

Quartz TT8 Award

Memory Circe

The present tourney is the finality of an article published in Quartz no.36/2011 and dedicated to the fairy condition *Memory Circe*. I received from the tourney director, Cornel Păcurar, 13 non-retro problems and 7 retro problems. It is worth noticing that half of the entries were submitted during the one-month extension of the initial deadline. The number of problems is relatively modest, but I have distinguished some very successful works.

A) Non-retro Section:

Entries that did not make it into the award:

NR1 (Dominique Forlot, h#5): The pawns' double-step is only possible from the 2nd (or the 7th, respectively) rank.

NR2 (Dominique Forlot, ser-s#16): Cook 1.Sg3 2.Qxc4 3.Qxc1(+c4) 4.Kf7 5.Kg6 6.Kh5 7.Kg4 8.Kf3 9.Ke2 10.Qf1 11.Kd1 12.Kc2 13.Qh3 14.Qh5/Qd7 15.Qf7 16.d4+ cxd3(+Sc1)#

NR4 (Dominique Forlot, #4, with neutral Pawn): It would have been preferable to achieve the idea without neutral Pawn.

NR6 (Bernard Delobel, h#3, 2 solutions): The second mate is not model mate.

NR8 (Vlaicu Crişan, h#2): Cook in a) 1.Kxd3(+Re4) nBe5 2.nBc3 LEg3#

NR10 (Diyan Kostadinov, h=-1.5): Here the Memory Circe condition is just an accessory.

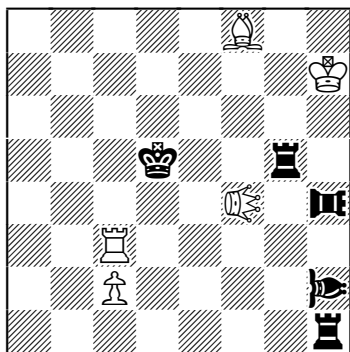
NR12 (Vlaicu Crişan, ser-h#3): Cook in b) 1.Re6 2.Ke5 3.Kf5 Qxe6(+Sh3)#

NR13 (Cornel Păcurar, ser-!=7): Cook in a) 1.Ke5 2.Kf5 3.Re7 4.Rxe4(+Sd8, +PRd3)

Finally, here is the award:

Vlaicu Crişan

1st Prize Quartz TT8, Section A



hs#3 (5+5)

Memory Circe

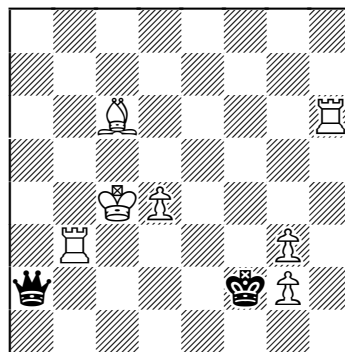
In memory: wS

Leo f4, Pao h4, Vao h2

2 solutions

Eric Huber

2nd Prize Quartz TT8, Section A



hs#2 (7+2)

Long Memory Circe

In memory: wQ, bQ

b) bQa2→c7

1st Prize (Vlaicu Crişan, NR9): A perfect ortho-diagonal correspondence in an economical presentation and with model mates. Black and White create anti-batteries.

Solutions:

1.Rc4 Kxc4(+Sc3) 2.LEc7 P Af4 3.Bc5+ V Axc7(-Rc4)# [3...Kxc5(+Rc4)??]
 1.Bd6 Kxd6(+Sf8) 2.LEb4 V Af4 3.Rc5+ P Axb4(-Bd6)# [3...Kxc5(+Bd6)??]

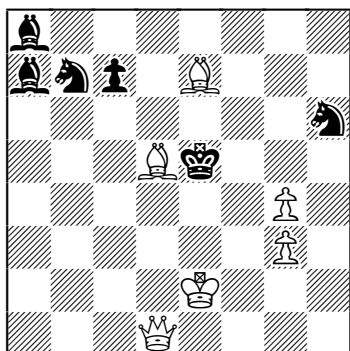
2nd Prize (Eric Huber, NR11): Once again an ODT concept is magnificently achieved, this time without fairy pieces. It is remarkable that the two prizes of the non-retro section are obtained in the recently relaunched 'help-selfmate' genre.

Solutions:

a) 1.Kd5! Kxg2(+wQe1) 2.Kc4+ Qxb3(+bQd5)#
 b) 1.Kc3! Kxg3(+wQf5) 2.Kc4+ Qxc6(+bQc3)#

Bernard Delobel

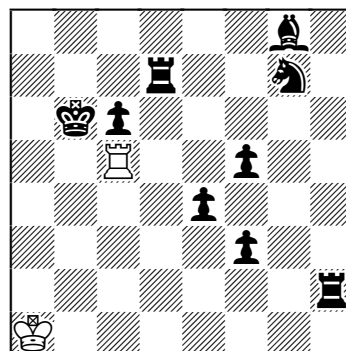
1st Commendation Quartz TT8, Section A



#3 (6+6)
Memory Circe

Bernard Delobel

2nd Commendation Quartz TT8, Section A



ser-s#16 (2+9)
Long Memory Circe

1st Commendation (Bernard Delobel, NR7): A direct mate problem that is original is not easy to achieve, but NR7 is such an example.

Solution:

1.Qd2! (2.Qf4+ Kxd5 3.Qe4 #)
 1...Sd6 2.Bf6+ Kxf6 3.Qg5 #
 1...Sc5 2.Qd4+ Kxd4 3.Bf6 #

2nd Commendation (Bernard Delobel, NR5): The problem uses an unusual stipulation to achieve a spectacular theme: long diagonal of the white King.

Solution:

1.Rc2 2.Kb2 3.Kc3 4.Rd2 5.Rxd7 6.Kd4 7.Ke5 8.Kf6 9.Kxg7 10.Rd6 11.Rh6 12.Kh8
 13.Rxh2(+Rd7, +Sg7) 14.Ra2 15.Ra8 16.Rxg8(+Rh2) #

B) Retro Section:

R2 and R6 were cooked:

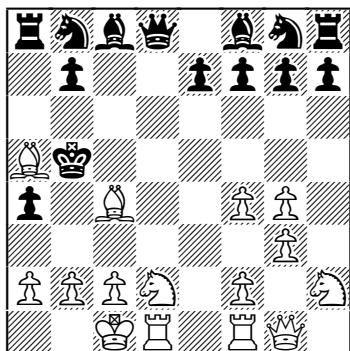
R2 (Nicolas Dupont, PG 13.5): Cook 1.Sc3 **Sf6** 2.Sd5 Sg4 3.Sxe7 Sc6 4.Sg8 Qe7 5.a4 Kd8 6.a5 Qe8 7.a6 Sxh2(+bPe7) 8.**g3** Sg4 9.Rh2 Sf6 10.Rg2 Sxg8(+wPh2) 11.g4 Sb8.

R6 (Gani Ganapathi, PG 10.5): Cook **6.c7!** Ra3 7.cxb8=B(+Pa4) e6 8.Bd6 Bxd6(+Sb8) 9.Qxd6 Se7 10.Qd1 o-o.

For this section I received a few problems that surprised me by the extravagance of their ideas and by the perfect technique of their rendering. The first three Proof Games clearly stand out from the rest of the entries.

Nicolas Dupont

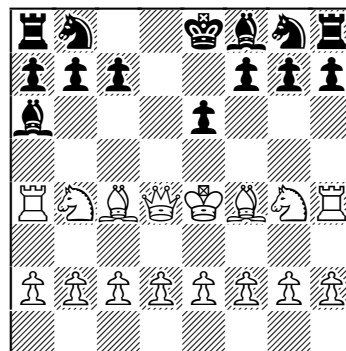
1st Prize Quartz TT8, Section B
(dedicated to Dominique Forlot)



PG 17.5 (15+14)
Memory Circe Rex Inclusive

Nicolas Dupont

2nd Prize Quartz TT8, Section B



PG 13.5 (16+14)
Memory Circe

1st Prize (Nicolas Dupont, R3): A paradox only possible, I think, in Memory Circe: both castlings are made by the same side! It is remarkable that the author managed to overcome the inherent technical difficulties to achieve this bold idea.

Solution:

1.g4 d5 2.Bg2 d4 3.Bd5 d3 4.Sf3 dxe2 5.o-o exf1=S(+Pe2) 6.Kg2 Sg3 7.Qg1 c5 8.Kf1 c4 9.Ke1 c3 10.Bc4 cxd2(+Rf1) 11.hxg3 Kd7 12.Sh2 dxe1=S 13.Bd2 Sf3 14.exf3(+Ke1) a5 15.f4 a4 16.Ba5 Kc6 17.Sd2 Kb5 18.o-o-o

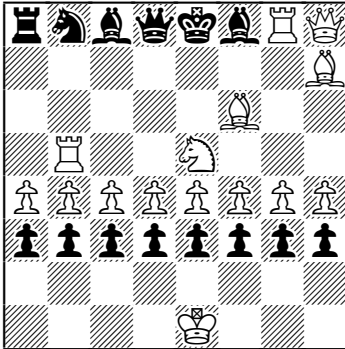
2nd Prize (Nicolas Dupont, R1): All 1st rank pieces are transported across the line of pawns and reach the 4th rank in the same formation. Amazing!

Solution:

1.Sc3 d5 2.Sxd5 Be6 3.Sb4 Bxa2(+Pd5) 4.Sf3 Bc4 5.Ra4 Bxe2(+Pa2) 6.Se5 Ba6 7.Bc4 e6 8.Ke2 Qg5 9.Kf3 Qxd2(+Pe2) 10.Sg4 Qh6 11.Bf4 d4 12.Qxd4(+Pd2) Qxh2 (-Pd4) 13.Ke4 Qh4 14.Rxh4 (+wPh2)

Vlaicu Crişan

Special Prize Quartz TT8, Section B



PG 24.0 (15+14)
Memory Circe
Stafetten Schach

Special Prize (Vlaicu Crişan, R4): The aim is hard to achieve: all black Pawns are brought to the 3rd rank and the unscathed white Pawns reach the 4th rank, a kind of *impossible mission*. That is why I was not surprised and I accepted the use of the additional fairy condition (*Stafetten Schach*).

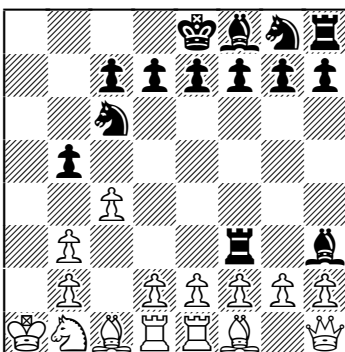
The problem has an interesting try: 1.h4 g5 2.Rh3 gxh4 3.Rg3 h3 4.Rxg8(+Ph4) h5 5.a4 b5 6.Ra3 bxa4 7.Rb3 a3 8.Rb5 a5 9.b4 axb4(+pa4) 10.e4 b3 **11.Qxh5(+pb4) f5?** 12.Qxh8(+Ph5) fxe4 13.Bd3 e3 14.Bh7 e5 15.f4 exf4(+Pe4) 16.g4 fxg3(+Pf4) 17.Bb2 d5 18.Bf6 d4 19.c4 dxc3(+Pg4) 20.Sf3 c5 21.Se5 c4 22.d4 cxd3(+Pc4) 23.Sd2 hxg4(+Pd4) 24.S2f3 gxf3(+Pg4). Pawn h5 is a new piece (it was captured), so it could resume the series of moves, I think. But the illegality still works here **11. ...f5?** (auto-check)

Solution:

1.h4 g5 2.Rh3 gxh4 3.Rg3 h3 4.Rxg8(+Ph4) h5 5.g4 hxg4 (-Sg8) 6.e4 g3 7.Qh5 d5 8.Qxh8(+Pg4) d4 9.c4 dxc3(-Rh8) 10.f4 e5 11.Sf3 exf4(+Pc4) 12.Se5 f3 13.d4 f5 14.Bg5 fxe4(+Pf4) 15.Bf6 e3 16.Bd3 c5 17.Bh7 cxd4(+Pe4) 18.a4 d3 19.Ra3 b5 20.Rb3 bxa4(+Pd4) 21.Rb5 a3 22.b4 a5 23.Sd2 a4 24.Sb3 axb3(+Pa4)

Vlaicu Crişan

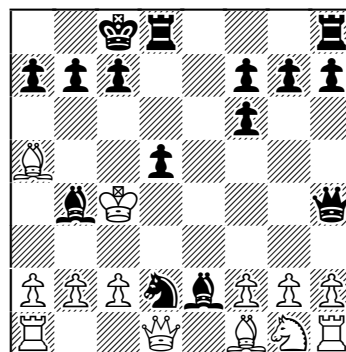
Commendation Quartz TT8, Section B



PG 15.5 (15+14)
Memory Circe

Vlaicu Crişan

Commendation Quartz TT8, Section B



PG 10.5 (13+15)
Long Memory Circe

Commendations (Vlaicu Crişan, R5) and (Vlaicu Crişan, R7): These last two Proof Games both show less spectacular, but Memory Circe-specific aspects.

Solution R5:

1.Sf3 a5 2.Sd4 a4 3.Sb3 axb3 4.axb3(-Sb3) Rxa1(-Pb3) 5.Sa3 Rxc1(+Ra1) 6.c4 Rc3
7.Qc2 b5 8.o-o-o Bb7 9.Kb1 Bxg2(+Bc1) 10.Ka1 Bh3 11.Bg2 Qc8 12.Rhe1 Qb7 13.Bf1
Qh1 14.Qe4 Sc6 15.Qxh1(+Pg2) Rf3 16.Sb1

Solution R7:

1.Sc3 Sf6 2.Sd5 Se4 3.Sxe7 Sxd2 4.Sg8 Qh4 5.Kxd2(-Pd2, +Pe7) d5 6.Kc3 Bg4
7.Qxd5(+Sd2) Sd7 8.Bxd2 o-o-o 9.Kc4 Sf6 10.Sxf6 exf6(-Sf6) 11.Ba5 Bb4 12.Qd1
Bxe2(+Sd2, +Pd5)

I congratulate all authors for their contribution to the success of this tourney. I consider that the awarded problems eloquently show the vitality of this fairy condition initiated by the French composer Dominique Forlot in 2011.

Paul Răican
Tulcea – May, 2012