

BEST PROBLEMS

Rassegna dei migliori problemi

diretta da **Antonio Garofalo**

Col sostegno dell'API (Associazione Problemistica Italiana)

Anno XXVIII - n. 112

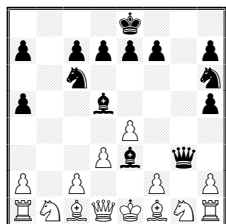
4°/2024 - October

Hanno collaborato a questo numero:

Harry Fougiaxis, Thomas Brand, Awani Kumar

EDITORIALE

Welcome to J. M. ABAD GONZALEZ for his first publication on *Best Problems*, and welcome back Andreas Schonholzer after many years. Qui in basso gustiamo un antipasto delle onorificenze italiane dal meeting di Jurmala (vedere pagina 774).



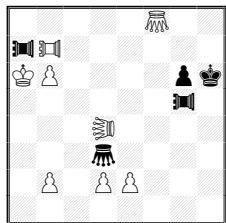
← **Mario Parrinello** - 7° Murfatlar 2024, 4th Hon. Mention

4k3/p1pppp1p/2n4n/p2b3p/4P3/3Pb1q1/P1P2P1P/RNBQKBNR

PG 13,5 (14+14) C+ - Anticirce

1. e4 a5 2. ♖a6 bxa6(a7) 3. b4 ♜b7 4. b5 ♙d5 5. b6 ♞c6 6. b7 ♚b8
7. bxa8=♙(♙f1) ♚b3 8. g4 ♚g3 9. d3 h5 10. ♜h6 gxh6(h7) 11. g5 ♜h6
12. g6 ♙e3 13. g7 ♞h6 14. gxh8=♙(♙c1)

• Two Pronkin-Bishops (c1 and f1).



← **Mario Parrinello**

bernd ellinghoven MT Jurmala 2024, Commendation

hs≠3,5 (8+5) C+

b) ♜d3-c3 [♜=Grasshoppers, ♞=Lion, ♞♞=Rook-Lion]

a) 1... ♜f1 2. ♞d1 ♞e7 3. ♞d5 ♜d3 4. ♜d6+ ♜xd6†

b) 1... ♜e1 2. ♞a1 ♞f7 3. ♞e5 ♜c3 4. ♜f6+ ♜xf6†

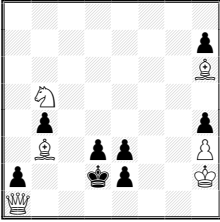
• Invisible Klasinc theme in both phases in order to allow the LId4 to reach the appropriate square on the fifth rank where it provides the appropriate hurdle for the mating Grasshopper.

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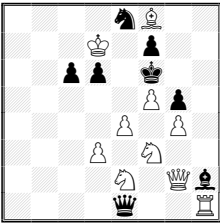
Inediti (Originals)

5950. J.M. Abad
Gonzalez - Spagna



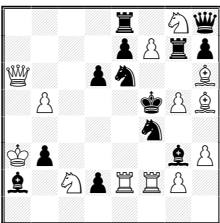
≠2* vv (6+8) C+

5954. G. Bielefeldt
Cile



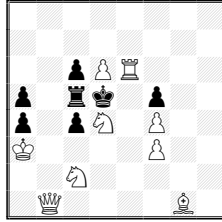
≠2 (10+8) C+

5958. G. Maleika
Germania



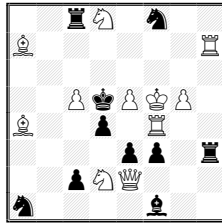
≠2* v (13+13) C+

5951. A. Tarnawiecki
& K. Moen
Perù / USA



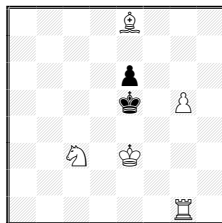
≠2 vv (9+7) C+

5955. G. Maleika
Germania



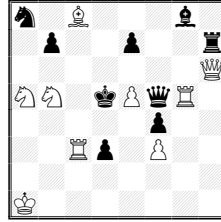
≠2 vvv (11+10) C+

5959. E. Abdullayev
Azerbaijan



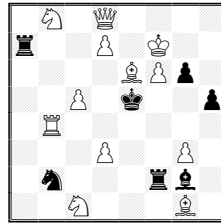
≠3 v (5+2) C+

5952. P. Murashëv
Russia



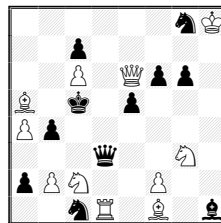
≠2 vv (9+9) C+

5956. G. Bielefeldt
& V. Cabrera
Cile / Cuba



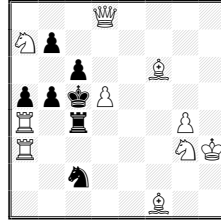
≠2 (12+7) C+

5960. L.
Lyubashevsky, L.
Makaronez
& V. Volchek
Israele / Bielorussia



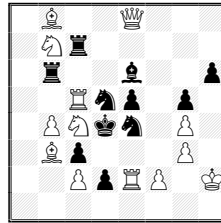
≠3 (11+11) C+

5953. P. Murashëv
Russia



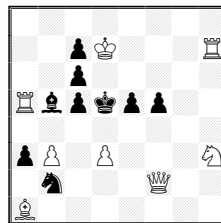
≠2* vv (10+7) C+

5957. A. Tarnawiecki
& E. Navon
Perù / Israele



≠2* (13+11) C+

5961. R. Aliovsadzade
USA

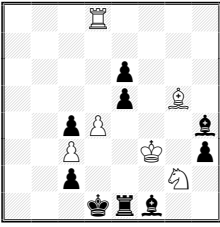


≠3 vvv (8+9) C+

≠2, n. 5950-5958 (Judge 2024: NN)

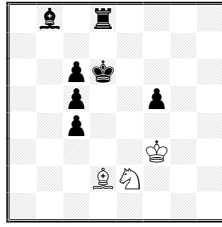
≠3, n. 5959-5961 (Judge 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo).

5962. V. Liskovets
Bielorussia



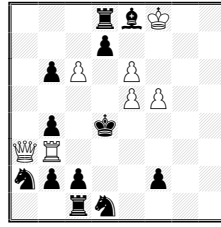
H≠2 (6+9) C+
b) ♖e1 ← 2 sol.
c) ♗h3→g3

5963. A. Schonholzer
Svizzera



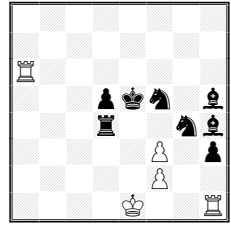
H≠2 (3+7) C+
2 sol.

5964. J.J. Lois
Argentina



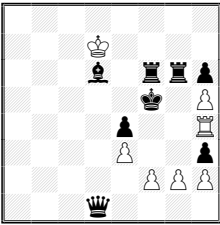
H≠2 (7+12) C+
b) ♖d4→e4
c) ♖d4→f4
d) ♖d4→g4

5965. E. Gavriliv
& Y. Bilokin
Ucraina



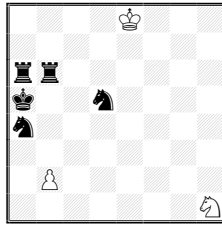
H≠2 (5+8) C+
b) ♗g4→g3

5966. J.J. Lois
Argentina



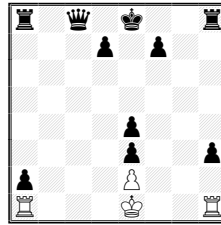
H≠2 (7+8) C+
b) ♖f5↔♜h4

5967. S. Luce
Francia



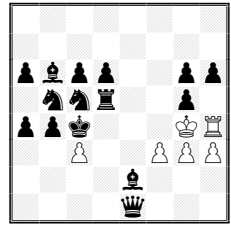
H≠2,5 (3+5) C+
b) -♘h1 & ♀90°

5968. E. Gavriliv
Ucraina



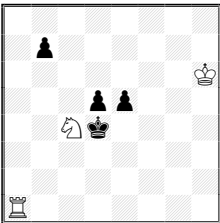
H≠2,5 (4+10) C+
b) ♜c8→g8

5969. E. Gavriliv
Ucraina



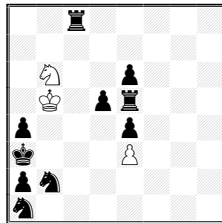
H≠3 (6+15) C+
b) ♗d6→a5

5970. E. Zimmer
Polonia



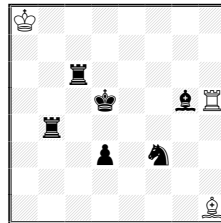
H≠3 (3+4) C+
2 sol.

5971. F. Magini
Italia



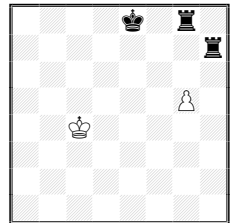
H≠3 (3+10) C+
2 sol.

5972. A. Pankratiev
& Y. Gorbatenko
Russia



H≠3 (3+6) C+
b) ♗d3→c7

5973. Z. Labai
Ungheria

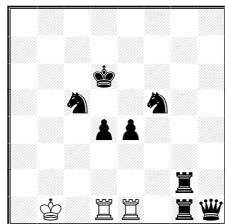


H≠3,5 (2+3) C+
b) H=3,5

H≠2, H=2, n. 5962-5966 (Judge 2024-2025: NN)

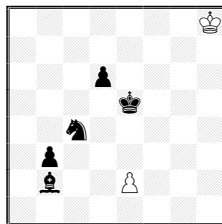
H≠2.5/H≠3, H=2.5/H=3, n. 5967-5972 (Judge 2024-2025: NN).

5974. E. Gavriliv & I. Soroka - Ucraina



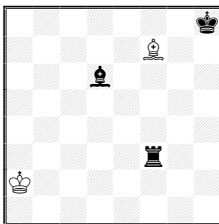
H≠3,5 (3+8) C+
2 sol.

5975. F. Magini Italia



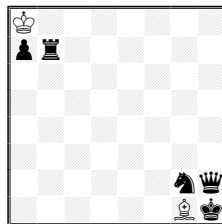
H≠5,5 (2+5) C+
1 sol.

5976. N. Zujev Lituania



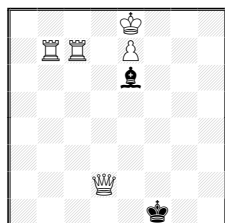
H≠6 (2+3) C+
2 sol.

5977. A. Pankratiev Russia



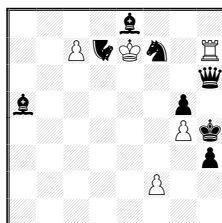
H≠7,5 (2+5) C+

5978. T. Linss Germania



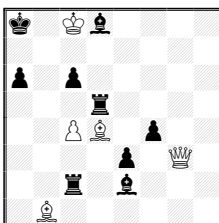
hs≠9 (5+2) C+
1 sol.

5979. M. Barth & F. Pachl - Germania



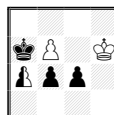
hs≠2,5 (5+8) C+
2 sol. - Anticirce Calvet
♣=Nightrider

5980. H. Gockel Germania



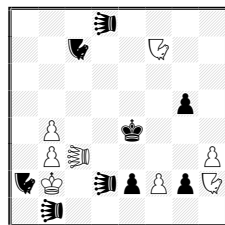
hs≠3 (5+9) C+
2 sol. - Superguards

5981. S. Luce Francia



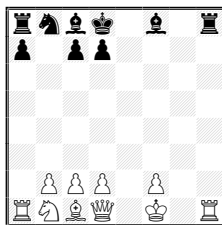
hs≠3,5 (2+3+1) C+
b) ♣a3 ↔ ♠b2

5982. M. Dragoun Rep. Ceca



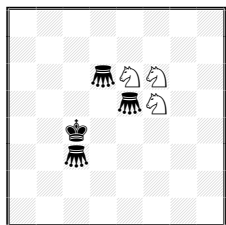
H≠2 (8+9) C+
4 sol. ♞♟=Leo
♣♠=Nightrider

5983. H. Grudzinski Polonia



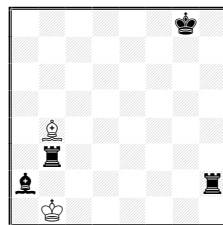
PG 10.5, (10+9) C?
Einstein

5984. S. Luce Francia



H≠3 (3+4) C+
2 sol. - ♞=Grasshopper

5985. S. Luce Francia



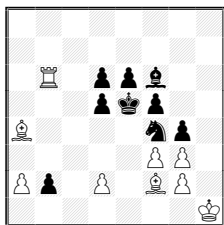
H≠3 (2+4) C+
2 sol. - Philophages

H≠n, n. 5973-5977 (Judge 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo).

hs≠2/3/n, n. 5978-5981 (Judge 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo).

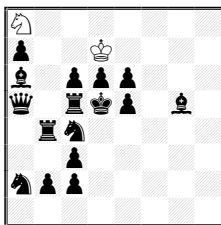
Fairies n. 5982-5989 (Judge 2024: NN).

5986. J.F. Carf & G. Jordan
Francia/Garmania



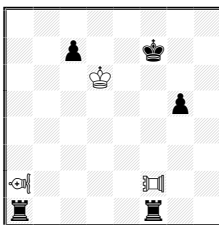
pscr-S#13 (9+9) C?
1 sol.

5987. S. Luce
Francia



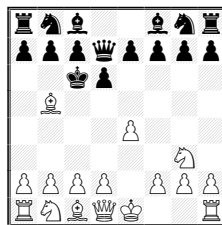
1 black move
& ss≠42 (2+16) C+

5988. M. Parrinello, M. Guida, A. Garofalo, F. Simoni - Italia



H≠2 (3+5) C+
2 sol. - Anti-Kings
♗♘=Bishop-Locust
♖♙=Rook-Locust

5989. G. Lucchesini
Italia



PG 5.0 (16+16) C+
Breton adverse
Fuddled men
Extinction

Fairies n. 5979-5989 (Judge 2024: (NN).

Note agli inediti (Fairy elements)

sh = aiutomatto a serie (Serie helpmate/helpstalemate).

hs = helpselfmate.

sd = diretti a serie (Serie direct)

ss = serie selfmate

- **Anticirce:** On making a capture, any unit (including K) is reborn on its game-array square (as determined according to **Circe** rules), and the captured unit disappears. Since rebirth is obligatory, a capture is legal only if the relevant rebirth-square is unoccupied. A capture may be made from a rebirth-square. Promotion with capture is legal provided the rebirth-square of the promoted unit is unoccupied. In **Anti-Circe type Calvet** capture on a rebirth-square is allowed (it is default type if type is omitted). In **Anti-Circe type Cheylan** capture on a rebirth-square is not allowed.
- **Anti-Kings:** A King is in check, if it is not attacked.
- **Breton adverse:** When a piece is captured, a piece of the same kind and same color (if there is one) must disappear.
- **Einstein:** Units "grow" when they capture (♔→♚→♛→♞→♟→♠→♡...) and "shrink" when they move without capturing (♠→♞→♛→♚→♔→♡...). Castling is permitted with reborn Rook but the Rook changes to a Bishop. If a white (black) Pawn on 7th (2nd) rank make a non-capturing move, fit does not change its status, i.e., remains a Pawn and loses its mobility.
- **Extinction:** Instead of checkmate as the winning condition, the object of the game is the elimination of all of a particular type of piece of the opponent. In other words, the objective is any of the following: capture all the opponent's kings; capture all the opponent's queens; capture all the opponent's rooks; capture all the opponent's bishops; capture all the opponent's knights; eliminate all of the opponent's pawns, by capturing or by promotion. A promoted pawn is considered no longer a pawn. By the same token, if a player already has a queen, and promotes a pawn to another queen, then both queens would need to be captured to make them extinct.

- **Fuddled Men:** 'Fuddled' men have had a little too much to drink: not so much as to incapacitate them totally, but enough to slow them down. To be precise, having made a move, a fuddled man must stop and think for one turn before moving again", (John Beasley)
- **Philophages:** Any piece can only capture pieces of his own side (King included).
- **Pser:** Problema a serie, parziale. Durante una normale serie di mosse il Nero può dare scacco, il quale viene parato da una mossa bianca, dopo di che la serie prosegue.
- **Superguards:** Une pièce (Roi inclus) ne peut pas être capturée si elle est contrôlée. [Un pezzo - Re incluso – non può essere catturato se esso è controllato da un pezzo amico.]
- **Bishop-Locust:** a **Locust** capturing on Bishop-lines only.
- **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.
- **Leo:** The Chinese Queen, which moves like a normal Queen but captures like a **Lion**.
- **Nightrider:** a **Rider** along a straight line on squares lying a Knight's move away from each other, e.g. a1-b3-c5-d7.
- **Rook-Locust:** A **Locust** capturing on Rook-lines only.

Soluzioni Inediti

Fascicolo n. 112

Commenti degli autori e del redattore.

5950. (≠2, José Miguel Abad Gonzalez)

8/7p/7B/1N6/1p5p/1B1pp2P/p2kp2K/Q7

1...e1=♔ 2. ♖b2‡ B 1...e1=♘ a 2. ♖d1‡ A

1. ♘d4? [2. ♘f3‡] 1...e1=♔ 2. ♖b2‡ ma 1...e1=♘! a

1. ♔g1? [2. ♙xe3‡] 1...e1=♘ a 2. ♖xe3‡ ma 1...e1=♔!

1. ♙f8! [2. ♙xb4‡]

1...e1=♔ 2. ♖b2‡ 1...e1=♘ 2. ♖d1‡ Ropke

5951. (≠2, Antonio Tarnawiecki & Kabe Moen)

8/8/2pPR3/p1rk1p2/p1pN1P2/K4P2/2N5/1Q4B1

1. ♖d1? [2. ♘e3‡] A ma 1... ♖b5! a

1. ♖b8? [2. ♗e5‡] B ma 1...c3! b

1. ♖b4! Tempo

1... ♖b5 a 2. ♗e5‡ B 1...c3 b 2. ♘e3‡ A 1...axb4+ 2. ♘xb4‡

Comments by Authors: Hannelius with sacrificial zugzwang key and Somov mates.

5952. (≠2, Pavel Murashëv)

n1B3b1/1p2p2r/7Q/NN1kPqR1/5p2/2Rp1P2/8/K7

1.e6? X [2. ♗xf5‡] B

1... ♙e5 a 2. ♗c5‡ A 1... ♖e5 b 2. ♙xb7‡ Y 1... ♙xe6 2. ♖xe6‡ 1... ♖g5 2. ♖g5‡ ma

1... ♗f7!

1. ♘b3? [2. ♗c5‡] A 1... ♙xe5 a 2. ♗xf5‡ B 1... ♖xe5 b 2. ♙xb7‡ Y 1... ♖xc8 2.e6‡ X ma 1...b6!

1. ♘b7! [2. ♗c5‡] A 1... ♖xc8 2.e6‡ X 1... ♙xe5 a 2. ♗xf5‡ B 1... ♖xe5 b 2. ♖c6‡

Comments by Author: Le Grand + pseudo-Erokhin (Dyachuk pseudo-combination); Changed mates 2x2, Bartolovic

5953. (≠2, Pavel Murashëv)

3Q4/Np6/2p2B2/ppkP4/R1r3P1/R5NK/2n5/5B2

1... ♖d4 a 2. ♙e7♯ A 1... ♗d4 2. ♙e7♯ 2. ♗e4♯ AC
 1.dxc6? [2. ♙e7♯] A 1... ♖e4 c 2. ♗xe4♯ C ma 1... ♖d4! a
 1. ♗f5? [2. ♙e7♯] A 1... ♖c3+ b 2. ♖xc3♯ B ma 1... ♖e4! c
 1. ♖c3! B [2. ♗e4♯] C
 1... ♖xc3 b 2. ♙e7♯ A 1... bxa4 2. ♖xc4♯ 1... cxd5 2. ♖c7♯

Comments by Author: Dyachuk pseudo-combination (new Erokhin + pseudo-le Grand)
 The reverse Dombrovskis paradox, check provocation.

5954. (≠2, Germán Bielefeldt)

4nB2/3K1p2/2pp1k2/5Pp1/4P1P1/3P1N2/4N1Qb/4q2R

1. ♗f4! [2. ♗h5♯] 1... ♗g7 2. ♙e7♯ 1... ♙xf4 2. ♖h6♯ 1... ♖h4 2. ♖b2♯ 1... gxf4 2. g5♯

5955. Gerhard Maleika

2rN1n2/B6R/8/2PkPKP1/B2p1R2/4pp1r/2pNQ3/n4b2

1. ♗e6? A [2. ♖xd4♯] 1... ♗xe6 a 2. ♖d7♯ 1... ♖h4 b 2. ♖xf3♯ ma 1... ♗b3! c
 1. ♖hh4? B [2. ♖xd4♯] 1... ♖xh4 b 2. ♖xf3♯ 1... ♗b3 c 2. ♙xb3♯ ma 1... ♗e6! a
 1. ♗b3? ♗ [2. ♖xd4♯] 1... ♗xb3 c 2. ♙xb3♯ 1... ♗e6 a 2. ♖d7♯ ma 1... ♖h4! b
 1.c6! [2. ♖xd4♯] 1... ♗e6 a 2. ♖d7♯ 1... ♖h4 b 2. ♖xf3♯ 1... ♗b3 c 2. ♙xb3♯

Comments by Author: Zyklus von Erstzug und Widerlegung [Cycle between defenses and refutations]
 Ciclo fra difese inefficaci e refutazioni, il tutto collegate con le case dei tentativi.

5956. (≠2, Germán Bielefeldt & Virginio Cabrera)

1N1Q4/r2P1K2/4BPp1/2P1k2p/1R6/3P2P1/1n3rb1/2N3B1

1. ♖h4! [2.d4♯] 1... ♗xd3 2. ♗xd3♯ 1... ♖xd7+ 2. ♗xd7♯ 1... ♖a4 2. ♖c7♯
 1... ♖f4 2. gxf4♯ 1... ♙e4 2. ♖xe4♯ 1... ♖d2 2. ♙d4♯ 1... ♖xf6+ 2. ♖xf6♯

5957. (≠2, Antonio Tarnawiecki & Emanuel Navon)

1B2Q3/1Nr5/1r2b2p/2Rnp1p1/1PNkn1P1/1Bp3P1/2PpRP1K/8

1... ♖f7 a 2. ♙xe5♯ A 1... ♙xg4 b 2. ♖xe5♯ B
 1. ♗xe5! [2. ♗f3♯] 1... ♖f7 a 2. ♖c4♯ C 1... ♙xg4 b 2. ♖xd5♯ D 1... ♗xe5 2. ♖h8♯

Comments by Authors: Two changed mates on a BABY theme setting.

5958. (≠2, Gerhard Maleika)

4r1Nq/4pPrp/Q2pn2B/1P3kPB/5n2/Kp4bP/b1NpRRP1/8

1... d5 2. ♖xe6♯ 1... ♗d4 2. ♗xd4♯ 1. ♖a4? [2. ♖e4♯] ma 1... d5!

1. ♖c8! [2. ♖xe6♯ 2. ♗d4♯]

1... ♖xc8 AB 2. ♗xe7♯

1... ♙xf2 BC 2. g4♯

1... ♖g6 CD 2. ♙g4♯

1... bxc2 DA 2. ♖xc2♯

Comments by Author: Zyklus der Effekte, mit denen die Drohungen verhindert werden

A ein schwarzer Stein schlägt einen Drohstein

B ein schwarzer Stein gewinnt Zugang zu einem Feld durch Entfesselung

C ein schwarzer Stein gewinnt Zugang zu einem Feld durch seinen Zug

D ein schwarzer Stein gewinnt Zugang zu einem Feld durch Linienöffnung

[Ciclo degli effetti con cui le minacce sono prevenute.

I matti minacciati sono impediti per:

A - cattura B - schiodatura C - controllo diretto D - apertura di linea]

5959. (≠3, Elmar Abdullayev)

4B3/8/4p3/4k1P1/8/2N1K3/8/6R1

1. ♗b5? Tempo 1... ♗d5 2. ♖c1 ♗e5 3. ♖c5♯ 2... e5 3. ♙f7♯ ma 1... ♗f5!

1. ♖e4! Tempo

1... ♜f5 2.g6 e5 a 3. ♙d7‡ A 2... ♜e5 b 3. ♜g5‡ B

1... ♜d5 2. ♜c1 e5 a 3. ♙f7‡ C 2... ♜e5 b 3. ♜c5‡ D

Comments by Author: Tema Visserman, matti cambiati a eco.

5960. (≠3, Leonid Lyubashevsky, Leonid Makaronez & Victor Volchek)

6nK/2p5/2P1Qpp1/B1k1p3/Pp6/3q2N1/pPN2P2/2nR1B1b

1. ♖xb4! [2. ♖a6+ ♜d4 3. ♙c3‡ 2... ♜xa6 3.b4‡]

1... ♜e2 2. ♜xd3 (♜xd3+? ♜d4!) [3. ♖a6‡] ♙d5 3. ♜xd5‡

1... ♖b3 2. ♖xd3+ (♜xd3? ♖xa5!) ♜d4 3. ♙c3‡

1... ♙d5 2. ♜xd5+ ♜xd5 3. ♜xd5‡ 1... ♜d4 2. ♖c2+ ♜c5 3.b4‡

Comments by Authors: Pinning, Antiduals, Play on same square.

5961. (≠3, Rauf Aliovsadzade)

8/2pK3R/2p5/Rbpkpp2/8/pP1P3N/1n3Q2/B7

1. ♜f7? [2. ♖f4+ exf4 3. ♜xf5‡] ma 1... ♖xd3!

1. ♜h6? Tempo, ma 1...c4!

1. ♜h4? Tempo, ma 1...e4!

1. ♜h5! [2. ♖f4+ exf4 3. ♜xf5‡]

1... ♖xd3 2. ♜g2+ e4 3. ♜g8‡ 1... ♙xd3 2. ♜xc5+ ♜e4 3. ♖g5‡

Comments by Author: Original conception. In two thematic variations, White's tries on 2nd moves get refuted by switchbacks of the black pieces that made the first moves.

(1. ♜f7? ♖xd3! 1. ♜h6? c4! 1. ♜h4? e4!)

1. ♜h5! - 2. ♖f4+ exf4 3. ♜xf5≠

1... ♖xd3 2. ♜g2+! e4 3. ♜g8≠ (if 2. ♜xf5? - 3. ♜f3, ♜g2≠ 2... ♖b2!)

1... ♙xd3 2. ♜xc5+! ♜e4 3. ♖g5≠ (if 2. ♜e3? - 3 ♜xc5≠ 2... ♙b5!)

5962. (H≠2, Valery Liskovets)

3R4/8/4p3/4p1B1/2pP3b/2P2K1p/2p3N1/3krb2

a) 1.h2 ♖xh4 2. ♙h3 dxe5‡

b) 1.hxg2 dxe5+ 2. ♜e1 ♙xh4‡ 1.exd4 ♙d2 2.dxc3 ♖e3‡

c) 1.exd4 ♖xh4 2. ♙h3 ♜xd4‡

Comments by Author:

Intention: • Total hideaways, including mate, with interdependent motivations. Additional interacting hideaways in twins and reciprocal P-P captures.

Features:

- 8 hideaways altogether: namely, all 4 moves in a, 1 (B2) in the solution b1, and also repeated W1 in b2 and W1&B2 in c.
- Allowing hideaway by hideaway 3 times: B1-B2 and W1-B2 in a and also W1-B2 in c. The first hideaways 1.h2 and twice 1...Sxh4 here are motivated exclusively by enabling 2.Bh3.
- 4th allowing hideaway: W1-B2 in b1 (here 1...Bd2 is not a hideaway and has multiple motivations).
- Reciprocal captures: wPd4-bPe5 (repeatedly, 2x2 times, a-b1-b2-c-a).
- A hidden tempo-try (=set-play) in the twin c ("coincides" with the postkey solution of a).
- Mates by moves of distinct pieces (wPSBR).
- Win by total "evacuations" (of allied forces): a metaphorical antithesis to the famous Churchill's claim. The helpmate-stipulated play may be interpreted as a struggle/war of the WB-coalition (against an invisible rival, say, "rule-keeper")... The global hideaway strategy looks rather counterintuitive and over-restrictive (the minimalist style). This presumably new theme has been proposed and implemented by me recently.
- Nuances of the contemporary definition of hideaway are significant, including the requirement not to be a sole legal move of the moving piece/pawn. The rigorous definition is represented currently in the Glossary of the Helpmate Analyzer by Viktoras Paliulionis. Cf. also the (unnamed) helpmate theme of the 9th WCCT (https://www.wfcc.ch/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/WCCT-9_booklet.pdf, Section E). Naturally, the problem would remain sound under less restrictive definitions of hideaway.

• The white knight doesn't participate in mating in a) and c) deliberately/thematically (instead, in the twin b, wS plays two additional roles: gives a mate and is annihilated; besides, due to the option 1.hxSg2, the key 1.h2 in a is a hideaway).

5963. (H≠2, Andreas Schonholzer)

1b1r4/8/2pk4/2p2p2/2p5/5K2/3BN3/8

1. ♖d5 ♕c3 A 2. ♗d6 ♜f4♯ B 1. ♖e5 ♜f4 B 2. ♕d6 ♕c3♯ A

Comments by Author: Zugwechsel / Grimshaw / Mustermatt.

5964. (H≠2, Jorge J. Lois)

3rbK2/3p4/1pP1P3/4PP2/1p1k4/QR6/npp2p2/2rn4

a) 1.dxc6 ♗e3 2.c5 ♗d3♯ b) 1.d5 ♗f3 2. ♜e3 ♗xe3♯

c) 1.d6 ♗g3 2.dxe5 ♗f3♯ d) 1.dxe6 ♗h3 2.exf5 ♗g3♯

Comments by Author: Pickaninny, Fourfold Bristol of wRook/wQueen, Fourfold selfblock Pickaninny pawn. Four echo-mates.

5965. (H≠2, Evgeny Gavriliv & Yuri Bilokin)

8/8/R7/3pkn1b/3r2nb/5P1p/5P2/4K2R

a) 1. ♜xf2 0-0 2. ♜e4 f4♯ b) 1. ♕xf3 ♗f1 2. ♕e4 f4♯

Comments: • Ambush (wR) × 2 • Annihilation × 2 • AntiZielElement (B1, flight-unguard) • Baltic theme • Bi-valve (bB-wR-bR) • Bi-valve (bS-wR-bR) • Bukovina theme • Castling (white, short) • Check prevention (W-W) • Exchange of functions (wPf2/wPf3, Captured / Mate) • JT Onkoud 50 theme • Play on the same square (B2, 2) • Play on the same square (W2, 2) • Zilahi (passive, PP, 2) • Model mate × 2 • Mates on the same square × 2

View in Helpmate Analyzer.

5966. (H≠2, Jorge J. Lois)

8/3K4/3b1rrp/5k1P/4p2R/4P2p/5PPP/3q4

a) 1. ♗g3 a f4 B 2. ♗f3 c g4♯ D b) 1. ♗g4 d f3 C 2. ♗f4 b g3♯ A

Comments by Author: Thematic content - Avanta (white). Definition of Avanta: A play of two adjacent pawns from their initial game-array squares without capture to four squares available to them (single- and double-step). Place exchange ascending and descending of all squares between the first and second solution by moves of white pawns (wPf2/g2) and black rook (sRg6). Phase 1: 1.a,B 2.c,D# and Phase 2: 1.d,C 2.b,A# (variation of Stavrinides theme) Model mate × 2

5967. (H≠2.5, Sébastien Luce)

4K3/8/rr6/k2n4/n7/8/1P6/7N

a) 1... ♜f2 2. ♜dc3 ♜d3 3. ♜b5 b4♯ b) 1... b8=♜ 2. ♗e7 ♜d7 3. ♜ef7 ♜f6♯

Comments by Author: Funny twins! In the first one with a white Knight, it is the pawn which mates. In the second, without the Knight, it is ...a Knight of promotion which mates! Two different ways to self-block. White King avoids the dual 1.Sc7 in the first twin. Model mates.

5968. (H≠2.5, Evgeny Gavriliv)

r1q1k2r/3p1p2/8/8/4p3/4p2p/p3P3/R3K2R

a) 1... 0-0 2. ♗c1 ♗b1 3.0-0-0 ♗xc1♯ 1... ♗xh3 2. ♗b7 0-0-0 3.0-0 ♗g1♯

b) 1... 0-0-0 2. ♗g1 ♗xh3 3.0-0 ♗xg1♯ 1... ♗b1 2. ♗h7 0-0 3.0-0-0 ♗fc1♯

Comments by Author:

a) 1...Rxxh3 (A) 2.Qb7 (Q-?) 0-0-0 (B) 3.0-0 Rg1# (MM)

1... 0-0 (C) 2.Qc1 (Q-?) Rb1 (D) 3.0-0-0 Rfxc1# (MM)

b) 1... Rb1 (D) 2.Qh7 (Q-?) 0-0 (C) 3.0-0-0 Rfc1# (MM)

1...0-0-0 (B) 2.Qg1 (Q-?) Rxxh3 (A) 3.0-0 Rxxg1# (MM)

An attempt to combine a number of well-known ideas in one work.

Complete analogy between the first and second solutions in both pairs.

• Active sacrifice (black, delayed) × 2 • Castling (black, long) × 2 • Castling (black, short) × 2 • Castling (white, long) × 2 • Castling (white, short) × 2 • Check prevention (W-W) × 2 • Exchange of moves (W1/W2) × 2: AB-BA, CD-DC • Hideaway (bQ) × 2 • Hideaway (bQ, sacrificial) × 2 • Umnov move (bQ-bK) × 2 • Model mate × 4 [View in Helpmate Analyzer.]

5969. (H≠3, Evgeny Gavriliv)

8/8/pbpp2pp/1nnr2p1/ppk3KR/2P2PPP/4b3/4q3

a) 1. ♖xg3+ ♜xg3+ 2. ♗e4+ ♞xe4+ 3. ♜c5 cxb4‡

b) 1. ♙xf3+ ♜xf3+ 2. ♗d4+ ♞xd4+ 3. ♜b5 c4‡

Comments by Author:

a) 1.Qxg3+ Kxg3+ 2.Se4+ Rxe4+ 3.Kc5 cxb4# (MM)

(1.Sb3/Se6/Sb7/Sd7 ?? 2.Qxg3+ Kxg3+ 3.Kc5 cxb4#)

b) 1.Bxf3+ Kxf3+ 2.Sd4+ Rxd4+ 3.Kb5 c4# (MM)

(1.Sa7/Sc7 ?? 2.Bxf3+ Kxf3+ 3.Kb5 c4#)

- Active sacrifice (black) × 4
- Allowing hideaway (B-W) × 2
- Analogy (good)
- Chumakov theme (sp, 2)
- Consecutive checks (4) × 2
- Crosscheck (1) × 2
- Exchange of functions (bQe1/bBe2, Active sacrifice / Passive)
- Exchange of functions (bSb5/bSc5, Active sacrifice / Passive self-block)
- Hidden tempo-try × 2
- Hideaway (wK, capturing) × 2
- JT Onkoud 50 theme
- Kniest theme (white) × 2
- Umnov mate (bK-wP)
- Model mate × 2

View in Helpmate Analyzer.

5970. (H≠3, Eligiusz Zimmer)

8/1p6/7K/3pp3/2Nk4/8/8/R7

1. ♜c5 ♞d1 2. ♜b5 ♞xd5+ 3. ♜a6 ♞a5‡ 1. ♜e4 ♜h5 2. ♜f4 ♜h4 3.e4 ♞fl‡

5971. (H≠3, Fabio Magini)

2r5/8/1N2p3/1K1pr3/p3p3/k3P3/pn6/n7

1. ♗d3 ♗xd5 2. ♗c5 ♗b6 3. ♗ab3 ♗c4‡

1. ♗b3 ♗xa4 2.a1=♞ ♗c3 3. ♞a2 ♗b1‡

5972. (H≠3, Alexandre Pankratiev & Yuri Gorbatenko)

K7/8/2r5/3k2bR/1r6/3p1n2/8/7B

a) 1. ♞c3 ♞xg5+ 2. ♜c4 ♞a5 3. ♗d4 ♗d5‡

b) 1. ♞e6 ♙xf3+ 2. ♜d6 ♗b7 3. ♙e7 ♞d5‡

5973. (H≠3.5, Zoltán Labai)

4k1r1/7r/8/P1/2K5/8/8/8

a) 1...g6 2. ♞d7 g7 3. ♞f8 g8=♙ 4. ♞d8 ♙e6‡

b) 1...♜d5 2. ♞f8 ♜e6 3. ♞f6+ gxf6 4. ♞e7+ fxe7=

Chumakov, Jumeaux argentins (WinChloe)

5974. (H≠3.5, Evgeny Gavriliv & Ivan Soroka)

8/8/3k4/2n2n2/3pp3/8/6r1/1K1RR1rq

1... ♞c1 2. ♗d3 ♞c6+ 3. ♜d5 ♞ec1 4. ♗e1 ♞1c5‡

1... ♞fl 2. ♗e3 ♞f6+ 3. ♜e5 ♞df1 4. ♗d1 ♞1f5‡

Comments:

- Ambush (wR) × 2
- Analogy (complete)
- AntiZielElement (B2, guard) × 2
- Bristol (white, wR-wR, impure, 5, 4) × 2
- Delayed Umnov (wR-wR) × 2
- Echo mates (mirrored vertically, 1, 0)
- Exchange of functions (bSc5/bSf5, Interfering / Passive)
- Exchange of functions (wRd1/wRe1, Guard / Mate)
- Half-pin (white)
- JT Onkoud 50 theme
- Pelle move (white) × 2
- Place exchange (wR/bS) × 2
- Self-pin/unpin (white) × 2
- Model mate × 2
- Echo
- Chameleon

View in Helpmate Analyzer.

5975. (H≠5.5, Fabio Magini)

7K/8/3p4/4k3/2n5/1p6/1b2P3/8

1...e4 2. ♜d4 e5 3. ♜c3 exd6 4. ♗e5 d7 5. ♜b4 d8=♙ 6. ♜a3 ♙a5‡

Comments by Author: Check prevention (B-W), Excelsior (white)

5976. (H≠6, Nikolaj Zujev)

7k/5B2/3b4/8/8/5r2/K7/8

1. ♜g7 ♙g8 2. ♞f8 ♜b3 3. ♞d8 ♜c4 4. ♜f8 ♜d5 5. ♜e8 ♜e6 6. ♙f8 ♙f7‡

Comments: • Check prevention (W-W) • Klasinc theme (wB-bR) • Switchback (wB, captureless, 1) • Ideal mate • Epaulette mate.

[View in Helpmate Analyzer]

5977. (H≠7.5, Alexandre Pankratiev)

K7/pr6/8/8/8/8/6nq/6Bk

1... ♖f2 2. ♜c7 ♗b8 3. ♜b7+ ♖c8 4. ♜b1 ♗d7 5. ♜g1 ♖e6 6. ♗h2 ♖f5 7. ♜h1 ♖g4 8. ♜g1 ♖g3‡

Comments:

• AntiZielElement (B5, square obstruction) • Long-trip (bR, 4) • Place exchange (bQ/bK) • Switchback (bR, captureless, 1) • Model mate × 1 • Interference × 1 • Self-block × 2 • Square vacation × 2 Unblock × 1

[View in Helpmate Analyzer]

5978. (hs≠9, Torsten Linss)

4K3/1RR1P3/4b3/8/8/3Q4/5k2

1. ♜d8 ♖e2 2. ♜b1 ♖b3 3. ♗d7 ♗d3 4. ♜a7 ♖c4 5. ♗c8 ♖b5 6. ♜d7 ♖a6 7. e8=♗ ♖d5 8. ♗c7+ ♖a7 9. ♜b7+ ♖xb7#

Comments by Author: Three critical moves: Qd8 (interfered by wK), Rb1 (interfered by bB with swichback) und Rd7 (interfered by wS), invisible Klasinc (wR opening for wR).

Three critical moves: Qd8 (interfered by wK), Rb1 (interfered by bB with swichback) und Rd7 (interfered by wS), invisible Klasinc (wR opening for wR).

5979. (hs≠2.5, Michael Barth & Franz Pachl)

1... ♗d8 2. cxd8=♗(♗) ♗c5 3. ♗b7+ ♗xb7(♗b1)‡

1... ♗b8 2. cxb8=♗(♗g1) ♗e5 3. ♗f3+ ♗xf3(♗g8)‡

5980. (hs≠3, Hubert Gockel)

k1Kb4/8/p1p5/3r4/2PB1p2/4p1Q1/2r1b3/1B6

1. ♜g6 ♜xc4 2. ♜d3 ♜c2 3. ♜xa6+ ♖xa6‡ 1. ♜e1 ♖xc4 2. ♜c3 ♖d3 3. ♜xc6+ ♜xc6‡

Comments by Author: The wQ needs these “detours” to capture on c6 and a6, respectively, because more directs routes (1.Qg6 B:c4 2.~ Bd3 3.Q:c6+??) are illegal, because a6/c6 are observed by units of own colour. B2 is determined by the need to prevent 3.- R:c6+/B:a6+ 4.Bf5!

5981. (hs≠3.5, Sébastien Luce)

a) 1... b1=♜ 2. b4=♖+ ♗b2 3. a4=♜n c1=♜ 4. ♖c3+ ♜xc3‡

b) 1... a1=♗n 2. b4=♜+ ♗nb3 3. ♜c4 c1=♜ 4. ♜c2+ ♜xc2‡

Comments by Author: In this very small space, promotions can happen very quickly. For white, on the fourth rank! Seven promotions is the total, including an AUW. A black Rook of promotion self-blocks in the first twin, a black Pawn in the second. Sacrifice of white Bishop or Queen of promotion to force the mate by black Queen of promotion. The neutral piece of promotion controls the flight squares.

5982. (H≠2, Michal Dragoun)

1. LEh1 LEf3 2. ♗d4 LExh1‡

1. LEbe1 LEe5 2. ♗d3 LExe1‡

1. ♗f5 ♗h8 2. LEe4 ♗d4‡

1. ♗f4 ♗f6 2. LEf5 ♗d3‡

5983. (PG 10.5, Henryk Grudzinski)

mbk1b1r/p1pp4/8/8/8/1PPP1P2/RNBQ1K1R

1. a4 f5 2. a5 f4 3. a6 f3 4. axb7(♗) fxe2(♗) 5. ♗xd8(♖) ♗xg1(♖) 6. ♖xe7(♜)+ ♗d8

7. ♜xg7(♜) ♖xh2(♜) 8. ♜xg8 ♜xh1(♜) 9. ♜xh7 ♜xg2 10. ♜h1(♜) ♜xf1+ 11. ♗xf1

Comments by Author: 1. a4 f5 2. a5 f4 3. a6 f3 4. axb7=S fxe2=S 5. Sxd8=B Sxg1=B 6. Bxe7=R+ Kd8 7. Rxg7=Q Bxh2=R 8. Qxg8 Rxh1=Q 9. Qxh7 Qxg2 10. Qh1=R -> Pronkin 10... Qxf1+ 11. Kxf1 -> Ceriani-Frolkin

5984. (H≠3, Sébastien Luce)

1. ♖f4 ♘d7 2. ♖b4 ♘dc5 3. ♖b5 ♘e3‡ 1. ♙d3 ♘g4 2. ♖d2 ♘ge3 3. ♖e2 ♘c5‡

Comments by Author: Mates in echo with a white trio of Knights versus a black trio of Grasshoppers! Selfblocks by the black pieces.

5985. (H≠3, Sébastien Luce)

6k1/8/8/1B6/1r6/b6r/1K6

1. ♖xa2 ♙d6 2. ♖b7 ♙b8 3. ♖a8 ♙a7‡ 1. ♙g7 ♙d2 2. ♖bh3 ♙h6 3. ♙h8 ♙g7‡

Comments by Author: Creation of a bicolor battery black Rook/white Bishop on the eight rank or on the h-file (echo chameleon). In the first variation, white Bishop avoids the escape of black Rook a8. In the second variation, first move by black King unpins Rook b3, then after the creation of the battery on the h-file, the final Bishop move avoids the escape of black King in g7, and it is mate because of the presence of two black Rooks on the h-file, which cannot escape both.

Philophages: Any piece can only capture pieces of his own side (King included).

5986. (pser-S≠13, Jean-François Carf & Gunter Jordan)

8/8/1R1ppb2/3pkp2/B4np1/5PP1/Pp1P1BP1/7K

1. ♙g1 2. ♙f1 3. ♙e1 4. ♙d1 5. ♙c2 6. ♙xb2 7. ♙a1 8. ♖b1 9. ♖e1+ ♘e2 10. ♖b1 11. d4+ ♘xd4 12. f4+ ♙e4 13. ♙c2+ ♘xc2‡ - (not fully tested, Authors)

5987. (1 black move & ss≠42, Sébastien Luce)

N7/p2K4/b1ppp3/q1rkp1b1/1m5/2p5/npp5/8

1. ♖c7+ & 1. ♙xc7 2. ♙d7 3. ♙e8 4. ♙f7 5. ♙g6 6. ♙h5 7. ♙g4 8. ♙f3 9. ♙e2 10. ♙d3 11. ♙xc2 12. ♙b1 13. ♙xa2 14. ♙b1 15. ♙c2 16. ♙xc3 17. ♙xb4 18. ♙c3 19. ♙d3 20. ♙e2 21. ♙f3 22. ♙g4 23. ♙h5 24. ♙g6 25. ♙f7 26. ♙e8 27. ♙d7 28. ♙c7 29. ♙b8 30. ♙xa7 31. ♙b8 32. ♙c7 33. ♙d7 34. ♙e8 35. ♙f7 36. ♙g6 37. ♙h5 38. ♙g4 39. ♙f3 40. ♙e2 41. ♙d3 42. ♘b6+ ♘xb6‡

Comments by Author: A mini-maximal black and white opposition! Thanks to the "hybrid stipulation", the 16 black pieces are all present on the board! Black Queen is sacrificed first, then white King during its rundlauf has to capture five other pieces, the last one, the "annoying" Pawn a7. After the return to d3, the sacrifice of white Knight on b6 forced its capture, delivering the action of black Rook c5 (control of c3, c2) and the mating Bishop a6. For more information about "hybrid stipulations", the reader can see the article published in the supplement of the electronic magazine Quartz 56 (jan. 23).

5988. (H≠2, Mario Parrinello, Marco Guida, Antonio Garofalo, Francesco Simoni)

1. ♖fe1 ♙e5 2. ♖xa2 ♙f4‡ 1. ♖ac1 ♙c5 2. ♖xf2 ♙c4‡

5989. (PG 5.0, Giuseppe Lucchesini)

rnb2bnr/pppqqppp/2kp4/1B6/4P3/6N1/PPPP1PPP/RNBQK2R

1. e3 d6 2. ♘e2 ♙d7 3. e4 ♖e8 4. ♘g3 ♙c6 5. ♙b5 ♖d7+

Comments by Author: PG 5.0 (verificato su Jacobi) con tre condizioni:

- Breton Adverse: (When a piece is captured, another piece of same nature belonging to captured side (if any) must also disappear).
- Fuddled Men: ('Fuddled' men have had a little too much to drink: not so much as to incapacitate them totally, but enough to slow them down. To be precise, having made a move, a fuddled man must stop and think for one turn before moving again', John Beasley)
- Extinction: (Instead of checkmate as the winning condition, the object of the game is the elimination of all of a particular type of piece of the opponent. In other words, the objective is any of the following: capture all the opponent's kings; capture all the opponent's queens; capture all the opponent's rooks; capture all the opponent's bishops; capture all the opponent's knights; eliminate all of the opponent's pawns, by capturing or by promotion. A promoted pawn is considered no longer a pawn. By the same token, if a player already has a queen, and promotes a pawn to another queen, then both queens would need to be captured to make them extinct.)



Memorial Tourney Jorge Marcelo Kapros 2024-2025 (Formal Tournaments)

Kapros died in Moreno, Province of Buenos Aires, on August 27, 2023 at the age of 67. During his life, he resided in the city of El Palomar, Argentina. He had the title of International master of the FIDE for chess composition.

The Unión Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez (UAPA) organizes the Memorial Tourney Jorge Marcelo Kapros, containing three sections - **Theme free**:

Twomovers ($\neq 2$) Judge: **Miguel Uris** (Spain)

Helpmates ($H \neq 2$) Judge: **Ricardo de Mattos Vieira** (Brazil)

Helpmates ($H \neq 3$) Judge: **Jorge Joaquín Lois** (Argentina)

Please send your entry with diagram, full solution, name and address of author, to the tournament director: **José Luis García**, producer and editor the UAPA.

E-mail: uapa@problemistasajedrez.com.ar – All received problems will be presented to the judge in anonymous form. Prizes, Honourable Mentions, Commendations and Special Nominations will be awarded. The preliminary and final award will be published in mid-2025 will be available in the website <https://www.problemistasajedrez.com.ar>, and will be sent to all participants by e-mail – **Closing date: November 30th, 2024.**

Please reprint

Pictures from Jurmala



1)



2)



3)

1) Daniele Gatti & Marco Guida 2) Francesco Simoni, Mario Parrinello, his wife Paola & Marco Guida, 3) Mario Parrinello, his wife Paola & Daniele Gatti

BEST PROBLEMS H#2 / H=2 2018-2019 AWARD

by Harry Fougiaxis

69 helpmates and helpstalemates in 2 moves participated in this tourney; they were published as follows:

- BP 85 (I/2018): 3918-3927 [10]
- BP 86 (IV/2018): 3966-3972 [7]
- BP 87 (VII/2018): 4010-4019 [10]
- BP 88 (X/2018): 4067-4074 [8]
- BP 89 (I/2019): 4112-4119 [8]
- BP 90 (IV/2019): 4154-4163 [10]
- BP 91 (VII/2019): 4200-4207 [8]
- BP 92 (X/2019): 4246-4253 [8]

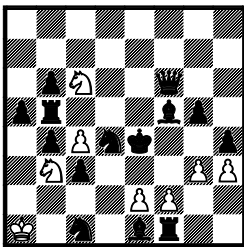
Quality was rather average as a whole, since several compositions either had a trivial or very familiar idea, suffered from bad economy or were unbalanced and looked untidy. Yet, I found 14 problems worthy for an award, which eventually made the tourney a success.

Some remarks on a few unsuccessful compositions:

- 3971 (Magini): The move 1.Bf6 also interferes with the black Rf8.
- 4015 (Magini & Garofalo): Familiar idea that has been shown in many four-fold settings, for instance <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0530331>, <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0530339>, <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0505826>, <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0530357> or even five-fold like <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0530479> and <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0521618>.
- 4018 (Magini): Anticipated by <https://yacpdb.org/#44163> and <https://yacpdb.org/#102102>
- 4068 (Kapos): Anticipated by <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P0526407>
- 4074 (Csák): Substantially anticipated by <https://yacpdb.org/#349863>
- 4161 (Colaneri): Anticipated by <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P1242446> and <https://pdb.dieschwalbe.de/P1311975>

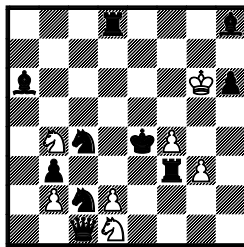
I propose the following ranking:

4019. Abdelaziz Onkoud
Best Problems 2018-19
1st Prize



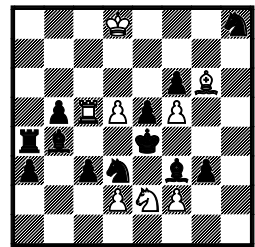
H#2 (8+14) C+ - 6 sol.

4205. Francesco Simoni
Best Problems 2018-19 (v)
2nd Prize



H#2 (7+10) C+ - 2 sol.

4070. Abdelaziz Onkoud
Best Problems 2018-19
3rd Prize



H#2 (8+12) C+ - 4 sol.

4019 BP87 (VII/2018) Abdelaziz Onkoud (FRA), 1st Prize

1. ♖d3 ♜c1 2. ♜f3 exd3‡ 1. ♜f3 ♜bd4 2. ♜d3 exf3‡
 1. hxg3 ♜d2+ 2. ♜f4 e3‡ 1. ♙g6 ♜c5+ 2. ♜f5 e4‡
 1. c2 ♜b2 2. ♙d2 ♜xd2‡ 1. ♚c5 ♜b1 2. b5 ♜xc5‡

White Albino in an ambitious 3x2 TF-helpmate. In the first pair we have FML play and black sacrifices by the knights, in the second pair we have captures/square vacations to provide flights to the bK with the knight carrying out again the W1 moves; in the final set the knight delivers the mates by playing the same moves as previously, while the wK buys time (the differentiation of the ♜b2/♜b1 moves is very smart).

4205(v) BP91 (VII/2019) Francesco Simoni (ITA), 2nd Prize

1. ♜4e3 (♜2e3?) d4 2. ♚xd4 (♙xd4?) ♜c3#
 1. ♙d4 (♚d4?) ♜e3 2. ♜2xe3 (♜4xe3?) d3#

Vivid and intricate interplay on the d4 and e3 squares with very accurate timing. Dual avoidance based on opening of the black lines c1-c3 and a6-c4, white tempo sacrifices, Zilahi, changed blocks. You really need to try solving yourself to appreciate the well-balanced mechanism. [Note: This setting is a version found during a Zoom meeting of the Greek problemists: it saves the third black rook. The composer has agreed with the version.]

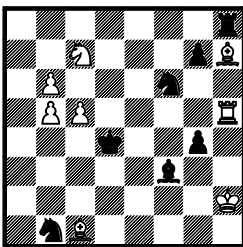
4070 BP88 (X/2018) Abdelaziz Onkoud (FRA), 3rd Prize

1. ♜f4 ♚xc3 2. ♜xd5 d3‡ 1. ♙g4 ♙h5 2. ♙xf5 f3‡
 1. ♙xc5 fxg3 2. ♚d4 ♜xc3‡ 1. ♜xg6 dxc3 2. ♜gf4 ♜xg3‡

An interesting and well-crafted 2x2 TF-helpmate. Delayed FML mates by the white pawns and unguard-block maneuvers in the first pair; in the second pair black successive maneuvers to block a flight with the distinctive feature that they grant by capture a new flight, which neatly differentiates the knight mates.

4159. Emil Klemanič

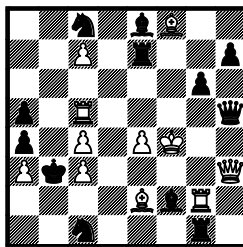
Best Problems 2018-19
4th Prize



H≠2 (8+7) C+ - 4 sol.

4112. Vitaly V. Medintsev

Best Problems 2018-19
Special Prize

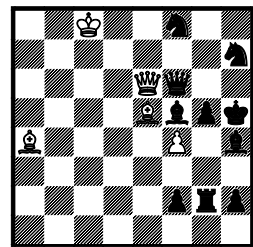


H≠2 (11+12) C+
zero-position:

- a) ♙f2→h4 b) ♚e7→h2

4251. Abdelaziz Onkoud

Best Problems 2018-19
1st Hon. Mention



H≠2 (5+10) C+ - 2 sol.

4159 BP90 (IV/2019) Emil Klemanič (SVK), 4th Prize

1. ♙e2 (♙d5?) ♜d5 2. ♙c4 2. ♙e3‡ 1. ♜a3 (♜d2?) ♙d2 2. ♜c4 ♜e6‡
 1. g6 ♜e6+ (♙e3+?) 2. ♜e4 ♙xg6‡ 1. g5 ♙e3+ (♜e6+?) 2. ♜e5 ♚xg5‡

A lighter 2x2 TF-helpmate this time with precise dual avoidance play. Enjoyable solving.

4112 BP89 (I/2019) Vitaly V. Medintsev (RUS), Special Prize

a) 1. ♖d7 ♗f1 2. ♜d1 ♞b5† b) 1. ♗e1 ♞c6 2. ♜b5 ♗d1†

Amazing and perfectly matched play involving no less than six lines (h5-b5, h5-d1, f8-a3, g2-a2, e8-b5 and g1-d1). The queen hideaways are spectacular and very well-hidden. Strangely enough, the queen does not initially have access to the squares she hides and it is even more impressive that hiding and mating squares are exchanged! Alas, zero-position detracts even if thematically required by the matrix; by the way, in twin (b) the bRe7 could be simply removed from the line which is nicer, but this does not work with the bishop in (a). The wQ could be a rook of course, yet how else would be the c3 square guarded and the disastrous dual Bd3 avoided? This is the composition that I enjoyed the most from the set.

4251 BP92 (X/2019) Abdelaziz Onkoud (FRA), 1st Hon. Mention

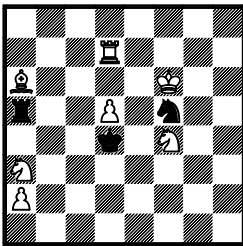
1. ♗h3 f5 2. ♗g4 ♗d1† (1. ♗d7 ♜b3? 2. ♗g4 ♗d1??)

1. ♜h6 ♗f6 2. ♗g6 ♗e8† (1. ♜h6 ♜d7? 2. ♗g6 ♗e8??)

Original concept with self-interferences of the white queen to provide a flight in the solutions and harmful self-interferences of the wQ to the bishop in the tries.

3921. Christer Jonsson

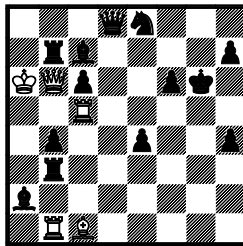
Best Problems 2018-19
2nd Hon. Mention



H≠2 (7+3) C+ - 4 sol.

4162. János Csák

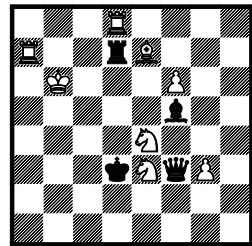
Best Problems 2018-19
3rd Hon. Mention



H≠2 (5+13) C+ - 2 sol.

4071. Vitaly V. Medintsev

Best Problems 2018-19
4th Hon. Mention



H≠2 (8+4) C+ - 2 sol.

3921 BP85 (I/2018) Christer Jonsson (SWE), 2nd Hon. Mention

1. ♜xa3 ♜c7 2. ♜e3 ♜c4† 1. ♜b5 ♗c2+ 2. ♗c4 ♜c7†

1. ♗c5 ♗c4 2. ♗d4 ♗d3† 1. ♗d6 ♗e6+ 2. ♗xd5 ♗b7†

An ideal composition for a solving contest: lively play in the four solutions using only 10 pieces and an almost TF-helpmate (the anticipatory self-pins of the first pair are well matched, square blocks in the second pair). Admittedly no profound strategy, but the excellent use of material is to be praised.

4162 BP90 (IV/2019) János Csák (HUN), 3rd Hon. Mention

1. ♗xb6 ♗e3 2. ♜f7 ♜g1† 1. ♜xb1 ♜e5 2. ♗f7 ♜g1†

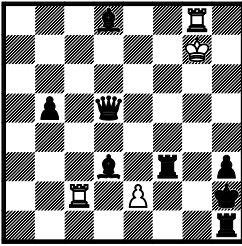
Black gate openings to the f7 flight and hideaways with accidental captures in Zilahi mode are nicely combined with white gate openings and pure interferences of the thematic black units. A solid composition.

4071 BP88 (X/2018) Vitaly V. Medintsev (RUS), 4th Hon. Mention

1. ♗xe3 ♗c3 2. ♜xa7 ♗c5† 1. ♗xe4 ♗g4 2. ♜xe7 ♜a4†

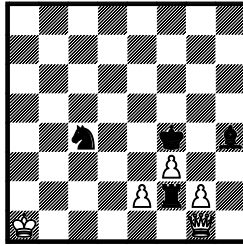
Hideaways by the unpinned rook with accidental captures yield a Zilahi. The alternate captures of the knights add spice. Nice diagonal-orthogonal echo play and perfect construction.

4119. Ladislav Salai Jr & Michal Dragoun
 Best Problems 2018-19
 5th Hon. Mention



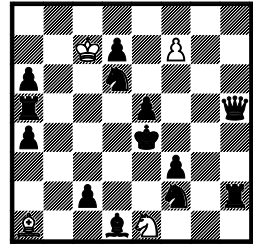
H≠2 (4+8) C+ - 2 sol.

4252. Francesco Simoni
 Best Problems 2018-19
 Special Hon. Mention



H≠2 (5+4) C+ - 2 sol.

4202. Bruno Colaneri
 Best Problems 2018-19
 1st Commendation



H≠2 (4+13) C+ - b) ♠f7→h7

4119 BP89 (I/2019) Ladislav Salai Jr (SVK) & Michal Dragoun (CZE), 5th Hon. Mention

1. ♠h7 ♚xh7 2. ♛a8 exf3‡ 1. ♛f8 ♚xf8 2. ♛d7 exd3‡

Elimination of both black pieces guarding the battery and accurate queen hideaways.

4252 BP92 (X/2019) Francesco Simoni (ITA), Special Hon. Mention

1. ♠g5 (♚e3?) e4 (g4?) 2. ♚e3 ♛h2‡ 1. ♚e5 (♠g3?) g4 (e4?) 2. ♠g3 ♛c1‡

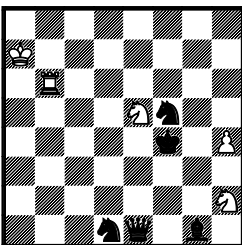
It is sufficient to quote the composer's description: "Tries fail because a black piece blocks a white pawn, preventing it from moving two steps. Reciprocal dual avoidance for black line openings (to the same piece ♛f2 in two opposite directions), four self-blocks on star-flights, role reversal of ♠h4/♜e4 and ♚e2/♚g2." Much content from only 9 pieces, yet the sense of symmetry is evident.

4202 BP91 (VII/2019) Bruno Colaneri (ITA), 1st Commendation

a) 1. ♚g4 f8=♛ 2. ♛e2 ♛xf3‡ b) 1. ♚f5 h8=♛ 2. d5 ♛xe5‡

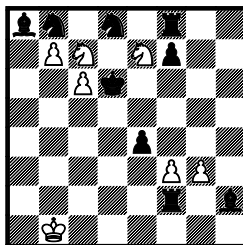
Old-fashioned yet quite effective black bivalves by the knights followed by further interferences utilizing the gate opening. Six black lines are nicely involved, but pity for the commonplace white play.

4163. Menachem Witztum
 Best Problems 2018-19
 2nd Commendation



H≠2 (5+5) C+ - 2 sol.

4116. Jozef Ložek
 Best Problems 2018-19
 3rd Commendation



H≠2 (7+9) C+ - b) ♜a8→c8

4163 BP90 (IV/2019) Menachem Witztum (ISR), 2nd Commendation

1. ♖f2 ♜b3 2. ♚e4 ♜g6‡ 1. ♜de3 ♜e6 2. ♚g3 ♜d3‡

An enjoyable blend of Skewer, interference unpins and choice of mates in a light setting.

4116 BP89 (I/2019) Jozef Ložek (SVK), 3rd Commendation

a) 1. ♖xc7 g4 2. ♙d6 bxa8=♜‡ b) 1. ♖xe7 fxe4 2. ♚f6 bxc8=♜‡

A decent combination of Phenix and pure gate-openings by the white pawns to allow square blocks by the black line-pieces. Model mates.

Athens, March 2024; **FIDE International Judge Harry Fougiaxis**

I miei più sinceri ringraziamenti a Harry Fougiaxis per il suo qualificato verdetto, il quale diverrà definitivo passati 3 mesi dalla pubblicazione. Eventuali reclami vanno inviati al Direttore del Concorso: Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it

[My most sincere thanks to Harry Fougiaxis for his qualified award, which will become definitive 3 months after publication. Possible claims must be sent to the Director of the Competition: Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it.]

Marco Bonavoglia Memorial Tourney

Final Award by Thomas Brand

During the three months after publication of the award (see Best Problems 110) there arrived a few claims. I will discuss and finally decide here:

"Lost" problem:

There was another problem, 16 by J. Lorinc, being lost awhile anywhere between author, director, and judge. It seems me to be too small to be added to the award.

Cooked problems:

The claim concerning 14 (Caillaud) is NOT valid, since it is based on explicit promotions in Einstein Chess – but they are not permitted.

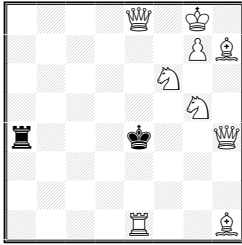
The claim concerning No. 3 (Raican) by Dmitrij Baibikov (Cook: -1...Qb1xSa1 -2.Ra2xSg2 a4xBb3) is justified; this problem loses the Commendation. The author corrects by adding a wBb1.

Claim against "no solution":

Co-Author Prentos of 9 and 10 argues (supported by a positive Jacobi computer check) that both problems have a legal solution since the additional recolouring I had claimed (after intensive and deep discussion with Hans Gruber) were not valid. This seems me to be a typical example of an equivocal definition, since it is not clearly stated that re-colouring should stop directly (Prentos / Jacobi interpretation), or a "transitive re-colouring shell" (Brand / Gruber interpretation) should be considered.

Since Jacobi has "created facts" (and in dubio pro reo) I will overcome my concerns and award following distinctions:





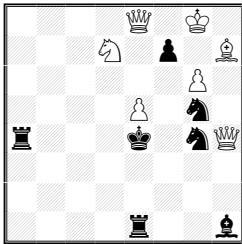
← **3rd Prize: 9** by Themis Argirakopoulos & Kostas Prentos & Theodoros Giakatis.

Last move? (9+2) C? - Masand Generalized
 [4Q1K1/6PB/5S2/6S1/r3k2Q/8/8/4R2B]

Retract: -1.Sg4xSf6 [e1,h1,g5,h7,e8=w]+++++++ Sd7xPf6
 [g4=w][h7,e8=b]+++ -2.e5xPf6 e.p. [d7=b]++ f7-f5 -3.g6-g7+
 Both complex and elegant lastmover with original blend of fairy conditions.

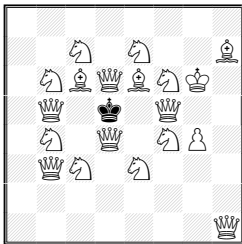
The last move must have been Sg4-f6 activating the battery on the fourth rank. The colors of g5, e1, h1 changed from black to white, and so did the colors of e8, h7. In the previous move, the double check by the black Qe8 and Bh7 could have been justified only as a result of color change. A black Knight check on f6 was necessary at this point, making the last move wSg4xSf6. One step back, the double check by the white Qe8 and Bh7 could have been achieved using the good old en passant capture (wPe5xbPf5). So, the black Knight captured a white pawn on f6. Its departure square must have been d7, in order to prevent an illegal retrocheck by the Ra4 that would otherwise change colors from white to black, after the check by the wQe8.

Cross-checks: A double check is answered by a triple check, which in turn is answered by a septuple check.



← The position 5 half-moves earlier must have been the following:

Masand Generalized: When a unit gives a direct or indirect check, all units (except Kings) observed or attacked by it change color.



← **Special Prize: 10** by Themis Argirakopoulos & Kostas Prentos

[8/2S1S2B/1SBQBSK1/1Q1k1Q2/1S1Q1SP1/1QS1S3/8/7Q]

Last move? (19+1) C?

Masand Generalized, AntiCirce

Retract: -1.Sd1-e3

[c3,b4,f4,g4,f5,b6,c6,e6,f6,c7,e7,h7=w]+++++++ Bg8-h7

[f5,c6,e6=b]++++ -2.Qf1-h1 [b5,f5=w] [g8=b]++ Qe5-f5

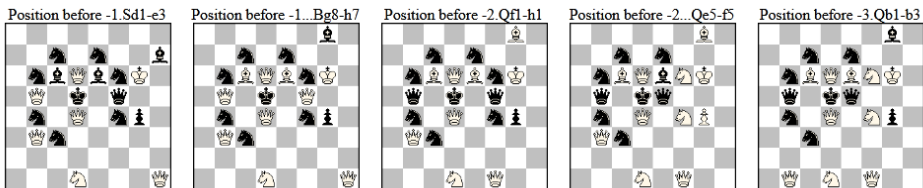
[e6=w][f4,g4,f6=b]+ -3.Qb1-b3 [g4,g8=w][e6=b]++

A tremendous construction task – more than an aesthetical problem, but this construction must be honoured!

The black King is in check by 16 pieces. Before the last move, a white piece occupied the rebirth square d1 of the Queens. The position of Qf5 is crucial, because depending on her color she can attack both Kings. If the last move were -1.Sd1-c3? (or -1.Qd1-b3?, or -1.Qd1-h1?), then the Qf5 would already be white.

With the color of the other 7 Knights and 3 Bishops being black, the check by the bSe7 would have just changed the color of the Qf5 from black to white, and just before that, the check by the wBe6 would have changed the color of the Qf5 from white to black, which would constitute an illegal self-check. Therefore, the last move was Sd1-e3 and the Qf5 was black before that, while the other 5 Queens were white. In the previous move, Black gave a quadruple check, from Se7, Sf4, Qf5, Bh7. The only way to achieve these checks was by playing Bg8-h7 from the rebirth square of the Knights and changing the color of Qf5, Bc6 and Be6 from white to black. One move earlier, the double check from the Bc6 and Be6 can be achieved only by retracting Qf1-h1, further changing the color of Qf5 from black to white, due to the check from the Be6. Taking back the previous move bQe5-f5 changed the color of both Sf4 and Sf6 from white to black. The double check from this color change can be released by bringing back the Qb3 to b1. Cross checks (2+1+2+4+16) with intensive use of both fairy conditions.

The following diagrams follow the solution move by move for better visualization:



So the final award is:

1st Prize: 14,

2nd Prize 5,

3rd Prize 9,

Special Prize 10.

1st Honourable Mention 8,

2nd Honourable Mention 13.

Commendation 11.

Bornheim (Germany), June 2024 - **Thomas Brand, International Judge of the FIDE**

I miei più sinceri ringraziamenti a Thomas Brand per il suo qualificato verdetto, il quale è ora definitivo.

[My most sincere thanks to Thomas Brand for his qualified award, which is now definitive.

For the first version of the Award, please see BP110 April 2024. (NdR)

I concorsi su *Best Problems*:

- $\neq 2/ = 2$, (2023/2024): NN
- $\neq 3/ = 3$, (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo
- $S \neq 2/3 - S = 2/3$ (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo
- $H \neq 2/ H = 2$, (2024-2025): NN
- $H \neq 2,5/3 - H = 2,5/3$, (2024-2025): NN
- $H \neq n/ H = n$, (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo
- HelpSelfmate 2/3/n (Orthodox and fairy) 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo
- Fairies (2024): NN

E-mail & web site: perseus@bestproblems.it <http://www.bestproblems.it>

Italian winners from Jurmala

1) D. Gatti

4th Hon.Mention

Hornecker Mem. Tourney
Section B - Jurmala 2024

2) M. Parrinello M. Guida

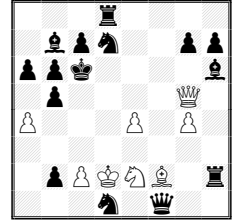
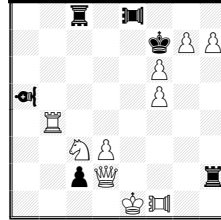
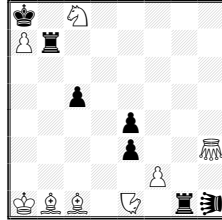
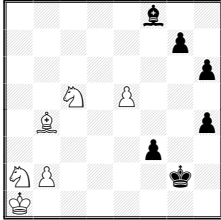
5th Hon. Mention
5-days comp. Tourney

3) M. Parrinello

Commendation
5-days comp. Tourney

4) M. Guida

M. Parrinello &
F. Simoni - Comm.
5-days comp. Tourney



= (6+6)

hs≠3 (8+7) C+

b) ♖h3→h4

c) ♖h3→h5

hs≠2 (10+6) C+

3 sol.

hs≠2 (8+15) C+

b) ♖d7→d6

1) Daniele Gatti - 5b2/6p1/7p/2N1P3/1B5p/5p2/NP4k1/K7

1.Sd3! (1.Se4? h3! {No checks for white Knight. Black is winning} 2.Bxf8 h2 3.Bc5 h1=Q+) **1...h3** (1...f2 2.Nxf2 Kxf2 3.Bxf8 h3 4.Bc5+ Kg2 5.Bg1! Kxg1 6.e6 h2 7.e7 h1=Q 8.e8=Q Kf2+ 9.Nc1 Qxc1+ 10.Ka2) **2.Nf4+ Kg3 3.Nxh3 Kxh3 4.Be1!** {THEME first occupation of e1} **Kg2 5.Nc1 Kf1** (5...f2 6.Bxf2 Kxf2 7.b4 Ke3 8.b5 Kd4 9.Nd3!) (5...h5 6.Nd3 g5 7.b4 h4 8.b5 h3 9.b6 h2 10.b7 h1=Q 11.b8=Q) **6.Ba5!** (6.Bd2? f2! 7.Be3 g5 8.b4 g4 9.b5 g3 10.Sd3 Bg7 11.Ka2 Ke2 12.Bxf2 Bxe5 13.Bxg3 Bxg3 14.Sc5 Kf3 15.Se6 Kg4 16.Sc5 Bc7 -+ syzygy) (6.Bc3? g5! 7.b4 g4 8.b5 Bc5! 9.e6 f2 10.Nd3 g3) (6.Bh4? g5) **6...g5 7.Bd8! g4 8.Bh4! Kg2 9.Nd3 Kh3** (9...g3 10.Ne1+ Kf2 11.Nc2 Kg2 12.Ne1+ Kh3 13.Nxf3 Kg4 14.Bxg3) **10.Be1!** {THEME second occupation of e1 - Bishop full Rundlauf!} **g3 11.e6 h5** (11...g2 12.Bf2) **12.Nf4+ Kg4 13.Bxg3** {THEME Bishop leaves e1} **Kxg3 14.Nxh5+ Kh4** (14...Kh2 15.Nf6! f2 16.Ng4+) **15.Nf4 f2 16.Ng2+ Kg3 17.Ne3 Kf3 18.Nf1 Bd6 19.Ka2!** positional draw.- Comment by Judge: *The white Bishop makes a circuit to reach the thematic square [e1] twice. An artistic value.*

2) Mario Parrinello & Marco Guida

♘=Kangaroo-lion, ♞=Nightrider, ♟=Grasshopper

a) 1. ♘xe3 ♟g3+ 2. ♘c1 ♟gb3 3. ♟a3+ ♟xa3‡

b) 1. ♘xe4 ♟g4+ 2. ♘b1 ♟gb4 3. ♟a4+ ♟xa4‡

c) 1. ♞xc5 ♟g5+ 2. ♞e1 ♟gb5 3. ♟a5+ ♟xa5‡

(A kangaroo-lion hops over exactly two hurdles to land on any square beyond)

• First ever record realisation of mates under three pinned white pieces in three phases: one of the three thematic white pieces in turn (Bb1, Bc1 and Ne1) opens a line needed to provide access to both the white checking piece (Grasshopper) and the mating piece; after that it performs a switchback on the first rank. The mating piece provides also a hurdle for white Grasshopper.

3) Mario Parrinello

♖=Bishop-Lion, ♚=Triton, ♖♚=Rook-Lion

1. ♖g2 TRc5 2. ♖d5+ TRxd5-e5‡

1. ♞b5 TRc6 2. ♞d6+ TRxd6-e6‡

1. ♚d4 TRc7 2. ♚d7+ TRxd7-e7‡

• Mates under two pinned white pieces in cyclic fashion in three solutions. Mates by creation of a black antibattery (Rook-Lion/Triton)

4) Marco Guida, Mario Parrinello, Francesco Simoni

3r4/1bpn2pp/ppk4b/1p4Q1/P3P1P1/8/1pKPNB1r/3n1q2

a) 1. ♖f4 g6 2. ♖f6+ ♜xf6‡ b) 1. ♙e3 a5 2. ♖xb5+ ♜xb5‡

• Mates under two pinned white pieces: one of the halfpinned white pieces (wSe2 and wBf2) indirectly unpins in turn the wQg5 that forces the mate provided by the same black battery.

5) M. Parrinello

Jurmala Sake 2024

3rd Prize

6) M. Guida

M. Parrinello

Jurmala Sake 2024

5th Hon. Mention

7) M. Guida

M. Parrinello, F. Simoni

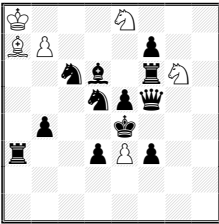
Jurmala Sake 2024

Commendation

8) M. Parrinello

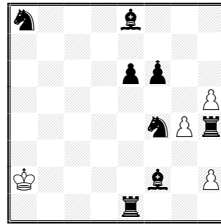
Jurmala Sake 2024

Commendation



H≠2 (6+12) C+

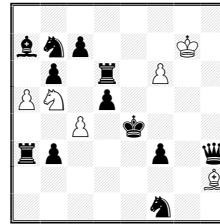
b) ♙e8



H≠2 (4+8) C+

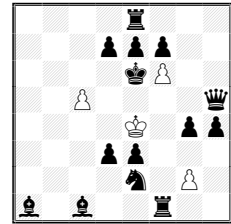
b) ♖h2-d3, c) ♖h2-b6

♠f6=Royal piece.



H≠2 (6+12) C+

b) ♖g7-e7, c) ♖g7-g5



H≠2 (4+14) C+

b) ♖g2-d2

5) Mario Parrinello

K3N3/BP3p2/2nb1rN1/3npq2/1p2k3/r2pPp2/8/8

a) 1. ♜xg6(♜) b8=♜ 2. ♙xb8(♜) ♜d6‡ b) 1. ♜xe3(♜) b8=♙ 2. ♜xb8(♙) ♙c6‡

• a) 1.R×g6(=S) b8=S (b8=B?) 2.B×b8(=S) Sd6# b) 1.S×e3(=P) b8=B (b8=S?) 2.S×b8(=B) Bc6#
Schnoebelen promotions, dual avoidance, Follow-My-Leader, exchange of function between wPe3 and wSg6

6) Marco Guida, Mario Parrinello

n3b3/8/4p)p2/7P/5nPr/8/K4b1P/4r3

a) 1. ♙g3 hxg3(♙) 2. ♜xh5(♜) ♙h4‡

b) 1. ♙e4 dxe4(♙) 2. ♜xh5(♜) ♜f4‡

c) 1. ♜c7 bxc7(♜) 2. ♙xh5(♙) ♜e8‡

• Triple Follow-My-Leader and cyclic play shown by the Frankfurtspecific transformations.

7) Marco Guida, Mario Parrinello, Francesco Simoni

8/bnp3K1/1p1r1P2/PN1p4/2P1k3/rp3p1q/7B/5n2

a) 1.bxa5 ♜xa7(♙) 2. ♖h7+ ♜xh7(♖)‡

b) 1.dxc4 ♜xd6(♖) 2. ♖e6+ ♜xe6(♖)‡

c) 1.b2 ♜xa3(♖) 2. ♖g4+ ♜xg4(♖)‡

• Cyclic play: white transformations at W1 in order to cyclically guard two out of three squares (d4, d3 and e3) and white King transformations in the mate in order to guard the third square left unguarded.

8) Mario Parrinello

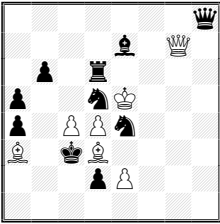
4r3/3ppp2/4kP2/2P4q/4K1pp/3pp3/4n1P1/b1b2r2

a) 1. ♜xf6(♜) ♖g3 2. ♜f4 ♖xf4(♜)‡ 1. ♜f3 ♖xf3(♖) 2. ♖f5+ ♜xf5(♖)‡

b) 1. ♙xf6(♙) dxe3 2. ♜d4 exd4(♜)‡ 1. ♙c3 dxc3(♙) 2. ♖e5+ ♙xe5(♖)‡

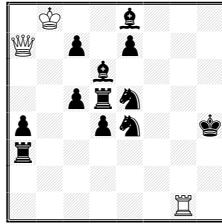
• HOTF (Helpmates Of The Future): in a pair of solutions selfblocks at B1 and black sacrifices at B2, in the second pair black sacrifices at B1 and B2. Multiple transformations of the same white Pawn.

9) M. Parrinello
27° Sabra 2024
4th Prize



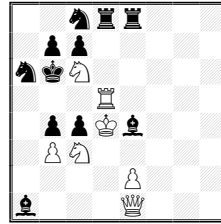
H≠2 (7+10) C+
b) ♗e7-f7, c) ♗e7-g6

10) M. Guida
27° Sabra 2024
1st Hon. Mention



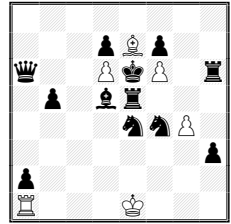
H≠2 (3+12) C+
b) ♖h4-h3

11) F. Simoni, M. Parrinello, M. Guida & A. Garofalo - 27° Sabra 2024
6th Hon. Mention



H≠2 (7+11) C+
2 sol.

12) M. Parrinello
27° Sabra 2024
8th Hon. Mention



H≠2 (6+12) C+
b) ♖a1-h1

9) Mario Parrinello

7q/4b1Q1/1p1r4/p2nK3/p1PPn3/B1kB4/3pP3/8

a) 1. ♖f6 ♗f8 2. ♗xa3 ♗xa3‡ b) 1. ♘df6 ♗g8 2. ♗xc4 ♗xc4‡ c) 1. ♘ef6 ♗h7 2. ♗xd3 ♗xd3‡

- This combination of motifs shown for the first time in three phases:
- three different anticipatory line openings (f8/a3, g8/c4 and h7/d3)
- three direct unpins of the wQ on the same square
- three wQ's ambushes
- three black sacrifices on the mating square

10) Marco Guida

1K2b3/Q1p1p3/3b4/2prn3/p2pn2k/r7/8/6R1

a) 1. ♘d3 ♗xc7 2. ♗h2 ♗xh2‡ b) 1. ♘f7 ♗xc5 2. ♖h5 ♗xh5‡

- a) 1.Sd3 (Sf3?) Qxc7 2.Bh2 Qxh2 # Not 1.Sf7 Qxc5 2.Rh5 Qxh5? 3.Kxh5!
- b) 1.Sf7 (Sg6?) Qxc5 2.Rh5 Qxh5 # Not 1.Sd3 Qxc7 2.Bh2 Qxh2? 3.Kxh2!

11) Francesco Simoni, Mario Parrinello, Marco Guida & Antonio Garofalo

2nrr3/1pp5/nkN5/3R4/1ppKb3/1PN5/4P3/b3Q3

1. ♗f5 ♗h1 2. ♗d7 ♖b5‡ 1.cxb3 ♗c1 2.b2 ♘a4‡

- Anticipatory black line openings, unpins at B2, exchange of function between wSc3 and wRd5 (guard, mates)

12) Mario Parrinello

8/3pBp2/q2PkP1r/1p1br3/4nnP1/7p/p7/R3K3

a) 1. ♗c6 0-0-0 2. ♘xd6 ♖xd6‡

b) 1. ♘g6 0-0 2. ♘xf6 ♖xf6‡

- a) 1.Bc6 0-0-0 (Rd1?) 2.Sxd6 Rxd6 # b) 1.Sg6 0-0 (Rf1?) 2.Sxf6 Rxf6 #

Anticipatory line openings, dual avoidance based on the need to avoid an undesired check, long and short white castling and black sacrifices.

13) Marco Guida

B2R4/8/2PP1n2/3k1p2/K3pP2/1rpp4/7Q/8

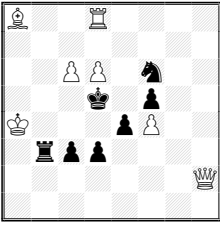
1. ♖b7 ♗b2 2. ♗xc6 ♗b5‡ 1. ♘d7 ♗h8 2. ♗xd6 ♗e5‡

14) Francesco Simoni

4k1NK/5R2/r6b/3b1n2/1p1r4/2ppp2q/1pp5/1Q6

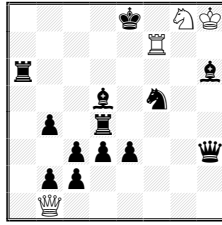
1. ♘g7 ♗f1 2. ♗d7 ♖f8‡ 1. ♗c6 ♗a2 2. ♖d8 ♘f6‡

13) M. Guida
27° Sabra 2024
10th Hon. Mention



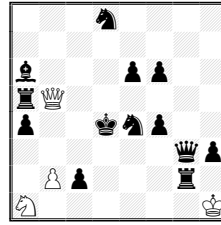
H≠2 (7+7) C+
2 sol.

14) F. Simoni
27° Sabra 2024
Hon, Mention



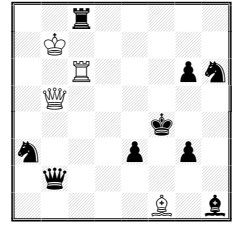
H≠2 (4+13) C+
2 sol.

15) F. Simoni
27° Sabra 2024
Hon, Mention



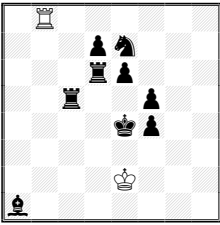
H≠2 (4+13) C+
b) ♖a4-b3, c) ♘a1-h8

16) M. Guida
27° Sabra 2024
Commendation



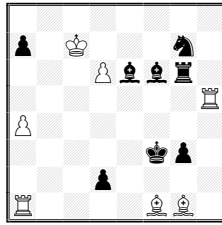
H≠2 (4+9) C+
2 sol.

17) Pietro Pitton
27° Sabra 2024
Commendation



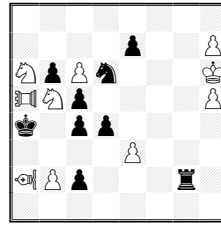
H≠2 (2+9) C+
b) ♖a1-h8

18) M. Parrinello
22° Tzuica 2024
3rd Prize (Orthodox Sect.)



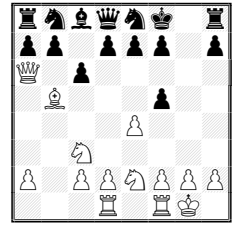
hs≠4 (7+8) C+
2 sol.

19) M. Guida & M. Parrinello
22° Tzuica 2024
3rd Prize (Fairy Sect.)



hs≠4 (10+9) C+
b) ♘b5-b3
♞=Bishop-Lion
♝=Rook-Lion

20) M. Parrinello
7° Murfatlar 2024
2nd Hon. Mention



PG 10,5 (14+15) C+
Anticirce

15) Francesco Simoni

3n4/8/b3pp2/rQ6/p2knp2/6qp/1Pp3r1/N6K

a) 1. ♘d2 ♖f5 2. ♖c4 ♘xc2♯ b) 1. ♘c3 ♖e2 2. ♖d5 ♘xb3♯ c) 1. ♘g5 ♖d3+ 2. ♖e5 ♘g6♯

16) Marco Guida

2r5/1K6/2R3pn/1Q6/5k2/n3p1p1/1q6/5B1b

1. ♖f3 ♖c4 2. ♖f2 ♖d5♯ 1. ♖e4 ♖f6 2. ♖e5 ♖d3♯

17) Pietro Pitton

1R6/3pn3/3rp3/2r2p2/4kp2/8/4K3/b7

a) 1. ♖d4 ♖b6 2.d5 ♖xe6♯ b) 1. ♖e5 ♖c8 2. ♘d5 ♖c4♯

18) Mario Parrinello

8/p1K3n1/3Pbbr1/7R/P7/5kp1/3p4/R4BB1

1. ♖a6 ♖h3 2. ♖b5 ♖g4 3. ♖d7 ♖e2 4. ♖b3+ ♖c4♯

1. ♖xa7 ♖h4 2. ♖c5 ♖g5 3. ♖d8 ♖f2 4. ♖c3+ ♖c5♯

• Black and White Indian in both solutions; all the moves are thematic. Chameleon echo mates.

19) Marco Guida & Mario Parrinello

- a) 1. ♖f7 e6 2. ♘c3+ ♙b3 3. ♜d5 e5 4. ♜d2+ ♘xf7‡
 b) 1. ♜f5 e5 2. ♘bxc5+ ♙b5 3. ♖d5 e4 4. ♖f3+ ♘xf5‡

• Indian theme with two pieces (one black and one white) that first close and then reopen the same line. Reciprocal Grimshaw-like interference on the same square (d5) by the Rook-Lion and Bishop-Lion. Diagonal-orthogonal correspondence.

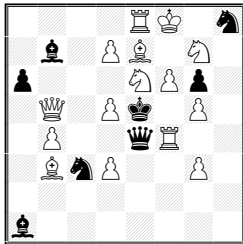
20) Mario Parrinello

rnbqnk1r/pp1ppp1p/Q1p5/1B3p2/4P3/2N5/P1PPNPPP/3R1RK1

1. e4 c6 2. ♖e2 ♙b6 3. ♙a6 ♖xb2(♖d8) 4. ♙b2 f5 5. ♙f6 gxf6(f7) 6. ♙b5 ♙g7 7. ♘e2 ♙b2
 8. ♘bc3 ♙f8 9.0-0-0 ♘f6 10. ♙xb2(♙e1) ♘e8 11.0-0

• Economical (in terms of time) rendering of fairy long and short white castlings.

Ricostruzione



← **Pavel Murashëv** - WID 714501 - (Ricostruzione 100)

2nd Prize *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya* 2016

4RK1n/1b1PB1N1/p3Npp1/1Q1Pk1P1/1P2qR2/1BnP2P1/8/b7

≠2 (15+8) C+

1. ♙c5? A [2. ♘c7‡ B, ♘d8 C, ♘d4 D]
 1... ♙f5 2.d4‡ 1... ♙xd5 2. ♙b8# ma 1... ♙xd5! (2.d4?)
 1. ♘c7? B [2. ♙c5‡ A] 1... ♙xd5, ♙f5 2.d4# ma 1... ♙xd5! (2. ♙b8?)
 1. ♘d8? C [2. ♙c5‡ A] 1... ♙xd5, ♙f5 2.d4# ma 1... ♙c4!
 1. ♘d4! D [2. ♙c5‡ A] 1... ♘xd5 2. ♜xe4‡ 1... ♙xd5 2. ♘c6‡
 1... ♙xd5, ♙f5 2. ♘f3‡ 1... ♙xd4 2. ♙c5‡

Schiffmann with mate changes and special threat reversal (sequence reversal II) involving the three threats of the first try. [Commento tratto dall'Album FIDE]

Hanno inviato la loro proposta: P. Zuvic, M. Uris, H. Nieuwhart, J. A. Coello Alonso, V. Giurgean e J. L. Velasco. Tutti hanno pienamente risolto la ricostruzione, risparmiando il ♙a6 che sembra inutile; Velasco ha tolto anche il ♘d7, pure esso non necessario. Pertanto la posizione più economica è stata proprio di José Luis Velasco. Complimenti a tutti, è stata una ricostruzione davvero difficile e chiedo perdono per questo! Ma come vedete è un importante 2° Premio di Pavel Murashëv.

Ricostruzione n. 101 - Ricostruire un problema ≠2 che abbia la seguente (easy) soluzione:

1. ♜e7? [2. ♘e3‡] ma 1... ♜a2! 1. ♜e6? [2. ♘e3‡] ma 1... ♜b2!
 1. ♜e8! [2. ♘e3‡] 1... ♜b2, ♜e6 2. ♙(x)e6‡ 1... ♜a2, ♜e7 2. ♘(x)e7‡

Inviare (send to): perseus@bestproblems.it

(last available day for to send: 10/12/2024)

A. Garfalo



Knight tour on 112 cell board

by Awani Kumar, Lucknow, India

Best Problems has come out with its 112th issue and let's celebrate and commemorate this glorious achievement with interesting knight tours on 4x4x7, 7x16 and 8x14 (=112) cell board. Figure 1 and Figure 2 semi-magic tours on 4x4x7 board. Readers can visualise it by stacking seven 4x4 tours. Here sum of all the 4x4 lines 226. The two figures are almost identical – only the eight digits, namely, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 41, 42, 43, 44 interchange places. Pillar sums are same. Moreover, the tours are 4-fold cyclic. That is, if the tour starts from cell 1, 29, 57 and 85 and proceeds forward then it remains semi-magic. Such 'twin tours' are rare. Figure 3 and Figure 4 are semi-magic tours on 7x16 board. Sum of all the columns is 904. The two figures are almost identical – only the four digits, namely, 32, 33, 52 and 53 interchange places. Moreover, the tours are 16-fold cyclic. That is, if the tour starts from cell 1, 8, 15, 22, ..., 106 and proceeds forward then it remains semi-magic. Such 'twin tours' are also rare. Figure 5 and Figure 6 are magic tours on 8x14 board. Sum of all the rows is 452 and that of the columns is 791. Unlike the previous tours, these two tours are open and readers are urged to look for the more challenging closed (or reentrant) magic tours.

layer 1				layer 2				layer 3				layer 4							
67	2	103	54	226	10	59	46	111	226	101	56	65	4	226	48	109	12	57	226
102	55	66	3	226	47	110	11	58	226	68	1	104	53	226	9	60	45	112	226
7	62	51	106	226	70	<u>15</u>	98	<u>43</u>	226	49	108	5	64	226	100	<u>41</u>	72	<u>13</u>	226
50	107	6	63	226	99	<u>42</u>	71	<u>14</u>	226	8	61	52	105	226	69	<u>16</u>	97	<u>44</u>	226
226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226	
layer 5				layer 6				layer 7				pillar sum							
87	26	33	80	226	24	89	74	39	226	75	38	21	92	226	412	379	354	437	
78	35	20	93	226	29	84	95	18	226	86	27	32	81	226	419	372	373	418	
25	88	79	34	226	90	23	40	73	226	37	76	91	22	226	378	413	436	355	
36	77	94	19	226	83	30	17	96	226	28	85	82	31	226	373	418	419	372	
226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226						

1.

layer 1				layer 2				layer 3				layer 4							
67	2	103	54	226	10	59	46	111	226	101	56	65	4	226	48	109	12	57	226
102	55	66	3	226	47	110	11	58	226	68	1	104	53	226	9	60	45	112	226
7	62	51	106	226	70	<u>43</u>	98	<u>15</u>	226	49	108	5	64	226	100	<u>13</u>	72	<u>41</u>	226
50	107	6	63	226	99	<u>14</u>	71	<u>42</u>	226	8	61	52	105	226	69	<u>44</u>	97	<u>16</u>	226
226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226	
layer 5				layer 6				layer 7				pillar sum							
87	26	33	80	226	24	89	74	39	226	75	38	21	92	226	412	379	354	437	
78	35	20	93	226	29	84	95	18	226	86	27	32	81	226	419	372	373	418	
25	88	79	34	226	90	23	40	73	226	37	76	91	22	226	378	413	436	355	
36	77	94	19	226	83	30	17	96	226	28	85	82	31	226	373	418	419	372	
226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226		226	226	226	226						

2.

37	94	47	102	43	96	41
48	103	38	95	40	99	44
93	36	105	46	101	42	97
104	49	92	39	98	45	100
35	90	<u>33</u>	106	31	86	55
50	107	<u>52</u>	91	54	111	30
89	34	109	<u>32</u>	87	56	85
108	51	88	<u>53</u>	110	29	112
61	80	25	4	59	84	57
6	23	60	81	26	1	28
79	62	5	24	3	58	83
22	7	78	63	82	27	2
77	64	21	8	15	68	13
20	9	74	67	12	71	16
65	76	11	18	73	14	69
10	19	66	75	70	17	72
904	904	904	904	904	904	904

37	94	47	102	43	96	41
48	103	38	95	40	99	44
93	36	105	46	101	42	97
104	49	92	39	98	45	100
35	90	<u>53</u>	106	31	86	55
50	107	<u>32</u>	91	54	111	30
89	34	109	<u>52</u>	87	56	85
108	51	88	<u>33</u>	110	29	112
61	80	25	4	59	84	57
6	23	60	81	26	1	28
79	62	5	24	3	58	83
22	7	78	63	82	27	2
77	64	21	8	15	68	13
20	9	74	67	12	71	16
65	76	11	18	73	14	69
10	19	66	75	70	17	72
904	904	904	904	904	904	904

3.

4.

11	46	67	102	19	22	91	94	452
66	103	12	45	90	93	20	23	452
47	10	101	68	21	18	95	92	452
104	65	44	13	96	89	24	17	452
9	48	69	100	15	26	97	88	452
64	105	14	43	98	87	16	25	452
49	8	99	70	27	42	85	72	452
106	63	50	7	86	71	28	41	452
51	6	107	62	39	30	73	84	452
60	109	52	5	74	83	40	29	452
1	56	61	108	31	38	75	82	452
110	59	4	53	78	81	32	35	452
55	2	57	112	37	34	79	76	452
58	111	54	3	80	77	36	33	452
791	791	791	791	791	791	791	791	

11	46	67	102	19	22	91	94	452
66	103	12	45	92	95	18	21	452
47	10	101	68	23	20	93	90	452
104	65	44	13	96	89	24	17	452
9	48	69	100	15	26	97	88	452
64	105	14	43	98	87	16	25	452
49	8	99	70	27	42	85	72	452
106	63	50	7	86	71	28	41	452
51	6	107	62	39	30	73	84	452
60	109	52	5	74	83	40	29	452
1	56	61	108	31	38	75	82	452
110	59	4	53	76	79	34	37	452
55	2	57	112	35	32	81	78	452
58	111	54	3	80	77	36	33	452
791	791	791	791	791	791	791	791	

5.

6.

Figure 7 and Figure 8 are monogram tours on 8x14 board. The square numbers $1^2, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, 10^2$, namely 1, 4, 9, ..., 100 delineate letters 'B' and 'P', the first letters in *Best Problems*. Figure 9 and Figure 10 has the square numbers delineating the numerals '1' and '2' respectively which correlate with the issue number 112. Readers may like to compose more figured tours.

11	6	21	30	39	60	57	32
20	29	10	63	22	31	38	59
7	12	5	40	61	58	33	56
28	19	62	9	64	23	66	37
13	8	27	4	41	36	55	34
18	3	42	1	26	65	24	67
43	14	45	16	99	80	35	54
46	17	2	81	96	25	68	79
103	44	15	100	49	98	53	94
84	47	102	97	82	95	78	69
109	104	83	48	101	50	93	52
88	85	108	73	112	75	70	77
105	110	87	90	107	72	51	92
86	89	106	111	74	91	76	71

7.

45	14	21	38	29	12	19	6
22	39	44	13	20	5	28	11
43	46	15	30	37	32	7	18
40	23	42	1	4	17	10	27
47	50	3	16	31	36	33	8
54	41	24	49	2	9	26	35
51	48	53	64	25	34	87	90
66	55	84	81	86	89	94	77
83	52	65	100	63	78	91	88
56	67	82	85	80	93	76	95
105	108	101	112	99	62	79	92
68	57	106	109	102	73	96	75
107	104	59	70	111	98	61	72
58	69	110	103	60	71	74	97

8.

11	46	29	20	31	52	7	22
28	19	10	53	8	21	32	55
47	12	45	30	51	54	23	6
18	27	48	9	24	5	56	33
13	44	25	4	109	50	83	86
26	17	110	49	82	85	34	57
43	14	37	16	3	108	87	84
38	111	2	81	88	35	58	79
101	42	15	36	107	80	89	92
112	39	100	1	64	91	78	59
99	102	41	106	77	68	93	90
40	73	76	63	96	65	60	67
103	98	71	74	105	62	69	94
72	75	104	97	70	95	66	61

9.

85	90	33	40	87	12	31	6
42	39	86	89	32	5	14	11
91	84	41	34	13	88	7	30
38	43	92	1	4	45	10	15
83	94	3	44	35	16	29	8
110	37	82	93	2	9	46	27
95	80	111	36	25	28	17	74
112	109	24	81	72	75	26	47
79	96	71	64	49	100	73	18
108	63	78	23	76	65	48	101
97	56	107	70	99	50	19	66
62	59	98	77	22	69	102	51
55	106	57	60	53	104	67	20
58	61	54	105	68	21	52	103

10.