QUARTZ 40

July 2014

V. Crişan, E. Huber & I. Murãraşu
1st Prize
Helpmates Quartz - 2007/2009

(5+12)   2.1.1.1   h#2
b) Rd7 → e8

Sol.:   a) 1.Kxd5 Sxc6 2.Kxc6 Rxd6#,
1.Kf5 Sxf6 2.Kxf6 Rf7#
       b) 1.dxe5 Se3 2.exf4 Rxe6#,
1.exd5 Bg3 2.Ke3 Sc4#

Helpmates Award – Quartz 2007-2009

Award by Paul Rãican

This is Quartz's last Helpmates informal tournament. The tourney is marked by the death of our specialists **Toma Garai** (b. Arad, Romania 1935, d. Van Nuys U.S.A. 2011), **Florea Vecu** (d. Giurgiu 2008) and **Ion Murãraşu** (b. Botoşani 1955, d. Galatzi 2010). Toma published over 1300 problems, mostly helpmates. In 1996, he was awarded the title of FIDE Grandmaster of Chess Composition and was a FIDE International Judge for helpmates since 1987. It was a pleasure and honour for Quartz to receive from these great composers their last masterpieces!

21 problems from 16 authors participated in the tournament. The general level of competition was satisfactory and 13 problems were classified. Unfortunately, one problem was eliminated because of its anticipation. I provide both problems for comparison (see the Appendix).

Finally, here is my ranking:

1st Prize – (698) V. CRIŞAN, E. HUBER & I. MURÃRAŞU

An outstanding work: six sacrifices of white pieces and four different model mates. A problem which could take the first Prize in any other magazine, I guess.
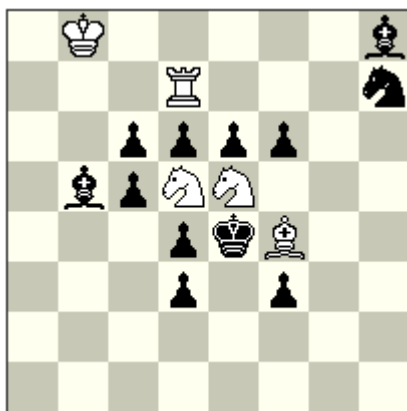
Sol.:   a) 1.Kxd5 Sxc6 2.Kxc6 Rxd6#,   1.Kf5 Sxf6 2.Kxf6 Rf7#
     b) 1.dxe5 Se3 2.exf4 Rxe6#,   1.exd5 Bg3 2.Ke3 Sc4#

<table>
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V. Crişan, E. Huber & I. Murãraşu
1st Prize
Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009

(5+12)   2 sol   h#2
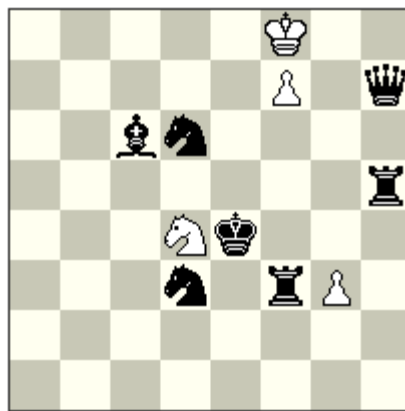**b) Rd7 → e8**

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Florea VECU †
2nd Prize
Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009

(4+7)   2 sol   h#3

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2nd Prize – (727) Florea VECU †

The correspondence between the captured and the promoted pieces has been done many times before, even with AUW (see **C**). But I admired here the perfect economy and the technique.

Sol.:   1.Re3 Sf3 2.Be8 fxe8=B! 3.Sf5 Bc6#,   1.Re5 Sf5 2.Se8 fxe8=S! 3.Bd5 Sd6#

3ʳᵈ Prize – (743) Christopher A. JONES

A pleasant concept: white Pawn c5 is captured to make way for wB & wR respectively, then Grimshaw occurs, again on c5. Perfect analogy between phases and model mates.

Sol.:   a) 1.Rxc5 Bxc5+ 2.Kf3 Bf2 3.Bc5 Rf5#   b) 1.Sxc5+ Rxc5 2.Kd2 Rc1 3.Rc5 Bh6#
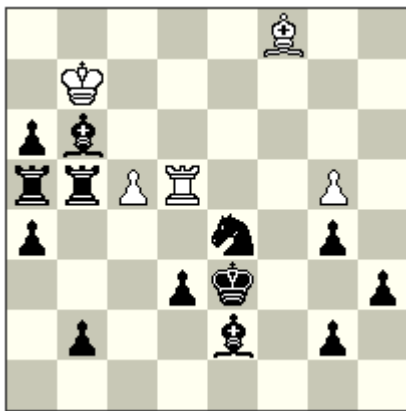
4ᵗʰ Prize – (679) Toma GARAI †

White creates two royal batteries in two directions, with change of functions between wR and wB, without twins. A very pleasant masterpiece of the late Toma Garai.

   1.Kc5 Kd3 2.Kb5 Be2 3.Bc5 Kc3#   1.Ke5 Kxe3 2.exd5 Re2 3.Ke6 Kf4#

Ch. A. JONES **3rd Prize** **Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**	**Toma GARAI †** **4th Prize** **Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**	**Florea VECU †** **1st HM** **Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**
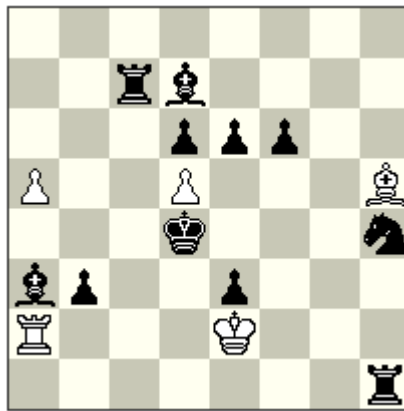
(5+13)   h#3
        b) Pg5 → e5

(5+11)   2 sol.   h#3
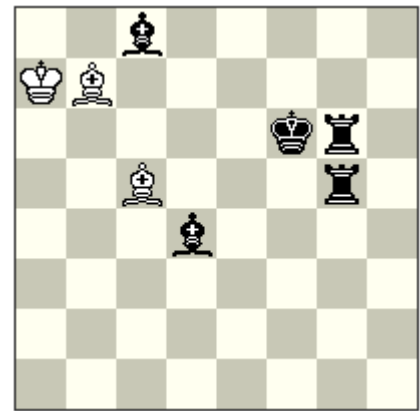
(3+5)   h#3
        b) Kf6 → f5

V. NEFYODOV
2nd HM
Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009

1ˢᵗ Honorable Mention – (726) Florea VECU †

An interesting carousel of Bishops in two analogous phases. I hope that this work is not anticipated.
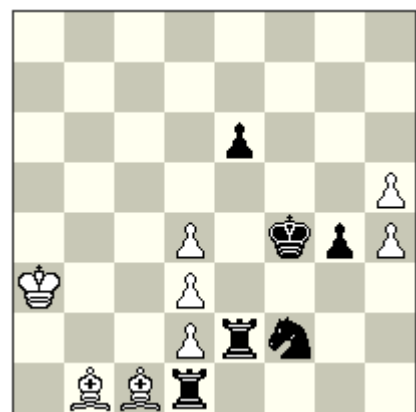
Sol.:   a) 1.Bf5 Bb6 2.Bc5 Bd5 3.Be7 Bd4#   b) 1.Bf6 Ba6 2.Bb7 Bd6 3.Be4 Bc8#

2ⁿᵈ Honorable Mention – (676) V. NEFYODOV

Two chameleon echo mates. Change of functions in this successful problem by our previous Helpmates tourney judge.

   a) 1.Re2xd2 Bxd2+ 2.Kf5 Bg5 3.Se4 dxe4#
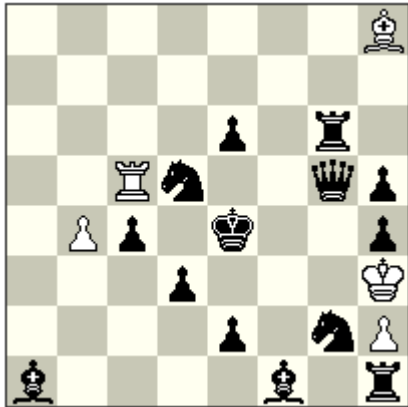   b) 1.Sxd3 Bxd3 2.g3 Be4 3.Re3+ dxe3#

(8+6)   h#3
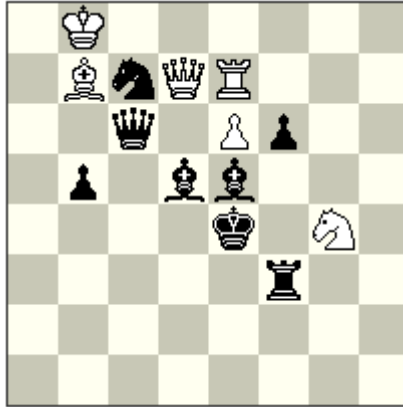   b) Ph5 → f3

Ch.A. JONES	Toma GARAI †	Franz EBNER
3rd HM	**4th HM**	**Sp. HM**
Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009	**Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**	**Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**
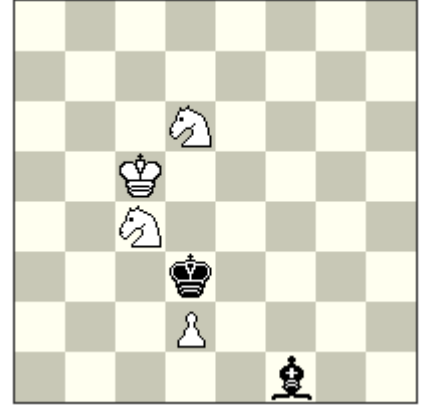
(5+14) h#3	(6+8) 2 sol. h#2	(4+2) h#3
b) Sd5 → f6		b) see text

3ʳᵈ Honorable Mention – (678) Christopher A. JONES

A heavy position, but it brings two perfectly ortho-diagonal variants. The strategy is complex, as I always expect from this talented composer.

Sol.:   a) 1.Kf5 Be5 2.Sf6 Bg3+ 3.Be5 Rxe5#   b) 1.Kd4 Re5 2.Sd5 Rxe2+ 3.Qe5 Bxe5#

4ᵗʰ Honorable Mention – (680) Toma GARAI †

Two double-pin mates, a difficult theme in two phases without twins. Again, a clear work from California.

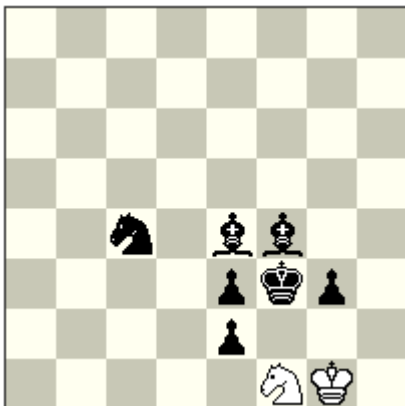1.Bxe6 Qd2 2.Bf5 Sxf6#   1.Qxe6 Qxb5 2.Qf5 Qc4#

Special Honorable Mention (for originality) – (p.574) Franz EBNER

An original twin, but I don't know if this kind of problems will be attractive in the future.

Sol.:   a) 1.Be2 Kc6 2.Kd4 Se5 3.Bd3 Sf3#   b) Mating piece in mating position replaced by wB
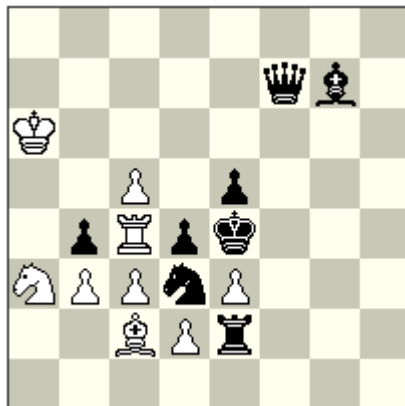
1.Bf1 Sc4 2.Kd3 Kd5 3.Be2 Be4#

Christer JONSSON	Toma GARAI †	Toma GARAI †
Comm.	**Comm.**	**Comm.**
Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009	**Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**	**Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009**

(2+7) 2 sol h#3	(9+8) 2 sol. h#2.5	(5+6) 2 sol h#2

Toma GARAI †
Comm.
Helpmates, Quartz 2007/2009
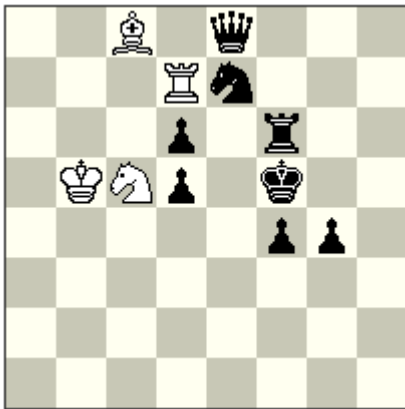
A) 699 P. Popescu
Quartz 32, 2007
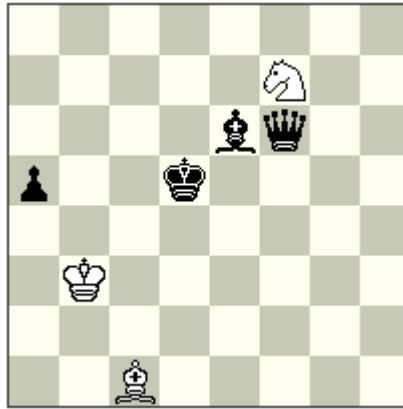
B) V. Zheglov
I.M.R. 1994

(4+8)   h#2
b) Qe8 → f8
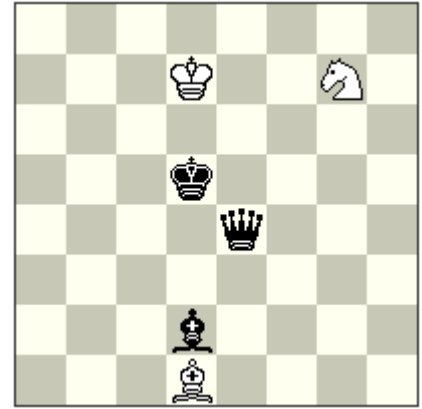
(3+4)   3 sol   h#3

(3+3)   3 sol   h#3

Commendations (without order): **677 (Jonsson), 724 (Garai), p.581 (Garai), 780 (Garai)**

677: 1.Bf5 Sxe3 2.Bg4 Sf1 3.Se3 Sd2# 1.Sd6 Sxg3 2.Sf5 Sf1 3.Sg3 Sh2#

724: 1. ... Bb1 2.Qd5 Sc2 3.Se1 Sxe1# 1. ... Rxb4 2.Qf3 Sc4 3.dxe3 Sxe3#

p.581: 1.Qb5 Sxb4+ 2.Bxe6+ Sxe6# 1.Bb5 Sxb3+ 2.Qxf4+ Sxf4#

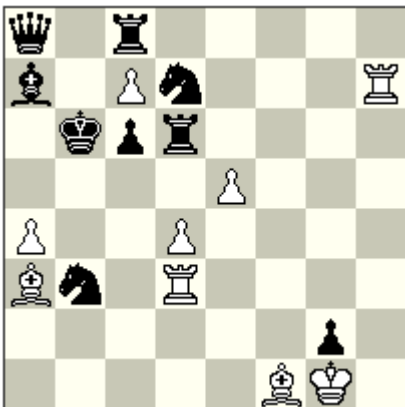**780**: a) 1.Qg6 Rxd6+ 2.Sxc8 Rxd5# b) 1.Sg6 Rh7+ 2.Qxc8 Rh5#

This award remains open to claims for the standard 3 months from publication.

Appendix: A) 699 P. Popescu: 1.Kc5+ Ka4 2.Bd5 Se5 3.Qd6 Be3#,
    1.Bf5 Bd2 2.Ke4 Kc4 3.Qe5 Sg5#, 1.Qd4 Kc2 2.Kc4 Ba3 3.Bd5 Sd6#
    anticipated by B)
    B) 1.Qf3 Se6 2.Ke4 Kd6 3.Be3 Bc2#, 1.Qc4 Bc2 2.Kd4 Kd6 3.Bc3 Sf5#,
    1.Ke5 Ke7 2.Kf4+ Kf6 3.Be3 Sh5#

C) L. UGREN & M. A. PAVLOV
Prize – Delo Tovaris 1968

C) 1.Bb8 cxb8=B 2.Kb7 Rxb3#
1.Sb8 cxb8=S 2.Sa5 Bc5#
1.Qb8 cxb8=Q+ 2.Ka5 Qxa7#
1.Rb8 cxb8=R+ 2.Kc7 Bxd6#

(9+9)   4 sol   h#2

Some astonishing proof games

by P. Rāican

This article wants to bring together some less known recent proof games. Let's begin with the 2007/08 Christmas Tourney.

The requirement was proof games with the Lortap condition: **a piece can capture if it is not controlled by a piece of his camp.**

(A) The judge's comment (Eric Pichouron): *The best problem with a capture of Pawn from its original square. As it is a central Pawn, it took moving or capturing at least four pieces. Here, even the Rook h8 will participate in the balet. White put the icing on the cake at the end with a switchback of the Knight g1 and a sibling Rook. The final position is very light, and Blacks are almost at home.*
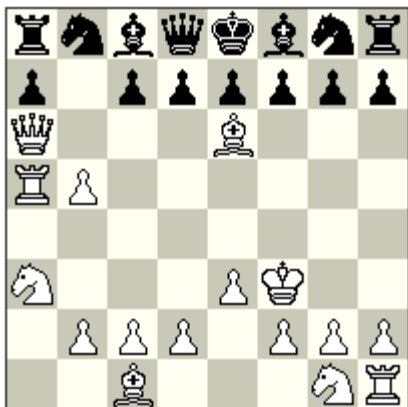
1.d3 h5 2.Qd2 h4 3.Qh6 h3 4.Qh7 Sh6 5.Qg8 h×g2 6.Q×f8+ R×f8!
7.h4 Rh8 8.Rh3 Kf8 9.Rf3 Kg8 10.Rf6 Kh7 11.f4 Qg8 12.Sf3 g1=B
13.Bh3 **e×f6!** (only now) 14.Bg4 Bc5 15.Be3 Qd8 16.Sbd2 Kg8 17.0-0-0 Kf8 18.Rh1 Ke8 19.Sg1 Bf8 20.Bc5 Sg8.

B) Eric Pichouron: *A great problem, very clean in the realization of an impossible idea into orthodox: Schnoebelen promotion to a Queen.*

1.f4 d6 2.f5 Kd7 3.f6 Ke6 4.fxe7 Kf5 **5.e8=Q!** Qf6 6.e4 Qc3 7.Qh5+ f6! 8.Qhf7 g6 9.a4 Bh6 10.a5 Be3 11.Ra4 Sh6 12.Rd4 Rxe8.

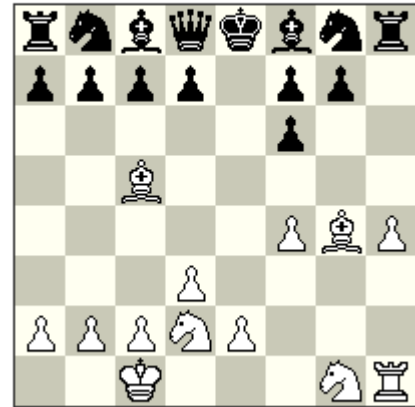**A)** M. Caillaud & N. Dupont
1 Prize, FE, jan.2008

PG 20 Lortap   13+15

B) N. Dupont
2 Prize, FE, jan.2008

PG 12 Lortap   15+15

C) N. Dupont & M. Caillaud
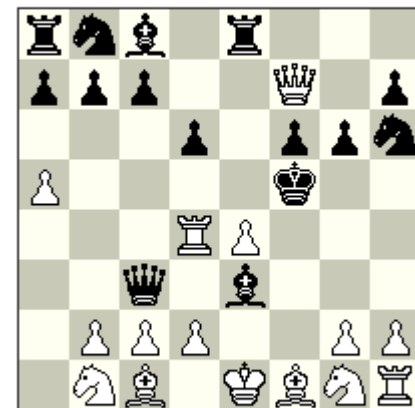3 Prize, FE, jan.2008

PG 11 Lortap   16+15

C) The question is how the a4 Pawn could take at b5. There are therefore two circuits without taking four and six steps out of ten. 1.e3 Sc6 2.Qe2 Sa5! 3.Qa6 b5 4.Bc4 Bb7 5.Be6 Bd5 6.a4 Ba2! **7.a×b5** Bd5 8.Ke2 Bb7 9.Kf3 Sc6 10.Ra5 Bc8 11.Sa3 Sb8.

D) Eric Pichouron: A new short PG in Prize's section. I loved the two en passant captures from both parts of black Rook. An well oiled mechanism:

1.a4 g5 2.a5 g4 3.Ra4 g3 4.Rg4 c5 5.Rxg8 Rxg8 6.Sf3 Rg4 7.Sd4 cxd4 **8.e4!** (e3?) **dxe3 e.p.** 9.Bb5 Rc4 10.Qg4 h5 11.Ke2 hxg4 **12.f4!** (f3?) **gxf3 e.p.+** 13.Kd3.

E) The 17th move is a marvel: this waste of time on both sides leads to attempts that almost succeed:

1.Sh3 Sc6 2.Sf4 Se5 3.Sd5 Sg4 4.Sb6 Sxh2 5.Sxc8 Sg4 6.Sb6 Qb8! 7.Rh5 Kd8 8.Re5 h5 9.d4 h4 10.d5 h3 11.d6 h2 12.Qd5 h1=B 13.Qe6 Sh2 14.g4 **fxe6** 15.Bg2 Ke8 16.Bc6 Kf7 17.f3! **dxc6** 18.d7 Bxf3 19.d8=Q Be4 20.Sd7 Bg6 21.Qxf8 Ke8 22.a4 Kd8 23.Ra3 Be8 24.Qf7 Rh7 25.Sf8 Bd7 26.Rf3! Ke8 27.a5 Qd8 28.a6 Bc8.

F) P. Wassong developed the theme and created a magnificent problem: 1.b4 Sa6 2.b5 Rb8 3.b6 axb6 4.Ba3 Ra8 5.Bd6 Sb4 6.c3 Ra3 7.Qa4 h5 8.Qa8 h4 9.Qxc8 h3 10.Qa8 Rh4 11.Qa4 Rf4 12.Qc6 hxg2 13.h4 Qa8 14.h5 Kd8 15.h6 Kc8 16.h7 Kb8 17.h8=Q **dxc6** 18.Qh3 Kc8 19.Qe3 Kd7 20.Rh3 Qd8 21.Rf3 Ra8 22.a4 Sa6 23.a5 Sb8 24.a6 gxf1=B 25.Ra5 Bh3 26.Sa3 Be6 27.Rf5 Ke8 28.Qc5 Bc8.

D) Paul Raican
4 Prize, FE, jan.2008
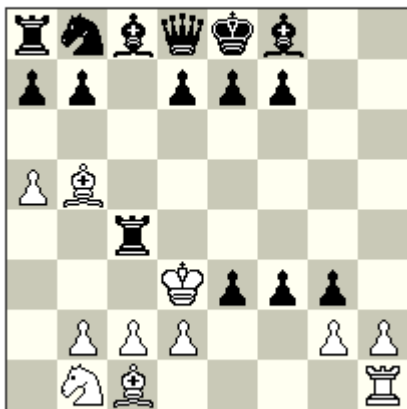
PG 12.5 Lortap   11+15
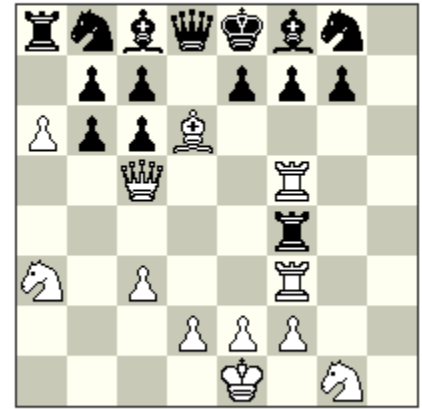
E) P. Wassong
Sp. Prize, FE, jan.2008

PG 28 Lortap   12+14

F) P. Wassong
Phenix 172, 2008

PG 28 Lortap   12+15

G) Nicolas Dupont
Problemaz 4/2008

G) Nicolas Dupont had the idea to introduce three S Schnoebelen and published the problem in Problemaz 4/2008:

1.c4 h5 2.c5 h4 3.c6 h3 4.cxb7 Sc6 **5.b8=S!** Ba6 6.e4 Bb5 7.e5 a6 8.e6 Sa7 9.exd7 e5 10.g4 Se7 11.g5 Sc8 12.g6 Qg5 **13.d8=S!** Rxb8 14.gxf7 g6 15.Qg4 Bh6 **16.f8=S!** Rb6 17.Qd7 Kxd8 18.Qd3 Rxf8.

An extraordinary realization. I don't know if the award was published.

PG 18 Lortap   13+13

Another very interesting tourney was **Osorio 55 JT**, which we announced in Quartz 33/2008. The theme was: **embracing non-contemporary twin pieces**. Here are the winners, without comments.

H) 1.d4 Sh6 2.d5 Sf5 3.d6 Sh4 4.dxe7 d5 5.e4 Bg4 6.e5 Sd7 7.e6 Sb6 8.exf7+ Kd7 9.e8=R Bd6 10.f8=R Bf4 11.Bb5+ Kd6 12.Qd3 Bd1 13.Sf3 a5 14.0-0 Qxe8 15.Re1 Qg6 16.Ree8 Rxe8 17.Be3 Sa8 18.Ba7 Rhxf8.

I) 1.Sc3 d5 2.Se4 dxe4 3.g4 Qd3 4.g5 Qf3 5.g6 Qxh1 6.gxh7 g6 7.a4 Bh6 8.a5 Bf4 9.a6 Sh6 10.axb7 a5 11.Ra3 a4 12.Rd3 a3 13.Sf3 Ra4 14.Sd4 Sa6 15.b8=S Bb7 16.Sbc6 Kd7 17.Sb4 Ra8 18.h8=R Ra7 19.Rb8 Ba8 20.Rb5 Kc8 21.Rh5 Kb8 22.Sd5.

1.Sf3 d6 2.Se5 dxe5 3.g4 Qd5 4.g5 Qxh1 5.g6 e4 6.gxh7 g6 7.a4 Bh6 8.a5 Bf4 9.a6 Sh6 10.axb7 a5 11.Ra3 a4 12.Rh3 a3 13.Sc3 Ra4 14.Sd5 Sa6 15.b8=S Bb7 16.Sc6 Kd7 17.Sd4 Ra8 18.h8=R Ra7 19.Rb8 Ba8 20.Rbb3 Kc8 21.Rbd3 Kb8 22.Rh5.

J) 1.b4 d6 2.b5 Bh3 3.b6 Sd7 4.bxa7 b5 5.g4 Sb6 6.g5 Qd7 7.g6 0-0-0 8.a8=B f5 9.Bag2(T) f4 10.e4 Qf5 11.Ke2 f3+ 12.Kd3 fxg2 13.Kc3 gxf1=B 14.Kb3 Bhg2(T) 15.Sh3 Bd3 16.Re1 Bgf1 17.cxd3.

H) **Eric Pichouron, Michel Caillaud**
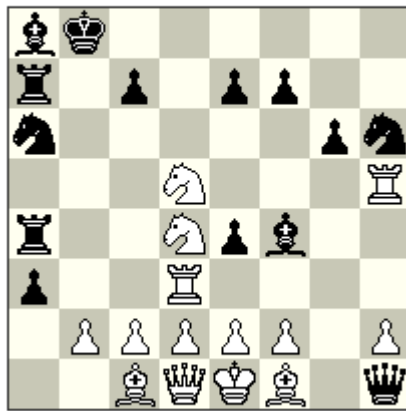1st Prize, Osorio 55JT

PG 18   13+14
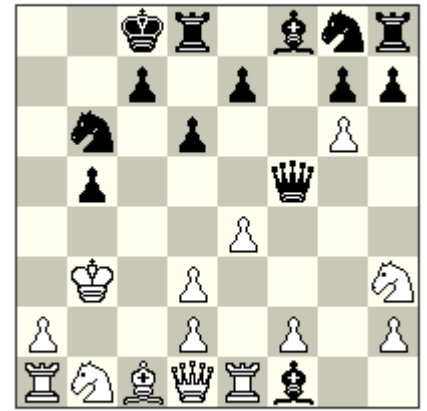
I) **Mark Kirtley**
2nd Prize Osorio 55JT

PG 21.5 2 sol   14+14

J) **Michel Caillaud**
3rd Prize, Osorio 55JT

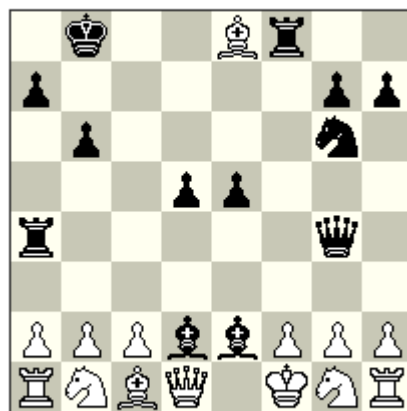PG 16.5   14+14

K) **Gianni Donati**
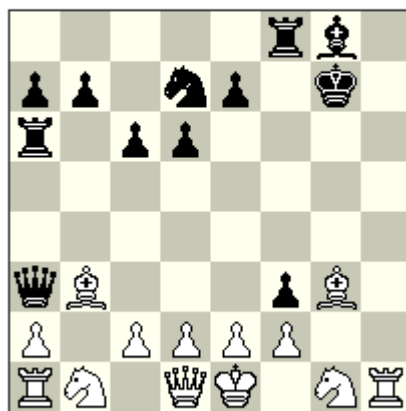4th Prize, Osorio 55JT

PG 17   14+13

L) **Andrej Frolkin, Kostas Prentos**
Sp. Prize, Osorio 55JT

PG 16   13+12

K) 1.d4 b6 2.d5 Ba6 3.d6 Qc8 4.dxc7 d5 **5.cxb8=B** Qg4 6.Bbf4 O-O-O 7.Bfd2 Kb8 8.e4 Rc8 9.e5 Rc4 10.e6 Ra4 11.exf7 e5 12.Bb5 Bb4 13.Be8 Se7 **14.f8=Q** Sg6 15.Q8f3 Rf8 16.Qfe2 Bxd2+ 17.Kf1 Bxe2+

L) 1.g4 f5 2.g5 f4 3.g6 f3 4.gxh7 Kf7 **5.hxg8=S** Rh6 6.h4 Ra6 7.h5 c6 8.h6 Qb6 9.hxg7 Qxb2 **10.gxf8=S** Qa3 11.Bb2 d6 12.Be5 Be6 13.Bg3 Kg7 14.Bh3 Bxg8 15.Be6 Sd7 16.Bb3 Rxf8

It is regrettable that a very popular magazine as **diagrammes** has ended its run. In one of the last issues I discovered an interesting problem that combines two genres: Cage Circe and Isardam.

M) Nicolas Dupont: 1.a4 d5 2.Ra3 Bh3 3.Rg3 Sd7 4.Sxh3(Bb8) (specific rebirth) c5 **5.Rxg7(g1=Q)!** Bg3 6.Sxg1 Se5 7.Sh3 (7.Rxf7(h3) illegal) Qd6 **8.Rxf7(g1=Q)!** Bh6 9.Sxg1 Bg5 10.Sh3 Sh6 **11.Rxe7(g1=Q)!** 0-0 12.Sxg1 Rf4 13.Sh3 Rxa4(a3) **14.Rxb7(g1=Q)!** c4 15.Sxg1 Qxa3(a2) 16.Rxh7(b4)! (b4 is a cage because b4-b3 is forbidden) Kxh7(Ra1). Schnoebelen, a favorite theme of the author, here 4 times Q.

This year, the Messigny Retros Tourney featured the **Shrink Chess** condition. It's definition is: as soon as a column or row of the edge is empty, it disappears completely and the part thus continues on a shrunken chessboard. The tournament was clearly won by François Labelle, with an amazing massacre game in two phases.

M) Nicolas Dupont
diagrammes 177/2011
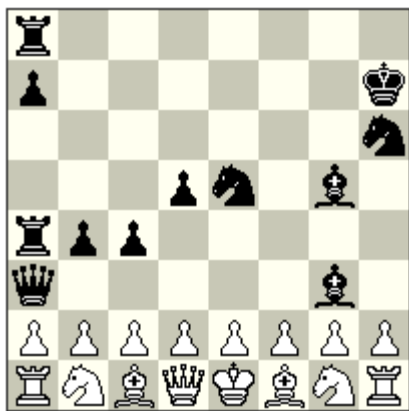
PG 16 Isardam & Cage Circe 16+12

N) François LABELLE
1ˢᵗ Prize
Messigny 2014
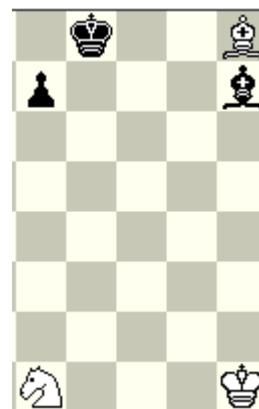
(3+3)   PG16
Shrink Chess
2 solutions

N) F. Labelle: I) 1.e4 a6 2.♗×a6 d5 3.♗×b7 d×e4 4.♗×e4 ♗é6 5.♗×h7 ♗×a2 6.♗×g8 ♖×h2 7.♖×a2 ♖×g2 8.♖×a8 ♖×f2 9.♖×b8 ♖×d2 10.♘é2 ♖×ç2 **11.0-0** ♖×b2 12.♖×f7 ♖×b8 13.♕×d8+ ♚×d8 14.♖×é7 ♖×b1 15.♖×g7 ♖×c1+ 16.♘×c1 ♗×g7

II) 1.é4 d5 2.e×d5 ♕×d5 3.♕g4 ♕×a2 4.♕×g7 ♕×a1 5.♕×g8 ♕×b2 6.♕×h7 ♕×c2 7.♕×c2 ♖×h2 8.♕×c7 ♖×g2 9.♕×b8 ♖×g1 10.♕×a7 ♗é6 11.♗a3 **0-0-0** 12.♗×e7 ♖×d2 13.♗×f8 ♖×f2 14.♕×f2 ♖×h1 15.♕×f7 ♖×f1+ 16.♔×f1 ♗×f7

It is important to note that the solutions are very different - on an orthodox 8x8 board, the final position of **I** is shifted in relation to the final position of **II** - and we have two castlings, white in the first and black in the second solution.
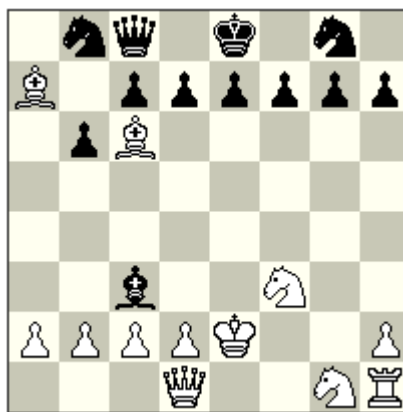
Originals
Fairies & Retros

835) A. Tüngler & P. Rãican
D & RO
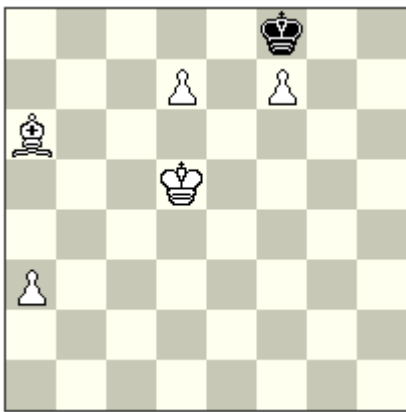
(5+1)   aser-h#8
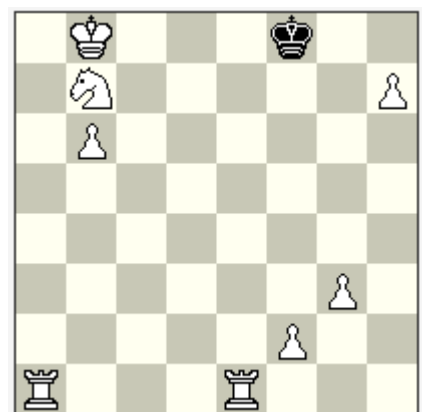
836) P. Rãican
RO

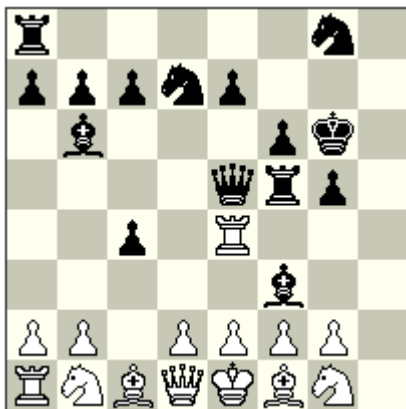(12+12)   PG 19.5
Anticirce

837) K. Wenda
A

(8+1)   -5 # s#1
Proca Anticirce

838) N. Dupont
F

(14+15)   PG 16.5
Lortap

Aser: Aser means anti-parry series:

(1) When not in-check, the series-side may move such that its King is in-check but the opponent's King is not. We refer to this simply as an "auto-check".

(2) When such an auto-check occurs, the idle-side moves so that neither side is in-check; this is called an "anti-parry".

(3) After such an auto-check and anti-parry, the series-side continues the series.

Lortap: a piece can capture if it is not controlled by a piece of his camp.
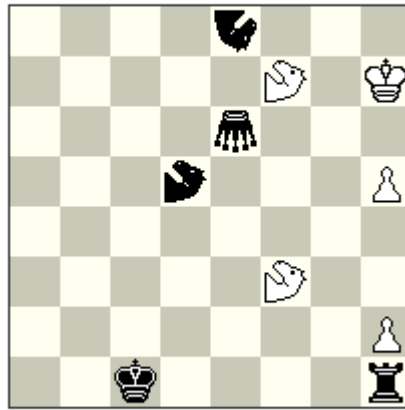
839) C. Pãcurar
Canada
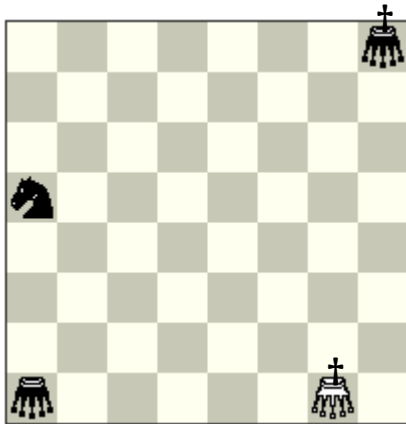
(1+3)   SAT   pser-hs=13
2 sol
Royal Grasshopper g1, h8
Grasshopper a1

Xavier Yzarn
2HM, Probleemblad 1966 (version P.Rãican, 2013)

5+5

s#8 Max Camels f3 f7 d5
Grasshopper e6 Nightrider e8

Restorations: On the left we have a version of a very pretty problem from 1966. The original problem was demolished (see P1262327 on PDB)

1.CAf7-g4! Ne8-b2 2.CAf3-c4 Nb2xh5 3.CAg4-d3 Nh5-b8 4.CAc4-d7 Nb8-e2 5.CAd3-c6 Ne2-h8 6.CAd7-g6 Nh8-b5 7. CAc6-f7 Nb5xh2 8.CAg6-f3 Nh2-e8# C+

Solutions
Quartz 40/2014

835 (Tüngler & Rãican):   1.Kg8* f8=B 2.Kg7* Bb4 3.Kf8* Kc5 4.Ke8* d8=B 5.Ke7* Bd8-a5 6.Kd8* Kb6
7.Kc8* Bb5 8.Kd8 Kb7# A good way to introduce this stipulation to the readers (authors)

836 (Rãican):   1.g4 Sc6 2.Bg2 Sd4 3.Bc6 Sf6 4.Sf3 Sxe2(Sg8) 5.Ke2 Se4 6.Qg1 Sxf2(Sb8) 7.Qxa7(Qd1) Ra3
8.Sxa3(Sg1) h5! 9.a4 Rh6 10.Ra3 Rd6 11.Re3 Rd3 12.Re6 Ra3 13.Rh6 gxh6(h7) 14.bxa3(a2) Bg7 15.Ba3
Bc3 16.Bc5 hxg4(g7) 17.Ba7 b6 18.a5 Bb7 19.a6 Qc8 20.axb7(b2). Three interchanges.

837 (Wenda): **1.Re8-e1** K~7-f8 2.Ra1xBa7->a1 Kf8-e,f,g7+ 3.Ra1xBg1->a1 Bh2-g1 4.h6-h7 Bg1-h2
5.g6xQf7->f2   & 1.Ra1-e1+ Qxe8->d8#

838 (Dupont):   1.c4 d5 2.Qc2 Bg4 3.Qxh7 Bf3 4.Qe4 Rh5 5.h4 Rf5 6.h5 g5 7.h6 Bg7 8.h7 Bd4 9.Rh6 Bb6
10.Rd6 f6 11.h8=Q! Kf7 12.Qh2 Kg6 13.Q2e5! dxc4 14.Rd4 Qd5 15.Qc2 Sd7 16.Re4! Qxe5 17.Qd1.
wQ circuit.

839 (Pãcurar):   1.Sa5-c4 2.Sc4-b2 3.Sb2-d1+ rGg1-c1 4.Sd1-f2 5.Sf2-d3 6.Ga1-d1 7.Gd1-b1+
rGc1-a1 8.Gb1-e4 9.Ge4-c2 10.Sd3-f2 11.Gc2-g2 12.Sf2-d3 13.Sd3-b2+ & 1.rGa1-c3 Gg2-a2 =
At first sight, I considered **13.Sd3-b2** as a self-check, but in programmer's vision, **rGh8xrGa1
is illegal**. [Editor]
1.Sa5-c6 2.Sc6-b4 3.Sb4-a6 4.Ga1-a7 5.Sa6-c5+ rGg1-b6 6.Sc5-d3 7.Sd3-c1 8.Sc1-a2 9.Ga7-a1 10.Sa2-c1
11.Ga1-d1 12.Gd1-b1 13.Sc1-b3+ & 1.rGb6-b2+ Sb3-a1 =
A new impetus in the development of a genre created by v. Salai sr., the association between Sat's rules
and Royal Grasshoppers [Editor]
Definition of SAT: a side is checked **if its King can move** according to other (orthodox or other given
fairy) rules. (Logically, a side to move is checkmated if it is checked and it cannot parry the check by
own move.)

We had the pleasure to find in our postal box the ranking of fairies published in 2007 – 2009 period. Must say that the sender is Stephen Emmerson, the well known editor of fairy section of The Problemist. Stephen sent us a very argued ranking, for which we kindly thank him.

Quartz – Fairies 2007/2009
Award by Stephen Emmerson

My thanks to Paul Rãican for inviting me to judge this tourney. Apologies are due to the composers for the long delay to this award.

I received 31 problems from the editor to judge. The overall standard of compositions in this period was not high. There seemed to me to be a high proportion of computer-generated problems. It is always difficult to judge these against *composed* problems. Too many of them could only reasonably be solved by a computer too, leaving the human a mere spectator. Such problems do not feature in this award.

Of the remainder, I confess that in several instances here I could not discern any thematic content. In one or two cases, one part showed a great deal of interest, and had the second part been of matching quality they might have done rather well. Without this, the good features seem to be simply accidental.

Finally, I did not want to finish with a long list of commends, and it is a fairly personal choice that mean that some problems received commends whereas others have missed out; other judges may have chosen differently. Commiserations to those composers involved.

With thanks to all participating composers, my award is:

Prize (734) Murãraşu, Crişan, Huber & Rãican

An appealing study in transference and specific fairy effects. The cook-tries introduce the play naturally; the refutation 1.d4? RHxa7(RHa1)! with its continued defense is brilliant, this try also has the amusing pinning defense 1...gxf2. The other try 1.BHg1? is refuted less brilliantly. The by-play is lively throughout. There is no true Shedey cycle here but the varied defenses add more interest for the solver. The position is a little heavy but this doesn't compromise the clarity. This was the most intelligent problem on show.

Murãraşu, Crişan, Huber & Rãican
Prize
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009
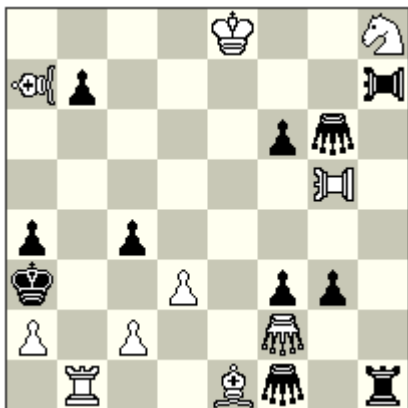
(10+11)　　Anticirce　　#2 vv
R-Hoppers, B-Hoppers,
Grashoppers

1.Bb4+?[A] Gxc2(Gc1)! or **1.Rb3+?[B]**
RHxa7(RHa1)!
1.d4? (2.Bb4#[A]) 1...gxf2(f7) 2.Rb3#[B]
 1...Gb5 2.RHa5#[C]　 1...c3 2.Bxc3(Bc1)#
but 1...RHxa7(RHa1)! (2.Bb4+ RHc1!)
1.BHg1? (2.Rb3#[B]) 1...Ge6 2.Bb4#[A] 1...b5 2.RHa5#[C]
1...b6 2.Ga7# but 1...Gd1!
　　　1.Rb5! (2.RHa5#[C])
1...f5 2.Bb4#[A]　 1...fxg5(g7) 2.Rb3#[B]
1...Rh5 2.Sxg6(Sb1)#! (2.RHa5+? 2.Rxb5[Ra8]+!!)

1ˢᵗ H.M. (730) Foster

Impressive control of the black king's moves which also force the white move order. Strong solver appeal. 1.Rd4 Kb7 2.Re5 Kb6 3.Bc5+ Kc7 4.Qe6 Kb7 5.d6 Kc6 6.Bc4 Kb7 7.Kd5 Kb8#

2ⁿᵈ H.M. (701) Crişan

A helpmate in 1.5 moves should not get such a high placing but the TF-form of this is perfect, with the solutions dividing neatly into ODT pairs, and separately into direct/battery mate pairs. The epaulette formations are attractive. The fairy units are secondary but both are worked equally and contribute to the realization of the mates perfectly, making full use of the fairy condition.

1...Se4 2.LEa3-a2 Qb3# 1...Sd4 2.PAh3-h5 Qg5# 1...Qd4 2.PAh3-d3 Sd8# 1...Qe4 2.LEa3-f3 Sb7#

3ʳᵈ H.M. (707) Foster

Good specific echoed mates with dual avoidance adding interest to the play leading to those mates. Prolonged journeys motivated by reasons other than tempo are possible in various fairy genres and are illustrated well in both parts here.
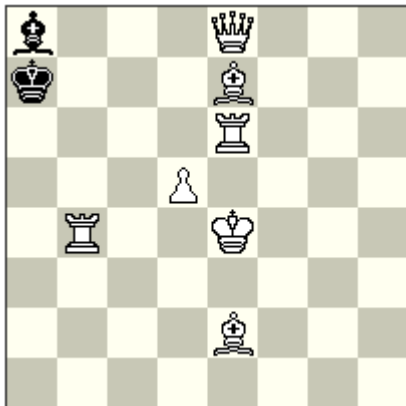
1.Ke5 2.Rd7 3.Rg7 4.Rxb7[+nPg7] 5.Rf7 6.Rxg7[+nPf7] 7.Kf6 8.exf5 autostalemate.

1.Kd6 2.Rd5 3.Rxf5[+nPd5] 4.Rf7 5.Rd7 6.Rxb7[+nPd7] 7.Rc7 8.exd5 autostalemate.

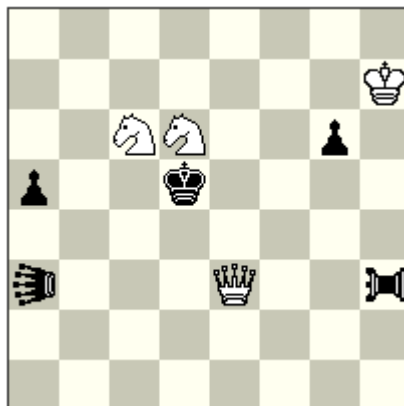| Geoff FOSTER	V. CRIŞAN	Geoff FOSTER
1st HM	2nd HM	3rd HM
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009	Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009	Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009

| (7+2) hs#7	(4+5) Lortap h#2	(3+3) ser-auto=8
Dedicated to E. Huber	Leo a3, Pao h3, 0.4.1.1.	Sentinelles Pions adverses < 3
		2 sol
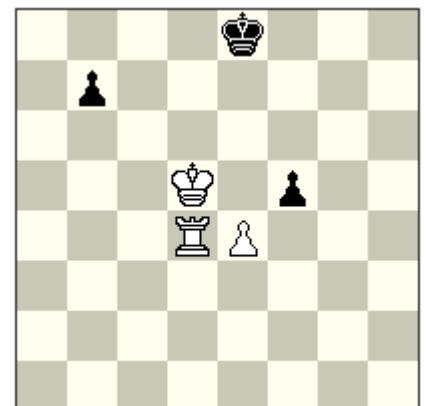
4ᵗʰ H.M. (733) Novomesky

The equihopper's play adds a puzzle element for the solver. In the line with bKh5, 4...EQh3-f7 cannot be made to work, but, similar to an asymmetric, the extra rank available gives a new possibility for the mating move.
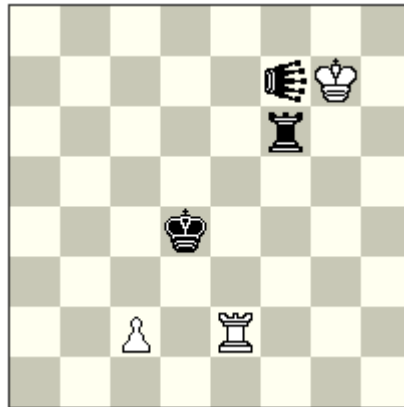
1.Bf2 Eqh3 2.Bg3 Eqf3 3.g5 Eqh2 4.Bg4 Eqf6#

1.Be3 Eqh8 2.Bg4 Eqf1 3.Bg5 Eqf4+ 4.Kh5 Eqf7#
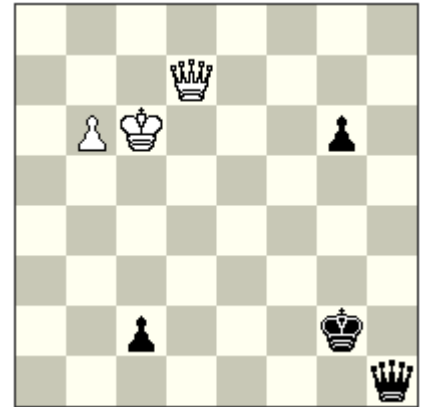
D. NOVOMESKY
4th HM
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009
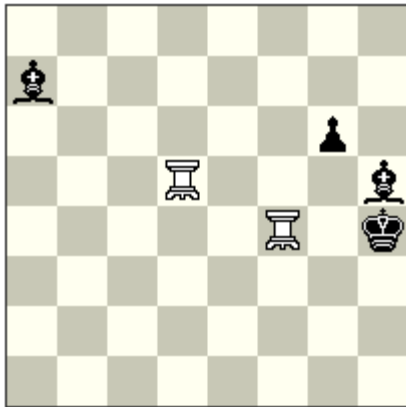
(2+4)   2 sol   h#4
Equihoppers

D. NOVOMESKY
1st Comm
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009

(3+3)   4 sol.   h#4
Lion f7

A. STEPOCHKIN
2nd Comm
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009

(3+4)   Koko   s#5
Black Maximummer

1st Comm. (685) Novomesky

Only a self-blocking lion for fairy content, but it contributes to the forcing of the move order. Pawn 0-1-2-step echoes with a reflected echo thrown in for good measure. Less deep than 733, hence its lower placing.

Sol.:   1.LIf7-f4 c4 2.Re6 Kf7 3.Re4 Rd2+ 4.Ke5 Rd5#
        1.Rf3 Rd2+ 2.Ke4 c3 3.Re3 Kf6 4.LIf7-f3 Rd4#
        1.Rf2 Rd2+ 2.Ke3 Kg6 3.Re2 Kf5 4.LIf7-f2 Rd3#
        1.Rc6 Re3 2.Rc4 Kg6 3.LIf7-h5 Kf5 4.LIc5 Rd3 #

2nd Comm. (754) Stepochkin

There is more interplay between pieces when maximummer is involved (as opposed to the minimummer in 753). Here the play is dynamic, interesting and leads to an neat specific echoed finale.
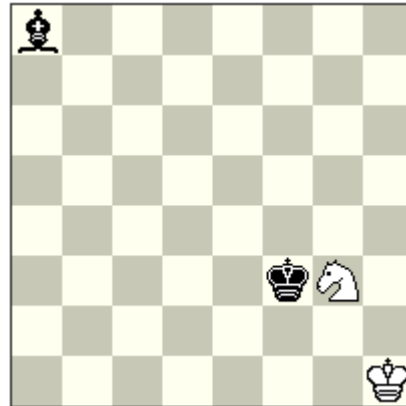
1.Kd6! Qb1 2.Qh3 Qb5 3.Qc3 Qh5 4.Qc5 Qd1+ 5.Kc6 Qd7#
1...Qh7 2.Qc6 Qa7 3.b7 Qc5+ 4.Kc7 Qh5 5.Kb6 Qa5#

P. RÃICAN
3rd Comm
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009
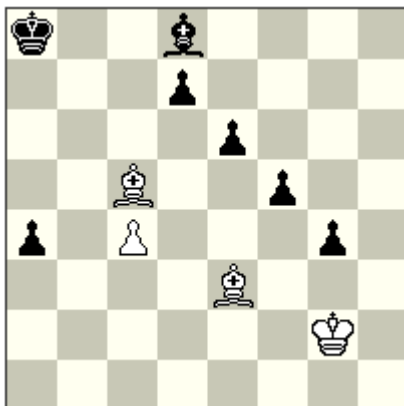
(6+9)   2 sol   h#2
Annan Chess

G. FOSTER
4th Comm
Fairies, Quartz 2007/2009

(2+2)   PWC   h#6
0.2.1.1...

3rd Comm. (688) Rãican

A problem with a joke in the *en passant* capture by bishop; the King mates and Bishop exchange of functions show off the further possibilities of the condition.

1.Bd8-h4 Be3-g1+ 2.d7-d5 Bc5xd6 e.p.#
1.d7-b5 Be3-f4 2.b5*c4 Bc5-g1#

4th Comm. (692) Foster

Obvious and orthodox finale and probably a computer discovery, but with a fair challenge to the solver.

1...Kg1 2.Kxg3[+wSf3] Sh2 3.Bh1 Kf1 4.Kxh2[+wSg3] Sxh1[+bBg3] 5.Kxh1[+wSh2] Sg4 6.Bh2 Sf2#

1...Kh2 2.Kf2 Kh3 3.Kg1 Se4 4.Kh1 Sc5   5.Be4 Sxe4[+bBc5] 6.Bg1 Sg3#