



MAT PLUS

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Editorial

Four decades have passed since I published my first problem. I spent almost half of these 40 years in editing chess problem magazines. Apart from few periodicals of our domestic Chess Problemists' Society (which I don't count), the two important were "MAT" in the 70s and 80s, and "Mat Plus" in the 90s. The former ceased when Yugoslavia broke apart, while publication of the latter had to be stopped due to the hard economical times we were facing at the end of last Millennium. I started working in the first magazine as a 22-years young enthusiast, and I continued in the second as a mature middle-aged, but by no means less enthusiastic person. Nowadays, while I am slowly but safely approaching to my advanced years, my enthusiasm did not vanish and I feel that it is about time for me to use all the experience and knowledge for the production of a magazine I was dreaming of during all my life.

"Third time – luck!", some would say. This time the situation is much more favourable. Internet offered the possibility to form an international team of editors, and during the last half year it has been done. Just read the names in the *impressum* and you will see that it is an excellent team indeed. This kind of work was new for all of us, and we all had to exert ourselves in order to get used to it. Despite of the problems we had to overcome in our understanding and communication, I already enjoy so much co-operating with all of the team-mates.

The above mentioned dreams led to the concept of the magazine, you'll guess. That's right, so let me explain it with a few words. On top of the usual plans to have high-quality articles, originals and tourneys, this project involves an intensive utilization of the Internet in order to extend the life of the magazine beyond the bounds of printed booklets. The on-line activity allows faster exchange of information, knowledge, ideas and opinions. The most interesting topics will be recorded in printed form. However, the bad news is that such a concept is pretty costly and forces us to apply a more careful economical policy. Therefore, there will be two parallel magazines, the first (you are now reading a copy of it) is a real successor of "Mat Plus", while the other is "Mat Plus Review" which will be distributed only to subscribers. Only the first issue of "Review" will be sent, as a promotional sample, to everybody entitled for an author's copy. If it caught your interest, please look for the details about the subscription on our Web site (www.matplus.net).

LIGA PROBLEMISTA 2007

1st Round: Helpmates in 2 moves

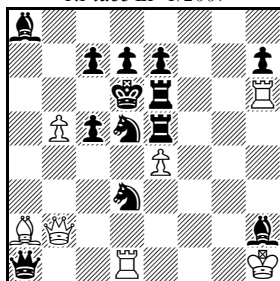
Theme: A white unit captures a black unit and it is subsequently captured by another black unit, which is self-pinned. Pawns are allowed as thematic units.

39 compositions, without authors' names, were sent to me by Milan Velimirović. Seven(!) turned out to be cooked and they had been reproduced in the PDF file for reference only. Another four entries (No.1, 36, 37, 38) were disqualified for they had useless white pieces in at least a phase. No.22 is not thematic and three entries were submitted with alternative versions, thus the actual number of problems for consideration was 24.

In the end, it turned out that the specific combination of a white capture-sacrifice for black self-pin has been quite explored and the choice of the theme was not so successful. Around 30 examples were quoted in the announcement and I managed to find another 15 or so in the meantime, so the high number of anticipations is not surprising. No.14, 16 and 31 are surpassed by the impeccable Janez Nastran, 1 Pl Slovenian Championship 1993 (PDB P0538513), while No.11, 17 and 30 show nothing new compared to Tibor Szabó & Tibor Érsek, 2 Pr Sakkélet 1992 (P0536766), which features a black Grimshaw instead of the indirect unpins. Pity for the composer of No.20: he succeeded in presenting the setup of Franz Pachl, 2 Pr idee & form 2000-01 (P0583070) more aesthetically without the awkward black rook's capture, but even the pawn that he used instead prevents the mate in part (a), so I cannot consider it as an actual improvement. Finally, No.24 shows the same dual avoidance mechanism as Joe Youngs, Dan Meinking & Newman Guttman, 7 Pr Orbit 1999 (P0583722) with weaker introductory play. (See Appendix)

Menachem Witztum

1.Place LP 1/2007

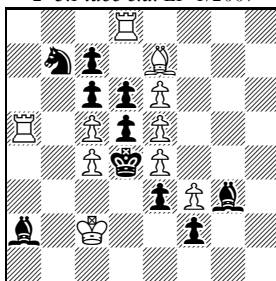


h#2 2111 7+13

1.S3f4 Bxd5 2.Rxd5 e5#
1.Sc3 Bxc6 2.Rxc6 Qxh2#

Ricardo de Mattos Vieira

2-3.Place e.a. LP 1/2007

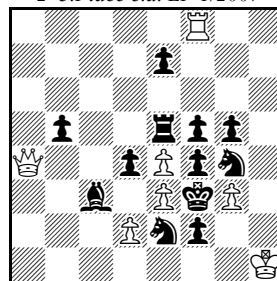


h#2 2111 10+10

1.dxc4 exd6 2.Bxd6 Bf6#
1.dxc5 exd5 2.Bxd5 Ra4#

Georg Pongrac

2-3.Place e.a. LP 1/2007



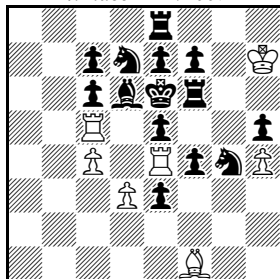
h#2 b) Pg3→h2 7+12

a) 1.fg3 ef5 2.Rxf5 Qa8#
b) 1.fe4 ef4 2.Sxf4 Qd1#

1st Place No.3 – Menachem Witztum (Israel). Two self-pins of the same black rook after sacrifices of the same white bishop yield double-pin mates delivered along the same diagonal. A solid presentation, even if not entirely satisfactory because of the static pin of the bRe6 in one solution.

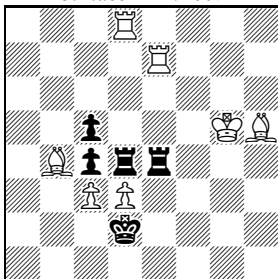
2nd-3rd Place No.21 – Ricardo de Mattos Vieira (Brazil), No.39 - Georg Pongrac (Austria). The same matrix of a pseudo half-pin with reciprocal captures of two pairs of pawns differentiated by the way that the mates are delivered. No.21 has a slight advantage for the two solutions form, but I deem that the two compositions should eventually share honours.

Christer Jonsson
4.Place LP 1/2007



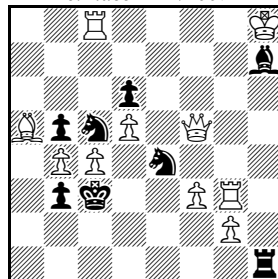
h≠2 b) Bf1→h8 7+14
c) Bf1→a6
a) 1.Kf5 Rxc5+ 2.Sgxe5 Bh3#
b) 1.Rf5 Bxe5 2.Bxe5 Rxc6#
c) 1.Rc8 Rxc5+ 2.Sdxe5 Bxc8#

Emanuel Navon
5.Place LP 1/2007



h≠2 2111 7+5
1.Kxd3 cd4 2.Rxd4 Bg6#
1.Kc3 dc4 2.Rxc4 Bxc5#

Emanuel Navon
6.Place LP 1/2007



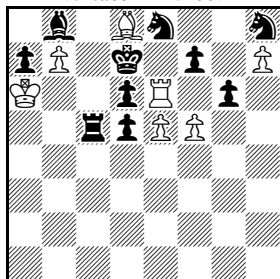
h≠2 b) Qf5→f4 10+8
a) 1.Kxc4 bc5 2.Sxc5 Rg4#
b) 1.Kd4 fe4 2.Sxc4 Bb6#

4th Place No.13 – Christer Jonsson (Sweden). Ambitious tripling of the theme with the noteworthy feature of all sacrifices occurring on the same square. I have, however, the feeling that the weak twinning (which involves shift of a thematic unit) prevents a higher placing.

5th Place No.7 – Emanuel Navon (Israel). A very appealing Meredith with the sacrifices aiming to release the initially closed mating lines. All three pairs of the white and black pieces exchange their roles, admittedly perfect utilisation of the material!

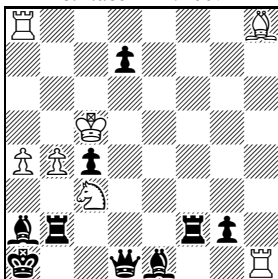
6th Place No.9 – Emanuel Navon (Israel). The same concept as in the previous problem using knights as the thematic black pieces this time, but in a quite heavier construction and with a weak twin.

Georgi Hadži-Vaskov
7.Place LP 1/2007



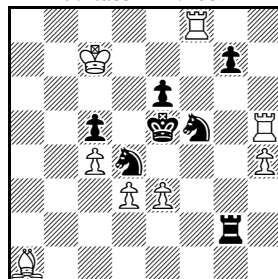
h≠2 b) Kd7→h5 7+10
a) 1.Kc6 ed6 2.Bxd6 b8S#
b) 1.Kh6 fg6 2.Sxg6 h8Q#

Misha Shapiro
8.Place LP 1/2007



h≠2 b) Sc3⇒Pa4 7+9
a) 1.Qxa4 Sxa2 2.Qxa2 Rxe1#
b) 1.Bxc3 Sxb2 2.Bxb2 Rxd1#

Slobodan Šaletić
9.Place LP 1/2007



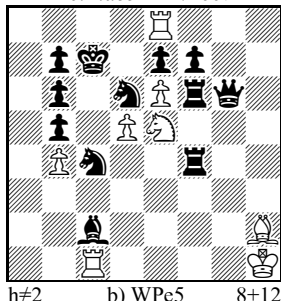
h≠2 2111 8+7
1.Rb2 Rfxf5+ 2.Sxf5 Bxb2#
1.Rg5 ed4+ 2.Sxd4 Rxc5#
Note: after Lobusov (ex. No.2)

7th Place No.32 – Georgi Hadži-Vaskov (Macedonia). The follow-my-leader promotion mates seem new. The twin is too drastic and the B1 moves of no particular interest.

8th Place No.15 – Misha Shapiro (Israel). Nice and probably new contribution to the pseudo half-pin idea with double-pins, yet the practically same mate is hardly acceptable.

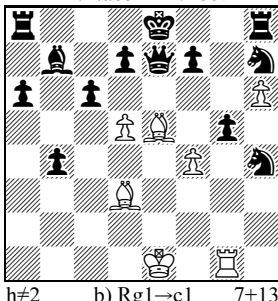
9th Place No.6 – Slobodan Šaletić (Serbia). Not original at all of course, yet I am of the opinion that such a light setting deserves anyhow a distinction.

Mihajlo Milanović
10.Place LP 1/2007



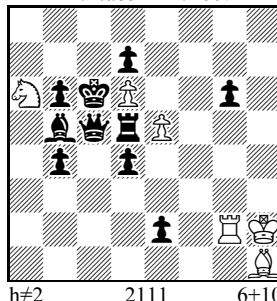
- h#2 b) WPc5 8+12
a) 1.Bf5 Sxc4 2.Sxc4 Bxf4#
b) 1.R4f5 cd6+ 2.Sxd6 Rxc2#

Boško Milošeski
11.Place LP 1/2007



- h#2 b) Rg1→c1 7+13
a) 1.0-0 fg5 2.Sxg5 h7#
b) 1.0-0-0 dc6 2.Bxc6 Bxa6#

Menachem Witztum
12.Place LP 1/2007



- h#2 2111 6+10
1.e1B Sxc5 2.Rxc5 Rc2#
1.Qxd6 ed6 2.Rxd6 Rxc6#

10th Place No.29 – **Mihajlo Milanović (Serbia)**. Each black knight is captured so that its colleague can pin itself on that square; quite familiar motivations and the mates are too crude.

11th Place No.19 – **Boško Milošeski (Macedonia)**. Apparently original combination with black castlings, but the weak twin contributes to the overall impression that the setup is actually two separate problems, squeezed under the same roof.

12th Place No.5 – **Menachem Witztum (Israel)**. Probably novel presentation of direct pins from a masked battery, but unbalanced B1 moves and quite symmetric.

Reserve No.18 – Menachem Witztum (Israel). Inconsistent motivations of the B1 moves (gate opening occurs only in one solution).

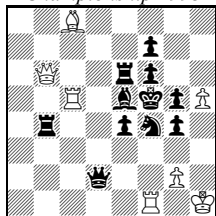
Weak, but sound: No.2 Boško Milošeski (totally symmetric), No.12 Christer Jonsson (poor mechanism and symmetric mates), No.23 Slobodan Saletić (bad twinning and symmetric)

Athens, 20 February 2007

Harry Fougiaris
FIDE International Judge

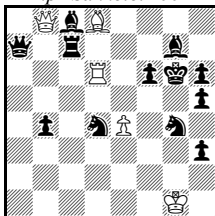
Appendix:

Janez Nastran
1.pl Slovenian
Championship 1993



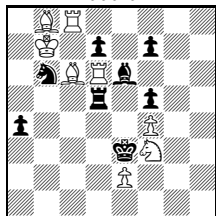
- h#2 b) Qb6→b8 7+11
c) Qb6→g3
a) 1.Qf2 Qxc6+ 2.Sxc6 Rxf2#
b) 1.Qd7 Qxc5+ 2.Rxc5 Bxd7#
c) 1.Qd5 Qxf4+ 2.Bxf4 Rxd5#

Tibor Szabó & Tibor Érsek
2.pr Sakkélet 1992



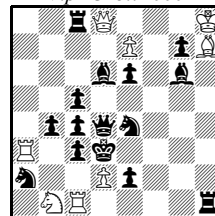
- h#2 b) Kg6→h4 5+12
a) 1.Bd7 Bxf6 2.Bxf6 Qg8#
b) 1.Rd7 Rxf6 2.Sxf6 Qf4#

Franz Pachl
2.pr idee & form
2000-01



- h#2 b) wBf3 8+8
a) 1.Ke4 Rxd5 2.Bxd5 Rc8#
b) 1.Kd4 Bxd5 2.Sxd5 Ba7#

Joe C. Youngs & Daniel E. Meinking & Newman Guttman
7.pr Orbit 1999



- h#2 2111 8+15
1.Bh2 Rxc3+ 2.Scxc3 Bxc6#
1.Be8 Sxc3 2.Qxc3 Qxd6#

LP 2007 – 1st Round Summary:

Participants: Aleksandr Semenenko, Ukraine – 17; Boško Milošeski, Macedonia – 2, 11, 19; Christer Jonsson, Sweden – 12, 13; Emanuel Navon, Israel – 7, 9; Frank Richter, Germany – 1; Georg Pongrac, Austria – 39; Georgi Hadži-Vaskov, Macedonia – 32; Gorazd Kodrić, Serbia – 25; Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 16; Menachem Witztum, Israel – 3, 5, 18; Mihajlo Milanović, Serbia – 29, 30, 31; Misha Shapiro, Israel – 14, 15; Nikola Miljaković, Serbia – 26, 27, 28; Radomir Nikitović, Serbia – 20; Ricardo de Mattos Vieira, Brazil – 21, 22; Slavko Radovanović, Serbia – 36, 37, 38; Slobodan Šaletić, Serbia – 6, 23; Tode Ilievski, Macedonia – 24; Živa Tomić, Serbia – 33, 34, 35.

Ranking after 1st Round: Menachem Witztum 25(7), Georg Pongrac 18, Ricardo de Mattos Vieira 18, Christer Jonsson 13(2), Emanuel Navon 11(10), Georgi Hadži-Vaskov 9, Misha Shapiro 8, Slobodan Šaletić 7(2), Mihajlo Milanović 6, Boško Milošeski 5(2), Frank Richter 1, Slavko Radovanović 1, Aleksandr Semenenko 0, Gorazd Kodrić 0, Jorge Joaquín Lois 0, Nikola Miljaković 0, Radomir Nikitović 0, Tode Ilievski 0, Živa Tomić 0.

Theme for 2nd round has been announced on Web site on February 12th 2007. See page 24.



Award in 1st Theme Tourney Mat Plus 2007

The theme required any orthodox-moving type of chess problems with only kings and pawns on the board featuring any kind of line effect(s). Perhaps my expectations had been too high, so there were not as sharp implementations of the theme as I was looking for. Nevertheless, bearing in mind the inertness of material, I am very satisfied with the quality of the submitted problems.

There were 22 entries with genres varying from direct mates to pretty fairy conditions like helpstalemates and series problems. I decided not to be too harsh in evaluating the entries, like taking in bad part some familiar devices such as anticipatory closing of line by minor promotion for subsequent major one, and also did not insist on total thematic purity of manoeuvres. I also relaxed the criteria of originality assuming that some familiar motifs are sufficiently original by the fact that they are realized with so restricted material. Let's hope there will be no anticipations by older K&P problems. Since bare-handed plebeian problems don't have fair chances against the heavily armed concurrence, I rewarded as many entries as possible even if the line effects were more incidental than planned. However, I had to exclude four entries, two because of unacceptable dual promotions on second move (Nos. 13-Lind and 20-Lind), and another two because of really inferior and hardly recognizable thematic content (Nos. 3-Grushko and 12-Lind). Finally, I did computer testing for most of the entries, but for few I had to relay on the "C+" notes by the authors themselves.

It was not easy to decide about the order of ranked problems of very different types. My primary (but not only) criteria was the intensity of theme. Perhaps some (or many) of you would not agree, but I think that in such kind of a tourney the award is bound to reflect the individual taste of the judge. I decided to omit ordering of Honorable Mentions and Commendations, since each attempt to do it ended in an infinite loop: X is better than Y, Y is better than Z, but Z is better than – X!?!.

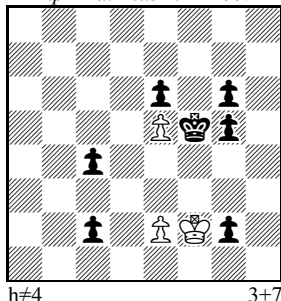
I knew the names of all authors, but that did not influence my decision.

1st Prize No. 18 – Lkhundevin Togookhuu, Mongolia. Despite some impurities certainly thematically the strongest composition. A two-purpose closing of fourth rank is dominant line effect, but there is also anti-critical move by black bishop and temporary closing of WPe2 line, the direct usage of its subsequent opening is paradoxically impossible because of lack of tempo move.

2nd Prize No. 4 – Dieter Müller, Germany. Two harmonious phases with annihilations of white pawns in order to clear the way for promoted white queen.

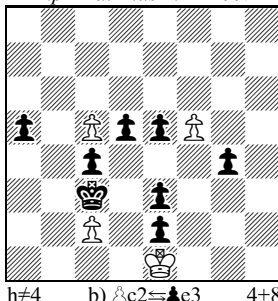
3rd Prize No. 10 – Eric Huber, Romania. Critical move by black rook and subsequent battery creation. Other virtues are nice "echo-start" by black and white and unexpected tempo (5... c6!).

[18] Lkhundevin Togookhuu
1.pr Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



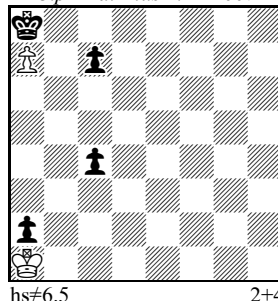
h#4 3+7

[4] Dieter Müller
2.pr Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



h#4 b) ♠c2=♠e3 4+8

[10] Eric Huber
3.pr Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



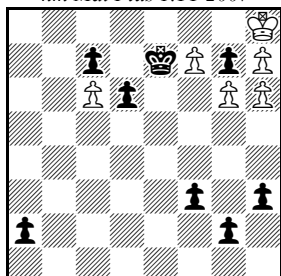
hs#6.5 2+4

[18] 1.g1R (1.c1B?) Ke3 2.c1B+ (2.Rg4?) Kd4 3.Bf4 e3! 4.Rg4 e4#

[4] a) 1.Kd4 c6 2.Ke4 c7 3.K:f5 c8Q 4.Ke4 Qg4# (... 3.- c8Q 4.- Qg4??); b) 1.Kb4 f6 2.K:c5 f7 3.Kb4 f8Q 4.Kc3 Da3# (1.- f6 2.- f7 3.- f8Q 4.- Qa3??)

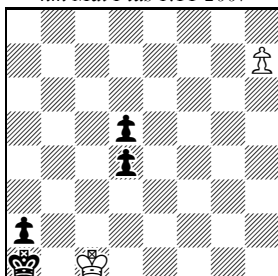
[10] 1...Kb7 2.Kb2 a1=R 3.a8=R Ra7 4.Rb8+ Ka6 5.Ka3 c6! 6.Ka4 c5 7.Rb6+ Kxb6#

[6] Siegfried Hornecker
hm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



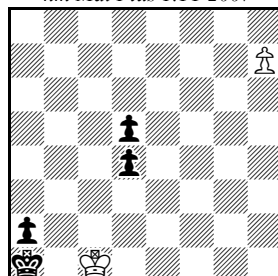
= (B→) 6+8

[8] Karol Mlynka
hm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



#4 2+4

[13] Ingemar Lind
hm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



#4 2+4

[6] 1... f2! (1... a1=Q? 2. hxg7 Ke6 3. f8=Q d5 4. Qd8 Kf5=) 2. hxg7! (2. f8=Q+? Kxf8 3. hxg7+ Ke7 4. g8=Q a1=Q+ 5. g7 self-pin f1=R!! +- stalemate avoidance; underpromotion (5... f1=Q? 6. Qf7+ Qxf7= (6... Kxf7=)) (5... Qf6? 6. Qf8+ Ke6 7. Qxf6+ Kxf6 8. g8=Q f1=Q 9. Qg3!! =)) (2. Kg8? f1=Q 3. hxg7 h2 4. f8=Q+ Ke6 5. Qf7+ Qxf7+ 6. gxf7 h1=Q 7. f8=Q a1=Q 8. Qf7+ Ke5 9. h8=Q g1=Q 10. Kf8 Qa8+ 11. Qe8+ (11. Ke7 Qg5+ -) 11... Qxe8+ 12. Kxe8 Qxc6+ -) 2... f1=Q 3. g8=Q a1=Q+ 4. g7 (self-pin) Qxf7 (4... Qxg7+ 5. Qxg7 (5. Kxg7?? Qf6#) 5... Qxf7 6. Qxf7+ Kxf7 =) (4... g1=Q?! 5. f8=Q+?! (for) 5. Qe8+ Kf6 6. f8=Q+ Kg5 7. Qee7+ Kg4 8. Qe6+ Kg3 9. Kg8 =) 5... Qxf8 6. Qxf8+ Ke6 7. Qf7+ Ke5 self-interference 8. g8=Q =) 5. Qxf7+ Kxf7 = stalemate with pinned pawn

[8, 13] 1... d3 2.h8Q+ d4 3.Dd4#; 1.h8Q? =; 1.Kc2?(A) d3+! 1.h8R! d3 2.Rh1 d2+ 3.Kc2+(A) d1Q+ 4.Rd1:#(B), 2... d4 3.Rd1(B) d2+ 4.Kc2#(A)

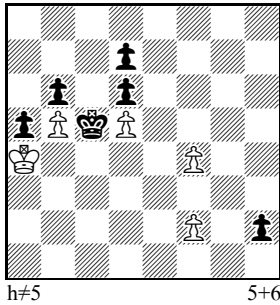
Honorable Mentions (without order):

No. 6 – Siegfried Hornecker, Germany. The only endgame of the tourney based on pins and pin avoidances.

No. 8 – Karol Mlynka, Slovakia, and

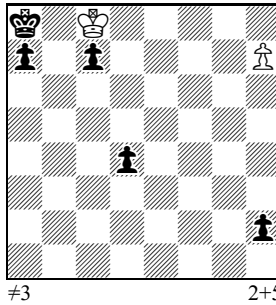
No. 13 – Ingemar Lind, Sweden. Coincidental problem. Minor promotion motivated by (pin-) stalemate avoidance and battery. Similar to one example, but with good economy and in four moves.

[11] Ingemar Lind
hm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



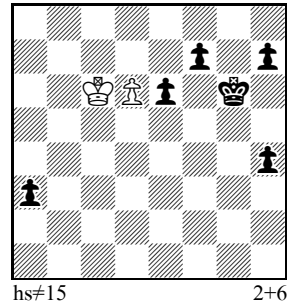
h#5 5+6

[9] Karol Mlynka
hm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



#3 2+5

[16] Guy Sobrecases
hm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



hs#15 2+6

Double Maximummer

[11] 1.h1B f5 2.Bxd5 f6 3.Bc4 f7 4.d5 f8S 5.d6 Se6#

[9] 1.h8Q! h1Q 2.Q:h1+ c6 3.Q:c6#; 1... a5 2.Qe5 ~ 3.Qe5:a5#, 2... c5 3.Qb8#; 1... a6 2.K:c7+ Ka7 3.Qb8#

[16] 1.Kd7 f5 2.K:e6 h5 3.Kd5 Kf7 4.Kc4 Ke6 5.Kd3 Kd5 6.Ke2 Ke4 7.Kf1 Kf3 8.d7 Kg4 9.Kg2 a2 10.Kh1 Kf3 11.d8=S Ke2 12.Se6 Kf1 13.Sf4 a1=Q 14.S:h5 Qh8 15.Sg3+ h:g3#

No.11 – Ingemar Lind, Sweden. Interference of promoted bishop.

No. 9 – Karol Mlynka, Slovakia. Simple, but with two different line effects: battery along the 8th rank and opening of white line (2... c6 3.Qe5-b8#).

No. 16 – Guy Sobrecases, France. Theme is postponed until the final battery mate, but the play leading to it is intriguing and charming.

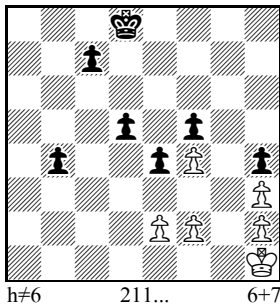
Commendations (without order):

No. 1 – Semion Shifrin, Israel. Very “loose” theme: opening of WP line.

No. 2 – Michael Barth, Germany. Anti-critical moves of promoted black units.

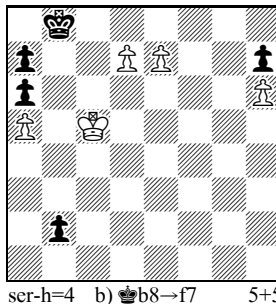
No. 5 – Dieter Müller, Germany. Annihilation as in the winner, but here pretty trivial.

[1] Semion Shifrin
cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



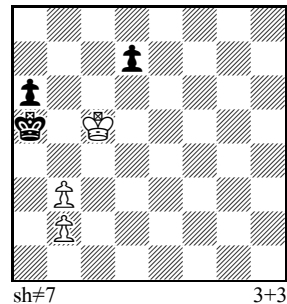
h#6 211... 6+7

[2] Michael Barth
cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



ser-h=4 b) ♟b8→f7 5+5

[5] Dieter Müller
cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



sh#7 3+3

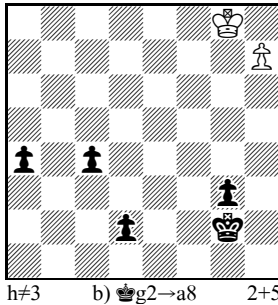
[1] 1.e3 Kg2 2.ef2 e4 3.f1R ef5 4.Re1 f6 5.Re7 f7 6.Rd7 f8Q#, 1.Kc8 f3 2.ef3 e4 5.f2 e5 6.f1B e6 5.Ba6 e7 6.Bb7 f8Q#

[2] a) 1.b2-b1=B 2.Bb1-e4 3.Be4-a8 4.Kb8-b7 d7-d8=Q =; b) 1.b2-b1=R 2.Rb1-b8 3.Rb8-h8 4.Kf7-g8 d7-d8=S =

[5] 1.d5 ... 5.d1B! (5.d1S?/5.d1R?/5.d1Q?) 6.B:b3! 7.Ba4 Pb2-b4# (Pb3-b4???) (6.S:b2?/Ra1?/Qf4? 7.Sa4+?/Ra4?/Qa4?)

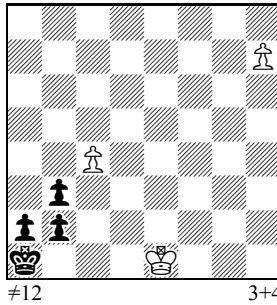
[7] Karol Mlynka

cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



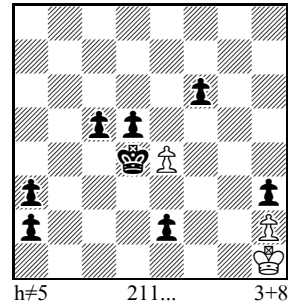
[15] Ingemar Lind

cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



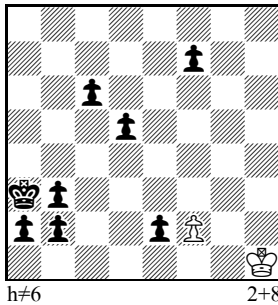
[17] Menachem Witztum

cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



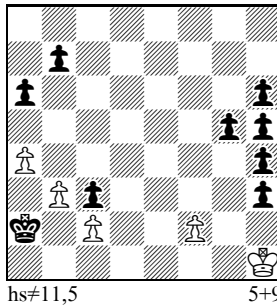
[19] Christer Jonsson

cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



[21] Guy Sobrecases

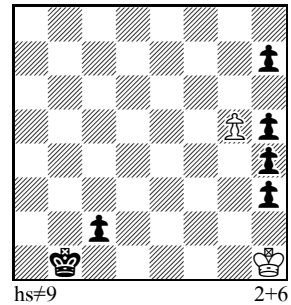
cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



Double Maximummer

[22] Guy Sobrecases

cm Mat Plus 1.TT 2007



Double Maximummer

[7] a) 1.d1B h8Q 2.Bg4 Qa1 3.Kh3 Qh1#, b) 1.d1R h8Q 2.Rd7 Qh3 3.Ra7 Qc8#

[15] 1. h8Q Kb1 2. Qh7+ Kc1 (2... Ka1. 3. Qg7) 3. Qh6+ Kb1 4. Qg6+ Ka1 5. Qf6 Kb1 6. Qf5+ Ka1 (6... Kc1. 7. Qf4+) 7. Qe5 Kb1 8. Qe4+ Kc1 9. Qe3+ Kb1 10. Qd3+ Ka1 11. Qd4 Kb1 12. Qd1#

[17] 1.e1B e5 2.a1R ef6 3.Rd1 f7 4.Rd3 f8Q 5.Bc3 Qf4#, 1.Ke3 ed5 2.Kf2 d6 3.Kf1 d7 4.a1R d8Q 5.Re1 Qxf6#

[19] 1.b1B f4 2.Bg6(a1B?) f5 3.a1B(e1B?) fg6 4.Bh8 g7 5.e1B gh8Q 6.Bb4 Qa1#1.b1B f4 2.Bg6(a1B?) f5 3.a1B(e1B?) fg6 4.Bh8 g7 5.e1B h8Q 6.Bb4 Qa1#

[21] 1...b5 2.f4 bxa4 3.fxc3 4.gxh6 bxc2 5.h7 Kb3 6.h8=S Kc4 7.Sf7 Kd3 8.Sg5 Ke2 9.Sxh3 Kf1 10.Sf4 c1=Q 11.Sxh5 Qh6 12.Sg3+ hxg3#

[22] 1.g6 Ka2 2.gxh7 Kb3 3.h8=S Kc4 4.Sf7 Kd3 5.Sg5 Ke2 6.Sxh3 Kf1 7.Sf4 c1=Q 8.Sxh5 Qh6 9.Sg3+ hxg3#

No. 7 – Karol Mlynka, Slovakia. Openings of lines for white queen.

No.15 – Ingemar Lind, Sweden. Familiar staircase combined with pins of black pawn.

No. 17 – Menachem Witztum, Israel. Closings of the first rank for two rook promotions.

No. 19 – Christer Jonsson, Sweden. Two anti-critical moves of promoted bishops.

Nos. 21 and 22 – Guy Sobrecases, France. Less attractive versions of No. 16.

February 2007

Milan Velimirović



Introduction to New Fairy Section

by *Eric Huber*

First of all, let me introduce myself: my name is Eric Huber and I live in Romania. Being the first fairy editor of the history of Mat Plus is quite flattering. When Marjan Kovacevic proposed me the job to me, I did not hesitate too long, because of the great esteem in which I hold him and also because of the reputation of this review.

Ten years ago, when I knew little about chess composition and still less about fairy problems, the reading of the first three issues of Quartz, a Romanian French-speaking review with a weakness for fairy and retro problems, was like a flash of lightning for me. All these strange and wonderful fairy conditions flabbergasted me at first, but soon I was also fascinated by the alien charm of these rules and started composing fairy problems with the friendly help of Quartz editor, Paul Răican. I haven't stopped composing fairy problems ever since and can't help nurturing the hope that this column will convert many new adepts to fairy problems.

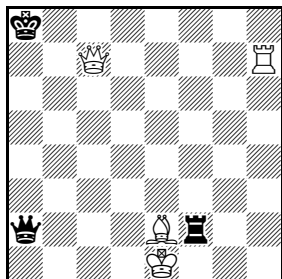
What makes people compose fairy problems? You might consider that fairy chess problemists use weird conditions or pieces and form a bunch of crazies in the margin of the larger guild of problemists. But then you'd be forgetting that most of them compose orthodox problems as well. Milan Vukcevic has proposed a descriptive map of the world of problems in his book '*My Chess Compositions*'. Allegorically, the Continent of Orthodox Problems, an imposing and still extending land, is surrounded by a Sea of Magic abounding in fairy islands of varied sizes, geography and climates. Fairy composers started some time ago to scan the Sea of Magic and discover its fertile lands. For instance, you must have heard of the great *Circe Archipelago* and its whole family of islands: Circe, AntiCirce, Clone Circe, or more recently discovered SuperCirce and AntiSuperCirce. New islands are found every year and some of them, when they are extensively explored, will probably expand to the size of continents. In that context, fairy composers work as pioneers and inventors. Fairy problems free them from all constraints, complexes or prejudice and even enable them to create something new in a fairyland (or fairysea) where everything is possible, permitting them to discover new themes and to come across original, surprising and sometimes unsettling ideas.

My hope is that you, dear reader, may fall under the charm of fairy problems and remain bewitched as I have been myself for ten years. From this column, you can expect unearthly features, mind-boggling challenges and compositions of the standard for which Mat Plus is renowned. From you, reader, since you probably belong to the human species, we expect comments. Tell us what you (dis)like in a problem, improve it, compare it to what you know, express your (dis)satisfaction after solving it – you can be sure that both author and editor will enjoy this feedback, find it exhilarating and also take it into account.

To give you an appetite, without traumatising you by too extreme sensations, a fairy condition or aspect will be presented to you in every issue, along with an eloquent and not too complicated example. For a first column, a definition of the fairy stipulation "helpself" (or "hs") is a must. You will see an increasing number of problems with this stipulation among the originals of this issue and of other reviews. In a helpselfmate

problem, White begins and Black collaborates with White so that after the penultimate move, we reach a position of selfmate in one move. At the last move, Black doesn't collaborate any longer but opposes White's aim, which is to have his own King mated.

Here is a light miniature:



Bo Lindgren
Springaren 1991

In a $hs\neq 5$, White would begin, but in a $hs\neq 4,5$, Black starts: 1... Rh2 2.Ba6 Qg2 (Black *Bahnung*) 3.Bb7+ Ka7 4.Bf3+ Ka6 (now we've reached the $s\neq 1$ position) 5.Be2+ Qxe2#

The wB *Rundlauf* completes the thematic contents of this problem.



ORIGINAL PROBLEMS

Originals in the first two volumes of *Mat Plus* (1994–1999) were limited to direct mates, helpmates and selfmates only. The reason was the lack of experts for endgames, fairies and retros in a small country like Serbia. The benefits of Internet allowed the magazine to overcome that obstacle by forming an international editorial team of experts and consequently opening its pages for all kinds of chess compositions.

Publication of solutions alongside the originals was an “invention” practiced in the first two volumes. However, even I, who was the main propagator of that method, changed my opinion. The point is not to make people solve the problems (they can always use the help of a computer) but to give them a chance to discover themselves the author's intention and send their comments if they wish. The authors would certainly be happy to hear more opinions about their works, even if all of these are not affirmative. Readers are invited to (e)mail their comments to section editors or, better, to input them directly on *MatPlus* Web site.

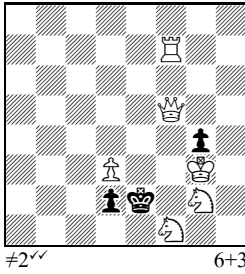
Finally, I would like to emphasise that all the editorial job has been done via Internet with software developed specially for that purpose. This kind of work is new for all of us, editors, and we did our best to avoid mistakes. If some error “sneaked in” we ask for your kind understanding.

Judges 2007:

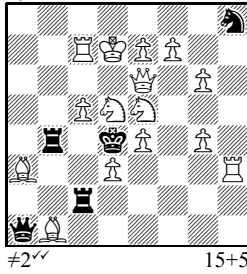
Twomovers: **Peter Gvozdják**, Slovakia
 Threemovers: **Milan Velimirović**, Serbia
 Moremovers: **Hans Peter Rehm**, Germany
 Endgames: **Iuri Akobia**, Georgia
 Selfmates: **Uri Avner**, Israel
 Helpmate twomovers: **Thomas Maeder**, Switzerland
 Helpmate moremovers: **Michel Caillaud**, France
 Fairy problems: **Petko A. Petkov**, Bulgaria
 Retro & Math: **Wolfgang Dittman**, Germany

Direct mate problems. 556(#2): See discussion “A tough nut” in “*MatPlus.Net: Best Bytes*” column of *Mat Plus Review*. 566(#3): The author is only 15 years old!

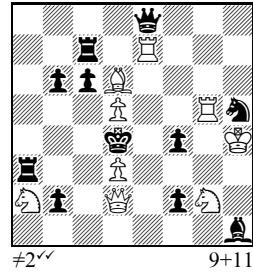
555. Mihail Croitor
Moldova



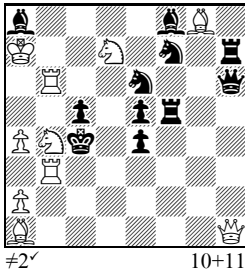
556. Hauke Reddmann
Germany
After Zirkwitz & Kuhlmann



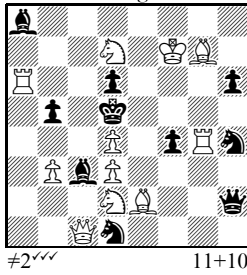
557. Emanuel Navon
Paul Vatarescu
Yoel Aloni
Israel



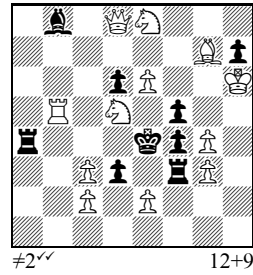
558. Colin Sydenham
Great Britain



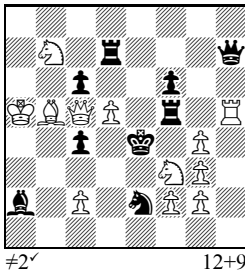
559. Givi Mosiashvili
Georgia



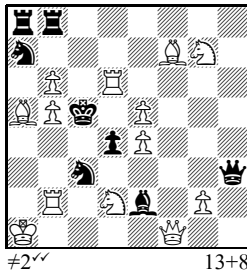
560. Aaron Hirschenson
Israel



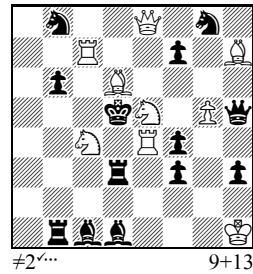
561. Dragan Stojnić
Serbia



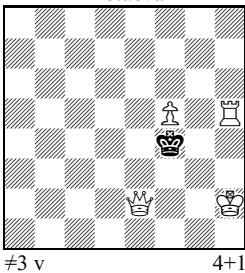
562. Abdelaziz Onkoud
Morocco



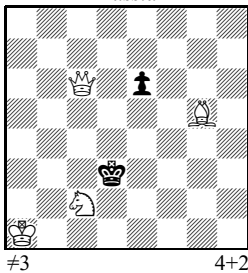
563. Živko Janevski
Macedonia



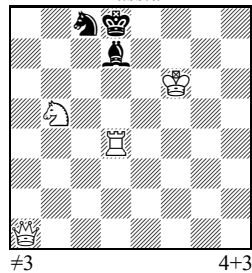
564. Mihail Croitor
Moldova



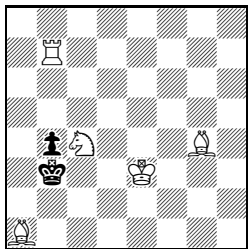
565. Vladimir Kozhakin
Russia



566. Alena Kozhakina
Russia

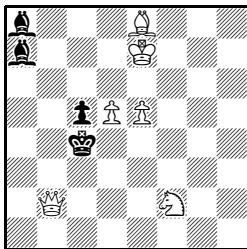


567. Vladimir Kozhakin
Russia



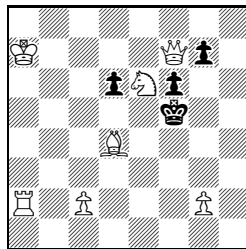
≠3 5+2

568. Mihail Croitor
Moldova



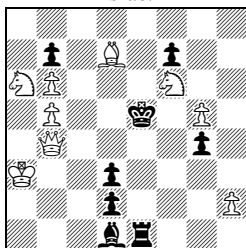
≠3 6+4

569. Petrašin Petrašinović
Serbia



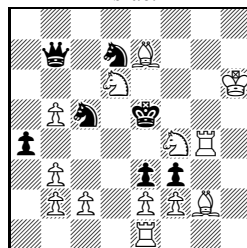
≠3 7+4

570. Leonid Makaronez
Israel



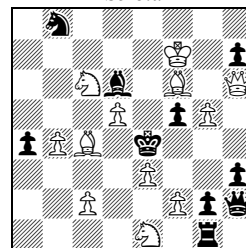
≠3 vv 9+8

571. Leonid Makaronez
Leonid Lyubashevsky
Israel



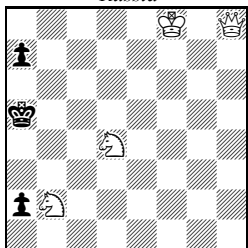
≠3 13+7

572. Miodrag Mladenović
Serbia



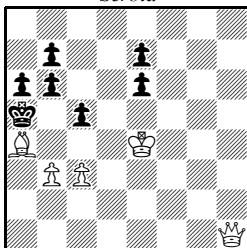
≠3 12+10

573. Vladimir Kozhakin
Russia



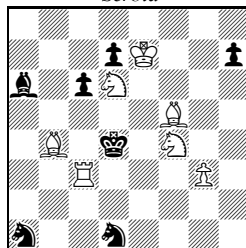
≠4 4+3

574. Borislav Stojanović
Serbia



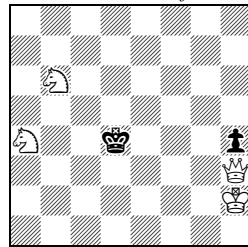
≠4 5+7

575. Petrašin Petrašinović
Serbia



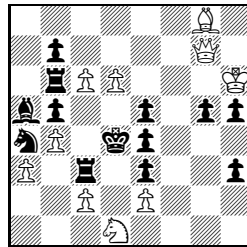
≠4 7+7

576. Borislav Stojanović
Serbia
In Memoriam Milivoj S. Nešić



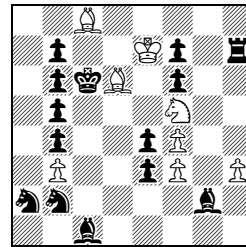
≠5 4+2

577. Borislav Stojanović
Serbia



≠8 10+13

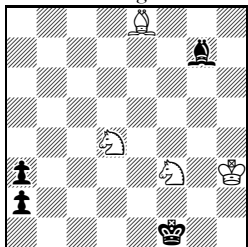
578. Anatoly Styopochkin
Russia



≠11 8+14

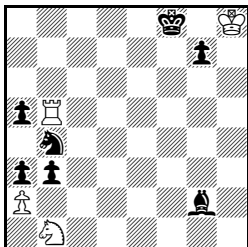
Endgames. Six interesting original endgames with diverse thematic content: 579 – Classical style study with beautiful mate. 580 – Several mutual zugzwangs and three stalemate positions. 581 – Mutual stalemates and positional draw with perpetual pinning. 582 – The young author made the interesting, sharp play. 583 – "Parade" of stalemates! 584 – Not obvious sacrifices of white pieces.

579. David Gurgenzidze
Georgia



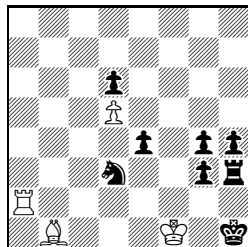
+ 4+4

580. Richard Becker
USA



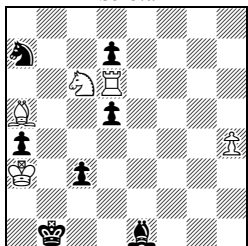
= 4+7

581. Arpad Ruzs
Romania



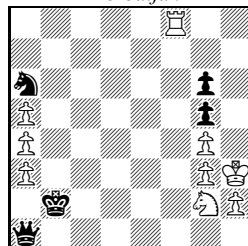
= 4+8

582. Darko Hlebec
Serbia



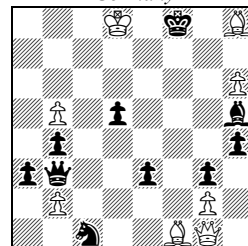
+ 5+7

583. Ihram Aliev
Azerbaijan



= 9+5

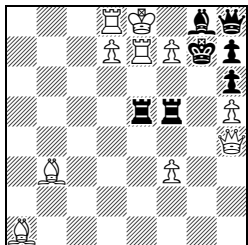
584. Gerd Wilhelm Hörning
Gerhard Josten
Germany



+ 8+10

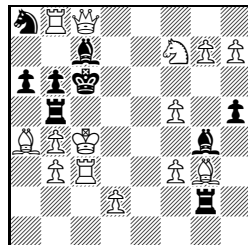
Selfmates. Refreshing 585 (together with a helpmate later 588) is a successful composing debut for OTB Grandmaster Bojan Vučković, who is already known as excellent solver. There are no less than four full length lines in 586 (threat + 3 variation), while for 587 author claims that it passed the computer test.

585. Bojan Vučković
Serbia



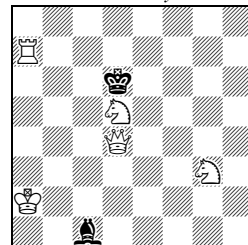
s#2 10+7

586. Milomir Babić
Rade Blagojević
Serbia



s#7 14+9

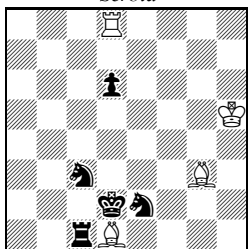
587. Torsten Linns
Germany



s#18 2 solutions 5+2

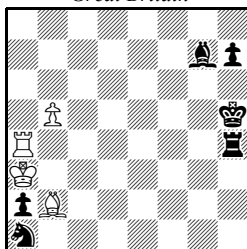
Helpmates. Most of the originals in this issue are quite straightforward, but I feel that a few of them need some brief explanatory remarks. Most of the readers will know that the "duplex" stipulation means that 589 solves not only as BWBW#, but also as WBWB# sequence; take note that there are two solutions in each part. The twinning of 593 is progressive, i.e. (c) is reached from (b). Two solutions are to be found in the diagram position of 606, but (b) has a single solution. You will probably have some trouble to solve 608 blindly without using a chessboard: to get part (b) all pieces have to be shifted one rank up. Finally, in the solution of 613 White starts first, therefore the requested set play is a normal h#7.

588. Bojan Vučković
Serbia



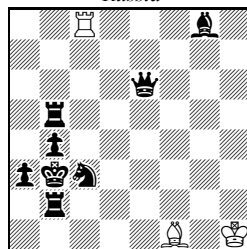
h#2
b) ♘c3 4+5

589. Colin Sydenham
Great Britain



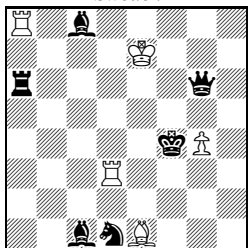
h#2 Duplex 2111 4+6

590. Anatoly Stypochkin
Russia



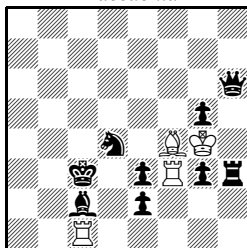
h#2 b) ♖b3=♠b4 3+8

591. Christer Jonsson
Sweden



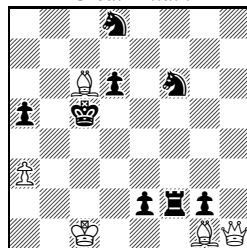
h#2 2111 5+6

592. Zoran Gavrilovski
Macedonia



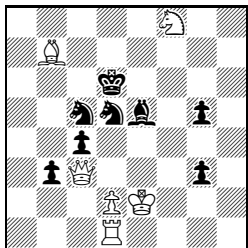
h#2 b) ♖c2 4+9

593. Chris Feather
Great Britain



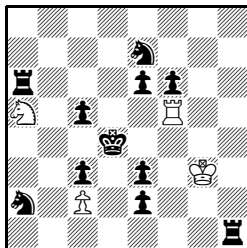
h#2 b) ♗c6→c8 5+8
+c) ♙a3→d5

594. Christer Jonsson
Sweden



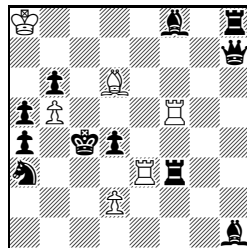
h#2 2111 6+8

595. Andreas Schönholzer
Switzerland



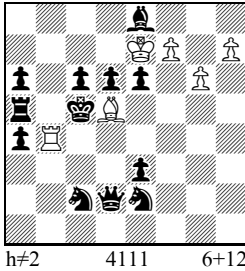
h#2 4111 4+11

596. Anatoly Stypochkin
Russia



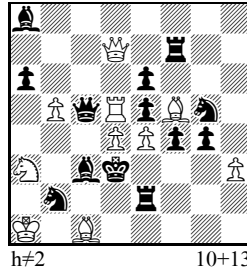
h#2 b) ♜b6→c2 6+11

597. Anatoly Styopochkin
Russia



h#2 4111 6+12

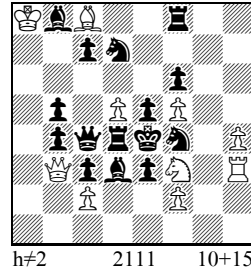
598. Ivan Denkovski
Gligor Denkovski
Macedonia



h#2 10+13

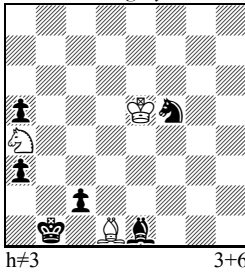
b) ♖d7→h7

599. Menachem Witztum
Israel



h#2 21111 10+15

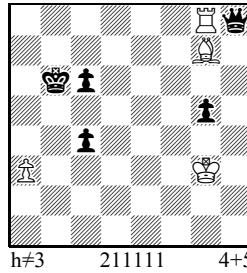
600. György Bakcsi
László Zoltán
Hungary



h#3 3+6

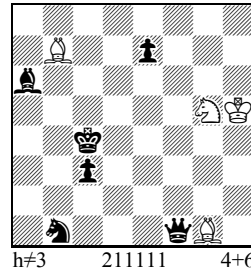
b) - ♙a3

601. Nikolay Argunov
Yuri Gordian
Russia / Ukraine



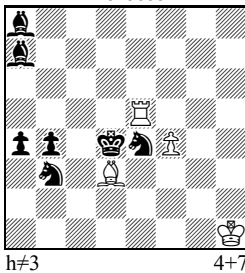
h#3 211111 4+5

602. Christer Jonsson
Sweden



h#3 211111 4+6

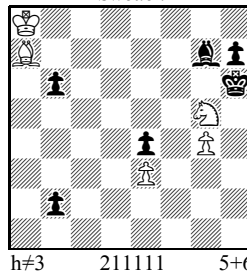
603. Abdelaziz Onkoud
Morocco



h#3 4+7

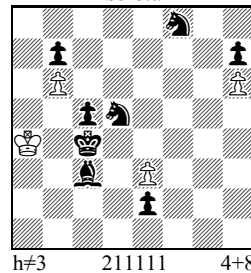
b) ♖f4→e2

604. Christer Jonsson
Sweden



h#3 211111 5+6

605. Slobodan Šaletić
Serbia

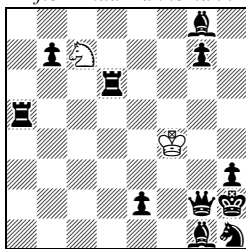


h#3 211111 4+8

606. Misha Shapiro

Israel

After Knud Hannemann

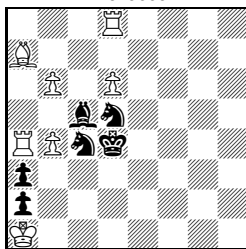


h#3 211111 2+11

b) ♖g7→d5, 111...

607. Abdelaziz Onkoud

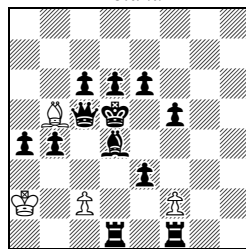
Morocco



h#3 211111 7+6

608. Henryk Grudzinski

Poland

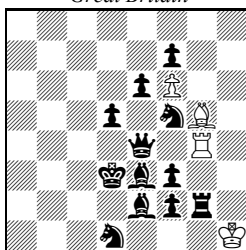


h#3 4+12

b) a1=a2

609. Christopher J.A. Jones

Great Britain

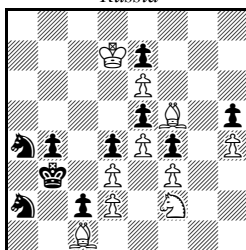


h#3 4+12

b) ♜e3

610. Anatoly Styopochkin

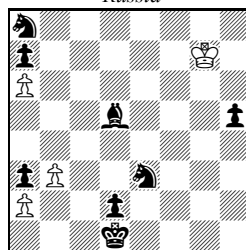
Russia



h#3 211111 10+10

611. Boris Shorokhov

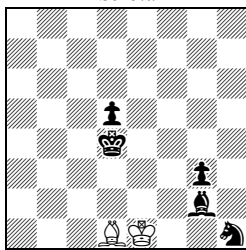
Russia



h#5 4+8

612. Borislav Stojanović

Serbia

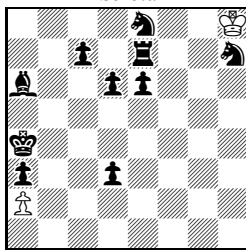


h#7 2+5

613. Borislav Stojanović

Milomir Babić

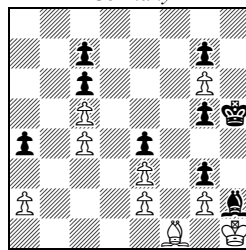
Serbia



h#7.5* 2+10

614. Frank Richter

Germany



h#19 9+9

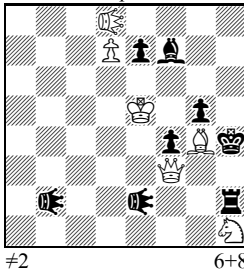
Fairies. Here are the first Mat Plus fairy originals. They offer all kinds of stipulations, fairy pieces and conditions and I must thank all composers for quickly answering my call for originals. We wish you all welcome and hope that it will be the beginning of a fruitful collaboration.

Readers might want to know which problems are easier to solve. I'd advise them to start with problems 619, 620, 623, 626, 627, 630 and 649, in any order they prefer, before they tackle more substantial items. Amateurs of strong contents will train their brains on 617 and 636, while seekers of new ideas and amazing positions will be happy to discover 621, 628, 635, 638, 639, 645 and 648.

Finally, problem 650 is not C+. Please give this problem a thorough test!

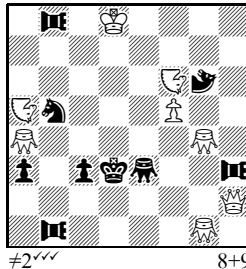
Note that explanations of fairy types and pieces can be found on pages 22 and 23.

615. Tadashi Wakashima
Japan



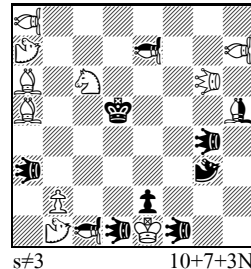
#2 6+8
Anticircle
♟♞ = Lion

616. Semion Shifrin
Israel



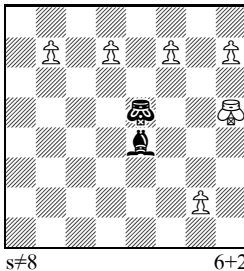
#2✓✓✓ 8+9
♟♞ = Grasshopper
♞♛ = Nightrider
♞♞ = Rook-Lion
♞♞ = Camel

617. Juraj Lörinc
Slovakia



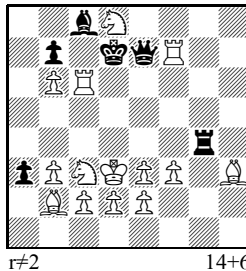
s#3 10+7+3N
♞♞♞ = Locust
♞♞♞ = Bishop Locust
♞♞ = Giraffe

618. Neal Turner
Finland



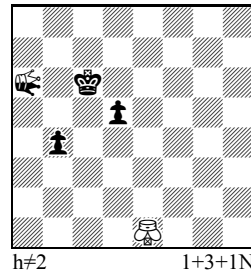
s#8 6+2
♞♞ = Royal Grasshopper

619. Anatoly Stypochkin
Russia



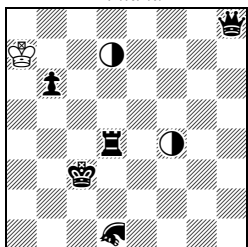
r#2 14+6

620. Karol Mlynka
Slovakia



h#2 1+3+1N
b) - ♔d5
c) - ♔b4
♞ = Pressburger King
♞♞ = Amazon (Q+S)

621. Marko Ylijoki
Finland

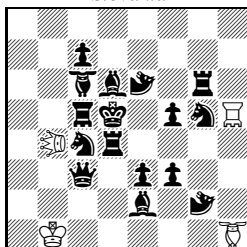


h#2 1+5+2N

b) ♖b6→c3

● = Neutral Orphan
♘ = Zebra

622. Ján Golha
Slovakia



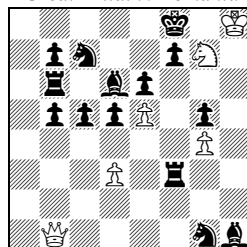
h#2 2111 4+16

b) ♖b4→g7

♘ = Leo

♞ = Nightrider hopper
♝ = Bishop hopper
♞ = Rook hopper

623. Colin Sydenham
Ion Murarasu
Great Britain / Romania

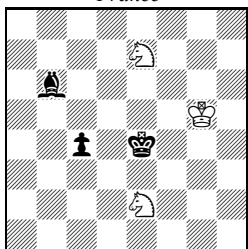


h#2 6+14

b) ♖f7→c7

Andernach

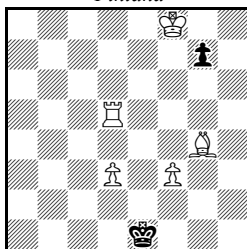
624. Guy Sobrecases
France



h#2.5 021111 3+3

Isardam
Andernach

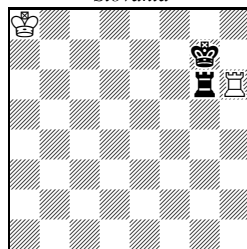
625. Marko Ylijoki
Finland



h#2.5 021111 5+2

Actuated Revolving Board

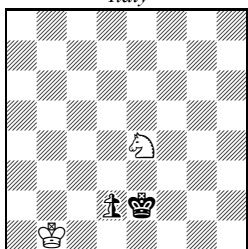
626. Karol Mlynska
Slovakia



h#3 211111 2+2

StingChess

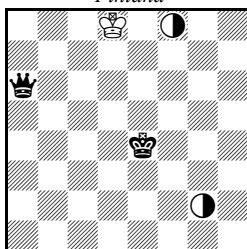
627. Vito Rallo
Italy



h#3 2+1+1N

b) ♖b1→a2

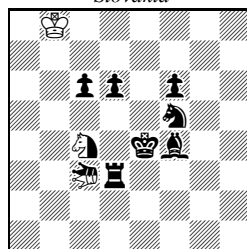
628. Marko Ylijoki
Finland



h#3 211111 1+2+2N

● = Neutral Orphan

629. Ján Golha
Slovakia

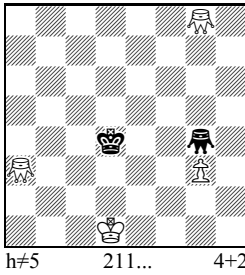


h#3 411... 1+7+2N

Parrain Circe

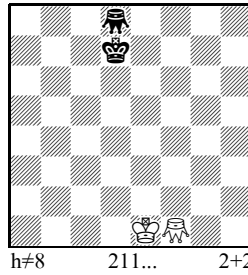
♞ = Neutral Knight
♞ = Neutral Locust

630. Bjørn Enemark
Denmark



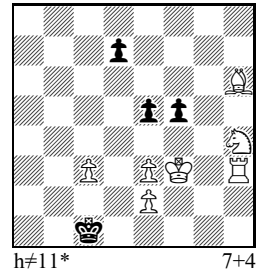
♟♟ = Grasshopper

631. Ion Murarasu
Romania



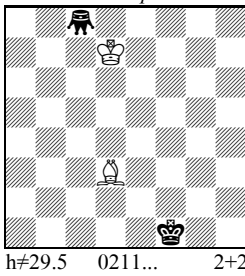
Köko

632. Paul Raican
Romania



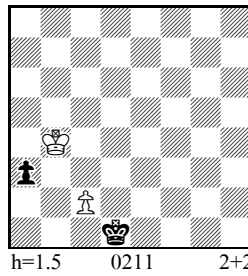
Circe
UltraSchachZwang

633. Václav Kotěšovec
Czech Republic



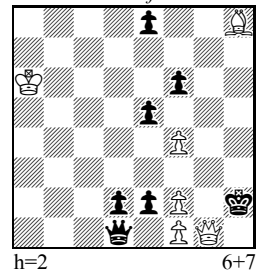
Köko
Double Maximummer
PWC

634. Guy Sobrecases
France



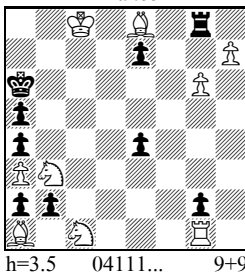
Supercirce
Isardam

635. Peter Harris
South Africa



Supercirce
Anticirce
Transmuting Kings

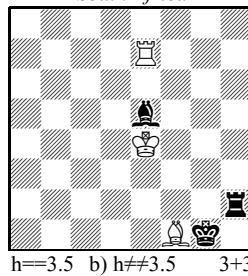
636. René J. Millour
France



b) ♔a1↔♖g1

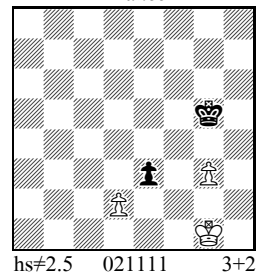
Cuckoo Circe

637. Peter Harris
South Africa



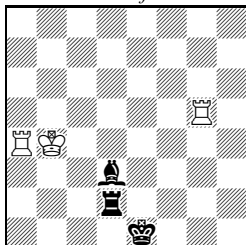
Köko
Antiandernach

638. Guy Sobrecases
France



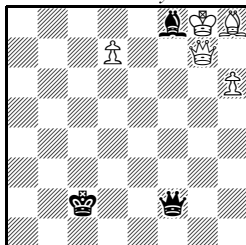
SuperCirce
Vogtländer

639. Peter Harris
South Africa



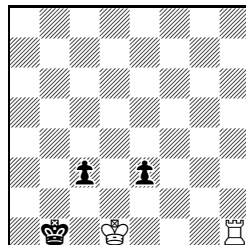
hs≠3 3+3
Ultrapatrol

640. Prof. Dr. Bernd Gräfrath
Germany



hs≠4 Duplex 5+3

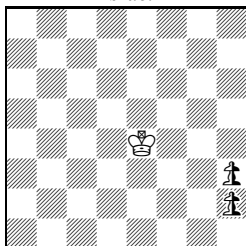
641. Michael Grushko
Israel



hs≠5 b) ♖c3→c2 2+3
c) ♜c3→c2 hs≠4.5
d) ♜c3→a2 hs≠4

Köko

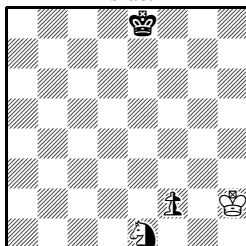
642. Michael Grushko
Israel



hs≠5.5 (no ♔) 1+0+2N

Chameleonchess
Maximmumer
Parrain Circe
b) ♜h2→g2

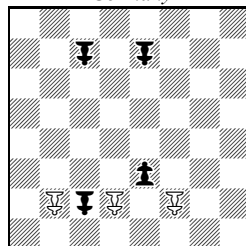
643. Michael Grushko
Israel



hs≠10 1+1+2N

Köko
Maximmumer

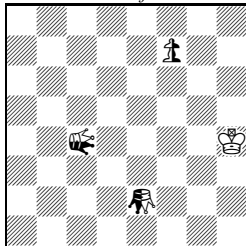
644. Arnold Beine
Germany



hr=5.5 b) ♜b2 3+4

Doublemaximmumer
Köko
♜♜ = Superpawn

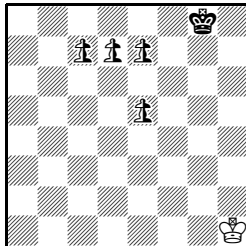
645. Peter Harris
South Africa



sh≠3 1+0+3N

Republican Chess
♟ = Grasshopper
♞ = Neutral Locust
b) sh≠4 (in EXACTLY 4 moves)

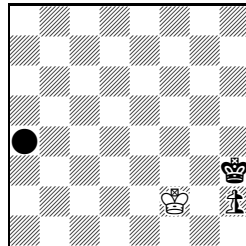
646. Marko Ylijoki
Finland



sd≠6 1+1+4N

PWC

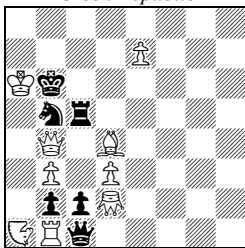
647. Chris Feather
Great Britain



sh≠7 b) ♞f2→c2l+2+1N

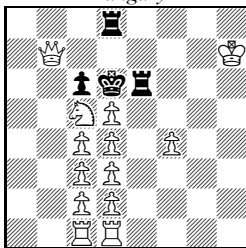
Circe
● = Imitator

648. Václav Kotěšovec
Czech Republic



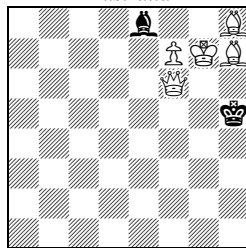
sh=8 Circe 9+6
Madrasi Rex Inclusiv
♁ = Grasshopper
♂ = Nightrider

649. György Bakcsi
László Zoltán
Hungary



sh=8 13+4
Black must capture
b) ♖c6→b6

650. Geoff Foster
Australia



ser-1=12 5+2
Sentinels 3/8

Retro&Math. Explanations of retro (as well as fairy) types can be found on pages 22 and 23, yet:

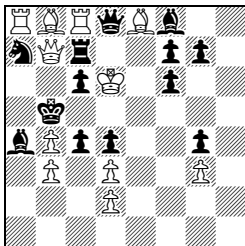
651: Note the plural in “add men”; obviously, more than one piece must be added.

652: Retract 2 moves (white-black-white), then: #1; Defensive retractor type Proca; Anticirce.

653: Retract 8 moves, then: #1; Defensive retractor type Proca without forward defense; Anticirce.

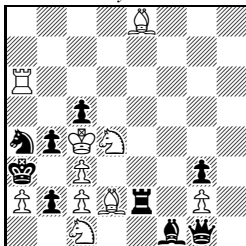
654: Retract 2 moves, then: s#1; Defensive retractor type Proca; Köko chess; Messigny chess.

651. Dmitrij Baibikov
Israel



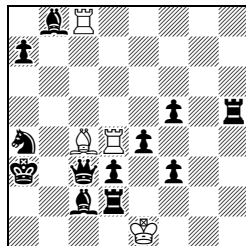
Add men, then: #1 11+13

652. Günther Weeth
Klaus Wenda
Germany / Austria



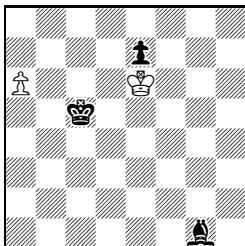
-2 & #1 10+9
Proca
Anticirce

653. Klaus Wenda
Austria



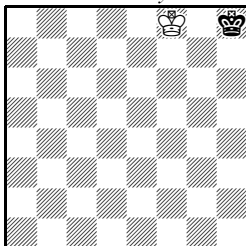
-8 & #1 4+12
Proca WFD
Anticirce

654. Michael Grushko
Israel



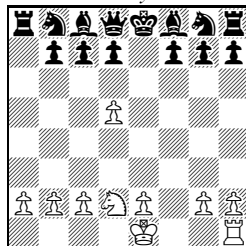
-1 & s#1 2+3
Proca
Köko
Messigny

655. Bernd Schwarzkopf
Germany



Add to an illegal cluster:
a) 6 white hamsters
b) 7 white hamsters
c) 8 white hamsters

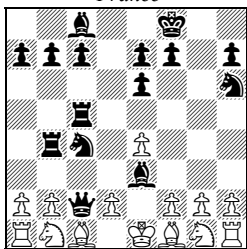
656. Marco Bonavoglia
Italy



SPG 10 10+14

657. Michel Caillaud

France



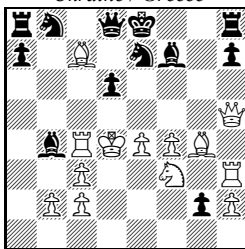
SPG 18.5

14+15

658. Andrey Frolkin

Kostas Prentos

Ukraine / Greece



SPG 18.5,

13+12

then: h≠1

659. René J. Millour

France

What is in
Monochrome Alice Chess
the total number
of legal positions
having at most 3 pieces?

DEFINITIONS OF FAIRY PIECES AND CONDITIONS

Andernach: On making a capture, a unit (except a King) changes colour (more exactly, it takes the colour of the opposite side; a neutral piece moved by White becomes black...). A “new” white Rook appearing on a1 or h1, or a black Rook on a8 or h8, can castle.

Chameleon Chess: Officers change after their move, they become another officer, according to the cycle:

Q→S→B→R→Q.

Circe: When a capture is made, the captured unit (except a King) is replaced on its rebirth square if it is empty; otherwise, the captured unit vanishes.

Anticirce: When a capture is made, the capturing unit (including King) must come back to its rebirth square: if this square is occupied, the capture is forbidden. A Pawn capturing on its promotion rank promotes before it is reborn. Unless otherwise stated, captures on the rebirth square are forbidden.

Cuckoo Circe: When a capture is made, the captured unit (except a King) is replaced on the capturing unit rebirth square (according to the “modalités Circé”) if it is empty; otherwise, the captured unit vanishes. Here when a promotion by capture occurs, the rebirth square is the one of the promoted piece. The capture of a Pawn is forbidden if it must promote and if one of the possible promotions is a self-check.

Parrain Circe: The single move following a capture, the captured unit (except a King) accomplish, from its capture square, an exact copy of that next move. If the arrival square is occupied or if the journey bring it out of the board, the captured unit vanishes.

PWC (= Platzwechselcirce or Interchange Circe): When a capture is made, the captured unit (except a King) is replaced on the square the capturing unit just leaves. A Pawn is immovable on its 1st rank.

SuperCirce: When a capture is made, the captured unit (except a King) can be replaced on any empty square. (Exception to the rules by default: A Pawn is immovable on its 1st rank.)

Kōko (Contact Chess): A move is possible only if the piece moved arrives on a square next to another unit.

Madrasi: A piece of the side to move is paralysed if it is threatened by an opposite unit of the same kind. This rule applies to King in Madrasi Rex Inclusiv but not in Madrasi.

Isardam: Any move leading to a Madrasi paralysis is illegal.

Republican Chess: There are no Kings; if the side which has played can put the opposite King on a square where it would be legally mate, then the opposite side is mate. (It is not the case here, but there is also Republican Chess type II: There are no Kings; if the side which has played can put the opposite King on a square where it would be legally mate, then the opposite King is put on such a square. The opposite side can then put itself the other King on a square where it is mated.)

Sentinels: When a piece (not a Pawn) moves, a Pawn of the colour of its side appears on the vacated square if it is not on the first or the last rank, and if there are less than 8 Pawns of that colour on the board.

Sentinels n/p: the number of pawns on the board is limited for White to n and for Black to p.

Series-autostalemate: ser-!n : series-autostalemate in n moves, that is White plays n moves in a row and puts himself in a position of stalemate.

StingChess: A variant of chess where Kings are Scorpions, i.e. they have the additional movement possibilities of the Grasshopper (K=K+G).

Actuated Revolving Board: After every half-move, the board rotates 90 degrees clockwise. Thus, after 4 half-moves, we're back to the initial position of the board.

Ultraschachzwang: Black must give check, when he can.

Ultrapatrol: Only guarded units can move.

Vogtländer: A side is in check only if it threatens to capture the opposite King. (And it is mated if it can't avoid threatening to capture the opposite King.)

Monochrome chess: Both sides can make only those moves that begin and end on squares of the same colour (therefore the Knight cannot move at all and only short castling is legal).

Messigny chess: In addition to its proper moves, a piece can interchange its place with an opposite piece of the same kind. A piece can't be interchanged twice consecutively.

Proof Game: “Help” stipulation where the aim is to reach the diagram position from the game-array.

Series-proof game or Series-help game: “Series-direct” stipulation where the aim is to reach the diagram position from the game-array.

Illegal Cluster: Illegal position that becomes legal as soon as one piece (except a King) is removed.

Legal Cluster: Legal position that becomes illegal as soon as one piece is removed.

Retractor. In a Retractor problem, there are two phases: the retro phase (or retroplay) and the forward phase. In the retro phase, the two sides alternatively take back (retract) their moves. White begins. In the forward phase, there is a stipulation to satisfy.

A **Proca Retractor** is a defensive retractor: Black opposes White's aim. The side that retracts decides about the type of possibly "uncaptured" piece.

The stipulation of the forward play is usually direct mate or selfmate. White must avoid Retromate during the retroplay: if the stipulation is direct mate and if Black has the possibility to mate White in the course of the retroplay, he will do so. In "semi-Proca", Black will not take a possible chance to mate White.

A **Hoeg Retractor** is a help retractor: Black collaborates with White. Usually with a help-stipulation.

Help Retractor: White and/or Black first retract some helping moves.

Proca without forward defense (WFD): In a normal Proca retractor, black can defend by taking back a move which results in a position in which black can reach the aim. This forward defense isn't allowed for "WFD" condition.

Series Retractor: White or Black first retract some series moves.

Fairy Pieces

Amazon: Combined queen and knight.

Camel: 1,4 leaper. Camel from e5 can leap to d2, b4, b6, d8, f8, h6, h4 or f2.

Giraffe: 1,5 leaper. Giraffe e5 can leap to f1, d1, a4 or a6.

Nightrider (or S-rider): A line-piece which moves performing one or more knight-leaps in a straight line in a single move. Nightrider from a1 can reach (or capture) b3, c5 and d7 or c2, e3 and g4 (but cannot pass occupied square!).

Grasshopper (or Q-hopper): Moves along queen-lines, but must hop over another piece of either colour and land on the next square beyond.

Rook hopper: As grasshopper, but moves only along rook-lines.

Bishop hopper: As grasshopper, but moves only along bishop-lines.

Nightrider hopper: As grasshopper, but moves only along nightrider-lines.

Hamster: Moves like a Grasshopper, but goes back over the hurdle. The arrival square is therefore just before the hurdle.

Imitator: The Imitator moves the same direction and distance as whichever piece is moving. It can't cross an occupied square (except when it imitates a hopper : The Imitator must also have a hurdle) and must arrive on an empty square.

A move is illegal if it can't be accompanied by a legal move of an Imitator. (An Imitator "monocolore" imitates only the moves of its side.)

Leo: Moves like a queen but captures an enemy unit by hopping along queen-lines over another unit of either colour. Check is therefore given over another unit. (The same is behaviour of Pao and Vao, only their moves are restricted to rook and bishop lines respectively).

Lion: Closely related to the Grasshopper. It too moves along queen-lines and hops over a unit of either colour, but it may land on any square beyond the hurdle, provided the intervening squares are unoccupied.

Rook-Lion: As Lion, but moves only along rook-lines.

Locust: The move is along queen-lines, but can only move by capturing an enemy unit, and this it does by hopping over the unit to the next square beyond, capturing as it goes.

Bishop Locust: As Locust, but moves only along bishop-lines.

Neutral piece: A piece that can be moved or captured by either side.

Orphan: Dummy piece; moves only like the enemy unit that threatens it.

Royal Grasshopper (or K-hopper): Can hop to the first square beyond the adjacent piece.

Superpawn: Pawn for which walk and capture are extended respectively to all the file and to all the diagonal.

Transmuting Kings: When a King is in check, he moves only like the checking unit.

Pressburger King = White SuperTransmuting King: King which definitively takes the nature of the checking piece (and thus loses his royal status). "Pressburger King" is the subject of a current thematical tourney by Slovak review Pat a Mat.

Zebra: 2,3 leaper. Zebra e5 can move to c2, b3, b7, c8, g8, h7, h3 or g2.

ANTICIPATIONS

Dragan Stojnić found an identical predecessor by Dzekcer for his #2, 2nd Com. Mat Plus 1997.

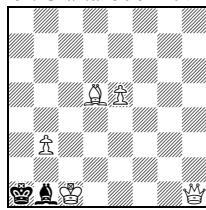
Franz Pachl points out that his joint problem anticipates the Mihailo Stojnić's h#2, 1st Prize Mat Plus 1998/99 (No.485). This problem is disqualified and other prizes are moving one place up (a small consolation for Mihailo is that he is still the winner of the tourney).

Mat Plus Helpmate Twomovers 1998/99:

- 1st Prize No. 465 – Mihailo Stojnić
- 2nd Prize No. 539 – Emil Klemanič
- 3rd Prize No. 542 – Mircea Manolescu

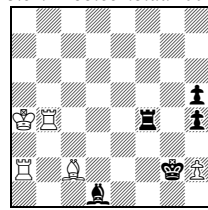
Honorable mentions and Commendations remain unchanged.

Abram Dzekcer
cm Gruzia-50 JT 1972



#2 5+2
1. ♖g1? ♔d3! 1. ♜h4? ♚c4!
1. ♜h8? ♔d3! 1. ♜c1!

Markus Manhart
Franz Pachl
3.cm Probleemblad 1990



h#2 2111 5+5
1. ♚f3 ♚b3 2. ♚h3 ♔f5#
1. ♔f3 ♚c4+ 2. ♚h1 ♚b1#

TOURNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

2.TT of Mat Plus

Theme: Selfmate threemovers (s#3) are required with cyclic white moves from white third-pin. Any combination of white thematic pieces (Q, R, B, S, P) is allowed, promoted pieces are disallowed (obtrusive bishop is an exception).

Judge: **Miodrag Mladenović**

Closing date: **October 1st, 2007**

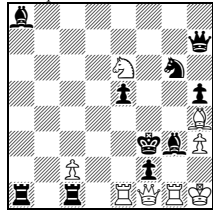
Send entries (number not limited) to:

- **Milan Velimirović, Milentija Popovića 35/6, 11070 Novi Beograd, Serbia**
- or email to: mivel@sezampro.com,
- or via input form on www.matplus.net site.

Examples (More in Miodrag Mladenović's article in *Mat Plus Review*):

1. Gerard Smits

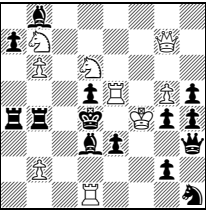
2.pr.Die Schwalbe 1981



s#3 8+10

2. Miodrag Mladenović

The Problemist 2002



s#3 9+14

- [1] 1.Bf6! ~ 2.Rxg3+ Kxg3+ 3.Qg2+
 1... h4/Bg~ 2.Rxg3+(A) P/Bxg3 3.Re3+(B) Kxe3#
 1... e4 2.Re3+ (B) Kxe3 3.Qd3+ (C) ed3#
 1... Sh4 2.Qd3+ (C) Qxd3 3.Rxg3+ (A) Kxg3#
 (1... Rxe1 2.Qd3+ Re3 3.Qxe3+)
- [2] 1.Qc7! ~ 2.Rxd5+(A) Kxd5+ 3.Qc4+(B) Rxc4#
 1... g3 2.Qc4+(B) ~ 3.Sf5+(C) Qxf5#
 1... Sg3 2.Sf5+(C) Sxf5 3.Rxd5+(A) Kxd5#

LIGA PROBLEMISTA 2007 Theme for 2nd Round

Theme: Direct mates in 2 moves are required with the theme: At least one changed mate or threat from the same white battery in at least three phases.

Judge: **Dragan Stojnić** (Serbia)

Closing date: **May 1st, 2007**

Send problems to:

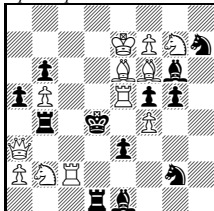
- **Milan Velimirović, Milentija Popovića 35/6, 11070 Novi Beograd, Serbia**
- or by e-mail to: mivel@sezampro.com (with subject LP2/2007)
- or online: fill the input form Originals:LP2 on MatPlus.Net site – ensure that correct section (LP2) is selected! You should sign-in first (if you are not registered member) to be able to access this form.

Up to three entries per author are allowed. Joint compositions are not accepted!

Examples (more can be found on MatPlus Web site):

Dragan Stojnić

5.pr Kolpakov MT 2006

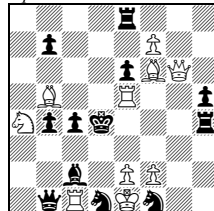


≠2*v 12+12

- 1... Sf8 2.Rxc3#
 (1.Be~? Sf8!)
 1.Bb3? Sf8 2.Rc6#
 1... Sxf4!
 1.Bxf5? Sf8 2.Rcc5#
 1... Bxf7!
 1.Bd5! ~ 2.Sc6#
 1... Sf8 2.Rxf5#

Anatoly Slesarenko

3.pr Alex Casa 70.JT 2003



≠2v 10+12

- (1.Bc6? ~ 2.Re4/Rd5/
 Rxc6#, 1... bc6!)
 1.Sb6? ~ 2.Rd5#
 1... Sxf2!
 1.Qg5? ~ 2.Rxc6#
 1... Rf4!
 1.Bxc4! ~ 2.Re4#
 etc.

Mat Plus Review – Spring 2007

In Spring issue MPR you can read articles *White Third-pin in Combination with Cycle of White Moves in Selfmate Threemovers* by Miodrag Mladenović, *Remarks about Same Themes in Different Genres of Problem Chess* by Hans Peter Rehm and *Excelsior in White Pawn Minimal Helpmate* by Borislav Stojanović. Then, there is the first part (of four) of Milan Velimirović's essay *Stocchi's Blocks (Including Stocchi Blocks)*, and also a *Best Bytes* selection of discussions on MatPlus.Net Forum. "FIDE Albums of the future" was one of important topics raised there, and besides many other reactions the one by Chris Feather is reproduced in his article *Competition and Documentation*. Finally, you'll find all problems rewarded in traditional competitions Liga Problemista between 2000 and 2004, while the problems from LP 2005 and 2006 will be reprinted in the next issue.

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