

JOSÉ FIGUEIREDO – 90 & MARIO FIGUEIREDO – 60 MEMORIAL TOURNEY

AWARD

Preliminary Words by Ricardo de Mattos Vieira:

On behalf of the Figueiredo Family and of the friends of José and Mario, I would like to thank the 26 authors (43 entries / 15 countries) that took part in this tournament. Special thanks to Mario Parrinello, who kindly accepted the task and agreed on judging this memorial tourney. The entries that were sent in anonymous form to the judge are listed below:

Argentina – Jorge Lois & Jorge Kapros: 4 (Ka5/kd5), 10 (Kb2/kf3);

Brazil – Almiro Zarur: 2 (Ka4/kc3), 5 (Ka6/kb2), 6 (Ka8/kc8), 13 (Kb4/kh4), 18 (Kc2/kd6), 25 (Kf8/ke5), 29 (Kh1/ka1), 30 (Kg1/kc4), 33 (Kh1/kd6), 35 (Kh5/kd1); Ricardo de Mattos Vieira: 12 (Kb4/kd6), 14 (Kb7/kd4);

Croatia – Darko Neseck: 7 (Ka8/ke5); Dusan Tadic: 22 (Ke6/kc6);

Czech Republic – Michal Dragoun: 27 (Kg2/ke4); Miroslav Svitek: 11 (Kb4/kd3), 32 (Kh1/kd5);

Finland – Jorma Pitkänen: 24 (Kf2/kd6);

France – Maryan Kerhuel: 19 (Kc5/ke6), Michel Caillaud: 31 (Kh1/kd4);

Germany – Klaus Funk: 26 (Kg1/ke4);

Israel – Menachem Witztum & Shaul Shamir: 39 (Kh6/kd4), Shaul Shamir: 3 (Ka4/kc5), 15 (Kb8/kf5); Uri Avner: 17 (Kc1/kb5);

Italy – Pietro Pitton: 9 (Kb2/kd5), 28 (Kg3/ke4), 34 (Kh4/kd6); Valerio Agostini: 41 (Kh7/ke4);

Valerio Agostini & Antonio Garofalo: 8 (Kb1/kg4);

Morocco – Abdelaziz Onkoud: 43 (Kh8/kd5);

Poland – Stefan Milewski: 16 (Kb8/kg5); Stefan Parzuch: 38 (Kh6/kc5);

Russia – Vasilij Chernykh: 1 (Ka1/kc6), 21 (Kd8/ke6);

Sweden – Christer Jonsson: 36 (Kh5/kd3), 37 (Kh5/kd4), 40 (Kh7/kc5);

Switzerland – Andreas Schönholzer: 20 (Kd7/kf5);

Ukraine – Viktor Syzonenko: 42 (Kh7/kf6).

The Award by Mario Parrinello:

The tourney celebrates two distinguished Brazilian composers, José Figueiredo and his son Mario Figueiredo and their 90th and 60th birthdays; they were two prominent figures of the Brazilian school and their skill and imagination were admired worldwide. As many others helpmate enthusiasts, I enjoyed very much their problems and therefore it was a great honour and pleasure to accept the invitation to act as judge which Ricardo Vieira has kindly offered to me; so, I sincerely thank him for that and also for his technical assistance.

The theme definition, which by the way was not chosen by me, was as follows: “*At a certain stage (not necessarily in the diagram position), side A (White or Black) is responsible for an effect that is abandoned (by side A) or destroyed (by the opponent). The same effect must be present in the mating position by means of a maneuver by side A and/or the opponent. Acceptable are set-play, multi-solutions and any kind of twinning except zeroposition. No fairy pieces/conditions; anticipatory recover of the thematic effect is allowed.*”

Due to a claim regarding the problem no.12, I have to revise my award since the version produced by this judge does not show pure motivations for the capture of black material at W2 as the author's problem does. I apologize for this.

I received 43 problems in anonymous form; n.21 is cooked and no.32 is clearly unthematic. Before the award, some remarks on interesting problems which were excluded for various reasons (those not mentioned here have weak content or constructional drawbacks):

nr.1: interesting line openings but a solution (1.Le7) is not homogeneous since the switchback is not also selfblock as shown in the other two solutions and in this regard compare to V.Vladimirov 5th Pr. *Uralsky Problemist* 1999 (White Kh1 Df1 pc2 g3; Black Ke3 Df3 Te2 Ld2 Sg2 Sd1 pf7 e6 e5 c4 e4 c3 a2 3 sols.) which shows the same unbalance—for an homogeneous play of unblocks and selfblocks (with switchbacks), though with a entirely different matrix and strategy, compare to PDB P1075101;

nr.5: the unaesthetic wTh3 and wLh6 are totally idle in turn;

no.6: the play is familiar (compare among others to PDB P0555279) and the 7th Comm. shows better strategy;

nr.8: besides the familiar Follow-My-Leader effects, the closing of a black line after 1...Lf6 is not pure since the wL can guard the squares g5 and h4 only from f6, regardless the closing of the bPf7's line;

nr.9: unfortunately the wPc2, which mates in one solution, is idle in the other; no.10: substantially anticipated by PDB P0535971;

nr.15: for a more complex strategy compare to Garai 3rd Pr. *Telescacco2000* 2002-03 [(White Kb3 Da1 Tg2 Te3 Sg3 pb2 c2 e2 f2 d5 g6; Black Kf6 Db5 Th3 Tg1 Lb4 Sd3 Se1 pa7 b7 c6 h4 d2 B) Da1 to f1)] and moreover the switchbacks are merely visual since the bLb3 may stay on a2 (C+);

nr.18: the version in brackets saves 4 pieces (White Ke2 Tf1 La1 Lg4 Sf3 Sf5; Black Kf6 Tg2 Lf7 Lf2 Sh4 pg6 c5 d4 2 sols.);

nr.20: neat thematic doubling but the play is routine; no.22: three neat solutions but the play is rather simple;

nr.25: substantially anticipated by PDB P0552063;

nr.26: compare to N.Petkovic *Orbit* 2005 [(White Ke6 Tf8 Lb7 Sd8 pe4 f4; Black Kf3 Da5 Tb5 Te3 Lg3 Se2 Sf2 pa7 a4 b4 g2 2 sols B) Ke6 to d6)];

nr.28: it would be more interesting with a dual avoidance (as the matrix seems to allow it) and moreover a position without white pawns can be achieved (-wPd2, -wPg4, wKg3 to g4, +bPg6 and +bPe3);

nr.29: the strategy is well-known (compare to PDB P0532823 and PDB P0527086, the latter showing even three solutions);

nr.31: interesting white active sacrifice in order to allow Black to replace a black piece with a promoted unit but the twinning mechanisms are weak since they involve the shift of the thematic white pieces, and moreover it is useful to compare to A. Pankratiev *Problem-Forum* 2010 (White Ke2 Te3 Lb4 Se5; Black Kd4 Tc5 Tc4 Sg8 pb7 d5 e4 3 sols.) which shows essentially the same play in a Meredith position and in a multi-solution form;

nr.35: it is useful to compare to A.Zarur *Die Schwalbe* 1999-dedicated to Kapros (White Ka4 Tg4 Tf7 Ld3 Lh4 pe2 f2 g5; Black Kf1 Da6 Ld6 Lb1 Sa5 Sg3 pa7 g7 g6 e5 b2 ** 1 sol.);

nr.37: for a better rendering compare to A.Onkoud *Schacmatna Poesia* 2010 [(White Kb2 Tc6 Lf7 Sf1 pc2 f2; Black Ke4 Dg1 Tb5 Te1 Lg7 Se5 Sc3 pd7 g6 g4 b3 e3 f3 B) bPc2 to c4)];

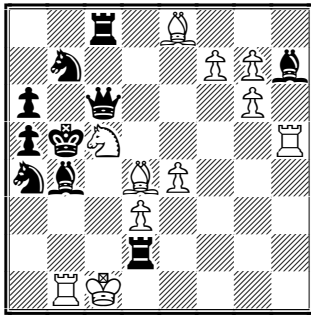
nr.38: compare to A.Molnar 6th Pr. *Orbit* 2007 (White Ka6 Sg2 Se6 pe2 h4; Black Kf5 Tf6 Ld6 Lf1 Sc4 pd7 g6 c5 g4 f3 2 sols.);

nr.40: the pin mates are weasels since the bSe3 and bSf5 can be replaced by two black pawns and the solutions still work;

nr.42: the strategy is similar to that of PDB P1005610 which is superior;

nr.43: a slightly better economy can be achieved (White Kc4 Tg6 Lc5 pd5; Black Ke5 Dg1 Te4 Lf4 Sf2 Sg2 pd7 d4 2 sols.) and it is useful to compare to PDB P0541725 which shows the same play.

Nr. 17 - Uri Avner
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
1st Prize



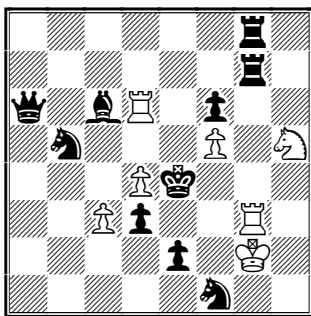
H # 2 b) wKc1 – f8

- a) 1.Se3 Sa4+ 2.Sd5+ Sc3 #
b) 1.Sd6 Sb7+ 2.Sf5+ Sd6 #

alone and here commendably achieved with other strategic features; the first one is, as already mentioned above, the visually attractive follow-my-leader effect, and last but not least the three pin mates. In this regard, it could be criticized the staticity of the pinned black pieces (Dc6 and Lb4) but it is fully compensated by their very ‘mobile’ roles as pinning pieces thanks to the strongly thematic shift of the wK; finally the heavy position does not bother me since complex idea often requires heavy construction. This problem deserves the highest distinction both for the spectacular interpretation of the ‘restoration’ theme and for other strategic elements.

1st Prize – Nr. 17 – Uri Avner – Israel: There is the need to control the square b6 and at the same time to free the pinned wSc5 which will become the mating piece; this goal leads to a very interesting chain on unpins and pins which is the main thematic content of the problem. The wSc5 is unpinned and follows the unpinner in his route until the mate; but since the white Knight is the front piece of a white battery there is also the problem to parry a check; therefore the black Knight selfpins itself on the 5th rank but that leads to checks to White which parries by a cross-check at W2. The paradoxical result is that the wSc5 is finally pinned again. Therefore the ‘restoration of effect’ is seen in the very interesting concept ‘pin-unpin-pin’, which is a very difficult achievement

Nr. 27 - Michal Dragoun
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
2nd Prize

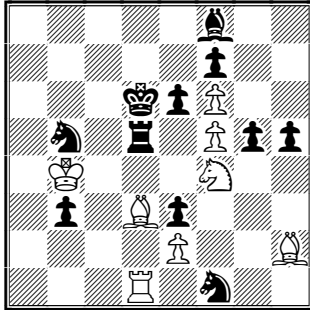


H # 2 3.1.1.1.

- 1.e1=T S:g7 2.Te3 Tg4 #
1.Sc7 Tg5 2.Sd5 Te6 #
1.Tg4 Td5 2.Tf4 S:f6 #

2nd Prize – Nr. 27 – Michal Dragoun – Czech Republic: Another difficult concept and the best cyclic rendering of the theme from this tourney. The need to guard the square f5 leads to an interesting cyclic exchange of functions between the three thematic white pieces (Tg3, Td6 and Sh5) whose actions involve three thematic squares (e3, d5 and f4 respectively). When one of those pieces controls f5 at W1 it unguards its relevant square and afterwards the restoration of effect does appear since another white piece controls that square in the mate. But what about the square unguarded by the mating piece? It is blocked by Black. Despite the lack of interesting interplay and despite the rather crude 1...,Sxg7 which seem both unavoidable, the merit of this problem is its pure logic.

Nr. 12 - Ricardo de Mattos Vieira
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
3rd Prize



H # 2

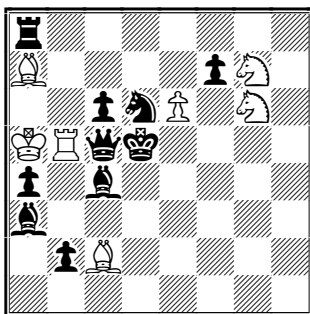
b) bTd5 – e5

3rd Prize – Nr. 12 – Ricardo de Mattos Vieira – Brazil: One of the most interesting and difficult idea in the tourney. The need to remove the control on one of two masked white batteries in turn leads the bSf1 to enter the line of the other battery and then to abandon it at B2 moves. Besides pin mates and exchange of functions between the white pieces, the problem shows also the reversal white moves. An original concept.

a) 1.Sd2 L:b5 2.Sb1 S:e6 #

b) 1.Sg3 S:e6 2.Sh1 L:b5 #

Nr. 4 - Jorge Lois & Jorge Kapros
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
1st Honorable Mention



H # 2

2.1.1.1.

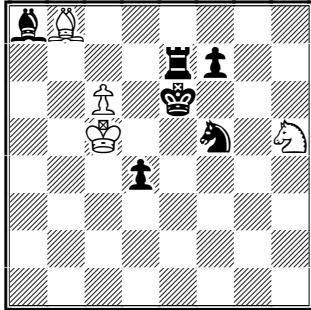
1.c:b5 Sh5 2.Dc6 Shf4 #

1.L:b5 Se8 2.Dc4 Sc7 #

1.S:b5 Ld1 2.Dd5 Lf3 #

1st Honorable Mention – Nr. 4 – Jorge Lois & Jorge Kapros – Argentina: It is necessary to control the square d4 and the only way to do so is to open the wLa7's line; therefore Black indirectly unpins his Queen but the price to pay is an unblock: at this point the unpinned black Queen selfblocks the squares abandoned by the black pieces at B1. Though the theme is even doubled since the white counterpart exists (unguards by the mating pieces and final guards in the mates) and increases the value of this problem it seems more a technical device rather than a thematic feature. The problem surely could fall in the prize category if three pieces could not be easily saved by the version in brackets (White Kd1 Td2 Lb1 Lg3 Sb7 Se7 pc5; Black Kd4 Dd3 Ta1 Sc4 pa3 c3 e3 3 sols.).

Nr. 19 - Maryan Kerhuel
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
2nd Honorable Mention

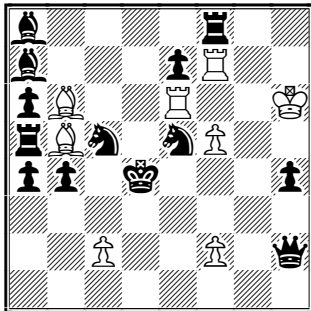


H # 2 b) wPc6 – bPd4
c) wLb8 – h1

2nd Honorable Mention – Nr. 19 – Maryan Kerhuel – France: Among the problems with only the ‘basic’ motif of unblock/selfblock this is one of the best. It shows the cyclic play by three black pieces (Te7, Sf5 and Pf7) which exchange their roles as unblocking, selfblocking (at B2 moves) and static blocking unit. Of course the play, especially the white one, is not very profound and the twinning mechanisms seem rather weak, but we cannot ask more from this airy position with only 10 pieces.

a) 1.f6 Ld6 2.Tf7 Sf4 #
b) 1.Td7 Le5 2.Se7 Sg7 #
c) 1.Sd6 K:d4 2.f5 Ld5 #

Nr. 39 - Menachen Witztum & Shaul Shamir
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
3rd Honorable Mention



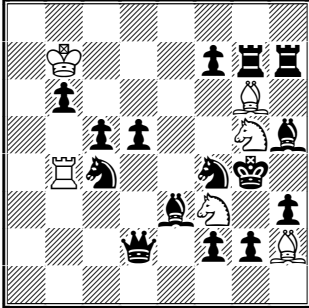
H # 2 b)bKd4 – e4

a) 1.Sc6 Te3 2.e5 Td7 #
b) 1.Sb7 Le3 2.Lc5 Lc6 #

3rd Honorable Mention – Nr. 39 – Menachem Witztum & Shaul Shamir – Israel: The merit of this problem is the richness of the entire strategy. In both solutions the ‘restoration of effect’ is seen in the fact that a black line (h2/d6 in the first twin and a5/d5 in b) is initially closed by a black piece which, leaving it, interferes with the bLa8 at B1; afterwards the same line is finally closed by a different black piece which moves to the very square abandoned by Black at B1. Besides this thematic strategy, there is much more: the moves by the black Knights have also the motivations of opening a white line, thus allowing the control of the bK’s field; in this regard it is visually attractive that both W2 moves occur on the same square (note the nice mixed Bristol effects shown

by W1 and B2). Another interesting motif is the pin mates which involve the exchange of roles between the wTe6 and wLb6, thanks to the shifting of the bK as twinning mechanism. Unfortunately there is a slightly unbalance in the closing of the thematic black line (anticipatory closing only in b) but what prevents me from ranking it higher is the fact that 1.Sc6 has also the motivation of unguarding the mating square, thus spoiling the logic of restoration of effect.

Nr. 14 - Ricardo de Mattos Vieira
 J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
 4th Honorable Mention

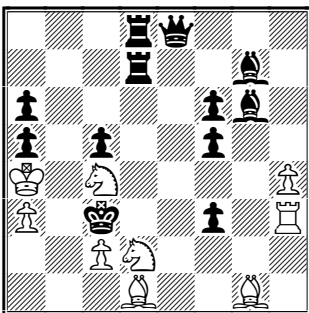


H # 2 2.1.1.1.

1.Se5 L:f7! (S:f7?) 2.Sd7 Le6 (Se5?) #
 1.Se6 S:f7! (L:f7?) 2.Sc7 Se5 (Le6?) #

4th Honorable Mention – Nr. 14 – Ricardo de Mattos Vieira – Brazil: The unguard/guard motif is cleverly shown here with other strategic points. The thematic white pieces (Sg5 and Lg6) in the way for reaching the mating square abandon the guard of a specific square (respectively f3 and f5) but at the same time they selfpin themselves so that black has to unpin them at B2; all that leads to the play of a black halfpin and more interestingly to a good dual avoidance (1.Se5 Sxf7? and 1.Se6 Lxf7?) based on the fact that the unpinning black piece controls the mating square. The position is rather heavy but commendably without white pawns.

Nr. 2 - Almiro Zarur
 J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
 5th Honorable Mention

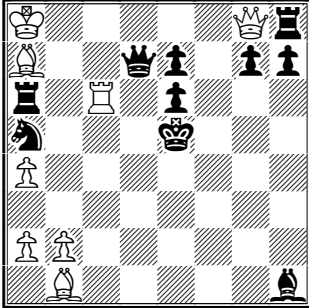


H # 2 2.1.1.1.

1.Lf7 L:f3! (S:f3?) 2.Ld5! (Le6?) Le4 #
 1.Lf8 S:f3! (L:f3?) 2.Ld6! (Le7?) Se5 #

5th Honorable Mention – Nr. 2 – Almiro Zarur – Brazil: Two white pieces (Sd2 and Ld1) have to abandon the control of the bK's field in order to become the front piece of a white battery placed on the 3rd rank, and in the meantime Black must close the d file. These two goals lead to an interesting dual avoidance (1.Lxf7 Sxf3? and 1.Lf8 Lxf3?) based on the fact that the front piece of the white battery, by taking again the control of a square, must interfere with the black Bishop which performs the necessary black line closing at B2; by the way, the mating move has the accessory motivation of interfering also with the bDe8 resulting thus another interesting dual avoidance at B2 (1.Lf7 Lxf3 2.Le6? or 1.Lf8 Sxf3 2.Le7?).

Nr. 7 - Darko Nesek
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
1st Commendation

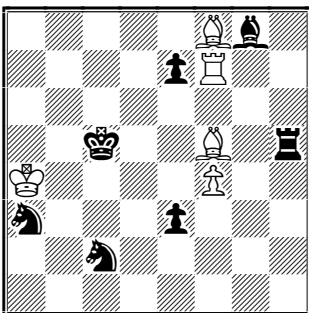


H # 2 b) bPe6 – c2

- a) 1.Kd5 T:e6 2.Kc4+ Te4 #
b) 1.Ke4 T:c2 2.Kd3+ Tg2 #

1st Commendation – Nr. 7 – Darko Nesek – Croatia: The pinned wTc6 is unpinned in order to create a white battery; in the mating position the white Rook is again pinned because has to parry a check. This very spectacular conception has already been encountered in the 1st Pr. and moreover the combination of unpins of a white piece with cross-checks by a white battery (with final pins of the front battery piece) has been already shown by P.Einat *IRT* 2004 [(White Kd1 Tb4 Lg2 Sd2; Black Ke5 Td6 Lg8 Lg5 pc7 d7 c5 h5 c4 f3 g3 B) Kd1 to c1)]; a slightly better economy can be achieved by removing the wPa2 and wPa4 and by adding a black pawn on b5.

Nr. 3 - Shaul Shamir
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
2nd Commendation

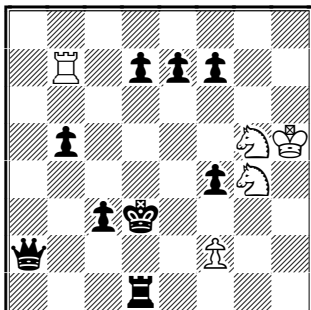


H # 2 2.1.1.1.

- 1.Kd4 Kb3 2.e6 (e5?) Td7 #
1.Kc6 Ka5 2.e5 (e6?) Le4 #

2nd Commendation – Nr. 3 – Shaul Shamir – Israel: This elegant Meredith shows an interesting thematic play based on unpins of the mating pieces which White selfpins at W1; it is very attractive that the unpinnings are made by the unpinned bPe7 after the bK's flights. Moreover an anticipatory strategy does exist: at B2 Black closes the masked line of an own piece which controls the mating line. Although a similar combination exists (PDB P0527143), as far as I know this is the first rendering with two distinct lines of play; by the way the bSc2 can be replaced by a black pawn on a5.

Nr. 36 - Christer Jonsson
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
3rd Commendation

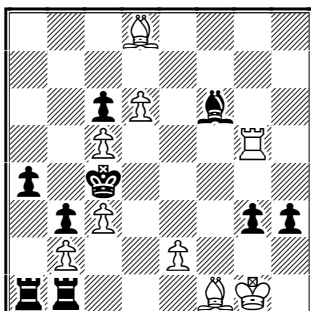


H # 2 b) bKd3 – d6

3rd Commendation – Nr. 36 – Christer Jonsson – Sweden: The need to selfblock a square of the bK's field leads to an anticipatory line closing; in fact the immediate squareblock [(1.De2? in a) and 1.Td5? in b)] fails because of the undesired pin of a white Knight. The shifting of the bK as twinning mechanism leads to some underused pieces and the bPb5 can be saved by moving the pf7 to f6. Nevertheless an amusing and interesting problem.

a) 1.f3 (De2?) Se3 2.De2 T:d7 #
b) 1.f5 (Td5?) Se6 2.Td5 Tb6 #

Nr. 30 - Almiro Zarur
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
4th Commendation

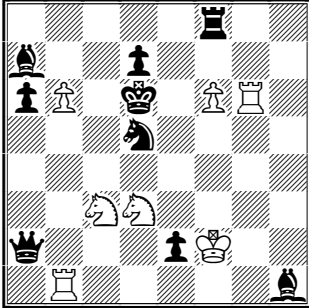


H # 2 2.1.1.1.

4th Commendation – Nr. 30 – Almiro Zarur – Brazil: In order to remove the black control on the white battery by closing the first rank, Black captures a white piece which guards two squares; the restored control of one of those squares is assured by the wLd8 at W1 and the other by the white battery at W2. The play, though neat, is pale, especially the first white moves.

1.L:c3 La5 2.Le1 e3 #
1.L:g5 Lb6 2.Lc1 e4 #

Nr. 24 - Jorma Pitkänen
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
5th Commendation



H # 2

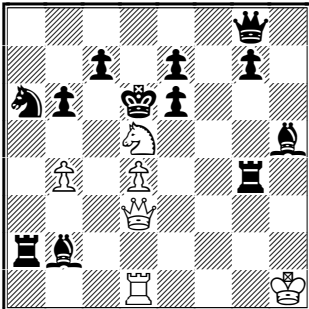
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5th Commendation – nr.24 – Jorma Pitkänen – Finland: A line is initially closed by the bSd5 which opens it at B1 since a square (e7 or c7) must be blocked; then White closes again the same line and black sacrifices on the mating square follow. The strategy, though thematic, is spoiled since the mating square is initially guarded by the bSd5 regardless the line closing. Nevertheless the strategy is appealing with a good exchange of function between the white Rooks.

1.Se7 Tb3 2.T:f6+ T:f6 #

1.Sc7 Tg2 2.L:b6+ T:b6 #

Nr. 33 - Almiro Zarur
J. & M. Figueiredo Mem. Ty.
6th Commendation



H # 2

2.1.1.1

6th Commendation – nr. 33 – Almiro Zarur – Brazil: The annihilation captures by Black in order to create a white battery followed by black switchbacks is very well-known (compare among others to PDB P0555279) but the novel aspect in this context is the ‘try’ 1...Db5? in both solutions which fails because White does not close a black line. The construction is far from good (the ugly bLb2 is a promoted Bishop) and a better economy could be easily achieved: bDg8 to f7, -bPg7, bPb6 to b7.

1.L:d4 De4! (Db5?) 2.Lb2 Sc3 #

1.T:d4 Dc3! (Db5?) 2.Tg4 Sf4 #

Mario Parrinello
International Judge of the FIDE
for Chess Composition

August 2011