

MAT PLUS

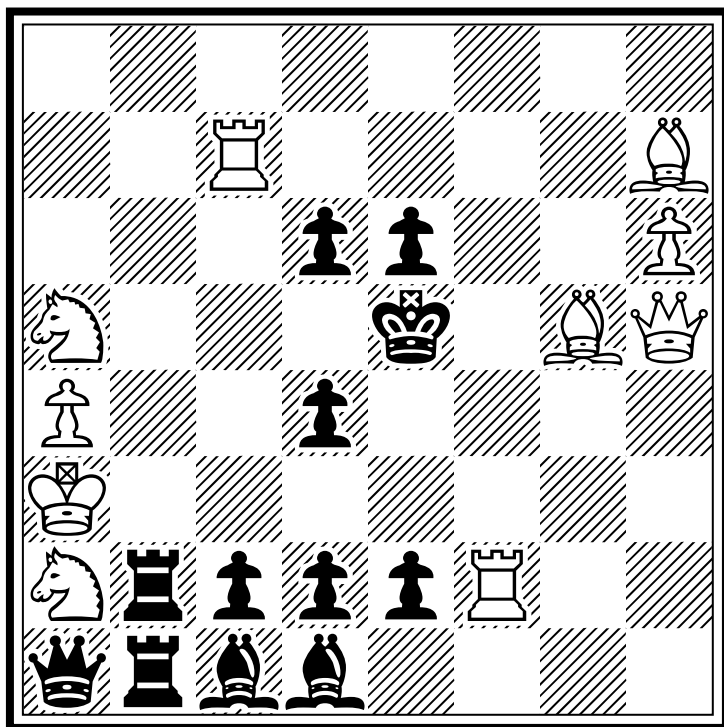
THE BEST OF CHESS PROBLEMS

SPECIAL ISSUE

ROUND UP OF ALL MAT PLUS TOURNEYS 1994 - 1999

Milivoj S. Nešić
(1940–2006)

1st Prize Mat Plus 1998/99



Selfmate in 3 moves (with Set Play)

MAT PLUS - SPECIAL ISSUE

Dedicated to the memory of

Milivoj S. Nešić

(1940–2006)

EDITORIAL

Better late than never!

This Special issue ends the pricks of conscience I have been feeling for last six years. *Mat Plus* was founded in troubled times, which had continuously becoming worse while the magazine lived its short but, the common opinion is, proud life. After I prepared the last issue there was nothing left in me and I simply could not go on. I had to try to rebuild my professional career, and simply did not have time and will to accomplish the last obligation and bring to the end all informal tourneys.

Unfortunately for me, recently I realized that I was too old for my profession (but still too young to give up!), and that it was a time to do something else. But, before I decide which way to go, I had to clean up after me. This Special issue is a part of my putting things in order. I asked few local composers to help me by judging the remaining tourneys, and I am grateful for their prompt response.

Meanwhile, it occurred to me that it would be great to make the complete round up of all *Mat Plus* tourneys, and collect all (old and new) awards in one booklet. The result of the only theme tourney we held is also included, and what a tourney it was!

The booklet was also the opportunity to fulfil the last obligation: to compile the indexes for Vol. 2 (1997–1999), so at end you will find the indexes of names and originals as well as the contents of Volume 2.

So, on these 64 pages you will find a testimony of a tremendous effort, made during probably the darkest period in the history of my fatherland, which made at least something bright and positive to shine out from here to the (chess problemists') World.

Before I finish, I would like to take the opportunity to express my thanks to all who helped me to produce an excellent magazine. It would be quite a big list to mention everybody by name, so my THANK YOU goes to all contributors. However, I must express my special thanks to Professor Borislav Stojanović – Bota, who not only constantly encouraged me in my work, but with several abundant donations provided a financial base for it. THANK YOU BOTA!

Regrettably, a sad news have struck all of us a few days ago. Our friend, a great composer and a wonderful man Milivoj S. Nešić passed away on July 1st 2006. I knew him for four decades, and during all these years he was my teacher, my idol, my motivation, and above all my friend.

Belgrade, July 2006.
Milan Velimirović

TWOMOVERS 1994

Judge: Miodrag Mladenović

There were 17 twomovers in the tourney. The average of quality was very high, which was a great pleasure for me as the judge. However, for few problems I think I have found better positions (they are given on diagrams – ed. note). I decided to rank problems as follows:

1st Prize: No.5 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). Undoubtedly the best problem of the tourney. A very complex theme: cyclic arrival of three black pieces to f5. In three tries the character of arrivals changes in cyclic order: primary weakness (self-block), correction with secondary weakness and finally defeat of the try. I think that this theme have not been achieved before. Moreover, all thematic mates are different, and there is even provision set for two defences before the key (1... ♔f5:/ef5 2. ♖d6≠). The only weakness of this excellent problem is inactive WBh2 after the key. 1. ♗e~? (2. ♖c4≠) ♔f5:/ef5/♗f5!: 1. ♗c3!? ♔f5:/ef5!?, ♗f5!: 2. ♖c7, ♖d5, ? ≠; 1. ♗c5:!? ef5, ♗f5:!? ♔f5!: 2.d4, ♖c6: ? ≠; 1. ♗f2! ? ♗f5: ♔f5:/ef5! 2. ♗g4: g4, ? ≠; 1. ♗g5! ♔f5:/ef5, ♗f5: 2. ♗f3: ♗f7, ♖c6: ≠.

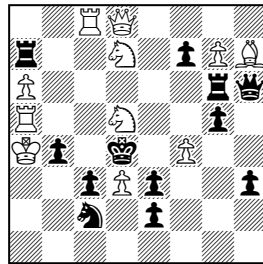
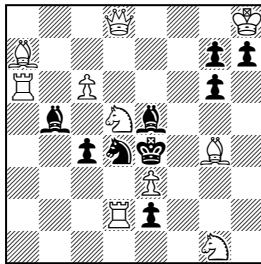
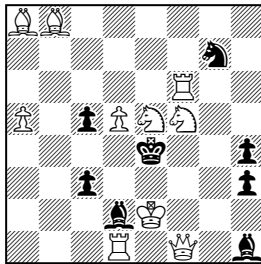
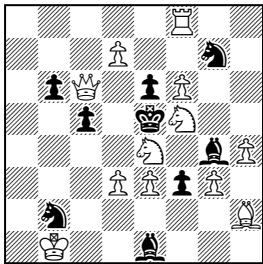
2nd Prize: No.3 by **Štefan Sovík** (Slovakia). Original mechanism for Lender combination (Le Grand + Salazar II) with a plenty of thematic lines. The only flaw is inactive WRd1 in try play. There is a beautiful additional flight-giving try (1.Sc6?). The position can be shifted one line left thus saving WPa5 which only stops the dual in the try. 1. ♗f3?(A) ~ (x), ♔f4(y), ♗f5: (z) 2. ♗d6(B), d6(C), ♖c6(D)≠; 1. ♖e6!(D) ~ (x), ♔f4(y), ♗f5: (z) 2. d6(C), ♗d6(B), ♗f3(A)≠ 1... ♗e6, ♔f3 2. d6, ♖f3: ≠. (1. ♗e~? ~ 2. d6, ♖hl≠, 1... ♗f5!: 1. ♗c6! ? ~, ♗d5: 2. ♖hl!, ♗e5≠, 1... g2!).

Milan Velimirović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1994

Štefan Sovík
2.Pr Mat Plus 1994

Peter Gvozdjak & Ladislav Packa
3.Pr Mat Plus 1994

Milan Velimirović
1.HM Mat Plus 1994

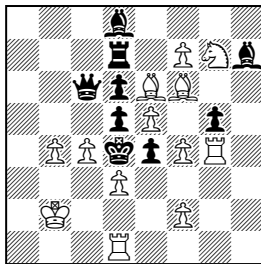
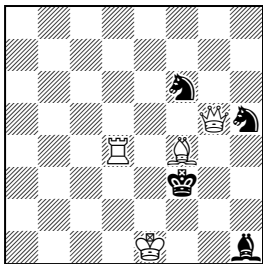


3rd Prize: No.27 by **Peter Gvozdjak & Ladislav Packa** (Slovakia). Threat form of Lacny. Original mechanism with many interesting details: flight-giving first moves, pins, unpins, line openings... Pity for inactive WRA6 and WSG1 in try play. Although problem does not look technically perfect, I could not find better position. 1. ♖e7? ~, ♗e, ♗d5: 2. ♗d4:, ♗c3, ♔f3≠, 1... ♗e6!; 1. ♖g5! ~, ♗e, ♗d5: 2. ♗c3, ♔f3, ♗d4: ≠.

1st Hon. Mention: No.28 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). Zagoruiko 3x2 with all six mates executed by the pieces from the same halfbattery. A slight weakness is that both tries are defeated by the same move, although the strategic effect of the move Rd7 is changed. 1. ♗7f6? ~, ♗d3: ♗a6: 2. ♗c7, ♗b4:, ♗5b6≠, 1... ♗d7!; 1. ♗5b6? ~, ♗d3: ♗a6: 2. ♗d5, ♗c5, ♗7f6≠, 1... ♗d7!: 1. ♗5f6! ~, ♗d3: ♗a6: 2. ♗d5, ♗e5, ♗7b6≠.

Marjan Kovačević
2.HM Mat Plus 1994

Milivoj S. Nešić
3.HM Mat Plus 1994



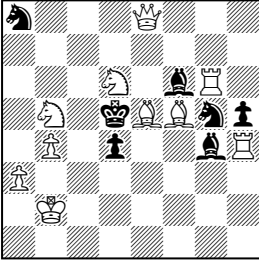
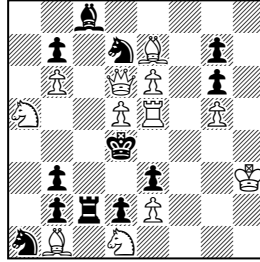
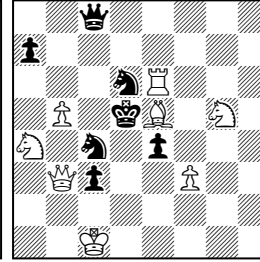
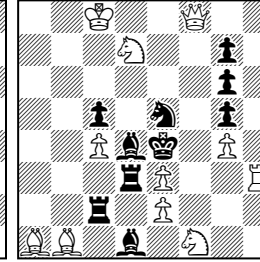
2nd Hon. Mention: No.20 by **Marjan Kovačević** (Yugoslavia). Corrections by 2 BSs in try and actual play with changed mates. There are three different mates in try and five after the key. Excellent construction with eight men only. 1. ♔c1? (~), 1... ♗g3!, 1... ♗f~(♗g4), ♗h~(♗f4:), ♔g2 2. ♖g4(:), ♗f4(:), ♖c3≠; 1. ♗f1! (~) 1... ♗f~, ♗g4, ♗c4, ♗h~, ♗f4:, ♔g2+ 2. ♖h5:, ♖d5, ♗d3, ♖g3, ♖f4:, ♖g2: ≠.

3rd Hon. Mention: No.6 by **Milivoj S. Nešić** (Yugoslavia). Three changed variations before and after the key with all mates by three White Pawn batteries in both phases. Original conception, but technically not quite successful. I propose the

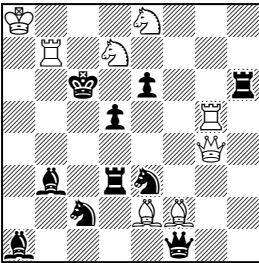
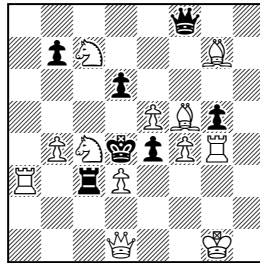
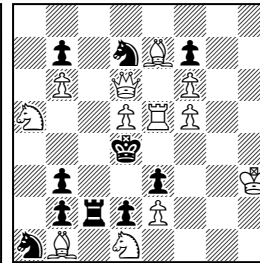
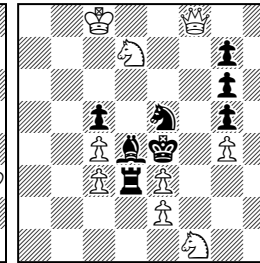
position (No.6a) with three saved pieces. 1... dc4, ♖c7, ed3 2.dc4, ed6, f5≠; 1. ♖f5! (2. ♗e6≠) dc4, ♖c7, ed3 2.de4, c6, fg5≠ (1... de5 2. ♖f5:≠).

4th Hon. Mention: No.24 by Aleksandr Chistyakov (Latvia). Four changed mates with nice flight-giving key move. *1... ♗g~ ♗a~ d3, ♖e5: 2. ♖e4; ♗c7, ♗c3, ♖a8:≠; 1. ♗c4! ♗g~ ♗a~ d3, ♖e5: 2. ♖e6, ♗b6, ♗c3, ♖c6≠; 1... ♗c4:, ♖g~ 2. ♖c6, ♖d4:≠.

5th Hon. Mention: No.29 by Aaron Hirschenson (Israel). A modified Dombrovskis theme combined with black corrections. Good flight-giving key. I found the position (No.29a) lighter by two pieces. 1. ♖e3:~ (~) 1... ♖~ 2. ♖e4≠(A), 1... ♗d~ 2. ♖e5≠, 1... ♖c3!(a); 1. ♗c4? (~) 1... ♗d~ 2. ♖c5≠(B), 1... ♖~ 2. ♖e4≠, 1... ♗c4: 2. ♖b4≠, 1... ♗c5:!(b); 1. ♗c3! ~ 2. ♗b5≠, 1... ♖c3:(a) 2. ♖e4≠(A), 1... ♗e5:(b) 2. ♖c5≠(B), 1... ♗c4 2. ♖b4≠.

<p>Aleksandr Chistyakov 4.HM Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>≠2* 10+7</p>	<p>Aaron Hirschenson 5.HM Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>≠2' 12+12</p>	<p>Cor Goldschmeding 1.Com Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>≠2' 8+7</p>	<p>Miroslav Subotić 2.Com Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>≠2* 11+10</p>
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1st Com.: No.2 by Cor Goldschmeding (Netherlands). Changed mates after random and corrective moves by BS combined with Dombrovskis paradox. Interesting complex, but looks a little bit schematic. 1. ♖c3:~ ~, ♗c~, ♗e5:! 2. ♖d4, ♖d6:, ♖e5:≠, 1... ♖c5:; 1. ♖b4! ~, ♗c~, ♗e5:! 2. ♗c3, ♖d4, ♖d6:≠, 1... ♗b5:, ♖c6: 2. fe4, ♖c5≠.

<p>Efim Ruhlis 3.Com Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>≠2* 8+10</p>	<p>6a - Milivoj S. Nešić (version M. Mladenović)</p>  <p>≠2* 12+7</p> <p>1... Qc8, ed3, Rc4:, 1.Be6!</p>	<p>29a - Aaron Hirschenson (version M. Mladenović)</p>  <p>≠2 12+10</p> <p>1.Re3? Rc3!, 1.Sc4? Sc5:! 1.Sc3!</p>	<p>4a - Miroslav Subotić (version M. Mladenović)</p>  <p>≠2* 9+8</p> <p>1... Bc3:, Be3:, Re3:, Sc4: 1.Qc5:!</p>
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2nd Com.: No.4 by Miroslav Subotić (Yugoslavia). Complete Ruchlis with four changed mates. Three set mates are transferred, but I think that it is better to give up mate Sd2 and save four men (No.4a). 1... ♖d~, ♖e3:, ♖c3:, ♗c4:, ♖c4! 2. ♗c5:, ♗g3, ♗d2, ♖f3, ?≠; 1. ♖c5:~! ~ 2. ♖d5≠, 1... ♖d~, ♖e3:, ♖c5:, ♖c3:, ♖c4:, ♗c4: 2. ♗g3, ♖e5:, ♗c5:, ♖d4:, ♗d2, ♖c6≠.

3rd Com.: No.26 by Efim Ruchlis (Israel). A beautiful twomover with attractive key move and excellent construction. It would be much better if there is a try move to trigger black moves from set play, since they are not defences after the key at all. 1... ♖d~, e5, ♗c~ 2. ♖c7, ♖b6, ♗b8≠ (1... ♖a2, a4 2. ♖a4≠); 1. ♖d5:~! ~ 2. ♖c5≠, 1... ♖d5:, ed5, Sd5: 2. ♖c7, ♖b6, ♗b8≠, 1... ♖d5:, ♗d5:, ♖d4, ♖h5 2. ♖a4, ♖f3, ♖d6, ♖e6≠

Beograd, July 3rd, 1995
Miodrag Mladenović

THREEMOVERS 1994

Judge: *Milivoj S. Nešić*

It was a great honor for me to be the judge in the first year of *Mat Plus*. With a wish that magazine lives to be hundred years old, I ceremoniously open the series of awards.

1st-2nd Prize ex aequo: No.36 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). Critical moves and mutual obstruction of BQ and BB with interferences by BS on d4 and e5. With this composition author confirmed again his inexhaustible ability in searching for original ideas. 1. $\mathbb{R}c4!$! ~, $\mathbb{W}c5$, $\mathbb{Q}d4$, $\mathbb{W}d4$, $\mathbb{Q}c5$, e5 2. $\mathbb{Q}b4+$ +, $\mathbb{R}f4$!, $\mathbb{R}c7$!, $\mathbb{R}f5$, $\mathbb{R}d7$, $\mathbb{R}a7$!.

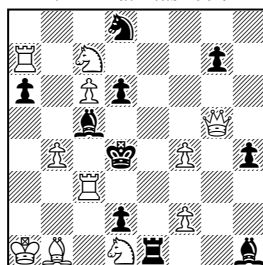
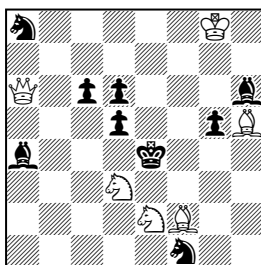
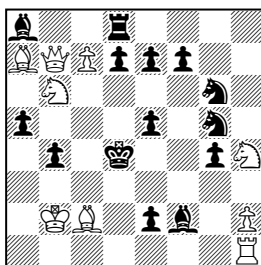
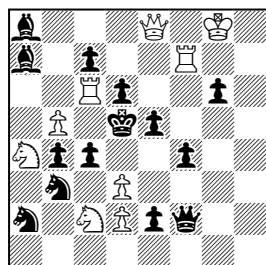
1st-2nd Prize ex aequo: No.35 by **Miodrag Mladenović** (Yugoslavia). Excellent presentation of two pairs of reciprocally changed variations by *Siers-battery*. New jewel for the collection of reciprocal threemovers collected and presented by the author of this masterpiece himself. *1... $\mathbb{Q}e3$, $\mathbb{Q}h4$!; $\mathbb{Q}h4$!; e6 2. $\mathbb{Q}c4+$ +, $\mathbb{Q}d5$ +, $\mathbb{Q}d7$!+, $\mathbb{Q}c8$!+, 1. $\mathbb{W}a6!$ ~, $\mathbb{Q}e3$, $\mathbb{Q}h4$!; $\mathbb{Q}h4$!; e6 2. $\mathbb{Q}f5$ +, $\mathbb{Q}d5$ +, $\mathbb{Q}c4$ +, $\mathbb{Q}c8$ +, $\mathbb{Q}d7$!+.

Milan Velimirović
1-2.Pr= *Mat Plus 1994*

Miodrag Mladenović
1-2.Pr= *Mat Plus 1994*

Alexandr Grin
3.Pr *Mat Plus 1994*

Gérard Doukhan & Claude Wiedenhoff
1.HM *Mat Plus 1994*



≠3

9+14 ≠3*

9+14 ≠3

6+9

≠3*✓✓

11+10

3rd Prize: No.32 by **Alexandr Grin** (Russia). This problem features four model mates in delightful setting without White Pawns. Nowadays such kind of problem taste like refreshing juice. 1. $\mathbb{Q}d4!$! ~/ $\mathbb{Q}c7$, $\mathbb{Q}f5$, c5, g4 2. $\mathbb{Q}g4$, $\mathbb{W}c8$ +, $\mathbb{Q}c5$!+, $\mathbb{Q}g6$!+.

1st Hon. Mention: No.34 by **Gérard Doukhan & Claude Wiedenhoff** (France). There are mates set for *Grimshaw* interference on e4. In the tries these black moves are the defeats, and in two variations in solution each pair of 2nd move variation contain the new mate. *1... $\mathbb{Q}e4$, $\mathbb{R}e4$ 2. $\mathbb{W}g7$!; $\mathbb{W}d5$!; 1. $\mathbb{W}f5$? $\mathbb{Q}e4!$!, 1. $\mathbb{W}g6$? $\mathbb{R}e4!$!; 1. $\mathbb{R}e1!$! ~, $\mathbb{Q}b7$, $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 2. $\mathbb{R}d3$!+, $\mathbb{W}f5!$!, $\mathbb{W}g6!$!.

2nd Hon. mention: No.37 by **Yves Cheylan**

(France). *Umnov* theme realized by the corrective moves of WB after preventive black interference weakening. 1. $\mathbb{Q}c$? ~ $\mathbb{W}g5!$!; 1. $\mathbb{Q}h3!$! ~, $\mathbb{Q}bd5$, $\mathbb{Q}ed5$ 2. $\mathbb{Q}f4$!+, $\mathbb{Q}b4!$! (2. $\mathbb{Q}e7$? $\mathbb{R}c4!$!), $\mathbb{Q}e7!$! (2. $\mathbb{Q}b4$? $\mathbb{R}e1!$!).

1st Com.: No. 31 by **Tony Lewis** (England).

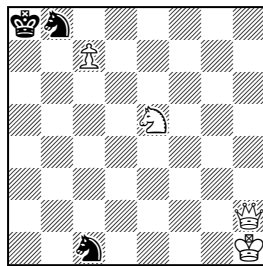
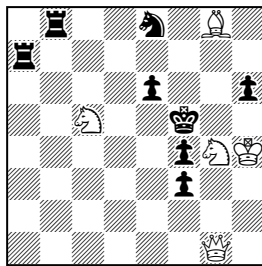
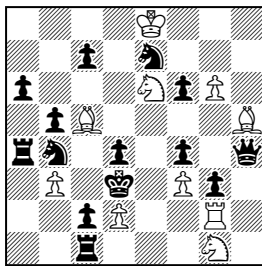
Classic achievement of *Plachutta* interferences with model mates. A marvelous setting. 1. $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{R}ab7$!; $\mathbb{R}bb7$!; c5, $\mathbb{Q}e4$, $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 2. $\mathbb{W}b1$!+, $\mathbb{Q}h7$!+, $\mathbb{Q}h6$!+, $\mathbb{Q}h7$!+, $\mathbb{Q}h6$!+.

2nd Com.: No.7 by **Vladimir Jovičević** (Yugoslavia). Attractive miniature with two tempting tries. 1. $\mathbb{Q}c4$? $\mathbb{Q}a6!$!; 1. $\mathbb{Q}c6$? $\mathbb{Q}b7!$!; 1. $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$!/ $\mathbb{Q}c6$, $\mathbb{Q}a6!$, $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 2. $c8$!+, $\mathbb{W}g2$!+, $cb8$!+.

Yves Cheylan
2.HM *Mat Plus 1994*

Tony Lewis
1.Com *Mat Plus 1994*

Vladimir Jovičević
2.Com *Mat Plus 994*



≠3

10+14 ≠3

5+8 ≠3

4+3

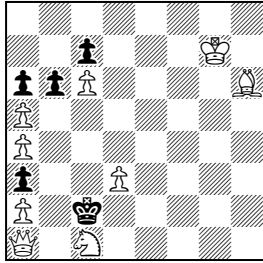
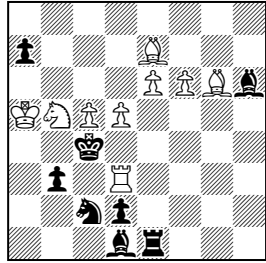
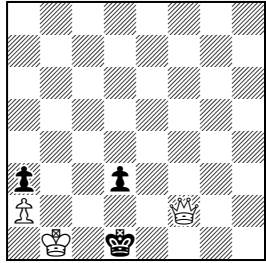
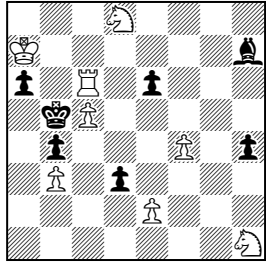
Belgrade, March 30th 1995
Milivoj S. Nešić

MOREMOVERS 1994

Judge: Milan R. Vukcevich, USA

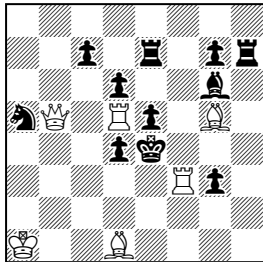
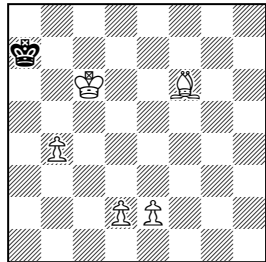
This was a small tourney. However, the quality was high and more than compensated for the number of problems.

1st Prize: No.38 by **Milovan Belić** (Yugoslavia). A simple conception: WK has to open a1-h8 diagonal for WQ, but he can not close three other lines for the same Queen. Lines to be left open are: h8-b8, g8-g1 and g8-b3. This determines the key 1.Kh7!! . Economical and beautiful, this is an Album piece. 1.♖h7! 1... ba5 2.♗h8! ♖b1,♔d1 3.♗b8, ♗g8, 1... b5 2.♗d4 ~ 3.♗b4.

<p>Milovan Belić 1.Pr Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>#4 9+5 #6</p>	<p>Hans Peter Rehm 2.Pr Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>#6 9+8 #6*</p>	<p>Nikolay Parhomenko 1.HM Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>#4 3+3 #7</p>	<p>Dragan Ljubomirović 2.HM Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>#7 8+7</p>
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2nd Prize: No.9 by **Hans Peter Rehm** (Germany). Hans Peter is a master of making Grimshaws where I succeeded only with Novotnys. However, this Grimshaw-from-Novotny is much less impressive than his magnificent First Prize from Lishinsky MT. 1.♗d6+ ♖c5: 2.♗b5+! ♖c4 3.♗f5! ~ 4.♗c3+ ♖d5: 5.♗c5#, 3... ♗e3 4.♗d6+ ♖c5 5.♗e4+ & 6.♗d2:#, 3... ♗e3 4.♗d6+ ♖c5 5.♗f7+ & 6.♗e5#

1st Hon. Mention: No.41 by **Nikolay Parhomenko** (Ukraine). A great find in the field of classic “Fata Morgana” moremovers. *1... d2 2.♗f1#, 1.♗e3! d2 2.♖a1! ♖c1 (2... ♖c2? 3.♗b3+ ♖c1 4.♗b1#) 3.♗f4! ♖c2 4.♗c4+! ♖d1 5.♗e4! ♖c1 6.♗b1#.

<p>Aleksandr Feoktistov 1.Com Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>#4 6+11</p>	<p>Marjan Kovačević 2.Com Mat Plus 1994</p>  <p>#6'' 5+1</p>
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2nd Hon. Mention: No.10 by **Dragan Ljubomirović** (Yugoslavia). A good forplan, but the trick with the Bishop blocking the squares controlled by the WS has been seen too many times. 1.♗b6+? ♖c5: 2.♗e6:+ ♖d5 3.♗f2 ~ 4.e4+ ♗e4: 5.♗g4, 3... de2!, 1.♗d6! ~ 2.♗b7 ~ 3.♗b6#, 1... ♗e4 2.♗b6+ ♖c5: 3.♗e6:+ ♖d5 4.♗f2 ♗h7 5.e4+! ♗e4: 6.♗g4.

1st Com.: No.39 by **Aleksandr Feoktistov** (Russia). Two good but disjointed variations. 1.♗d2! ~ 2.♗d4:+ ♖d4:/cd4 3.♗c3+/♗f4+ ♖c4/♖c3 4.♗d3/♗e2#, 1... ♗f7 2.♗c3+! ♖f5/de3 3.♗de5:/Dd3+ ♖f6/♖f4 4.♗e6/Le3#, 1... ♗h4 2.♗c2+! ♖f3: 3.♗f1+ ♖g4 4.♗d1#

2nd Com.: No.40 by **Marjan Kovačević** (Yugoslavia). Unfortunately, the solution is the poorest of three alternatives. 1.e4? ♖b8! 2.e5 ♖a8! 3.e6 (3.♖b6 ♖b8 4.e6 ♖c8!) ♖a7! 4.e7 ♖a6! 5.e8♗ ♖a7!, (1... ♖a8? 2.♖b6 ♖b8 3.e5 ♖c8 4.e6 ♖b8 5.e7 ♖c8 6.e8♗#); 1.d4? ♖a8! 2.d5 ♖b8! 3.d6 ♖a7! 4.d7 ♖a6! 5.d8♗ ♖a7!, (1... ♖b8? 2.d5 ♖a8 3.♗d4! ♖b8 4.d6 ♖c8 5.d7+ ♖d8,♖b8 6.♗f6,d8♗#); 1.b5! ♖b8 2.b6 ♖a8 3.b7 ♖a7 4.♗c5 ♖a6 5.b8♗ ♖a5 6.♗b5#, (1...c5,♗b3+ 2.♗d6:,♗b3: ♗b3+,♗h1 3.♖b2,♗f4+)

November 1995
Dr. Milan R. Vukcevich

HELPMATES 1994

Judge: Borislav Gađanski

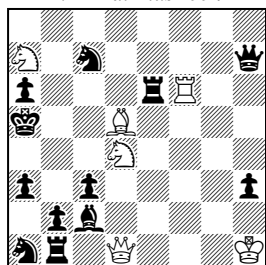
In the first year of the magazine there was relatively small number of originals, but to my opinion the quality was very high. It was not easy task to make the decision and I would like this award to be accepted as one of possibly many subjective judgments.

HELPMATE TWOMOVERS

1st Prize: No.46 by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). Self-pin, white battery creation, line closing and anti-dual battery mates are doubled in two harmonious phases. The change of roles of WR and WQ is remarkable. Excellent composition! 1.♖a4 ♖f4! 2.♗g6 ♗c6≠ (2.♗b3?), 1.♖b6 ♗g1! 2.♗d1 ♗b3≠ (2.♗c6?).

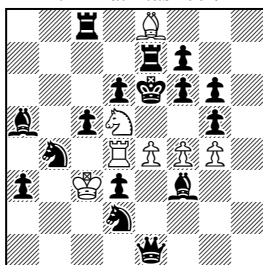
2nd Prize: No.48 by **Milivoj S. Nešić** (Yugoslavia). Cyclic Zilahi combined with double-checks to the WK. Fantastic and ambitious conception is shown with maximal use of black material. 1.♗d5:++ ♖d3: 2.♗d1 cd5≠, 1.♗e4:++ ♖c4 2.♗e2 ♖e4:≠, 1.cd4++ ♖d4: 2.gf4 ♗f4:≠.

Živko Janevski
1.Pr Mat Plus 1994



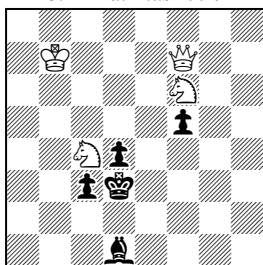
h#2 2111 6+12

Milivoj S. Nešić
2.Pr Mat Plus 1994



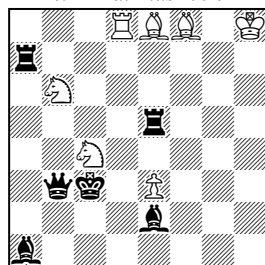
h#2 3111 7+16

Michel Caillaud
3.Pr Mat Plus 1994



h#2 2111 4+5

Živko Janevski
4.Pr Mat Plus 1994



h#2 2111 7+6

3rd Prize: No.43 by **Michel Caillaud** (France). Two active sacrifices of WSs and model mates are shown in an extremely economical position. A completely different kind of beauty than in preceding problem! While runner-up has fascinating difficulty and complexity, here beauty lies in perfect harmony of initial position, play and mates. And everything what is perfect looks so simple! 1.♗c2 ♗e4! 2.fe4 ♗f1≠, 1.♗e2 ♗d2! 2.cd2 ♗b3≠.

4th Prize: No.14 by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). Anticipatory self-pin of BR in 2 solutions and 2 try plays. Tries don't work because of openings of black half-battery with subsequent checks to WK. 1.♖c5 ♖d4 2.♖b4 ♗d5≠, 1.♖d5 ♗g7 2.♖d3 ♗g6≠.

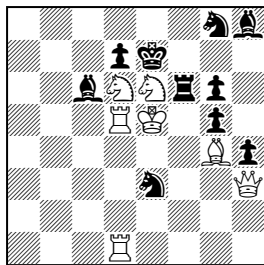
1st Hon. Mention: No.45 by **Zlatko Mihajlovski**

(Macedonia). The variation of the mechanism seen in earlier work of the same author. See example 38 in excellent article by Z. Janevski in Mat Plus No.5. Here we see destruction of two white pieces on thematic line with dual avoidance and pin mate. Different motifs of avoidance – pin in one and line closing in another phase – are small disturbance. 1.♗d5:! ♖e4! (♖d4?) 2.♗d6: ♗a3≠, 1.♗g4:!! ♖d4! (♖e4?) 2.♖e6: ♖e1≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.47 by **Udo Degener** (Germany). All three white pieces give the mate from the same field with model mates. 1.♖f2: ♗h5+ 2.♖g3 ♖f3≠, 1.♗h3 2.♗d5+ 2.♖g4 ♗f3≠, 1.♗e3 ♖c4+ 2.♖e4 f3≠.

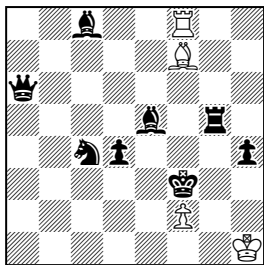
3rd Hon. Mention: No.51 by **Mihajlo Milanović** (Yugoslavia). Cyclic Zilahi with cyclically changed functions of three white pieces combined with three black minor promotions. Excellent! Pity that it could not be realized without twins. a) 1.♖e1! ♖d1+ 2.ed1 ♗f3≠, b) 1.♗g1:!! ♗f5: 2.e1♗ ♗h3:≠, c) 1.♗d3:!! ♗h3 2.e1♗ ♖f2:≠.

Zlatko Mihajlovski
1.HM Mat Plus 1994



h#2 2111 7+10

Udo Degener
2.HM Mat Plus 1994



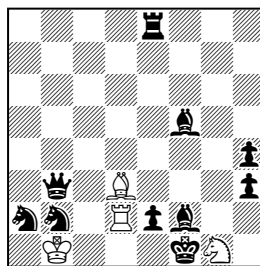
h#2 3111 4+8

4th Hon. Mention: No.13 by **Thomas Mader** (Switzerland). Anticipatory self-pin combined with self-interference. a) 1. ♖e4 ♜f5 2. ♗e5 ♘d4#, b) 1. ♘d4 ♜d5 2. ♗c5 ♜e4#.

1st Com.: No.44 by **Nikola Stolev** (Macedonia). Anticipatory self-pin of BSs, unpins of WQ and bicolor arrivals to c3 and e5. Small drawback is in thematically unbalanced phases. 1. ♜e5 ♘c3 2. ♗e4 ♖f3#, 1. ♜c3 ♖e5+ 2. ♗d4 ♖f4#.

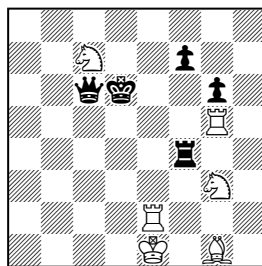
2nd Com.: No.52 by **Colin Sydenham** (England). Complex bicolor strategy. Analogous play in both phases. B→) 1. ♘e5 ♖d1 2. ♘d6 ♘d4#, W→) 1. ♖d5 ♘b2 2. ♖e5 ♘d4#.

Mihajlo Milanović
3.HM Mat Plus 1994



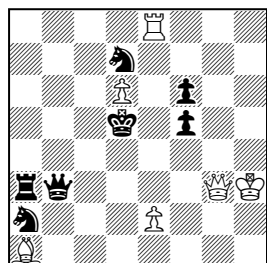
h#2 b) ♖b3→h5 4+10
c) ♗b1→f3

Thomas Maeder
4.HM Mat Plus 1994



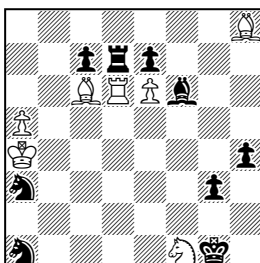
h#2 b) ♘e2 6+5

Nikola Stolev
1.Com Mat Plus 1994



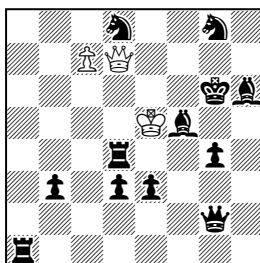
h#2 2111 6+7

Colin Sydenham
2.Com Mat Plus 1994



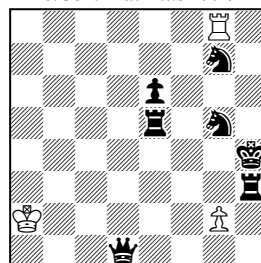
h#2 duplex 7+9

Ofer Comay
3.Com Mat Plus 1994



h#2 b) ♖g6→c4 3+12

György Bakcsi & László Zoltán
4.Com Mat Plus 1994



h#2 b) ♜g7 3+7
+c) ♜g5

3rd Com.: No.15 by **Ofer Comay** (Israel). Phoenix theme in two phases with WQ as thematic piece. The change for the twin is unpleasant. a) 1. ♘d7: c8 ♖ 2. ♖g7 ♖f5#, b) 1. ♘d7: cd8 ♖ 2. ♘b5 ♖d4#.

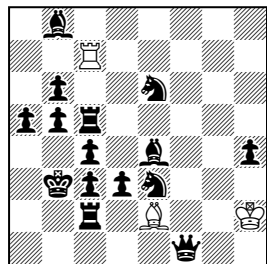
4th Comm.: No.50 by **György Bakcsi & László Zoltán** (Hungary). Interesting building of twins by replacement of Black with White Knights. a) 1. ♜f3 gf3 2. ♜h5 ♖g4#, b) 1. ♜f3 ♜f5+ 2. ♜h5 g4#, c) 1. ♖h2 ♜h3 2. ♜g3 ♜f5#.

HELPMATE MOREMOVERS

1st Prize: No. 58 by **Mark Erenburg** (Israel). Perfect mechanism which incorporates the change for the twin. Pairs of pieces with reciprocal functions are clearly noticeable: WR-WB, BRc5-BPd3 and BBe5-BS6. Double white prolonged Indian enriched with strategically complex black play. Composition of universal beauty! a) 1. ♖e5 ♖c4: 2. ♘g2 ♖h4: 3. ♜c5 ♘g4 4. ♗c4 ♘c6#, b) 1. d2 ♘c4: 2. ♜f4 ♘g8 3. ♜d3 ♖f7 4. ♗c4 ♖f4#.

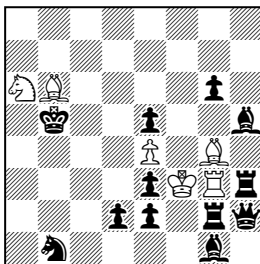
2nd Prize: No.55 by **Ladislav Packa** (Slovakia). Successive black Grimshaw. Main play is concentrated to only four fields: f2, f3, e2 and e3. An impressive composition. a) 1. ♘f2 ♗e2: 2. ♗a4 ♖c3: 3. ♖f3 ♘d7#, b) 1. ♖f2 ♗e3: 2. ♗c6 ♘e2: 3. ♘f3 ♖g6#.

Mark Erenburg
1.Pr Mat Plus 1994



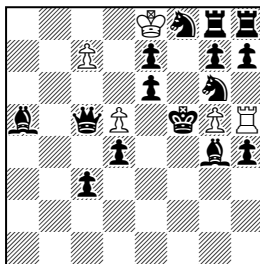
h#4 b) ♖b3→b4 3+15

Ladislav Packa
2.Pr Mat Plus 1994



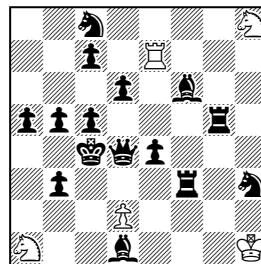
h#3 b) ♜a6→c5 6+12

Branislav Đurašević
3.Pr Mat Plus 1994



h#3 411111 5+15

Dane Levčič
1.HM Mat Plus 1994



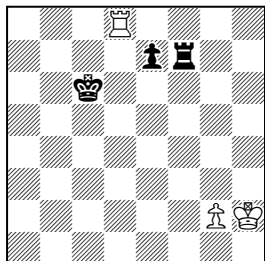
h#3 211111 5+15

3rd Prize: No.54 by **Branko Đurašević** (Yugoslavia). Ambitiously projected and successfully realized composition with theme from 4th WCCT: mates by different white men from the same square. Here all four pieces which appear after promotions of Wp c7 give mate from f7. 1. ♖d5: c8 ♖ 2. ♖e4 ♖ c4 3. e5 ♖ f7 ≠, 1. e5 c8 ♖ 2. e4 ♖ c7 3. e5 ♖ f7 ≠, 1. ♙h5: c8 ♗ 2. ♙g5: ♗d6 3. ♙h6 ♗ f7 ≠, 1. ♗f4 c8 ♙ 2. ♙g6 ♙ c6: 3. ♙f5 ♙ f7 ≠.

1st Hon. Men.: No.16 by **Dane Levčić** (Yugoslavia). Reciprocal Bristol maneuvers BQ and BB along the longest diagonal. Mate in both solutions is from the same square. The location of WSs on a1 and h8 is the key for avoidance of duals because in each solution one must be captured in the first move. 1. ♖a1: ♗g6 2. ♙b2 ♗f4 3. ♖c3 ♖e4 ≠, 1. ♙h8: ♗c2 2. ♖g7 ♗b4 3. ♖f6 ♖c4 ≠.

Michel Caillaud

2.HM Mat Plus 1994

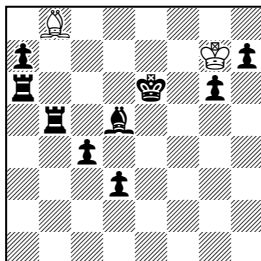


h≠5

3+3

Tode Ilievski

1.Com Mat Plus 1994



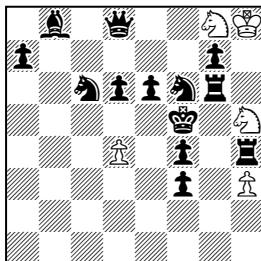
h≠4

311...

2+9

Nikos Siotis

1.Com Mat Plus 1994



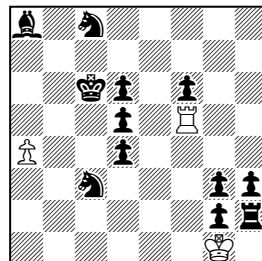
h≠3

2111

5+13

Bo Lindgren

2.Com Mat Plus 1994



h≠5

2111...

3+12

b) ♗c8 1111...

2nd Hon. Men.: No.17 by **Michel Caillaud** (France). A surprising problem! WP is on remote initial square while WR is on active position near BK. Yet, in second move black unexpectedly captures. 1. ♖f8 g4 2. ♖d8:!! g5 3. ♗d7 g6 4. ♗e8 g7 5. ♖d7 g8 ♖ ≠.

3rd Hon. Men.: No.57 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). White minimal problem with three echo mates and interesting determination of the moves. 1. ♗d7 ♗f8 2. ♗c6 ♗e7 3. ♗b6 ♗d6 4. ♗b7 ♗c7 ≠, 1. ♗c6 ♗c7 2. ♗d5 ♗f6 3. ♗c5 ♗e5 4. ♖ab6 ♗d6 ≠, 1. ♗f5 ♗h6 2. ♗e4 ♗g5 3. ♗d4 ♗f4 4. ♖c5 ♗e5 ≠.

1st Comm.: No.53 by **Nikos Siotis** (Greece). Double unpin of WS – indirect and direct. Very nice, but I am bothered by heterogeneous strategic motifs: interference in one, and removal of black guarding peace in second solution. 1. ♗e8 ♗f6 2. ♗c7+ ♗e8 3. ♖g5 ♗d6 ≠, 1. ♗h7 ♗f4: 2. ♗g5+ ♗h5 3. ♖f4 ♗hg3 ≠.

2nd Comm.: No.18 by **Bo Lindgren** (Sweden). Problem which offers joy to the solver and confirms great construction skills of the author. a) 1. ♗b7 ♖f1! 2. gfl ♗ a5 3. ♖b2 a6 4. ♖b6 a7 5. ♗b5 bc8 ♖ ≠, 1. ♗b6 ♖f2 2. ♗a5 ♖g2:!! 3. ♗b6 ♖g3 4. ♖b2 ♖g7 5. ♖b4 ♖a7 ≠, b) 1. ♗b7 a5 2. ♗c8 a6 3. ♗f5! a7 4. ♗d7 a8 ♖ 5. ♗e6 ♖c8 ≠.

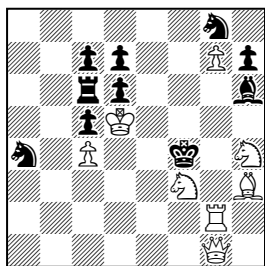
Zrenjanin, December 1995
Borislav Gadanski

SELFMATES 1994

Judge: Živko Janevski, Macedonia

There were 7 selfmates in the tourney. The average quality was very high, which gave me as a judge a great pleasure. I decide to rank problems as follows.

Wenelin Alaikow
1.Pr Mat Plus 1994



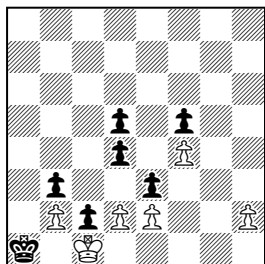
s#5 8+10

1st Prize: No.61 by Wenelin Alaikow (Bulgaria). Triple white battery creation by interferences in an open position. Excellent construction. 1. ♖c1! ~ 2. ♗g6+ hg6 3. ♖g4+ ♕f5 4. ♖g6+ ♕f4 5. ♖f6, 1... ♗g7: 2. ♖h2+ ♕e3 3. ♖g3+ ♕f4 4. ♖g7+: ♕e3 5. ♖e7, 1... ♗g5 2. ♖f2+ ♕e3 3. ♖c2+ ♕f4 4. ♖h2+ ♕e3 5. ♖c3.

2nd Prize: No.12 by Tomislav Petrović (Yugoslavia). Interesting task, Double “slowed down” Excelsior, with exclusively Pawns on the board. 1. d3! ♕a2 2. h3! ♕a1 ... 7. h8 ♗! ♕a2 8. ♗g6 9. ♗e7 10. ♗d5: ♕a1 11. ♗c3! dc3 12. d4 ... 16. d8 ♗! ♕a2 17. ♗c6 ♕a1 18. ♗b4! cb2≠.

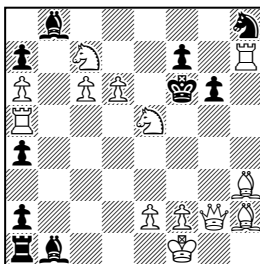
1st Hon. Mention: No.59 by Udo Degener (Deutschland). Interesting mechanism of reciprocal change of variations in White to play form. 1... ♗c7 2. ♗g4+ ♕e6 3. ♖c4+, 1... g5 2. ♗d7+ ♕g6 3. ♗f5+, 1. ♗d7? ♗c7! 1. ♗c8! c7 2. ♗d7+ ♕e6 3. ♖e4+, 1... g5 2. ♗g4+ ♕g6 3. ♗f5+, (1... a3 2. ♖a3 ~ 3. ♖f3+).

Tomislav Petrović
2.Pr Mat Plus 1994



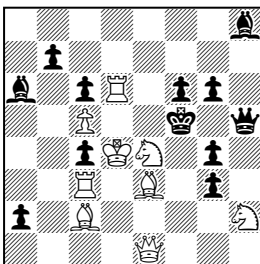
s#18 6+7

Udo Degener
1.HM Mat Plus 1994



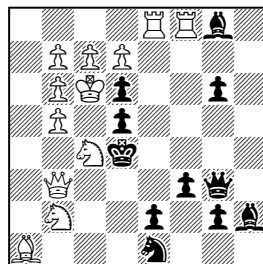
s#3* 13+10

Vukota Nikoletić & Marjan Kovačević
2.HM Mat Plus 1994



s#3 9+12

Waldemar Tura
3.HM Mat Plus 1994



s#3 12+11

2nd Hon. Mention: No.11 by Vukota Nikoletić & Marjan Kovačević (Yugoslavia). The mixed strategy, based around battery play and taking over the control of e3. 1. ♗h6! ~ 2. ♗g5+ ♕f4 3. ♖e5+ fe5≠, 1... ♖h6: 2. ♖f1+ ♖f4 3. ♖f6+: ♗f6≠, 1... ♖h2: 2. ♗f6+: ♖c2: 3. ♖e4+ ♖e4≠, 1... a1 ♗ 2. ♖f3+ gf3 3. ♗c3+ ♗c2≠.

3rd Hon. Mention: No.60 by Waldemar Tura (Poland). The peculiar selfmate dual avoidance by anticipatory self-pin of black pieces. The idea is not new but the mechanism is interesting. 1. ♗e3? ♖e5!, 1. ♗a3! ~ 2. ♗c2+ ♗c2: 3. ♖b4+, 1... ♖e5 2. ♗d1+! ♕e4 3. ♖d5+: (2. ♗bc4+? ♕e4 3. ♗d6:??≠), 1... ♗e6 2. ♗bc4+! ♕e4 3. ♗d6+: (2. ♗d1+? ♕e4 3. ♖d5:??≠!).

Gevgelija, November 12th, 1995
Živko Janevski
International Judge of FIDE

TWOMOVERS 1995

Judge: Claude Wiedenhoff, France

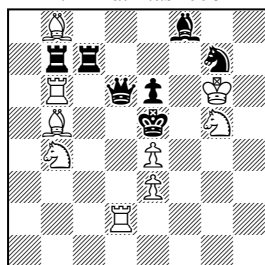
It was a pleasure to be the judge of this tourney. The level of the 30 problems was high, and it was not difficult to determine the prize-winners.

1st Prize: No.68 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia) – *Dedicated to Piet le Grand*. Excellent and very rare combination of Lacy and halfpin. The echo between the try (1.Bc6? blocks c6 and close b6-d6) and the solution (1.Bd3! blocks d3 and close d2-d6) is very fine. The good economy of white figures excuses the inactivity of the WRd2 after the solution. The best problem of the tourney. 1.♙c6? ♖d5!, 1... ♗c6:, ♗d3, ♖f7 2.♗c6:, ♗f7, ♗d3≠; 1.♙d3! ~ 2.♗f3≠, 1... ♗c6, ♗d3:, ♖f7 2.♗f7, ♗d3:, ♗c6≠

2nd Prize: No.115 by **Colin Sydenham** (England). Try and key separate the dual-mates (of the set-play) after BK-flights. This idea combined with reciprocal changes is not new, but the unity of this composition is very impressive: the 2 keys are played on the same square with black line-openings. 1... ♗d4, ♗e5 2.♖c5(♖d3), ♖c5(♖d3)≠; 1.♗ge4? (2.♗d6≠) ♗d4, ♗e5 2.♖d3, ♖c5≠ 1... ♖g8!; 1.♗de4! ♗d4, ♗e5+ 2.♖c5, ♖d3≠

Milan Velimirović

1.Pr Mat Plus 1995

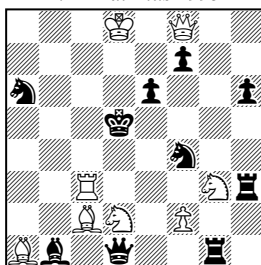


≠2✓

9+7

Colin Sydenham

2.Pr Mat Plus 1995

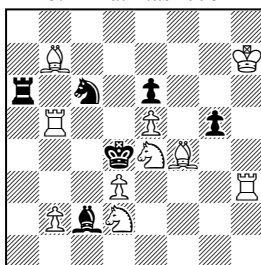


≠2*✓

8+10

Marjan Kovačević

3.Pr Mat Plus 1995

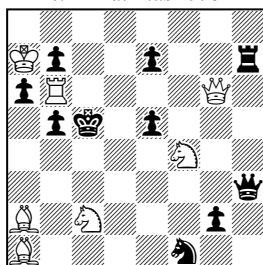


≠2*

10+6

Efim Ruchlis

4.Pr Mat Plus 1995



≠2*✓✓✓

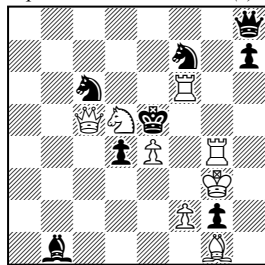
7+10

3rd Prize: No.87 by **Marjan Kovačević** (Yugoslavia). Four very nice changes of mates between set and solution. The corrective effects of 1...Sxe5 and Bxd3 gives a good unity to this work. The key and the construction are excellent! 1... ♗~♗e5:, ♗b3, ♗d3: 2.♖b4, ♗e5:, ♗b3:, ♗e3≠; 1.♗c5! ~, ♗d5 2.♗e6:, ♗cb3≠, 1... ♗~♗e5:, ♗b3, ♗d3:+ 2.♗f3, ♗e3, ♗cb3:, ♖d3:≠

4rd Prize: No.112 by **Efim Ruchlis** (Israel). One very nice composition based on the focals' theme. The BQ must guard the focal fields e6 and d3. The two first tries are selfblocks on this squares and introduce two new focal fields : c8 and c3. The 3rd try and the solution introduce threats on the focal fields e6 end d3 after BQs' interferences. A very harmonious complex in a beautiful position without WP. 1... ♗f3, ♗e3 2.♗e6, ♗d3≠; 1.♗e6? ♗b3, ♗e3 2.♗c8, ♗d3≠, 1... ♗f3!; 1.♗d3? ♗d7, ♗f3 2.♗c3, ♗e6≠, 1... ♗e3!; 1.♗g4? (2.♗e6≠) ♗b3, ♗g4: 2.♗c8, ♗d3≠, 1... ♖h6!; 1.♗g3! (2.♗d3≠) ♗d7, ♗g3: 2.♗c3, ♗e6≠

Marjan Kovačević

Spec.Pr. Mat Plus 1995 (v)

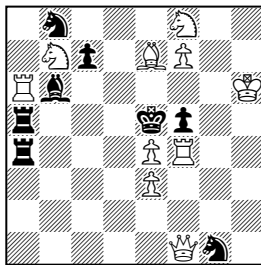


≠2*✓✓✓

8+8

Udo Degener

1.HM Mat Plus 1995



≠2✓

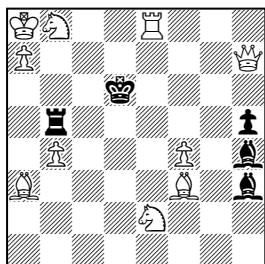
10+8

Special Prize: No.119 (v) by **Marjan Kovačević** (Yugoslavia). Original presentation of the French-Russian. Three WK-tries are refuted by a distinct chess to WK allowed by the key moves. The real-key allows all the three chess together with changes of the set-mates. Somebody will found the refutations a little brutal. 1... ♗e4:, ♗g5, ♗f6: 2.f4, ♗d6, ♗c7≠; 1.♗g2:? ♗e4:+!; 1.♗h3? ♗g5+!; 1.♗h4? ♗f6:+!; 1.♗f3! ~ 2.♗h2≠, 1... ♗e4:+, ♗g5+, ♗f6:+ 2.♖e4:, ♖g5:, ♗f4≠

1st Hon. Mention: No.88 by **Udo Degener** (Germany). Excellent combinaison Short-cut-Lacy + Le Grand in good construction. But the only work of the

WQ after the real key is to control f5. 1.♗g6? ~ 2.♗f6≠(C), 1... fe4 2.♖f5≠, 1... ♗d7!; 1.♗d3? ~ 2.♖f5≠(B), 1... fe4 2.♗f6≠(C), 1... ♗e3 2.♗g6≠(A), 1... ♖e4!; 1.♗d8! ~ 2.♗g6≠(A), 1... fe4 2.♖f5≠(B), 1... ♗e3 2.♗f6≠(C) (1... ♖e4: 2.♖f5≠)

Milan Velimirović
2.HM Mat Plus 1995

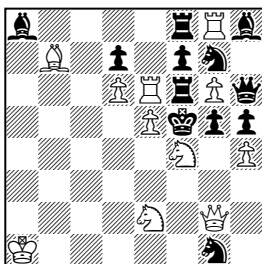


≠2 10+5 ≠2*

1. ♖d3! (2. ♖f6:≠) 1... ♖f~, ♖e6: 2. ♗d4, ♖c4≠, 1... ♗7~, ♗7e6: 2. ♗d4, ♖c4≠, 1... ♗g6:, ♗c6: 2. ♗d4, ♖c4≠, 1... ♗g6, ♗e6 2. ♗d4, ♖c4≠, 1... ♖g6, ♗e6 2. ♗d4, ♖c4≠

4th Hon. Mention: No.110 by **Victor Chepizny** (Russia). WB's star vs. BK's star, with checking keys. A little symmetrical, but i never see another exemple of this task. Very economical presentation. 1. ♔a7+? ♕c6! (2. ♗a7??); 1. ♔a5+? ♕a8:!(2. ♖a4?); 1. ♔c5+? ♕c8:!(2. ♖c4?); 1. ♔c7+? ♕a6! (2.Sc7?); 1. ♔d8+! ♕c6, ♕a8:, ♕c8:, ♕a6 2. ♗a7, ♖a4, ♖c4, ♗c7≠

Nikola Stolev
3.HM Mat Plus 1995

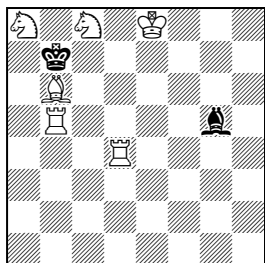


11+12

2nd Hon. Mention: No.85 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). A task-record (of BR corrections) in a very beautiful position. The moves 1...Tb6 /b7 can be considered as random. The position “mirror” of the BK excuses the position “out” of the WS before the key. 1. ♗d4? ♗d5!; 1. ♗c3! ~ 2. ♗b5:≠, 1... ♖~, ♖a5, ♖b4:, ♖b8:+, ♖c5, ♗d5, ♖e5, ♖f5, ♗g5 2.b5, ba5, ♔b4:, ab8♖, bc5, ♗e4, fe5, ♖d7, ♖e7≠

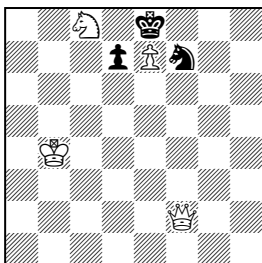
3rd Hon. Mention: No.122 by **Nikola Stolev** (Macedonia). A pair of white mats appear after six pairs of black defences (one pair in set-play, five pairs in real-play). A task inspired by the theme A from the 5th WCCT. 1... ♗f4, g4 2. ♗d4, ♖c4≠;

Victor Chepizny
4.HM Mat Plus 1995



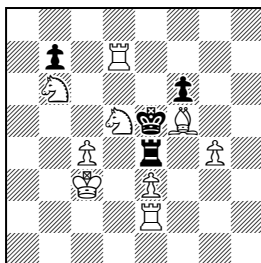
≠2'... 6+2 ≠2'...

Miroslav Subotić
1.Com Mat Plus 1995



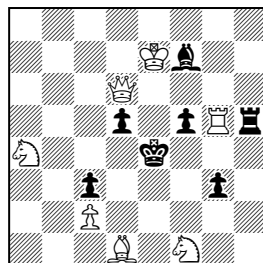
4+3 ≠2*

Borivoje Kario
2.Com Mat Plus 1995



9+4 ≠2*

Leonid Makaronets
3.Com Mat Plus 1995



7+7

1st Com.: No.64 by **Miroslav Subotić** (Yugoslavia). Excellent Zagorouiko in miniature form. All the 3 refutations are distincts and the real key is fine. 1. ♖a2? ♗~, d6 2. ♖g8, ♖a4≠, 1... ♗h6!; 1. ♖e2? ♗~, d6 2. ♗d6, ♖b5≠, 1... ♗e5!; 1. ♖f3? ♗~, d6 2. ♖f8, ♖c6≠, 1... d5!; 1. ♖f1! ♗~, d6 2. ♖f8, ♖b5≠

2nd Com.: No.83 by **Borivoje Kario** (Yugoslavia). Good Fleck (in three variations) with change between set and solution. But the set defense 1...Rxc4!! gives the way of the solution. 1... ♖c3+, ♗d4, ♖f4 2. ♖c3:, ed4, ef4≠; 1. ♗f4! ~ 2. ♗d3/♗g6/♗d5≠, 1... ♖c3+, ♗d4, ♖f4: 2. ♗d3, ♗g6, ♗d5≠

3rd Com.: No.67 by **Leonid Makaronetz** (Israel). Traditional Zagorouiko after block (1...d4) and line opening (1...f4). The give-and-take key is good. *1... d4, f4 2. ♗c5, ♖c5≠; 1. ♖g3? d4, f4, ♗d4 2. ♗f3, ♖d3, ♖f4≠, 1... ♖h3!; 1. ♖c5 d4, f4, ~ / ♗f4 2. ♖f5, ♗c3, ♖c3≠

Claude Wiedenhoff

THREEMOVERS 1995

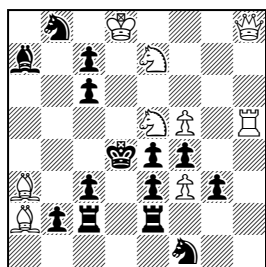
Judge: Yakov Vladimirov, Russia

In issues 5, 6-7 and 8-9 there were 12 original threemovers, one of which (No.70) have been subsequently corrected by the author. The number of problems was small, but this can be understandable because the magazine was still making its first steps. Nevertheless, it was not difficult to make the decision.

1st-2nd Prize: No.129 by **Aleksander Kuzovkov** (Russia). Set play is based on self-blocks on d2 and defined by squares vacated by the Black Rooks: 1... Rcd2 2.Sc6:+ Kd3 3.Sb4≠, 1... Red2 2.Sg6+ Kd3 3.Sf4:≠. The solution starts with excellent key **1.f6!** unexpectedly destroying the battery. Threat is **2.Sf5+ Ke5: 3.f7#!** – battery plays again, but another one this time. Now Rook moves defend the threat by checks, and the weakness is obstruction on the square d2 for the Black Knight, while variations are motivated by potential unblocks for the Black Pawns moves: **1... Rcd2 2.Qg8! ~ 3.Qc4≠, 1... Red2 2.Qh7! ~ 3.Qe4:≠, 2... ef3 3.Sf3:≠**. The idea is completed, but not sufficiently to give a clear winner for two reasons: after 1... Rcd2 2.Qg8 black has no further defence, unlike in the other variation; similar change of tactical motives (self-block to obstruction) have already been seen earlier with three variations, with try instead of set play.

1st-2nd Prize: No.131 by **Arieh Grinblat** (Israel). Here, the set play is based on arrival of black pieces to mating squares: 1... Bd5 2.Sf2+! (2.Sc5+?) Bf2: 3.Qd5:≠, 1... Sf3 2.Sc5+! (2.Sf2+?) dc5 3.ef3≠. After again successful key **1.Sg4!**, threatening 2.Qc4+ Kf5: 3.Sh6≠, the replies to above defences are reciprocally changed, motivated by masked interferences of the Black Rooks: **1... Bd5 2.Sc5+! (2.Sf2+?) 2... dc5 3.Bd3≠, 1... Sf3 2.Sf2+! (2.Sc5+?) 2... Bf2: 3.Bd3≠** (unfortunately, there are duals after 2... Kf5:). Complex and clear mechanism for reciprocal change, but according to modern requirements different mates would be desirable instead of the same 3.Bd3≠.

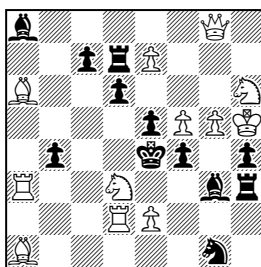
Aleksander Kuzovkov
1.Pr Mat Plus 1995



≠3*

9+14

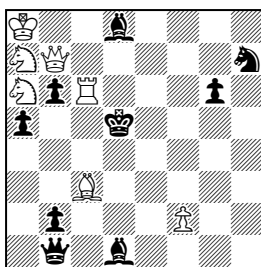
Arieh Grinblat
2.Pr Mat Plus 1995



≠3*

12+12

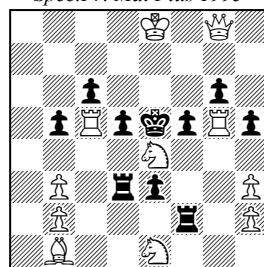
Srećko Radović
3.Pr Mat Plus 1995 (v)



≠3

7+9

Milan Velimirović
Dedicated to Udo Degener
Spec.Pr. Mat Plus 1995



≠3

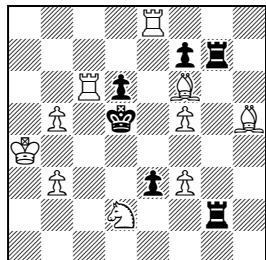
11+10

3rd Prize: No.70v by **Srećko Radović** (Yugoslavia). Beautifully realized battery mechanism with the White Rook's cross, motivated by remote self-blocks. Contents is decorated by a witty try 1.Sb5? defeated only by 1... Qd3!. Certainly, a great creative success by the young and talented problemist. **1.Se8! ~ 2.Rc5+ Ke6 3.Qd5≠, 1... Qd3 2.Rb6:+ Kc4 3.Qc6≠, 1... Qf5 2.Rc7+ Ke6 3.Qc6≠, 1... Bb3 2.Rd6+ Kc4 3.Qc6≠, 1... Bf3 2.Qd7+ Ke4 3.Rc4≠, 1... Sf6 2.Rc5+ Ke6 3.Re5≠, 1... Qa2 2.Rc7+ Ke6 3.Qe4≠, 1... Ke4 2.Rc4+ Kd3 3.Qe4≠, 2... Kf5 3.Qd5≠**.

Special Prize: No.71 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). Paradoxical key **1.Qe6+!** (1... Ke6: 2.Sd3:) leads to two sets of variations with mates changed in the spirit of Lacny theme: **1... Kd4 2.Rc3! ~ 3.Rd3:≠, 2... Rd~ 3.Qf6≠** (but after 1... Rc3: also 3.bc3≠ is possible), **2... de4 3.Qd6≠, 2... fe4 3.Qe5≠** (2... Rfd2 3.Sf3≠) and **1... Kf4 2.Rg3! ~ 3.Sd3:≠, 2... Rd~ 3.Qd6≠, 2... de4 3.Qe5≠, 2... fe4 3.Qf6≠** (2... Rfd2 3.Rf3≠). Strictly talking, these are two positions of twomover twins, built by the removal of the Black King, and two-move character is underlined by the possibility of different black defenses in the second move. Author founded tricky solution to connect two positions with the **checking first move**, but such approach must provoke considerable doubts.

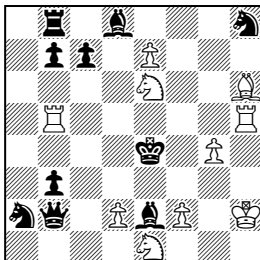
1st Hon. Mention: No.92 by **Mlivoj S. Nešić** (Yugoslavia). Set play is easily spotable due to the checking defences: 1... R2g4+ 2.Se4! ~ 3.Rd6:≠, 2... Re4:+ 3.fe4≠, 1... R7g4+ 2.Re4! ~ 3.Bf7:≠, 2... Rg7 3.Rd4≠. A good key **1.Rec8!**, with withdrawal of the White Rook from e-file, creates likable threat **2.Rc5+ dc5 3.Rd8≠** and changes replies to the checks: **1... R2g4+ 2.Sc4!** ~ **3.Rd6:≠**, **2... Rc4:+ 3.bc4≠**, **1... R7g4+ 2.Rc4!** ~ **3.Bf7:≠**, **2... Rg7 3.Rd4≠**.

Mlivoj S. Nešić
1.HM Mat Plus 1995



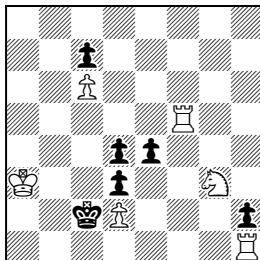
≠3* 10+6

Zoran Gavrilovski
2.HM Mat Plus 1995



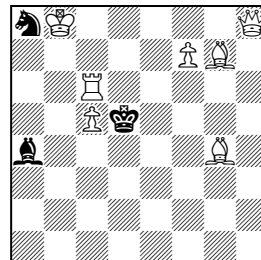
≠3 10+10

Aleksandar Popovski
3.HM Mat Plus 1995



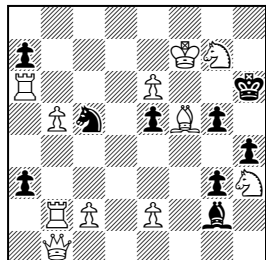
≠3* 6+6

Borislav Stojanović
1.Com Mat Plus 1995



≠3 7+3

Abdelaziz Onkoud
2.Com Mat Plus 1995



≠3 11+9

2nd Hon. Mention: No.127 by **Zoran Gavrilovski** (Macedonia). In two thematic tries white attempts the hidden unpins along 2nd rank: 1.Kg1? ~ 2.d3+/f3+, .1... Qd4!, 1.Kg3? ~ 2.d3+/f3+, 1... Qf6!. In the solution **1.Rhc5!** ~ 2.Rc4+ Bc4: 3.f3≠, 2... Qd4 3.Rd4:≠, the refutations become thematic defences. Since Queen vacates 2nd rank, a hidden unpin reappears and thematic threats are alternatively effective: **1... Qd4 2.d3+! Qd3: 3.Re5≠**, **2... Bd3: 3.f3≠**, **1... Qf6 2.f3+! Qf3: 3.Re5≠**, **2... Bf3: 3.d3≠**. Modern, but not quite convincing method of developing two-move ideas of changed functions of thematic moves.

3rd Hon. Mention: No.126 by **Aleksandar Popovski** (Macedonia). In initial position everything is ready: 1... Kd2: 2.Rh2:+ Ke3 3.Sf1≠, 2... Rc3 3.Rc5≠, 2... K~ 3.Rf1≠, 1... e3 2.Se4 ~ 3.Rc5≠. There is no waiting move and play is to be changed: **1.Rff1! Kd2: 2.Rh2:+ Ke3 3.Sf5≠**, **2... Kc3 3.Rc1≠** (second move is unfortunately the same, but mates are changed), **1... e3 2.Rc1+ Kd2: 3.Rhd1≠**. A lovely mutate in Meredith form.

1st Com.: No.124. by **Borislav Stojanović** (Yugoslavia). The goal is reached by the “Bristol” key **1.Ba1!** (I would prefer thw White Bishop on f6, giving more freedom to the White Queen and making key move less obvious) with three forced variations: 1... ~ 2.Qd4+ Kc6: 3.Bd7≠, **1... Kc6: 2.Bd7+! Kd7: 3.Qe8≠**, **2... Kc5: 3.Qd4≠** (model mate), **1... Kc4 2.Be2+ Kd5 3.Qh1≠!** – beautiful mate, though not pure one, **2... Kb3 3.Qb2≠**, **2... Kb4 3.Qc3≠**. A colourful play and good key, though with no tactical finesses.

2nd Com.: No.127 by **Abdelaziz Onkoud** (Morrocco). **1.Rb4!** ~ **2.Rh4:+! gh4 3.Qc1≠**, **1... e4 2.Qa1 ~ 3.Qf6≠**, **2... Sd7 (2... Se4?) 3.ed7≠**, **1... Be4 2.Qc1 ~ 3.Qg5:≠**, **2... Bf5: (2... Se4?) 3.Rh4:≠**, **1... Se4 2.e7+ Sd(f)6 (2... Bc6?) 3.R:S≠**. Obstructions on e4 with quiet moves of the White Queen. Idea is lacking the purity (move 2.Qa1 has sense only after the diagonal is opened).

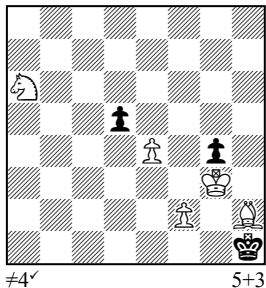
Yakov Vladimirov
International judge

2nd Com: No.133 by **Vladan Vučković** (Yugoslavia). Similar idea to the previous one, only the question here is to let or not to let the opponent to castle. Problem in spirit of Lepushütz theme, with aim to spoil the black castle: the exposure to the chack with switchback, but now without the castling possibility. Beautiful and not easy for realization, though the idea is not new.

1. ♖a3? 0-0!; 1. ♖c3+? ♜f8 2. ♖a3 ♝g8! 3. ♖a8+ ♜h7!; 1. ♙g7! ♖h7+ 2. ♜f6! ♜f8(♖h8) 3. ♖a3 ♝g8 4. ♖a8≠, 2... c3, ♖g7 3. ♖d3, ♝g7: ~ 4. ♖d8, ♖c3≠; 1... ♖g8+ 2. ♙g8: ♜c7 3. ♖c3+ ♜f6 4. ♖d8!≠.

Yves Cheylan

1. Com Mat Plus 1995

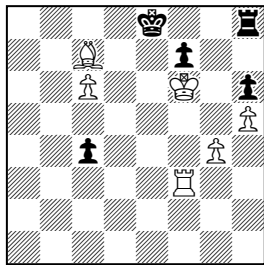


≠4✓

5+3

Vladan Vučković

2. Com Mat Plus 1995

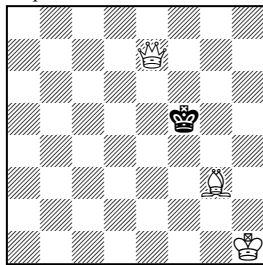


≠4✓✓

6+5

Edgar Holladay

Spec. Com Mat Plus 1995



≠4

b) e1=a1 3+1

c) ♙g3→f3

d) ♙g3→f2

e) ♜f5→d1

Spec.Com.: No.73 by **Edgar Holladay** (USA). The special commendation is granted to this problem for inovative attempts to discover the ideas which extend the composing field. In total there are 22 mates in this quintuple, 18 of which are echo models.

a) 1. ♙g2 ~ 2. ♜f3 ♜g6 3. ♖f4 ♜f5 4. ♜f7*≠, 1... ♜g6 2. ♜f8 ♜h5 3. ♜f6 ♜g4 4. ♜g6*≠ (2... ♜h7 3. ♜f7+ ♜h6 3. ♖f4≠)

b) (all men left 4 squares) 1. ♙d2? ♜c4 2. ♜a5 ♜b3 3. ♜b4+ ♜a2 4. ♜b2≠, 1... ♜c6!; 1. ♜c7! ♜a6 2. ♜c2 ♜b5 3. ♜d6 ♜c4 4. ♜c6*≠ [2. ♜d7? ♜b6 3. ♜c8 ♜a7(♜b5!) 4. ♖d4≠; 2. ♖d4? ♜b5 3. ♜c5+ ♜a6(♜a4!) 4. ♜b6≠; 2. ♖a5? ♜b5 3. ♜c3 ♜a4(♜a6!) 4. ♜b4≠; 2. ♜a5+? ♜b7 3. ♖e5 ♜c8(♜c6!) 4. ♜c7≠]

c) 1. ♜d6? ♜g5 2. ♜f8 ♜g6 3. ♙g2 ♜h7 4. ♖e4≠, 3... ♜c6!; 1. ♖h5? ♜f4 2. ♜e6 ♜g5 3. ♜f7/♜g6 ♜h6(♜h4!)/♜h4(♜h6!) 4. ♜g6/♜g4≠; 1. ♙g2 ♜f4 3. ♜c6 ♜g5 4. ♜f2 ♜f4 4. ♜f6*≠ [2. ♖e4? ♜g4(♜c3!) 3. ♜f6 ♜h5 4. ♖f3≠]

d) 1. ♖e3 ♜g6 2. ♜f8 ♜h5 3. ♜f5+ ♜h4 4. ♖f2≠ 3. ♜g7? ~ 4. ♜g5≠ 3... ♜h4!], 2... ♜h7 3. ♜f7+ [3. ♖h6? ~ 4. ♜g7≠ 3... ♜g6!]

e) 1. ♜e3? ♜c2 2. ♖d6 ♜d1 3. ♜d3+ ♜c1 4. ♖a3≠, 2... ♜b1 3. ♜b3+ ♜c1 4. ♖f4≠, 2... ♜b2!; 1. ♖f4 ♜c2 2. ♜a3 ♜d1 3. ♜d3+ ♜c1 4. ♖g3≠ [3. ♜b2? ~ 4. ♜d2≠ 3... ♜e1!] 2... ♜b1 3. ♜b3+ [3. ♖c1? ~ 4. ♜b2≠ 3... ♜c2!].

Beograd, 27.06.2006
Miodrag Radomirović

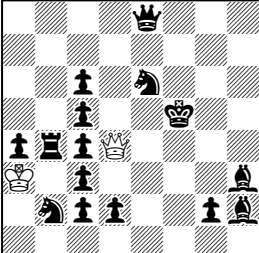
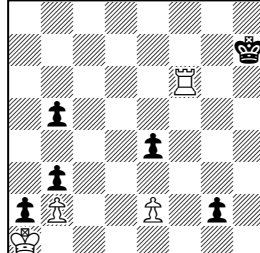
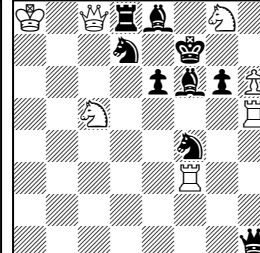
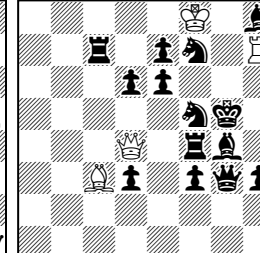
HELPMATES 1995

Judge: Marko Klasinc, Slovenia

The average quality of helpmates published during 1995 was very good. Among the twomovers there was not a clear favourite. I had dilemma whether to split the award in to parts, but finally I came to the conclusion that there was not sufficient number for high quality entries for two sets of prizes. I ranked them together, althow it was very difficult to compare i.e. h#2 and h#7.

1st Prize: No.148 by Chris Feather (England). A beautiful problem with four echo mates in minimal form. The White Queen moves to not less than 15 different squares. 1.c1♖ ♖d2: 2.♔e4 ♖e1+ 3.♔d3 ♔a2 4.♔c2 ♖e2≠, 1.d1♙ ♖c3: 2.♔e4 ♖b2: 3.♔d3 ♖c1 4.♔c3 ♖c3≠, 1.♖b5 ♖c4: 2.♔e5 ♖c6: 3.♔d4 ♖c8: 4.♔c4 ♖e4≠, 1.♖b6 ♖c5: 2.♔e4 ♖g1 3.♔d5 ♖h2: 4.♔c5 ♖e5≠

2nd Prize: No.105 by Zdravko Maslar (Germany). Excellent achievement with 6 distinct promotions, two different Excelsiors and two model mates. 1.g1♘! ♖g6 2.♘f3 g f3 3.e3 f4 4.e2 f5 5.f1♙ f6 6.♙c3 f7 7.♙h8 f8♘≠, 1.e3! ♖f2 2.e f2 e4 3.f1♙ e5 4.g1♖ e6 5.♖g7 e7 6.♙c4 g8♖ 7.♙g8 ♖h5≠

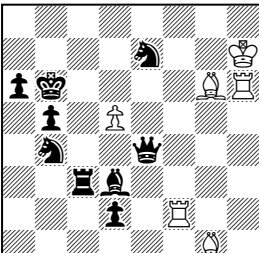
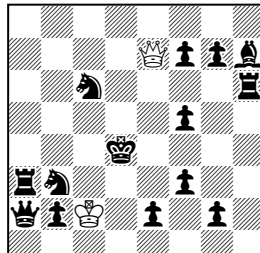
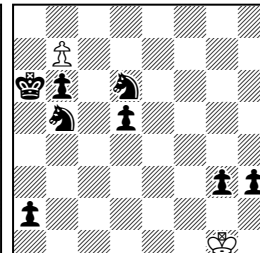
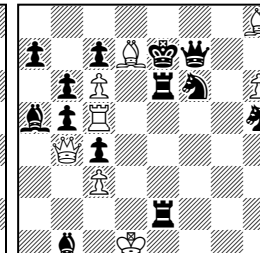
Chris Feather 1.Pr Mat Plus 1995	Zdravko Maslar 2.Pr Mat Plus 1995	Živko Janevski 3.Pr Mat Plus 1995	Zoran Gavrilovski 4.Pr Mat Plus 1995
			
h#4 4111 2+15	h#7 211... 4+6	h#2 2111 7+9	h#2 3111 4+14

3rd Prize: No.100 by Živko Janevski (Macedonia). Unpins, sacrifices of white pieces, pin mates – all in all very strong contents in two harmonious solutions with brutal mating moves. 1.♘b8 ♘f6: 2.♔f6: ♖c6≠, 1.♘g2 ♘e6: 2.♔e6: ♖f6≠

4th Prize: No.140 by Zoran Gavrilovski (Macedonia). Cyclic functions of white pieces: passive pinning – active pinning – execution of mate. Three fold double pin mates. Three mobile white pieces look excellent. 1.♖c4 ♖f7: 2.♔f4 ♙d2≠, 1.♘e5 ♖f4:+ 2.♔f6 ♖h6≠, 1.♙h5 ♙e1 2.♔h4 ♖f4:≠

1st Hon. Mention: No.138 by Živko Janevski (Macedonia). Anticipatory active black self-pins on different lines are quite unexpected. 1.♖d5: ♙d3: 2.♔c5 ♖f5≠, 1.♘e5 ♖f7 2.♔c6 ♙e4≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.147 by Ofer Comay, Paz Einat & Mark Erenburg (Israel). Active black sacrifices. Black minor promotion in the first move determines the play although it does not move afterwards and it is captured on the mating move. a) 1.e1♖ ♖h4+(♖b4+?) 2.♔c3 ♔c3 3.f4 ♖e1:≠, b) 1.e1♙ ♖b4+(♖h4+?) 2.♔c3 ♔d1 3.♔f2 ♖e1:≠.

Živko Janevski 1.HM Mat Plus 1995	Ofer Comay, Paz Einat & Mark Erenburg 2.HM Mat Plus 1995	Tode Ilievski 2.HM Mat Plus 1995	Živko Janevski 4.HM Mat Plus 1995
			
h#2 2111 6+9	h#3 2111 2+14	h#4 2111... 2+8	h#2 b) ♖h5→g6 8+13

3rd Hon. Mention: No. 103 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). Reciprocal bicolor promotions and mates from different direction along the same line. 1.♘a3 ♔f1 2.a1♖+ ♕e2 3.♞b1 b8♗ 4.♞b5 ♗a8≠, 1.♘c8 bc8♞ 2.a1♗+ ♖c1 3.♗g7 ♖c4 4.♗b7 ♖a4≠.

4th Hon. Mention: No.143v by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). The contents is similar to the third prize. In spite of black interference on c5 and transformation of white direct battery to indirect one, the aesthetic impression is not very high. 1.♞e5 ♖c6:+ 2.♕c6: ♞d6≠, 1.♘e5 ♖c5: 2.♕c5: ♞d5≠.

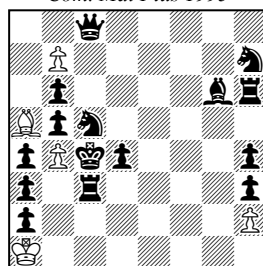
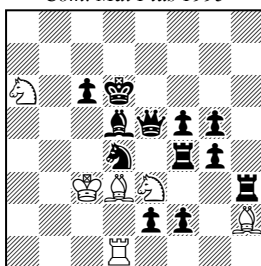
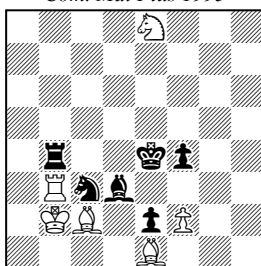
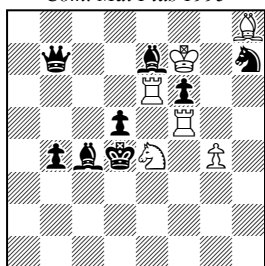
Commend: No.80 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). Three-fold creation of white batteries and their transformation to indirect combined with switchback theme. 1.♗b5 ♘f6: 2.♕c5 ♘e4≠, 1.♖d3 ♖ef6: 2.♕c4: ♖c6≠, 1.de4 ♖ff6: 2.♕d5 ♖f5≠.

Tode Ilievski
Com. Mat Plus 1995

Nikola Stolev
Com. Mat Plus 1995

Victor Chepizhny
Com. Mat Plus 1995

Tomislav Petrović
Com. Mat Plus 1995



h#2 3111 6+8

h#2 b) ♗e4→b5 6+6

h#2 b) +♖c6 6+12

h#2* 5+15

Commend: No.95 by **Nikola Stolev** (Macedonia). Halfpins, Grimshaw interference on c4 and nice harmonious play. a) 1.♕f3 ♘f6 2.♖c4 ♖e4≠, b) 1.♕a5 ♘c7 2.♞c4 ♖b5≠.

Commend: No.141 by **Victor Chepizhny** (Russia). Well know sheme with three halfpins in good construction. a) 1.♗c7 ♖f5: 2.♘f3 ♘c4≠, b) 1.♖f3 ♖c4 2.♞c4 ♘f5:≠.

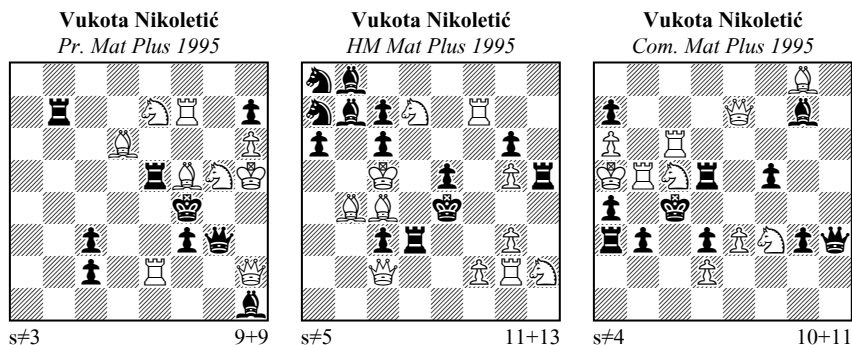
Commend: No.142 by **Tomislav Petrović** (Yugoslavia). Two minor promotions, set play and en passant key, Refreshing. 1... bc8♖ 2.♘d3 ♖c6≠, 1.ab3(ep) bc8♘ 2.♞d3 ♘b6:≠.

September 5th 1997
Marko Klasinc
International judge of FIDE

SELFMATES 1995

Judge: Uri Avner, Israel

The low number of entries (7) was unfortunately not balanced by a very high level. One may hardly call this a real competition. In such case, a better idea would be to combine two (or more) years. Sorry for the monotonous award, but I know somebody who will be happy...



Prize: No. 150 by **Vukota Nikoletić** (Yugoslavia). A white half pin arrangement produces three pins and a double pin. Nice construction. 1. ♖c1 ~ 2. ♜d2+ cd2 3. ♘h3+, 1... ♜h2: 2. ♙h3+ ♚g3 3. ♖f3+:, 1... ♙g2 2. ♘h3+ ♙h3: 3. ♘g6+, 1... f2 2. ♘d5+ ♙d5: 3. ♙d7+.

Hon. Mention: No.106 by **Vukota Nikoletić** (Yugoslavia). Three colourful and complicated lines lacking any unity which makes problem all the more difficult to solve. 1. ♙a2! ~ 2. ♜e2+ ♖e3 3. ♙b1+ c2 4. ♜g4+ ♚d3 5. ♘e5+; 1... ♖h4 2. f3+ ♚e3 3. ♜c1+ ♖d2 4. ♘f1+ ♚d3 5. ♙c4+; 1... ♖g5: 2. ♘f6+ ♚f5 3. ♘e8+ ♚e4 4. ♙d5+ cd5 5. ♘d6+.

Commendation: No. 151 by **Vukota Nikoletić** (Yugoslavia). Another study in white pinning. 1. ♖c8 ~ 2. ♘e5+ ♙e5: 3. ♘d7+ ♙c7+ 4. ♘b6+, 1... ♙f8 2. ♘e6+ ♖c5 3. ♘c7+ ♖d5 4. ♜b4+, 1... ♙h6 2. ♜e4+ fe4 3. ♘a4+: ♜c8: 4. ♖c5+.

Uri Avner
Ramat Gan 25/2/1997

TWOMOVERS 1996

Judge: Colin Sydenham, Great Britain

Judging in *Mat Plus* is a deceptively luxurious experience. It is not necessary to wait for the solutions and solvers' comments. Solutions are provided together with penetrating comments from Marjan Kovacevic. All are sound, and all are meritorious. There is nothing to do but place them in order. That's where the difficulty start. I am grateful to Marjan for inviting me to undertake this pleasant task.

23 problems competed in this informal tourney. The fact that over half of them figure in my award shows that the standard was consistently high. The first prize picked itself, but after that was not so easy. Lower down the ranking is, as always, much more subjective. I feel I must explain why I have passed over No.213 (without misgiving). A genuine 4-fold Lacny with Y-flights would indeed be an achievement to celebrate. But a key which captures the only free black piece (a Rook) in order to produce a waiter is not acceptable. Most composers would regard this position not as a publishable problem, but as a tantalising failure. To honour it would, in my view, be an affront to the standards of generations of composers past and present who would have preferred to confine it to their notebooks (and perhaps did).

In the interests of saving time I have not sought independent appraisal for anticipation, so the conditional period may produce casualties. Subject to that I congratulate all the composers named below.

1st Prize: No.154 by Marjan Kovačević & Dragan Ljubomirović (Yugoslavia). Four phases introduce reciprocal change after 1... d5/Kb5, and 3 mates for 1... d5 and 1... Kd5. All this without mechanical or symmetrical use of flights. Wonderful riches from only 8 pieces. I understand the composers' regrets, but I am not troubled by the 8th piece, on h4, which fully pays for itself. 1... d5, ♖b5 ♘d5 2.♙d7, ♗a4, ♙f3≠; 1.♗b3? d5, 2.♗d4≠, 1... h3!; 1.♙h3? ♘d5 2.♙g2≠, 1...d6!; 1.♗b7! (2.♗c4≠) d5, ♖b5, ♘d5 2.♗a4, ♙d7, ♗b4≠

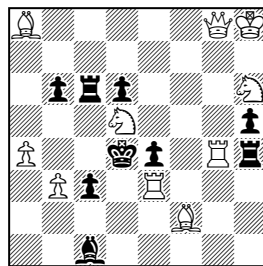
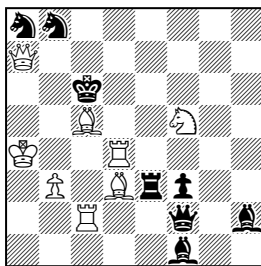
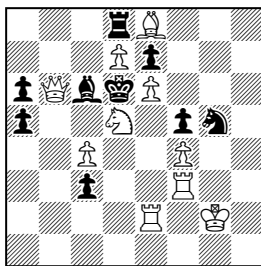
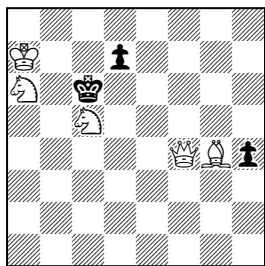
2nd Prize: No. 191 by Miroslav Subotić (Yugoslavia). Pseudo-Djurasevic is not a label to inspire much lively anticipation in me, even when doubled. But the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Of the 3 W moves Rd3(A)/Sc7(B)/c5(C) A and B alternately figure as tries and mates in part (a) and as tries and threats in part (b), while C is unchanged threat in part (a) and transferred mate in part (b). All this is achieved with lightness and wit by manipulating W half-pin line in the play and the twinning. The final mate by 2.Qc7 is a welcome touch. a) 1.♙d3?(A) (2.c5≠(B) ♗e4 2.♗c7≠(C), 1... ♗e6:;!; 1.♗c7!(C) ~ 2.c5≠(B, 1... ♗e4 2.♙d3≠(A) 1... ♗e6: 2.♙c6:≠; b) 1.♗c7?(C) ~ 2.♙d3≠(A), 1... ♗~ 2.c5≠(B), 1... ♗c5!; 1.♙d3!(A) ~ 2.♗c7≠(C) ♗~ 2.c5≠(B), 1... ♗c4 2.♗c7≠

Marjan Kovačević & Dragan Ljubomirović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1996

Miroslav Subotić
2.Pr Mat Plus 1996

Barry P. Barnes
1.HM Mat Plus 1996

Zoran Gavrilovski
2.HM Mat Plus 1996

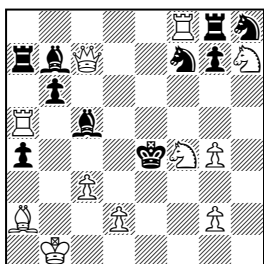


♯2*✓ 5+3 ♯2✓ b) ♙g5→e4 10+9 ♯2 8+8 ♯2*✓ 10+9

1st Hon. Mention: No.210 by Barry P. Barnes (England). Single phase 2-ers are rarity these days, and good ones are always refreshing. The unmasking of a moving battery piece, a favourite theme of this composer, is here shown with thematic key (vacating the c5-f2 diagonal) and a wealth of by-play from the battery. The cross-check element is self-indulgence (WPa4 does not alter the play): indeed you could call the WK a weasel, but even weasels have their place. The minor dual on e7 is of no consequence, and I do not prefer MK's slightly heavier version. 1.♙d8! ~ 2.♗d4≠, 1... ♙~e, ♙e2, ♙e4+, ♙c5, ♙d3: 2.♙f2:, ♙b5, ♙c4:, ♙d6, ♗c7≠, 1... ♙h4+, ♗b6+, ♗d7 2.♙d4, ♗b6:, ♗d7:≠.

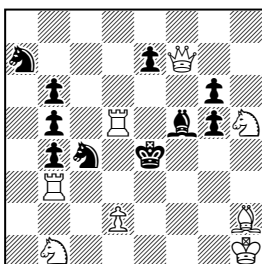
2nd Hon. Mention: No.159 by Zoran Gavrilovski (Macedonia). Reciprocal change from set to actual after 1... Ke5/Rc5. The tries 1.Sb4/Sc7, refuted in turn by the thematic defences, would be more impressive if they introduced additional changed mates. Even with the free change after 1... Kc5 it is noticeable that this problem has less play than 2nd Prize. 1... ♖e5, ♙c5, ♖c5 2.♙ee4:, ♗g7, ♙c3:≠ (A,B); 1.♗b4? ♖e5!, 1.♗c7? ♙c5!; 1.♗f4! ~ 2.♗d5≠, 1... ♖e5, ♙c5, ♖c5 2.♗g7, ♙c4:, ♗c4≠ (B,A).

Franz Pachl
3.HM Mat Plus 1996



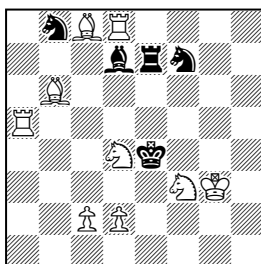
#2✓✓ 11+10

John M. Rice
4.HM Mat Plus 1996



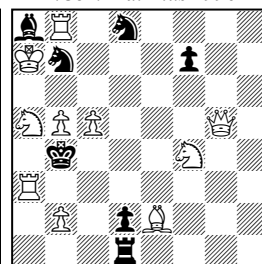
#2✓✓ 8+10

Miroslav Subotić
1.Com Mat Plus 1996



#2*✓ 9+5

Anatoly Slesarenko & Valery Shanshin
2.Com Mat Plus 1996



#2✓✓ 10+7

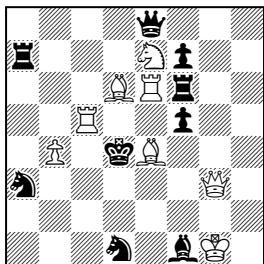
3rd Hon. Mention: No.160 by Franz Pachl (Germany). The WB threatens on both sides of the BK, but twice interferes with the WQ. The charming key by the WK then allows the WB to threaten on an innocuous square. Impeccable execution, typical of the composer. 1.♙c4? (2.♙d3♙) ♘d6 2.♖c7♙, 1... ♘e5,♙a6 2.♗g5,♙d5♙, 1... ♙d6!; 1.♙c6? (2.♙f5♙) ♙d6 2.♖c4♙, 1... ♗h6,♙c8,g6 2.♗g5,♙d5,♗f6♙, 1... ♗d6!; 1.♗a1! (2.♙b1♙) ♗d6,♙d 6 2.♖c7,♖c4♙, 1... ♗e5, ♙a6 2.♗g5,♙d5♙.

4th Hon. Mention: No.158 by John M. Rice (England). White interference tricycle. It is difficult to infuse unity into this theme, and the overall impression is predictably a little ragged. Virtues are skill with which the tries are confined to unique squares, and the sacrificial key. 1.♙e5? (2.♗g3♙) ♗e5: 2.♗e3♙, 1... gh5!; (2.♖f5:♙?); 1.♗dd3? (2.♖d5♙) ♗e3! (2.♗bc3:♙?), 1.♗g3? (2.d3♙) c6! (2.♗f6♙?); 1.♗h3! (2.d3♙), 1... ♗e5,c6,♙c6,♙h3:♗d2: 2.♗e3, ♗f6,♖f3,♗g3,♗d2:♙.

1st Com.: No.209 by Miroslav Subotić (Yugoslavia). A lightweight 3x2 Zagoruyko with interchange of functions between 6 W pieces. Subtle and attractive. 1... ♙b5,♗e5 2.♙f5,♗g5♙; 1.♗f5? ~ 2.d3♙, 1... ♗e5!, 1... ♙b5, ♗e5 2.♗d4,♗d6♙; 1.♗e6! ~ 2.d3♙, 1... ♙b5,♗e5 2.♗c5,♗e5♙.

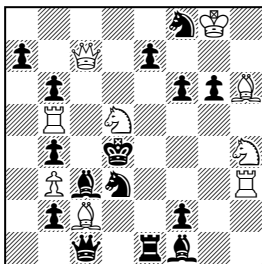
2nd Com.: No.212 by Anatoly Slesarenko (Russia) & **Valery Shanshin** (Kirgisia). Barnes, Salazar, Le Grand, Lender: if labels won prizes (as they sometimes do), this would have been a lot higher. Clever, but lacking in essential interest. 1.♙b6? ~ 2.♗d3(A),♗b5(♙)♙, 1... ♗a5:!, 1... ♗c5: 2.♖c5:♙; 1.c6?(C) ~ 2.♗d3(A)♙, 1... f5!, 1... ♗c5 2.♗d5(♙)♙, 1... ♗a5 2.♖e7(D)♙; 1.♖e7!(D) ~ 2.♗d5(♙)♙, 1... ♗c5: 2.♗d3(A)♙, 1... ♗a5: 2.c6(C).

Victor Melnichenko
3.Com Mat Plus 1996



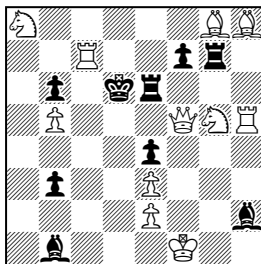
#2*✓✓ 8+9 #2

Milan Velimirović
4.Com Mat Plus 1996



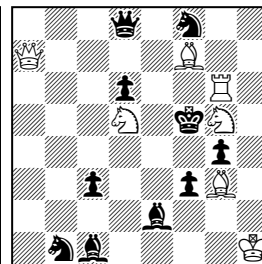
#2 9+15

Paz Einat
5.Com Mat Plus 1996



#2* 11+9

John M. Rice
6.Com Mat Plus 1996



#2✓ 7+10

3rd Com.: No.157 by Victor Melnichenko (Ukraine). 3 interference tries by WB, incorporating, unusually for this sort of thing, 3 changes from set to actual. 1... ♗e3,♗c4,♙d3,f6: 2.♖e5,♙d5,♖d3:♙e5♙; 1.♙c6? ♖b8!, 1.♙d5? ♗c4!, 1.♙f5:? ♗e6!; 1.♙d3! ~ 2.♙e5♙, 1... ♗e3,♙d3:♗c4 2.♖e3:♖e5,♙c4♙, 1... ♗e6:♖b8 2.♗f5:♗c6♙.

4th Com.: No.194 by Milan Velimirović (Yugoslavia). 3-fold secondary Fleck with cyclic defence motives. Very much a composer's theme. 1.♗c3! ~/♗c4 2.♖c4,♖f4♙, 1... ♗c5,♗e5,♗f4 2.♗f3,♙d5,♖f4♙.

5th Com.: No.192 by Paz Einat (Israel). Correction by the BR in two phases produces a Ruchlis, but the mechanism seems over-familiar. 1... ♗c~(♗f6), ♗e7, ♗e5, ♗gg6 2.♙d7, ♗c6, ♖d7, ♗f7:♙; 1.♖f7:!! (2.♖c6♙), 1... ♗c~(♗e7), ♗e5, ♗f6+, ♗gg6, ♗f7+: 2.♖d5, ♗c6, ♖f6: ♖d7, ♗f7:♙.

6th Com.: No.211 by John M. Rice (England). WQ tries change 2 mates and transfer one in an elegant setting (no WPs). 1.♖e7? ~ 2.♖e4♙, 1... ♙d3!, 1... ♖e8, ♗d2, ♙g5: 2.♖f6, ♗e3, ♗g5:♙, 1... ♖e7:, ♗e6, ♗g6: 2.♗e7:, ♖e6:, ♙c6♙; 1.♖e3! ~ 2.♖d4♙, 1... ♖e8, ♗d2, ♖g5: 2.♗f6, ♖f4, ♗g5:♙, 1... ♙c3:, ♙d3, ♖e7, ♗g6: 2.♗e3:, ♖d3:, ♗e7:, ♙c6♙.

C. P. Sydenham, England
International judge of FIDE

THREEMOVERS 1996

Judge: Miloš Tomašević

There were 19 threemovers, one of which in two versions, published in “Mat Plus” during 1996 in Nos. 10, 11 and 12. The overall quality was on a high international level. Half of problems entered into the award, which is a rarity, but it was inevitable considering the quality of published works.

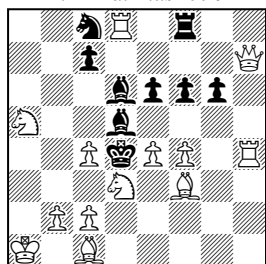
Among the non-rewarded problems I would like especially to mention the simplest one, No.163 by Arpad Molnar, which shows mutual interference between the Black Queen and the Black Pawn on single square. After a long and tiresome searching the literature the question is still open: is it the first realization of this kind of interference?

I propose the following order of rewarded problems:

1st Prize: No.222 by Milan R. Vukcevič (USA). The exciting work in all aspects, with content of excellent harmony. 1. ♖h1! ~ 2. ♖h3 ♖f4; ♖b4 3.c3, ♖c3≠; 1... ♖e4: 2. ♖g6!: ♖g6: 3.f5≠, 2... ♖d3:, ♖h1: 3. ♖g1,c3≠; 1... ♖f4: 2. ♖c7!: ♖c7: 3.e5≠, 2... ♖c1:, ♖d6 3. ♖c5, ♖b3≠; (1. ♖g2? ♖c4!: 2. ♖g6: ♖d3: 3. ♖g1??).

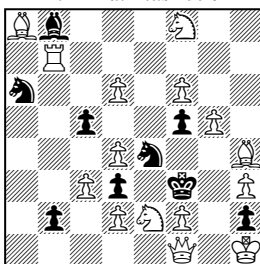
2nd Prize: No.223 by John M. Rice (England). A fantastic genuine three-move task with complete BS Tour and openings of seven different white lines! 1.dc5! ~ 2. ♖d4+ ♖f4 3. ♖g6≠, 1... ♖d2: 2. ♖b2+: ♖e4 3. ♖g2≠, 1... ♖c3: 2. ♖b3+ ♖e4, ♖d5 3. ♖d3:, ♖d5:≠, 1... ♖c5: 2. ♖b5+ ♖e4, ♖b7 3. ♖f5:, ♖b7:≠, 1... ♖d6: 2. ♖d7+ ♖e4, ♖b7 3. ♖d3:, ♖b7:≠, 1... ♖f6: 2. ♖f7+ ♖e4, ♖d5 3. ♖f5:, ♖d5:≠, 1... ♖g5: 2. ♖g7+ ♖e4 3. ♖g3≠, 1... ♖g3+ 2.fg3+ ♖e4 3. ♖c7≠, 1... ♖f2+: 2. ♖f2: ♖e4 3. ♖c7≠, (1... de2 2. ♖g2+ ♖f4 3. ♖g6≠).

Milan R. Vukcevič
1.Pr Mat Plus 1996



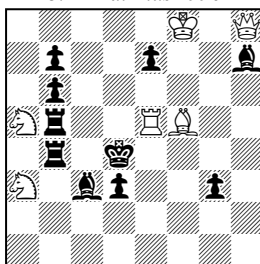
≠3 13+9 ≠3

John M. Rice
2.Pr Mat Plus 1996



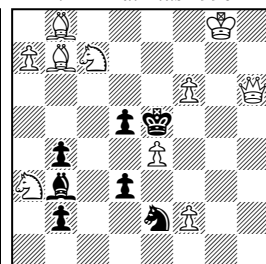
15+9 ≠3*

Milan Velimirović
3.Pr Mat Plus 1996



6+10 ≠3*

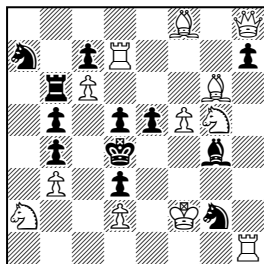
Felix Rossomakho
1.HM Mat Plus 1996



10+7

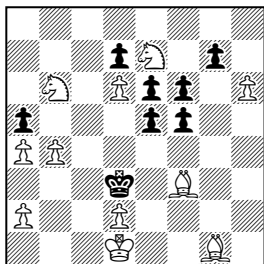
3rd Prize: No.217 by Milan Velimirović (Yugoslavia). Masterly rendered reciprocal variations. 1... ♖c5 2. ♖e7+: ♖d5 3. ♖d7≠, 1... ♖d5 2. ♖e6+ ♖c5 3. ♖b7:≠; 1. ♖c4! ~ 2. ♖b5+ e5 3. ♖e5:≠, 1... ♖c5 2. ♖e6+ ♖d5 3. ♖c3≠, 1... ♖d5 2. ♖c7+: ♖c5 3. ♖c7≠, (1... ♖f5: 2. ♖h4+ ♖g4, ♖e4 3. ♖: ♖≠).

Zoran Gavrilovski
2.HM Mat Plus 1996



≠3 12+12 ≠3

Yosi Retter
3.HM Mat Plus 1996



11+8

1st Hon. Mention: No.218 by Felix Rossomakho (Russia). Exceptionally economical presentation of reciprocally changed variations with cross-checks in set and actual play. 1... d4+ 2. ♖e6+ ♖e6: 3. ♖c8≠, 1... de4+ 2. ♖d5+ ♖e6, ♖f5, ♖d4 3. ♖h3, ♖c8, ♖e3≠; 1. ♖c8! ~ 2. ♖cb5+, 1... d4+ 2. ♖d5+ ♖e4: 3. ♖h1≠, 1... de4+ 2. ♖e6+ ♖d5, ♖f5 3. a8♖., ♖g5≠, (1... ♖d6 2. ♖a6+ ♖c6 3. f7≠), (1... ♖d4 2. ♖e3+ ♖c3 3. ♖cb5≠).

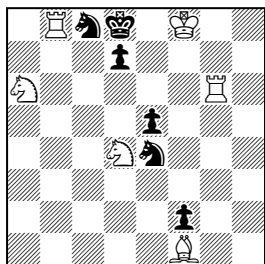
2nd Hon. Mention: 10/1996, p.131 by Zoran Gavrilovski (Macedonia). An ambitious and successful cyclic Hannelius in a threemover. The future will show whether, with tremendous efforts, this is the right way to go. 1. ♖c1?

(2. ♖c5≠A) ♖c6!: x; 1. ♙f7? (2. ♗d5:≠♙) ♗f4! y; 1. ♗f7? (2. ♜e5:≠C) ♗c6!: z; 1. ♗h3! ~ 2. ♗c3 ♗e3: 3. de3≠, 1... ♗c6:x 2. ♗d5:+♙ ♗d5: 3. ♗d3:≠, 1... ♗f4y 2. ♜e5:+C ♗e5: 3. ♙g7≠, 1... ♗c6:z 2. ♙c5+A ♗c5: 3. ♗e6≠, (1... ♙h3:/♙f3 2. ♗f3).

3rd Hon. Mention: No.220 by **Yosi Retter** (Israel). A “calmed” Dombrovskis, frequently seen, in reversible form with only White Pawns and minor officers. 1. ♗g6? ~ 2. ♙e2+ ♗e4 3. d3≠, 1... f4!; 1. ♙c5? ~ 2. ♗c4 ~, ♗c4: 3. ♗b2, ♙e2≠, 1... ab4!; 1. hg7! (~), 1... f4 2. ♙e2+ ♗e4 3. d3≠, 1... ab4 2. ♗c4 ~, ♗c4: 3. ♗b2, ♙e2≠.

Mihailo Stojnić

1. Com Mat Plus 1996

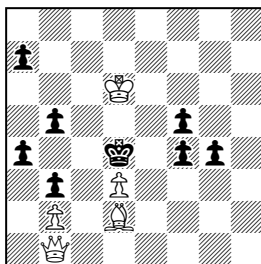


≠3*

6+6 ≠3

Alexander Grin

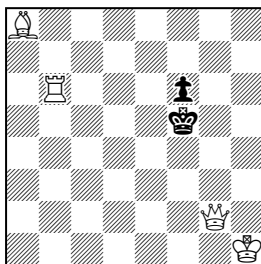
2. Com Mat Plus 1996



5+8 ≠3

Mirko Miljanić

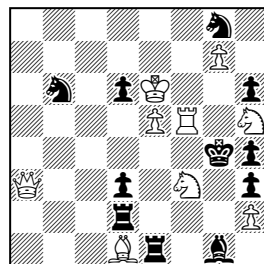
3. Com Mat Plus 1996



4+2 ≠3

Srećko Radović

4. Com Mat Plus 1996



9+11

1st Com.: No.215 by **Mihailo Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). Reciprocal variations with additional change after 1... ♗d6. 1... d5 2. ♗c6+ ♗d7 3. ♙h3≠, 1... d6 2. ♗e6+ ♗d7 3. ♙b5≠, 1... ♗d6 2. ♗c6+ dc6 3. ♗d6:≠; 1. ♗b6! ~ 2. ♗c8:+ ♗c8: 3. ♗b8≠, 1... d5 2. ♗e6+ ♗d7 3. ♙b5≠, 1... d6 2. ♗e6+ ♗d7 3. ♙h3≠, 1... ♗d6 2. ♗e6+ de6 3. ♗d6:≠.

2nd Com.: No.216 by **Alexander Grin** (Russia). Reciprocal variations after the Black Pawn moves. 1. ♜d1! ~ 2. ♙b4 ~ 3. ♙c5≠, 1... a5 2. ♙a5: ♗e3 3. ♙b6≠, 1... ♗d3: 2. ♗d5 ~ 3. ♙c1/♙f4≠, 1... f3 2. ♙c3+ ♗e3 3. ♜d2≠, 1... a3 2. ♜b3: ~ 3. ♜c3/♜d5≠.

3rd Com.: No.162 by **Mirko Miljanić** (Yugoslavia). Puzzling miniature with unexpected mating moves, especially 3. ♜a1≠. 1. ♜g1! ♗f4, ♗e5 2. ♗f6:+, ♜f2 ♗e5, f5 3. ♜a1, ♜e3≠.

4th Com.: No.221 by **Srećko Radović** (Yugoslavia). Battery mates after BR defences with hidden key and subtle play. 1. ♜a7! ~ 2. ♗f4+ ♗h5: 3. ♜f7≠ (2. ♜e7? ♙f2!, 2. ♜f7? ♙e3!), 1... ♗g2 2. ♜e7! ♙f2 3. ♗d2:≠, 1... ♗e4 2. ♜f7! ♙e3 3. ♗e1:≠, 1... ♙e3 2. ed6! ♙~+ 3. ♗e5≠, 1... ♗d7/♗d5 2. ♗e1:+ ♗e2 3. ♗g1:≠ (2. ♗d2:+? ♗dd1:!, 2. ♗d2:+? ♗ed1:!).

Beograd, January 17 1999

Miloš Tomašević

MOREMOVERS 1996

Judge: Miodrag Mladenović

Thirteen problems were published during this time period. I decided to put in the award six problems. I decided to rank 6 problems in the following order:

1st Prize: No.225 by **Milan R. Vukcevič** (USA). Beautiful problem with three thematically connected variations with clearances of lines for WQ. White has to sacrifice either Bishop or Rook to allow passage to his Queen. The key is nice (destroying white battery). Perfect construction.

1. ♖c1! ~ 2. ♘f4+ ♕f6: 3. ♙e5+! ♕e5: 4. ♗f4≠; 1... ♕f6: 2. ♙g5+ ♖g7 3. ♙f6+! ♕f6: 4. ♗g5≠ (3... ♕f8 4. ♙c8≠); 1... ♕d6: 2. ♙c6+ ♕d7 3. ♙d6+! ♕d6: 4. ♗c7≠ (3... ♕e8 4. ♗c8≠) (2... ♕e5 3. ♗c5+ ♕f6: 4. ♗g5≠).

2nd Prize: No.226 by **Victor Melnichenko** (Ukraine). In this very well constructed problem in initial position BK can not move because of the short mate in 3 moves. However white does not have tempo move. The only way for white to achieve checkmate in 5 is to move his Rook around rectangle g5-g8-d8-d5-g5. Excellent idea.

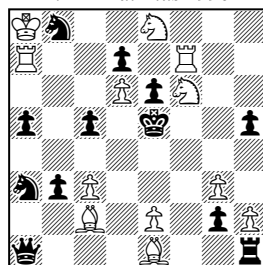
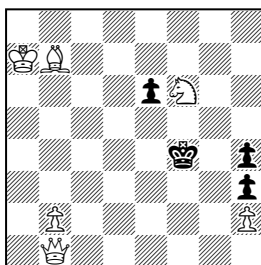
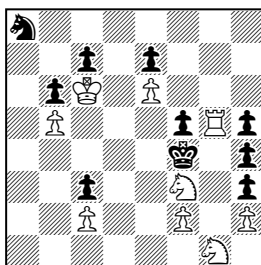
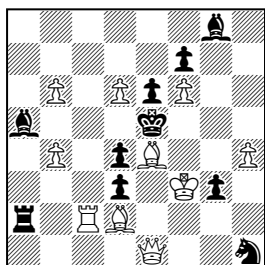
1... ♕e4 2. ♙h5: f4 3. ♙e5≠, 2... ♕f4 3. ♙h4≠; 1. ♙h5:? ♕e4! 2.?? (zugzwang!); 1. ♙g8! ♕e4 2. ♙f8! ♕f4 3. ♙d8! (3. ♙h8?! ♕e4 4. ♙h5.; but 3... ♕g4! 3... ♕g4 4. ♙d5! (~) f4 5. ♙g5≠ (Rook reached the same square from which it begun its way - Author), 4... ♕f4 5. ♙d4≠, 2... f4 3. ♙g5+ ♕d4 3. ♙l f3+ ♕e4 4. ♙f4:≠.

Milan R. Vukcevič
1.Pr Mat Plus 1996

Victor Melnichenko
2.Pr Mat Plus 1996

Milovan Belić
1.HM Mat Plus 1996

**Aleksandr Chistyakov &
Borislav Stojanović**
2.HM Mat Plus 1996



≠4

10+10 ≠5*

9+10 ≠4

6+4 ≠8

12+12

1st Hon. Mention: No.197 by **Milovan Belić** (Yugoslavia). Very nice variations after not so good key. Couple of model mates and very enjoyable problem for solving.

1. ♗g1! e5 2. ♙c8(~) ♕f3 3. ♙g4+ ♕f4 4. ♗c1≠ (model), 2... e4 3. ♙h5+ ♕f3, ♕e5 4. ♙g4, ♗c5≠; 1... ♕e5 2. ♗g5+ ♕d4 3. ♙a6 (~) e5 4. ♗g1≠ (model, 2... ♕d6 3. ♙g8 (~) ♕c7, ♕d7, e5 3. ♗e7≠; 1... ♕f5 2. ♙h7 (3. ♗g5) ♕e5 3. ♗c5+ ♕f4 4. ♗g5≠, 2... e5 3. ♙d5 ~ 4. ♗g5≠.

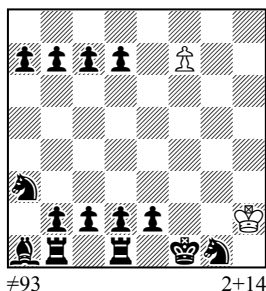
2nd Hon. Mention: No.198 by **Aleksandr Chistyakov** (Lithuania) & **Borislav Stojanović** (Yugoslavia). Plachutta interference on two squares (e3 & e4). It's interesting how BQs are moved one line up systematically. Interesting play. I enjoyed solving this problem.

1. ♙g7? ♙f1!; 1. ♙h7! ♙h2: 2. ♙g7 ♗c1 3. ♙c7 g1 ♗ 4.e3! (4.e4? bc2!) ♗g2+ 5. ♕b8: ♗c2 6.e4! ♗ce4:, ♗ge4: 7. ♙c5+ ♙g5+ ♙d5, ♗f5 8. ♙g5, ♙c5:≠, (3... ♙c6 4. ♙d7:+ ♕d5 5. ♙ef6+ ♕d6: 6. ♙c8+ ♕d5 7.e4 ♕c4 8. ♙d6≠).

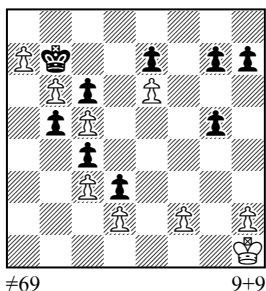
3rd Hon. Mention: No.167 by **Mirko Miljanić** (Yugoslavia). Although mechanism of loosing a tempo is very familiar from some other moremovers every task deserves some recognition.

1. f8 ♗+ ♕e1 2. ♗a3: (2. ♗c5? ♙f3+ 3. ♕g3 ♙dcl 4. ♗f2+ ♕d1 5. ♗f3 ♙b5! 6. ♕f2 ♙d4(c3) and no mate) ♙dcl (2... ♕f1 3. ♗f8+ ♕e1 4. ♗c5! and mates in few moves, because there is no ♙a3) 3. ♗g3+ ♕d1 4. ♗g4! a6 5. ♙h5 ♕e1 6. ♙h4+ ♕f1! 7. ♗f4+ ♕e1 8. ♗g3+ ♕d1 9. ♗g4! a5 ... 84... d3 89. ♗g4! ♙f3! 90. ♗f3: ♕e1 91. ♗g3+ ♕d1 92. ♗g4! ♕e1 93. ♗g1≠.

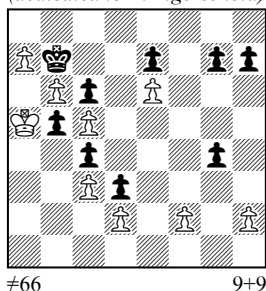
Mirko Miljanić
3.HM Mat Plus 1996



Miodrag Radomirović
4.HM Mat Plus 1996



Jan Knöppel
Springaren 1962
(dedicated to B. Tigerschild)



4th Hon. Mention: No.199 by Miodrag Radomirović (Yugoslavia) – after J. Knöppel. Good extension of existing task.

1.♔g2! [White has to avoid check and stop b-c-d chain: 1.h3? (1.♔g1?) b4! 2.cb4 c3 3.b5 c2! 4.bc6 ♖a8 5.c7 c1♙+! 6.♔g2 ♜c5!] 1... ♖a8 [Black has not tempo-check on first rank any more (1... b4??), but White still has to hurry because now he has not tempo-check 2.bc6 (2.h3?? b4!)] 2.♙f1 g4! [High time for Black to secure more space (time) on the right-hand side of the board (2... ♖b7? 3.h3/f3!)] 3.♖e1 ♖b7 4.♔d1 5.♖c1 6.♖b1!! [6.♖b2? ♖a8 7.♖a3? ♖b7 ... 9.♖a5 ♖b7!; 7.♖a2? b4! 8.♖b2 b3! - WK is too far from d1) 6... ♖a8 7.♖b2! ♖b7 8.♖a3 ♖a8 9.♖b4 ♖b7 10.♖a5 h6 11.♖b4 etc, as from 8th move in Knöppel's problem (diagram 199a: 1.♖b4 ♖a8 2.♖a3 ♖b7 3.♖a2 4.♖b2 5.♖a3 6.♖b4 7.♖a5 h6 8.♖b4 9-14.♖a5 h5 15-21.♖a5 h4 28.♖a5 h3 35.♖a5 g6 42.♖a5 g5 49.♖a5 g3 50.fg3 g4 51.♖b4 55.♖c1 59.♖a5 b4 60.♖b4: 61.♖a5 ♖b7 62.a8♙+ ♖a8: 63.♖a6 ♖b8 64.b7 ♖c7 65.♖a7 ♖d8 66.b8♙≠).

Belgrade, June 28th 2006
Miodrag Mladenović

HELPMATES 1996

Judge: **Borislav Gađanski**

Problems were divided in two sections: twomovers and moremovers.

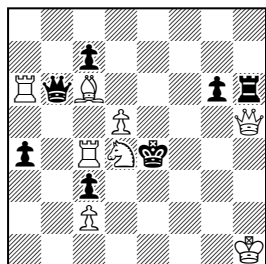
HELPMATE TWOMOVERS

There were 26 originals published in 1996, 23 in “Original Problems” column and 3 elsewhere. The average quality was very high, though with not any real masterpiece. When the quality is similar, without obvious favorites, it is not easy to reach the decision. Almost all achievements are commendable, and I propose following ranking:

1st Prize: No.234 by **Fadil Abdurahmanović** (Bosnia and Hercegovina). This problem has been inspired by the article *Capture of white battery pieces by the same black unit* (Živko Janevski, Mat Plus 10/1996). In one phase (solution) the Black Queen captures both front, and in another both rear pieces from white batteries. The mate in either case is delivered by the same White Rook. A complex conception realized in a light position without twins. A mastership characteristic to the greatest helpmate composer. 1. ♖d4: ♖c3: 2. ♗d5: ♖a4:≠, 1. ♗c6: ♗e2+ 2. ♗c4: ♖c6≠.

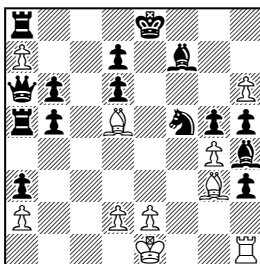
2nd Prize: No.179 by **Árpád Molnár** (Hungary). The position (a) is legal only if the White Pawn was promoted on f8 via f7. It means that the Black King has moved and therefore cannot castle. Likewise, the position (b) is legal only if the Black Pawn was promoted on f1 via f2, and consequently the White Castle is impossible. By alternate exclusion of castlings, the uniqueness of the solutions is reached. Analogous retro-motives and pin mates in both phases! a) 1. ♔f8 0-0! 2. ♗e8 ♗d6:≠, b) 1.0-0-0 ♔f2 2. ♗c7 ♖c1≠.

Fadil Abdurahmanović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1996



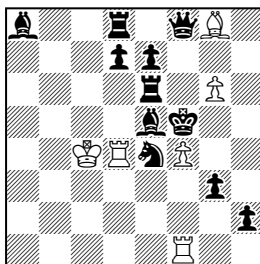
h#2 2111 8+7

Árpád Molnár
2.Pr Mat Plus 1996



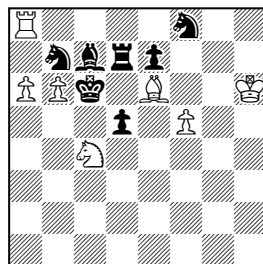
h#2 b) ♗d6 10+15

Živko Janevski
3.Pr Mat Plus 1996



h#2 b) ♗g6→c5 6+11
c) ♗g6→d2

Milomir Babić
4.Pr Mat Plus 1996



h#2 3111 7+7

3rd Prize: No.237 by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). Cyclic square vacation by sacrifices. Cyclic change of functions of white and black pieces, Cyclic Zilahi. Black self-interference. a) 1. ♗f6 ♗e6+: 2. ♗e6: f5≠, b) 1. ♖c6 fe5 2. ♗e5: ♖d5≠, c) 1. ♗f6 ♖c4: 2. ♗e4: ♗h7≠.

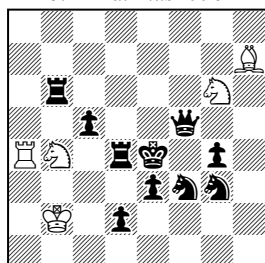
4th Prize: 10/96 p.396 by **Milomir Babić** (Yugoslavia). Out of three black pieces, one arrives to d6 while another is captured by White, releasing the square for the Black King. Similar idea as in previous problem, but without cyclic functions of white pieces. Additional detail, arrival of three different pieces to the same square and the realization in three solutions, makes the strong impression. 1. ♗d6 ♗d7+: 2. ♗d7: ♗e5≠, 1. ♗d6 ab7 2. ♗b7: ♗d5:≠, 1. ♗d6 bc7 2. ♗c7: ♖c8≠.

5th Prize: No.173 by **Franz Pachl** (Germany). The twinning method is completely in the function of the idea. Two attempts of activating the masked battery fail due to the pinning of one of the Knights. The corrective play eliminates the pinned Knight (with check!), which makes possible the openings of lines a4–f4 and h7–d3. a) 1. ♗d~ ♗b~? 2. ♗d3 ♗f4≠, 1. ♗db4+: ♖b4+: 2. ♗d3 ♗f4≠; b) 1. ♗~ ♗g~? 2. ♗f4 ♗d3≠, 1. ♗g6+: ♗g6+: 2. ♗f4 ♗d3≠.

6th Prize: No.176 by **Victor Chepizhny** (Russia). Another successful achievement with logical tries. The paradoxicality is expressed in the fact that what is harmful in (a) becomes useful in (b). I agree with the opinion of Marjan Kovačević that the paradox would be even greater if WSG3 was added and twinning was made by b) – ♗a6. a) 1. ♗b5: ♗d6! 2. ♗d2!(♖d2?) ♗b5≠, 1. ♗a4: ♗c5! 2. ♗d2! (♗d2?) ♗a4≠; b) 1. ♗d2! ♗c5! 2. ♗a4: ♗a4:≠, 1. ♗d2 ♗d6! 2. ♗b5: ♗b5:≠.

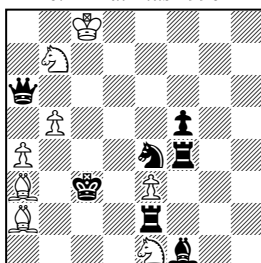
1st Hon. Mention: No.171 by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). Total or complex change of the pin line, where all three pieces from the pinning system are relocated to new lines. 1. ♗d6 ♗h2+ 2. ♗e5 ♖d7:≠, 1. ♗e4 ♖e8+ 2. ♗e5 ♗f3:≠.

Franz Pachl
5.Pr Mat Plus 1996



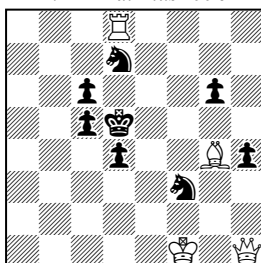
h#2 b) ♖b2→h6 5+10

Victor Chepizhny
6.Pr Mat Plus 1996



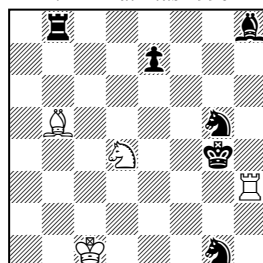
h#2 2111 8+7
b) ♜a6→h7

Živko Janevski
1.HM Mat Plus 1996



h#2 2111 4+8

Mihajlo Milanović
2.HM Mat Plus 1996



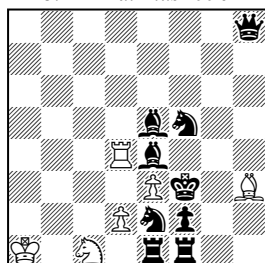
h#2 b) ♔g4→e4 4+6
c) ♔g4→b4

2nd Hon. Mention: No.170 by Mihajlo Milanović (Yugoslavia). Cyclic change of functions of 3 white pieces (capture, guard, mate) with cyclic change of black captures: BS:WR, BR:WB, BB:WS. Cyclic Zilahi with model mates in light position, but with radical twinning. a) 1.♖1h3: ♙c2+ 2.♖h4 ♖f5≠ (A/b, B), b) 1.♙d4: ♜f3 2.e5 ♙c6≠ (B/c, C), c) 1.♜b5: ♖c2+ 2.♖a4 ♜a3≠ (C/a, A).

3rd Hon. Mention: No.232 by Tode Ilievski (Macedonia). Mixed captures with double reciprocal change of functions of white (Sc1, Rd4) and black (Be4, Se2) thematic pieces. Uniform mechanism with unpinning, sacrifices and model mates. 1.♙b1 ♖e2: 2.♖c2: ♙g4≠, 1.♖c3 ♜e4: 2.♖e4: ♙g2≠.

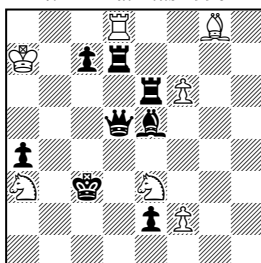
4th Hon. Mention: No.175 by Nikola Stolev (Macedonia). Critical moves of the Black Queen along lateral and diagonal lines. Double indirect half-pin with one common piece for both systems. 1.♚d2 ♖b5+ 2.♖d3 ♙h7≠, 1.♚a2 ♖b1+ 2.♖b3 ♜b8≠.

Tode Ilievski
3.HM Mat Plus 1996



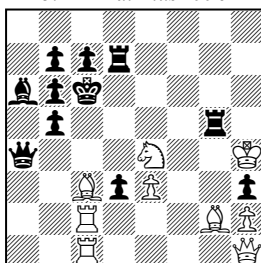
h#2 2111 6+9

Nikola Stolev
4.HM Mat Plus 1996



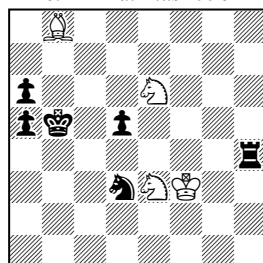
h#2 2111 7+8

Jean Hayman
5.HM Mat Plus 1996



h#2 2111 9+11

Colin Sydenham
6.HM Mat Plus 1996

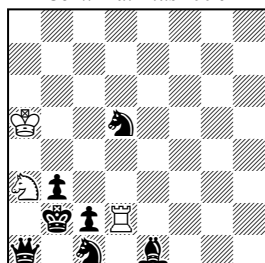


h#2 Duplex 4+6

5th Hon. Mention: No.240 by Jean Hayman (Israel). Reciprocal captures of rear pieces from white batteries, motivated by possible captures of these pieces by Black Pawns. 1.♚c2: ♖f6+ 2.♚g2: ♙e5≠, 1.♜g2: ♙b4+ 2.♚c2: ♖d6≠.

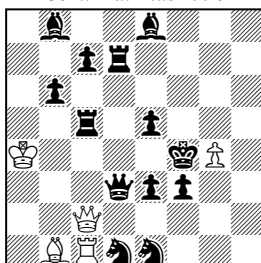
6th Hon. Mention: No.169 by Colin Sydenham (Great Britain). Duplex with perfect ortho-diagonal echo play, activity of all units in both phases and model mates. 1.♜a4 ♙a7 2.♖b4 ♖d4≠, 1.♙g3 ♜h2 2.♖f4 ♖e5≠.

Slobodan Šaletić
Com. Mat Plus 1996



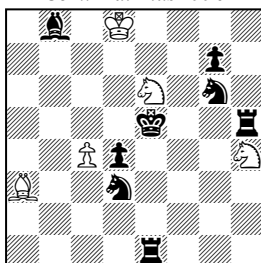
h#2 2111 3+7

Zoran Gavrilovski
Com. Mat Plus 1996



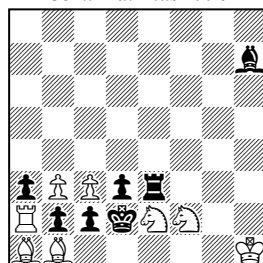
h#2 b) ♜f4→b7 5+13

Valery Barsukov
Com. Mat Plus 1996



h#2 2111 5+8

György Bakcsi
Com. Mat Plus 1996



h#2 b) ♖f2→g2 8+7

Com.: No.168 by **Slobodan Šaletić** (Yugoslavia). Double successive unpins of white pieces. 1.♔c3 ♖d4 2.♗b2 ♘b5≠, 1.♙c3 ♖d1 2.♘a2 ♙c4≠.

Com.: No.177 by **Zoran Gavrilovski** (Macedonia). Harmonious and complex strategy realized by radical twinning – removal of the Black King. a) 1.♖cd5 ♗c6 2.♙e4 ♖c4≠, b) 1.♗d6 ♗g6 2.♙c6 ♙e4≠.

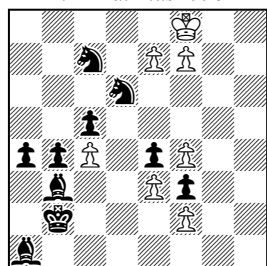
Com.: No.231 by **Valery Barsukov** (Russia). A King move opens two black lines, which are subsequently closed by arrival of black piece to the square vacated by the Monarch. Accurate determination and model mates. 1.♙e4 ♙c1 2.♘c5 ♙c5≠, 1.♙f6 ♘g5 2.♘c5 ♙e7≠.

Com.: No.233 by **György Bakcsi** (Hungary). Removals of Black Pawns from second and White Pawns from third rank is realized by capture of the White Bishops on the first and captures of promoted Black Knights on the third rank. a) 1.cb1♘ ♙b2: 2.♘c3: ♙c3:≠, b) 1.ba1♘ ♙c2: 2.♘b3: ♙b3:≠.

HELPMATE MOREMOVERS

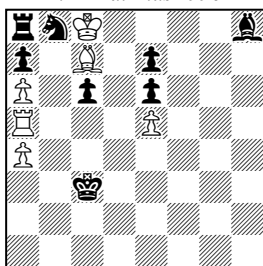
In 1996 there were 17 helpmate moremovers of a good quality, It was not hard to select the first prize, which made the ranking of remaining problems by far easier.

Gábor Cseh
1.Pr Mat Plus 1996



h#4 W→ 7+10
b) ♗b2→c2

Tode Ilievski
2.Pr Mat Plus 1996

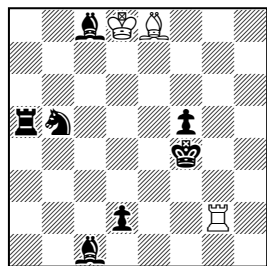


h#4 0111... 6+8
b) ♖a6→c5

1st Prize: No.183 by **Gábor Cseh** (Hungary). Reciprocal minor promotions on the same square. Kniest theme (captures of the black piece on the square where the Black King will be mated), Zilahi effect and differentiation of the sacrifices on e8. Top-class composition. a) 1... e8♙ 2.♙a3 ♙a4: 3.♘ce8 fe8:♖ 4.♙a4: ♖a8≠, b) 1... e8♖ 2.♙d3 ♖e4: 3.♘de8 fe8:♙ 4.♙e4: ♙g6≠.

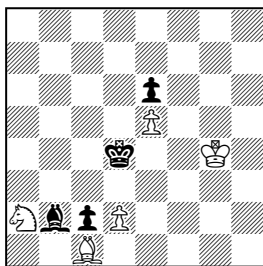
2nd Prize: No.203 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). Two round-trips without captures. a) 1... ♙d6 2.♙d4 ♙c5+ 3.♙e5: ♙b6+ 4.♙d6 ♙c7≠, b) 1... ♖a6 2.♙b4 ♖b6+ 3.♙a5 ♖b5+ 4.♙a6 ♖a5≠.

Chris Feather
1.HM Mat Plus 1996



h#3 211111 3+7

György Sunyog
2.HM Mat Plus 1996



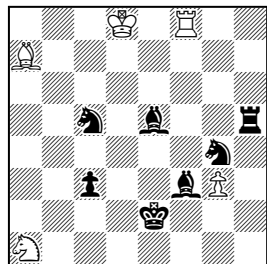
h#3 311111 5+4

1st Hon. Mention: No.181 by **Chris Feather** (Great Britain). Annihilation with switchback and model mates. 1.♙f3 ♖d2: 2.f4 ♖g2 3.♙e3 ♙c6≠, 1.♙e5 ♙b5: 2.♙f6 ♙e8 3.♖c5 ♖g6≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.245 by **György Sunyog** (Yugoslavia). Complete cycle of white moves (ABC-BCA-CAB) with model mates in very economical presentation. 1.♙d5 ♙b2: 2.c1♖ d3 3.♖c5 ♘b4≠, 1.♙c4 ♘b4 2.♙d4 ♙b2 3.♙e3 d3≠, 1.♙a3 d3 2.♙d6 ♘b4 3.♙e5: ♙b2≠.

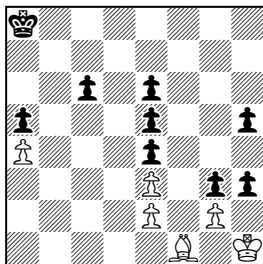
Commendations (without order):

Svetislav Janićijević
Com. Mat Plus 1996



h#3 b) ♘a1→h3 5+7

György Bakcsi & László Zoltán
Com. Mat Plus 1996



h#8 6+9

No.201 by **Svetislav Janićijević** (Yugoslavia). Double Cheney-Loyd combination with double gate openings and self-blocks. a) 1.♘d3 ♙g1 2.♙e4 ♖f2+ 3.♙e3 ♘c2≠, b) 1.♙g2 ♖f1 2.♙e4 ♙f2 3.♙f3 ♘g1≠.

No. 204 by **György Bakcsi & László Zoltán** (Hungary). An 8-mover with an unexpected play, 1.hg2+ ♙g1 2.gf1♖+ ♙g2 3.♖b1 ♙h3 4.♖b5 ab5 5.g2 bc6 6.g1♖ c7 7.♖b1 e8♗+ 8.♖b8 ♗a6≠.

Zrenjanin, June 2006
Borislav Gadanski

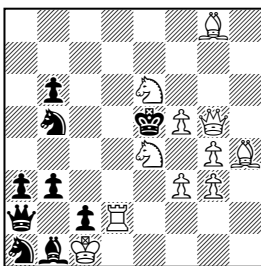
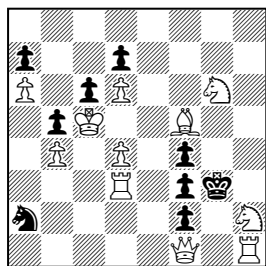
SELFMATES 1996

Judge: Živko Janevski, Macedonia

In 1996 there were 10 selfmates published. Nevertheless, the level of tourney was very high. The prize-winners are the masterpieces.

Milan R. Vukcevič
1.Pr Mat Plus 1996

Miodrag Mladenović
2.Pr Mat Plus 1996



s#6 11+9 s#3' 11+9

3. ♖b5:, 1... ♘d4 2. ♘d4: b5 3. ♖b5:, 1... ♘a7!; 1. ♖e7! (~) 1... ♘c3 2. ♘c3: b5 3. ♖b5:, 1... ♘d6 2. ♘d6: b5 3. ♖b5:, 1... ♘c7 2. ♘d4+ ♘e6 3. ♖b5, 1... ♘d4 2. ♘c7+ ♘e6 3. ♖b5, 1... ♘a7 2. ♖a7: b5 3. ♖a5.

1st Prize: No. 251 by Milan R. Vukcevič (USA). A very strong presentation of double reciprocal battery creation and transformation BR/RB with white Novotny on the same square. 1. ♙e4! (~) 1... ♘b4/♘c1 2. ♖h3+! ♘h3: 3. ♖f3:+ ♘g2 4. ♖d3+ f3 5. ♙f3:+ ♘g3 6. ♙d5+ ♘d3:≠, 1... ♘c3 2. ♖g2+! ♘g2: 3. ♙f3:+ ♘g3 4. ♙e4+ f3 5. ♖f3:+ ♘g2 6. ♖d3+ ♘e4:≠.

2nd Prize: No. 187 by Miodrag Mladenović (Yugoslavia). Double reciprocal change of white moves. 1. ♖e3? (~) 1... ♘c3 2. ♘d6+ ♘e4 3. ♘b5, 1... ♘d6 2. ♘c3+ ♘e4 3. ♘b5, 1... ♘c7 2. ♘c7: b5 3. ♘b5:, 1... ♘d6 2. ♘d6: b5 3. ♘b5:, 1... ♘c7 2. ♘d4+ ♘e6 3. ♘b5, 1... ♘d4 2. ♘c7+ ♘e6 3. ♘b5, 1... ♘a7 2. ♖a7: b5 3. ♖a5.

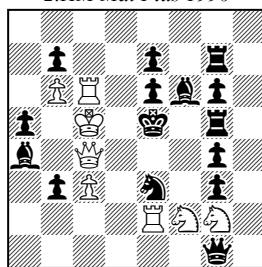
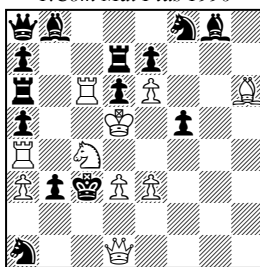
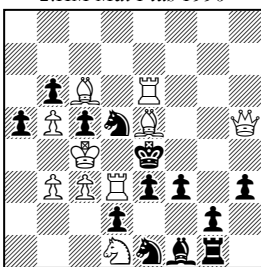
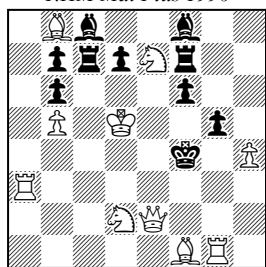
1st Hon. Mention: No. 189 by Vukota Nikoletić (Yugoslavia). Three unpinnings of BRC7. 1. ♖a2! ~ 2. ♖g4+ ♘e3 3. ♘c4+ ♖c4: 4. ♖e2+ ♘d3 5. ♖d4+ ♖d4≠, 1... d6 2. ♖a4+ ♖c4 3. ♘g6+ ♘f5 4. ♖g5+: fg5: 5. ♖e6+ ♘e6:≠, 1... f5 2. ♖h2+ ♘e3 3. ♖a3+ ♖c3 4. ♙f4+ gf4: 5. ♘f5+: ♖f5:≠.

Vukota Nikoletić
1.HM Mat Plus 1996

Vukota Nikoletić
2.HM Mat Plus 1996

Vukota Nikoletić
1.Com Mat Plus 1996

Aleksandr Pankratyev
2.HM Mat Plus 1996



s#5 10+10 s#5 10+13 s#3 10+14 s#2' 8+15

2nd Hon. Mention: No. 206 by Vukota Nikoletić (Yugoslavia). A nice combination of white battery play with pins and unpins. 1. ♖c7! ~ 2. ♖h4+ ♘f5 3. ♙d7+ ♘g6 4. ♙e8+ ♘f5 5. ♘e3+ ♘e3:≠, 1... e2 2. ♖d4+ cd4 3. ♘f2+ ♘e3 4. ♙g3+ ♘e7: 5. ♘d1+ cd1~≠, 1... f2 2. ♙f6+ ♘f4 3. ♖g5+ ♘f3 4. ♙d5:+ ♘e2 5. ♖d2+ ♘d2:≠.

1st Commend: No. 188 by Vukota Nikoletić (Yugoslavia). Five strategically rich but not quite corresponding full lines. 1. ♖e2! ~ 2. ♘b2+ ♖c6: 3. ♖c4+ ♖c4:≠, 1... ♖b7 2. ♘d6:+ ♖c6: 3. ♘b5+ ♖b5:≠, 1... ♖c6: 2. ♖b2+ ♘d3: 3. ♘e5+ de5≠, 1... b2 2. ♘d2+ ♖c6: 3. ♖c4+ ♖c4:≠, 1... ♘c2 2. ♙g7+ ♘d4 3. ♘b6+ ♖c6:≠.

2nd Commend: No. 185 by Aleksandr Pankratyev (Russia). Cyclic pseudo Le Grand in known mechanism. 1. ♖c7? (2. ♖e6:+) ♖g2: 2. ♖f4+, 1... ♙d7!; 1. ♘e1? (2. ♖f4+) ♖f2: 2. ♖e4+, 1... ♖f5!; 1. ♘d1! (2. ♖e4+) ♙c6: 2. ♖e6:+, 1... ♖g2: 2. ♖f4 ♘f4≠.

Gevgelija, 26.10.1997
Živko Janevski
International judge of FIDE

TWOMOVERS 1997

Judge: Paz Einat, Israel

Judging the mate-in-two section of MAT PLUS is an unusual task. When the identity of all composers is known and thorough comments are published alongside the problems the assessment and grading of the problems must be done with great care. This notion was only strengthened when I found myself confronted with such a high number of excellent compositions among the 41 originals published in 1997. In evaluating the problems my basic criteria were artistic value and originality and then the technique, construction, and new ways of expression. The top nine problems are of high standard and the overall grading as well as distinction between prizes and honorable mentions was not trivial and thus depends more on personal taste. Problem No.261 by Milan Vukcevic that was intended to get the 4th HM was found to be anticipated (I thank Milan Velimirovic for bringing it to my attention) by O. Stocchi (diagram [i] at end of this award).

1st Prize: No.369 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). The most original problem I have seen in recent years, let alone in this award. The White Knight on e5 is the focal point of four batteries, each directed at one of the four BK flights. The four threats are “Fleckly” separated in a precise and varied manner. Four additional variations invite WSe5 into the four places it had not visited and complete a white-knight-wheel. An original and artistically appealing concept convincingly executed. Points that would have been regarded as critical flaws, like the un-provided flights, are irrelevant here. 1.♙d4! ~ 2.♗ec4;/♗f3/♗g4/♗c6:≠, 1... ♗d5,♗d6:, ♗e7, cd4 2.♗f3,♗c4:;♗c6:;♗g4≠, 1... ♗f6,♗d3:;♗f7:;♗g6: 2.♗d7:;♗d3:;♗ef7:;♗g6:≠, (1... ♗b3: 2.♗ec4:≠).

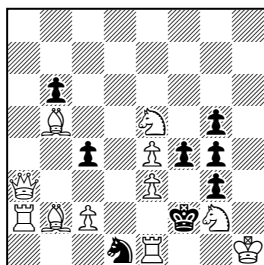
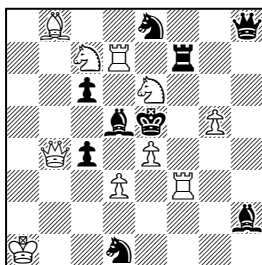
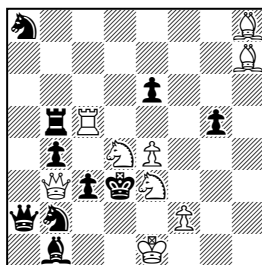
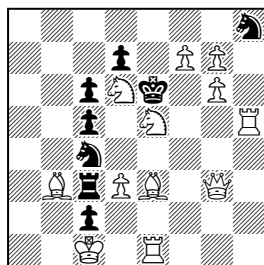
2nd Prize: No.310 by **Victor Cepizhny** (Russia). A “Banny” full of inspiration. The try play centers around BPe6 with the mate 2.Se6≠ being transferred using the batteries which are formed and realized as the actual key. Though the solutions comes as somewhat of an anti-climax the harmony and completeness of the three phases makes the problem worthy of its high place. 1.♙d5? ~ 2.e5≠, 1... e5,♙a7 2.♗b3,♗c6:≠, 1... ♗b7!; 1.♗d5? ~ 2.e5≠, 1... e5,♗b7 2.♗b5:;♗c6:≠, 1... ♙a7!; 1.♗e6! ~ 2.e5≠, 1... ♗b7,♙a7 2.♗d5,♙d5≠.

Milan Velimirović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Victor Cepizhny
2.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Marjan Kovačević
3.Pr Mat Plus 1997

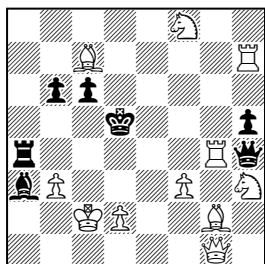
Mihailo Stojnić
4.Pr Mat Plus 1997



3rd Prize: No.363 by **Marjan Kovačević** (Yugoslavia). Like many other Lacny problems “differential pinning” is used as an anchor for the mechanism. The rest, however, makes up an original “threat Lacny”. In each phase one of the White Rooks gives up a double guard on two squares and provides a double guard on a third square, allowing the threat. The harmony stemming from switching of the defensive motifs from one side of the BK to the other side, the use of the WBb8/WSe7 battery, the inclusion of an additional mate change, and the good construction are the ingredients of a memorable composition. 1.♗e7? ~ 2.♗e8:≠, 1... ♗e4: 2.d4≠, 1... ♗c6: 2.♙c5≠ (1... ♗e7:;♗c7: 2.♗f5,♗c7:≠) 1... ♗d6!; (1.♙c5? ♗g1!); 1.♗c3! ~ 2.d4≠, 1... ♗e4: 2.♙c5≠, 1... ♗e6: 2.♗e8:≠ (1... ♗e3:;cd3,c5,♗c7: 2.♙c3,♙d4,♗d5:;♙d6≠).

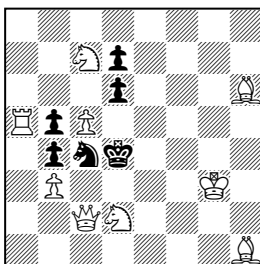
4th Prize: No.259 by **Mihailo Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). The first acceptable realization of ideal “Vladimirov”. The other problems, No.3 and 4 in Milan’s article in *MatPlus* No.15, suffer from serious flaws. The genuine mechanism uses blocks on c3 by both black and white in the tries to prevent the move 2.Bd4. The key build up two batteries that are differentially used according to the play by BSd1. I can only join the enthusiasm expressed in the comments along the solution in MAT PLUS and complement the composer for this achievement. 1.ef4?(A) ~ 2.♗g4:≠, 1... ♗c3!(a), 1... ♗e3 2.♙e3:≠; 1.c3?(B) (~), 1... ♗e3:!(b), 1... ♗c3: 2.♗c3:≠; 1.♗d4! (~) 1... ♗c3(a) 2.ef4≠(A), 1... ♗e3:(b) 2.c3≠(B), (1... c3,fe3,f3 2.♗f1,♙f8,♗g4:≠).

Milan R. Vukcevic
5.Pr Mat Plus 1997



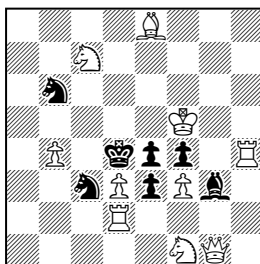
#2* 11+7 #2*

Miodrag Mladenović
1.HM Mat Plus 1997



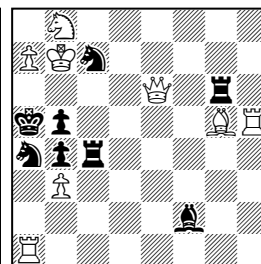
#2* 9+6 #2

Miodrag Mladenović
2.HM Mat Plus 1997



#2 10+7 #2

Aaron Hirschenson
3.HM Mat Plus 1997



#2 8+8

5th Prize: No.258 by Milan Vukcevic (USA). A mate transference task accomplished in a good open setting. Mates are provided for all of the six BQ defenses on the a4-h4 line with a good mate arranged for 1... Qb4:. The other five mates are transferred from the five set mates following the BRa4 moves from c4 to g4. Compared to its predecessors by the same composer and van Dijk the problem offers not only more quantity but also distinct quality and probably the ideal presentation of the scheme. WPF6 should be added as suggested by Miodrag Mladenovic. *1... ♖c4+, ♗d4, ♖c4, ♗f4, ♗g4: 2.b4, ♗d4:, ♖c4, ♗f4:, ♖g4#: 1. ♖b4! ~ 2.f4/♗d7#, 1... ♖b4:, ♗b4:, ♗b4: 2. ♗d7, ♖4, ♖h5#: and now, five-fold Rukhlis: 1... ♗c4+, ♗d4, ♗c4, ♗f4, ♗g4 2.b4, ♗d4:, ♖c4, ♗f4:, ♖g4#.

1st Hon. Mention: No.254 by Miodrag Mladenović (USA). Most elements in this excellent “Black Correction” ideal Ruchlis are known including the mate transference based on the BK flights and the key that unguards two squares (c6 and e6) and guards two squares (b6 and f6). However, combining all this with a convincing black correction play in an ideal setting makes a remarkable achievement. The main criticism is on the role of WSD2 that is used only to provide the set mate 1... S~ 2.Sf3#. A thorough analysis reveals the difficulties faced by the composer and makes WSD2 understandable but a flaw non-the-less. An additional flaw is the set dual 1... Se3 2.Bg7/Sf3#. 1... ♖e5, ♖c5: 2. ♗g7, ♗e3#: 1... ♗~, ♗e5! 2. ♗f3, ♗b5#: 1. ♗d5! (~) 1... ♗~, ♗e5! 2. ♗g7, ♗e3#, 1... ♖e5, ♖c5: 2. ♗c4:, ♗e4#.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.308 by Miodrag Mladenović (USA). An impressive 5-fold cycle of Black positive – negative defensive effects. The mechanism seems to rely initially on the defenses by the BS’s with the addition of two other defenses to close the cycle. The use of the “escape from/exposure to WP capture” effect is a surprising addition to the scope of effects. The only weak point in this problem is the key, with WRd2 at d1 and WBe8 at g8 the key 1.Rd2! is much better. 1. ♗f7! (2.de4:#), 1... ♗b5 (Ab) 2. ♗e6#, 1... ♗c~ (Bc) 2. ♗b5#, 1... ♗c4 (Cd) 2.de4:#, 1... cf3: (De) 2. ♗c3:#, 1... ♗f2 (Ea) 2. ♗g7# (A/a = closing / opening of white line, B/b = unblock / self-block, C/c = guard / unguard, D/d = escape from / expose to WP, E/e = unpin / pin of black man).

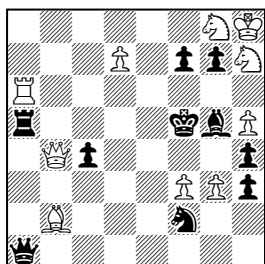
3rd Hon. Mention: No.307 by Aaron Hirschenson (Israel). A new twist into the LLP form of cyclic permutations (as classified by Milan Velimirovic) executed with grace and lightness. The complex mate interchange between the phases, complemented by the Grimshaw on c5, is refreshing and the problem can stand alongside other problems of its class. 1. ♗e3? ~ 2. ♖a4:#, 1... ♗d5, ♗g6, ♖c5! 2.a8♗, ♗b6,? #: 1. ♗f6? ~ 2. ♖a4:#, 1... ♗d5, ♗g5!, ♖c5 2. ♗a6,?, ♗b6#: 1. ♗d8! ~ 2. ♖a4:#, 1... ♖c5, ♗g5,(♗d5?) 2.a8♗, ♗a6# (1... ♗c5 2. ♗c6#).

1st Com.: No.260: by Zoran Nikolić (Yugoslavia). The 5 changed mates featured in this problem involve the replacement of the 3 WQ try mates on e4, e5, and e6 by more interesting mates in the solution and a nice mate change on a5. Inherent duals exist after 1... Bf4/Be7 in the solution. 1. ♗e7? ~ 2. ♗g5:#, 1... ♗c1, ♖a6:, ♗e4, ♖6, ♗d2/♗f4 2. ♖a5:, ♗c5, ♗c4:, ♗c6, ♗f7:#, 1... ♗f6!; 1. ♗d2! ~ 2. ♗g5:#, 1... ♗c1, ♖a6:, ♗e4, ♖6/♗d2:, ♗f6 2. ♖a5:, ♗d5, ♖4, ♗e7, ♗f4#.

2nd Com.: “U” pp107 No.15 by Dragan Stojnić (Yugoslavia). I find this Zagoruiko miniature different enough from its two predecessors and worth a place in the award. The main difference stems from black-correction feature that is used also for the try refutations. In comparison, the Subotic problem (diagram [ii]) show a 4x2 Zagoruiko but with the same refutation for all tries and the Nestorescu problem (diagram [iii]) uses a nice pin mate but do not have the black-correction feature. 1. ♗g1? (~) 1... ♖a2, ♗a2 2. ♗a7, ♗d4#, 1... ♗d3!; 1. ♗h4? (~) 1... ♖a2, ♗a2 2. ♗a4, ♗d4#, 1... ♗e4!; 1. ♗h8? (~) 1... ♖a2, ♗a2 2. ♗a8, e6#, 1... ♗d3!; 1. ♗e1! (~) 1... ♖a2, ♗a2 2. ♗a5, ♗c3#.

Zoran Nikolić

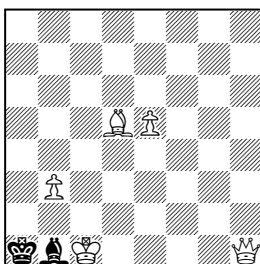
1. Com Mat Plus 1997



#2 10+10

Dragan Stojnić

2. Com Mat Plus 1997

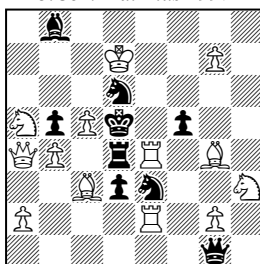


#2 5+2

Miodrag Radomirović

after H. Bartolović

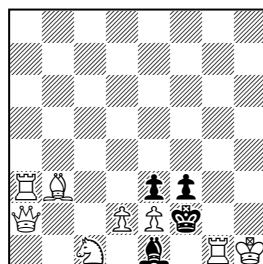
3. Com Mat Plus 1997



#2 13+9

Dragan Stojnić

2. Com Mat Plus 1997



#2 8+4

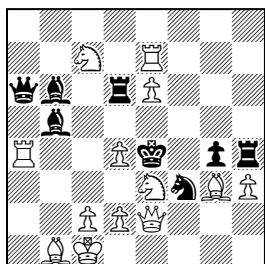
3rd Com.: No.263 by Miodrag Radomirović (Yugoslavia). An attempt at a face lift for the Bartolovic task of 7 blocks on two flights. The superior key, mates on BK moves, and lighter position are worth of attention. However, the price is the abandonment of the more interesting battery mates and the unpleasant symmetry of play after the BP's and BSd6 defences. 1.♖c4! ~ 2.♞d4:≠, 1... ♞c4:, ♖c4:, ♖dc4:, bc4 2.♞c5, ♖f4, ♞a8, ♞c6≠, 1... ♞c4:, fe4, ♖c4: 2.♖b6, ♖c6, g8♞/♖≠, 1... ♖c4:, ♖c4:, ♖c~ 2.♞b3, ♖f3, ♖b6≠; (1.♖c6? ♞c4:!)

4rd Com.: "P" pp107 No.15 by Dragan Stojnić (Yugoslavia). The duct of Bristol tries: 1.Ra8? and 1.Bg8? earns this Meredith Zagoruiko problem a place in the award. 1.♞a1? (~) 1... ed2, fe2 2.♞d4, ♞f6≠, 1... ♖d2:!: 1.♞c2? (~) 1... ed2, fe2 2.♞c5, ♞f5≠, 1... ♖d2:!: 1.♞a8? (~) 1... ed2, fe2 2.♞a7, ♞f8≠, 1... ♖d2:!: 1.♖d5? (~) 1... ed2, fe2 2.♞f3:, ♖d3≠, 1... ♖d2:!: 1.d4? ~ 2.♖d3≠. 1... fe2 2.♞e2:≠, 1... ♖d2!: 1.♖d1! ~ 2.♖d3≠, 1... ed2, fe2 2.♞f3:, ♞f7≠

Paz Einat, Israel

[i] Ottavio Stocchi

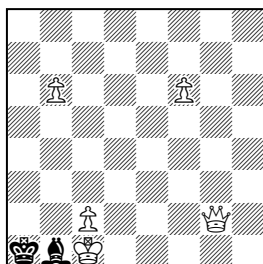
Gazette de Liege 1931



#2 13+8

1.♞f7

[ii] Miroslav Subotić



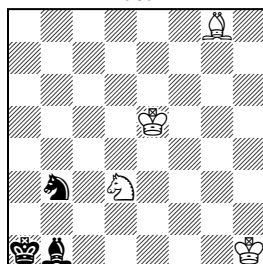
#2 5+2

1.♞g7?/♞g5?/♞g4? ♖c2!
1.♞f3!

[iii] Virgil Nestorescu

Sp.HM Shakhmaty v SSSR

1959



#2 4+3

1.♖d6?/♞e1? ♖d4!/♖d2!
1.♞g1!

THREEMOVERS 1997

Judge: Darko Šaljić

First of all, I am grateful for the honour to be a judge in one of a top-class tournaments of my favourite magazine. A careful study and analysis of 22 threemovers published during 1997 gave me a great pleasure. The quality of 10 ranked problems is very high. The only doubts I had was the order of three top prizes, since for a long time none of possible orders appeared less justified than the one decided by "photo-finish":

1st Prize: No.267 by **Miodrag Mladenović** (Yugoslavia). An ingenious mechanism of reciprocal variations achieved with minimal possible resources, by alternate control of one out of two (distant!) squares, f5 and d3. The White Queen assumes the guard of one of two squares depending on whether black makes a remote selfblock on f3 (when Bishop mates) or that square has to be guarded by the mating move (when Knight mates). Nice key and threat, natural change after 2... ♖c6 and perfect construction make the memorable composition. 1... ♖f3: 2.♖c5+ ♖e4: 3.♙f5≠, 1... ♖f1 2.♖d6+ ♖e4: 3.♗g5:≠ (2... ♖c4 3.♙a6≠), 1... ♙d4 2.♖d4+ ♖c6 3.♖c5≠; 1.♙a6! ~ 2.♖c4:+ ♗c4: 3.♙b7≠, 1... ♖f3: 2.♖d6+ ♖e4: 3.♙d3≠, 1... ♖f1 2.♖c5+ ♖e4: 3.♗g5:≠, 1... ♙d4 2.♖d4:+ ♖c6 3.♖d6≠.

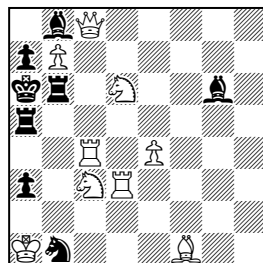
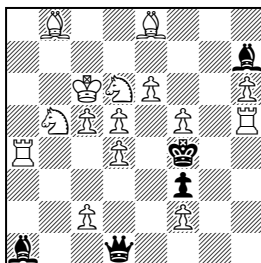
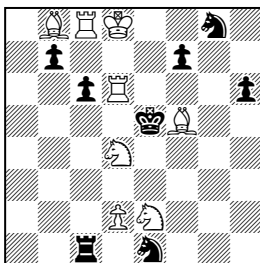
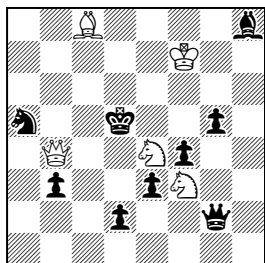
2nd Prize: No.318 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). Another exceptionally beautiful reciprocal change mechanism. Depending on the row the Black King escapes after the check by white Rössel battery, one Rook defence is utilized as remote block, while in another variation the Rook is captured. It should be underlined that play and final positions have beautiful chameleon-echo character. Fantastic key besides the switch of guard from d4 to d5, grants the flight square and excellent quiet threat. Brilliant! 1... ♖c4 2.♖e6+ ♖d5 3.♖e5≠, 1... ♖c5 2.♖dc6:+ ♖d5 3.♖c5:≠; 1.♗f4! ~ 2.♗h5! ~ 3.♖d7≠, 1... ♖c4 2.♖dc6:+ ♖d4 3.♖c4:≠, 1... ♖c5 2.♖e6+ ♖d4 3.♖e4≠, (1... ♗e7 2.♖e7: ♖f4: 3.♖g6≠), (1... c5,♙a1 2.♖e6+,♖dc6:+).

Miodrag Mladenović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Milan Velimirović
2.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Milan R. Vukcevič
3.Pr Mat Plus 1997

**Robin C. O. Matthews &
John M. Rice**
4.Pr Mat Plus 1997



≠3*

5+9

≠3*

8+8 ≠3

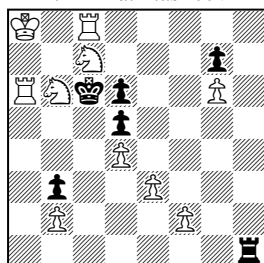
15+5 ≠3

9+8

3rd Prize: No.269 by **Milan R. Vukcevič** (USA). This exceptionally inspired threemover is the most original achievement of tourney. In two variations black self-pins in the spirit of Schiffman defence. White, paradoxically, immediately unpins the black piece and, utilizing the annihilation of the Black Pawn d4, creates new battery. Then play branches into three sub-variations, two of which are King's flights, while the remaining one is the defence by the just unpinned piece resulting with shut-off mate. Somebody "spoiled" by helpmates may point out a slight disharmony since one out of six mates is delivered by the Knight b5 instead of the Siers battery. As far as I am concerned, this very detail displays the genial creativity of the author: the Knight from the battery has to be once captured on the 4th rank, so another Knight must resume the duty of his fallen comrade! 1.♙c7! ~ 2.♖h4+ ♖g5 3.♙d8≠; 1... ♖d4: 2.♗c4+! ♖e4 3.♗d2≠, 2... ♖e5 3.♗b2≠, 2... ♖g4 3.♗e3≠; 1... ♙d4: 2.♗e4+! ♖e4: 3.♗c3≠, 2... ♙e5 3.♗d2≠, 2... ♖g4 3.♗f6≠; 1... ♙f5: 2.♗f5:+ ♖e4, ♖g4 3.♗g3, ♗e3≠, 1... ♖g4 2.♗e4 ~ 3.♗f6≠.

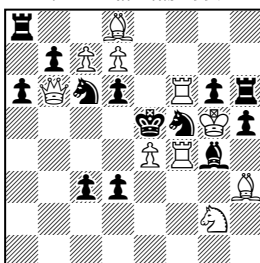
4th Prize: No.268 by **Robin C. O. Matthews & John M. Rice** (England). Very rich concept of changed variations and reciprocal white 2nd and 3rd moves in try and actual play. This is realised in splendid and compact mechanism where the location of White Knights dictates a careful and accurate white play. Strictly visual paradox in closing of halfbattery line in both first moves does not take anything from its contribution to the overall impression. The only drawback, a ruthless defeat of the try, is partly compensated by the analogous capture of another Knight in the solution (1... ♙d6): 1.♗db5? ~ 2.♗c7+ ♙c7: 3.b8♗≠, 1... ♖ab5: 2.♖a4+ ♖a5 3.♖d6≠, 1... ♖bb5: 2.♖d6+ ♖b6, ♙d6: 3.♖a4, ♖c6≠, 1... ♖c6/♖f6 2.♖c6+ ♖c6: 3.♖c6:≠, 1... ♗c3!; (1.♗d5? ♙d6!); 1.♗cb5! ~ 2.♗c7+ ♙c7: 3.b8♗≠, 1... ♖ab5: 2.♖a3:+ ♖a5, ♗a3: 3.♖c6, ♖a4≠, 1... ♖bb5: 2.♖c6+ ♖b6 3.♖a3:≠, 1... ♙d6: 2.♖d6: ~, ♖b5:, ♙d6:, ♖b5: 3.♗c7, ♖d4, b8♖, ♖a4≠.

Srećko Radović
1.HM Mat Plus 1997



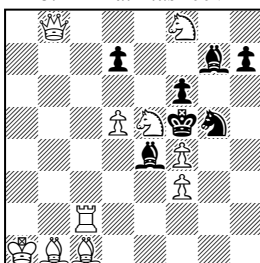
#3... 10+6 #3

Mircea Manolescu
2.HM Mat Plus 1997



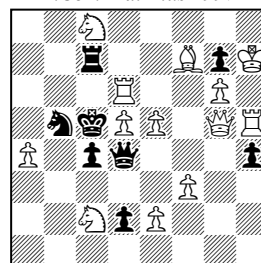
10+13 #3

John M. Rice
3.HM Mat Plus 1997



10+7 #3

John M. Rice
1.Com Mat Plus 1997



13+8

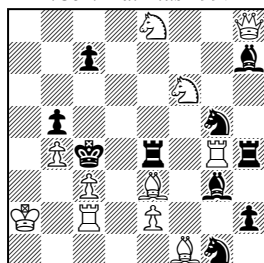
1st Hon. Mention: No.371 by Srećko Radović (Yugoslavia). First pair of premature white attempts with short threats the Black Rooks easily defeats by direct guards. Second, slightly smarter pair of attempts by WK introduces the threats by the moves from the first pair, but they are defeated by the same black defences, but this time stalemate is the motivation. Finally, White must try to utilize the focal position of BR by means of zugzwang, but even then he must carefully avoid the last obstacle (1.f3? ♖h4!) and close the fourth rank in advance. Very nice! 1.♖a5? ♖h8!; 1.♖d8? ♖a1!; 1.♖a7? ~ 2.♖a5, 1... ♖a1! 2.♖a1:?!=; 1.♖b8? ~ 2.♖d8, 1... ♖h8! 2.♖h8:?!=; 1.f3? (~), 1... ♖h4! 2.♖d8 ♖d4!; 1.f4! (~) 1... ♖~1 2.♖a5! ~, ♖b6: 3.♖cd5; ♖a6#, 1... ♖~h 2.♖d8! ~, ♖c7: 3.♖bd5; ♖c8#, 1... ♖a1 2.♖a1; 1... h8 2.♖h8:.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.323 by Mircea Manolescu (Romania). A clear, harmonious and original system, nice and accurate play which ends by the pair of transferred mates and a very good sacrificial key make a strong impression. 1.♖e7! ~ 2.♖d6:+ ♖d6: 3.♖c5#, 1... ♖fe7: 2.♖e1 ~ 3.♖d3:#, 2... ♖e2, ♖b4 3.♖e6, ♖d6:#, 1... ♖ce7: 2.♖e3 ~ 3.♖c4#, 2... d5, ♖e3: 3.♖e6, ♖d6:#, (1... d5 2.ef5 d4 3.♖c5#).

3rd Hon. Mention: No. 323 by John M. Rice (England). Harmonious threemover, the originality of which is provided by two sub-variations after 2... ♖e4. As one of commentators mentioned, it is a pity that 3.♖d7# does not utilize the pin of the BS. Otherwise, the problem would have deserved a much better ranking. 1.♖e8! ~ 2.♖d7:+ ♖e6 3.♖e6:#, 1... ♖f3: 2.♖f2+ ♖e4 3.fg5#, 2... ♖e4 3.♖d7:#; 1... ♖d5: 2.♖c5+ ♖e4 3.♖ed7:#, 2... ♖e4 3.♖h5#, 1... ♖e6 2.♖h5+ ♖g5 3.♖g4#; 1... fe5 2.♖d7:+ ♖f6 3.fg5#.

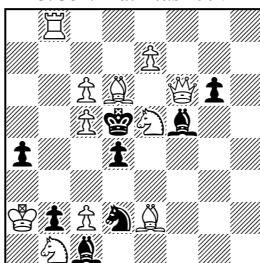
1st Com.: No.319 by John M. Rice (England). An eventful and strategically rich problem. The choice of white second move is skilfully determined and, as in preceding problem, two sub-variations are nicely introduced, this time with a changed mate. The impression spoiled by slightly overcrowded position cannot be adequately improved by non-thematic by-variations. 1.♖a6! ~ 2.♖e7+ ♖e7: 3.♖c6#, 2... ♖d6 3.♖a5#; 1... ♖d5: 2.♖e3+ ♖d4 3.e6#, 2... ♖d4 3.♖a3#; 1... ♖e5: 2.♖g1+ ♖d4/♖e3 3.d6#, 2... ♖d4 3.♖a5#; 1... ♖f7: 2.♖c6+ ♖d5: 3.♖b4#; 1... ♖d6/♖a7 2.♖a5+ ♖b5 3.♖b5#; 1... c3 2.♖e7+ ♖c4 3.♖b4#.

Zoran Gavrilovski
2.Com Mat Plus 1997



#3... 11+10

Mirko Marković
3.Com Mat Plus 1997



#3... 11+8

2nd Com.: No. 321 by Zoran Gavrilovski (Macedonia) - *In memory of Robert C. McWilliam*. Not too ambitious, but by all other means interesting combination of WB corrections in two tries and the solution and corrective Schiffman-like defences by the BR. 1.♖e~? ♖d4!; 1.♖c5!? ♖f4!; 1.♖d2! ~ 2.e3+ ♖e2 3.♖e2:#; 1... ♖d4 2.♖g8+ ♖g8: 3.cd4#, 2... ♖e6/♖f7 3.♖g~:#; 1... ♖f4 2.♖d6+ cd6 3.♖c8#; (1... ♖eg4: 2.e4+ ♖e2 3.♖e2:#).

3rd Com.: No.320 by Mirko Marković (Yugoslavia). In the “sea” of variations which spread across three phases, those with Queen and Bishop sacrifices in the solution should be emphasized. Author deserves credits for constructional skill, not

only for keeping away possible duals, but also for the good key which grants a flight square to the Black King. 1.♖d3? (~) 1... ♖~♖e4 2.♖f7+, 1... ♖~ 2.e8♖, 1... ♖d3: 2.cd3, 1... ♖d7 2.cd7, 1... g5 2.♖f5!; 1... a3!; 1.♖d3? ~ 2.♖f4+(♖b4+), 1... ♖e4 2.♖c3+, 1... ♖c4 2.♖b4+, 1... ♖c6: 2.♖b4+, 1... ♖d3: 2.♖e5+, 1... ♖d7 2.♖e5+, 1... g5 2.♖f5:+, 1... ♖c4 2.♖f3+, 1... ♖f3!; 1.♖g4! ~ 2.♖e5+, 1... ♖f3 2.♖f7+, 1... d3 2.♖c3+, 1... ♖c4 2.♖e6+, 1... ♖c6: 2.♖b5+, 1... ♖e6 2.♖c4+.

Beograd, 26.05.2006,
Darko Šaljić

MOREMOVERS 1997

Judge: Joza Tucakov

In total there were 18 problems published in issues 13–14, 15 and 16. The length of problems is in range 4–16 moves, the achievements are interesting with good variety in contents and themes. The order of rewarded problems is as follows:

1st Prize: No.272 by **Milovan Belić & Borislav Stojanović** (Yugoslavia). A miniature with only five men deserves the highest placing for the richness if its contents: the Black King has 4 flights, each of 4 variations branches to sub-variations on second move making the total of 14 different mates. 1. ♖a3! ♜e6 2. ♗a2+ ♜f6 3. ♜f8+ ♜e5, ♜g6 4. ♜f4, ♗b1≠, 2... ♜e5 3. ♜c5+ ♜f6, ♜e4 4. ♜g5, ♗b1≠; 1... ♜c4 2. ♗d7 ♜b5 3. ♜c5+ ♜a6, ♜a4 4. ♜b6, ♗c2≠, 2... ♜d5 3. ♜a6 ♜d4 4. ♜d3≠; 1... ♜e5 2. ♗d7+ ♜e6 3. ♗f5+ ♜f7, ♜d5 4. ♜f8, ♜c5≠, 2... ♜d5 3. ♜a6 ♜d4 4. ♜d3≠; 1... ♜d4 2. ♗c6+ ♜d5 3. ♗e4+ ♜e4, ♜e6, ♜c4 4. ♜f3, ♜e7, ♜b4≠, 2... ♜c4 3. ♜a5 ♜b3 4. ♜b4≠.

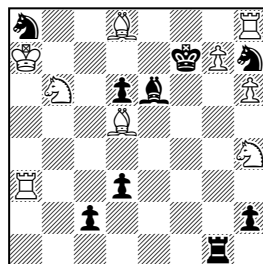
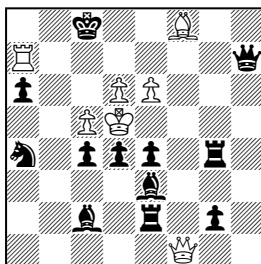
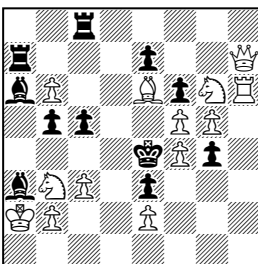
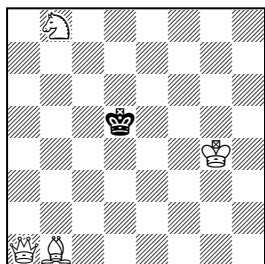
2nd Prize: No.274 by **Mirko Marković** (Yugoslavia). Bristol clearance: “short” in threat and “extended” in main line, with two additional and significant variations. 1. ♖h1! ~ 2. ♜h2 ~ 3. ♜g2≠, 1... b4 2. ♖a1! ♗e2: 3. ♜h1+ ♜d3/♗f3 4. ♜b1≠, 1... ♖c6 2. ♖f1 ♖c6: 3. ♜h1+ ♜f5: 4. ♗h4≠, 1... c4 2. ♖d1 cb3+ 3. ♜b1, 1... ♖h8 2. ba3 ♖c7 3. bc7.

Milovan Belić & Borislav Stojanović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Mirko Marković
2.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Marko Klasinc
3.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Hans Peter Rehm
4.Pr Mat Plus 1997



≠4

4+1 ≠4

13+11 ≠9

7+12 ≠5

9+9

3rd Prize: No.329 by **Marko Klasinc** (Slovenia). Two full-length variations (9 moves) are characterized by the exactness and accuracy of the play, with sacrifices of the White Rook, Bishop and promoted Queen. 1. ♜c6! (2. ♖a8≠) ♗b6 2. ♖a8+ ♗a8: 3. d7+ ♜b8 4. ♗d6+ ♜a7 5. ♗b8! (5. d8♜?) ♜b8: 6. d8♜+ ♜a7 7. ♜b6+ ♗b6: 8. cb6+ ♜a8/♜b8 9. ♜f8≠; 1... ♜b8 2. ♖h7: (3. ♜f7) ♗c5: 3. ♜b1+ ♜a8 4. ♖a7+! (4. ♜b6?) ♜a7: 5. ♜b6+ ♜a8 6. ♜c7 (7. ♜b8≠) ♖g7+ 7. ♗g7: ♗e6+ 8. ♜c8 ♗c5 9. ♜b8≠.

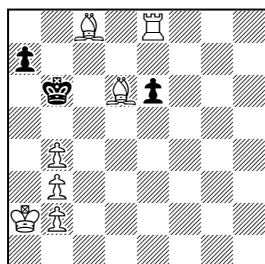
4th Prize: No.377 by **Hans Peter Rehm** (Germany). Well executed “Lepushütz” theme where White, instead of removal of the King, uses the chance to by intercepting the check perform a paracritical manoeuvre with the Bishop, so that black will loose the possibility of capturing it. 1. ♗c4? ♗xd5! 2. ♗e5+ dxe5; 1. ♗a2? too slow, hence 1. ♖a1 (thr. 2. ♖f1+) ♖xa1+ 2. ♗a2! ♖g1! (2... ♖xa2+? 3. ♜b8) 3. ♗c4 (thr. ♗xd6≠) ♗d5 4. ♗e5+! dxe5 5. ♗xd5, 4... ♜e6 5. ♖e8≠ If 1...c1♜ then 2. ♖xc1 ♗xd5 3. ♖f1+ etc.

1st Hon. Mention: No.375 by **Borislav Stojanović** (Yugoslavia). Three completely different lines make this problem very interesting, with hidden role of the Pawn b2, sacrificial key and 7 different mates. 1. ♗a6! e5(~) 2. b5 e4 3. b4 e3 4. ♖b8≠, 2... ♜a5 3. b4+ ♜a4 4. b3≠; 1... ♜c6 2. ♗f4 ♜d5 3. ♗b7+ ♜d4 4. ♖d8≠, 2... e5 3. ♗e5: ♜d5, ♜b6, ♜d7 4. ♗b7, ♖e6, ♗b5≠; 1... ♜a6: 2. ♖b8 e5 3. ♗c7 e4 4. b5≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.326 by **John M. Rice** (England). Interesting (though symmetric) clearance of the 5th rank in order to make the battery active, with two additional variations and good key move. 1. ♜e8! ~ 2. ♜h3+ ♜g6 3. ♗f8+ ♜g7 4. ♜h7≠, 2... g4 3. ♜g5, 1... ♗e5: 2. ♗d6+ ♗d6: 3. ♗e6+ ♜e6: 4. ♜g4≠, 1... ♜e5: 2. ♗d4+ ♜d4: 3. ♗e4+ ♜e4: 4. ♜h1≠, (1... e3 2. ♗f3 (~ 3. ♜h7) ♜h1 3. ♗d4≠), 1... ♗b5: 2. ♜h3+ ♜g6 3. ♗e4+ ♜g7 4. ♜h7≠, 1... ed5 2. ♜h3+ g4 3. ♜h5+.

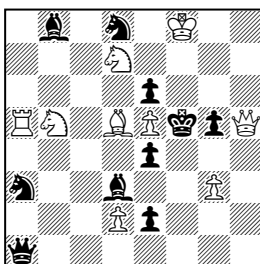
3rd Hon. Mention: No.279 by **Borislav Stojanović** (Yugoslavia) & **Aleksandr Chistyakov** (Russia). Multiple Indian which after the Rook sacrifice transforms to zugzwang. 1. ♗a1! a4 2. ♖b2 ♜f6 3. ♖b6+ ♜g6 4. ♜b2 ♜f6 5. ♜c2+ ♜g6 6. ♜c3 ♜f6 7. ♜d3+ ♜g6 8. ♗d5 ♜f5 9. e4+ ♜g6 10. ♖d6! ed6 11. c6! ♗e7 12. ♗c7:≠.

Borislav Stojanović
1.HM Mat Plus 1997



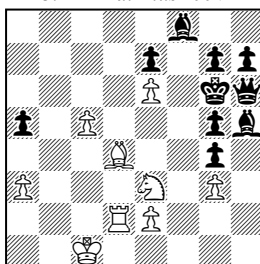
#4 7+3 #4

John M. Rice
2.HM Mat Plus 1997



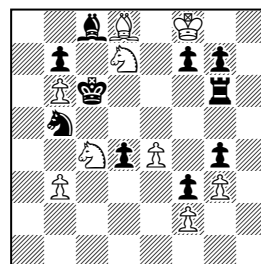
#4 9+10 #12

Borislav Stojanović & Aleksandr Chistyakov
3.HM Mat Plus 1997



#14 9+10

Aleksandr Pankratyev
4.HM Mat Plus 1997



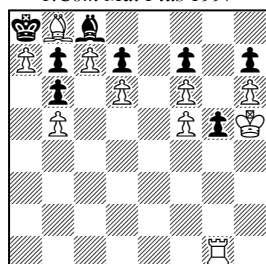
#14 9+10

4th Hon. Mention: No.280 by Aleksandr Pankratyev (Russia). Interesting half-wheel of the Knight clears the way for the most distant Pawn to mate. 1.♖de5+ ♕c5 2.♖d3+ ♕c6 3.♖ce5+ ♕d6 4.♖e7+ ♕e6 5.♖f7: ♕d7 6.♖fe5+ ♕e6 7.♖g6: ♕f7 8.♖ge5+ ♕e6 9.♖g4: ♕d7 10.♖ge5+ ♕e6 11.♖f3: ♕d7 12.♖fe5+ ♕e6 13.♖c5+ ♕e5: 14.f4#.

1st Com.: No.330 by Tomislav Petrović & Radovan Tomašević (Yugoslavia). Length record for en passant key (16 moves) with three Knight promotions. 1.fg6(ep)! hg6+ 2.♖g4 g5 3.♖f5 g4 4.h7 g3 5.h8♖ g2 6.♖g6 fg6+ 7.♖e5 g5 8.f7 g4 9.f8♖ g3 10.♖e6 de6 11.♖f6 ~ 12.♖e7 ~ 13.d7 ♖d7: 14.♖d7: ~ 15.c8♖ ~ 16.♖b6#.

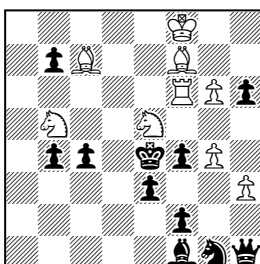
2nd Com.: No.327 by Arieh Grinblat (Israel). Good content where White sacrifices are used to bring the Black King to battery lines. 1.♖f5! ~ 2.♖b6 ~ 3.♖d6#; 1... ♖f3 2.♖d5+ ♕d5: 3.♖d7+ ♕e4 4.♖c5#, 1... ♖f3 2.♖f4:+ ♕f4: 3.♖d3+ ♕e4 4.♖c5#.

Tomislav Petrović & Radovan Tomašević
1.Com Mat Plus 1997



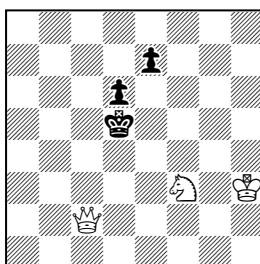
#16 10+8 #4

Arieh Grinblat
2.Com Mat Plus 1997



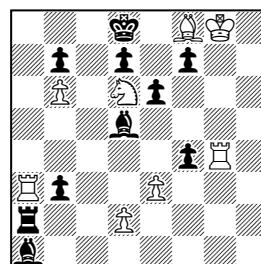
#4 9+11 #5

Yury Sushkov
3.Com Mat Plus 1997



#5 3+3 #5

Borislav Stojanović
4.Com Mat Plus 1997



#5 8+10

3rd Com.: No.277 by Yury Sushkov (Russia). Among several similar problems with play of the Black Pawn from initial square this one is the longest and contains two different lines (though after a weak key move). 1.♖g4! e5 2.♖f5 e4 3.♖d2 ♕d4 4.♖f4 d5 5.♖b3#, 1... e6 2.♖c3! e5 3.♖f5 e4 4.♖d2 e3 5.♖c4#.

4th Com.: No.376 by Borislav Stojanović (Yugoslavia). Although there are seven defenses by the Black Bishop, everything is deduced to the same or similar method to deliver the mate. 1.♖g1! ~ 2.♖a1: ~ 3.♖a8+, 1... ♖b2 2.♖c1 ♖c1: 3.♖f7: e5+ 4.♖f6, 1... ♖c3 2.♖f7: e5+ 3.♖f6 e4+ 4.♖c3:; 1... ♖d4 2.ed4 etc., 1... ♖e5 2.♖f7: ♖d6: 3.♖e7+ ♖e7: 4.♖g8+, 1... ♖f6 2.♖f7: ♖h4 3.♖e7+, 1... ♖h8 2.♖c1 etc., (1... ♖g7 2.♖g7: and mate in 4).

Belgrade, July 2006
Joza Tucakov

HELPMATES 1997

Judge: Marjan Kovčević

There were 70 original helpmates published in 1997, seven h≠n out of them in the magnificent article by the late master Gabor Cseh “Sacrifices of promoted white pieces in helpmate”. The quality of problems was too good not to divide them in at least two groups, regarding their length. I separated 37 h≠2 from the 33 h≠>2 (the way problems were grouped in the Internet edition of Mat Plus). Such a division was good for the twomovers and less good for threemovers, the best of which turned to be overshadowed by some excellent moremovers.

I would like to thank the expert readers of both paper and Internet edition of the Mat Plus (especially to Mario Parrinello) for useful comments and technical remarks, and to apologize myself for keeping this award for too long time.

HELPMATE TWOMOVERS

Being far from a helpmate expert, I created the list of my favorites according to the excitement of content and up to my personal view of harmony (which regards unconnected twins as the much inferior form of content unification).

1st Prize: No.344 by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). Her Majesty dances with her King around the three mating squares. In the same time, the three white pieces, two Rooks and the Bishop, cyclically change their functions to allow their Queen to make the final shots. One may ask for a better position or for more harmony in some small details, but only until trying himself to find it. The main content, with cycle of fields (d5,e4,d4) and cycle of strategy, proves to be too expensive to allow some extra wishes. 1.♖d5 ♖g5:+ 2.♔e4 ♗a4≠, 1.♗d4 ♘d7 2.♔d5 ♗a5≠, 1.♗c4 ♖c3 2.♔d4 ♗h8:≠.

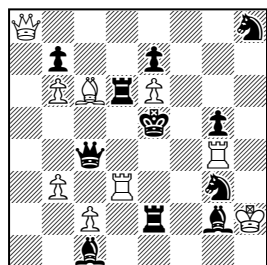
2nd Prize: No.338 by **Franz Pacht & Markus Manhart** (Germany). Each pair of solutions looks simple, but the combination of them makes contrast and harmony. Take for instance moves of ♘c1 and ♖e1. They produce two subtle interferences (on d2 & e2) in the first pair, and two surprising translations to the left and right side of the board (a3 & h1) in the other pair. The fifth possible mating field for the Knight (f5) is also included in the dual prevention. 1.♖g5 ♘d2 2.♖g6 ♔d5≠, 1.♘f5 ♖e2 2.♘g6 ♔g4≠, 1.♔e5 ♘a3 2.♔d6 ♔c4≠, 1.♔g5 ♖h1 2.♔h4 ♔g2≠.

Živko Janevski
1.Pr Mat Plus 1997

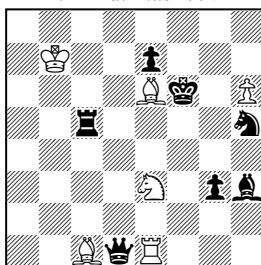
Franz Pacht & Markus Manhart
2.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Victor Chepizhny
3.Pr Mat Plus 1997

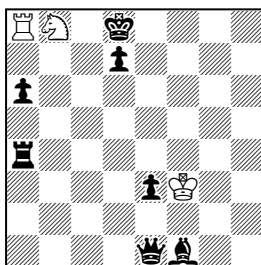
Živko Janevski
4.Pr Mat Plus 1997



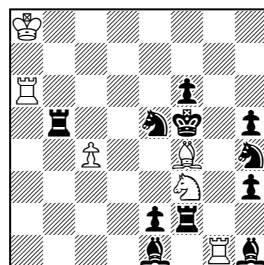
h≠2 3111 9+11



h≠2 4111 6+7



h≠2 2111 3+7



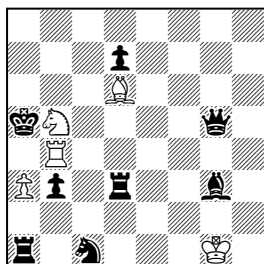
h≠2 3111 6+11

3rd Prize: No.333v by **Victor Chepizhny** (Russia). The first pair of tries leaves white without a tempo-move, while the second pair allows one, but the wrong one. Finally, the two correct solutions allow white to choose the right instead of the wrong one. Notice the great Artistry in composing the nets for both Kings and use of the board dimensions, to produce an impressive study of simple elements. 1.♖c4? ? 2.♖c7 ♔c6≠, 1.♖e4? ? 2.♖e7 ♔a6≠, 1.♗c3? ♔g3 2.♗c7+ ? , 1.♗h4? ♔e3: 2.♗c7+ ? , 1.♗a5 ♔e3: (♔g3?) 2.♗c7 ♔c6≠, 1.♗b4 ♔g3 (♔e3:?) 2.♗e7 ♔a6:≠

4th Prize: No.385 by **Živko Janevski** (Macedonia). The fashionable anticipatory selfpins include here an additional unpinning effect to allow three different ♔ mates. Tripling of such an extraordinary pin-unpin combination, with model mates, makes forget about the other kinds of disharmony in using these type of “2+1” solutions. 1.♖g2 ♖f6:+ 2.♔g4 ♔h2≠, 1.♔g2 ♖a7 2.♔g6 ♔h4≠, 1.♔c6 ♖g7 2.♔e6 ♔d4≠.

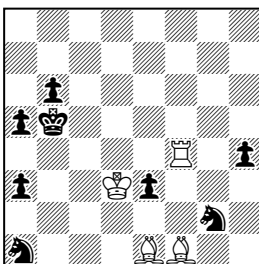
1st Hon. Mention: No.284 by **Mihajlo Milanović** (Yugoslavia). These three “hungry” twin-pieces eat only men of a different kind, in specific, cyclical order, while the three white pieces produce cyclical form of the Zilahi theme. a) 1.♖d6: ♔c3 2.♖b6 ♖a4≠, b) 1.♘b5: ♘c5 2.♘a6 ♘b6≠, c) 1.♔b4: ♘b4:+ 2.♔a4 ♔c3≠.

Mihajlo Milanović
1.HM Mat Plus 1997



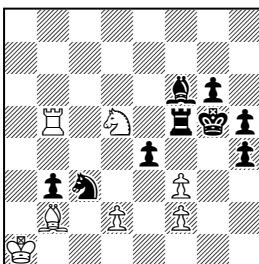
h#2 b) ♖d3, c) ♜d3 5+8

Zoran Gavrilovski
2.HM Mat Plus 1997



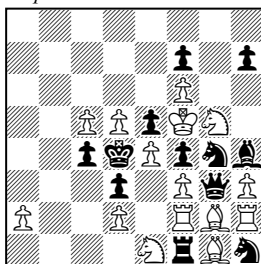
h#2 b) ♜a5→a4 4+8

Colin Sydenham
3.HM Mat Plus 1997



h#2 duplex 7+9

Tomislav Petrović
Spec. HM Mat Plus 1997



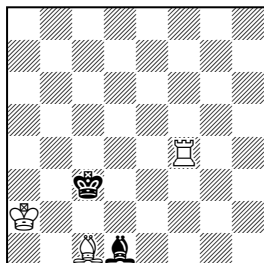
h#2* 15+12

2nd Hon. Mention: No.382 by Zoran Gavrilovski (Macedonia). Capturing of white pieces makes a surprising twist in a strategy of immobilization of both white pieces. Oscillations of the White King and perfect economy add flavor to this convincing Zilahi. a) 1.♖c1:+ ♖d4+ 2.♗a4 ♗c3≠, b) 1.♖f4:+ ♗c3+ 2.♗a5 ♗d4≠.

3rd Hon. Mention: No.340 by Colin Sydenham (England). Mutual capturing of the Knights in order to unmask one of the pinning lines, and switchbacks to produce the opposite effect on the other one. This highly creative author continues his lonely but successful search for genuine Duplex mechanisms. B→: 1.♖d5: ♖d4 2.♖c3 ♖e3≠, W→: 1.♖c3: ♖c5 2.♖d5 ♖c1≠.

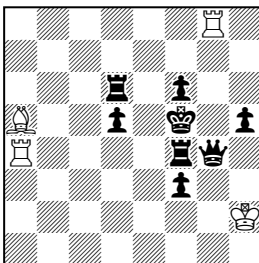
Special Hon. Mention: No.294 by Tomislav Petrović (Yugoslavia). An extremely difficult classical task of both side e.p. capturing made possible by retro means. The fact that there are only two earlier examples existing, makes this one very much worth of mentioning and reproducing. *1... de6(ep) 2.fe6+ ♖e6≠, 1.fe3(ep) fg4 2.e2 ♖f4≠.

Sally Lewis & Tony Lewis
1.Com Mat Plus 1997



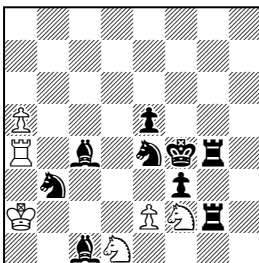
h#2 b) ♖c1↔♖d1 3+2

Mihailo Stojnić
2.Com Mat Plus 1997



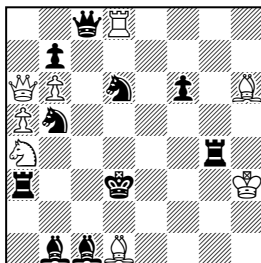
h#2 3111 4+8

Árpád Molnár
3.Com Mat Plus 1997



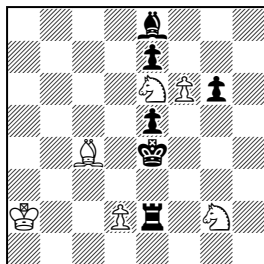
h#2 b) ♖c4↔♜e4 6+9

Tode Ilijevski
Mat Plus 1997



h#2 b) ♖a4→g6 8+10

György Bakcsi & László Zoltán
5.Com Mat Plus 1997



h#2 b) ♖f6→d6 6+6
+c) ♖c4→g4, +d) ♖e8→h1

1st Com.: No.378 by Sally Lewis & Tony Lewis (England). An adoring baby-Miniature with different tempo moves by the Black Bishop. a) 1.♖a4 ♖d4 2.♖c2 ♖b2≠, b) 1.♖e3 ♖e2 2.♖d2 ♖c4≠

2nd Com.: No.335 by Mihailo Stojnić (Yugoslavia). Pinning, guarding and mating duties are shared between the three white pieces in this highly economical Meredith position. 1.♖e4 ♖g5+ 2.♗f4 ♖d2≠, 1.♗e5 ♖c7 2.♖f5 ♖e8≠, 1.♗g5 ♖d2 2.♗g4 ♖f4≠

3rd Com.: No.291 by Árpád Molnár (Hungary). Black and white halfpin in an unusual combination of mutual unpinning. The tricky twinning helped to achieve different unpinning by black. a) 1.♖g3 e4 2.♖e2 ♖h3≠, b) 1.♖f5 ♖c4 2.♖d2 e3≠.

4th Com.: No.293 by Tode Ilijevski (Macedonia). A wealth of tactical motives, including checks to the White King, unpinning, interferences and gate openings. a) 1.♗c4+ ♖e3 2.♖e4 ♖d4≠, b) 1.♗d4+ ♖b3 2.♖c7 ♗c4≠.

5th Com.: No. 336 by Gyorgy Bakcsi & Laszlo Zoltan (Hungary). Black and white use the same fields (f5, d5, d3 & f3) in cyclic order, for their final moves, analogue to the Stavrinides theme in #2. a) 1.ef6 ♖gf4 2.f5 ♖d5≠, b) 1.ed6 ♖e1 2.d5 ♖d3≠, c) 1.♖b5 ♖h4 2.♖d3 ♖f3≠, d) 1.g5 ♖e3 2.♖f3 ♖f5≠.

HELPMATE MOREMOVERS

This group with 33 problems contains at least two different types: shorter two-phase compositions and longer single-liners. I specially enjoyed the first two prizewinners, each representing one of the two groups.

1st Prize: No.353 by **Fadil Abdurahmanović** (Bosnia and Herzegovina). After hundreds of "Rundlauf" examples here is a new step forward in developing the theme. This new step includes only one introductory move, but what a surprising one! Promotion to the Knight in this fivemover is almost equally surprising as the rest of the maneuver and makes a perfect combination with it. 1... b8♘ 2.♞c2 ♘c6 3.♙d7 ♘b4 4.♚d6 ♘a6 5.♞c7 ♘b8♠+

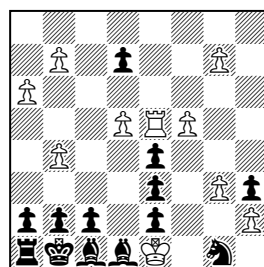
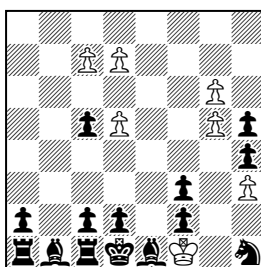
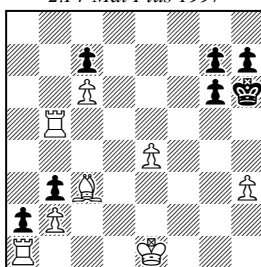
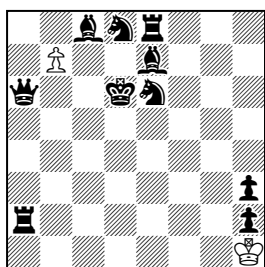
2nd Prize: No.345 by **Gábor Cseh & Árpád Molnár** (Hungary). Another spectacular combination of the ever-intriguing elements: castling effect and tempo-promotions. Position of the White King (on e1 or c1) determines a type of black minor promotion, while the second tempo move of promoted piece determines the mating choice. This charming strategy of anticipation makes forget about the highly restrictive position. 1... ♞d1 2.a1 ♙ ♞d6 3.♙b2: ♙d2♠, 1... 0-0-0 2.a1♘ ♞d7 3.♘c2 ♙g7:♠.

Fadil Abdurahmanović
1.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Gábor Cseh & Árpád Molnár
2.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Gábor Cseh
3-4.Pr Mat Plus 1997

Gábor Cseh
3-4.Pr Mat Plus 1997



h#5 W→

2+10

h#3 W→ 021111

8+7

h#10

7+14

h#10

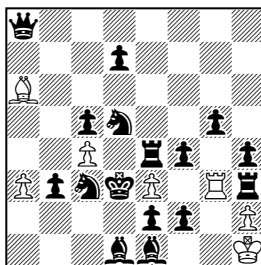
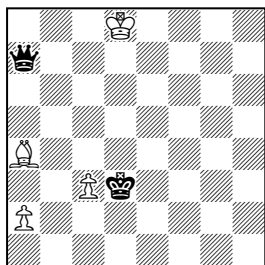
10+13

3rd-4th Prize: Nos.6&7 (MP 13-14, page 2) by **Gábor Cseh** (Hungary). Three WQ promotions with sacrifice of the first two and in addition a black minor promotion - reminiscences of the great Hungarian composer and his brilliant investigation described in the above-mentioned article. The first example of this huge task was set by Gabor himself (with BS promotion) and varied here to BR (No. 6 - 1.c4 d8♚ 2.c3 ♚d6 3.♘g3+ ♚g3: 4.hg3 c8♚ 5.h4 ♚g4 6.g2+ ♚g2: 7.fg2+ ♙g2: 8.f1 ♞ g7 9.♞f8 gf8♚ 10.♙e2 ♚f3♠) and BB promotion (No. 7 - 1.d6 g8♚ 2.de5 ♚g4 3.♘f3+ ♚f3: 4.ef3 b8♚ 5.e4 ♚f4 6.f2+ ♚f2: 7.ef2+ ♙f2: 8.♙d2 a7 9.♙c1 a8♚ 10.b1 ♙ ♚a3♠).

1st Hon. Mention: No.355 by **Fadil Abdurahmanović** (Bosnia and Herzegovina). An old combination of one critical move and two successive Indian effects by the same white piece, in the most economical position up to now. Use of the White King as a front battery piece makes the solution look simpler, but its subtlety is proved by tempo-tries for both sides. Tries: 1.♙c4 ♙e8 2.♚a3 ♙~ 3.♙b5 ♙c7 4.♙a4 ♙b6 5.?! ♙e8♠, 1.♙c4 ♙e8 2.♚a3 ♙d7 3.♙b5?! 4.♙a5! ♙c6 5.♙a4 ♙b6♠; Solution: 1.♙c4 ♙e8 2.♚a3 ♙d7 3.♙b5 ♙c7+! 4.♙a5 ♙c6! 5.♙a4 ♙b6♠.

Fadil Abdurahmanović
1.HM Mat Plus 1997

Leonid Makaronets & Semion Shifrin
2.HM Mat Plus 1997



h#5

4+2

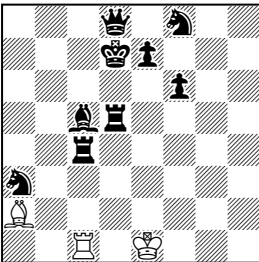
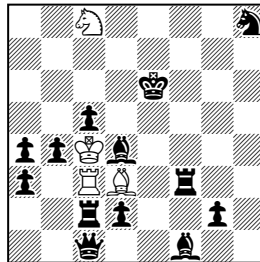
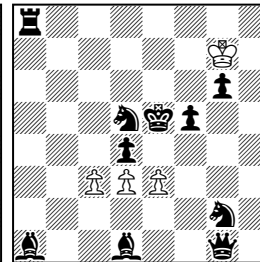
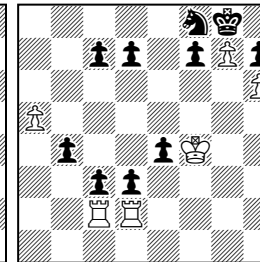
h#3

b) ♠f4→d4

7+16

2nd Hon. Mention: No.391 by **Leonid Makaronets & Semion Shifrin** (Israel). The most refreshing (and the most crowded one too) among the twophase compositions with orthogonal-diagonal analogy. The black halfbattery turns into white selfpin presenting a "bad capturing". In his final move, black has choices for unpinning the mating piece, blocking the square,

or opening the white supportive line, but he has to do all the three in the same time! a) 1.♞c4: ♞g5: 2.♙c3: ♞d5: 3.♞e4 ♞d3♠, b) 1.♘c3: ♙b7 2.♙c4: ♙e4: 3.♘d5 ♙d3♠.

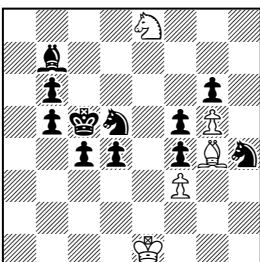
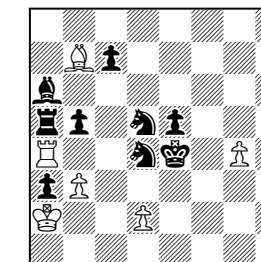
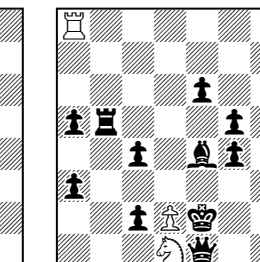
<p>Franz Pachl 3.HM Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3 b) ♗c4 3+9</p>	<p>Nikola Stolev 4.HM Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3 b) ♖c8→d6 4+13</p>	<p>Alexander Zidek 5.HM Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3 b) ♗d5→e4 4+10 c) ♗g7→d7</p>	<p>Gábor Cseh 6.HM Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3 W→ 021111 6+10</p>
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3rd Hon. Mention: No.387(v) by **Franz Pachl** (Germany). The most elegant ortho-dia example of the tourney. There is complete harmony of the solutions, thanks to the subtle correspondence between arrival fields (d6&b1) of both B&R pairs in the initial moves. a) 1. ♗d6 ♖b1 2. ♖c8 ♗d5: 3. ♗c7 ♖b7≠, b) 1. ♖d6 ♗b1 2. ♗f7 ♖c5: 3. ♗c6 ♗f5≠

4th Hon. Mention: No.297 by **Nikola Stolev** (Macedonia). Two black Grimshaw interferences, one of them with critical moves, the other for surprising unpinning on the initial WK square. Dynamical play and complete harmony except for slightly different motivations for the initial black moves. a) 1. ♖f7 ♗b5 2. ♗f6 ♖c5: 3. ♖c4 ♗f5≠, b) 1. ♗g7 ♗c5: 2. ♖f6 ♗b5 3. ♗c4 ♖c3≠.

5th Hon. Mention: No.348 by **Alexander Zidek** (Austria). An unusual combination of three different Pawn mates on the same square, and different maneuvers of the WK. A subtlety of both ideas compensates for some elements of disharmony. a) 1. ♗b2 ♗g6: 2. ♗a3 ♗f7 3. ♗d6 cd4≠, b) 1. dc3 ♗f7 2. ♗b3 ♗c7 3. ♗d5 d4≠, c) 1. ♗gf4 ♗c6 2. ♗g5 ♗d7 3. ♗f6 cd4≠.

6th Hon. Mention: No.32 (MP 13-14, page 7) by **Gábor Cseh** (Hungary). Although in a symmetrical position, this is an amazing combination of two active sacrifices of promoted minor pieces and two passive Zilahi sacrifices, with the same purpose - opening of white lines. 1... gf8 ♗ 2.cd2 ♗c6 3.cd6 ♖d8≠, 1... gf8 ♗ 2.cd2 ♗d6 3.cd6 ♖c8≠.

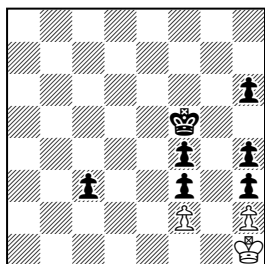
<p>Michel Caillaud & Gábor Cseh 1.Com Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3* 5+11</p>	<p>Tode Ilievski 2.Com Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3 b) ♗g3→g4 6+9</p>	<p>Victor Kolpakov & Victor Geglov 3.Com Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>h#3 211111 4+12</p>
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1st Com.: No.350 by **Michel Caillaud** (France) & **Gábor Cseh** (Hungary). The 7th WCCT theme (composed before its announcement!) - mutual active sacrifice of BS & WB in the attractive set & solution form. *1... ♗d6 2. ♗f3:+! ♗f3 3. ♗b4 ♗b7:≠, 1. ♗c6 ♗f5:! 2. ♗f5: ♗c7 3. ♗d6 ♗a6≠.

2nd Com.: No.389 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). Two initial pinnings are transformed by different Bl&W actions, including passive sacrifice, direct unpin and blocking. I would prefer having BQ instead of BB&BR, in order to get additional content of six different blocks by three black pieces. a) 1. ♖a4: ♗c6 2. ♗f3 ♗c8 3. ♖d4 ♗g6≠, b) 1. ♗b7: ♖c4 2. ♗f4: ♖c3 3. ♗d5 ♖c3≠.

3rd Com. No.296 by **Viktor Kolpakov & Viktor Zheglov** (Russia). Different interferences of BB by the same BR to get interesting Model mates. 1. ♗d3 ♖a6 2. ♗a8 ♗c3 3. ♖b7 ♖d6≠, 1. ♖b3 ♖g8 2. ♖f3 ♗c3 3. ♗f2 ♖g2≠.

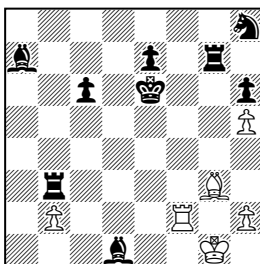
Albert Grigoryan
4.Com Mat Plus 1997



h#8

3+7

Toma Garai
5.Com Mat Plus 1997

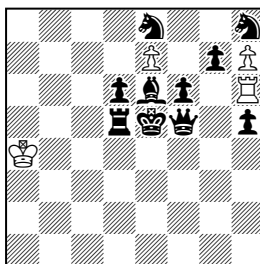


h#3

b) ♠e7–e5

6+9

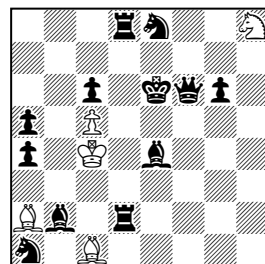
Gábor Cseh
6.Com Mat Plus 1997



h#3

4+10

Toma Garai
7.Com Mat Plus 1997



h#3

b) ♖c4→g4

5+12

4th Com.: No.357 by Albert Grigoryan (Armenia). A new (I hope) specimen for the K&P collection with run of the WK to avoid stalemate, BS promotion and mutual sacrifices. 1.c2 ♖g1 2.c1 ♗f1 3.♗e2 ♖e1 4.♗g3 fg3 5.♖g5 ♖f2 6.hg3+ ♖f3: 7.♖h4 ♖f4: 8.h5 hg3#.

5th Com.: No.295 by Toma Garai (USA). An attractive crosschecker achieved a bit mechanically, since only two out of eight active pieces participate in both twins. a) 1.♖c3 ♖f4 2.♖d6 b4 3.♖e6+ ♖d4#, b) 1.♖g4 ♖f4 2.♖f6 h4 3.♖e6+ ♖g5#.

6th Com. No.33 (MP 13-14, page 7) by Gábor Cseh (Hungary). An active sacrifice of promoted WS to create a pin-mate. 1.♖g8 hg8 ♗ 2.♖c6 ♗f6: 3.♗f6: e8 ♖#.

7th Com.: No.390 by Toma Garai (USA). Critical Grimshaw interferences to open the WK battery. There is an extra pinning in the second twin that breaks harmony of the main theme. a) 1.♖e5 ♗f7 2.♖2d4+ ♖c3+ 3.♖f5 ♗h6#, b) 1.♖2d7 ♖g5 2.♖d4 ♖d3+ 3.♖e7 ♗g6:≠.

Zemun, 28.6.2002.
Marjan Kovačević

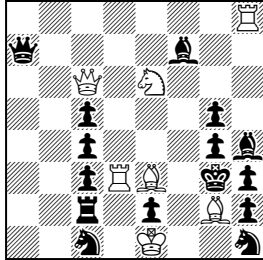
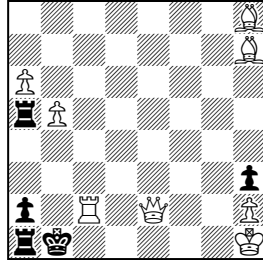
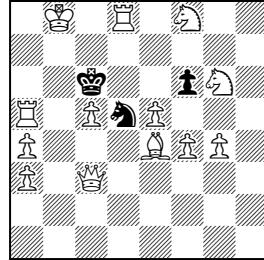
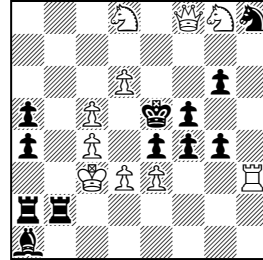
SELFMATES 1997

Judge: Miodrag Mladenović

There were 12 problems published during this time period. I decided to put in the award six problems. All problems are of a high quality and I had a hard time ranking them. I gave some advantage to the problems containing some strong idea. I ranked them in the following order:

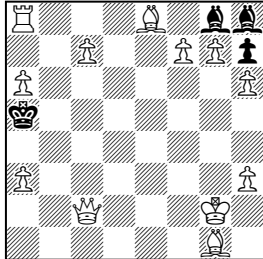
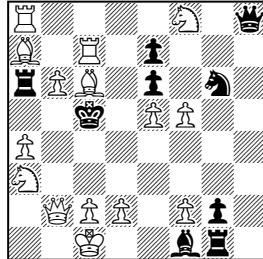
1st Prize: No.359 by **Zoran Gavrilovski** (Macedonia). Big WB star in combination with BK battery. Excellent settings without White Pawns. It is interesting how WB is going zigzag in several variations. Nice task achievement. 1.♖h~? cd3!; 1.♖g8! ~ ♖g1+ cd3 3.♖h2+ ♖h2≠, 1... ♖c6: 2.♖g5:+ cd3 3.♖f4+ ♖f4≠, 1... ♖f2 2.♖c5:+ cd3 3.♖f2:+ ♖f2≠, 1... hg2 2.♖c1:+ cd3 3.♖g2:+ ♖g2≠, 1... cd3 2.♖f4+ gf4 3.♖g4:+ ♖g4≠.

2nd Prize: No.394 by **Milan Velimirović** (Yugoslavia). WR has to close line of WBh8 and at the same time to hide behind BR. Very humorous problem where there are four thematic variations. Nice waiting key move by WQ. Perfect construction. 1.♖f2! (~) 1... ♖a3 2.♖c4+ ♖d3 3.♖d4 ♖c1 4.♖c2+, 1... ♖a4 2.♖c5+ ♖e4 3.♖e5 ♖c1 4.♖c2+, 1... ♖b5: 2.♖c6+ ♖f5 3.♖f6 ♖c1 4.♖c2+, 1... ♖a6: 2.♖c7+ ♖g6 3.♖g7 ♖c1 4.♖c2+.

<p>Zoran Gavrilovski 1.Pr Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>s#3'</p>	<p>Milan Velimirović 2.Pr Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>7+15 s#4</p>	<p>Aleksandr Azhusin 3.Pr Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>8+5 s#5</p>	<p>Waldemar Tura 4.Pr Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>13+3 s#5</p>
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3rd Prize: No.302 by **Aleksandr Azhusin** (Russia). Two Chameleon-echo mates. Very nice and interesting play by white. I like the fact that first white brings the Rook into the corner and then the Bishop goes to the opposite corner of the board. Excellent problem. 1.♖a8! (~) 1... fe5 2.♖e5: ♖c5: 3.♖c8+ ♖b6 4.♖f6+ ♖f6: 5.♖d7+ ♖d7≠, 1... f5 2.♖h1! fg4 3.♖c8 g3 4.♖b8 g2 5.♖e7+ ♖e7≠.

4th Prize: No.303 by **Waldemar Tura** (Poland). Another great problem. I like author's comment "gallop of White Horses". It's great description for white play. Nice full length threat. Excellent problem. 1.d7! ~ 2.♖c6+ ♖e6 3.d8♖+ ♖d7 4.♖e7+ ♖c8 5.♖b7+ ♖b7≠, 1... ed3 2.♖g7+ ♖e4 3.♖f6+ ♖e5 4.♖g4:+ ♖e4 5.♖f2+ ♖f2≠, 1... fe3 2.♖e7+ ♖f4 3.♖c6+ ♖e5 4.♖d4+ ♖f4 5.♖c2+ ♖e2≠, (1... ♖f7 2.♖f7:+ ♖c6 3.d8♖+ ♖d7 4.♖e7+ ♖c8 5.♖b7+).

<p>Aleksandr Azhusin 1.HM Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>s#6</p>	<p>Valery Kirillov, Vladimir Zheltonozhko & Andrey Selivanov 2.HM Mat Plus 1997</p>  <p>12+4 s#3</p>
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1st Hon. Mention: No.304 by **Aleksandr Azhusin** (Russia). Another Chameleon-echo problem. This time mates are by black bishops. Nice and interesting play. 1.c8♖! (~) 1... ♖f7: 2.♖f5+ ♖d5+ 3.♖h2 ♖g7: 4.♖c5+! ♖b6 5.♖b5++ ♖c7 6.♖e5+ ♖e5≠, 1... ♖g7: 2.♖d2+ ♖c3 3.♖g5+ ♖e5 4.♖h1! ♖f7: 5.♖d8+! ♖c7 6.♖d5+ ♖d5≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.301 by **Valery Kirillov, Vladimir Zheltonozhko & Andrey Selivanov** (Russia). Dual avoidance in two main lines on second and third white move and rich by-play. Somehow this problem looks to me like an orthodox threemover extension. 1.f3! ~ 2.♖b5+ ♖d5 3.♖c4+ ♖c4≠, 1... ♖e5: 2.♖d7+ ♖d6 3.♖c4+ ♖c4≠, 1... ♖e5: 2.♖c6+ ♖d6 3.♖b5+ ♖b5≠, 1... ♖h4 2.d4+ ♖d4: 3.♖b5+ ♖b5≠, 1... ♖a7: 2.♖e4+! ♖c7: 3.♖a5+ ♖b5≠, 1... ♖a4: 2.♖a4+ ♖d5 3.♖b3+ ♖c4≠.

Belgrade, June 25th 2006
Miodrag Mladenović

TWOMOVERS 1998-1999

Judge: Milan Velimirović

The overall quality of 33 twomovers which took part in this tourney was below the expectations, but maybe the expectations had been too high? Prizewinners stand head and shoulders above the rest of the field. I selected 14 problems and ranked them as follows:

1st Prize: No.413 by **Mihailo Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). Only second conventional presentation of “Ideal Vladimirov” theme, which extends native form (1.A? a!, 1.B? b!, 1.X a, b 2.A, B#) to changed mates after non-defeating defences in both tries (i.e. 1.A? a,b 2.?,X#; 1.B? a,b 2.Y,?#; 1.X a,b 2.A,B#). The first example was composed by the same author. Although the basic mechanism where the key-move-line is closed once by black and once by white had been known since the theme "birth-year" (see examples 12-21 in my article “20 Years of Vladimirov Theme”, Mat Plus 15/1997), it had to wait more than 20 years for the outstanding talent of this young author to be brought to the perfection! 1.♖e2? ~ 2.♗e7#, 1... ♗h4!, 1... c4 2.♗d4:#; 1.♗g2? ~ 2.♗e7#, 1... c4!, 1... ♗h4 2.♗h4:#; 1.♗f1! ~ 2.♗e7#, 1... ♗h4 2.♗e2#, 1... c4 2.♗g2#.

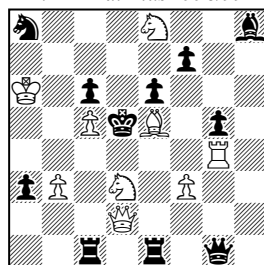
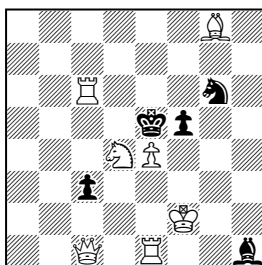
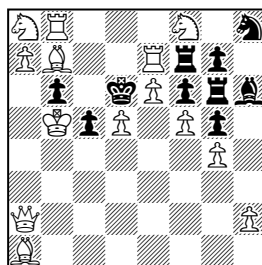
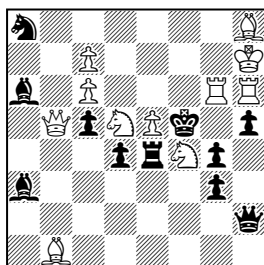
2nd Prize: No.521 by **Dragan Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). Again an “Ideal Vladimirov”, but here in very unconventional form: the greatest difficulty of the theme – how to avoid the key move to be a mate in tries – here is resolved by means of “It’s now or never” particularity of the en passant capture. The trick itself is not new, it was in fact “discovered” by myself (see example 24 in article mentioned above) also for an Ideal form, but that’s where the similarity ends and the difference begin – the biggest one is that mates are delivered along two different lines. The most delicate constructional touch is closing of the b7-d5 line by the key move. 1.♗a3? (~), 1... ♗e7:!, 1... ♗c7: 2.♗g3#: 1.♗d2? (~), 1... ♗c7:!, 1... ♗e7: 2.d6# (1... c4 2.♗b4#); 1.dc6(ep)! (~) 1... ♗c7:; ♗c7: 2.♗a3, ♗d2# (1... ♗f8: 2.♗d7#); (1.h3? ♗c7: 2.♗h2#, 1... ♗e7:!, 1.♗a6? ♗c7: 2.♗b6:#, 1... ♗e7:!, 1.♗c8? ♗c7: 2.♗c6#, 1... ♗e7:!).

Mihailo Stojnić
1.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99

Dragan Stojnić
2.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99

Valery Shanshin
3.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99

Victor Melnichenko & Valentin Rudenko
1.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



♠2♠♠ 11+11 ♠2♠♠ 14+10 ♠2♠♠ 7+5 ♠2♠♠ 9+11

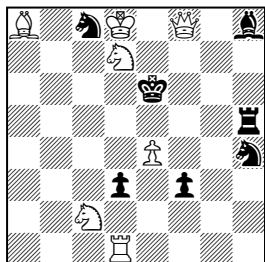
3rd Prize: No. 514 by **Valery Shanshin** (Kirgizia). A three phase changed mates after black self-block and BK flight to different squares, which is not quite “Chepizny” form where the same mate is a response to different BK moves. A reversal of white first and mating moves ♗c3 and ♗e2 is often wrongly labelled as “Salazar” theme, which in fact does contain such reversal, but also requires a change of two direct/indirect mates which further implies the white switchbacks. However, the inaccuracies in terminology take nothing from the value of this excellent Meredith. The “dud” on e1 seems to be inevitable. 1... ♗d4:, ♗e4: 2.♗c3:, ♗f3#: 1.♗c3:?(A) ~ 2.♗e6#, 1... ♗f4, ♗e4: 2.♗g3, ♗e2(B)#, 1... fe4!; 1.♗e2!(B) ~ 2.♗c6#, 1... ♗e4:, ♗e4: 2.♗c3, ♗c3:(A)#, 1... fe4, ♗f8 2.♗g5, ♗f4#.

1st Hon. Mention: No.519 by **Victor Melnichenko & Valentin Rudenko** (Ukraine). Reciprocal change of defensive motives (Nietvelt vs. guard) with changed mates. Such self-pin/self-block alternation have been seen many times during th last half a century, but virtually always with one black thematic piece involved and with reciprocal change of mates. Two black pieces and four different mates make this problem a little bit more original. (*1... ♗f1 2.♗d4#: 1.♗d6? ~ 2.♗b4/♗f4#, 1... ♗d4,c5 2.♗b4,♗f4#, 1... ♗f1!; 1.♗g5:? ~ 2.♗d8#, 1... ♗e5:, ♗c5: 2.♗f6,♗f4#, 1... f6!; 1.♗a5! ~ 2.♗d8#, 1... ♗e5:, ♗c5: 2.♗b4,♗d4#, 1... ♗c7+, ♗f6 2.♗c7:, ♗f6:#.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.403 by **Darko Šaljčić** (Yugoslavia). Clear and attractive presentation of reciprocally changed mates. 1... ♗f5 2.♗d5#, 1... dc2 2.♗g8#: 1.e5! ~ 2.♗d4#, 1... ♗f5 2.♗g8#, 1... dc2 2.♗d5#.

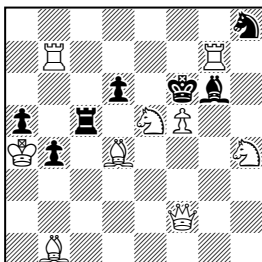
3rd Hon. Mention: No.405 by **Marjan Kovačević** (Yugoslavia). Twomover in classic style showing two pairs od dual avoidance with all mates executed by one S-battery. 1.♗g2! ~ 2.♗h4#, 1... ♗c7 2.♗f3# (2.♗f7?), 1... ♗c2 2.♗f7# (2.♗f3?), 1... ♗f7 2.♗g4# (2.♗d7?), 1... ♗e8+ 2.♗d7# (2.♗g4?), (1... ♗g5, ♗f5:, ♗f7 2.♗h4, ♗f5:, ♗g6:#).

Darko Šaljić
2.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



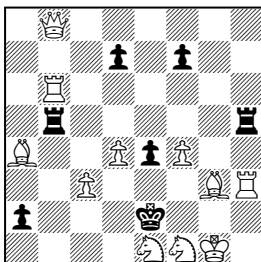
#2* 7+7 #2

Marjan Kovačević
3.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



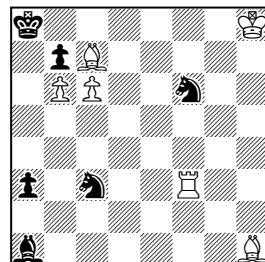
#2 9+7 #2***

Darko Šaljić
4.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



#2*** 11+7 #2***

Michael Lipton & John Rice
1.Com Mat Plus 1998/99

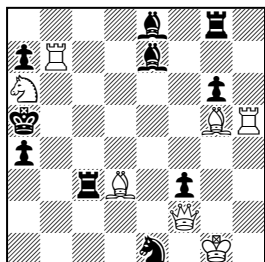


#2*** 6+6

4th Hon. Mention: No.518 by Darko Šaljić (Yugoslavia). This ambitious pattern play consists of two halves, one corresponding to pseudo le Grand theme and another to reciprocal change of mates, always with different departure squares for thematic mates. Pity that one try is defeated by two defences. 1. ♖c8? ~ d5(x) 2. ♖c4(A), ♖g4(B)≠, 1... ♜b4/♜b3!; 1. ♖g8? ~ f5(y) 2. ♖g4(B), ♖c4(A)≠, 1... ♜h4!; 1. ♖e8? ~ d5(x), f5(y) 2. ♖e4; ♖b5:(C), ♖h5:(D)≠, 1... ♜b3!; 1. ♖e5! ~ 2. ♖e4:≠, 1... ~ d5(x), f5(y) 2. ♖e4; ♖h5:(D), ♖b5:(C)≠; 1... e3, ♜be5; ♜he5: 2. ♖e3; ♜b2, ♜h2≠.

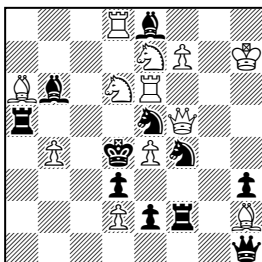
1st. Com.: No.400 by Michael Lipton & John Rice (Yugoslavia). Simple but attractive choice of white first move. Tries are defeated double line closings, and cooks are skilfully prevented by pins from black halfbattery. Light Meredith setting could have been even lighter (and to my opinion) better with WQc7 and BPc6 instead of WB and two WPs. 1. ♜f4? ~ 2.cb7≠, 1... ♜c4!; 1. ♜f5? ~ 2. ♜a5/cb7≠, 1... ♜d5!; 1. ♜e3? ~ 2.cb7≠, 1... ♜f4!; 1. ♜d3? ~ 2. ♜d8/cb7≠, 1... ♜fd5!; 1. ♜g3! ~ 2.cb7≠, 1... ♜cd5/♜ce4 2. ♜a3:≠, 1... ♜fd5/♜fe4 2. ♜g8≠, 1... bc6 2. ♜c6:≠.

Valery Shanshin
2.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



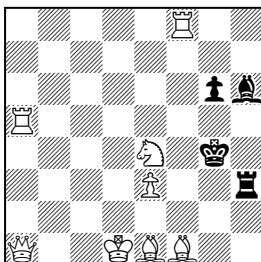
#2*** 7+10 #2***

Vladan Vučković
3.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



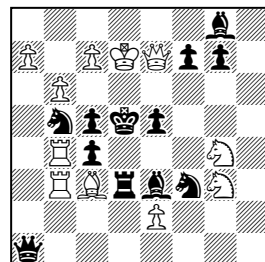
#2*** 12+11 #2***

Srećko Radović
4.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



#2*** 8+4 #2

Dragan Stojnić
5.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



#2*** 11+12

2nd. Com.: No. 517 by Valery Shanshin (Kirgizia). Interesting pin-mates after mutual interferences of BR and BB in pleasant position, even with superfluous BRg8, but with unpleasant dual after 1... ♜c6 2. ♜d2/♜b5≠. 1. ♜b4? ~ 2. ♖a7:≠, 1... ♜c5!; 1. ♜c7? ~ 2. ♖a7:≠, 1... ♜c5!; 1. ♜b8! ~, ♜c5, ♜c5:a6 2. ♖a7:, ♜d2, ♜d8, ♖b6≠.

3rd Com.: No. 416 by Vladan Vučković (Yugoslavia). Classic contents showing two Chicco-theme-like corrections is enriched by WQ corrections and a three phase changed mate after 1... 1... ♜f~. Excellent key introduces a cross-check variation with another changed mate. 1... ♖e4: 2. ♖e4:≠; 1. ♖~? ~ 2. ♜ef5≠, 1... ♜f~!; 1. ♖f6! ♜f~ 2. ♖f2:≠, 1... ♜fg2!; 1. ♖g5!!! ♜f~ 2. ♖c3≠, 1... ♜fg2!; 1. ♖g4! ~ 2. ♜ef5≠, 1... ♜f~ 2. ♜df5≠, 1... ♜d5! 2. ♜e5:≠, 1... ♜e~ 2. ♜df5≠, 1... ♜d7! 2. ♜c6≠, 1... ♖e4:+ 2. ♜ef5≠.

4th Com.: No.401 by Srećko Radović (Yugoslavia). A beautiful Meredith based on well-known Bottachi problem. The actual play is not as rich as in the older problem, but there are two changed mates in try 1. ♖f6? and additional black defence 1... ♜f8: (which is also refutation to another try) - more than enough for a 4-pieces lighter setting. 1. ♖f6? ~ 2. ♖c6≠, 1... ♜h5 2. ♖f3≠, 1... ♜f4 2. ♖f4:≠, 1... g5!; 1. ♖a4? ~ 2. ♖d7≠, 1... ♜f8:!!; 1. ♖d4! ~ 2. ♖d7≠, 1... g5 2. ♜g3≠ (2. ♜f6?), 1... ♜f8: 2. ♜d2≠ (2. ♜g5?), 1... ♜g3 2. ♜f2≠, 1... ♜f3 2. ♜f6≠, 1... ♜h5 2. ♜g5≠, 1... ♜g5 2. ♜g5:≠, 1... ♜f4 2. ♜f4:≠.

5th Com.: No.415 by Dragan Stojnić (Yugoslavia). Classic task with 8 different variations after WB sacrifice. By all means commendable! 1. ♜d4! ~ 2. ♖c5:≠, 1... ♜d4: 2. ♜d3:≠, 1... ♖d4: 2.a8♖/♜f, 1... ♜d4: 2. ♜c3:≠, 1... ♜d4: 2.c4≠, 1... ♜fd4: 2. ♖c5:≠, 1... ♜bd4: 2. ♖d6≠, 1... ♜d6 2. ♖d6:≠, 1... cd4 2. ♜b5:≠, 1... ed4 2. ♖e4≠.

Belgrade, May 2006
Milan Velimirović

THREEMOVERS 1998-1999

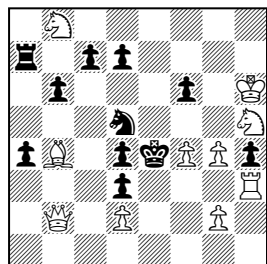
Judge: Miodrag Mladenović

There were 20 problems published during this period. The overall quality of problems was very good. Several top winners are exceptional problems. I decided to rank problems in the following order:

1st Prize: No.433 by **Mihailo Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). Although there are hundreds of problems showing reciprocal changes on white second move this exceptional problem fully deserves 1st prize. I think that this is very original mechanism in combination with corrective play by BS. Excellent key with a quite threat. 1... ♖~ 2.♗f6+: ♘f4: 3.♙d4:≠, 1... ♗f4: 2.♙e3+ de3, ♘d5 3.♗f6:, ♙a2≠, (1... b5 2.♗d7: ~, ♗~, ♗f4: 3.♗c5, ♗df6:, ♗hf6:≠); 1.♙a2! ~ 2.♙c4 ~, ♗e3 3.♙d3, ♙e3:≠, 1... ♗~ 2.♙e3+ de3 3.♙c4≠, 1... ♗f4: 2.♗f6+: ♘e5 3.♗bd7:≠, (1... b5 2.♗d7:).

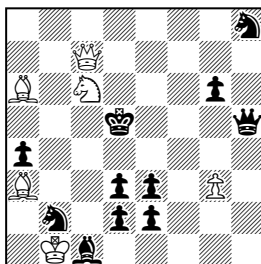
2nd Prize: No.524 by **Mirko Marković** (Yugoslavia). Three changed variations between try and solution. Excellent construction and very nice play. Nice refutation that is self-blocking the flight given by the try move. Very attractive open position where there is only one piece around BK. 1.♗b7? ~ 2.♗d8+ ♘d4 3.♗e6≠, 1... ♘e6 2.♗d4+ ♘f6 3.♙e7≠, 1... ♙f5 2.♗e5+ ♘d4, ♘c6 3.♙c5, ♙e7/♙d6≠, 1... ♙e5 2.♙e5+: ♘c4 3.♗a5≠, (1... ♘c4 2.♙f4+ ♘b3/♘c3/♘b5, ♘d5 3.♙b4, ♗d8≠), (1... ♘c4 2.♗d8+ ♘f5 3.♙f4≠), 1... ♗c4!; 1.♙f4! ~ 2.♗e7+ ♘e6 3.♗c8≠, 1... ♘e6 2.♗c8+ ♘d5 3.♗e7≠, 1... ♙f5 2.♙d4+ ♘c6:, ♘e6 3.♙d6, ♗d8≠, 1... ♙e5 2.♙e5+: ♘c6: 3.♙d6≠, (1... ♙g5 2.♙f3+ ♘e6 3.♗c8≠).

Mihailo Stojnić
1.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99



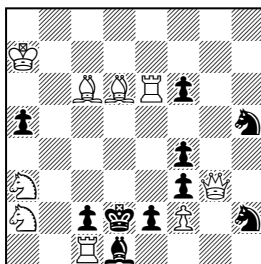
#3* 10+11

Mirko Marković
2.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99



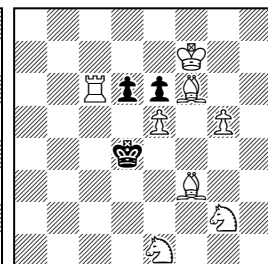
#3*** 6+11

Valeri M. Shavyrin
3.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99



#3 9+10

Miroslav Subotić
1.HM Mat Plus 1998/99

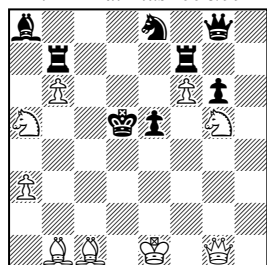


#3*** 8+3

3rd Prize: No. 431 by **Valeri M. Shavyrin** (Russia). Cyclic (3-fold) play on the white second move in combination with a corrective self-blocking black promotions. There is also dual avoidance on white second move. Very complex mechanism. 1.♙g1? ~ 2.♗b4+ ♘d3/ab4 3.♙d6≠, 1... ♗f1!; 1.♗c1! ~ 2.♗a5:+(A) ♘d3 3.♙d6≠(♗), 1... e1~ 2.♙d6+(♗) [2.♗b5?] ♘e2 3.♗b5≠(C) [3... ♘e1??], 1... e1♗! 2.♗b5(C) [2.♙d6?] ~ 3.♗a5:≠(A), 2... ♗d3 3.♗c4≠ [3... ♘d3??], 1... ♘e1 2.♙g1+ ♘d2, ♗f1 3.♙d6, ♗a5:≠.

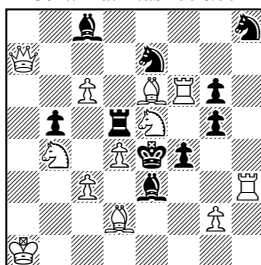
1st Hon. Mention: No.423 by **Miroslav Subotić** (Yugoslavia). Great achievement in a “Meredith” position. Three nice tries followed by two Indian variation in solution. Nice flight giving tries. 1.♗e4? (~) 1... de5 2.♗e6: ♘e4: 3.♙c4≠, 1... ♘e4: 2.♙c4+ ♘d5 3.♗e3≠, 2... ♘f5 3.♗e3≠, 1... d5!; 1.♗e7? (~) 1... d5 2.♗g6 ♘e5: 3.♗f6≠, 1... de5 2.♗e6: e4 3.♗f6≠, 1... ♘e5:;!; 1.♗g7? (~) d5!; 1.♗h8! (~) 1... d5 2.♗g7 ♘e5: 3.♗g6≠, 1... de5 2.♗f6 e4 3.♗e6:≠.

Mircea Manolescu
2.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



#3 9+8

Zoran Gavrilovski
Com. Mat Plus 1998/99



#3 12+10

2nd Hon. Mention: No. 425 by **Mircea Manolescu** (Romania). Dual avoidance in combination with 5th WCCT theme. Good economical setting. 1.♙e3! ~/♘d6 2.♙d3+ ♘c5 3.♗e3≠, 1... ♙bd7 2.♗e4+ ♘d6 3.♗c4≠, 1... ♙fd7 2.♗a2+ ♘d6 3.♗e4≠, (1... e4 2.♗b2 ~ 3.♙d4≠).

MOREMOVERS 1998-1999

Judge: Milan Velimirović

Among 25 original moremovers there were not less than 11 miniatures. The overall quality was hardly average. There was not a single problem with attractive mechanism or complex strategy, which is expected in modern composition, so the selection resembles to a 100 or more years old awards. Problem No.536 had to be excluded due to the illegal position – pity since it was a candidate for high ranking.

1st Prize: No.531 by Borislav Stojanović (Yugoslavia). A wonderful mutate Meredith with surprising withdrawal key. The most interesting and refreshing problem of the tourney.

1... ♖d8 2.♖c4+ ♔d3 3.♖c3+ ♔d2, ♔e4 4.♞e3; ♖c3:≠; 1.♖a2! (~) 1... ♖d8 2.♖a4+ ♔d3 3.♖a3+ ♔d2 4.♞c3≠ (2... ♖d4 3.♖d4:+ e4 4.♞f5≠), 1... ♖b4 2.♞b4:+ ♔d5 3.♖d7 ~ 4.♖a5≠, 1... h6 2.♖e2 (~) ♖d3 3.♖c3:+ ♖e3: 4.♞c4≠.

1st Hon. Mention: No.449 by Gábor Cseh (Hungary). Five successive sacrifices are necessary to clear the way for WBf1.

1.e6! (~ 2.fe4≠) ♖d3 2.fe4+ ♖e4: 3.d3 ♖d3: 4.e4+ ♖e4: 5.♖d3+ ♖d3: 6.e4+ ♖e4: 7.♖c4≠ (1... ♞g2 2.♖g5+ ♞g5: 3.fe4≠) (3... ♞g2 4.♖g5+ ♞g5:, ♖f5 5.de4, ♖f5:≠).

Borislav Stojanović

1.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99

Gábor Cseh

1.HM Mat Plus 1998/99

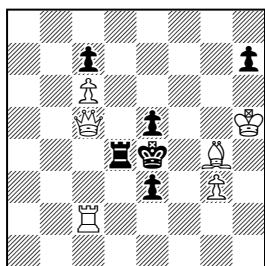
Zoran Gavrilovski &

Boško Milošeski

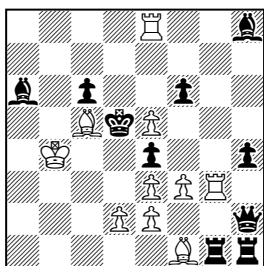
2.HM Mat Plus 1998/99

Yuri A. Sushkov

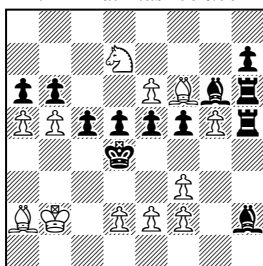
Com. Mat Plus 1998/99



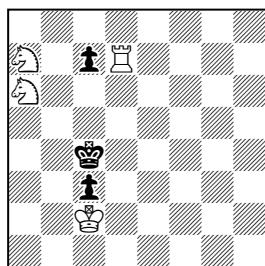
≠4*



6+6 ≠7



10+10 ≠5



12+12 ≠5

4+3

2nd Hon. Mention: No.446 by Zoran Gavrilovski & Boško Milošeski (Macedonia). Provocative fore-foreplan is an interesting introduction to "Lepushütz" finale. An ambitious conception, but construction with 15 pawns?!?!?

(*1... c4 2.♖d8 ~ 3.♖b6:≠); 1.♖d8? ♖h3! 2.♖b6: ♖f3:;!; 1.♗b8? ♖e8 2.♔c2 c4 3.♗a6: f4 4.e3+, 1... c4! 2.♖e8 ♖e8! 3.♔c2? e4!; 1.♔c2? f4+! 2.♔b3 ♖g5:;!; 1.♔b3! ~ 2.♖b1 c4+ 3.♔b2 c3+ 4.dc3+ ♔c4 5.♖d3≠, 1... c4+ 2.♔c2! f4+ 3.♔b2 ♖g5: 4.♖d8 ~,c3+ 5.♖b6:,dc3≠ (2.♔b2? ♖e8! 3.♖b1 ♖d7:;!; 3.♖d8 ♖e6:!).

Commendations (without order):

No.443 by Yuri A. Sushkov (Russia). A WR v BP duel in virtual and actual play corresponds to "Vladimirov" theme pattern (once deferred, 1... c5 ... 4.♖d8), but in a moremover all the sharpness of the theme is deadened.

1.♖d8(A)? c5(a)!, 1.♖d1(B)? c6(b)!; 1.♖d3! c6(b) 2.♖d1(B)! c5 3.♗c7 ♔b4 4.♖a1 c4 5.♗a6≠; 1.... c5(a) 2.♗c7 ♔b4 3.♗c6 ♔a3 4.♖d8(A)! ♔a4 5.♖a8≠.

No.445 by Marjan Kovačević (Yugoslavia) – after H. Hultberg. Interesting extension to famous Hultberg's manoeuvre.

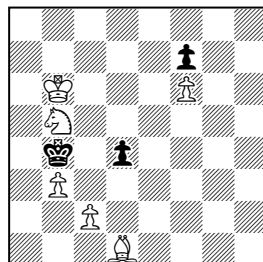
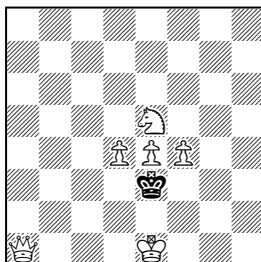
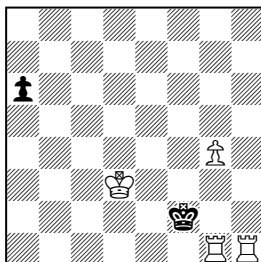
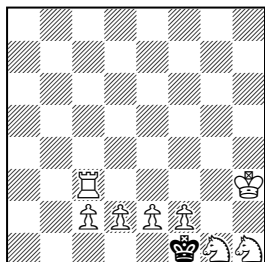
1.d4! ♔g1: 2.e4! ♔h1: 3.f4! ♔g1 4.♖f3 ♔h1 5.♖f1≠.

Marjan Kovačević
after H. Hultberg
Com. Mat Plus 1998/99

**Srećko Radović &
 Nebojša Joksimović**
Com. Mat Plus 1998/99

Nebojša Joksimović
Com. Mat Plus 1998/99

Yuri A. Sushkov
Com. Mat Plus 1998/99



≠5

8+1

≠4

4+2

≠4

6+1

≠7

6+3

No.527 by **Srećko Radović & Nebojša Joksimović** (Yugoslavia). Nice key and two variations with chameleon echo mates.

1. ♖a1! ~ 2. ♖hg1 ~ 3. ♖f1≠, 1... ♕f3 2. ♖g1 ♕f4 3. ♖a5 ♕f3 4. ♖f5≠, 1... ♕g3 2. ♕e3 ♕g4: 3. ♖a5 ♕g3 4. ♖g5≠.

No.528 by **Nebojša Joksimović** (Yugoslavia). Attractively constructed miniature featuring nice long moves of the WQ and echo mates.

1. ♖a8! (~) 1... ♕d4: 2. ♕d2 ♕c5 3. ♖b8 ♕d4 4. ♖b4≠ 1... ♕f4: 2. ♕f2 ♕g5 3. ♖h8 ♕f4 4. ♖h4≠.

No.535 by **Yuri A. Sushkov** (Russia). Pseudo twomover with two switchbacks and two model mates.

1...d3 2.c3≠; 1. ♕c6! ♕a5 2. ♗d4: ♕b4(a6) 3. ♗b5! ♕a5 4.c3 ♕a6 5. ♗g4! ♕a5 6.b4+ ♕a4 7. ♗d1≠.

Belgrade, July 2006
Milan Velimirović

HELPMATES 1998-1999

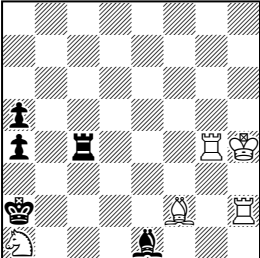
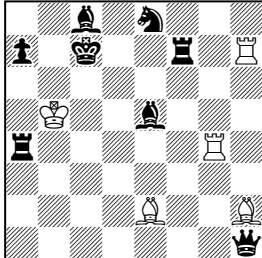
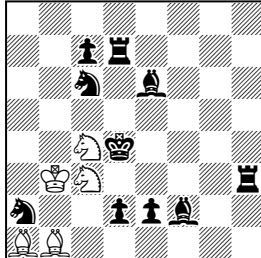
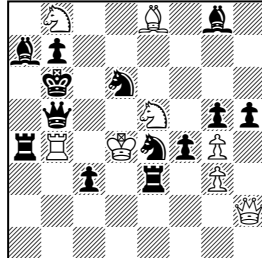
Judge: Darko Šaljić

Out of 65 originals published during two years (32 h≠2 and 31 h≠n) I have selected for honours 11 from twomovers and 14 from moremovers section. My impression is that overall quality was very high.

HELPMATE TWOMOVERS

1st Prize: No.485 by **Mihailo Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). A rich and subtle strategy on each move, harmony and geometrical analogy, are realized through a beautiful cooperation of and change of functions between the identical black and white units. Both Kings are very active, the white one as part of a pinning device, while the play of his black opponent leads to pin-models. It is almost incredible that all of this is realized in a brilliant Meredith position where author added only two Black Pawns to his initial matrix. 1.♙c3 ♕d4+ 2.♗a1: ♖g1≠, 1.♖c3 ♖g3 2.♗a3 ♕c5:≠.

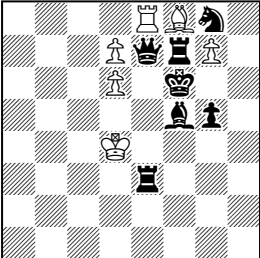
2nd Prize: No.465 by **Mihailo Stojnić** (Yugoslavia). Even more eventful problem than previous one. The ultimate artistic impression offered by harmonious and analogous play would only be spoiled if I try to enumerate all strategic elements involved. I would only like to pay your attention to a miraculous connection between events which take place on f3 and d4, as well as to an extremely beautiful “magnetic” WR and WB activity. 1.♗d6 ♕c4 2.♖f3 ♖d4≠, 1.♗b7 ♖g2 2.♕d4 ♕f3≠.

Mihailo Stojnić 1.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99	Mihailo Stojnić 2.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99	Emil Klemanič 3.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99	Mircea Manolescu 4.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99
			
h≠2 2111 5+5	h≠2 2111 5+8	h≠2 b) ♙e6→g8 5+10	h≠2 3111 8+13

3rd Prize: No.539 by **Emil Klemanič** (Slovakia). Very elegant and artistic presentation of double unpin of White Knights. The unpinning interferences are by no means trivial and simple. One of interferences is made by the Black King, while another takes place on the mating move. Note the magical image drawn by the initial and two final locations of the pair of Knights. a) 1.♙g3 ♗e4+ 2.♗d5 ♗c3≠, b) 1.♖f7 ♗e5 2.♗e3 ♗d5≠.

4th Prize: No.542 by **Mircea Manolescu** (Romania). An extremely difficult and original triple-avoidance mechanism, motivated by the choice of the line along which the WQ controls c7. The witty and ingenious idea, which made this complex possible, was that one of thematic lines (h2-c7) is initially already closed and the play after 1.fg3 Qg3: is motivated by its clearance, rather than by avoidance of its interference as in other two solutions. After three previous “Mozartish” composition, this one “sounds” like a grandiose symphony by Mahler. 1.hg4 ♖h7 2.♗c4(A) ♖b5:≠ [2.♗f7?(B) ♗c4+ 3.♗c7, 2.♖a5?(C) ♗d7+ 3.♗c7], 1.fg3 ♖g3: 2.♗f7(B) ♗c4≠ [2.♖a5?(C) ♗d7+ 3.♗c7, 2.♗c4?(A) ♖b5:+ 3.♗c7], 1.c2 ♖c2: 2.♖a5(C) ♗ed7≠ [2.♗c4?(A) ♖b5:+ 3.♗c7, 2.♗f7?(B) ♗c4+ 3.♗c7].

Michal Dragoun
1.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



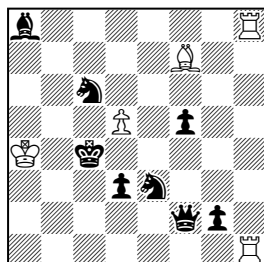
h≠2 2111 6+7

1st Hon. Mention: No.467 by **Michal Dragoun** (Czech Republic). I must admit that it was a surprise to find out that such a classic idea had not been realized earlier. Beautiful and important discovery. 1.♖e8: de8♖ 2.♖f8: gf8♖≠, 1.♖f8: gf8♗ 2.♖e8: de8♗≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.466 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). On first moves the Black Knights arrive to squares where they will be pinned, at the same time opening the way toward the self-pinning for their respective rear line piece. One must appreciate author’s creative approach, dismissing the matrix with completely analogous solutions (e.g. with BSc6→b6 and BBa8→a7) which would make the whole thing look simple and mechanical. In this form the mechanism is still very harmonious, while the play gains an interesting reciprocal character. 1.♗d5: ♖h4+ 2.♖d4 ♖c1≠, 1.♗d4 ♖h4 2.♗d5: ♖c8≠.

Tode Ilievski

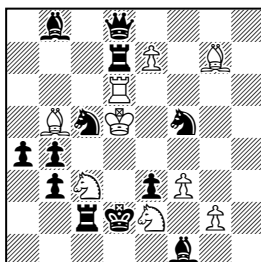
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h#2 2111 5+8

Michal Dragoun

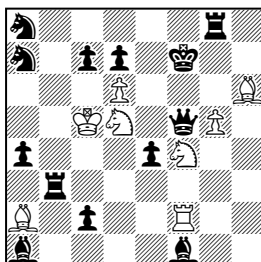
3.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



h#2 b) ♘g7→g3 9+12

Jean Haymann

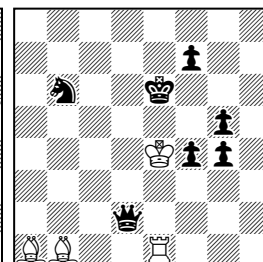
4.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



h#2 b) ♖d6→h5 8+13

Krzysztof Drazkowski

1.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



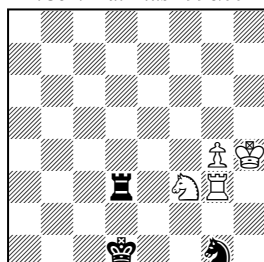
h#2 4+7

3rd Hon. Mention: No. 477 by Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic). Black captures both White Knights in order determined by the construction of indirect white battery and the Black King's exposure to their operation. During that process another Knight suffers, this time the black one. Author shows in original way that the use of more "rude" tactical elements also has its hidden aesthetics. a) 1. ♘e2: ♖e5+ 2. ♖c3: ♖f5:≠, b) 1. bc3 ♖c4+ 2. ♖e2: ♖c5:≠

4th Hon. Mention: No.476 by Jean Haymann (Israel). Very attractive and difficult combination of mutual anticipatory unpins of black pieces. The tries, by themselves, underline the necessity of such black strategy. The contents is significantly enriched by a complex White-Black Goethart interference in first solution (1... Sd3!) and Schiffman-like dual avoidance in second (2... Sd5?). However, I would like much more if author succeeded for both anticipatory unpins to be also anticipatory selfpins, by using the pin of the Black Rook for mate in first solution (as it is the case in twin position, 2... Sg6≠ utilizes the pin of the Black Queen). a) 1. ♖f3 (♖g3?) ♖d3 (♖e2?) 2. ♖g6 ♖f6≠, b) 1. ♖e6 (♖g6?) ♖c7: 2. ♖b2 ♖g6≠ (♖d5?).

Stanko Milenković

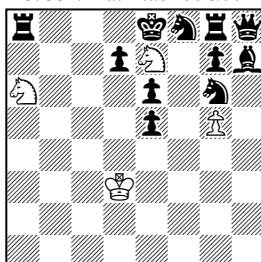
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h#2* duplex 4+3 2111

Anatoly Stepochkin

3.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



h#2* 4+11

1st Com.: No.537 by Krzysztof Drazkowski

(Poland). A very fine problem in which the paradoxical path of the White Monarch is determined by interference avoidance and by the Black Knight location. 1. ♖d3+ ♖d3:+ 2. ♖f5 ♖d2≠, 1. ♖d4+ ♖d4:+ 2. ♖f6 ♖c5≠.

2nd Com.: No.455 by Stanko Milenković

(Yugoslavia). Classic duplex, masterly constructed. I especially like the way to avoid a tempo move by the Black Rook along the opened d-line: 1.Td8? would be a critical move after 1... Sd4. B→ *1... ♖d4 2. ♖d2 ♖g1:≠, 1. ♖c3 ♖g2 2. ♖c1 ♖d2≠; W→ *1... ♖d6 2. ♖g5 ♖h6≠, 1.g5 ♖f3: 2. ♖g4 ♖h3≠.

3rd Com.: No.470 by Anatoly Stepochkin (Russia). Another nice problem which contains many elements of a classic beauty: set play, capture of mating white piece and black castling... *1... ♖f5 2.0-0-0 ♖d6≠, 1. ♖e7:+ g6 2. ♖d8 ♖c7≠.

HELPMATE MOREMOVERS

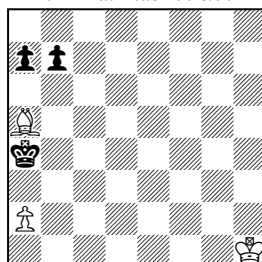
1st Prize: No.552 by Borislav Stojanović (Yugoslavia). Convincingly the best achievement in the tourney. Excelsior march of the White Pawn taking five out of six available moves through extremely crowded a-line and sacrifice of the sole white officer make a phantastic impression. The whole manoeuvre is elegant and masterly defined. A helpmate for every anthology! 1.b5 ♖b6 2. ♖b4 a4 3.ab6 a5 4. ♖a4 a6 5. ♖a5 a7 6. ♖a6 a8 ♖≠.

2nd Prize: No.547 by Jorma Paavilainen

(Finland). Another masterpiece! The Black Queen, although initially attacked by both white thematic units, will be captured only after it performs a clearance of the white line and sacrifices itself on a very precisely chosen square. On first and third move white occupies the square vacated previously

Borislav Stojanović

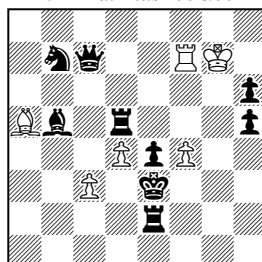
1.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99



h#6 3+3

Jorma Paavilainen

2.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99



h#3 b) ♖e3→d3 6+9

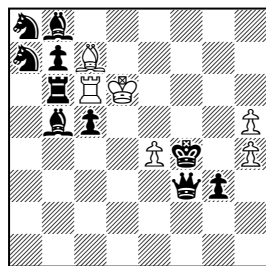
by the Black Queen in the spirit of Umnov effect (which is once delayed). The idea is realized by use of a fine twinning, by minimal removal of the BK to adjacent square, in complete diagonal/orthogonal analogy. a) 1. ♖f4: ♙c7 2. ♖f1 ♖f1: 3. ♙d3 ♙f4≠, b) 1. ♖c3: ♖c7 2. ♖e1 ♙e1: 3. ♖d4: ♖c3≠.

Anatoliy Steepochkin
3.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99

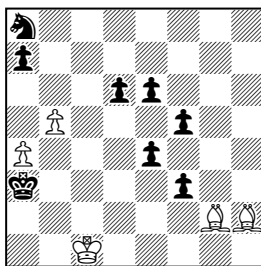
Artur Garcer
4.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99

**Leonid Makaronez &
Semion Shifrin**
1.HM Mat Plus 1998/99

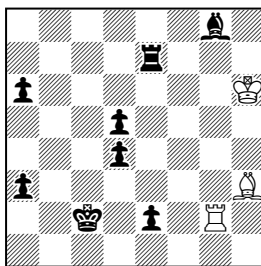
Albert Grigoryan
2.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



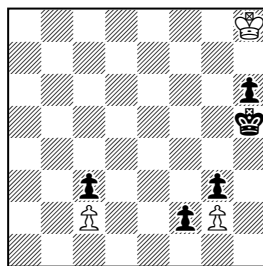
h#3 b) ♖f4→h6 6+10



h#3 b) ♙c1→c8 5+8



h#3 b) ♖c7→b4 3+8
c) ♖c2→b2



h#7 3+5

3rd Prize: No.488 by **Anatoliy Steepochkin** (Russia). An original and paradoxical Zilahi mechanism with plenty of fine details. The basic idea is the capture of white linemovers instead of potential unpins. The visual effect which leave the Black Knights' gallop from the corner toward their distant King remind on the Nightrider movement. Note that the BR and Bb8 are not artificially added to fake the unpinning play. They are necessary for the determination of the play – the White King must first fly from the attack from just formed black battery. a) 1. ♖c6: ♙d5+ 2. ♗e5 ♙d8 3. ♗g4 ♙g5≠, b) 1. ♗c7: ♙e7+ 2. ♗e6 ♖c8 3. ♗g7 ♖h8≠.

4th Prize: No.487 by **Artur Garcer** (Russia). One of the most original helpmates I have seen recently. The King and the Pawn march towards each other in opposite directions, cleaning by the way White Pawns which determine the black paths. The endings are selfblocks by the Black Pawn (one of which is remote!) and beautiful chameleon echo models. Reciprocal Bishop moves are in oposite correspondence to the black play, underlining the harmony of the composition as a whole. Excellent! a) 1.a6 ♙f1 2.ab5 ♙c4 3.ba4 ♙d6:≠, b) 1. ♙a4: ♙d6: 2. ♙b5: ♙c7 3. ♙a6 ♙f1≠.

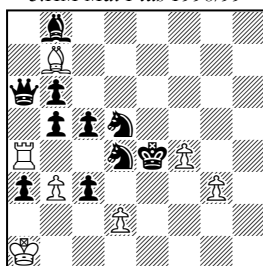
1st Hon. Mention: No.546 by **Leonid Makaronez & Semion Shifrin** (Israel). All three minor promotions of the unpinned Black Pawn are attractively connected to the play of the White Bishop along the gradually shortened diagonal line. Very harmonous and unusual helpmate threemover. a) 1. ♙d3 ♙c8 2.e1♙ ♖c2 3. ♙c3 ♙a6:≠, b) 1. ♙c3 ♙d7 2.e1♗ ♙a4 3. ♗d3 ♖c2≠, c) 1. ♙a1 ♙e6 2.e1♖ ♙d5: 3. ♖b1 ♖a2≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.498 by **Albert Grigoryan** (Armenia). Excellent moremover with promotion of a Black Bishops pair. It is wonderful to watch how in course of the solution the position becomes cleared from the Pawns which would be sufficient in a beautiful final idal mate position. 1.f1 ♙ ♙g7 2. ♙d3 ♙f6 3. ♙c2: ♙e5 4. ♙g6 ♙f4 5.c2 ♙g3: 6.c1 ♙ ♙h3 7. ♙g5 g4 ≠.

3rd Hon. Mention: No.548 by **Tode Ilievski** (Macedonia). Fine Zilahi mechanism with Umnov effects in excellent twins, gained by an innocent removal of the White Pawn by one square. a) 1. ♖a4: ♙c6 2. ♗f3 ♙e8 3. ♖d4 ♙g6≠, b) 1. ♖b7: ♖c4 2. ♗f4: ♖c3: 3. ♖d5 ♖c3≠.

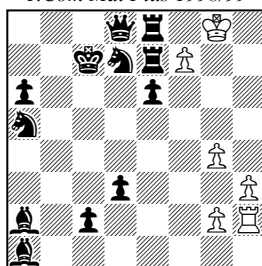
1st Com.: No.492 by **Gábor Cseh** (Hungary). If we disregard (usually) unforgivable drawback in check to the White King in initial position, we would discover the work of a master. I am convinced that it is extremely difficult to realize in a helpmate twomover the combination with idea on defered capture on the same square of promoted Rook and Bishop. Here the author succeeded to show it in by no means impersonal play (which is common in task-problems), with uniform and ingeniously determined manoeuvres. a) 1... fe8♙ 2. ♖c8 g3 3. ♙d8 ♖c2: 4. ♙e8: ♖c8:≠, b) 1... fe8♖ 2. ♗e5 g5 3. ♙d7 ♗g4 4. ♙e8: ♗f6≠.

Tode Ilievski
3.HM Mat Plus 1998/99



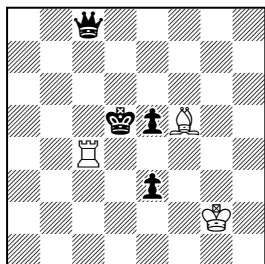
h#3 b) ♗g3→g4 7+10

Gábor Cseh
1.Com Mat Plus 1998/99

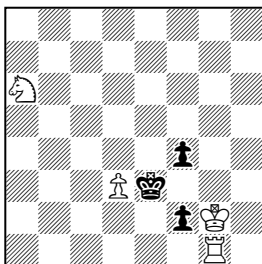


h#4 W→ (♙ in check!) 6+12
b) ♗h2

Srećko Radović & Nebojša Joksimović
2.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



Albert Grigoryan
3.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



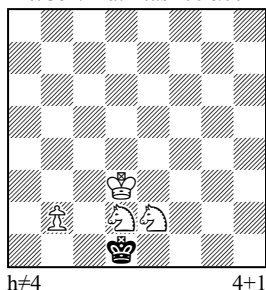
2nd Com.: No.544 by Srećko Radović & Nebojša Joksimović (Yugoslavia). Not new, but skillfully constructed combination with double Indian. In both solutions the Queen has a choice between two paths, but she selects the one which avoids the capture of the white piece. 1. ♖f8 ♕b1 2. ♗f4 ♜c2 3. ♖e4 ♜d2≠, 1. ♗a6 ♜h4 2. ♗d3 ♕g4 3. ♖e4 ♕c6≠.

3rd Com.: No.484 by Albert Grigoryan (Armenia). Two uniform solutions with black minor promotions and ideal mates. Interesting (or natural?) correspondence of promoted and mating pieces. 1.f1 ♖ ♖b4 2. ♖g3 ♜d1 3. ♖e2 ♖c2≠, 1.f1 ♜ ♖c5 2. ♜d1 ♖b3 3. ♜d3: ♜e1≠.

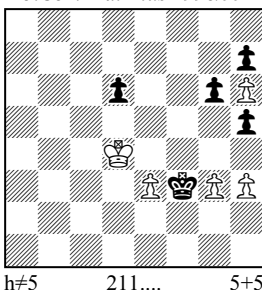
4th Com.: No.551 by Vladan Vučković (Yugoslavia). A pair of White Knights is a trademark of the author who has intensively explored this field. Here is, by addition of only one White Pawn, presented beautiful and surprising theme – Black King’s switchback from a remote square. 1. ♖e1 ♖c2 2. ♖f2 ♖b1 3. ♖e1 ♖f3+ 4. ♖d1 ♖c3≠.

5th Com.: No.496 by Luigi Vitale (Italy). Problem with two solutions of equal weight, which will complement the collection “Kings and Pawns” by Tomislav Petrović and Slobodan Šaletić, experts in this field. 1.g5 h4 2. ♖h4 ♖e6 3.h4 ♖e4 4. ♖h5 ♖f5 5.d5 g4≠, 1. ♖g3: ♖d5 2. ♖h4 ♖e6 3. ♖g5 h4+ 4. ♖h6: ♖f6 5.g5 hg5≠.

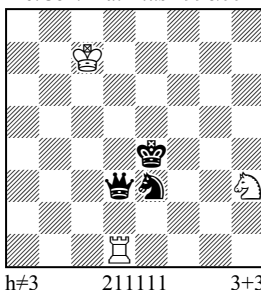
Vladan Vučković
4.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



Luigi Vitale
5.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



Sergei Rumyantsev
6.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



Vladan Vučković
7.Com Mat Plus 1998/99



6th Com.: No.483 by Sergei Rumyantsev (Russia). Two beautiful chameleon echo ideal mates. I like the Q/S interference very much! 1. ♖g2 ♖c6 2. ♗e3 ♜d5 3. ♖f4 ♖g5≠, 1. ♖e5 ♖f4 2. ♗e4 ♜d6 3. ♖f5 ♖g6≠.

7th Com.: No.549 by Vladan Vučković (Yugoslavia). Another successful discovery, this time with minimal material. A chess-problem touch this work gains from a paradoxical Black King’s journey to another edge of the board, although it seems that it is easier to construct the mate if he sticks to the initial edge. 1. ♖b4 ♖c3 2. ♖c3 ♖b3 3. ♖c2 ♖f2 4. ♖d1 ♖e3≠.

Beograd, 05.06.2006.
Darko Šaljić

SELFMATES 1998-1999

Judge: Marjan Kovačević

There were 15 selfmates, none of which below usually high level of originals in the magazine. However, Selfmate Art has developed much since 1998 and many works look less original and intensive today.

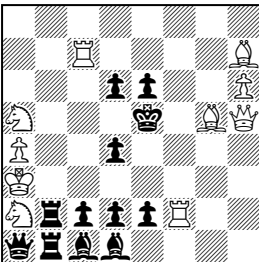
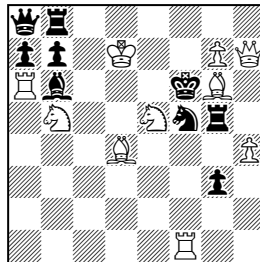
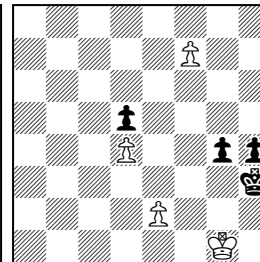
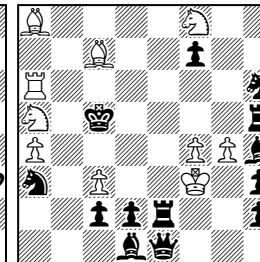
Luckily enough, the winner seem as surviving passing time and gives important quality to this Award. My selection is following:

1st Prize: No.503 by **Milivoj S. Nešić** (Yugoslavia). Reciprocally changed second white moves with all four different mating moves. The two long shots by front piece of white battery fulfill different aims: control of distant flights (Set) and Siers-effects (Solution). Finally, the threat is much more than a technical introduction for the main theme. The second move of the threat completes reconstruction of the white battery in the solution, since Qh5, as well as Bg5, performs individual checking action. The third move of threat completes reciprocal change of active and passive functions of Rc7 and Sa5 between set and actual play. The fact that mating moves are executed on five adjacent squares, from b3 to b7, makes only a part of highly artistic presentation. Construction is skilful and picturesque, the key is both thematically reach and elegant, and there is a pretty little detail in how Sa5 spreads (and changes) his influence to all four available squares. A great selfmate that could have won many other tourneys!

1... d3 2.♙d2:+(A) ♘d4: 3.♘b3+ ♖b3:≠, 1... d5 2.♙d8+(♙) ♘d6 3.♘b7+ ♖b7:≠; 1.♖b7! ~ 2.♗h2+ ♘d5 3.♖b5+ ♖b5:≠, 1... d3 2.♙d8+(A) ♘d4: 3.♙b6+ ♖b6:≠, 1... d5 2.♙d2:+(♙) ♘d6: 3.♙b4+ ♖b4:≠.

2nd Prize: No.501 by **Vukota Nikoletić** (Yugoslavia). A study of white battery play with four different purposes: unpinning (2.Sf3), interference (2.Sf7), Siers-effect (2.Sc4) and avoiding negative effects (2.Sd3). The 1...Rg4 line only partially defends the threat, but it adds spontaneously to the completely selfmate-strategy. The construction is light and pleasant.

1.♘c7! ~ 2.♘f3+ ♘d4: 3.♘d5+ ♖d5:≠, 1... ♗g4 2.♘d3+ ♖d4:+ 3.♘d5+ ♖d5:≠, 1... ♗g6: 2.♘c4+ ♘f7 3.♘d6+ ♖d6:≠, 1... ♖e8 2.♘f7+ ♖e5 3.♘e8+ ♗e8:≠.

<p>Milivoj S. Nešić 1.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99</p>  <p>s≠3* 10+12</p>	<p>Vukota Nikoletić 2.Pr Mat Plus 1998/99</p>  <p>s≠3 10+9</p>	<p>Waldemar Tura 1.HM Mat Plus 1998/99</p>  <p>s≠6 4+4</p>	<p>Aleksandr Azhusin 2.HM Mat Plus 1998/99</p>  <p>s≠4 10+13</p>
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1st Hon. Mention: No.509 by **Waldemar Tura** (Poland). A nice Miniature (according to Nenad Petrović's extension for selfmates) for the "Kings & Pawns" collection. Two Chameleon-Echo mates with interesting WQ manuevres.

1.f8♗! (~), 1... ♘g3 2.♗f1 h3 3.♗f6 h2+ 4.♘h1 ♘h3 5.♗f2 g3 6.♗f4 g2≠, 1... g3 2.♗f4 g2 3.e4! de4 4.♗e4: ♘g3 5.♗f5 h3 6.♗e4 h2≠.

2nd Hon. Mention: No.507 by **Aleksandr Azhusin** (Russia). Creation of three different white batteries. The use of Novotny interference leaves somewhat confusing feeling and a wish there was a fourth variation to connect two pairs.

1.g5! ~ 2.♖c6+/♙b6+, 1... ♙g5: 2.♖c6+ ♘d5 3.♖c6+ ♘c5 4.♖e5+ ♖e5:≠, 1... ♗g5: 2.♙b6+ ♘d6 3.♙d8+ ♘c5 4.♙e7+ ♖e7:≠, 1... ♘c4 2.♘b7!+ ♘d5 3.♘d6+ ♘c5 4.♘e4+ ♖e4:≠.

Vladan Vučković

1.Com Mat Plus 1998/99

Vukota Nikoletić

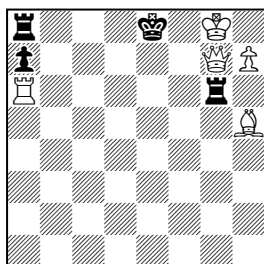
2.Com Mat Plus 1998/99

Aleksandr Pankratyev

2.Com Mat Plus 1998/99

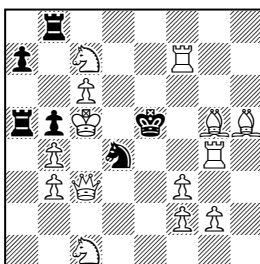
Miomir Nedeljković

Spec. Com Mat Plus
1998/99



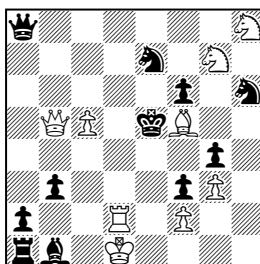
s≠4

5+4



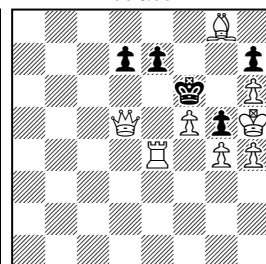
s≠4

14+6



s≠3*

9+11



s≠2

8+5

1st Com.: No.505 by Vladan Vučković (Yugoslavia). A lovely little logical combination: sacrifice to prevent the castle, followed by unpinning execution. Charming!

1. ♖h8? ~ 2. ♖e7+, 1... ♔d8 2. ♖d7+, 1... 0-0-0+!; 1. ♜e6+! ♔d8 2. ♜e8+ ♖e8: 3. ♖h8!

2nd Com.: No.506 by Vukota Nikoletić (Yugoslavia). Triple unpinning of Sd4 as a common motive for typically selfmate play. Pity that Sc1 and Bh5 take part in only one variation each.

1. ♖b2! ~ 2. ♖e2+ ♔e2: 3. ♙f4+ ♔f4: 4. ♔d3+ ♔d3:≠, 1... ♜d8 2. ♙f6+ ♖f5 3. ♜g5+ ♖f4 4. ♔e6+ ♔e6:≠, 1... ♜a2 2. f4+ ♖c4 3. ♙g6+ ♔f5 4. ♖c2+ ♜c2:≠.

3rd Com.: No.502 by Aleksandr Pankratyev (Russia). Reciprocal second white moves, as in the 1. Prize. However, the difference is huge, for the main question is not “What” but “How”. Here we see only two different mating moves, with much simpler effects.

1... ♔ef5: 2. ♔g6+ ♖e4 3. ♖d3+ ♙d3:≠, 1... ♔hf5: 2. ♔f7+ ♖e4 3. ♖d3+ ♙d3:≠; 1. ♖d3! ~ 2. ♖e3+ ♖e4 3. ♖e4+ ♙e4:≠, 1... ♔ef5: 2. ♔f7+ ♔f7: 3. ♖f5:+ ♙f5:≠, 1... ♔hf5: 2. ♔g6+ ♔g6: 3. ♖f5:+ ♙f5:≠.

Spec. Com.: No.500 by Miomir Nedeljković (Yugoslavia) – *Dedicated to Dr. T. Petrović*. With only 13 pieces on the board there are three variations following e.p. Key after a stalemate strategy.

1. fg6! ep (~), 1... e6 2. ♖d6 hg6≠, 1... e5 2. ♖d7: hg6≠, 1... d6 2. ♙e6 hg6≠.

Zemun, 12.06.2006.

Marjan Kovačević

MAT PLUS CHALLENGE No.1 1998

Theme for this tourney was indeed very challenging, thus justifying the header of the announcement. There were some objections to as demanding theme as this one was. For instance, Theodor Tauber wrote to me: “A very good idea, but if you want to popularize the tournament, I think you must propose more simple themes”. Theo is right, but only partly. The purpose of the popularization should not be only to attract as many novices as possible. We must also think sometimes about the experienced composers and masters, who usually are not motivated enough by simple themes and occasionally need a more demanding instigation. The artistry of prize-winning problems is the best argument in favour of this attitude.

The aim of this challenge was to attract the masters – and the masters were attracted! I received 12 entries by four World famous authors: Michel Caillaud from France (1 twomover), Aaron Hirschenson from Israel (?), Marjan Kovačević from Yugoslavia (2) and Yosi Retter from Israel (2). The overall quality was extremely high and ALL problems deserved the place in the award!

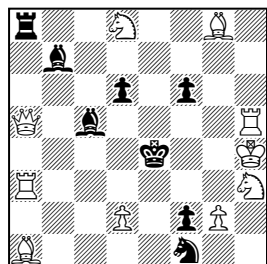
The judgement was not too difficult because I could easily divide the entries into 3 qualitative groups: a prize-winning level entries recognized by either great originality or content extended beyond the thematic requirement, not to mention the exemplar composing technique; a honorable mention level problems, without formal defects like same refutation for two tries (set-play form was a convenient way to avoid this); and a commendation level entries with that kind of imperfection, but still are noteworthy achievements. I knew the names of authors beforehand, but this never influenced my judgement. The fact is that two problems by my countryman and a very good friend are between the prizewinners, but this is simply because both are – brilliant!

Theme required the cyclic mating permutations based on white errors (insted of so far almost exclusively used black weakenings), where in each phase one thematic mate is prevented by some kind of white weakness (i.e. self-interference/obstruction, unsupported square etc.), while remaining two are separated after black defences. As mentioned in the announcement, the greatest difficulty the composer is here faced to is how to cope with black defence which is not thematic variation in respective phase and tends to produce a dual mate. As it was suggested that, the most suitable way is to make the move in question a non-defence. I would add that in the set play phase, if present, this third black move can simply be ignored.

1st Prize: No.11 by Marjan Kovačević. Fascinating problem in all respects: extreme originality, spectacular key, eye-catching construction with white pieces arranged along the edges of the board and no pieces in black king's field. In initial position ♖f2 is never mate since BK escapes to f4. Obviously, white has to guard this square. 1. ♖f3 does it, and at the same time, moving anticritically, threatens 2.d3#. It seems that no harm is done to white position, but now comes the climax of the idea: after 1... ♗e3 or 1... ♗c3 anticritical move turns out to be at the same time the critical one, since d3 is guarded no more! Key 1. ♖f5 weakens the square f5 giving the flight to BK, introducing thematically less interesting, but due to the flight-giving first move more attractive phase (and rightly selected to be the solution since only here the only underused white piece, Se8, gets its role in guarding the square e6). *1... ♗e3, ♗a3: 2.d3, ♖f5# [2. ♗f2??]; 1. ♖f3? ~ 2.d3#, 1... ♗e3, ♗e3 2. ♗f2:, ♖f5# [2.d3??], (1... ♗a6 2. ♗d5#), 1... ♗d2:!, 1. ♖f5! ~ 2. ♖f4#, 1... ♗a3:, ♗e3 2. ♗f2:, d3# [2. ♖f5??], (1... ♗f5: 2. ♗h7#).

Marjan Kovačević

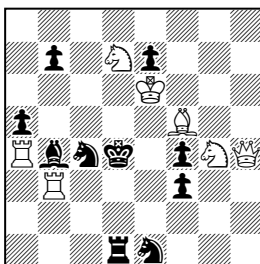
1.Pr MP Challenge No.1
1998



≠2*✓ 10+8

Aaron Hirschenson

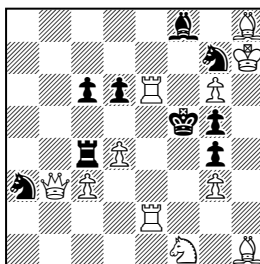
2.Pr MP Challenge No.1
1998



≠2*✓ 7+10

Aaron Hirschenson

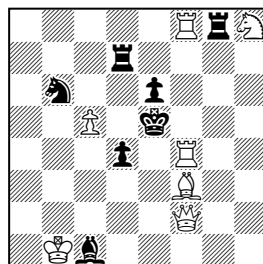
3.Pr MP Challenge No.1
1998



≠2*✓ 11+9

Marjan Kovačević

4.Pr MP Challenge No.1
1998



≠2*✓ 7+7

2nd Prize: No.4 by Aaron Hirschenson. Try 1.♔g5? and key 1.♔c3! both add the guard for 2.♖c4:≠, but respectively interfere the WQ mates from h8 and f2. At the same time, these moves cut the lines d6-f4 or d2-f4 this making the black defences ♖d6 and ♖d2 ineffective when unwanted. Light setting with no white pawns and additional change after 1... ♗g2 – a masterly constructed twomover! *1... ♖d2, ♖d6 2.♖h8, ♖f2≠ [2.♖c4??]; 1.♔ge5? ~ 2.♖f4:≠, 1... ♖d2, ♗d2/♗d6 2.♖c4:≠, ♖f2≠ [2.♖h8??], (1... ♗g2 2.♗f3:≠), 1... ♗d3!; 1.♔c3! ~ 2.♖f4:≠, 1... ♖d6, ♗d2/♗d6 2.♖c4:≠, ♖h8≠ [2.♖f2??], (1... ♗g2/♗d3 2.♗c2≠).

3rd Prize: No.7 by Aaron Hirschenson. Thematic moves of BRc4 in the set play separate two Somov mates. After the flight-giving removals of WRc6 these mates are possible when BSg7 opens the guard by WBh8 to f6. However, duals in neatly defeated try and in actual play are avoided by white self-obstruction, while position of white key piece alternatively makes one of BR moves ineffective so that mate 2.♖f7 appears after different black moves in respective phases. Interesting and attractive conception! *1... ♖d4:, ♖c3: 2.♗e3, ♖e4≠ [2.♖f7??]; 1.♖6e3? ~ 2.♖f2≠, 1... ♖d4:, ♗e6 2.♖f7, ♖e4≠ [2.♗e3??], 1... ♗h5!; 1.♖6e4! ~/♗f6 2.♖f2≠, 1... ♖c3:, ♗e6 2.♖f7, ♗c3≠ [2.♖e4??].

4th Prize: No.11 by Marjan Kovačević. The same method as in the winner, now with diagonal (anti)critical line. The problem did not match the artistry of its counterpart, but, anyway, it is by all means an excellent twomover. A small imperfection in possibility of alternate try move 1.♖b7? is not worth disturbing the exemplar economy by adding i.e. BBc8 or BPc6. *1... ♖d5, ♖f7 2.♖c4, ♖d4:≠ [2.♗f7??]; 1.♖c6? ~ 2.♖c4≠, 1... ♖d5, ♗d5 2.♗f7, ♖d4:≠ [2.♖c4??], (1... ♖f4: 2.♖f4:≠), 1... ♖g4!; 1.♖h4! ~ 2.♖f6≠, 1... ♖f7, ♗d5 2.♗f7:, ♖c4≠ [2.♖d4??], (1... ♖g5, ♖f8:/♖g6 2.♖g5:, ♗g6≠).

5th Prize: No.8 by Yosi Retter. This is the best entry without the set play, which is by no means easier form as someone could suppose. The difficulty arises from the obligation to prevent the “dual-threatening” black defence (in the set play it can simply be ignored), and to embed different refutation for two tries. Here it is done very well, with witty pinning of Sd1 after 1... ♖f1. 1.♖d4? ~ 2.♗b2≠, 1... ♖f1:, ♖b7 2.♗b4, ♗e1≠ [2.♖d5??], 1... ♖f4!; 1.♖e1? ~ 2.♗b2≠, 1... ♖b7, ♖f6 2.♖d5, ♗b4≠ [2.♗e1??], 1... ♗d2!; 1.♖b4! ~/♗c4: 2.♗b2≠, 1... ♖f1:, ♖f6 2.♖d5, ♗e1≠ [2.♗b4??].

Special Prize: No.10 by Michel Caillaud. Another extremely original and unexpedately unusual presentation of theme with all thematic defences being the black king’s flights. The only example with new mate after “third” defence 1.♖a4! ♗f3: 2.♖d1≠. The realisation with flight-taking first moves and three solutions is not quite conventional, but the fascinating conception deserves this special prize. Note that key moves by Sg4 could have been easily converted to tries, i.e. by addition of BPa5 (with same refutation 1... a4! for 1.♗e3?/♗f2:?), still in Meredith form. 1.♗e3! (~) 1... ♗f3:, ♗d3 2.♖f2:c5≠ [2.♖e3??]; 1.♗f2:~! (~) 1... ♗f3:, ♗f1 2.♖e3:c5≠ [2.♖f2??]; 1.♖a4! (~), 1... ♗d3, ♗f1 2.♖e3, ♖f2:≠ [2.c5??], 1... ♗f3: 2.♖d1≠.

Yosi Retter 5.Pr MP Challenge No.1 1998	Michel Caillaud Sp.Pr. MP Challenge No.1 1998	Aaron Hirschenson 1.HM MP Challenge No.1 1998	Aaron Hirschenson 2.HM MP Challenge No.1 1998
♠2✓✓	♠2	♠2*✓	♠2*✓
13+9	3 Sol.	9+2	8+11
			12+10

1st Hon. Mention: No.1 by Aaron Hirschenson. Excellently constructed half-pin based matrix, but inferior to the second prize. *1... ♖g7:, ♖b2: 2.♗c3, ♗f6≠ [2.♖d6??]; 1.♖c3? ~ 2.♖e5≠, 1... ♖g7:, ♖h2/♖g3 2.♖d6, ♗f6≠ [2.♗c3??], 1... ♖g7:!, 1.♖f6! ~ 2.♖e5≠, 1... ♖b2:, ♖g3/♖h2 2.♖d6, ♗c3≠ [2.♗f6??].

2nd Hon. Mention: No.3 by Aaron Hirschenson. Again a half-pin based matrix. Double threat is a small flaw. *1... ♖f7:, ♖f1 2.♗e2, ♗e6≠ [2.♖e5??]; 1.♖e2? ~ 2.♖a4/♖c4≠, 1... ♖f7:, ♖c7: 2.♖e5, ♗e6≠ [2.♗e2??], 1... ♖d6!; 1.♖e6! ~ 2.♖a4/♖c4≠, 1... ♖f1, ♖c7: 2.♖e5, ♗e2≠ [2.♗c6??], (1... ♗d5, ♖a2:/♖d3 2.♖d5:, ♖d3≠).

3rd Hon. Mention: No.2 by **Aaron Hirschenson**. Also thematically correct example, but double threat which remains effective after (non-defending) king's flight spoils the impression. *1... ♖c5, ♖a3 2. ♖d3, ♖e5:≠ [2. ♖h2??]; 1.d3? ~ 2. ♖c1/ ♖d2≠, 1... ♖c5, ♖f5: 2. ♖h2, ♖e5:≠ [2. ♖d3??], 1... ♖b4!; 1.d4! ~ 2. ♖c1/ ♖d2≠, 1... ♖a3, ♖f5: 2. ♖h2, ♖d3≠ [2. ♖e5??].

1st Commendation: No.9 by **Yosi Retter**. Harmonious and economical, but both tries are defeated by the same BK move. 1. ♖e2? ~ 2. ♖f2≠, 1... ♖d6, ♖f8 2. ♖f3, ♖e5≠ [2. ♖e2??], 1... ♖c5!; 1. ♖f3? ~ 2. ♖f2≠, 1... ♖d6, ♖b2 2. ♖e2, ♖e5≠ [2. ♖f3??], 1... ♖c5!; 1. ♖e3e5! ~ 2. ♖f2≠, 1... ♖f8, ♖b2 2. ♖e2, ♖f3≠ [2. ♖e5??], (1... ♖c5, ♖e6: 2. ♖d5:, ♖b4:≠).

<p>Aaron Hirschenson 3.HM MP Challenge No.1 1998</p> <p>♠2*✓ 12+9 ♠2✓✓</p>	<p>Yosi Retter 1.Com. MP Challenge No.1 1998</p> <p>♠2*✓ 9+8 ♠2✓✓</p>	<p>Aaron Hirschenson 2.Com. MP Challenge No.1 1998</p> <p>♠2*✓ 10+8 ♠2*✓</p>	<p>Aaron Hirschenson Sp.Com. MP Challenge No.1 1998</p> <p>♠2*✓ 10+10</p>
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2nd Commendation: No.5 by **Aaron Hirschenson**. Again half-pin matrix, unfortunately with cruel refutations. 1. ♖c6? ~ 2. ♖g7≠, 1... ♖f2, ♖c6 2. ♖d4:, ♖f5≠ [2. ♖e6??], 1... ♖e6!:; 1. ♖f5? ~ 2. ♖g7≠, 1... ♖b6:, ♖c6 2. ♖d4:, ♖e6≠ [2. ♖f5??], 1... ♖f5!:; 1. ♖e7!: ~ 2. ♖f6≠, 1... ♖f2, ♖b6: 2. ♖e6, ♖f5≠ [2. ♖d4??], (1... ♖f1 2. ♖e4:≠).

Special Commendation: No.6 by **Aaron Hirschenson**. Good, but not quite thematic since white knight mates from different departure squares. *1... ♖h7, ♖c2: 2.c4, ♖d7≠ [2. ♖b6??]; 1. ♖c4? ~ 2. ♖c6:≠, 1... ♖h7, ♖d4 2. ♖(c)b6:, ♖d7≠ [2.c4??], 1... ♖h7!:; 1. ♖d7! ~ ♖c4 2. ♖c6:≠, 1... ♖c2:, ♖d4 2. ♖(d)b6:, c4≠ [2. ♖d7??].

Milan Velimirović
International judge

EDITOR'S NOTE: Somebody may find strange to see the unexisting country as origin for domestic composers, especially because meanwhile its name (and size) has already been changed twice. (An observation of a friend of mine: our country is like a "Nokia" cell phone: with every new version it becomes smaller and smaller, but assumes more and more options). Well, at the time when this Special issue should have been printed, "Yugoslavia" was the actual name and I did not want to try to change the past.

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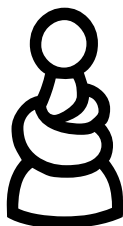
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