	RUS	29	42.=	Marco Guida	ITA	13
12.	Evgeny Fomichev†	RUS	28.5	42.=	Václav Kotěšovec	CZE	13
13.	Marjan Kovačević	SRB	28.16	42.=	Mario Parrinello	ITA	13
14.	Aleksandr Feoktistov	RUS	26	45.=	Peter Gvozdičák	SVK	12.83
15.	Martin Minski	GER	25.56	45.=	Zlatko Mihajloski	MKD	12.83
16.	Vasil Dyačuk	SVK	24.5	47.=	Christopher J. A. Jones	GBR	12.5
17.	Vitaly Medintsev	RUS	23.08	47.=	Vladislav Nefyodov	RUS	12.5
18.	Oleg Pervakov	RUS	23.06	49.=	Yuri Gorbatenko	RUS	12
19.	Andrey Selivanov	RUS	22.83	49.=	Anatoly Skripnik	RUS	12
20.	Mikhail Khramtsevich	BLR	22.25	51.=	Jan Timman	NED	11.67
21.	Ladislav Salai Jr	SVK	22	51.=	Pavel Arestov	RUS	11.67
22.	Anatoly Stypopochkin	RUS	21.5	53.	Hubert Gockel	GER	11.5
23.	Vlaicu Crișan	ROU	21.33	54.=	Emil Klemanič	SVK	11
24.	Petko Petkov	BUL	21	54.=	Mihailo Stojnić	SRB	11
25.=	Igor Agapov	RUS	20	56.	Aleksandr Sygurov	RUS	10.58
25.=	Valery Semenenko	UKR	20	57.=	Sergey Khachaturov	RUS	10.5
27.=	Mikola Kolesnik	UKR	19.5	57.=	Aleksandr Semenenko	UKR	10.5
27.=	Valery Kopyl	UKR	19.5	59.	Fadil Abdurahmanović	BIH	10.33
27.=	Mikhail Marandiyuk	UKR	19.5	60.	Ralf Krätschmer	GER	10.25
30.	Jean-Marc Loustau	FRA	19	61.=	Givi Mosiashvili	GEO	10
31.	Sergiy Didukh	UKR	18.33	61.=	Michael Pasman	ISR	10

*Series capture:* At the end of capturing moves, the moving piece can optionally make another movement (possibly capturing) according to its type; if this movement captures a piece as well, the moving piece can make another such movement, and so on. Each step of a series has to be legal. Only the last step of a series may give check to the opponent's king. Series Capture does not modify the meaning of "check": a king is not in check if he could only be captured by a Series Capture specific series of captures.

**Andriy Frolkin & Vlaicu Crișan**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. 19<sup>th</sup> Ukrainian Folk  
Crafts T.T. 2023



Not #1 15+5

Black has no last move. The only missing white piece is his dark-squared bishop; thus b7:a6 could not have been played. Black has 6 moves at his disposal, to which White can respond by only 1 mate-delivering move and only 1 move not leading to mate.

0...♞c6+ 1.♞:c6! [1.♞:c6#?]  
0...♞d7+ 1.♞:d7! [1.e:d7#?]  
0...e:d6+ 1.♞:d6! [1.♞:d6#?]  
0...♞g6+ 1.♞:g6! [1.♞:g6#?]  
0...♞f7+ 1.♞:f7! [1.e:f7#?]  
0...e:f6+ 1.♞:f6! [1.♞:f6#?]

Judges: Evgeny Reitsen & Nataliya Kucherenko.

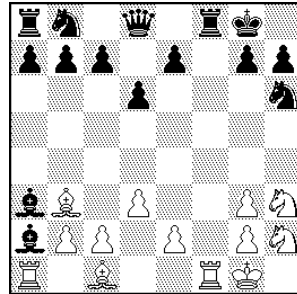
*Circe Rex Inclusive:* A variant of Circe [a captured unit is immediately reborn on its rebirth square if it is vacant; if not – the unit disappears as normal] in which the kings may be captured. A mate requires that the initial square of the king is occupied. A king threatened with capture and rebirth is not in check; a king threatened with capture in which it would not be reborn is in check.

*Proca Retractor:* a defensive retractor in which the side retracting chooses if any unit should be uncaptured, and which.

*Anti-Circe:* on making a capture, any unit (king too) is reborn on its game-array square. The captured unit disappears, as in normal chess. The capture is legal only if the rebirth square is free.

*Centripetal Circe:* when a piece is captured (king excepted), it is placed on the nearest central square (d4, d5, e4, e5) if this square is empty; if not, the piece disappears.

**Dirk Borst**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Champagne Tourney  
(section A) 2023

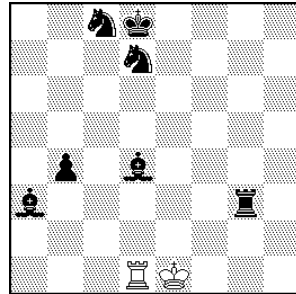


SPG 13½ Circe Rex 13+15  
Inclusive

1.g3 e6 2.♞h3 ♞a3 3.♞:e6[e7]  
3...♞h6 4.♞h3 0-0 5.♞:f7 d6  
6.♞:g8[♞e8] ♞:f2 7.0-0  
7...♞:f1[♞h1] 8.d3 ♞:d1  
9.♞d2 ♞:g1[♞e1]+ 10.♞f1  
10...♞:g3[g2] 11.h:g3[♞h8]  
11...♞e6 12.♞h2 ♞:a2  
13.♞b3 0-0 14.0-0

“Square 0-0 in a single line!! 2 by White and 2 by Black. ... The Deus ex Machina is ♞h8 who has to capture ♞d1 and be captured on g3. Wonderful! Masterful!” (Judge)  
Theme: Castling, in any form (normal, fake, illegal, fairy).  
Judge: Michel Caillaud

**Bojan Bašić**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Champagne Tourney  
(section B) 2023



-6 & #1 Proca Retractor 2+7  
Anti-Circe + centripetal Circe

1.♞c1:♞c2[♞e1, ♞d4+]  
1...♞f8-d7 -2.0-0-0 ♞e4-c2  
-3.♞f1:♞f2[♞a1] f3-f2+  
-4.♞g1:♞h2[♞e1, ♞e4]  
-4...♞h3-g3+ 5.0-0+ ♞e5-h2  
-6.♞e7:♞e8[♞h1, ♞e5] &  
1.♞d7#  
[-6.♞e7:Xe8[♞h1] &  
1.♞d7+? ♞a1!]

“By uncastling, White creates a retro-stalemate position that can be solved only by providing a capture move by the King or the Rook, thus forcing Black to allow this capture. [...] A breathtaking solution with two uncastlings.” (Judge)

30 Member countries discussed future WFCC events and decided that the host of the 66<sup>th</sup> WCCC and the 47<sup>th</sup> WCSC 2024 will be Jūrmala in Latvia from 27.7.2024 to 3.8.2024.

In accordance with the results of the Section D (endgames) of the FIDE Album 2019–2021 (published on 4.11.2023), the following new title-holders in chess composition were announced:

- **Grandmaster of the FIDE for chess compositions:** Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (DEN);
- **International Master of the FIDE for chess compositions:** Karen Sumbatyan (RUS);
- **FIDE Master for chess compositions:** Sergiy Didukh (UKR), Daniel Keith (FRA), Jan Sprenger (GER), Aleksandr Stavrietsky (RUS).

#### CURRENT LIST OF FIDE ALBUM POINTS 1914–2021, 11.11.2023

Following the earlier publication of the “Current List of FIDE Album points” on 24.8.2023 (<https://www.wfcc.ch/wp-content/uploads/wfcc-composing-title-points-current-list-2023-08-24.pdf>), the WFCC, based on the results in the FIDE Album’s Section D, updated the List on 11.11.2023 (<https://www.wfcc.ch/wp-content/uploads/wfcc-composing-title-points-current-list-2023-11-11.pdf>).

Pl.	Name	Country	FA pts	Pl.	Name	Country	FA pts
1.	<b>Petko Petkov</b>	BUL	524.75	29.=	Ivan Soroka	UKR	138.5
2.	Michel Caillaud	FRA	429.98	31.	Camilo Gamnitzer	AUT	134.14
3.	Mikhail Marandyuk	UKR	366.23	32.	Torsten Linß	GER	133.91
4.	Aleksandr Kuzovkov	RUS	295.67	33.	Waldemar Tura	POL	133.5
5.	<i>Živko Janevski</i>	MKD	267.83	34.	Michael Keller	GER	127
6.	Hans Peter Rehm	GER	263.77	35.	Ladislav Salai Jr	SVK	126.63
7.	Fadil Abdurahmanović	BIH	258.99	36.	Valery Gurov	RUS	125.41
8.	Andrey Selivanov	RUS	248.16	37.	György Bakcsi†	HUN	124.17
9.	Oleg Pervakov	RUS	240.7	38.	Valery Shanshin	KGZ/RUS	123.25
10.	Viktor Chepizhny	UKR/RUS	237.58	39.	Christopher J.A. Jones	GBR	122
11.	Yakov Vladimirov	RUS	232.5	40.	Bo Lindgren†	SWE	121.81
12.	Marjan Kovačević	SRB	231.83	41.	Peter Gvozdják	SVK	119.89
13.	Aleksandr Feoktistov	RUS	231.08	42.	Miodrag Mladenović	SRB	117.37
14.	Valentin F. Rudenko†	UKR	229.08	43.	Martin Minski	GER	117.22
15.	Michal Dragoun	CZE	205.06	44.	Emilian Dobrescu	ROU	116.83
16.	Vasil Dyachuk/Dyačuk	UKR/SVK	203.21	45.	Marcel Tribowski	GER	116
17.	Jean-Marc Loustau	FRA	199.17	46.	Nenad Petrović†	CRO	115.95
18.	Franz Pacht	GER	192.48	47.	Evgeny Fomichev†	RUS	115.33
19.	David Gurgenzidze	GEO	184.12	48.	Venelin Alaikov†	BUL	113.5
20.	Genrikh M. Kasparyan†	ARM	175.83	49.	Vladimir Pachman†	CZE	112.33
21.	Eeltje Visserman†	NED	170	50.	Yuri Bazlov	RUS	111.12
22.	Milan R. Vukcevič†	SRB/USA	162.67	51.	Aleksandr Azhusin	RUS	108.75
23.	Anatoly Slesarenko	RUS	161.17	52.	Hubert Gockel	GER	106.99
24.	<i>Zoran Gavrilovski</i>	MKD	158.5	53.	Aleksandr Semenenko	UKR	106.18
25.	Valery Shavyrin	RUS	157	54.	Vladimir Korolkov†	RUS	105.89
26.	Unto Heinonen†	FIN	151.5	55.	Klaus Wenda	AUT	103.91
27.	Vladimir A. Bron†	RUS	146.83	56.	Igor Agapov	RUS	103.41
28.	Lev I. Loshinsky†	RUS	142.86	57.	Anatoly Styopochkin	RUS	102.5
29.=	Mario Parrinello	ITA	138.5	58.	Pavel Murashev	RUS	100.17

FIDE Album points of other Macedonian problemists: Zlatko Mihajloski – 57.83; Nikola Stolev – 19.5; Boško Milošeski – 13; Petre Stojoski† – 10.5; Tode Ilievski† – 7.5; Ljubomir Anastasov – 1.5; Gligor Denkovski† – 1.5; Ivan Denkovski – 1; Zoran Janev – 1; Aleksandar Popovski† – 1.

#### Composers’ names in various alphabets

The main purpose of “Composers’ names in various alphabets” is to provide help where a composer’s name is written using a less common alphabet. This database (available at <https://database.wfcc.ch/>) contains writings of chess composers’ names in their own alphabet (“native”), by using certain standard transcriptions and transliterations (e.g. the Cyrillic “ч” is transcribed as “ch” in English and “tsh” in German; and it is scientifically transliterated as the (extended) Latin letter “č”) and/or alternative forms (sometimes objectively wrong.) The “Composers” table is the Database’s central table (where each entry represents one composer) and has the following fields: country as a three-letter (so-called “ISO 3166-1 alpha-3”) code; date of birth (if known) and date of death (where applicable).

The easiest way to look up a specific composer is by using the “Find” form at the link (<https://database.wfcc.ch/index.php?-table=composers&-action=find>) (for a simple search just fill in the appropriate fields; for more elaborate searches consult the Search instructions on the aforementioned form). Alternatively, you can use the “Composer’s list” (available at: <https://database.wfcc.ch/index.php?-table=composers&-action=list>) by clicking on any information element to display the details about the respective composer.

#### The WCCT archive completed

Now PDF reports from all 11 World Chess Composing Tournaments (WCCTs) are available in the WCCT Section of the World Federation for Chess Compositions’ website at: <https://www.wfcc.ch/competitions/composing/wcct/>

#### Composing calendar

On 5.12.2023 the WFCC published the first version of the online “Composing Calendar”, (available in the WFCC website’s section “Competitions -> Composing -> Calendar” at <https://www.wfcc.ch/competitions/composing/calendar>) in order to provide updated information on the announced tournaments and results thereof. It presents the formal tournaments (“A-H” sections) and the informal ones (“I” section), in chronological order of their deadlines, with columns reporting possible themes, judges and directors, as well as links to the announcements and awards (when available). The Calendar contains not only current tournaments, but also those whose deadline has expired (see “All tournaments”), which will be extended in the future with links to the awards, once they are reported by the involved persons.

This draft version of the Calendar (based upon draft templates that were created by Ilija Serafimović and upon further and dedicated volunteer work by Kenneth Solja who contacted the organizers and compiled the material, as well as the valuable IT-contribution by Julia Vysotska, who spent many hours organizing and adjusting the content of the excel tables to become a part of the WFCC website) will be developed in future. The quality of the Calendar will depend on all interested parties and whoever wants to help, hence the next steps will depend on the enthusiasm of delegates, organizers, editors, judges, directors, and other individuals.

#### Announcement of the 8<sup>th</sup> Youth Chess Composing Challenge (YCCC) 2024

The 8<sup>th</sup> YCCC 2024 is open to members of the U23 generation (born 2001 or later), who are invited to compose #3s and studies with free themes (sections B and C) and #2s with moves by three adjacent ♙s on the same row that are placed 3 or more rows above the row of placement of the ♔, and each thematic black move results in a different mate (section A). Original (preferably computer-tested) compositions with full solutions and possible comments (with added FEN for all entries, and pgn format for the endgames) should be sent no later than 10.6.2024 to the tournament director Julia Vysotska’s email address [yccc@wfcc.ch](mailto:yccc@wfcc.ch) (more details on the 8<sup>th</sup> YCCC can be found at: <https://wccc2024.wfcc.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/8th-YCCC-Announcement.pdf>).

The results will be announced on 2.8.2024 during the closing ceremony of the Jūrmala WCCC.

## SOLVING NEWS

### WORLD SOLVING CUP 2022–2023

1. *Eddy Van Beers* (BEL) – 91 points; 2. *Kevinas Kuznecovas* (LTU) – 90; 3. *Piotr Murdzia* (POL) – 87; 4. *Danila Pavlov* (FID) – 83; 5. *Kacper Piorun* (POL) – 71 (see p. 4 in issue 71 of *TMP*).

### WORLD SOLVING CUP 2023–2024

#### 21<sup>st</sup> Greek Chess Solving Championship 2023, Athens, 1.10.2023

Category 12 (average rating of top-10 solvers: 1,894.49). Judge: Ioannis Garoufalidis.  
10 solvers: 1. *Nikos Mendrinos* – 33.75 (2 WSC) points; 2. *Panagiotis Konidaris* – 33.5 (1).

#### 38<sup>th</sup> Open Swiss Solving Championship 2023, Bern, 14.10.2023

Category 6 (average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,368.03). Judge: Franziska Iseli. Selection of problems: Alex Steinbrink.

16 solvers: 1. *Martynas Limontas* – 53.5 (23 WCS) points; 2. *Eddy van Beers* – 48.5 (19); 3. *Vidmantas Satkus* – 42.75 (16).

#### 28<sup>th</sup> Open Belgian Solving Championship 2023, Geel, 28.10.2023

Category 6 (average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,357.56). Judge: Luc Palmans. Assistant: A. Steinbrink.  
14 solvers: 1. *Eddy van Beers* – 52.5 (23 WSC) points; 2. *Roland Ott* – 49.5 (19); 3. *Nikos Sidiropoulos* – 49 (16).

### OTHER RATED/REMARKABLE SOLVING TOURNAMENTS 2023

#### 41<sup>st</sup>–44<sup>th</sup> Slovakian Home Solving Tournaments, online, 16.9/21.10/18.11/16.12.2023

Unrated tourneys. Main judge: Bohumil Moravčík. Assistant: Marián Križovenský.  
16.9: 19 solvers: 1. *Eddy van Beers* – 30 pts; 2. *Martynas Limontas* – 30; 3. *John Nunn* – 29.5;  
21.10: 22 solvers: 1. *David Hodge* – 30 pts; 2. *John Nunn* – 26; 3. *Eddy van Beers* – 26;  
18.11: 22 solvers: 1. *David Hodge* – 30; 2. *Martynas Limontas* – 30; 3. *John Nunn* – 29;  
16.12: 23 solvers: 1. *John Nunn* – 19.5; 2. *Wouter van Rijn* – 19.5; 3. *Nikos Sidiropoulos* – 19.5.

#### 32<sup>nd</sup> Kedainiai Cup, Kedainiai (Lithuania), 07.10.2023

Unrated tourney. Main judge: Vilimantas Satkus.  
11 solvers: 1. *Vidmantas Satkus* – 54 pts; 2. *Stasys Steponavičius* – 46.25; 3. *Martynas Limontas* – 44.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Milan Velimirović Memorial, Belgrade (Serbia), 16.12.2023

Unrated tourney. Judge: Borislav Gadžanski.  
25 solvers: 1. *Miodrag Mladenović* – 60 pts; 2. *Ilija Serafimović* – 60; 3. *Marjan Kovačević* – 56.

#### BOOM Christmas GP (category 1), online, 27.12.2023

Unrated tourney. Main judge: Brian Cook. Assistant: Ian Watson.  
23 solvers: 1. *Eddy van Beers* – 64 pts; 2. *Vidmantas Satkus* – 61.2; 3. *Vlaicu Crișan* – 58.7.

### SOLVERS' RATING AS OF 01.01.2024

Pl.	Name	Coun-try	Title/categ.	Rating	Pl.	Name	Coun-try	Title/categ.	Rating
1.	Danila Pavlov	RUS	GM/j	2820	11.	Bojan Vučković	SRB	GM	2556
2.	Georgi Evseev	RUS	GM/s	2747	12.	Ulrich Voigt	GER	IM	2556
3.	Kacper Piorun	POL	GM	2715	13.	Danila Moiseev	RUS	IM/j	2555
4.	Piotr Murdzia	POL	GM	2679	14.	Nikos Sidiropoulos	GRE	IM	2536
5.	Ural Khasanov	RUS	GM/j	2649	15.	Nikoloz Kacharava	GEO	-/j	2529
6.	John Nunn	GBR	GM/s	2630	16.	Jonathan Mestel	GBR	GM/s	2523
7.	Eddy van Beers	BEL	GM	2616	17.	Boris Tummes	GER	GM	2512
8.	Aleksey Popov	RUS	GM	2575	18.	Piotr Górski	POL	GM	2510
9.	Kevinas Kuznecovas	LTU	IM/j	2575	19.	Aleksander Mista	POL	GM	2509
10.	Marko Filipović	CRO	GM	2565	20.	Tomaš Peitl	SVK	GM	2505

## 7<sup>TH</sup> THEMATIC TOURNEY OF THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST 2023

### List of participants

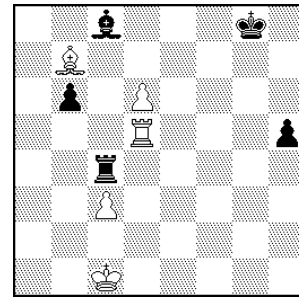
*Jakob Aagaard* – 1; *Pavel Arestov & Daniel Keith* – 2, 3; *Sergiy Didukh* – 4; *Sergiy Didukh & Lewis Stiller* – 5; *Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen & Martin Minski* – 6; *L'uboš Kekely* – 7; *Oleg Pervakov* – 8; *Michael Pasman* – 9, 10, 11; *Yochanan Afek* – 12; *Luis Miguel Gonzales* – 13; *David Navara, Jaroslav Poláček & Emil Vlasák* – 14; *Jan Sprenger* – 15

### AWARD by John Nunn

15 studies were submitted for this tourney, which was perhaps a slightly disappointing number, but in compensation several of the studies were of high quality. They were anonymised so I was not aware of the identities of the composers. After careful consideration, I have included 8 in the award.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: № 8, Oleg Pervakov

An outstanding study with a game-like starting position. The 1<sup>st</sup> move closely resembles the game Haik Martirosyan – Chopra Aryan, 6<sup>th</sup> Sharjah Masters, UAE 2023 (<https://www.chessbase.in/news/6th-Sharjah-Masters-2023-Round-7-report>), but there's a great deal more to the study. The tactic 1. ♖a6! is echoed by the switchback 3. ♖b7!, but the main point is the excellent logical try on move 2. The incorrect 2. ♖b2? forces White to capture Black's b-pawn on move 8, and this leads to a stalemate far in the future. By choosing the correct route for the king via d2-d3 Black is obliged to play ... ♜c1 rather than ...b5 and this allows White to avoid the capture of the b-pawn, foiling Black's attempts to stalemate himself on h1. It's an excellent example of the foresight theme. Curiously, one very appealing line wasn't mentioned by the composer. In the thematic try 2. ♖b2? ♜c6 3. ♖b7 ♜c4 4. ♖b3 b5 5. ♖c8 ♜c6 6.d7 ♜d8 7. ♖b4 ♖f7, an obvious question is why White can't avoid taking the b-pawn by 8. ♖c5, which would again prevent the stalemate. The answer is the cunning manoeuvre 8... ♖e6 9. ♖c6 h4 (the composer stopped here) 10. ♜d4 h3 11. ♜e4+ ♖f5! 12. ♜h4 ♖e5! 13. ♜h5+ ♖e4!, a Réti-type idea in which the king can support either pawn according to White's reply; for example, 14. ♜:h3 ♖d4! heads for the b-pawn, while 14. ♜:b5 ♖f3 goes the other way.



Martirosyan – Aryan

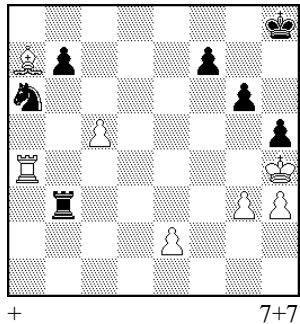


47. ♖a6! ♜c1+ 48. ♖f2! ♜c2+  
49. ♖e1 ♜c5 50. ♖c4+ ♖d7  
51. ♖b5+ ♖d8 52.d7 ♖b7 53. ♖d6  
53... ♜c5+ 54. ♖f2 ♜d5 55. ♖g6 1-0

1. ♖a6! As 47. ♖a6! (Martirosyan). [Too early 1. ♖:c8? ♜:c3+ 2. ♖d2 ♜:c8= White must win a tempo; 1. ♜g5+? ♖h8! 2. ♖:c8 2... ♜:c3+ 3. ♖d2 ♜:c8=; 1. ♖d2? ♖d7 2. ♜e5 (2. ♜:h5 ♖g7 3. ♜e5 3... ♖f6 4. ♜e7 ♖f5=) 2... ♖f8 3. ♖d5 ♖g4 4. ♜:h5 ♖g7 5. ♜e5 5... ♖f6 6. ♜e7 ♖g7 7. ♜:g7 ♖:g7=]  
1... ♜:c3+ [1...b5 2. ♖c2! (2. ♖d2? ♖d7 3. ♖:b5 ♖:b5 4. ♖:b5 ♖f7! 5. ♜:h5 ♖e6 6. ♜h6+ ♖d7=; 2. ♖b2? ♖d7 3. ♜:h5 ♜c6! 4. ♖:b5 4... ♜b6! 5.c4 ♖e6 6. ♖c3 ♜:d6=) 2... ♖d7 3. ♜:h5 ♜c6 4. ♖:b5 4... ♜:d6 5. ♖:d7 ♜:d7 6. ♖f5+-; 1... ♖:a6 2.d7 ♜:c3+ 3. ♖d2 3... ♜c8 4.d:c8 ♖+ ♖:c8 5. ♜d8+-+]  
2. ♖d2! [Logical try 2. ♖b2? ♜c6 3. ♖b7!? ♜c4 4. ♖b3 b5! 5. ♖:c8 (5. ♜:b5 ♜d4=) 5... ♜:c8 6.d7 ♜d8 7. ♖b4 ♖f7! 8. ♖:b5 (8. ♖c5 ♖e6 9. ♖c6 h4 (b4)=) 8... ♖e6 9. ♖c6 h4 10. ♜d4 ♜:d7 11. ♜:d7 ♖f5 12. ♜h7 ♖g4 13. ♖d5 h3 14. ♖e4 ♖g3 15. ♖e3 15... ♖g2! 16. ♜g7+ ♖f1 17. ♜h7 ♖g2 18. ♖e2 h2 19. ♜g7+ 19... ♖h1! = with stalemate – no black “b”-pawn] 2... ♜c6 3. ♖b7! (switchback) 3... ♜c4 [3... ♜:d6 4. ♜:d6 ♖:b7 5. ♜d8+ 5... ♖f7 6. ♜d7+-; 3... ♜c5 4. ♜:c5 b:c5 5. ♖:c8+; 3... ♖:b7 4.d7+-] 4. ♖d3 ♜c1! [4...b5 5. ♜:b5! ♜c1 6. ♖d2 Domination. 6... ♜c4 7. ♖d5+-+] 5. ♖:c8 (in time!) 5... ♜:c8 6.d7 ♜d8 7. ♖c4 ♖f7 8. ♖b5 ♖e6 9. ♖c6 h4 [9...b5 10. ♜:h5+-] 10. ♜d4! 10...h3 [10... ♜:d7 11. ♜d7+- with b6-pawn no stalemate in the h1-corner!] 11. ♜e4+! (11. ♜h4? ♜:d7=) 11... ♖f5 12. ♜h4 1-0

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: № 15, Jan Sprenger**

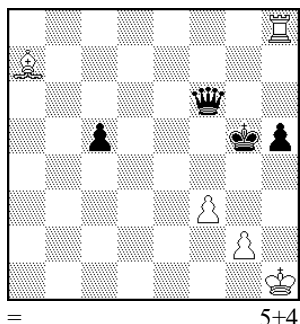
An excellent study for solving, starting from a very natural position. White foils Black's dangerous counterplay by sacrificing first his bishop and then his queen to drive the black king onto the back rank, exactly the position it occupied in the initial position. Studies with active play by both sides always create a favourable impression and until one sees the queen sacrifice it seems impossible to cope with Black's mating threats. The connection with the otb games quoted (Nigel Short – Jan Timman, 15<sup>th</sup> Interpolis, Tilburg (NL) 21.10.1991, <https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1124533> and Richard Rapport – Jan Sprenger, Schachbundes liga (Germany), 17.9.2020, <https://www.365chess.com/game.php?gid=4270496>) is rather weak, but the study is undoubtedly appealing.



**1.c6! ♖c7 2.♙b8** [2...♙d4+ ♚h7 3.♙e5 f6 (3...♙h6 should also draw) 4.♙:f6 ♚d5 5.♙a8 ♜:f6 6.c7 ♜b5! transposes into the try 4.♙a8] **2...♙d5** [2...♙e6 3.♙e5+ ♚h7 4.♙a8! (4.c7? ♙h6 5.♙g7+?? ♜:g7! 6.c8 ♙g5#) 4...♜b4+ 5.g4 g5+ 6.♙:h5+ and avoiding checkmate will cost Black all his pawns] **3.♙e5+** [3.e4 b:c6 4.♙a8 f6 5.♙d6+ ♚g7 6.♙a7+ ♚g8 7.e:d5 c:d5 wins a piece, but analysis reveals the endgame to be drawn. White needs to play g3-g4 to free his king, but cannot make further progress.] **3...♙h7** [3...f6 4.c7 ♜:c7 5.♙:c7+!] **4.c7** [try 4.♙a8? f6 5.♙:f6 5...♜:f6 6.c7 ♜b5! 7.g4 g5+ 8.♙g3 ♜e4+ 9.♙f3 ♜d6 will eventually lead to a drawn rook endgame, e.g. 10.♙d8 h:g4+ 11.h:g4 ♜c5 12.♙d7+ ♚g8 13.♙:d6 ♜:c7] **4...♙h6 5.♙g7+!** (first decoy sacrifice) **5...♙:g7 6.c8 ♙ ♜e3!** Planning ♜g2+, followed by ♜b5+ or f6#. **7.♙g5! ♜g2 8.♙h8+!!** second decoy sacrifice [try 8.♙d7? ♜b5+! (Black decoy sacrifice 8...♙:g3+ 9.♙g4! h:g4 10.♙d4++-) 9.♙:b5 f6# model mate] **8...♙:h8 9.♙h6 ♜e3 10.♙a8+ 1-0**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: № 4, Sergiy Didukh**

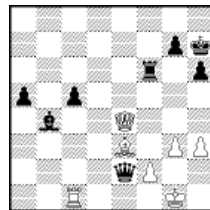
This is another attractive study for solving, since the variations are all clear-cut. The key idea is the unexpected self-pin of ♙ on move 6, echoing Ding Liren's 46...♙g6 in the final tie-break game of his 2023 FIDE World Championship match against Ian Nepomniachtchi (<https://www.365chess.com/game.php?gid=4410716>, see the diagram on the right side). The lightweight setting (diagrammed below) presents the idea without any unnecessary frills or introductory play, which I think was the right decision. This is the type of study which appeals to otb players.



**1.♙g8+! ♙h6!** [1...♙f4 2.♙:c5 ♜h4+ 3.♙g1 ♜e1+ 4.♙h2 draw because ♜e5 is not a check; 1...♙f5 2.♙:c5 ♜h4+ 3.♙g1 ♜e1+ 4.♙h2 ♜e5+ 5.f4! ♜:f4+ 6.♙h3!] **2.♙:c5 ♜h4+ 3.♙g1 ♜e1+ 4.♙h2 ♜e5+ 5.f4!** [5.♙h1? ♜:c5 -+] **5...♜:f4+** [5...♜:c5 6.♙g3, fortress, the ♙ moves on f3 and h3] **6.♙g3!** [An attempt to build a fortress 6.♙h1? ♜h4+ 7.♙g1 ♜e1+ 8.♙h2 ♜e5+ 9.♙h1 ♜:c5 10.♙g3 ♜c1+! 11.♙h2 ♜c7 -+; 6.♙h3? ♜f5+-+] **6...h4 7.♙e3 h:g3+ 8.♙h1 ♜:e3 stalemate, 1/2-1/2.**

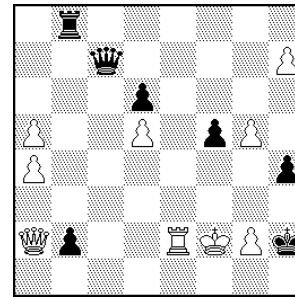
46...♙g6 47.♙f5 c4 48.h4 ♙d3 49.♙f3 ♜f6 50.♙g4 c3 51.♙d1 ♙g6 52.♙c8 ♜c6 53.♙a8 ♜d6 54.♙:d6 ♜:d6 55.♙e4+ 55...♙g6 56.♙c4 ♜b1+ 57.♙h2 a4 58.♙d4 a3 59.♙c7 ♙g6 60.♙c4 c2 61.♙e3 ♙d6 62.♙g2 h5 63.♙f1 ♙e5 64.g4 h:g4 65.h5 ♙f5 66.♙d5 g3 67.f4 a2 68.♙:a2 ♙:f4 0-1

Nepomniachtchi – Liren



**4<sup>th</sup> Prize: № 6, Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen & Martin Minski**

Like the 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize study, this features a self-pinning rook. There's a lot of exciting tactical play and a logical try, but the study suffers from a heavy and rather unnatural starting position (two pawns on the seventh rank, black king on h2). There are several immobile pawns and unfortunately they are all necessary; for example, the a4-pawn is there to prevent White escaping from a perpetual check by running his king to the queenside. Despite this, the study deserves a prize for its thrilling tactics.

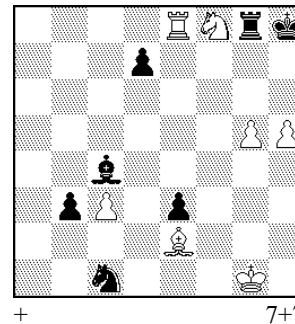


**1.h8 ♙!** White must first deal with the b2-pawn. **1...♙:h8 2.♙:b2 ♜c5+**, otherwise White wins trivially [2...♙a7+ 3.♙b6] **3.♙f3!!** foreseeing a black stalemate trap. White must allow the d6-pawn to move in the future. [Logical try: 3.♙e3? The premature Ding-pin 3...f4 4.g4! ♜b8! 5.♙a2! ♙d4! 6.♙f3+ ♜b2 7.♙e2+ 7...♙h3! 8.♙:b2 ♜:b2 9.♙:b2 stalemate] **3...♙:d5+ 4.♙f2** [4.♙f4? ♜c4+ 5.♙:f5 ♜d5+ 6.♙g4 ♜c4+ 7.♙f5 ♜d5+=] **4...♙c5+** [4...♙:g2+ 5.♙e1 ♜e8 6.♙:e8 (6.♙d2+-) 6...♙:b2 7.♙e2+; 4...♜c8 5.♙d2 (5.♙a3+-) 5...♙c5+ 6.♙e3+-] **5.♙e3!** The correct Ding-pin [5.♙f3? ♜c6+ (5...♙d5+) 6.♙f2 ♜c5+ 7.♙e3 waste of time] **5...f4** [5...♙e8 6.♙c1!+- (6.♙c3+-); 5...♙b8 (♜c8) 6.♙c1+-] **6.g4!!** [6.g3? ♜:e3+ 7.♙f1+ ♙h3 8.♙g2+ ♙g4] **6...♙b8!** [6...f:e3+ 7.♙f3+ ♙h3 8.♙g2#; 6...♙:e3+ 7.♙f1+ ♙h3 8.♙g2#; 6...h:g3+ 7.♙f3+ ♙h3 8.♙h8#; 6...f:g3+ 7.♙f3+ ♙h3 8.♙g2#] **7.♙a2! ♙d4** [7...♙c1 8.♙f3+ ♜b2 9.♙e2+ ♙h3 10.♙:b2 (10.♙a3)] **8.♙f3+** [Try 8.♙f1+? ♜b2 9.♙e2+ ♙h1 10.♙:b2 ♙d1+= with a perpetual (10...♙g1+=)] **8...♙b2 9.♙e2+ ♙h3 10.♙:b2** [10.♙:b2? ♙e3#] **10...♙:b2 11.♙:b2+-** no stalemate.

Cf. 46...♙g6 of the final tie-break game Ian Nepomniachtchi – Ding Liren (to whom this nice study is dedicated) in their 2023 World Championship match, available at: <https://www.365chess.com/game.php?gid=4410716>

**1<sup>st</sup> Honourable Mention: № 5, Sergiy Didukh & Lewis Stiller**

This is another study based on a game from the Ding Liren – Ian Nepomniachtchi World championship match, this time game 6. The idea is a preparatory pawn move to set up a mating continuation with rook and knight. The model mate is artistic, and the follow-up play of the bishops is a positive feature, but once White sets up his mating threat there's nothing Black can do about it, which creates a one-sided impression.



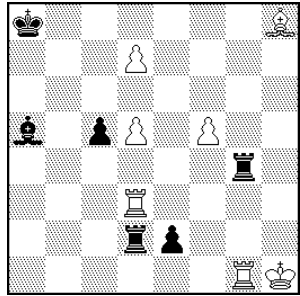
**1.♙g6+! ♙h7 2.♙e7+ ♙f7!** [2...♙g7 3.♙:c4 ♜:e7 (3...b2 4.♙e8 4...♙f7 5.♙h8+! ♙g7 6.h6+ ♙:g6 7.♙:f7+ ♙:f7 8.♙b8+=) 4.♙:e7 4...b2 5.♙f5! ♜e2+ 6.♙h2 b1 ♙ 7.g6+ ♙h8 8.g7+ ♙h7 9.g8 ♙#] **3.♙c4!** [3.♙:f7+? ♙g7 4.♙:g7+ ♙:g7 5.♙f3 e2 6.♙f2 ♜d3+ 7.♙:e2 b2=] **3...♙g7 4.♙:f7 b2 5.c4!** Ding's theme. The pawn's move prepares a model mate. [Logical try 5.♙g8+! ♙:g8 6.♙e8+ 6...♙f7 7.♙f8+ ♙e6 8.♙f6+ ♙d5+-; 5.h6? ♙e2+! 6.♙g2 ♙:d6 7.♙:f7+ ♙:g6 8.♙f6+ ♙h7! 9.♙b6 ♜:c3=] **5...♙e2+** [5...d6 6.h6! b1 ♙ 7.♙f8+ ♙h8 8.h:g7+ ♙:g7 9.♙g6+-+] **6.♙h2!** [6.♙g2? ♙f4+! 7.♙:f4 ♙:g5+ 8.♙f3 ♙h6! 9.♙g6 ♙:g6=] **6...b1 ♙ 7.♙g8+ ♙:g8 8.♙e8+ ♙f7 9.♙f8+ ♙e6 10.♙f6# 1-0**

Compare with game 6 of the FIDE 2023 World Championship match Ding Liren – Ian Nepomniachtchi: <https://www.365chess.com/game.php?gid=4408121>



**2<sup>nd</sup> Honourable Mention: № 9, Michael Pasman**

This study is based on the tactical point at move 12, which closely resembles the finish of the game Baskaran Adhiban – Sergio Minero Pineda, Baku Olympiad 2016. The starting position is not very natural, with several pieces under attack and two pawns already on the seventh rank, but there's quite a bit of interesting play before we get to the finale. The move 12.♙f6! is not a Novotny because the reply 12...♞:f6 doesn't involve any interference with the bishop on d8; instead, the black rook is simply decoyed onto a bad square.



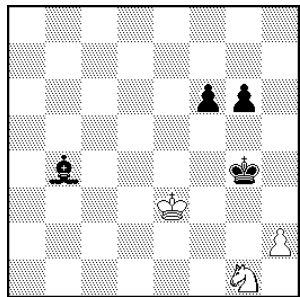
+ 7+6

Cf. Baskaran Adhiban – Sergio Minero Pineda, Chess Olympiad Baku (Azerbaijan), 03.09.2023 <https://www.365chess.com/game.php?gid=4408121>

1.d8♙+! 2.♙d8 2.♞a1+ ♞a4! [2...♙b7 3.♞:d2; 2...♙a5 3.♞:d2 3...e1 ♙+ 4.♞:e1 ♙:d2 5.♞e8+ ♙b7 6.f6 ♞f4 7.♞e7+ ♙b6 8.f7] 3.♞:a4+ ♙b7 4.♞b3+! [Logical try: 4.♞e3 ♞d1+ 5.♙g2 e1 ♙ 6.♞:e1 ♞:e1 Black king on b7 instead of c8 in the main line is draw] 4...♙c8 [4...♙b6 5.♞e4 ♞d1+ 6.♙g2 e1 ♙ 7.♞:e1 ♞:e1 8.f6] 5.♞e3! [Logical try: 5.♞e4 ♞d1+ 6.♙g2 e1 ♙ 7.♞:e1 ♞:e1! White rook on b3 instead of a4 in the main line is draw] 5...♞d1+ 6.♙g2 e1 ♙ 7.♞:e1 ♞:e1 8.f6 ♞e5 [8...♞e2+ 9.♙f3 ♞e1 10.♙g4; 8...♙f6 9.♙:f6 ♞d1 10.♞a8+ ♙b7 11.♞d8] 9.f7 9...♞f5 [9...♞g5+ 10.♙f3 ♞f5+ 11.♞f4] 10.♞a8+ ♙d7 11.♞a7+ ♙d6 12.♙f6! A move similar to this one appeared in the game Baskaran Adhiban – Sergio Minero Pineda, 2016 [12.♙g7 ♙e7] 12...♞:f6 [12...♙f6 13.f8♙+] 13.♞a6+ 1-0

**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation: № 3, Pavel Arestov & Daniel Keith**

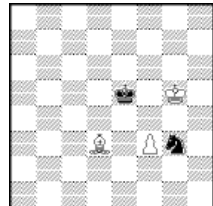
It's certainly surprising that the only way to draw involves playing the knight to h8 and the unexpected move 5.♙d3 is a bonus. One always worries about an anticipation for five-man positions, but I couldn't identify any specific precursor to № 3 (diagrammed below). There's a good connection to the over the board game example Jan Plachetka – Michael Schlosser, Austrian Team Championship 1990 (see the diagram on the right side).



= 3+4

1.h3+! [1.♙f2? ♙c5+ 2.♙g2? ♙:g1 +] 1...♙g3! [1...♙h4 2.♙f3 ♙c5 3.♙e2! 3...♙:h3 4.♙f4+ +] 2.♙e2+! ♙:h3 3.♙f4+ ♙g4 4.♙:g6 4...♙c5+! [4...♙g5 5.♙h8! f5 6.♙f7+=] 5.♙d3!! [Try: 5.♙e4? ♙d6! 6.♙d5 (see the otb game Jan Plachetka – Michael Schlosser (1990)) 6...♙h5! 7.♙h8 f5 8.♙f7 ♙c7! 9.♙d4 ♙g6 10.♙e5+ ♙:e5+ 11.♙:e5 ♙g5 +] 5...♙d6 6.♙h8! f5 7.♙f7 ♙c7 8.♙h6+ ½-½

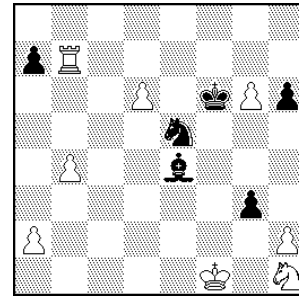
**Plachetka – Schlosser**



61...♙d4 62.♙g4? [62.♙h4! ♙h1 63.f4+!] 62...♙h1! 63.♙a6 [63.f4? ♙:d3 =] 63...♙c3 64.♙b7 64...♙f2+ 65.♙f5 65...♙d3 66.♙g4 66...♙f4 ½-½

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation: № 14, David Navara, Jaroslav Poláček & Emil Vlasák**

The reciprocal zugzwang comes out of the blue, but the significant problem is that the variations underlying it are extremely long and hard to understand.



= 8+6

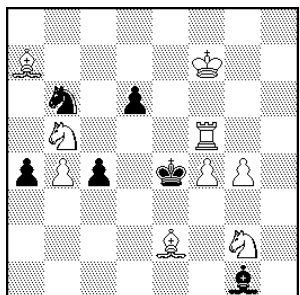
Solution and comments by the authors: 1.♞f7+! the rook moves because it is attacked [after the normal move 1.♙:g3? ♙:b7 White has three pawns for a piece, but ♙d6 and ♙g6 fall quickly and Black has a technical win 2.♙f2 ♙:g6 3.b5 ♙f6 4.a4 ♙e6 -+] 1...♙:f7 [after 1...♙:g6 White didn't help himself much by 2.♙:g3? ♙d3+! and Black wins, but White is saved by the surprising move 2.♙f2! guarding d3, 2...g:f2? (2...♙:f7 3.♙:e4 3...g:h2 4.♙g2 ♙f5 5.♙g3+ ♙e6 6.d7 ♙:d7 7.♙:h2 ♙c6 8.♙f5 h5 9.♙g3 ♙d6 10.♙:d6 ♙:d6 11.♙h4 ♙d5 12.♙:h5 ♙c4 13.a3 ♙b3 14.♙g4 ♙a3 15.b5 ♙b4 16.♙f4 ♙b5 17.♙c3 ♙b4 18.♙d2 ♙b3 19.♙c1; 2...♙c6 3.♞:a7 g2+ (3...g:h2 4.d7! ♙:d7 (4...♙:d7 5.♙g2) 5.♞a6) 4.♙g1 ♙f3+ 5.♙:g2) 3.♞e7!)] 2.g:f7 g2+ 3.♙f2 [3.♙e2? ♙:f7] 3...g:h1 ♙+ [3...g:h1 ♙ 4.f8♙+] 4.♙e3 ♙:f7 5.♙:e4 ♙e6 6.♙e3!! We will see the meaning of the following manoeuvres below [6.d7? ♙:d7 7.♙f5 ♙f2 8.♙g6 ♙e6 9.h4 ♙d3 10.a3 ♙f4+ 11.♙:h6 ♙f6 12.a4 ♙d5 13.b5 ♙c3] 6...♙d7!? 7.♙e2! ♙c6 8.♙e3!! ♙:d6 9.♙f3!! A mutual zugzwang. It's difficult to imagine how the move 9...♙d5 could weaken Black's position, but it really does so (compare with Suat Atalik – Tony Miles, Iraklion (GR), 1993 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1098358>), with a nice *Excelsior*) 9...♙d5 [9... White to move loses: 10.b5! - the best white move (The pawn endgame is lost: 10.♙g2? ♙d5 11.♙:h1 ♙c4 12.♙g2 ♙:b4 13.♙h3 ♙a3 14.♙h4 ♙a2 15.♙h5 a5 16.♙:h6 16...a4 17.h4 a3 18.h5 ♙b1 19.♙g6 a2 20.h6 a1 ♙; 10.♙g4? ♙f2+ 11.♙h5 ♙e5 12.h4 (12.♙:h6 ♙g4+) 12...♙f6 13.♙:h6 ♙d3 14.b5 (14.a3? ♙f4! 15.h5 (15.b5? ♙d5 16.h5 ♙c3 17.♙h7 ♙f7 18.♙h6 ♙:b5 19.a4 ♙c3 20.a5 ♙e4) 15...a6 16.a4 ♙d5 17.b5 a5) 14...♙c5! 15.h5 (15.a3? ♙e4) 15...♙e4 16.♙h7 ♙f7 17.h6 ♙c3 18.♙h8 ♙:b5 19.a4 ♙c7 20.a5 ♙e6 21.♙h7 ♙f8+ 22.♙h8 a6), 10...h5! the only move 11.♙f4 (11.a3 ♙c5! 12.♙f4 ♙f2! 13.♙g5 ♙g4 14.h4 (14.h3 ♙b5) 14...♙e5 15.♙h5 ♙f3 16.a4 ♙b4 17.♙g4 ♙:h4 18.♙:h4 ♙:a4 19.♙g3 ♙:b5 20.♙f2 ♙c4 21.♙e1 ♙b3 22.♙d1 ♙b2) 11...♙f2 12.♙g5 ♙c4+ 13.♙:h5 ♙c3 14.♙g6 Black has the ♙e7 option. This explains why the ♙'s move to d5 weakens Black. 14...♙e7! (14...♙:a2 15.h4 ♙e7!) 15.h4 (15.♙g7 ♙:a2 16.h4 ♙c3 17.h5 ♙:b5 18.h6 ♙d6 19.h7 ♙f7) 15...♙a2! 16.h5 (16.♙g7 ♙c3 17.h5 ♙:b5 18.h6 ♙d6 19.h7 ♙f7) 16...♙f8!; 9...h5 10.♙f4 (10.♙g4? ♙d5 11.♙f3! ♙d6 12.♙f4) 10...♙f2 11.♙g5 ♙e6 12.♙:h5 ♙f5 13.♙h4 13...♙e4 14.a3!; 9...♙d7 10.b5 ♙d6 11.♙g4 ♙f2+ 12.♙h5 ♙c5 13.h4] 10.b5! The only move [10.♙g4? ♙f2+ 11.♙h5 ♙e5 (11...♙e6) 12.h4 (12.a4 ♙e4 13.♙:h6 ♙f6 14.h4 ♙c3 15.a5 a6 16.h5 ♙d5) 12...♙d3 13.a3 (13.b5 ♙c5 14.♙:h6 ♙f6 15.h5) 13...♙f4+ 14.♙:h6 ♙f6] 10...♙d6 [10...♙c5 11.♙g4 ♙:b5 12.♙h5 =, for example 12...♙f2 13.h4 ♙e4 14.♙:h6 ♙a4 15.♙g6 ♙g3 16.♙g5 ♙a3 17.♙g4 ♙e4 18.♙f5 and Black fails to give a knight for a pawn; 10...h5 A key line explaining the mutual zugzwang. 11.♙f4 ♙f2 12.♙g5 ♙e4+ 13.♙:h5 ♙e6 14.♙g6! ♙c3 15.h4 ♙:a2 16.h5 and Black lack the ♙e7-f8 option. Similar to Reti motive of control of both sides.] 11.♙g4! ♙f2+! 12.♙h5! ♙e6! 13.a4! [13.h4? ♙e4 14.♙:h6 ♙f6 15.h5 ♙c3] 13...♙e4 14.a5! ♙d6 15.b6 a6 16.♙:h6 draw. Black can prolong the play by 16...♙f6 17.♙h5! ♙b7 [17...♙f5 18.♙h6 ♙b7 19.♙g7! ♙:a5 20.h4! ♙g4 21.♙f6! (21.♙f7? ♙c4 22.b7 ♙d6+) 21...♙:h4 22.♙e6 ♙g5 and the rest as in the previous line. 23.♙d6 ♙f5 24.♙c7 24...♙e5 25.♙b8 ♙c6+ 26.♙b7] 18.♙g4 draws, 18...♙:a5 19.♙f3 ♙g5 20.♙e2 and the action on the Q-side is fast enough. There are another mined squares e3, 4, e5, f5, for example [20.♙e4? ♙c4 21.b7 ♙d6+] 20...♙h4 21.♙d3 ♙h3 22.♙d4 ♙:h2 23.♙c5 ♙g3 24.♙d6! ♙f4 25.♙c7 ♙e5 26.♙b8 ♙c6+ 27.♙b7 ♙b4 28.♙a7 [28.♙c7 a5 29.b7] 28...a5 29.b7 ♙c6+ 30.♙b6 (30.♙a6) 30...♙d5 31.b8♙ ♙:b8 32.♙:a5 ½-½

Thanks to John for his prompt and expert award, which will remain open until 20.05.2024. Please send your claims (if any) to [zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com](mailto:zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com) (Ed.)

ORIGINAL PROBLEMS, edited by Zoran Gavrilovski

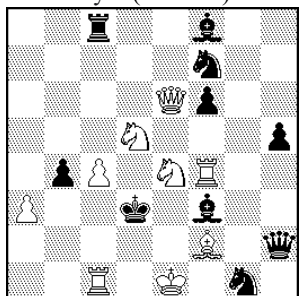
#2 / JUDGE: *KABE MOEN* (USA)

2829 Gennady Koziura<sup>†</sup>  
Makukhivka (Ukraine)



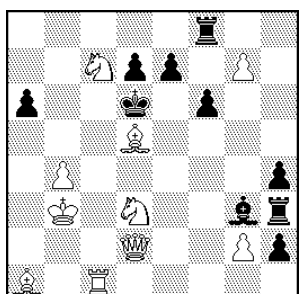
#2 \* 9+6

2832 Anatoly Vasylenko  
Kyiv (Ukraine)



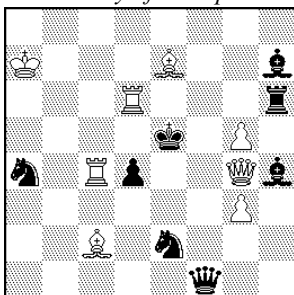
#2 vvvvvv 9+10

2835 Givi Mosiashvili  
Rustavi (Georgia)



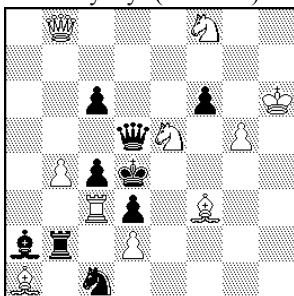
#2 v 10+10

2830 Zoran Gavrilovski  
Skopje (North Macedonia)  
*In memory of A. Popovski*



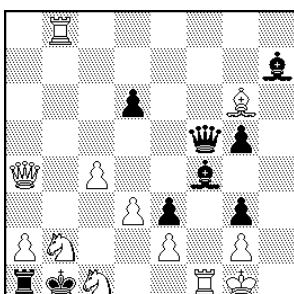
#2 \* v v 8+8

2833 Zoltán Labai  
Velký Kýr (Slovakia)



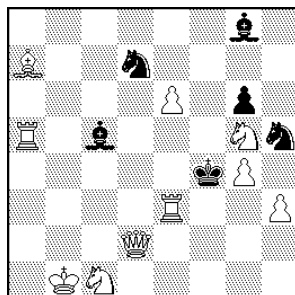
#2 \* [v v] 10+9

2836 Sergey I. Tkachenko  
Slavutich (Ukraine)



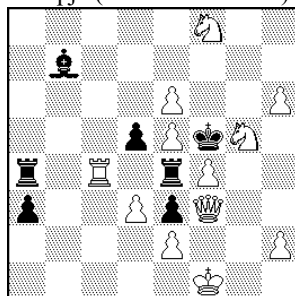
#2 12+9

2831 Givi Mosiashvili  
Rustavi (Georgia)



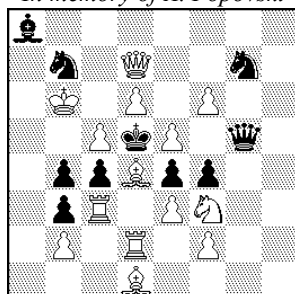
#2 \* v 10+6

2834 Zoran Gavrilovski  
Skopje (North Macedonia)



#2 vvv 12+7

2837 Zoran Gavrilovski  
Skopje (North Macedonia)  
*In memory of A. Popovski*



#2 \* vvvv 14+10

2829 G. Koziura<sup>†</sup>  
1... ♔d4/♗c8 2. ♘:d6#/♘c3# A  
1. ♚d5! (2. ♘c3# A)  
1... ♔d4/♗:d5/♗:d5  
2. ♚:d4#/♘:d6#/♔f3#

Changed mates after a flight-giving key. (Zoran Gavrilovski)

2830 Z. Gavrilovski  
*In memory of Aleksandar Popovski*

1... ♔g6 x 2. ♚e6# A  
1... ♚g6 y 2. ♚e4# B  
1. ♚g6? (2. ♚e6# A, ♚e4# B)  
1... ♚:g6 y 2. ♚e4# B  
1... ♗c5/♗:g3/♗f4, ♚f5  
2. ♚:c5#/♚:d4#/♚:(f5#  
1... ♔:g6! x

1. ♔g6? (2. ♚e6# A, ♚e4# B)  
1... ♔:g6 x 2. ♚e6# A  
1... ♗c5/♗:g3/♗f4, ♚f5  
2. ♚:c5#/♚:d4#/♚:(f5#  
1... ♚:g6! y  
1.g6! (2. ♚e6# A, ♚e4# B)  
1... ♔:g6/♚:g6 2. ♚e6# A, ♚e4# B  
1... ♗c5/♗:g3/♗f4, ♚f5  
2. ♚:c5#/♚:d4#/♚:(f5#

Popovski theme [\*: 1...x/y(z)  
2.A#/B#(C#), 1.! ~ 2.A#/B#(C#)]  
and Dombrovskis theme with a  
double threat between the set  
and virtual play showing the 6<sup>th</sup>  
WCCT theme after Novotny on  
g6. (Z.G.)

2831 G. Mosiashvili

1... ♗g3 2. ♚e4#  
1... ♗e5 2. ♚f3#  
1. ♘f3? (2. ♘e2# A, ♘d3+? B)  
1... ♗g3 2. ♘d3# B  
1... ♗g3 2. ♚h2#  
1... ♔:e3! x  
1. ♘e4! (2. ♘d3# B, ♘e2+? A)  
1... ♗e5 2. ♘e2# A  
1... ♗e5 2. ♚d6#  
1... ♔:e3 x 2. ♚e3#

A complete form of Sushkov  
theme. (Author)  
Split change of mates. (Z.G.)

2832 A. Vasylenko  
1.c5? (2. ♘:b4# A, ♚a6#) ♚b8!  
1... ♚:c5 a/♔:c5 b 2. ♘:b4#/♚a6#  
1. ♚d7? (2. ♘:b4# A) ♚:f4!  
1. ♚b6? (2. ♚d4#, ♚e3#) ♔c5! b  
1... ♚c5 a 2. ♘:b4#  
1.a:b4? (2. ♚c3#) ♚:c4! c  
1... ♔:b4+ 2. ♘:b4# A

1. ♚f5? (2. ♘c5# B) ♚e8!  
1. ♘c7? (2. ♚d5#) ♚d8! d  
1... ♔c5 b 2. ♘:c5# B  
1. ♘e7! (2. ♚d5#)  
1... ♚d8 d/♚c5 a 2. ♘:(c5# B  
1... ♚:c4 c/♔:e4/♚:f2+/♗e2  
2. ♚:c4#/♚:e4#/♘:f2#/♚:f3#

2833 Z. Labai

1... ♚g8, ♚f7 2. ♘:c6# A  
1... ♚b5, ♚e6 2. ♘:(e6# B  
[1. ♚:c4+? C ♚:c4!  
1... ♔:c4 2. ♔:b2# E  
1. ♚:d3+? D ♗:d3!  
1...c:d3 2. ♔:b2# E]  
1. ♚d8! (2. ♘:c6# A)  
1...f:e5 2. ♘e6# B  
1... ♚:b4 2. ♚:c4# C  
1... ♚:d2 2. ♚:d3# D  
1... ♗:e5 2. ♚:f6#

Changed functions of 3 moves  
(A, C, D) and transfer of 2 mates  
(B, E) in 4 phases. (Z.G.)

2834 Z. Gavrilovski

1. ♘f7? (2. ♘d6#) ♚a6!  
1... ♚:f4 x 2. ♚:f4#  
1... ♚:e5 y 2. f:e5#  
1. ♚c7? (2. ♚f7#) ♚:f4! x  
1. ♘h3? A (2. ♚h5# B) ♚:e5! y  
1. ♚h5! B (2. ♘h3# A)  
1... ♚:f4+ x 2. ♘f3#  
1... ♚:e5 y 2. ♘h7#

Reversal II and changed mates  
after a flight-giving key. (Z.G.)

2835 G. Mosiashvili  
1. ♔e6? (2. ♘e1# A, ♘f2# B,  
♘f4# C, ♘e5# D) ♔e5!  
1... ♔f2 (♔e1, ♔f4) 2. ♚:(f4# B,  
1. ♔f3! (2. ♘e1# A, ♘f2# B,  
♘f4# C, ♘e5# D)  
1... ♔e1 2. ♘:e1# A  
1... ♔f2 2. ♘:f2# B  
1... ♔f4 2. ♘:f4# C  
1... ♔e5 2. ♘:e5# D  
1...e6, e5 2.g:f8♚(♔)#

Fleck theme with battery  
mates and changed play in  
relation to the try. (Z.G.)

2836 S. I. Tkachenko

1.d4! (2. ♘c3#, ♘bd3+?)  
1... ♔e5 2. ♘bd3#[♘c3+?]  
1... ♚c2 2. ♚c2#  
[♘bd3+?, ♘c3+?]

Anti-duals with Goethart  
unpins (the threat and the 1<sup>st</sup>  
variation), bi-valve defence  
(line opening/closure in the  
1<sup>st</sup> variation), Schiffmann-2  
defence (the 2<sup>nd</sup> variation).  
(Author)

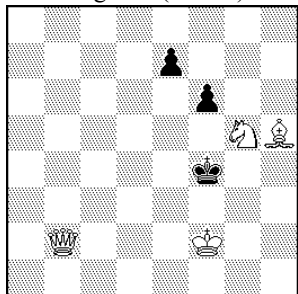
2837 Z. Gavrilovski

*In memory of A. Popovski*  
1... ♗:c5 2. ♔:c5# A  
1... ♚:e5 2. ♔:e5# B  
1...f:e3 2. ♔:e3# C  
1...b:c3 2. ♔:c3# D  
1.c6? (2. ♔c5# A) ♗e6! x  
1.e6? (2. ♔e5# B) ♗f5! y  
1.e:f4? (2. ♔e3# C) e3!  
1. ♚b3? (2. ♔c3# D) c3! z  
1...c:b3 2. ♔:b3# E  
1. ♚c1! (2. ♔c3# D)  
1... ♗:c5 2. ♔:c5# A  
1... ♚:e5 2. ♔:e5# B  
1...f:e3 2. ♔:e3# C  
1... ♗e6 x 2. ♚c6#  
1... ♗f5 y 2. ♚f7#  
1...c3 z 2. ♔:b3# E  
1...e:f3 2. ♔:f3#

Popovski theme with four  
thematic W2 moves. (Z.G.)

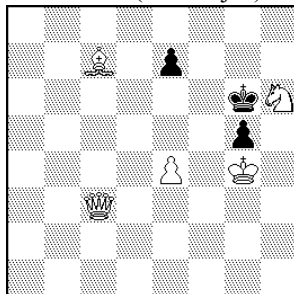
#3 / JUDGE: **PREDRAG ŽUVIĆ** (CROATIA)

2838 **Vladimir Kozhakin**  
Magadan (Russia)



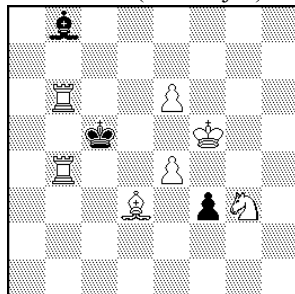
#3 <sup>v</sup> 4+3

2839 **Elmar Abdullaev**  
Shirvan (Azerbaijan)



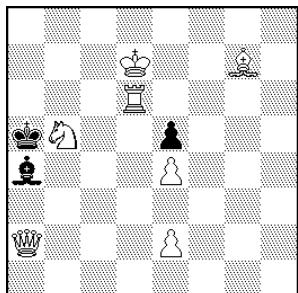
#3 b) ♘c7→a5 5+3

2840 **Elmar Abdullaev**  
Shirvan (Azerbaijan)



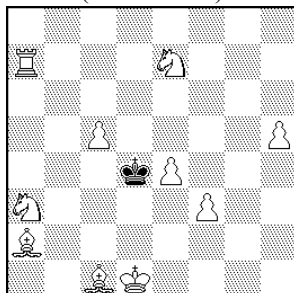
#3 7+3

2841 **Gennady Matyushin**  
St. Petersburg (Russia)



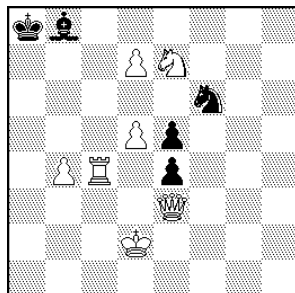
#3 <sup>v v v</sup> 7+3

2842 **Antonio Tarnawiecki & Steven Dowd**  
Pachacámac & Birmingham  
(Peru & USA)



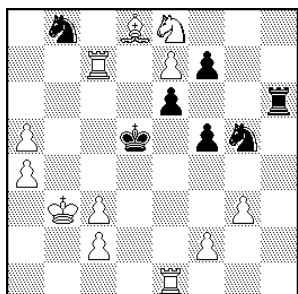
#3 10+1

2843 **Gennady Matyushin**  
St. Petersburg (Russia)



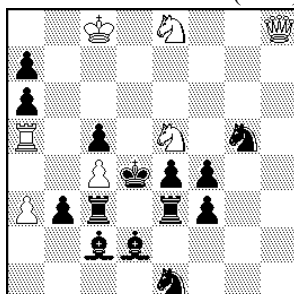
#3 <sup>v [v]</sup> 7+5

2844 **Zoltán Labai**  
Velký Kyr (Slovakia)



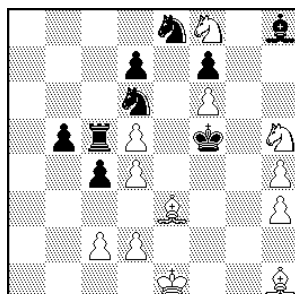
#3 12+7

2845 **Leonid Ljubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez,**  
Rishon-le-Zion & Haifa (Israel)



#3 7+14

2846 **Gérard Doukhan**  
Médan (France)



#3 <sup>v</sup> 12+9

2838 **V. Kozhakin**

1. ♘f7? (2. ♖e2 ♘f5 3. ♖g4#)  
1... ♘e4!  
**1. ♖e2!** (2. ♘f7 ~ 3. ♖f3# / ♖g4#)  
2... ♘f5 3. ♖g4#)  
1... ♖:g5 2. ♖g4+ ♘h6 3. ♖g6#  
1... f:g5 2. ♘g6 (3. ♖e4#) g4  
3. ♖e3#

Defences on the same square.  
(Author)

Nice play in three variations  
with two quiet W2 moves.  
(Z.G.)

2839 **E. Abdullaev**

a) **1. ♘e5!** (zugzwang)  
1... e6 2. ♖c7 ♘:h6 3. ♖g7#  
1... ♘h7 2. ♖:g5 e6 3. ♖c7#  
1... ♖:h6 2. ♖h3+ ♘g6 3. ♖h5#  
b) **1. ♖e5!** ~ 2. ♘c3! ~ 3. ♖g7#

The first (key) moves are  
made on e5 with different  
pieces (♘ and ♖)! A clear  
geometry on the 2<sup>nd</sup> moves:  
in a) the ♖ takes the place  
of the ♘ (c7→e5, c3→c7);  
in b) the ♘ takes the place  
of the ♖ (c3→e5, a5→c3), i.e.  
*ushel-prishel* (Russian), “gone-  
came” in twins. (Author)

2840 **E. Abdullaev**

**1.e5!** (2. ♖e4 ~ 3. ♖4b5# A)  
1... ♖d5 2. ♘e4+ ♖c5  
3. ♖6b5# B  
1... ♘c7 2. ♖6b5+ B ♖c6  
3. ♘e4# A  
1... ♘a7 2. ♘e4+ ♖d5 3. ♖d6#

Play on the same square  
(after 1... ~ / ♖d5 / ♘a7) and  
shift of the white moves A &  
B. (Author)

The flight-giving key is an  
excellent introduction to this  
rich meredith. I also like the  
quiet threat. (Z.G.)

2841 **G. Matyushin**

1. ♘d5? (zugzwang)  
1... ♘b6 2. ♖:a4 ~ 3. ♖a7#  
1... ♘b4! 2. ♖a3+ ♘a5!  
1. ♘c7? (zugzwang)  
1... ♖:b5 2. ♖b6+ ♘a5 / ♖c5  
3. ♖d2# / ♖d5#  
1... ♘b4! x

1. ♘:e5? (2. ♖c6 ♘b4 / ♖a6  
3. ♘c3# / ♖:a4# & 2. ♘c3+ etc.)  
1... ♘b4 2. ♘c3+ ♖c5, ♖:b5  
3. ♖d5#  
1... ♖:b5! y

**1. ♘f8!** (zugzwang)

1... ♘b4 x 2. ♖a6+ ♖:b5  
3. ♖:a4#  
1... ♖:b5 y 2. ♖d5+ ♘b4+  
3. ♖c6#

A varied content with many  
tries which are refuted by the  
same defences as those above:  
1. ♖c6? / ♘c6? ♘b4!; 1. ♘h6?  
♖:b5! (Z.G.)

2842 **A. Tarnawiecki & S. Dowd**

**1.e5!** (zugzwang)  
1... ♖c3, ♘d3 2. ♘c2  
2... ♘d3, ♖c3 3. ♖a3#  
1... ♖:c5 2. ♘e3+ ♘b4 3. ♘d5#  
1... ♖:e5 2. ♘c6+ ♖f5(6) 3. ♖f7#

Flights by the black king and  
regrettable repetition of a W2  
move in 2 variations. (Z.G.)

2843 **G. Matyushin**

1. d8 ♘? (2. ♖a3+ ♘a7 3. ♖c8#  
2. ♖c8 ~ 3. ♖a3#) ♘d7!  
[1. ♖a3+? ♘b7 2. d8 ♘+  
2... ♘b6 3. ♖a5#  
1... ♘a7! 2. d8 ♖+ ♘b7]  
**1. ♘c8!** (2. ♖a3+ ♘b7 / ♘a7  
3. d8 ♘# / ♖:a7#)  
1... ♖:d7 2. ♖c7! ♖~ / ♘~  
3. ♘(:)b6 / ♖(:)a7#  
1... ♘b7 2. ♖b6+ ♘a8 3. ♖c6#

Unmatched content. (Z.G.)

2844 **Z. Labai**

**1. ♖e3!** (2. c4+ ♘d4 3. c3#)  
1... ♖h4 2. ♘f6+ ♘d6 3. e8 ♘#  
1... ♖c6 2. ♖d7+ ♖c5 3. ♘b6#  
1... ♖e4 2. ♖d3+ ♖e5 3. f4#  
1... e5 2. ♖d3+ ♖e6 / ♖e4  
3. ♖d6# / ♖c4#

Cross by the ♖. (Author)

2845 **L. Ljubashevsky & L. Makaronez**

**1. ♘c7!** (2. ♖d8+ ♖:e5 3. ♖:c5#)  
1... ♖d3 2. ♘:f3++ ♖:c4  
3. ♘:d2#  
1... ♖cd3 2. ♘d7+ ♖:c4  
3. ♖:c5#  
1... ♖ed3 2. ♘g4+ ♖:c4  
3. ♖a4#  
1... ♖:c4 2. ♘g6+ ♖d3  
3. ♘:f4#  
1... ♖e2 2. ♖d8+ ♖e3 3. ♘g4#

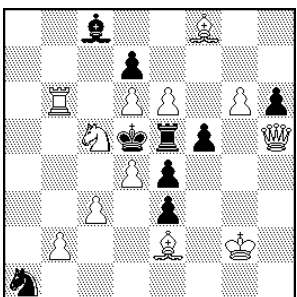
Self-blocks, defences on the  
same square and battery play.  
(Authors)

2846 **G. Doukhan**

1. ♘g5? A (2. ♘g3# C) ♖e4!  
**1. ♘f3!** (2. ♘g5 A ~ 3. ♘g3# C  
2... ♖e4 3. ♘g4# D)  
1... c3 2. d3 B (3. ♘g4# D)  
2... ♖:f6 3. ♘g3# C  
1... ♖g7, ♘g7 2. ♘g3+ C  
2... ♖:f6 3. ♘g5# A  
1... ♖:d5 2. ♘g4+ D ♖e4  
3. ♘g3# C

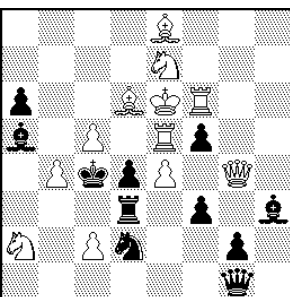
*Adabashev* synthesis with  
two homogeneous pairs of  
variations. I): self-blocks and  
pseudo *Le Grand* theme (C  
& D); II) distant blocks and  
re-appearance of C & D as  
W2 moves. A cycle of 2<sup>nd</sup> &  
3<sup>rd</sup> moves between the threat  
and the last 2 variations (AD/  
DC/CA). Exchange of 2<sup>nd</sup> and  
3<sup>rd</sup> moves (AC-CA). *Urania*  
theme: ♘g5 is W1 move, W2  
move and a threat. (Author)

2847 Gennady Ignatenko  
Taganrog (Russia)



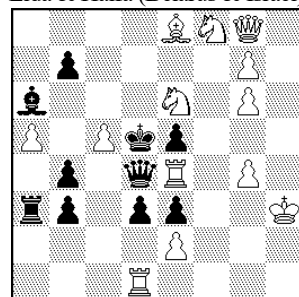
#3 \* 12+9

2848 Zoran Gavrilovski  
Skopje (North Macedonia)



#3 12+11

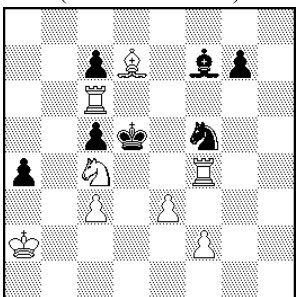
2849 Viktor Volchek &  
Leonid Makaronez  
Lida & Haifa (Belarus & Israel)



#3 13+10

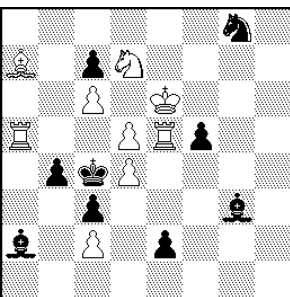
#4-N / JUDGE: ALEKSANDR KUZOVKOV (RUSSIA)

2850 Viktor Volchek &  
Leonid Makaronez  
Lida & Haifa  
(Belarus & Israel)



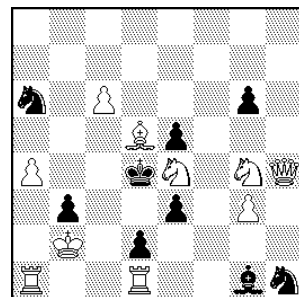
#4 8+7

2851 Zoran Gavrilovski  
Skopje (North Macedonia)



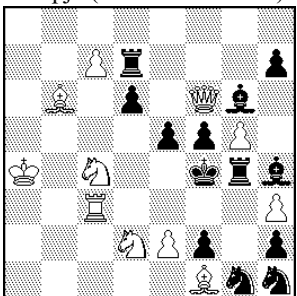
#4 \* v 9+9

2852 Leonid Lyubashevsky  
Rishon-le-Zion (Israel)



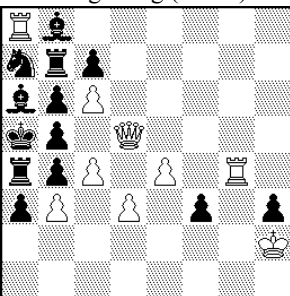
#4 10+9

2853 Zoran Gavrilovski  
Skopje (North Macedonia)



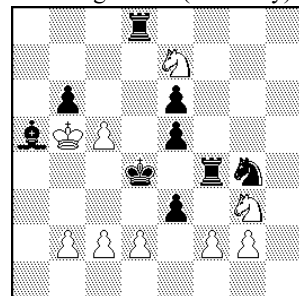
#4 11+13

2854 Boško Milošeski  
Hong Kong (China)



#5 v 9+13

2855 Ralf Krättschmer  
Neckargemünd (Germany)



#8 v 9+9

2847 G. Ignatenko

1...d:e6 2.d7 ~ 3. ♖d6#  
1. ♖g7! (2. ♗:f5! ~ 3. ♗:e5#)  
2... ♗:f5 3.c4# A  
1...d:e6 2. ♗:e4! (3. ♗f6#)  
2... ♗:e4/f:e4/ ♗:e4  
3. ♗f3#/ ♗:e5#/c4# A  
1... ♗c2 2.c4+ A ♗:d4  
3. ♗b3#  
1... ♗a6 2. ♗:a6 ~ 3. ♗c7#

A changed continuation after 1...d:e6, sacrifices by the white pieces, change of the functions of ♗c3. (Author)

2848 Z. Gavrilovski

1. ♗g8! (2. ♗d7+ ♗b5 3. ♗c8#)  
1...f4+ 2. ♗ef5 (3. ♗e5#)  
2... ♗:f5+ 3. ♗:f5#  
1...f:e4+ 2. ♗f5 (3. ♗f6#)  
2... ♗:f5+ 3. ♗:f5#  
1... ♗:b4 2. ♗:f5 (3. ♗e7#)  
2... ♗:f5+ 3. ♗:f5#

Checks to the ♗, triple play on f5, 5 royal battery mates. (Z.G.)

2849 V. Volchek &  
L. Makaronez

1. ♗f7! (2. ♗f4++ ♗:e4x/ ♗:c5  
3. ♗f5#/ ♗c7#)  
1...d:e2 2. ♗:d4+ ♗:e4x/ ♗:c5y  
3. ♗f3#/ ♗de6#  
1... ♗b5 2. ♗d8+ ♗:e4x/ ♗:c5y  
3. ♗f3#/ ♗:b7#  
1... ♗a1, ♗b2, ♗c3 2. ♗f3 ~  
3. ♗d4#  
1... ♗:c5! 2. ♗g5+ A ♗d6  
3. ♗d7#

1... ♗c4!! 2. ♗:e5+ ♗:e5  
3. ♗f5#  
1... ♗:e4!!! 2. ♗d7+ ♗c4  
3. ♗c1# B  
1... ♗c4 2. ♗c1+ B ♗d5  
3. ♗g5# A

I) Black correction by the ♗ with 3 correction moves;  
II) Battery play on the W2 move with *Visserman* changes;  
III) Play by 3 distinct batteries on the mating move. (Authors)

2850 V. Volchek &  
L. Makaronez

1.f3! (2. ♗e4! E ~ 3. ♗b6+A  
3...c:b6 4.c4#, 2... ♗d6/ ♗d4  
3. ♗:d6+ B/ ♗:d4+ C c:d6/  
3...c:d4 4. ♗b6#/e4#)  
1... ♗e6! (♗e8, ♗g6, ♗h5)  
2. ♗b6+A c:b6 3.c4+ ♗e5  
4. ♗:e6#  
1... ♗d6 2. ♗:d6+ B c:d6  
3. ♗e4 A ~ 4. ♗b6# A  
1... ♗g3 2. ♗d4+ C c:d4  
3.e:d4 (4. ♗c5#, ♗e3#)  
3... ♗e4 4. ♗e3# D  
1... ♗:e3 2. ♗:e3+ D ♗e5  
3. ♗:f7 (4. ♗f5#, ♗e6#)  
3...g6 4. ♗e6#

Change of the functions of white moves (A, B, C, D, E). Sacrifices of pieces. Moscow material [≥15 units]. (Authors)

2851 Z. Gavrilovski

1...f4 2. ♗c5+ ♗:d4 3. ♗a5+  
3... ♗c4 4. ♗e4#  
1. ♗e3? (2. ♗c5+ ♗:d4 3. ♗c3#)  
1...b3!

1.d6! (2. ♗ac5+ ♗:d4+  
3. ♗c5++ ♗c4 4. ♗d4#)  
1... ♗f2 2. ♗ec5+ ♗:d4+  
3. ♗c4++ ♗:c4 4. ♗e5#  
1...c:d6 2. ♗b6+ ♗:d4+  
3. ♗d5+ ♗c4 4. ♗e3#

Triple black royal battery play and 3 cross checks, with 2 *Brede* cross-checks. (Z.G.)

2852 L. Ljubashevsky

1. ♗e7! (2. ♗:e5+ ♗d3 3. ♗:d2!  
3...~/:e:d2 4. ♗c4#/ ♗e4#)  
1... ♗d3 2. ♗g5! (3. ♗:d2+  
3...e:d2 4. ♗:d2#) ♗e2 3. ♗:e5  
(4. ♗c4#/ ♗g4#) ♗f2 4. ♗c3#  
1... ♗:d5 2. ♗c3+  
2... ♗d4 3. ♗d6+ ♗c4 4. ♗:e5#  
2... ♗:c6 3. ♗:e5+ ♗b6 4.a5#  
2... ♗c4 3. ♗:e5+ ♗d4 4. ♗d6#

Active sacrifices and play on the same square. (Author)

2853 Z. Gavrilovski

1. ♗:e5! (2. ♗d3+ ♗g3+ 3. ♗b4+  
3... ♗f4/ ♗f3 4. ♗d5#/ ♗:f3#)  
1...d5 2. ♗f3! (3. ♗e5#) ♗g3+  
3. ♗d4+ ♗f4/ ♗f3 4. ♗e6#/ ♗:f3#  
2... ♗e7 3. ♗:d6+ ♗e5 4. ♗:e5#  
1...d:e5 2. ♗e3+ ♗g3+ 3. ♗d4+  
3... ♗f4/ ♗f3 4. ♗:e5#/ ♗:f3#  
1... ♗f7 2.e3+ ♗g3+ 3.e4+  
3... ♗f4/ ♗f3 4. ♗:f5#/ ♗:f3#  
1... ♗:c7 2. ♗:g6+ h:g6 3. ♗:c7  
(4. ♗:d6#) ♗f3 4. ♗:f3#  
1... ♗e7 2. ♗:g6+ h:g6 3. ♗:e7  
(4. ♗e3#) ♗g3/ ♗f3 4. ♗c4#/ ♗:f3#

Fourfold black battery play with 4 cross-checks, of which 3 are *Brede* cross-checks. (Z.G.)

2854 B. Milošeski

1. ♗g5? f2 2. ♗:b5+ ♗:b5!  
3. ♗:b5+ ♗a6  
1. ♗h5! (2. ♗g5 etc.) f2 2. ♗g5  
2...f1 ♗+ 3. ♗:h3 ~ 4. ♗:b5+  
4... ♗:b5, ♗:b5 5. ♗:b5#

Loyd-Turton, surpassed in economy by F. Köhnlein & E. O. Martin, *Münchner Neueste Nachrichten* 1907 (yacpdb.org/#192609) & H. Baumann, 1<sup>st</sup> H.M. *Schweiz. Schachzeitung* 1985 (yacpdb.org/#592774) and in content by S. Schneider, 1<sup>st</sup> Pl. Österreich – Schweiz 1977 (yacpdb.org/#189745). (Z.G.)

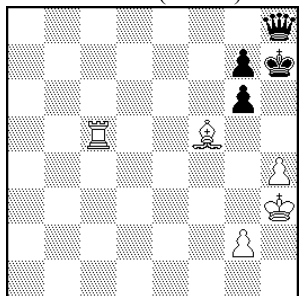
2855 R. Krättschmer

1. ♗c6+? ♗d5! 2.c4+ ♗:c4  
1. ♗e2+! ♗e4 2.d3+! ♗:d3  
3. ♗g3+ ♗d4 4. ♗c6+ ♗d5  
5.c4+! ♗:c4 6. ♗e7+ ♗d4  
7. ♗e2+ ♗e4 8.f3#

Switchbacks by the ♗s and by the ♗ which returns to d4 after a critical move by its piece (*Klasinc* theme), self-block by ♗d8 on d3 and decoy of ♗f4 from guarding f3. (Z.G.)

STUDIES / JUDGE: YOCHANAN AFEK (NETHERLANDS)

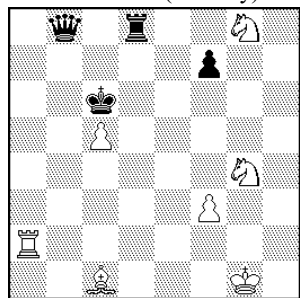
2856 Oleg Pervakov  
Moscow (Russia)



+ 5+4

3... ♖g8 4. ♖g6+ ♗h7 5. ♖a6+ ♖g6 6. ♖a7+ ♗h8 7. ♖a8+; 3... ♗h7 4. ♖g6+ ♗g8 5. ♖e6+; 4.g5+!  
the key. 4... ♗h7 5. ♖g6+ ♗g6 6. ♖g6 ♗g6 7. ♗g4 ♗f7 [7... ♗h7 8. ♗f5! ♗g8 9. ♗g6+]-] 8. ♗h5!  
[8. ♗f5? ♖g6+! 9. ♗e5 ♗e7=] 8... ♗f8! 9. ♗g6 ♗g8 10. h5! [10. ♗f5? ♗f7 11. h5 ♖g6+!] ♗f8  
11. ♗h7! [11. h6? ♗g8! 12. h.g7= model stalemate] 1-0. Correct transition to a pawn endgame.

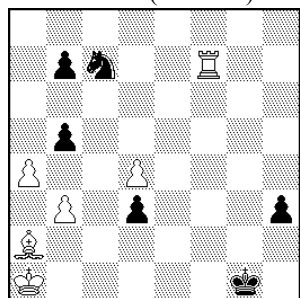
2857 Jarl Henning Ulrichsen  
Trondheim (Norway)



+ 7+4

1. ♗e7+! ♗d7 [1... ♗c5 2. ♖c2+ and White wins the black queen]  
2. ♖c6+ ♗e7 [1... ♗d6 2. ♖f4+ and White wins the black queen;  
2... ♗e8 3. ♗g2 and White has a decisive material advantage  
e.g. 3... ♗b1 (3... ♗c7 4. ♖e2+ leads to the solution) 4. ♖e2]  
3. ♖e2+ ♗f8 4.c7! [4. ♖h6+ ♗g8 5. ♗f6+ ♗h8 6.c7 ♗b6+  
7. ♗g2 ♗:f6 8.c:d8 ♗+ ♗:d8] ♗b6+  
5. ♖e3! [5. ♗g2? ♖c8 and Black has a slight advantage]  
5... ♗c7 [5... ♗b1+ 6. ♗h2! (not 6. ♗g2? ♖c8 7. ♖h6+ ♗g8  
8. ♗f6+ ♗h8 9. ♖e8+ ♖:e8 10. ♖g7+ ♗:g7 11. ♗:e8+ ♗f8  
12. c8 ♗ ♗g6+ with a tablebase draw) 6... ♖c8 (6... ♗h7+  
7. ♖h6+ 7. ♖h6+ ♗g8 8. ♗f6+ ♗h8 9. ♖g2]  
6. ♖h6+ ♗g8 7. ♗f6+ ♗h8 8. ♖e8+ ♖:e8 9. ♖g7+  
9... ♗:g7 10. ♗:e8+ ♗g6 11. ♗:c7 1-0

2858 L'uboš Kekely  
Snežnica (Slovakia)

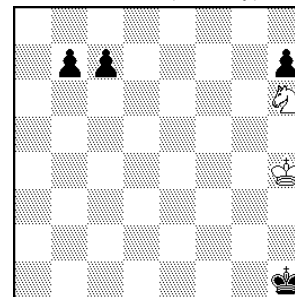


+ 6+6

1. ♖f3 [1. ♖:c7? d2+; 1. ♖g7+? ♗f1 2. ♖b1 d2 3. ♖d3+ ♗f2  
4. ♖f7+ ♗g3 5. ♖c2 h2 6. ♖g7+ ♗f2 7. ♖h7 ♗g1 =]  
1... d2 [1... h2 2. ♖:d3 h1 ♗ 3. ♖d1+ as the main line]  
2. ♖d3 h2 3. ♖:d2 h1 ♗ 4. ♖d1+ ♗g2 5. ♖:h1 ♗:h1  
6.a5! [6. ♗b2? ♗g2 7. ♗a3 ♗f3 8. ♗b4 ♗e4 9. ♗c5 ♗a6+  
10. ♗:b5 ♗:d4 =; 6.a.b5? ♗:b5 7.d5 ♗g2 8. ♗b2 ♗f3 9.b4  
9... ♗e4 10. ♖c4 ♗d6 11. ♗b3 ♗e5 =] 6... ♗g2 7.b4 ♗f3  
8.d5 ♗e8 9.d6! ♗:d6 10. ♖d5+ ♗e3 11. ♗:b7!  
11... ♗d4 [11... ♗:b7 12.a6+] 12.a6! [12. ♗a2? ♗c3 13.a6 ♗c4  
14.a7 ♗b6 15. ♗a3 ♗c4+ 16. ♗a2 ♗b6 positional draw;  
12. ♗b2?? ♗:b7 13.a6 ♗d6 14.a7 ♗c4+ 15. ♗c2 ♗b6+]  
12... ♗c4 13.a7 ♗b6 14. ♗b2 ♗c4 15. ♗a3 1-0

This study was inspired by the 1997 Mankus vs. Fokin game. It participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> T.T. of *TMP* (see above at pp. 13–17).

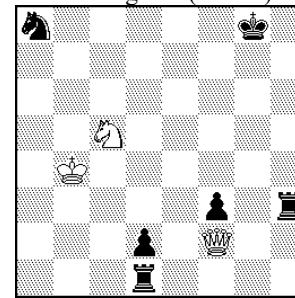
2859 Jarl Henning Ulrichsen  
Trondheim (Norway)



= 2+4

1. ♗g3 it is imperative to confine the black king. 1... ♗g1 [after 1...b5 2. ♗f2 b4 3. ♗f5 b3 4. ♗g3+ ♗h2 5. ♗e2 the white knight stops the black pawns and the black king is imprisoned] 2. ♗f7! the knight seems to move away from the battlefield, but is heading for f3 [the ♗s are too strong after 2. ♗f5? ♗f1 3. ♗f3 ♗e1 4. ♗e3 c5 5. ♗g7 c4 6. ♗d4 b5; or after 2. ♗g4 b5 3. ♗e5 c5] 2...b5 the best try [after e.g. 2... ♗f1 3. ♗d8 b6 (b5) 4. ♗e6 and the ♗ stops the ♗s] 3. ♗g5 [after 3. ♗e5 c5 Black wins (but not 3...b4? 4. ♗f3+ that leads to the solution)] 3...b4 [3...c5 can be met by e.g. 4. ♗e4 c4 5. ♗d6 c3 6. ♗:b5 c2 7. ♗d4 c1 ♗ 8. ♗e2+ (White also draws after 4. ♗e6 and 4. ♗:h7)] 4. ♗f3+ ♗f1 [after e.g. 4... ♗h1 5. ♗f2 c5 6. ♗d2 White draws as the ♗ is once more imprisoned] 5. ♗d4 h5 [♗b4 is lost after 5... ♗e1 6. ♗c2+; and after 5...c5 6. ♗b3 c4 7. ♗d2+ Black loses his c-pawn] 6. ♗c6 [not 6. ♗h4? ♗f2 7. ♗e6 c6 (7...b3 8. ♗c5 b2 9. ♗d3+) 8. ♗c5 ♗e3 9. ♗:h5 ♗d4 10. ♗a4 c5 11. ♗g4 c4 12. ♗f3 ♗d3 13. ♗b2+ ♗c3 14. ♗a4+ ♗b3 15. ♗c5+ ♗c2] 6...b3 7. ♗a5 b2 8. ♗c4 b1 ♗ [8...b1 ♗? offers no chances] 9. ♗d2+ ♗e2 10. ♗:b1 ½-½

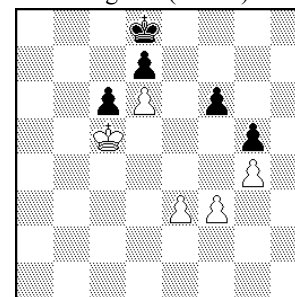
2860 Pavel Arestov  
Krasnogorsk (Russia)



= 3+6

1. ♗b3! ♖b1 [1... ♗c7 2. ♗:d2 =] 2. ♗:d2 ♖:b3+! 3. ♗a4!! [3. ♗:b3? f2+ 4. ♗b2 f1 ♗ 5. ♗d5+ ♗g7 6. ♗d7+ ♗f6 7. ♗d6+ ♗g5 8. ♗d5+ ♗f5+; 3. ♗c4? f2 4. ♗d5+ ♗g7 5. ♗d7+ ♗h6 6. ♗d6+ ♗h5 7. ♗d5+ ♗f4 8. ♗f7+ ♗g3 (♗e3) -, thus 9. ♗:b3??] 3... ♖a3+! [3...f2 4. ♗d8 (♗d5)+ ♗f7 5. ♗d7+ ♗f6 6. ♗d6+ 6... ♗f5 7. ♗d5+ ♗f4 8. ♗f7+! ♗g3 (♗e3) 9. ♗:b3+ =] 4. ♗b4! [4. ♗:a3? f2+ 5. ♗~ f1 ♗+!] ♖b3+ 5. ♗a4 ♗b6+! [5... ♖a3+ 6. ♗b4 – positional draw] 6. ♗:b3 f2+ 7. ♗b4! [7. ♗c2? f1 ♗+!] 7... ♖h4+ 8. ♗b3! [8. ♗b5? f1 ♗+!] 8... ♖h3+ [8...f1 ♗ 9. ♗g5 (♗d8)+ =] 9. ♗b4 f1 ♗ 10. ♗g5+ ♗h8 11. ♗e5+! [11. ♗d8+ =] ♗h7 -] 11... ♗g8 [11... ♗h7 12. ♗f5+! ♗:f5 – stalemate] 12. ♗g5+ ♗f8 (♗f7) 13. ♗f5+! ♗:f5 – stalemate ½-½

2861 Božidar Djordjević &  
Branislav Djurašević  
Belgrade (Serbia)

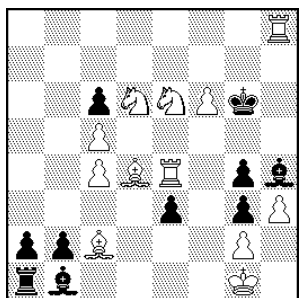


= 5+5

1. ♗d4! [1. ♗b6? ♗e8! +- mutual zugzwang. In this position, if Black is on move, it is only draw! 2... ♗f7 3. ♗c7 ♗e8! (3... ♗c6? 4.f4! c5 5.f5+! ♗f7 6. ♗:d7 c4 7. ♗c8! c3 8.d7 c2 9.d8 ♗ 9...c1 ♗+ 10. ♗c7+!+) 4. ♗b6! =] 1... ♗e8 2.f4! [2. ♗e4? ♗f7 3. ♗f5 c5 one more mutual zugzwang. If Black would be on the move again it would only be a draw. 4...c4 5. ♗e4 ♗e6 6. ♗d4 ♗:d6 7. ♗:c4 =. Due to the lack of tempo, White plays 4.f4 (4. ♗e4? ♗e6+) 4...c4 5. ♗e4 f5+ -] 2...f5! 3.e4!! [3.f.g5? c5+!! (3...f.g4 4.e4 c5+ 5. ♗e3! = the same as in the main variation)] 3...c5+!? 4. ♗e3! 4...f.g4 [4...g.f4+ 5. ♗:f4 f.g4 6. ♗:g4 ♗f7 7. ♗f4 ♗c6 8.e5 c4 (8... ♗d5 9. ♗f5 c4 10. ♗f6! c3 11.e6! =) 9. ♗e4 c3 10. ♗d3 ♗:e5 11. ♗:c3 ♗:d6 12. ♗d4! =] 5.f.g5 c4 6.e5 (or 6.g6) 6...c3 7.g6! c2 8. ♗d2 g3 9.g7! ½-½

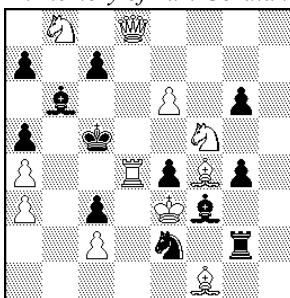
This is the first published study of the first co-author! (Z.G.)

2862 Anatoly Stypochkin  
Tula (Russia)



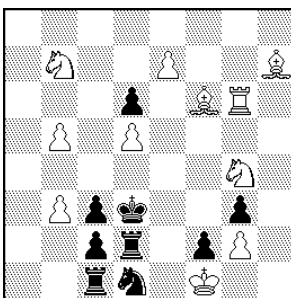
S#2 vvv 12+10

2863 Petko Petkov  
Rousse (Bulgaria)  
In memory of Yuri Gordian



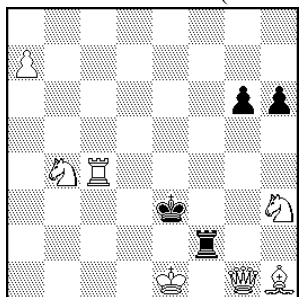
S#3 vv 11+12

2864 Velko Aleksandrov  
Rousse (Bulgaria)



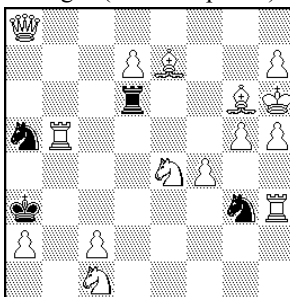
S#4 11+9

2865 Gennady Koziura † &  
Valery Kopyl  
Makukhivka & Poltava (Ukraine)



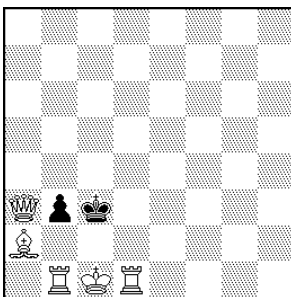
S#6 vv 7+4

2866 Alexander Fica &  
Jiří Jelinek  
Prague (Czech Republic)



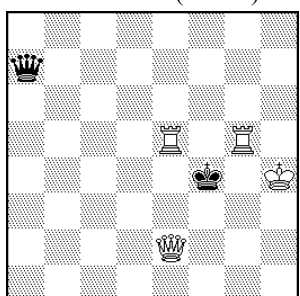
S#6 b) ♖h6→e5 15+4

2867 Anatoly Stypochkin  
Tula (Russia)



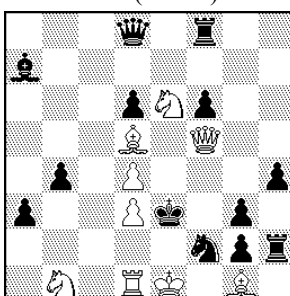
S#9 5+2

2868 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



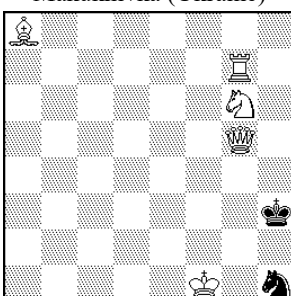
S#11 4+2

2869 Anatoly Stypochkin  
Tula (Russia)



S#12 v 9+13

2870 Gennady Koziura †  
Makukhivka (Ukraine)



S#14 5+2

2862 A. Stypochkin

1. ♕e5? (zugzwang) ♕:f6! x  
1.h:g4? (zugzwang) ♕g5! y  
1. ♖:h4? (zugzwang) g:h3! z  
1. ♖h1! (zugzwang)  
1... ♕:f6 x 2. ♖e5+ ♕:c2#  
1... ♕g5 y 2. ♖:g4+ ♕:c2#  
1... g:h3 z 2. ♖:h4+ ♕:c2#  
1... e2 2. ♖e3+ ♕:c2#

A complete block. The W1 moves of tries obstruct ♖e4's arrival squares. (Author)

2863 P. Petkov

In memory of Yuri Gordian

1. ♖d6+? X c:d6  
2. ♖c4+? A ♖d5+! a  
2. ♖d5+? B ♖c4+! b  
1. ♗f5~? (2. ♖c4+ A ♖:c4+  
3. ♖d4+ ♕:d4#)  
1... ♗:d4! x  
1. ♗g7! (2. ♖c4+ A ♖:c4+ b  
3. ♖d4+ ♕:d4#)  
1... ♗e2~ 2. ♖d6+ X c:d6  
3. ♖d5+ B ♖:d5# a  
1... ♗:d4! x 2. ♖e7+ ♖d5  
3. ♖g5+ ♗f5#  
1... ♗:f4! 2. ♗a6+ ♖c6  
3. ♖d5+ ♗:d5#

1. ♗f5's correction vs. ♗e2's correction.  
2. Logical tries with reversal motives (*Rudenko, Urania*, etc.).  
3. Black masked battery play.  
4. Black self-pin in the threat.

This combination is shown for the first time. (Author)

2864 V. Aleksandrov

1. ♕g7! (2. ♖f6+ ♖d4  
3. ♖h6+ ♖:d5 4. ♗e3+ ♗:e3#)  
3. ♕:e4+ ♖d2 4. ♕h6+ ♗e3#  
2... ♖d2 3. ♕h6+ ♖e3  
4. ♕:e3+ ♗:e3#  
1... ♖e4 2. e8 ♖+ ♖f5  
3. ♗:d6+ ♖f4 4. ♖e3+ ♗:e3#  
2... ♖f4 3. ♕h6+ ♖f5  
4. ♗e3+ ♗:e3#

2865 G. Koziura † &  
V. Kopyl

1. ♗d1? A (zugzwang) g5!  
1... h5 2. ♖g5+ C ♖f4 3. ♕g2~  
4. ♗d5+ ♖d3 5. ♕f1+ ♖:f1#  
1. a8 ♖? B (zugzwang) g5!  
1... h5 2. ♗g5 D h4 3. ♖a2  
3... h3 4. ♖g3+ ♖f3 5. ♖ah2  
5... ♖:g3 6. ♖g1+ ♖:g1#

1. ♗g5! D (zugzwang)  
1... h5 2. a8 ♖ B h4 3. ♖a2 h3  
4. ♖g3+ ♖f3 5. ♖ah2 ♖:g3  
6. ♖g1+ ♖:g1#  
1... h:g5 2. ♖:g5+ C ♖f4  
3. ♗d1 A ♖f2 4. ♖g2+ ♖e3  
5. ♗d5+ ♖d3 6. ♖f1+ ♖:f1#

Changed functions of white moves and chameleon echo ideal mates. (Authors)

2866 A. Fica &  
J. Jelinek

a) 1. d8 ♖ ♖a4 2. ♖:a5+ ♖b4  
3. ♖b6+ ♖c4 4. ♖c8+ ♖c6  
5. ♖a4+ ♖d5 6. ♖f5+ ♗:f5#  
[try: 2. ♖b4+? ♖:b4? x  
3. ♖a5+ ♖c4 4. ♖c8+ ♖d4  
5. ♖ac3+ ♖d5 6. ♖f5+ ♗:f5#  
refutation: 2... ♖a3! y]  
b) 1. ♖a6 ♖a4 2. ♗c3+ ♖a3  
3. ♗b1+ ♖a4 4. ♖b4+ ♖:b4  
5. ♗d3+ ♖a4 6. ♖c4+ ♗:c4#  
[try: 2. ♖b4+? ♖a3? y  
3. ♖b3+ ♖a4 4. ♖c4+ ♗:c4#  
refutation: 2... ♖:b4! x]

Model mates, exchanged defence moves by the ♖ on b4 or a3: a) 2. ♖b4+ x?!/y!; b) 2. ♖b4+ y?!/x!.. (Authors)

2867 A. Stypochkin

1. ♖b2! (zugzwang) ♖c4  
2. ♖a6+ ♖c5, ♖c3 3. ♕b1  
3... ♖b4 4. ♖d5 ♖c3  
5. ♖a5+ ♖c4 6. ♖e5 ♖d4  
7. ♖d2+ ♖c4 8. ♖a4+  
8... ♖c3 9. ♖d1 b2#  
[2... ♖b4 2. ♖d5 ♖c3 4. ♕b1  
4... ♖b4 5. ♖a5+ etc.]

2868 A. Pankratiev

1. ♖h2+ ♖f3 2. ♖g3+ ♖f4  
3. ♖g4++ ♖f3 4. ♖h1+ ♖f2  
5. ♖g2+ ♖f3 6. ♖d2+ ♖f4  
7. ♖h2+ ♖f3 8. ♖d3+ ♖e3  
9. ♖h3 ♖:d3 10. ♖g2+ ♖f4+  
11. ♖g3+ ♖:g3#

Good economy. (Z.G.)

2869 A. Stypochkin

1. ♗f4? (2. ♕:f2+ g:f2#) ♖:d4  
2. ♗e6+ ♖e3 3. ♕f3 (4. ♕:f2+)  
3... ♖h1 4. ♕f3~ ♖h~ 5. ♖c5+  
5... b(♕):c5 6. ♕:f2+ g:f2#  
1... ♖h1!

1. ♕f3! (2. ♕:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h1  
2. ♕g4 (3. ♖:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h~  
3. ♖c5 (4. ♕:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h1  
4. ♖c2 (5. ♖:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h~  
5. ♗d2 (6. ♕:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h1  
6. ♗b3 (7. ♖:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h~  
7. ♖c5 (8. ♕:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h1  
8. ♖f5 (9. ♖:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h~  
9. ♗f4 (10. ♕:f2+ g:f2#) ♖h1  
10. ♖e6+ ♖:f4 11. ♖f5+  
11... ♖e3 12. ♖:f2+ g:f2#

A complex manoeuvre aims to transfer the white knight from b1 to b3, from where the square d4 is guarded, so the main plan becomes possible because after 9. ♗f4 the ♖ cannot escape to d4. (Z.G.)

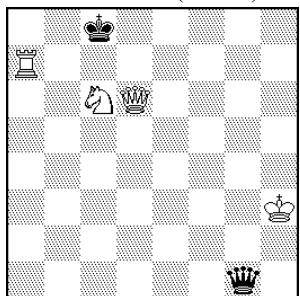
2870 G. Koziura †

1. ♕g2+ ♖h2 2. ♖h5+ ♖g3  
3. ♖g1 ♗f2 4. ♖g5+ ♗g4  
5. ♕a8! ♖h3 6. ♗f4+ ♖g3  
7. ♖b7 ♖f3 8. ♖e7+ ♖g3  
9. ♖e4 ♖f3 10. ♖e1+ ♖g3  
11. ♖h1 ♖f2 12. ♗d3+ ♖g3  
13. ♖g1+ ♖h3 14. ♗f2+ ♗:f2#

Switchbacks by the ♖ on the W4 move and by the ♗ on the B12 move. (Author)

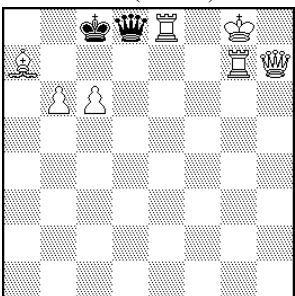
This problem is untypical for the style of Gennady who composes selfmates. (Z.G.)

2871 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



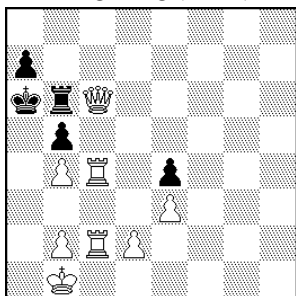
S#15 4+2

2872 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



S#15 \* 7+2

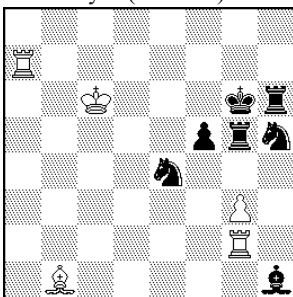
2873 Boško Milošeski  
Hong Kong (China)



S#25 8+5

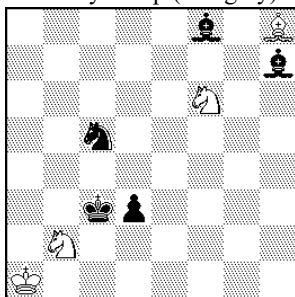
**H#2 / JUDGE: MICHAL DRAGOUN (CZECH REPUBLIC)**

2874 Anatoly Vasylenko  
Kyiv (Ukraine)



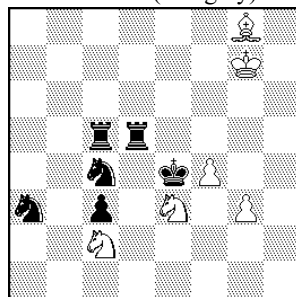
H#2 \* v 5+7

2875 Bela Majoros  
Bakonycszlop (Hungary)



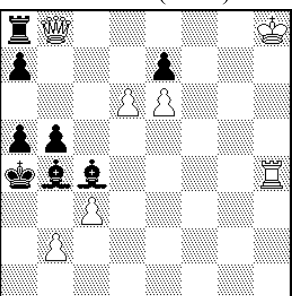
H#2 2 solutions 4+5

2876 Gábor Tar  
Debrecen (Hungary)



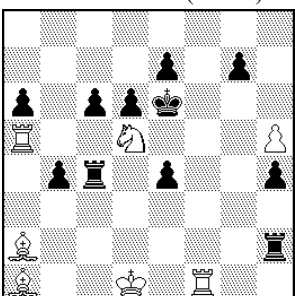
H#2 2 solutions 6+6

2877 Menachem Witztum  
Tel Aviv (Israel)



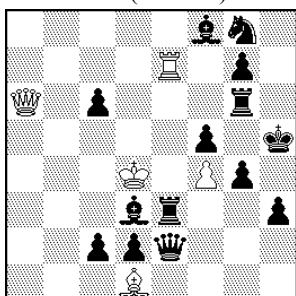
H#2 2 solutions 7+8

2878 Ricardo de M. Vieira  
Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)



H#2 2 solutions 7+11

2879 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



H#2 2 solutions 5+14

2871 A. Pankratiev

1. ♖a8+ ♜b7 2. ♖b8+ ♜a6
3. ♜d4+ ♜a7 4. ♖c7+ ♜a6
5. ♖b6+ ♜a5 6. ♖c5+ ♜a4
7. ♖b4+ ♜a3 8. ♖c3+ ♜a2
9. ♖a4+ ♜b1 10. ♖b3+ ♜c1
11. ♖c4+ ♜d2 12. ♖c3+ ♜d1
13. ♖d3+ ♜e1 14. ♖c1+ ♜f2
15. ♖g3+ ♖:g3#
- [3... ♜a5 4. ♖b6+ ♜a4 5. ♖b5+ 5... ♜a3 6. ♖b4+ ♜a2 7. ♖c4+ 7... ♜a1 8. ♖a8+ ♜b1 9. ♖b3+ 9... ♜c1 10. ♖c8+ ♜d2 11. ♖c3+ ♜d1 13. ♖c1+ 13... ♜f2 14. ♖g3+ ♖:g3#]

2872 A. Styopochkin

- 1... ♖:e8#
1. ♜b8! ♜:b8 2. ♖h2+ ♜a8
3. b7+ ♜a7 4. b8 ♖+ ♜a6
5. ♖a2+ ♖a5 6. ♖a7+ ♜b5
7. ♖b3+ ♖b4 8. ♖g5+ ♜:c6
9. ♖e6+ ♖d6 10. ♜h8! ♖:e6
11. ♖c5+ ♜d7 12. ♖b7+ ♜d8
13. ♖bc7+ ♜e8 14. ♖f8+! ♜:f8
15. ♖g8+ ♖:g8#
- [7... ♜:c6 8. ♖c8+ ♖c7 9. ♖a6+ 9... ♜e5 10. ♖bb6+ ♜d5 11. ♖d3+ 11... ♜e5 12. ♖bd4+ ♜e6 13. ♖e8+ ♖e7 14. ♖h7 ♖:e8# 8... ♜d6 9. ♖d7+ ♜e5 10. ♖e3+ 10... ♜f6 11. ♖ed4+ ♖e5 12. ♖c5 ♖:d4 13. ♖g6+ ♖:g6 14. ♖g7+ ♖:g7#]
- [2... ♜c8 3. ♜h7 ♖:e8 4. b7+ 4... ♜d8 5. ♖d6+ ♖d7 6. c7+ ♜e8 7. b8 ♖+ ♖c8 8. ♖g8+ ♜f7 9. ♖f8+ ♖:f8 10. ♖d5+ ♜f6 11. ♖b2+ ♜e7 12. ♖e2+ ♜f6 13. ♖de5+ ♜f7 14. ♖g7+ ♖:g7# 11... ♜e8 12. ♖b5+ ♜e7 13. ♖d7+ ♜f6 14. ♖g7+ ♖:g7# 7... ♖d8 8. ♖e7+ ♜f8 9. ♖e5+ 9... ♜f7 10. ♖e7+ ♖:e7 11. ♖g8+ 11... ♜f6 12. ♖g7+ ♖:g7#]

*Fata morgana* with several actual short lines. (Z.G.)

2873 B. Milošeski

1. ♖c8+! ♖b7 2. ♖4c3 ♜b6
3. ♖c5+ ♜a6 4. ♖c6+ ♖b6
5. ♖c8+ ♖b7 6. ♖c1 ♜b6
7. ♖c5+ ♜a6 8. ♖c6+ ♖b6
9. ♖c8+ ♖b7 10. ♖d1 ♜b6
11. ♖c5+ ♜a6 12. ♖c6+ ♖b6
13. ♖c8+ ♖b7 14. ♖cc1 ♜b6
15. ♖c5+ ♜a6 16. ♖c6+ ♖b6
17. ♖c8+ ♖b7 18. ♜c2 ♜b6
19. ♖c5+ ♜a6 20. ♖c6+ ♖b6
21. ♖c8+ ♖b7 22. ♖b1 ♜b6
23. ♖c5+ ♜a6 24. ♖c6+ ♖b6
25. ♜c1 ♖:c6#

*Milosheski* theme – mate on a square vacated on the W1 or B1 move. (Author)

2874 A. Vasylenko

- 1... g4 2. ♜ef6! [♜hf6?] g:f5#
1. f4 g:f4 2. ♜hf6! [♜ef6??]
- 2... ♖:g5#
1. ♜f4 g:f4 2. ♜ef6 ♖:g5??

Pin mates, dual avoidance. (Z.G.)

A subtle choice of play by identical black pieces to one square. (Evgeny Gavryliv)

2875 B. Majoros

1. d2 ♜a2 2. ♜c2 ♜d5#
1. ♜b3+ ♜b1 2. ♜b4 ♜e4#

Evgeny Gavryliv suggested to improve the position with the following changes: - ♖b8, + ♜c5, ♖f8= ♜f8. (Z.G.)

2876 G. Tar

1. ♜:c2 ♜h7+ 2. ♜d4 ♜:c2#
1. ♜:e3 ♜:d5+ 2. ♜f5 ♜:e3#

Passive *Zilahi* and 2 model mates. (Z.G.)

Complete analogy of play with delayed black sacrifices in a nice meredith. (E.G.)

2877 M. Witztum

1. ♜:d6 ♖d8 2. ♜b8 ♖d1#
1. ♜:e6 ♖g8 2. ♜c8 ♖a2#

Annihilation of the white pawns by each of the half-pinned black bishops which then unpin the white queen. (Z.G.)

Ambush by the white queen with *Pelle* moves. This not a complicated concept, but it is clear and understandable. (E.G.)

2878 R. de M. Vieira

1. ♖c3 ♜f4+ 2. ♜f6 ♜g2#
1. ♖c5 ♜c3+ 2. ♜e5 ♜e2#

An excellent strategy with anticipatory (once masked) self-pinning by the black c-rook, white battery creation and battery pin mates. (Z.G.)

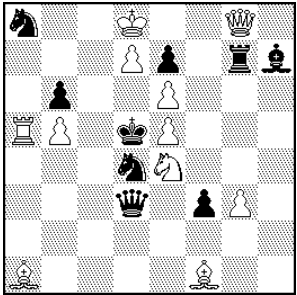
An unrepeatable idea with *bi-valve* on the 1<sup>st</sup> move. Sharp and impressive battery play. (E.G.)

2879 E. Gavryliv

1. ♜:a6 [♜~?] ♖:e3
2. ♖b5 [♖~?] ♖:h3#
1. ♖:e7 [♖~?] ♖:d3
2. ♖e6 [♖~?] ♖:h3#

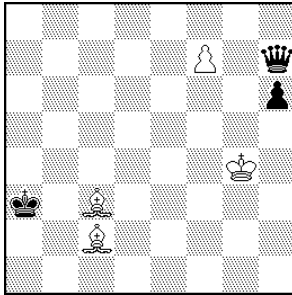
Hideaway with capture of a dormant white officer (*Zilahi*) on the B1 move and further hideaway on the B2 move (motivated by the need to open the d1-h5 line for the purpose of pinning the ♜g4) is a part of *Bristol* in each phase. Exchanged functions of ♖e3/♜d3 (captured/line opening) and of ♖a6/♖e7 (captured/mating), as well as reciprocal bicolour captures of the black and white line pieces. (Z.G.)

2880 Vitaly Medintsev  
Krasnodar (Russia)



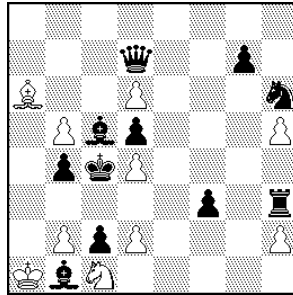
H#2 2 solutions 11+9

2881 Misha Shapiro  
Ma'ale Adumim (Israel)



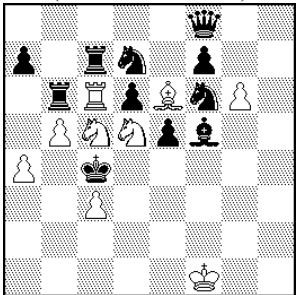
H#2 3 solutions 4+3

2882 Zoltán Labai &  
Miroslav Svítek  
Velký Kýr & Melník  
(Slovakia)



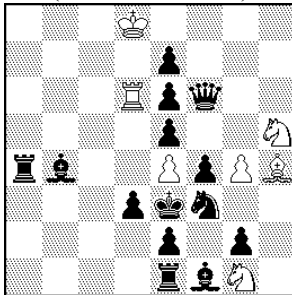
H#2 3 solutions 10+11

2883 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
& Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv & Khabarovsk  
(Ukraine & Russia)



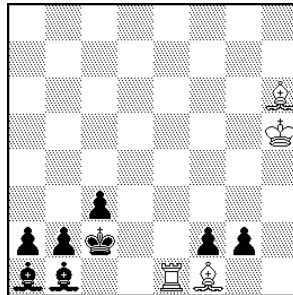
H#2 4 solutions 9+11

2884 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
& Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv & Khabarovsk  
(Ukraine & Russia)



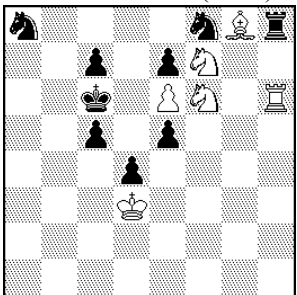
H#2 4 solutions 7+14

2885 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



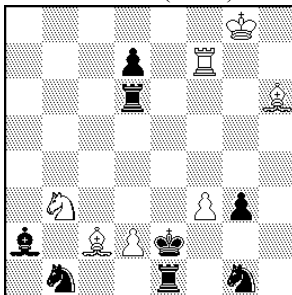
H#2 b) + ♠d2 4+8

2886 Misha Shapiro  
Ma'ale Adumim (Israel)



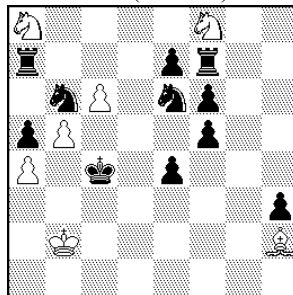
H#2 b) ♖c6↔♜e7 6+9

2887 Menachem Witztum  
Tel Aviv (Israel)



H#2 b) ♜e1→f2 7+8

2888 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



H#2 2 solutions 7+11  
b) ♜a7↔♜h3

2880 V. Medintsev  
1. ♖:b5 ♙d3 2. ♚:e5 ♜:b5#  
1. ♚c4 ♙c3 2. ♜:e6+ ♖:e6#

Sacrifices by black pieces and two pin model mates. (Z.G.)

I expected more from this amount of white material. Heterogeneous play with unpredictable endings and change of functions of two pairs of white pieces. (E.G.)

2881 M. Shapiro  
1. ♖:c2 f8♖+ 2. ♚a4 ♖b4#  
1. ♖g8+ f:g8 2. ♚a2 ♜a8#  
1. ♖d3 f8 2. ♖d2 ♜a8#

A peculiar miniature with white promotions, but black play is varied: capture of a white piece, sacrifice by the ♖ and hideaway. (Z.G.)

Concurrent mates on a8, which do not add much to the content. (E.G.)

2882 Z. Labai &  
M. Svítek  
1. ♜f5 h6 2. ♜:d4 d3#[b3?]  
1. ♜h4 h3 2. ♜:d4 b3#[d3?]  
1. ♖g4 d7 2. ♖:d4 b6#

Black pieces first allow the white pawns to make a waiting move by arriving on a square that was just vacated by the respective black piece, and the latter self-blocks the d4 square on the B2 move. (Z.G.)

An interesting combination of replacement of blocking pieces and white waiting moves. The third solution stands out somewhat from the general context. (E.G.)

2883 A. Pankratiev &  
E. Gavrliv  
1. f:g6 ♙:f5 2. ♚:d5 ♙e6#  
1. ♜cb7 ♜:b6 2. ♚:c5 ♜c6#  
1. ♙:e6 ♜:d7+ 2. ♚:d5 ♜:f6#  
1. ♜c6 ♜:f6+ 2. ♚:c5 ♜:d7#

A “Helpmate of the Future” that combines familiar motifs: I) switchback by a white line battery piece after capture of a front battery piece by the black king; II) complete destruction of a white battery and play by each white knight on d7/f6 or f6/d7. After 1. ♜cb7 the white knight on d5 serves merely as a shield. The repetition of the B2 moves is unavoidable. (Z.G.)

2884 A. Pankratiev &  
E. Gavrliv  
1. ♜:g1 ♜:f6 A 2. ♚f3 ♜:d3#B  
1. ♜:h4 ♜:d3+ B 2. ♚f2 ♜h3#C  
1. ♙d2 ♜h3 C 2. ♜:e4 ♙f2#D  
1. ♚:e4 ♙f2 D 2.e:d6+ ♜:f6# A

A cycle of white 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> moves. (Authors)  
Cyclic moves are achieved in a rather heavy setting and with unmatched black play. The problem's construction is not good, because in three solutions a white aristocratic piece is not used: ♜h5 after 1. ♜:h4 and 1. ♙d2; ♜g1 after 1. ♚:e4. (Z.G.)

2885 E. Gavryliv  
a) 1. f:e1 ♜ ♙b5 2. ♜d3 ♙a4#  
b) 1. g:f1 ♜ ♜c3 2. ♜d1 ♜:c3#

Passive *Zilahi*, self-blocks by black promoted pieces and two model mates. (Author)

An economical setting with popular content. (Z.G.)

2886 M. Shapiro  
a) 1. ♜:g8! ♜:g8 2. ♚d5 ♜:e7#  
[1.~? ♜g8??]  
b) 1. ♜:h6 ♜:h6 2. ♚d6 ♜f5#  
[1.~? ♜h6??]

The black rook has to be sacrificed in order to allow the respective white knight to arrive on a square from which the black king can be mated. (Z.G.)

2887 M. Witztum  
a) 1. ♜:f3 ♜:f3 2. ♜e6 ♜d4#  
b) 1. ♜:d2 ♜:d2 2.d5 ♜e7#

Black active sacrifice, unpin of a white half-pinned piece and exchange of functions of ♜f7/♜b3: guarding/mating and *vice versa*. (Author)

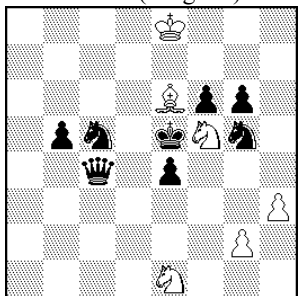
2888 E. Gavryliv  
a) 1. ♚c5 ♚b3 2. ♜d5 ♜:e6#A  
1. ♚d5 ♚c3 2. ♜c5 ♜:b6#B  
b) 1. ♚c5 ♜:b6 B 2. ♚:b6 ♜d7#  
1. ♚d5 ♜:e6 A 2. ♚:e6 ♜c7#

The initial moves of the ♚ perform different functions in each pair of solutions: in a) c5 and d5 are arrival squares; in b) c5 and d5 are transit squares on the black monarch's trip to b6 or e6, where he arrives by capturing the respective white knight. The mates in the 1<sup>st</sup> pair of solutions reappear as the W1 moves in the 2<sup>nd</sup> pair. (Author)

The moves by the ♜s change their functions: giving a mate in a); guard of square/s in b). The 1<sup>st</sup> twin shows exchange of arrival squares on B1 & B2; while the 2<sup>nd</sup> twin combines *Zilahi* and *Kniest* themes. (Z.G.)

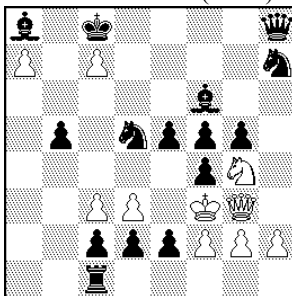


2889 Velko Aleksandrov  
Rousse (Bulgaria)



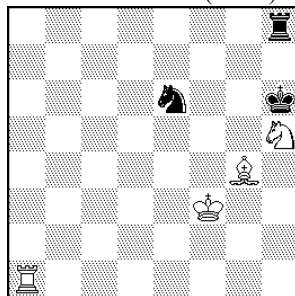
H#2 b) ♖e1→d2 6+8  
c) ♜f6→d6

2890 Misha Shapiro  
Ma'ale Adumim (Israel)



H#2 b) ♜c8↔♜d5 10+15  
c) ♜c8→d1 & 2 solutions

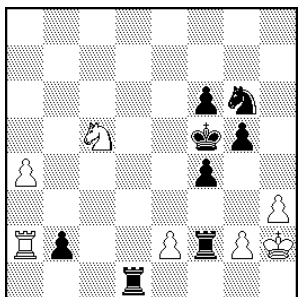
2891 Misha Shapiro  
Ma'ale Adumim (Israel)



H#2 b) -♜e6 4+3  
c)=b) & -♜h8  
d)=c) & -♜h5  
e)=d) & -♜g4

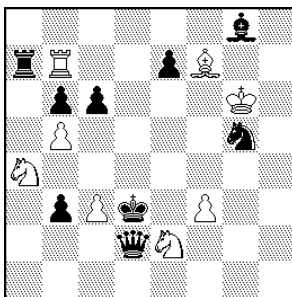
H#2½-3 / JUDGE: VLADISLAV NEFYODOV (RUSSIA)

2892 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



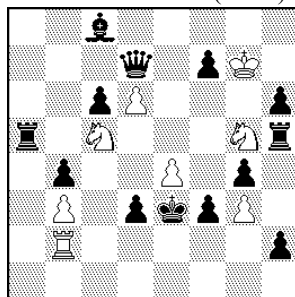
H#2½ 2 solutions 7+8

2893 Ricardo de M. Vieira  
Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)



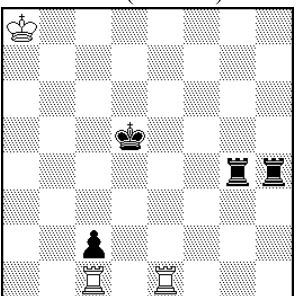
H#2½ 2 solutions 8+9

2894 Emanuel Navon &  
Menachem Witztum  
Holon & Tel Aviv (Israel)



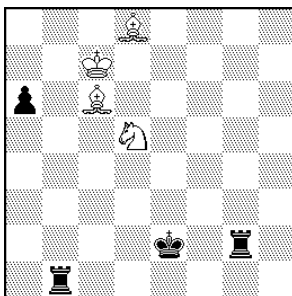
H#2½ 4 solutions 8+13

2895 Evgeny Gavryliv &  
Ivan Soroka  
Lviv (Ukraine)



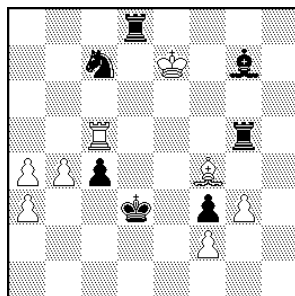
H#2½ b) ♜c2→e2 3+4

2896 Nikola Stolev  
Skopje (North Macedonia)



H#3 2 solutions 4+4

2897 Vitaly Medintsev  
Krasnodar (Russia)



H#3 2 solutions 8+7

2889 V. Aleksandrov

- a) 1. ♜c:e6 ♜d3+ 2. ♜:f5 g4#
- b) 1. ♜d5 ♜c4+ 2. ♜:e6 ♜g7#
- c) 1. ♜g:e6 ♜f3+ 2. ♜d5 ♜e7#

Compass theme (South 2-3, 3) and three model mates. (Author)

The white passive sacrifices improve the impression and lead to model mates. (E.G.)

2890 M. Shapiro

- a) 1. ♜b7 a8 ♜ 2. f:g4+A ♜:g4#
- b) 1. ♜d6 c8 ♜ 2. f:g3 B ♜:e3#
- c) 1. f:g4+A ♜:g4 2. e1 ♜ ♜f3#  
1. f:g3 B f:g3 2. e1 ♜ ♜f2#

Passive *Zilahi* in a) and b). B2 moves from these twins become B1 moves in the two solutions of the last twin. The problem's content is original, but the form is far from ideal because of the bad economy and heavy twinning. (Z.G.)

A heavy position and non-identical twins, of which one involves permutation of the position of the black king and another black piece. Rich and original content. However, the author often prefers content over form. (E.G.)

2891 M. Shapiro

- a) 1. ♜f4 ♜:f4 2. ♜h7 ♜a6#
- b) 1. ♜g6 ♜a7 2. ♜h6 ♜g7#
- c) 1. ♜h7 ♜f5+ 2. ♜h8 ♜a8#
- d) 1. ♜g5 ♜a5+ 2. ♜h4 ♜h5#
- e) 1. ♜h5 ♜f4 2. ♜h4 ♜h1#

*Striptease* theme in a very light setting, with four model mates. (Z.G.)

I have never seen a *Striptease* theme with 5 twins in miniature! (E.G.)

2892 A. Styopochkin

- 1... ♜a1 2. b:a1 ♜ e3  
3. ♜e5 e4#
- 1... ♜a3 2. ♜:e2 ♜f3  
3. ♜e5 g4#

Twice different prevention of en passant capture of the white pawns. (Author)

2893 R. de M. Vieira

- 1... ♜:b3 A 2. ♜:b3 ♜:e7 B  
3. ♜c2 ♜b2#
- 1... ♜:e7 B 2. ♜:e7 ♜:b3 A  
3. ♜e3 ♜f4#

The W1 and W2 moves are played in reversed order and exchange functions: clearance and elimination of flight. The mating positions deceive us as it seems that the ♜ and ♜ moved to c2 or e3 to block. Given that ♜ from b3 or ♜ from e7 guard a flight square after the W1 move, the real motivation is exclusively to close the respective line of the ♜. (Author)

*Bukovina* theme with self-blocking interferences. (Z.G.)

2894 E. Navon &  
M. Witztum

- 1... ♜ge6 2. ♜[h]e5 ♜d4  
3. ♜e6 ♜f5#
- 1... ♜ce6 2. ♜[a]e5 ♜d4  
3. ♜e6 ♜f5#
- 1... ♜h3 2. ♜[h]d5 ♜f2  
3. ♜d4 ♜d1#
- 1... ♜a4 2. ♜[a]d5 ♜c3  
3. ♜d4 ♜d1#

Play by the white and black pieces of the same type on the same squares (♜s on the B2 move; ♜s on the W3 move). In the 1<sup>st</sup> pair of solutions there is white play on e6 and bicolor play on e6. (Z.G.)

2895 E. Gavryliv & I. Soroka

- a) 1... ♜e6 2. ♜c4 ♜ce1  
3. ♜hd4 ♜1e5#
- b) 1... ♜c6 2. ♜d4 ♜ec1  
3. ♜he4 ♜1c5#

Reciprocal square vacation/arrival with play from/to c1/e1 in a) and from/to e1/c1 in b). The impure black Bristol is nice, but the white moves and model mates are symmetrical. (Z.G.)

2896 N. Stolev

1. ♜e1 ♜g5 2. ♜d1 ♜a4+  
3. ♜c2+ ♜c3#
1. ♜bg1 ♜h4 2. ♜f1 ♜b5+  
3. ♜e2 ♜e3#

The eminent FIDE Master of chess compositions presents beautiful echo pin mates and a complete harmony of play in a well-constructed meredith that matches his composing style. Pin is one of Nikola's beloved motifs in helpmates, the other one is sacrifice by white pieces including *Zilahi*. (Z.G.)

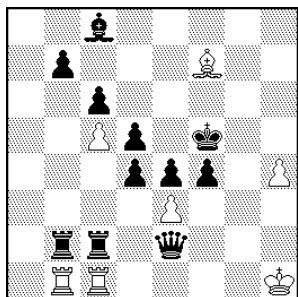
2897 V. Medintsev

1. ♜d4 ♜e5 2. ♜d5 b5  
3. ♜c5 ♜e3#
1. ♜e4 ♜d6 2. ♜e5 g4  
3. ♜f4 ♜:c4#

This is probably a *letzform* of a well-known idea with some new effects. Compare it with Aleksandr Semenenko and Valery Semenenko, Jorge Lois – 60 JT 2006 (P1074091 in the Problem Database (PDB)) and Christer Jonsson, Pr. *Šachova skladba* 2004 (P1073715 in PDB) which has 3+10 pieces. (Author)

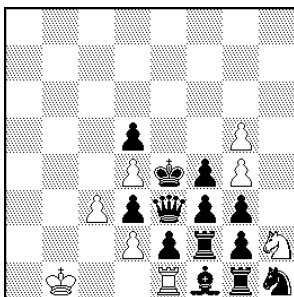
Anticipatory self-pin. (Z.G.)

2898 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



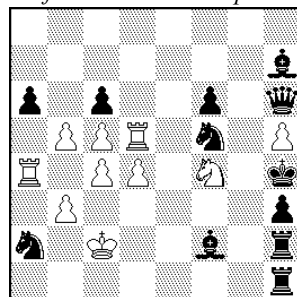
H#3 2 solutions 7+11

2899 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



H#3 \* b) ♖e3=♘e3 ♘8+13

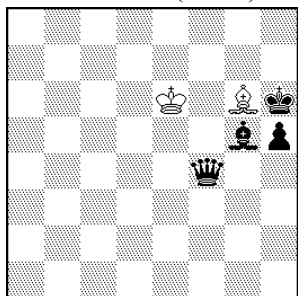
2900 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)  
After J. Lois & J. Kapros



H#3 b) ♘c4→b4 10+12

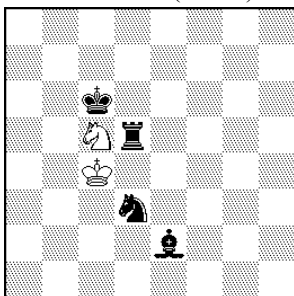
**H#3½-N / JUDGE: CHRISTOPHER JONES (GREAT BRITAIN)**

2901 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



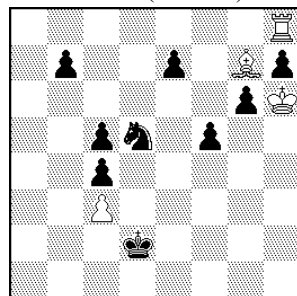
H#3½ 2 solutions 2+4

2902 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



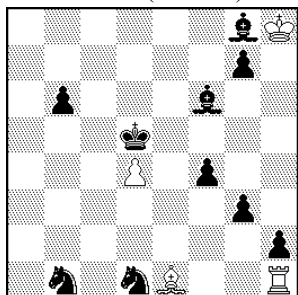
H#4 2 solutions 2+4

2903 Yuri Bilokin  
Poltava (Ukraine)



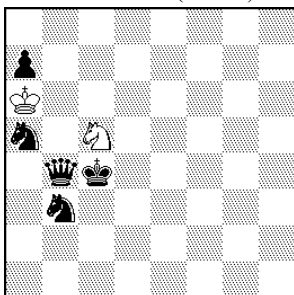
H#4 2 solutions 4+9

2904 Yuri Bilokin  
Poltava (Ukraine)



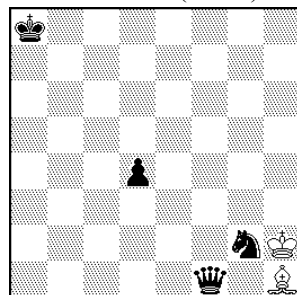
H#4 2 solutions 4+10

2905 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



H#4½ \* 2+5

2906 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



H#7½ 2+4

2898 E. Gavryliv

1. ♖b6 ♖b5 2.c:b5 ♖g1  
3. ♖f6 ♖g5#

1. ♖:c5 ♖c4 2.d:c4 ♖f1  
3. ♖e5 ♖:f4#

Bicolour *Bristol*, ambush and *Zilahi* theme. (Z.G.)

2899 E. Gavryliv

a) 1... ♘:f3 2. ♖:d2 g6 3. ♖e3  
3... ♘g5#

1. ♖:d2 ♖:e2+A 2. ♖:e2  
2... ♘:f3 B 3. ♖e3 ♘:d2#

b) 1.f:e3 ♘:f3 B 2. ♖:f3  
2... ♖:e2 A 3. ♖f4 ♖:e3#  
1.?? g6 2.?? ♘:f3 3.?? ♘g5#

Black sacrifices, *Zilahi* and *Bukovina* themes. (Author)

2900 E. Gavryliv

a) 1. ♜:d4++ ♘b2 2. ♜:b5  
2...c:b5 3. ♘g3+ ♘g2#

b) 1. ♘:d4+ ♘d3 2. ♘:c5  
2...b:c5 3. ♜g3+ ♘g6#

Active black sacrifices serve to activate a white third-battery without a repeated W2 move and concurrent B2/B3 moves that exist in the forerunner:

Jorge Lois & Jorge Kapros,  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Csák-Majoros-Pásztor* 2023



H#3 2 solutions 9+10

1. ♜c:e3+ ♘g1 2. ♜g4 f:g4  
3. ♜b2+ ♘b1#

1. ♜d:e3+ ♘e2 2. ♜g4 f:g4  
3. ♜b2+ ♘b5#

2901 A. Pankratiev

1... ♘f7! 2.h4 ♘e8 3. ♖g4+A  
3... ♘f7 C 4. ♜h5 B ♘g7# D

1... ♘f5 2.h4 ♘f7 C 3. ♜h5 B  
3... ♘g7 D 4. ♖g4 A ♘g6#

An interesting miniature with *Indian* battery creation in one solution and switchback by the white bishop in the other one. I like the exchange of B3 and B4 moves, but the shift of 2 white moves is incidental and also thematically irrelevant. The repetition of the B2 move is unfortunate, but it is still acceptable. (Z.G.)

2902 A. Pankratiev

1. ♜b4+ ♘c3 2. ♜b5 ♘e4  
3. ♜a4 ♘b2 4. ♖a5 ♘c3#

1. ♖d8 ♘e6 2. ♜b7 ♘b5  
3. ♜a8 ♘a6 4. ♖b8 ♘c7#

A white minimal miniature with two model mates after lively matching play by both kings. I like the absence of white pawns, but it is still a pity that a black bishop had to be used in order to prevent two cooks. (Z.G.)

2903 Y. Bilokin

1. ♜b4 c:b4 2.c3 ♖a8  
3.c2 ♘c3+ 4. ♜c1 ♖a1#

1.b5 ♘f8 2. ♖:c3 ♘:e7  
3. ♜b4 ♘:c5+ 4. ♜a5 ♖a8#

Corner-to-corner play by the white rook, play on the same square on the B2 move and two model mates. (Author)

Unmatched play ends in two echo mates on different sides of the chessboard. Perhaps its content and economy can be improved?! (Z.G.)

2904 Y. Bilokin

1. ♖c4 ♘c3 2. ♜b3 ♖:d1  
3. ♜a2 ♖:b1 4. ♘b3 ♖a1#

1. ♖:d4 ♘a5 2. ♘c4 ♖e1  
3.h1 ♘ ♖e3 4. ♘hd5 ♘:b6#

Model mates. (Author)  
Exchanged roles of white line pieces: guarding/mating and *vice versa*. Model mates after poorly matched play are a good addition to the content. (Z.G.)

2905 A. Pankratiev

1...? 2. ♖d2 ♘b7 3. ♜b4 ♘:a5  
4. ♜a3 ♘b5 5. ♖a2 ♘c4#

1... ♘a7 2. ♜b5 ♘d3 3. ♜c4  
3... ♘b7! 4. ♜a4+ ♘a6  
5. ♜a3 ♘b2#

One model mate and one ideal mate. (Author)

Two near-echo mates in a light setting. The use of set play is attractive and adds an element of paradox to the otherwise passably good content. (Z.G.)

2906 A. Pankratiev

1... ♘g3 2. ♖b1 ♘f3 3. ♜e3  
3... ♘g2! 4. ♜c2 ♘e4

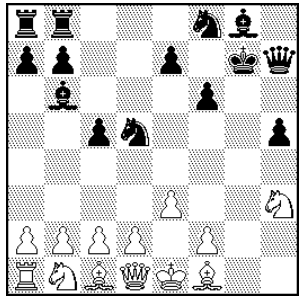
5. ♜a3+ ♘d5 6. ♜b5 ♘c6  
7. ♜a7+ ♘c7+ 8. ♖b7+  
8... ♘:b7#

Consecutive checks on the last two moves, a tempo W2 move, a long trip by the ♘, interference of a black line leads to a nice model mate. (Author)

The concept is familiar and the content is obvious, but I hope that there is no total anticipation. (Z.G.)

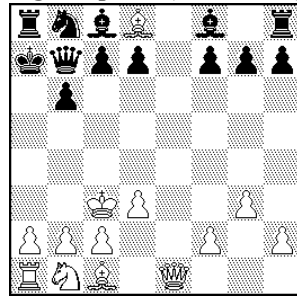
RETROS (2022-2024) & FAIRIES / JUDGE: HANS GRUBER (GERMANY)

2907 Kostas Prentos  
Albuquerque (USA)



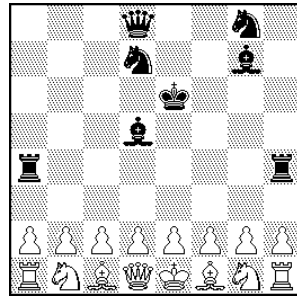
PG17½ 13+14

2908 Theodoros Giakatis,  
Kostas Prentos & Themis  
Argirakopoulos (Greece/USA)



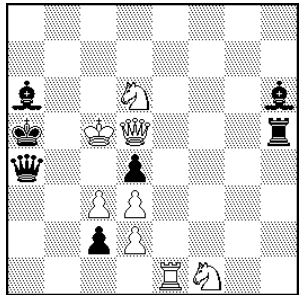
PG11½ Point Reflection 13+13

2909 Kostas Prentos  
Albuquerque (USA)



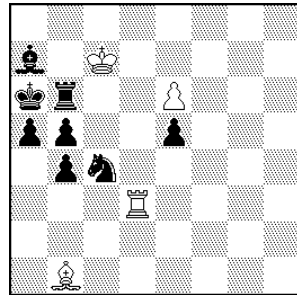
PG10½ Take&Make 16+8  
2 solutions

2910 Gábor Tar  
Debrecen (Hungary)



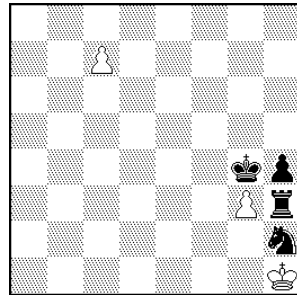
HS#3 2 solutions 8+7

2911 Gábor Tar  
Debrecen (Hungary)



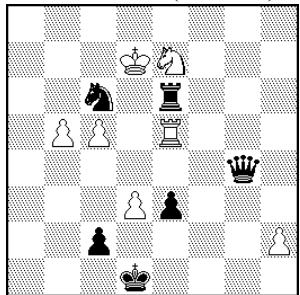
HS#3½ b) ♠b5→d7 4+8

2912 Gábor Tar  
Debrecen (Hungary)



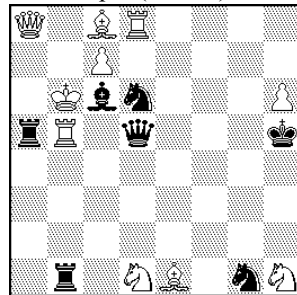
HS#4 2 solutions 3+4

2913 Mihai Cioflanca  
Piatra-Neamt (Romania)



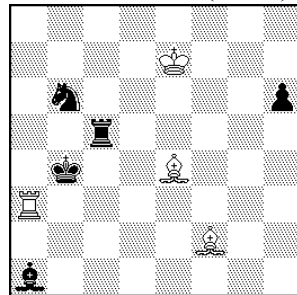
HS#4½ 2 solutions 7+6

2914 Ivo Tominić  
Split (Croatia)



H#2 Circe 10+7  
2 solutions

2915 Pierre Tritten  
Pézilla la Rivière (France)



H#2 Take&Make 4+5  
2 solutions

2907 K. Prentos

1.h4 ♖f6 2.h5 ♘d5 3.h6 f6  
4.h:g7 h5 5.g8 ♘ ♘h6 6.g4  
6...♙e3 7.g5 ♙b6 8.g6 c5  
9.g7 ♙f7 10.♙h3 ♙:g8  
11.♙:d7 ♙h7 12.♙b5  
12...♙e6 13.♘h3 ♘d7  
14.♙g1 ♙hb8 15.g8 ♘  
15...♙f8 16.♙g7+ ♙:g7  
17.e3 ♙:g8 18.♙fl

*Proofgame:* a game starting from the initial position and after a stipulated number of moves the game ends in the diagram position.

Two *Schnoebelen* knights are captured on the same square. Roundtrip of the ♙fl. (Author)

2908 T. Giakatis,  
K. Prentos &  
T. Argirakopoulos

1.g3 a6 2.♙h3 a:e2 3.d3 b6  
4.♙c3 e1 ♙+5.♙d2 ♙b7  
6.♘f3 ♙d8 7.♙:e1 e:e1 ♙  
8.♙e6 ♙c6 9.♙e7 ♙a7  
10.♙d8 ♙e7 11.♘:e1  
11...♙:e1 12.♙:e1

*Point Reflection:* when two pieces of any colour stand on the squares which are symmetrical with respect to the central point of the chessboard (e.g. b3-g6), they exchange their roles (power of movement). A pawn (or a pawn-reflected piece) on the first rank cannot move by itself.

Two *Schnoebelen* & 1 *anti-Pronkin* knights are captured on the same square (e1). Partially tested. (Authors)

2909 K. Prentos

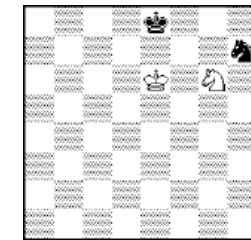
1.♘c3 c5 2.♘d5 c4  
3.♘:e7-e6 ♙e7 4.♘:g7-g5  
4...♙g7 5.♘:h7-h6 ♙e6

6.♘:f7-f6 ♙h4 7.♘:d7-d6  
7...♙d7 8.♘:b7-b5 ♙b7  
9.♘:a7-a5 ♙d5 10.♘:c4-c3  
10...♙aa4 11.♘b1  
1.♘f3 h5 2.♘e5 h4  
3.♘:d7-d6+ ♙d7 4.♘:b7-b5  
4...♙b7 5.♘:a7-a6 ♙d5  
6.♘:c7-c6 ♙a4 7.♘:e7-e5+  
7...♙e6 8.♘:f7-f5 ♙d7  
9.♘:g7-g6 ♙g7 10.♘:h4-h3  
10...♙hh4 11.♘g1

*Take&Make:* having captured, a unit must immediately, as part of its move, make a non-capturing move in imitation of the captured unit from the captured square. If no such step is available, the capture is illegal. A pawn can promote when it reaches the last rank on the Make part of its move.

Two distinct solutions show different ♘-capturing of all the ♙s before returning home. Complete white Homebase. It is instructive to see why the symmetrical tries 1.♘c3 a5? and 1.♘f3 f5? do not work. (Author)

1989v B. Koludrović



-1 & h=1 2+2

b) ♙h7→g2, c) ♙h7→b8  
d) ♘g6→f5

a) -1. ♙f6: ♙h7 1. ♙d7 ♙:d7=  
b) -1. ♙e3: ♙g2 1. ♙d5 ♙:d5=  
c) -1. ♙a6: ♙b8 1. ♙c7+ ♙:c7=  
d) -1. ♙f8: ♘e8 1. ♙f6 ♘:f6=

The version exchanges a ♙ for a ♘. (see № 51/2016)

2910 G. Tar

1.♙a1 ♙:d2 2.♘:d2 c1 ♙  
3.♘b3+ ♙:b3# [3...♙:b3??]  
1.♙b1 ♙h4 2.♙a8 ♙f8  
3.♙b5+ ♙:b5# [3...♙:b5??]

*Helpselfmate:* White moves first and is mated. Black helps until his final move, which must be forced, as in a selfmate.

2911 G. Tar

a) 1... ♙:e6! 2. ♙d6+ ♙b6  
3. ♙f5 ♙e8 4. ♙c8+ ♙:c8#  
b) 1...b3! 2. ♙:b3 ♙b8  
3. ♙d3 ♙d8 4. ♙b6+ ♙:b6#

Exchanged functions of white line pieces. (Z.G.)

2912 G. Tar

1.g:h4 ♙:h4 2.c8 ♙ ♙h3  
3.♙g8 ♙f3 4.♙g3+ ♙:g3#  
1.c8 ♙:g3 2.♘d6 ♙h3  
3.♘e4 ♙g4 4.♘f2+ ♙:f2#

2913 M. Cioflanca

1...♙e2 2.♙e8 ♙f3 3.♙f7 ♙:e7+  
4.♙f6 ♙f4 5.♙f5+ ♙:f5#  
1...e2 2.♘:c6 e1 ♙ 3.♘d4 ♙a5  
4.♘f3 ♙b6 5.♙e1+ ♙:e1#

2914 I. Tominić

1.♙b5 ♙:c6 2.♙:h1! ♙d5#  
1.♙b5 ♙:d6+ [♙b8] 2.♙:d1! ♙d5#

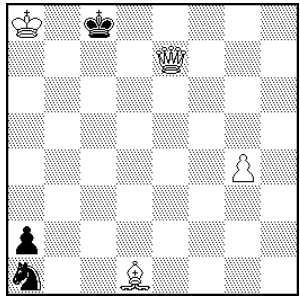
In order to avoid its rebirth, the ♙ must be firstly unpinned and then self-pinned in *Circe*-type at different location; each of these two effects includes capture of a white unit. (Author)

2915 P. Tritten

1.♙c8 ♙:a1-c3 2.♙:c3-c7 ♙g3#  
1.♙h8 ♙:c5-c3+ 2.♙:c3-g7 ♙g3#

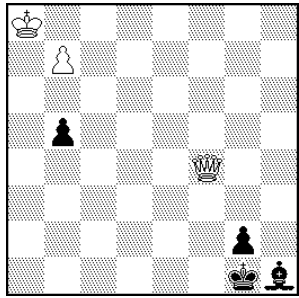
*Zilahi*, fairy black *Bristol*, and diagonal-orthogonal correspondence. (Author)

2916 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



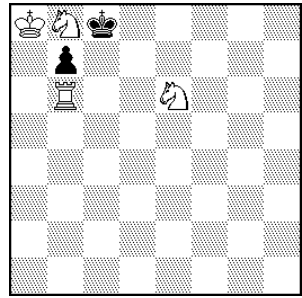
R#2 \* v v 4+3

2917 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



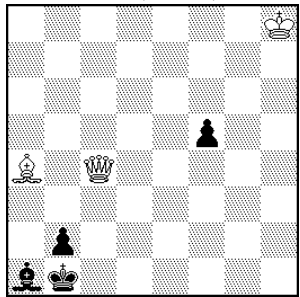
R#4 v 3+4

2918 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



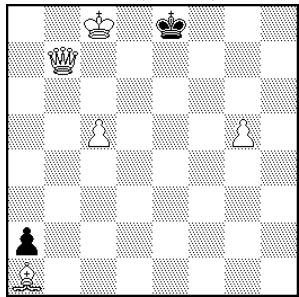
R#6 4+2

2919 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



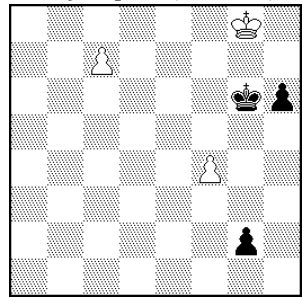
R#6 2 solutions 3+4

2920 Anatoly Styopochkin  
Tula (Russia)



R#8 5+2

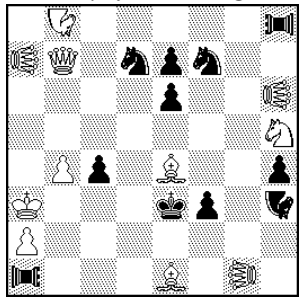
2921 Vlaicu Crişan  
Cluj-Napoca (Romania)



HS#3½ Superguards 3+3  
2 solutions

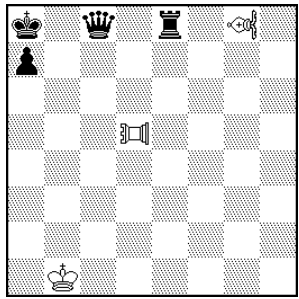
2922 Petko A. Petkov  
Sofia (Bulgaria)

In memory of Bernd Ellinghoven



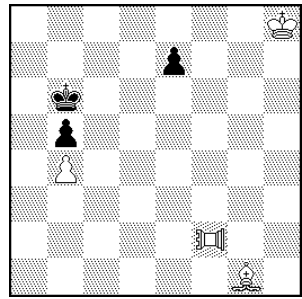
#2 v v v v v v v v  
♙=leo, ♘=lions, ♚=kangaroo-lion,  
♞=nightrider, ♜=pao

2923 Achim Schöneberg  
Einbeck (Germany)



H#2½ b) ♜e8 = ♜e8 3+4  
♙=pao, ♚=vao

2924 L'uboš Kekely  
Snežnica (Slovakia)



Ser.h#14 ♙=faro 4+3

2916 A. Styopochkin

1... ♙h4 a1 ♚(♚)#  
1. ♜b3? (zugzwang) ♜c2! x  
1... ♙b3 2. ♙h4 A a1 ♚(♚)#  
1. ♜c2? (zugzwang) ♜b3! y  
1... ♙c2 2. ♙h4 A a1 ♚(♚)#  
1. ♚d6! (zugzwang)  
1... ♙c2 x 2. ♙h2 a1 ♚(♚)#  
1... ♙b3 y 2. ♙g3 a1 ♚(♚)#

Reflexmate: a selfmate with an extra condition that either side must give mate in one if this becomes possible.

2917 A. Styopochkin

1. b8 ♜? b4! 2. ♜a7#  
1. ♙f6! (zugzwang)  
1... b4 2. b8 ♜! b3 3. ♙b2  
3... ♙f1 4. ♙a3! g1 ♚(♚)#  
1... ♙h2 2. b8 ♜+ ♙g1 3. ♙b6+  
3... ♙f1 4. ♙a5! g1 ♚(♚)#

2918 A. Styopochkin

1. ♚b5! b6 2. ♚b4 b5 3. ♚a4!!  
[3. ♚b3? b4 4. ♚b2 b3 5. ♚b1  
5... b2 6. ♚a1 b:a1 ♚(♚)!#]  
3... b4 4. ♚a2! b3 5. ♚a1! b2  
6. ♜d7 b :a1 ♚(♚)#  
3... b:a4 4. ♜a7 a3 5. ♜a8 a2  
6. ♜d7 a1 ♚(♚)#

2919 A. Styopochkin

1. ♜d1! f4 2. ♜c2+ ♙c1  
3. ♜h7+ ♙d2 4. ♙c2+  
4... ♙e1/♙c3 5. ♙e2+/♙f2+  
5... ♙: ♙ 6. ♜g8 b1 ♚(♚)#  
1. ♜b5! f4 2. ♙c3 ♙a2  
3. ♜c4+ ♙b1 4. ♙d3+ ♙c1  
5. ♙d1+ ♙:d1 6. ♜g8 b1 ♚(♚)#

2920 A. Styopochkin

1. ♜b8 ♜f8 2. ♙g7+ ♙e8  
3. ♜a8! ♜d8 4. ♙f7 ♙c8  
5. ♙e6+ ♙d8 6. ♜f6+ ♙c7  
7. ♙c8+ ♙:c8 8. ♜e7!  
8... a1 ♚(♚)#  
5... ♙c7 6. ♜e5+ ♙d8 7. ♜c7+  
7... ♙:c7 8. ♙f5! a1 ♚(♚)#

2921 V. Crişan

1... g1 ♙ 2. c8 ♜ ♙a7 3. f5+ ♙h7+  
4. ♜e7+ ♙:e7#  
1... g1 ♜ 2. c8 ♚ ♜d4 3. ♚c5 ♜f6  
4. ♚g5+ ♙g7#

Superguards: Any unit (including K) observed by another unit of the same colour cannot be captured. A pinned unit can also observe.

Mixed AUW with specific mates in a kindergarten position. (Author)

2922 P. A. Petkov

In memory of Bernd Ellinghoven

1. ♜f2+? A/ ♙g5+? B/ ♜b6+? C  
1... ♙:g1!/ ♙:h6!/ ♙:a7!  
1. ♜b1? (2. ♙e4#) ♙d5! x  
1... ♙d6 y/ ♙a4 z 2. ♙g5# B/ ♜b6# C  
1. ♜h7? (2. ♙e4#) ♙d6! y  
1... ♙a4 z/ ♙d5 x 2. ♜b6# C/ ♜f2# A  
1. ♜g6? (2. ♙e4#) ♙a4! z  
1... ♙d5 x/ ♙d6 y 2. ♜f2# A/ ♙g5# B  
1. ♜c2! (2. ♙e4#)  
1... ♙d5 x/ ♙d6 y/ ♙a4 z  
2. ♜f2# A/ ♙g5# B/ ♜b6# C  
1... ♙f6 2. ♙b6#

Lion: moves and captures like a grasshopper, but its arrival square may be any number of squares beyond the hurdle, provided the line is free. Grasshopper moves along queen-lines over another unit of either colour to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival, but the hurdle is not affected.

Kangaroo-lion: moves & captures like a kangaroo, but its arrival square may be any number of squares beyond the hurdle, provided the line is free. Kangaroo moves along queen lines over two units of either colour to the square immediately beyond the further unit. A capture may be made on the arrival square, but the hurdles are not affected.

Nightrider: a rider along a straight line on squares lying a knight's move away from each other.

Leo: a Chinese queen which moves like a normal queen, but captures like a lion.

Pao/vao: a Chinese rook / bishop which moves like a normal R/B but captures like a lion, on R/B lines only.

Cyclic distant anti-batteries - a new theme that is defined, proposed and very actively popularized by Petko Petkov: 3 white pieces create anti-batteries after cyclic closure on different squares (f2, g5, b6): ♜a7 (A) as a forward battery piece=hurdle closes ♙g1 (B) as a rear battery piece on f2; ♙g1 (B) as a forward battery piece=hurdle closes ♜h6 (C); ♜h6 (C) as a forward battery piece=hurdle closes ♜a7 (A) as a rear battery piece on b6. A very difficult idea combined with 3 thematic tries by the ♜, refuted by 3 moves (x, y, z) that are defences in the actual play! Demonstrated for the first time! (Author)

2923 A. Schöneberg

a) 1... ♙h7 2. ♙c6 ♙e4  
3. ♚c8 ♙d8#  
b) 1... ♙h5 2. ♜c6 ♙h8  
3. ♙e8 ♙d5#

Anti-battery in a miniature. (Author)

2924 L'. Kekely

1. e5 2. e4 3. e3 4. e2 5. e1 ♜  
6. ♜:b4 7. ♜f8 8. b4 9. b3  
10. b2 11. b1 ♙ 12. ♙b7  
13. ♙a7 14. ♙a8 ♙:f8#

Series h#: After a series of n black moves, White mates in 1.

Faro: An Argentinian rook which moves by hopping orthogonally over a hurdle to any square behind it, but captures like an ordinary rook.

## OBITUARIES

ALEKSANDAR POPOVSKI (28.4.1932–28.12.2023)

### Sad farewell to the doyen of Macedonian problem chess

The news of the demise of Aleksandar Popovski (AIPo) at the end of 2023 made us sad, for he was the doyen of problem chess in Macedonia and a good friend to us and other chess composers.

Aleksandar was born in the village of Novo Kosovo (Yugoslavia) in 1932. He spent his youth years in Kavadarci (Macedonia) and then lived in the State's capital Skopje. After his studies of literature and world literature at the Philological faculties in Skopje and Ljubljana (Slovenia), respectively, he was a journalist in Radio Skopje and the *Trudbenik* [Labourer] and *Večer* [Evening] newspapers, the Editor in Chief of the children's magazine *Razvigor* [Spring Wind] in the eminent publishing company "Detska radost" ["Children Joy"], and the Editor in Chief of the family publishing company "Aleksandar & Aleksandar". He wrote more than 20 books of poetry and prose



(some of which received prominent awards) and compiled three anthologies. The general public, however, did not know much about Aleksandar's deeds in the realm of chess poetry.

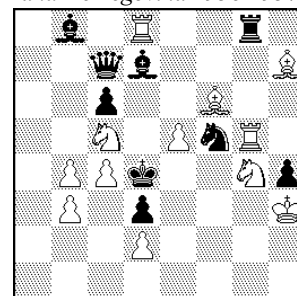
Although the period between the World Wars I and II saw the publication of the first chess problems by other residents of Macedonia (which in this period was a part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia without any sovereignty of its own, or recognition as an independent nation), it was Aleksandar Popovski who is credited for establishing the basis of the problem chess organisation in the post-war Socialistic Republic of Macedonia (part of Yugoslavia from 1945 to 1991). After running a problem column on the airwaves of Radio Skopje in the 1950s and organising the first thematic composing tourney, Aleksandar organised solving and composing tourneys in printed outlets, including the youth magazine *Mlad Borec* [Young Fighter] in the 1960s. He edited and published 40 issues of *Novi temi* [New Themes] from 1971 to 1983 and 14 issues of *Falanga* [Phalanx] from 1994 to 1998. Owing to, *inter alia*, Aleksandar's editorial and publishing work, a new generation of Macedonian chess composers flourished and some of them (notably Živko Janevski, Nikola Stolev, Zlatko Mihajloski and Boško Milošeski) put the name of Macedonia on the world problem map.

Aleksandar Popovski started as a solver and won first places in several tournaments, but his main preoccupation was chess composing. His composing portfolio includes more than 1,000 chess problems in almost all genres, and his composing successes were often team successes, too (see Nos 1 and 2). Being curious by nature and persistently searching for novelties, Aleksandar "broke new ground" by defining a theme which bears his name (see No 3). Although he rarely composed jointly, he was no stranger to co-authoring with his friends in the country and abroad (see Nos 4 and 5), particularly in genres that were not often explored by himself (No 5). Aleksandar's vivid spirit lead him to the vast expanses of non-orthodox chess, where he made entertaining problems in pleasantly light settings (Nos 6-9). He was one of the few Macedonian problemists who composed fairy problems, including notably miniatures (Nos 8 and 9). In 2001, *The Macedonian Problemist* published "8 x 8 by AIPo: 64 selected problems by Aleksandar Popovski".

Aleksandar's activities are registered in golden letters in the Macedonian problem chess annals. Being grateful for his contribution to our problem chess development, we are committed to cherishing his legacy and keeping memories of our long-lasting collegial and friendship relations. This homage of Aleksandar's work and deeds hopefully contributes to these aims, as well as to the aim of bringing closer his work and deeds to the wider problem chess community.

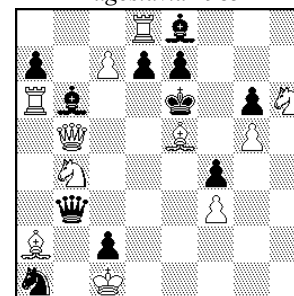
Zoran Gavrilovski, GM and the Editor of *The Macedonian Problemist*, and Nikola Stolev, FIDE Master and the former President of the Macedonian Problem Chess Commission

1. Aleksandar Popovski  
1<sup>st</sup> Pl. Macedonia – Bosnia  
and Herzegovina 1956-1957



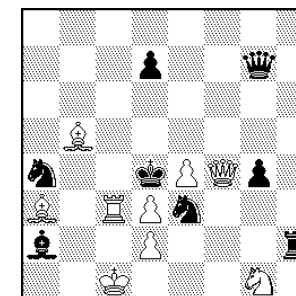
#2 12+9

2. Aleksandar Popovski  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pl. Netherlands –  
Yugoslavia 1985



#2 v v 11+11

3. Aleksandar Popovski  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Novi temi 1974-1975



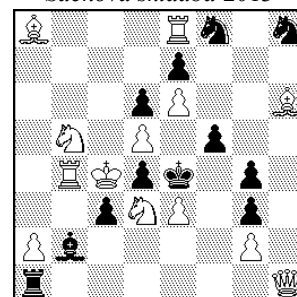
#2 \* 9+8

No 1: 1. ♖h2! (2. ♗f3#), 1... ♗~+ 2. ♗e6#, 1... ♗d6+ 2.e6#, 1... ♗g7+ 2. ♖g4#. Cross-checks.

No 2: 1. ♗d4? A (2. ♖e5#), 1...d6 y 2. ♖e2# C, 1...d5! x; 1. ♗c3? B (2. ♖e5#), 1...d5 x 2. ♖e2# C, 1...d6! y; 1. ♖e2! C (2. ♗:f4#), 1...d5 x 2. ♗c3# B, 1...d6 y 2. ♗d4# A. *Banny* theme and *Reversal I* with shut off mates after unpinning of black pieces on the B1 moves.

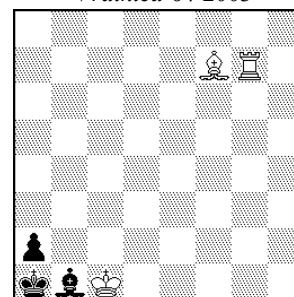
No 3: \* 1... ♖e5 2. ♖:e3# A; 1...d5 2.e5# B, 1... ♗:c3 2.d:e3# C; 1. ♖c5! (2. ♖:e3# A, 2.e5# B, 2.d:e3# C), 1... ♗c4 2. ♖:e3# A, 1... ♗c2 (♗d1, ♗f1), ♖:d2 2.e5# B, 1... ♖g5 2.d:e3# C. *Popovski* theme: Reappearance of 3-n or 2 set mates in another phase as a multiple or double threat [\* 1...x/y/z 2.A#/B#/C#, 1.M! (and/or 1.M?) ~ 2.A#/B#/C#; or \* 1...x/y 2.A#/B#, 1.M! (and/or 1.M?) ~ 2.A#/B# (No 2830 at pp. 18–19)]; or as single threats [\* 1...x/y/z 2.A#/B#/C#, 1.M? ~ 2.A#, 1.N? ~ 2.B#, 1.P! ~ 2.C# (No 2837 at pp. 18–19); or \* 1...x/y 2.A#/B#, 1.M? ~ 2.A#, 1.N! ~ 2.B#].

4. Evgeny Fomichev &  
Aleksandar Popovski  
*Šachová skladba* 2013



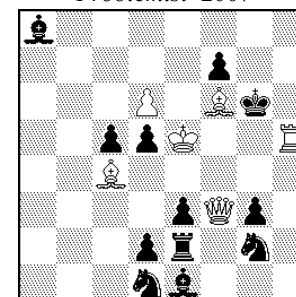
#3 13+12

5. Aleksandar Popovski &  
Boško Milošeski  
*Vratnica-64* 2003



#7 v 3+3

6. Aleksandar Popovski  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *The Macedonian  
Problemist* 2007



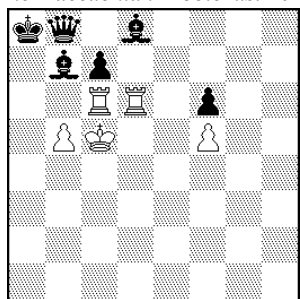
S#2 v 6+12

No 4: 1. ♗f4! (2. ♗c5+ d:c5 3.d6#), 1... ♖:a2 2. ♗f2+ g:f2 3.g3#, 1...d:e3 2. ♗:c3+ ♗:c3 3. ♗:c3#, 1... ♗d7 2. ♗:d6+ e:d6 3.e:d7#. Four sacrifices and fourfold white battery play.

No 5: 1. ♖g2? (2. ♖b2) ♗c2! x; 1. ♗b3! (2. ♖a7) ♗c2 x 2. ♗:a2 (3. ♗:c2 ♗:a2 4. ♖a7#) ♗b3 3. ♗b1 (4. ♖a7+ ♗a2/♗a4 5. ♖:a2#/♖:a4#) ♗f7 4. ♖h7! (zz) ♗a2 5. ♗:a2 (6. ♗c2 ♗:a2 7. ♖a7#) 5... ♗:a2 6. ♖h3 (zz) ♗a1 7. ♖a3#. Published in issue 12. A version with ♗f7→a4 & ♗b1→g6 by B.M. and AIPo was published in *Vratnica-64* 25/2007 on 11.3.2007 and it won a 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize.

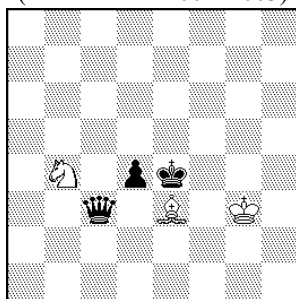
No 6: 1. ♖h1? (2. ♖:g3+ ♗:g3#), 1... ♗h4!; 1. ♖h8! (2. ♖:g3+ ♗:g3#), 1... ♗f2 2. ♖g4+ ♗:g4#, 1... ♖f2 2. ♖f5+ ♖:f5#, 1... ♗f4 2. ♗d3+ ♗:d3#. Interferences of a black line on the B1 move.

**7. Aleksandar Popovski**  
2<sup>nd</sup> H.M. Lj. Anastasov – 70 JT  
*The Macedonian Problemist* 2011



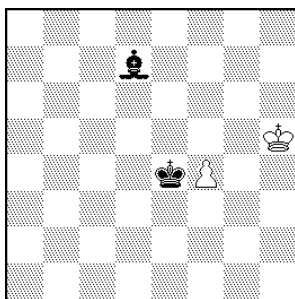
H#2 \* 5+6

**8. Aleksandar Popovski**  
*Probleemblad* 2003  
(FIDE Album 2001–2003)



H#3 Parrain Circe 3+3  
3 solutions

**9. Aleksandar Popovski**  
*feenschach* 2002



H#3½ Equipollent Circe 2+2  
2 solutions

**№ 7:** \* 1... ♖:c7 2. ♔a7 ♖a6#, 1. ♕a7+ ♖b6 2. ♔b8 ♖:d8#. Two model echo-like mates.

**№ 8:** 1. ♔:e3 ♘c2[♙f1]+ 2. ♖:c2 ♙e2[♘b3] 3. ♖:e2 ♘c5[♙f4]#; 1. ♖c2 ♘c6 2. ♔:e3 ♘:d4[♙f1] 3. ♖d2[♙e4] ♘f5#; 1.d3 ♙g4 2. ♖:b4 ♙d4[♘a5] 3. ♖:d4 ♘c4[♙f3]#. *Parrain Circe*: A captured units are reborn, but on completion of the move following the capture move. The length and direction of this following move is the same as the length and direction from the capture square to the rebirth square (e.g. capture on e4 followed by move ♘g8-h6: rebirth on f2). If that square is occupied or does not lie on the board, the captured unit does not return.

**№ 9:** 1... ♙g5 2. ♙h3 f5 3. ♙:f5[♘d7] d8 ♖ 4. ♔e5 ♖d5#; 1...f5 2. ♔:f5[♘g6] ♙h4 3. ♔:g6[♘h7] h8 ♖ 4. ♙f5 ♖g7#. See the definition of *Equipollent Circe* at page 43.

Aleksandar's literature opus was praised by the poet and critic Miho Atanasovski who wrote: "From his manner of creating poems, his style, and his way of forming verses and the thoughts contained in them, I'm entitled to say that the poet Aleksandar Popovski has already traced his own original path, which certainly distinguishes him from his generation of poets. ... He continues to follow that path and to explore even more deeply in pursuit of the truths of life."

*The Man*

In roads I leave myself, even on those that I've never walked  
on the pages of books, even those that I did not ever leaf through  
To other people I leave myself  
dear and disagreeable, known and unknown  
to envy I leave myself, to anger I leave myself  
to unfulfillment I leave myself, in uncertainty I leave myself  
And so little by little, I expend and diminish myself  
I'm becoming thin as thread before it snaps  
Once still I hoped tiny and inside my being to find a nice place  
a place without thorns and burdocks  
without the stabs of angry blackberries  
So I leave myself later to be discovered by an unexpected quest  
to deliver to other people what I did not manage to deliver.

*The Tree of Life*

There is no one to stop at the landmark  
to seek freshness under its branches  
Nobody reaches out with arm or mouth  
to nibble its juicy fruits  
As this remarkable tree does not exist  
as its forms cannot be seen  
Are there not leaves, clouds, blossoms  
is there not a rich crop of heavy fruits?  
Am I the last to gaze admiringly  
to the trunk firmly upraised  
Are there others to come later  
through scattered twigs and splinters  
Disregarded anchored remains after  
the woodcutter's job is finished.

Translation/proofreading of Aleksandar Popovski's poems: Zoran Gavrilovski/John Rice

**Announcement of Aleksandar Popovski Memorial Tourney 2024**

*The Macedonian Problemist* announces a tourney in memory of Aleksandar Popovski in 3 sections:  
- **#2-3 with Popovski theme** (see the theme definition and № 3 at page 41 and also see Nos 2830 & 2837 at pages 19-20). Judge: **Hubert Gockel**.  
- **S#2-10 with free theme**. Judge: **Aleksey Oganesyan**.  
- **H#2-4 with Equipollent Circe**, no other fairy conditions, no fairy pieces, both kings present (see № 9 at page 42). Judge: **Hans Gruber**. *Equipollent Circe*: After a piece is captured, it is immediately replaced on the square that is the same distance and direction from the square of its capture, as was that square from the square upon which its captor commenced its move. If the rebirth square is occupied, then the captured piece disappears. Castling with a reborn rook is permitted. Pawns may be reborn on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> ranks. Pawns reborn on the 8<sup>th</sup> rank are promoted as part of rebirth and the promotion is chosen by the player who makes the capture. Entries to [zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com](mailto:zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com) until 30.08.2024.

**BERND ELLINGHOVEN (24.8.1953 – 13.11.2023)**

**Demise of the man who lived for problem chess and by problem chess**

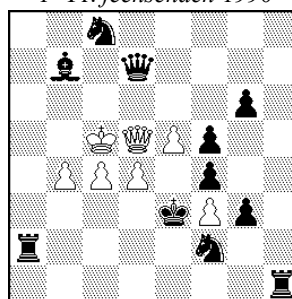
Bernd Ellinghoven, or **bernd ellinghoven** as he signed himself, was an International Master since 2005 with 54.35 FIDE Album points until 2021, and an International Judge of the FIDE for #4-n, h#, s#, fairies and retros (1989). Bernd first composed logical #4-ns & s#s, then fairy direct mates and eventually helpmates, often with his friends. Bernd was the editor of the German fairy chess magazine *feenschach* from 1993 (after P. Kniest's death). For three decades (from 1997) he was a delegate of Germany to the Permanent Commission for Chess Compositions (PCCC) of the FIDE and the World Federation for Chess Compositions (WFCC). In 2023 he became the honorary member of the WFCC, and a recipient of the German Chess Federation's silver badge of honour.



Bernd was a member of the board and printer of *Die Schwalbe*, and a printer/printer of *The Problemist* and other magazines for decades. He co-edited six FIDE Albums for the 1986–2003 period, four FIDE Album Annexes and the book series *feenschach – Phénix*.

Source of the photo: [https://karlonline.org/114\\_2](https://karlonline.org/114_2)

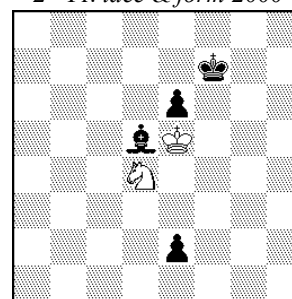
**1. bernd ellinghoven & Hans Peter Rehm**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *feenschach* 1990



H#3 b) ♙c5→g2 7+11

a) 1. ♙e2 ♖g8 2. ♙:f3 A ♖d8  
3. ♖:d4+ B ♖:d4#  
b) 1. ♙d2 ♖a5 2. ♖:d4 B ♖a8  
3. ♙:f3+A ♖:f3#

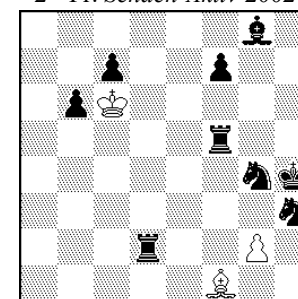
**2. Fadil Abdurahmanović & bernd ellinghoven**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *idee & form* 2000



H#5 2+4

1. ♙a2! ♘b3 2. ♔f8 ♙:e6  
3. e1 ♖+ ♙f6 4. ♙e8 ♘c5  
5. ♙g8 ♘d7#  
A critical black 1<sup>st</sup> move.

**3. bernd ellinghoven & Fadil Abdurahmanović**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *Schach-Aktiv* 2002



H#5 3+9

1. ♙a5 ♙b5 2. ♙b2 ♙d5  
3. ♙b:b5+ ♙e4 4. ♙h5 ♙f3  
5. ♙ag5 g3#  
A critical B1 move & *Bristol*.

Bernd often attended Andernach and BCPS meetings, where he, in a trio with Hans Peter Rehm and Hans Gruber, won many quick composing tourneys. With reference to bernd's huge input to problem chess and his statement that he spent more time in doing *feenschach* than in sleeping, Kjell Widlert in his tribute wrote that bernd was "one of the outstanding personalities of international problem chess" who "lived for problem chess most of his life and also lived by problem chess for many years" (*The Problemist*, Vol 29 No 7, p. 267). Narayan Shankar Ram wrote that bernd's death was "[a] very sad loss for chess, problem chess, and fairy chess. He was a great torch bearer for fairy chess, along with Denis Blondel, continuing the earlier work of pioneers like T.R. Dawson, Peter Kniest, and others" (source: <https://www.thbrand.de/2023/11/14/bernd-ellinghoven/>).

#### Announcement of the 236<sup>th</sup> T.T. of *Die Schwalbe* (bernd ellinghoven memorial tourney) 2024

In memory of its honorary member bernd ellinghoven who died on 13 November 2023, *Die Schwalbe* announces a bernd ellinghoven memorial tourney with the following theme: Orthodox, single-phase (one solution only, no set play, no duplex) helpmates with 4.5-10 moves are required, half-moves (h#n.5) permitted. *Helpmate-revolutionary* problems in the sense of bernd ellinghoven are particularly welcome, but not required. No more than two problems per author, co-authors count proportionally (e.g. two authors: half a problem each).

Submissions should be sent to the director Thomas Brand, Dahlienstraße 27, D-53332 Bornheim, preferably by e-mail ([t.brand@gmx.net](mailto:t.brand@gmx.net)) until (by e-mail or date of receipt by the director if sent by letter) 31.10.2024.

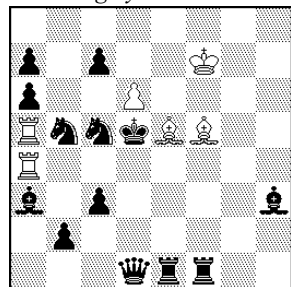
The tourney will be judged by Eckart Kummer. The prize fund amounts to 150 EUR plus some original problem chess manuscripts, to be allocated by the judge.

#### BEDRICH FORMÁNEK (6.6.1933 – 19.11.2023)

The Slovak composer **Bedrich Formánek** earned the title of FIDE master in 1990 and scored 15 FIDE Album points up to 2021. He became an International Judge of the FIDE for #2, #3, #4-n and h#, s# and fairies in 1966. Bedrich was a long-time delegate for Czechoslovakia and later for Slovakia in the PCCC and the President of the PCCC from 1994 to 2002, as well as the Honorary President of the current WFCC afterwards. He was a tireless problem chess promoter, notably by editing chess composition columns in many newspapers in Slovakia (including *Pravda*, *Práca* and *Smena*) with 7,475 column items.



#### Bedrich Formánek 1<sup>st</sup> Pl. Hungary–Slovakia 1971-4



H#2 b) ♔f7→e7 6+13  
a) 1. ♜d4 ♙f4 2. ♜e2 ♙e4#  
b) 1. ♜d3 ♙e4+ 2. ♚c5 ♙d4#

Bedrich published 8 books on chess compositions, about 20 brochures and hundreds of articles by himself or in co-authorship. He was twice captain of the Slovakian national composing team, including for the 8<sup>th</sup> World Chess Composing Tournament (WCCT) when Slovakia won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place. He was a President of the Slovak Chess Composition Organisation (SOKŠ) for about half a century, and later he was awarded the title of Honorary President of SOKŠ and was inducted in the SOKŠ Hall of Fame. Bedrich Formánek is viewed as "a chess godfather of many Slovak chess composers, but above all a great person and a good friend" (the statement's photo's source: <https://www.wfcc.ch/bedrich-formanek-06061933-19112023/>).

Bedrich Formánek graduated in electrical engineering at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the University of Applied Sciences in Bratislava (today FEI STU). He worked there as a teacher from 1960 to 1998, and was a head of the Department of Electrical Technology from 1991 to 1994.

#### MICHAEL LIPTON (13.2.1937 – 1.4.2023)



Source: <https://britishchessnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/13.02-Michael-Lipton.jpg>

**Michael Lipton** composed about 400 orthodox problems (mainly #2s), and became an International Master in 1976, scoring 32.5 FIDE Album points until 2021. He co-authored *Chess Problems: Introduction to an Art* (with Robin C. O. Matthews & John M. Rice (1963) and *The Two-move Chess Problem: Tradition and Development* (with Barry Barnes, 1966); and edited problem columns in *Sunday Citizen* and *Correspondence Chess*.

His selected problems (17.11.2021) are available at <https://www.theproblemist.com/downloads.pl?type=lipton>.

Michael Lipton was a long-standing member of the British Chess Problem Society (BCPS) and its President from 2000 to 2002. His BCPS lecture "The German Twomover" (1956) increased the interest in modern trends. His, Rice's and Barnes' #2s transformed Great Britain into one of the most advanced countries in composing #2s.

Michael Lipton was an expert on development economy, specialising in rural poverty in developing countries, including issues relating to land reform and urban bias. He held professorial posts at the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton and at the University of Sussex, where he was a founding director of the Poverty Research Unit (1994-97). He was an elected fellow of All Souls, Oxford (1961-68 & 1983-84) and of the British Academy (2006).

#### COLIN SYDENHAM (13.12.1937 – 15.11.2023)



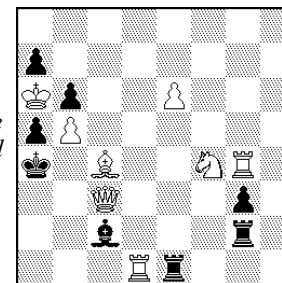
Source: <https://www.theproblemist.org/img/photos/cosydenham.jpg>

**Colin Sydenham** (UK) began to solve chess problems in 1972 and composed his 1<sup>st</sup> problem in 1974. He developed a liking for correction play and black/white correspondence, the latter often featuring in his duplex helpmates. He also composed fairies with the Superpins stipulation. He was an IM for chess compositions (2001) who scored 31.5 FIDE Album points, an International Judge of the FIDE (1991) and a former BCPS President (1989–1991).

He chose 97 #2s, 5 #4-ns, 19 h#s, 58 duplex h#s & 50 fairies for *Selected chess problems of Colin Sydenham* (2004).

Colin's profession was law practising, but the love of his life was Latin poetry (he translated *Horace's Odes* in 2005 and run a Latin poetry reading group). Barry Barnes described Colin as "a man of great charm and courtesy who wore his learning lightly: Eton, King's College Cambridge, and nearly 40 years at the Bar as a lawyer ... and Barrister. Colin was easy to like." (*The Problemist*, Vol 29 No 7, p. 265).

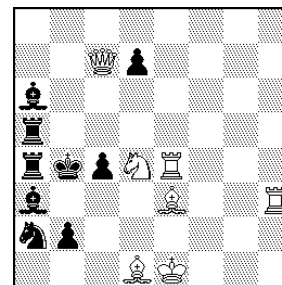
#### Michael Lipton 3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. *Schach-Echo* 1961



#2 vvv 8+8

1. ♜d3? A (2. ♖a1# C, ♜b2#)  
1... ♙:d1!  
1. ♙e2? B (2. ♜d3#, ♖d4#)  
1... ♙b3!  
1. ♙d5? (2. ♖d4#) ♖d2!  
1... ♙:d1 2. ♜e2#  
1... ♖:d1 2. ♜d3# A  
1. ♜d5! (2. ♖a1#)  
1... ♙:d1 2. ♙e2# B  
1... ♖:d1 2. ♙d3#  
1... ♙~ / ♖e3 2. ♖(:)b3# / ♖a1#

#### Colin Sydenham 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *BCM* 1979



#2 \* 7+9

1... ♚c3 2. ♙d2#  
1. ♜b5! (2. ♖c5#, ♖:c4#)  
1... d5/d6 2. ♖c5# / ♖:c4#  
1... ♙:b5 2. ♙c5#  
1... ♖:b5 2. ♖:c4#  
1... ♙:b5 2. ♖b6#

**EVGENY FOMICHEV (13.4.1964–9.5.2023)**



Source: [https://www.arves.org/arves/images/JPG/Biographical/Fomichev\\_Evgeni.jpg](https://www.arves.org/arves/images/JPG/Biographical/Fomichev_Evgeni.jpg)

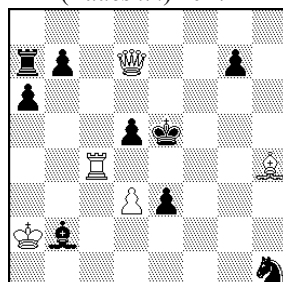
**Evgeny (Eugene) Fomichev** was a GM (since 2019) with 115.33 points in FIDE Albums, an International Judge for Chess Compositions in the #3-section (2010), and an International Solving Master of the FIDE (2014). He composed about 4,000 problems, of which most successful were his #3s (3 of which won the FIDE World Cup in 2013, 2019 and 2021) and orthodox moremovers (1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the FIDE World Cup 2021). He was a follower of the Czech/Bohemian school and observed its principles in his problems (the selected #3 shows model mates, self-blocks and ♖-sacrifices).

Evgeny was the Russian solving champion in 2011 and 2018, and won a silver medal as a team member in the WCSC 2010.

He (co-)authored several problem chess books (*Shakhmatnaya kompozitsiya v Gorky* (1989), *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsiya v Rybinsk 1939–2005* (2005), *Mini bikini* (with Aleksandr Melnichuk (2009), *Chess Harakiri* (2009), *Aleksandr Galitsky – Shahmatny Geine* with Kiril Urusov (Vol. I-II/III, 2010/2014) etc.) and many articles. *Ceské granáty* (Brno, 2001) comprises his 252 “Bohemian garnets”.

He was an electrochemical/environmental engineer & a journalist.

**Evgeny Fomichev**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. G. Zhukov–120 MT  
(*Kudesnik*) 2017



#3 5+9

1. ♖g5! ~ (♜f2) 2. ♖c5 ♜:d3  
3. ♖:d5#  
1... ♗a3 2. ♖e4+ d:e4 3. d4#  
1... ♗d4 2. ♖f7 ~ (2... d:c4)  
3. ♗f4# 2... ♜d6 3. ♖e7#  
1... d:c4 2. d:c4 ~ 3. ♖d5#  
1... b~ 2. ♗f4+ ♜f6 3. ♖c6#

**VASIL KRIZHANIVSKY (6.7.1972–25.6.2023)**

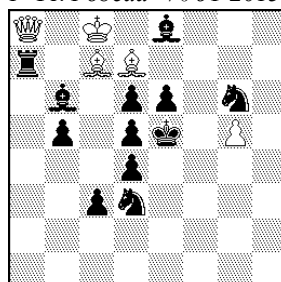


Source: <https://www.wfcc.ch/wp-content/uploads/krizhanivsky.jpg>

**Vasil Kryzhanivsky**, a GM from Ukraine (73.66 FIDE Album points) composed both orthodox problems (#2 & #3s) and h#s of high quality. In the E-section of the WCCIs he was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the WCCI 2013–2015 and 1<sup>st</sup> in the WCCI 2016–2018.

Vasil Krizhanivsky was a financial economist and he worked as an employee of a regional tax service.

**1. Vasil Krizhanivsky**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Pobeda–70 JT* 2015

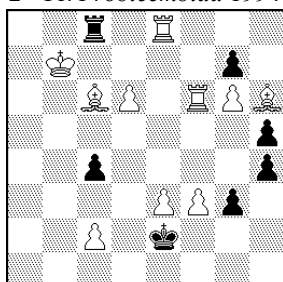


H#2½ 3 solutions 5+12

1... ♖:d5+ A 2. ♜:d5 ♗:d6 B  
3. ♜c4 ♗:e6# C  
1... ♗:d6+ B 2. ♜:d6 ♗:e6 C  
3. ♖e7 ♖:d5# A  
1... ♗:e6 C 2. ♜:e6 ♖:d5+ A  
3. ♜e7 ♗:d6# B

Combination (the first one?) of cyclic active *Zilahi* with a cycle of W1-W2-W3 moves and *Kniest* theme.

**2. Vasil Krizhanivsky**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *Problemblad* 1994



H#3 4 solutions 10+7

1. ♖:e8 ♗:g7 2. ♜:e3 ♜b6  
3. ♜d4 ♖e6#  
1. g:h6 ♗e4 2. ♜:e3 ♗f5+  
3. ♜:f3 ♗h3#  
1. g:f6 ♗d7 2. ♜:f3 ♖e6  
3. ♜g4 ♖:f6#  
1. ♖:c6 ♗f4 2. ♜:f3 ♗e5+  
3. ♜:e3 ♗c3#

Fourfold cyclic *Zilahi* and white battery formation.

**GENNADY KOZIURA (12.11.1955–30.12.2023)**

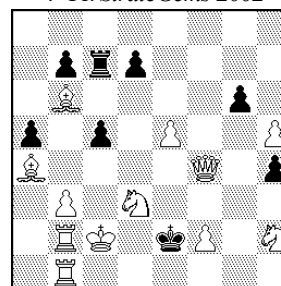


Source of the photo: [www.superproblem.ru](http://www.superproblem.ru)

**Gennady Vladimirovich Koziura** was a Grandmaster of the FIDE for chess compositions (since 2023) from Ukraine with 87.07 points and an International Judge for Chess Compositions in the s#-section (2013). After publishing his first problem in 1971 and some orthodox problems in the last few decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, he composed mainly selfmates (alone or in collaboration with Valery Kopyl, Yuri Gordian, Sergey Borodavkin, Mikhail Mishko etc.) and occasionally helpmates. His selfmates focused on the economy and beauty of the final positions, showing model echo or chameleon echo mates. His selfmate in 4-n moves often involved active play by the ♔. He liked *Zilahi*-like exchange of the roles (captured/mating and *vice versa*) of black units in a selfmate.

His hobbies in youth years were drawing and art photography. Gennady was a Master of Sports of the USSR in boxing (1982).

**1. Gennady Koziura**  
4<sup>th</sup> Pr. *StrateGems* 2002



S#4 12+8

№ 1: 1. ♗e1! (2. ♖g4+ ♜:f2)  
3. ♜c3+ ♜e3 4. ♖d4+ c:d4#  
1... g:h5 2. ♖f5 ~  
3. ♗b5+ c4 4. ♖d3+ c:d3#  
1... c4 2. ♜c1+ ♜:e1  
3. ♗:a5+ c3 4. ♖d2+ c:d2#

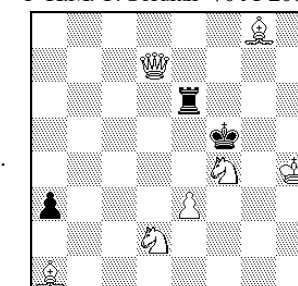
Echo/chameleon echo model #s.

№ 2: \* 1... a2 2. ♖f7+ ♖f6  
3. ♜h5 ♖:f7 4. ♗h7+ ♖:h7#  
1. ♖c8! (zz) a2 2. ♖f8+ ♖f6  
3. e4+ ♜:f4 4. ♖h6+ ♖:h6#

Chameleon echo model mates.

**2. Gennady Koziura**

1<sup>st</sup> H.M. Y. Gordian–70 JT 2007



S#4 \* 7+3

**THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF VIKTOR KAPUSTA AND ANATOLY MOISIYENKO**

By *Anatoly Vasylenko & Andriy Frolkin*

This year was marked by the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of two well-known Ukrainian chess composers from Kyiv – Viktor Kapusta and Anatoly Moisiyenko. They are renowned and innovative Ukrainian poets and both stood at the origins of such type of poetic art as chess poetry.

On 24.9.2023, Viktor Kapusta and Anatoly Moisiyenko with their problem chess friends Anatoly Vasylenko and Andriy Frolkin gathered at the apartment of A. Moisiyenko in order to celebrate both jubilees.

Anatoly Vasylenko marked the above



From left to right: Andriy Frolkin, Viktor Kapusta, Anatoly Moisiyenko and Anatoly Vasylenko



anniversary with his twomover from a 2023 tourney which was dedicated to the International Day of Chess Composition – 4 January (№ 1). The #2's content was embodied in Vasylenko's chess sonnet «На межі неможливого», which was appreciated much by all those who were present at the gathering. Here we present its translation to English (“On the Verge of Impossible”) by Andriy Frolkin.

We are glad to publish the joint #2 (№ 2) and h#3 (№ 3) which compete in the informal tourney for 2023. We wish all our Ukrainian friends to have many problem successes in future and a long-lasting peace in their country!

### On the Verge of Impossible

*Chess sonnet, dedicated to the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Anatoly Moisiyenko and Viktor Kapusta*

A hellish synthesis of times of wins and woes,  
Reflected in the genes producing reason,  
It's like a breath of air in stifling seasons,  
A swift escape into our art when cold winds blow ...  
A shadow of promotions in the mist –  
That wayward overture to paradoxes,  
Dispersed and disappeared, so rude and noxious,  
Amid that tempting square-and-letter twist.  
As centuries get ready for the testing,  
The king is set to wait for what is destined ...  
The final act – a climax to the tries:  
The monarch's fateful choice tween shame and glory –  
Split by the veto winding up the story,  
The crucial square. That's where the limit lies!

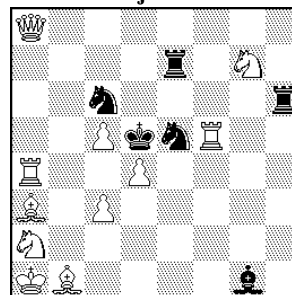
### SELECTED AWARDS



by Zoran Gavrilovski

A. KOZLOV – 125 MT 2022 / #2, formal ty., 30 problems: 5 Pr, 4 HM, 3 C. Judge: Vyacheslav Pilchenko

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Marjan Kovačević

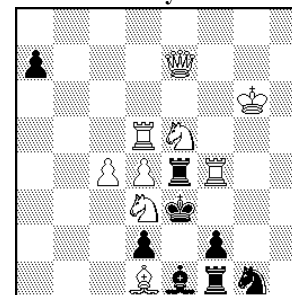


#2 vvv 11+6

1. ♔d3? (2. ♖b4# A) ♖b7!  
1... ♖:g7 2. ♖:e5#  
1... ♔:d4 x 2. ♖:d4#  
1. ♔b2? (2. c4# B) ♔:d4! x  
1... ♖:g7 2. ♖:e5#  
1. ♖f4? (2. ♔e4#, c4+? B) ♖:g7!  
1... ♔e~ 2. c4# B  
1... ♔c4 2. ♖b4# A  
1. ♖a6! (2. ♖c4#, ♖b4+? A)  
1... ♔c~ 2. ♖(:)b4# A  
1... ♔:d4 2. c4# B

Transferred mates after defences by the unpinned knights.

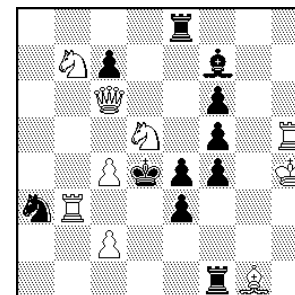
#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Anatoly Slesarenko



#2 vvv 9+8

1. ♖c5? A (2. ♖:e4#) ♖:d4! x  
1... ♖:f4 y 2. ♖g4# B [♖a3??]  
1... ♖:e5 z 2. ♖:e5# [♖:e5??]  
1... ♔:f4 2. ♖g5# C  
1. ♖g5? C (2. ♖f3# D) ♖:e5! z  
1... ♖:d4 x 2. ♖:f4#  
1... ♖:f4 y 2. ♖:f4#  
1. ♖a7? (zugzwang) ♖:f4! y  
1... ♖:d4 x 2. ♖:d4#  
1... ♖:e5 z 2. ♖:e5# [♖:e5+?]  
1... ♔g~ 2. ♖(:)f3# D  
1. ♖a3! (2. ♖g4# B)  
1... ♖:f4 y 2. ♖c5# A  
1... ♖:e5 y 2. ♖:e5#

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski

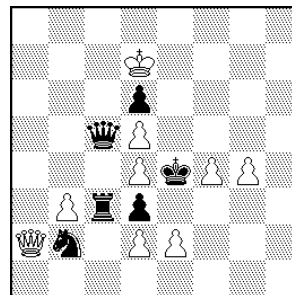


#2 \* vvv 9+11

- 1... ♖e5 x 2. ♖c5#  
1... ♔e5 y 2. ♖:f6#  
1. ♖c7? (2. ♖c5# A) ♖e5! x  
1... ♔e5 y 2. ♖d6#  
1. ♖b4? (2. ♖c5# A) ♔e5! y  
1... ♖e5 x 2. c3#  
1. ♖c3? (2. ♖c5# A) ♔c2!  
1... ♖e5 x 2. ♖e2#  
1... ♔e5 y 2. ♖:e4#  
1. ♖a3! (2. ♖c5# A)  
1... ♖e5 x 2. ♖:f5#  
1... ♔e5 y 2. ♖g4#  
1... ♔d5 2. ♖:d5#

A. ONKOUD – 50 JT 2023 / H#2, formal ty., 25 problems: 3 Pr, 2 HM, 3 C. Judge: Abdelaziz Onkoud

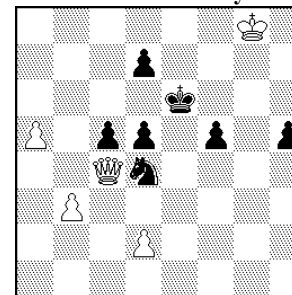
#### 1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski



H#2 4 solutions 9+6

1. ♖:d4 A ♖a7 2. ♖:d5 B ♖e3#  
1. ♖:d5 B ♖a5 2. ♖:d4 A ♖f5#  
1. ♔:d4 C ♖a4+ 2. ♔:d5 D e4#  
1. ♔:d5 D ♖a8+ 2. ♔:d4 C e3#

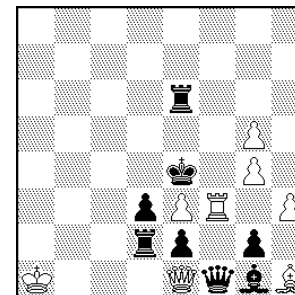
#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Viktor Yuzyuk



H#2 4 solutions 5+7

1. ♔d6 ♖b4 2. ♔c6 ♖b6#  
1. ♔f6 ♖:d4+ 2. ♔g6 ♖g7#  
1. ♔e5 ♖c3 2. ♔e4 ♖e3#  
1. ♔e7 ♖:c5+ 2. ♔e8 ♖f8#

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Michel Caillaud

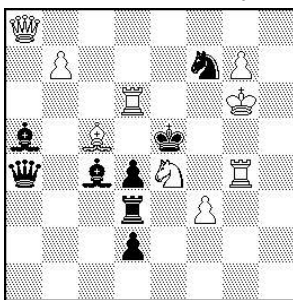


H#2 2 solutions 8+8

1. ♖e5 ♖:f1 2. ♖:f1 ♔ ♖g3#  
1. ♔e5 ♖:f1 2. ♖:f1 ♔ ♖g3#  
Theme: Moves (B1-W2) on the same line (row, file, diagonal).

#### 1. Anatoly Vasylenko

3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. “For the Triumph of International Law” 2024

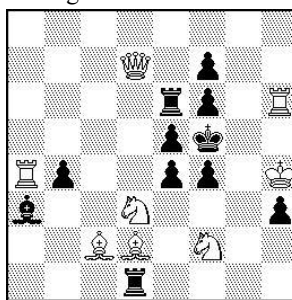


#2 vvv 9+8

1. b8 ♖? (2. f4#) ♔:d6! x  
1... ♔:h8+ 2. ♖:h8 ♖# (g:h8 ♔#)  
1... ♖c6 y 2. ♖:c6#  
1... ♔d5/♖:f3 2. ♖:d5#/♔:d4#  
1. b8 ♖? (2. f4#) ♖c6! y  
1... ♔:h8+ 2. ♖:h8 ♖# (g:h8 ♔#)  
1... ♔:d6 x 2. ♖:d6#  
1... ♔d5/♖:f3 2. ♖:d5#/♔:d4#  
1. g8 ♖? A (2. ♖g7#) ♔d8!  
1... ♔h8 2. ♖:h8#  
1... ♔:d6 x 2. ♔:d6#  
1... ♖:f3 2. ♔:d4#  
1. ♖h8! (2. ♖h2#)  
1... ♔:h8+ 2. ♖:h8 ♖# (g:h8 ♔#)  
1... ♔:d6! x 2. ♖:h8 ♖# A (g:h8 ♔#)  
1... ♖:f3 2. ♔:d4#  
Promotions and changed play.

#### 2. Anatoly Moisiyenko & Anatoly Vasylenko

Original for TMP 2023

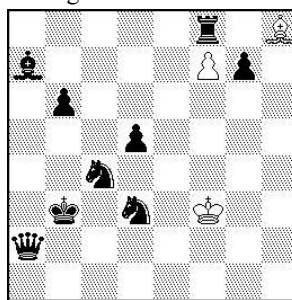


#2 vvv 8+11

1. ♖d~? (2. ♔:e4# A) ♖e1! x  
1. ♖:f4? (2. ♔:e4# A, ♖h5# B)  
1... ♔:f4 2. ♖a5# C  
1... ♖:d2!  
1. ♖:e5? D (2. ♖h5# B, ♔:e4+? A)  
1... ♔:e5/♔:e5 2. ♔:e4# A/♖a5# C  
1... ♖g1!  
1. ♖g4? D (2. ♖:f6# E) e:d3!  
1... e3 2. ♖:d5# D  
1. ♖:e4! (2. ♖d6# ♖, ♖:f6+? E)  
1... b3/♔:e4 2. ♖:f6# E/♖e1#  
White correction, double threat correction, Barnes theme, change of functions of moves and of defences. Double masked battery play and a flight giving W1 in 2 phases. (Authors)

#### 3. Andriy Frolkin & Viktor Kapusta

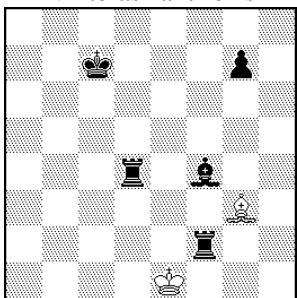
Original for TMP 2023



H#3 3 solutions 3+9

1. ♖g8 f:g8 ♖ 2. ♔b2 ♖:g7  
3. ♔a1 ♖g1#  
1. ♖e8 f:e8 ♖ 2. ♔c3 ♖:g7  
3. ♔d4 ♖e6#  
1. ♖a8 f8 ♖ 2. ♔b8 ♖:g7  
3. ♔a4 ♖c3#  
Minimal retro content. ♔h8 is promoted so, together with the promotions in the actual play, there is *Allumwandlung*. Two battery mates are delivered by two promoted pieces (♔+♖, ♔+♖). Capture of the same ♔g7 by 3 different promoted pieces. White promotions on 3 adjacent squares. A meredith setting. (Authors)

**1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Torsten Linß & Viktoras Paliulionis**



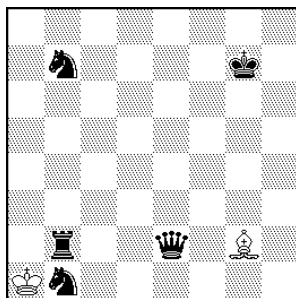
H#8½ 2+5

**Linß & Paliulionis:** 1...♔h4 2.♖d6 ♔d8 3.g5 ♔a5 4.g4 ♔d2 5.♔g5 ♔e3 6.♚f5 ♔f2 7.♖e5 ♔h4 8.♗f4 ♖f2 9.♚e4 ♔g3#. "Spectacular 6-move tempo manoeuvre by wB." (Judge)

**Mihajloski:** 1...♔e4 2.♚b4 ♔c2 3.♚h4 ♖b2 4.♗d2 ♖c3 5.♗e4+ ♖d4 6.♗h6 ♖e5 7.♗g5+ 7...♖f6 8.♗h5 ♖g7 9.♗g4 ♔g6#; 1...♔d5 2.♗e8 ♔f7 3.♚h2 ♖:b1 4.♗h8 ♖c2 5.♗d8 ♖d3 6.♗e6 ♖e4 7.♗h7 ♔f5 8.♗g7+ ♖g5 9.♗g8 ♔g6#. "Very long and precise play." (Judge)

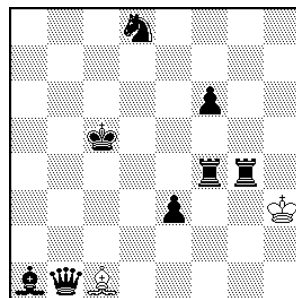
**Mihajloski:** 1...♔b2 2.♚b4 ♔e5 3.♚gc4 ♔f4 4.♚b6 ♖g4 5.♗b5 ♖f5 6.♗c6 ♖e6 7.♔d4 7...♔d6#. "Three impure Bristols in a nice position with a mirrored bK." (Judge)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Zlatko Mihajloski**



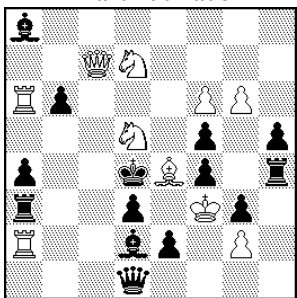
H#8½ 2 solutions 2+5

**2<sup>nd</sup> H.M. Zlatko Mihajloski**



H#6½ 2+8

**1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Peter Sickinger & Hartmut Laue**

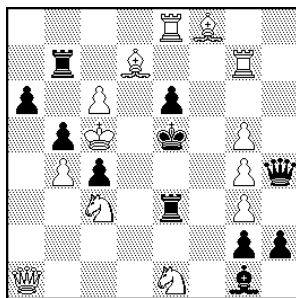


S#3 10+14

**1.♔:d3!** (2.♗e5+ ♖:d3 3.♗e4+ f:e4#) 1...♖:d3 2.♚:d2+ ♗:d2/♖:d2+ 3.♗c4+/♗c3+ ♖:c4#/♚:c3# 1...♖:d5 2.♗c5+ b:c5/♖e6+ 3.♚d6+/♗c6+ ♖:d6#/♔:c6#

"The key move gives two flights to the black king, thus enabling him to create royal batteries. The multiple sacrifices by the white pieces are truly spectacular." (Judge)

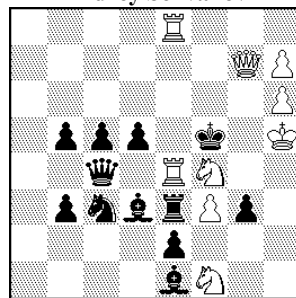
**2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski**



S#3 13+11

**1.♗d1!** (2.♗f3+ A ♚:f3+ 3.♗d4+ B ♔:d4#) 1...♚e4+ 2.♗d4+ B ♚:d4 3.♗d6+ ♚:d6# 1...♚:d7 2.♗d6+ ♚:d6 3.♗f3+ A ♚:f3# 1...♗:g4 2.♔d6+C[♚:e6+?E] 2...♗f5 3.♗d5+D[♔d6+?C] 1...♗:g5 2.♗d5+D[♔d6+?C] 2...♗f6 3.♚:e6+ E ♚:e6# 1...♗:g3 2.♚:e6+E[♗d5+?D] 2...♗f4 3.♔d6+C ♚:e5#

**3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Eugeniusz Iwanov & Andrey Selivanov**



S#3 9+12

**1.♗g2!** (2.♚f4+ ♗:f4 3.♗g5+ ♗:g5#) 1...d:e4, d4 2.♗:g3+ ♔:g3 3.♗f7+ ♗:f7# 1...♗:e4 2.♗h4+ ♖f4 3.♗f6+ ♗:f6# 1...♔:e4 2.♗g4+ ♖f6 3.♗g6+ ♔:g6# 1...♚:e4 2.♚e5+ ♚:e5 3.♗f6+ ♖:f6# 1...♗:e4 2.♗f:e3+ ♗:e3 3.♗g5+ ♗:g5#

**LET'S NOT FORGET...** Chess composers who with their works have left (or are leaving) their mark on one or more genres

**200 years**

von Gottschal, Rudolf (1823.09.30 – 1909.03.21)  
Eichstadt, Heinrich (1823.11.27 – 1905.04.23)

**175 years**

Campbell, Alexander (1848.09.08 – 1931.04.11)  
Salvioli, Carlo (1848.11.02 – 1930.01.29)

**150 years**

Blake, Percy Francis (1873.12.06 – 1936.03.26)  
Hamilton, Williams Philip (1873.12.18 – 1922.09.14)

**125 years**

Gilberg, Charles (1835.06.17 – 1898.01.21)  
Krämer, Wilhelm (1898.10.18 – 1973.04.22)  
Louma, Josef (1898.12.03 – 1955.08.07)  
Waldstein, Néandre (1898.11.05 – 1981.09.23)

**100 years**

Batori, Alberto (1884.02.26 – 1923.11.05)  
Foguelman, Alberto (1923.10.13 – 2013.12.09)  
Pigits, Zigurds (1923.12.10 – 1989.07.02)

**75 years**

Fargette, Bruno (1948.09.13)  
Grubert, Harald (1948.12.17)  
Kapusta, Viktor (1948.09.03)  
Lazard, Frédéric G. (1883.02.20 – 1948.11.18)  
Onițiu, Valerian (1872.04.08 – 1948.12.31)  
Šindelář, Miroslav (1948.09.28 – 2016.06.09)  
Widlert, Kjell (1948.12.11)  
Tanić, Života (1948.09.11 – 1995.02.23)

**50 years**

Bender, Ivan (1973.11.01)  
Hagemann, Wilhelm (1899.01.05 – 1973.10.17)  
Krenzisky, Simon (1893.05.01 – 1973.10.08)  
Lörinc, Juraj (1973.09.17)  
Prokop, František (1901.07.18 – 1973.09.21)  
Tyapkin, Vladimir (1973.10.06)

**25 years**

Ponomarev, Rashid (1919.03.01 – 1998.12.14)  
Šulc, Jindřich (1911.03.22 – 1998.12.03)

**Percy F. Blake** (born in Manchester in 1873) was one of the best English chess players from 1900 to 1936. He composed more than 500 problems (mainly #2s and #3s), of which around 160 were awarded, including 45 first prizes and 40 second prizes. He had 11 FA pts.

**Frédéric G. Lazard**, was a composer of more than 1,000 problems and studies (2 FA pts), some of which are included in his book *Mes problèmes et études d'échecs* (1929). He was the first president of the French Association of problemists. He died in 1948.

**Viktor Kapusta** (1948) is a composer of orthodox problems (mainly #3s) from Ukraine, IM with 32 FA pts. His father is the chess problem composer Lev Kapusta (1919–1990), regarding whom Viktor had published the book *Levova dolya* (2000).

**Kjell Wildert** (1948) is a Swedish GM (2019) with 78.11 FA pts and IJ (1984) for #3, #n, h#, fairies and retros. He is the Sweden's delegate to the WFCC and the editor of *Springaren*.

**František Josef Prokop** was a Czech composer of studies and selfmates who scored 10.33 FA pts, and IJ (1956). He died in Prague in 1973.

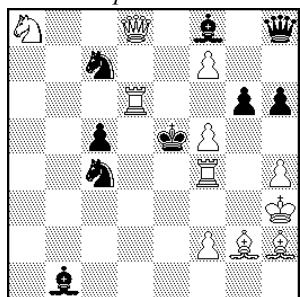
**Juraj Lörinc** (1973) is a Slovak GM (2019) with 86 FA pts and IJ (2000) for h# and fairies. He is a section editor in *Pat a Mat* and edits and publishes the e-zine *Conflictio*, as well as his website "Chess Composition Microweb".



Percy F. Blake, Frédéric G. Lazard, František J. Prokop, Viktor L. Kapusta, Kjell Wildert, Juraj Lörinc

CC – chess composition; GM – Grandmaster for chess compositions; IM – International Master; FM – FIDE Master for CC; IJ – International Judge of the FIDE; FA pts – FIDE album points

I) Percy Francis Blake  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Hampstead and Highgate*  
*Express* 1903

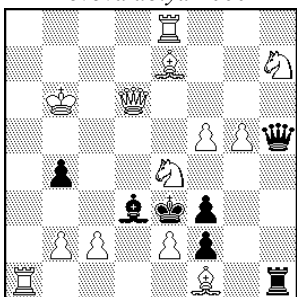


#2 11+9

1. ♖b8! (2. ♖e6#)  
1... ♖f6 2. ♖d5#  
1... ♙e4 2. ♖f3#  
1... ♙:f5+ 2. ♖g4#  
1... g:f5 2. ♖e4#  
1... ♗:d6 2. ♖b2#  
1... ♙:d6 2. ♖:h8#  
1... ♚:d6 2. ♖:c7#

Masked battery/pin creation by an ambush flight-giving key and excellent unity (self-blocks on the B1 move, battery mates, pinning of the ♗ etc.).

II) Viktor Kapusta & Lev Kapusta  
*Levova dolya* 2000

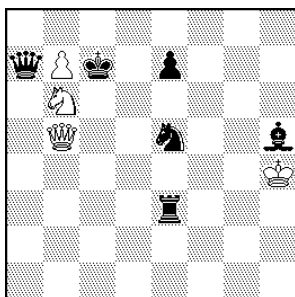


#3 13+7

1. ♘ef6! (2. ♖:d3+ ♚f4  
3. ♙d6#)  
1... ♙~ 2. ♖c5+ ♚f4/♚d2  
3. ♙d6#/♘e4#  
1... ♙:c2! 2. ♖d2+! ♚:d2  
3. ♙b4#  
1... ♙c4 2. ♖d4+! ♚:d4  
3. ♙c5#  
1... ♙:f5! 2. ♖f4+! ♚:f4  
3. ♙d6#

A fourfold duel ♙-♖ and a triple sacrifice of the ♖ on empty squares.

III) František J. Prokop  
5<sup>th</sup> Pr. *Shahmatny listok* 1927

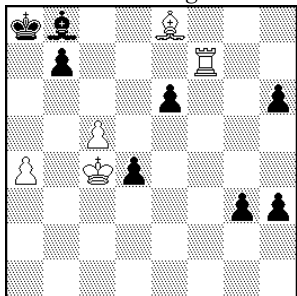


= 4+6

1. ♘d5+! ♚b8 2. ♘:e3  
2... ♖:e3 3. ♖e8+ ♙:e8  
stalemate  
2... ♗g6+ 3. ♚:h5 ♗f4+!  
4. ♚h6! ♖:e3 5. ♖e8+ ♚:b7  
6. ♖:e7+ ♖:e7 stalemate  
2... ♗f3+ 3. ♚:h5 ♖:e3  
4. ♖e8+ ♚:b7 5. ♖d7+ ♚a6  
6. ♖e6+ ♖:e6 stalemate

Chameleon echo.

IV) Frédéric G. Lazard  
3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. *La Stratégie* 1912

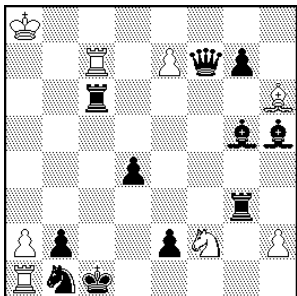


= 5+8

1. ♚b5! g2 2. ♙c6 b:c6+  
3. ♚a6 g1 ♖ 4. a5 ♙d6 5. c:d6  
5... ♖g8 6. d7 ♖b8 7. ♖f8  
7... ♖:f8 8. d8 ♖+ ♖:d8 ½:½

Prepared by Nikola Stolev

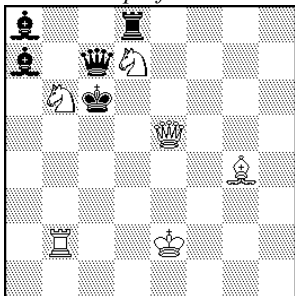
V) Kjell Widlert  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Die Schwalbe* 1998



H#2 b) ♖g3→b3 8+11

- a) 1. ♙d2 ♙e3 2. ♖f4 ♖:c6#  
b) 1. ♖c2 ♖c3 2. ♖c4 ♙:g5#  
Magnet-like B1-W1 moves and  
hideaway by the ♖.

VI) Juraj Lörinc  
*Sach profil* 1996



HS#3 2 solutions 6+5

1. ♚d3! ♙:b6 2. ♙e2 ♚:d7  
3. ♖e6+ ♚:e6#  
1. ♚e3! ♖:d7 2. ♖e2 ♚:b6  
3. ♖b5+ ♚:b5#.