QUARTZ 41

April 2015
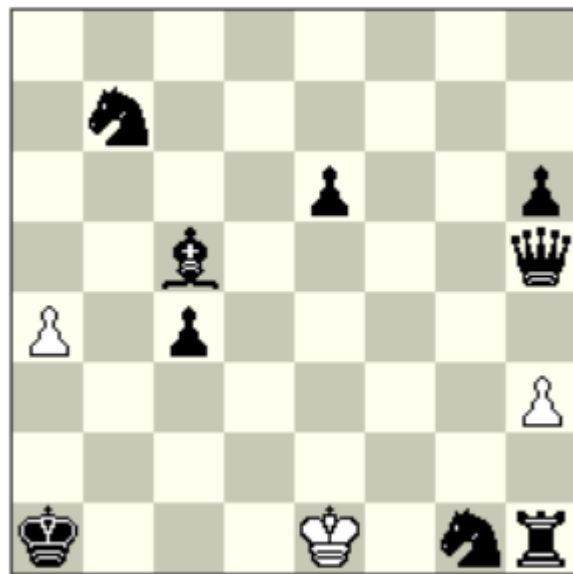
4) **Klaus Wenda** - P1247359
Die Schwalbe 266/2014

(3+9)   -8 & #1 Proca Retractor
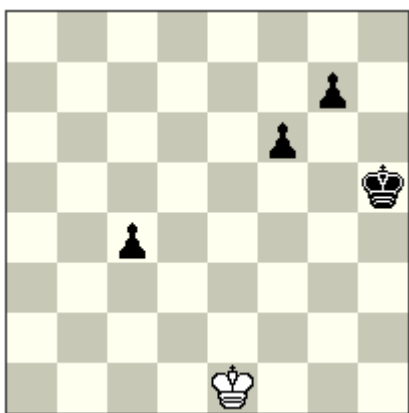AntiCirce   No Forward Defense

Retro-stalemate in Proca Retractor

by Vlaicu Crişan

In his article „*It is the King who mates! Tricky AntiCircean play in the Defensive Retractor*", available on Thomas Brand's blog, the German expert Wolfgang Dittmann mentioned several methods for blocking square e8. The fourth motive is the „*decoy of a black piece on to e8 with the obligation of avoiding retro-stalemate*".

The first example of this motive is presented below.

1) **Andreas Thoma** - P1247359
5th HM, *Die Schwalbe 254/2012*

(1+4)   -9 & #1 Proca Retractor
AntiCirce   No Forward Defense

1.Ke1xpf2 [+wKe1] f3-f2+ 2.Ke1xRf1 [+wKe1] Rf2-f1+ 3.Kd2xSe3 [+wKe1] Rf1-f2+ 4.Ke1-d2 Rf2-f1+ 5.Kd3xRe4 [+wKe1] c5-c4+ 6.Kd2-d3 Rf1-f2+ 7.Ke1-d2 Rf2-f1+ 8.Kf4xSg3 [+wKe1]!!

This is the key position: White placed his King in check. Black can't retract 8...R~-e4+ since white would be retro-stalemate, having no further retraction at his disposal. This is actually the whole reason behind the uncapture of the 2 bSs on e3 and g3! In order to avoid the stalemate, Black has no choice but play 8... Re8-e4+! Now 9.Kf5-f4 is legalized by 9...Rg8-e8+. The forward mate can be delivered: 1.Kg5#.

As *Wolfgang Dittmann* wrote in the aforementioned article: „*A glorious idea that, for the first time, demonstrates the positional characteristics of a retro-stalemate, as a means of such a decoy in the genre of AntiCirce Proca*".

The article concludes with the following conclusion: „*The most subtle forms of a decoy, and at the same time being the most demanding concepts, would no doubt be those that operate by means of a threat, or, respectively with applying retro-zugzwang. Then the technical means would be characterized by the absence of any self-check, similar to what happens in Andreas Thoma's composition. Whether such manoeuvres can be brought about seems to be in the lap of the gods, at least as our experience goes at the present.*"

Surprisingly, the raised challenge was solved one year later, as the following two examples will demonstrate. In the next composition, the retro-stalemate appears as a result of a white unpromotion.

2) **Andreas Thoma & Klaus Wenda**
Die Schwalbe 2013 im Buch
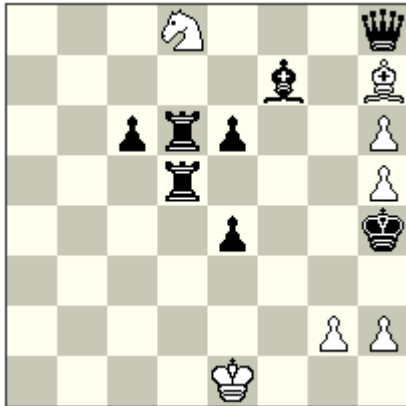
(7+8)   -4 & #1 Proca Retractor
AntiCirce   type Cheylan

2) **1.Kg6xSf6 [+wKe1]** Bg8-f7+ 2.ph3xRg4 [+wPg2] Rf4-g4+ 3.d7-d8=S!!
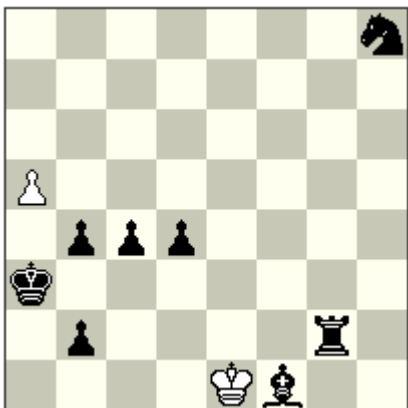
Now Black must retract 3...Se8-f6! legalizing the last white move 4.Kf6-g6 by 4...Sg7-e8+, otherwise White would be again retro-stalemate. The forward play is clear: 1.Kg5#

In the next example, another unexpected retro-stalemate occurs after white Kings gets himself in the corner.

3) **Günther Weeth**
3rd Prize, *Die Schwalbe 262*/2013
Dedicated to Wolfgang Dittmann's 80th birthday

(2+8)   -11 & #1 Proca Retractor
AntiCirce

3) **1.Kf2xpg3 [+wKe1]** g4-g3+ 2.Ke2-f2 f2-f1=B+ 3.Ke1-f1 f3-f2+ 4.Ke1xBf2 [+wKe1] Bg1(e3)-f2+ 5.Ke1xBf2 [+wKe1] Be3(g1)-f2+ 6.Kd3xRe4 [+wKe1] c5-c4+ 7.Kd2-d3 Bf2-e3+ 8.Ke1-d2 Be3-f2+ 9.Ka1xBa2 [+wKe1] b3-b2+ 10.a4-a5!!

In order to avoid the retro-stalemate, Black must play 10...Re8-e4! legalizing the position. Now after 11.Kb1-a1, Black could have played 11...Rc8-e8+ The forward mate is 1.Kb2# It is interesting to note the similar uncapture of bRe4, like in Andreas Thoma's composition.

4) **Klaus Wenda** - P1247359
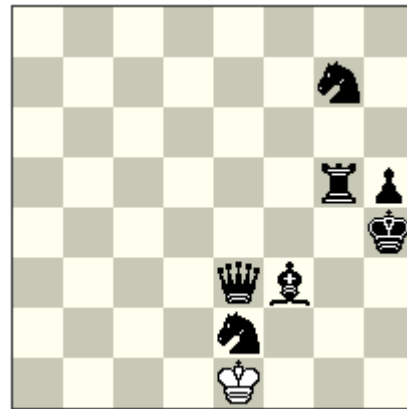*Die Schwalbe 266*/2014
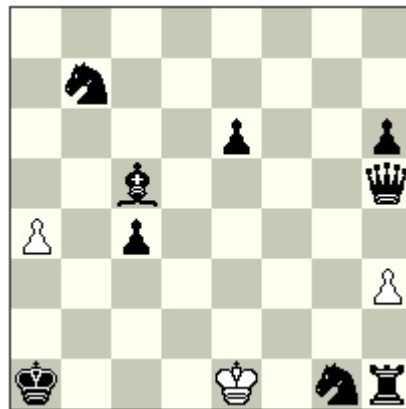
(3+9)   -8 & #1 Proca Retractor
AntiCirce   No Forward Defense

4) Here we have also a logical try: 1.Ka3xRb3 [+wKe1]? Rb4-b3 2.h2-h3, but 2...Qe8-h5?? is not forced, since white could have captured a black piece on 'h' file.

1.Kf1xpg2 [+wKe1] g3-g2+ 2.Ke2-f1 Sf3-g1+ 3.Ke1-e2 Sg1-f3+ 4.Ke2xSf3 [+wKe1] g2-g1=S+ 5.Ke1-e2 Sg1-f3+ 6.Ka3xRb3 [+wKe1] Rb4-b3+ 7.h2-h3!!

White pawn h2 possible captures are now ruled out due to the illegal doubled pawns on 'g' file. Black must retract 7...Qe8-h5, enabling 8.Kb3-a3 Qa8-e8+. The forward mate is 1.Ka2#

As a conclusion, an original submitted by Andreas Thoma for *Quartz* readers, whom I would like to thank very much for all the information provided for writing this small article.

5) The solution should be easy to find:
1.Ke1xRf1 [+wKe1] Rf2-f1+ 2.Kh1xRg2 [+wKe1]!!
This move forces 2...Qe8-e3! Now 3.Kh2-h1 can be answered by 3...Qh8-e8+. The forward mate is 1.Qh3#

5) **Andreas Thoma**
Original for Quartz

(1+7)   -3 & #1 Proca Retractor
AntiCirce   No Forward Defense

Proof games with Kobul Kings

by Paul Rãican

The genre was launched by the talented Bulgarian Diyan Kostadinov in 2010 at WCCC – Crete. Then, it was a Thematic Tournament in 2012 and a very good and convincing article in *The Problemist*, January and March 2014.

Definition: When a piece (not a Pawn) of his own side is captured, a King transforms into a Royal piece of the same type as the captured one. When the King is in the form of any Royal piece and there is a capture of one of the Pawns of his own side, he becomes a normal King again. Captures are illegal if they result in self-check by the transformed King.

Here we want to demonstrate the possibilities offered by the alliance Kobul Kings – Proof games.

A) N. Dupont
The Problemist, Jan 2014

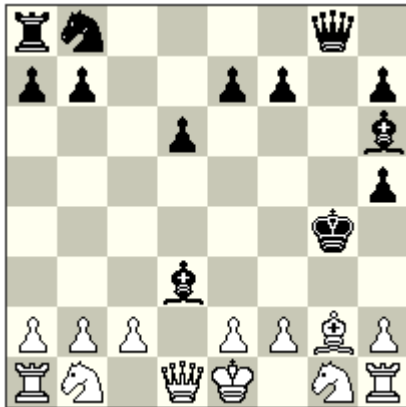(13+13)   PG 16.5
Kobul Kings

A) 1.h4 d5 2.h5 d4 3.h6 d3 4.hxg7 dxc2 5.d4 a5 6.Be3 c1Q 7.Qxc1(bK=rQ) rQa4 8.Rh6 b5 9.Rb6 Sh6 10.g8Q Bg7 11.b4 Qxg8(wK=rQ) 12.rQc3 Sd7 13.rQc6 Sf8 14.rQe8 axb4(rQ=K) 15.Qc6 rQd1 16.a4 rQe1 17.axb5(rQ=K).

We have here a very appreciated theme by the French composer – Q Schnoebelen. The capture of two promoted Queens (one for each side) without having moved is justified by the necessity to exchange Kings places.
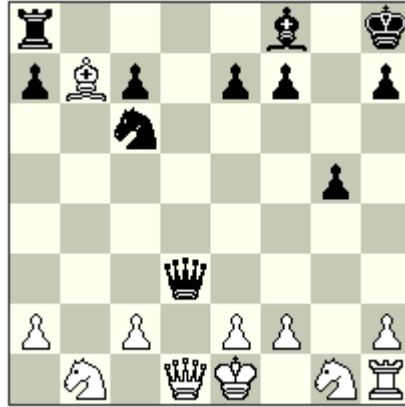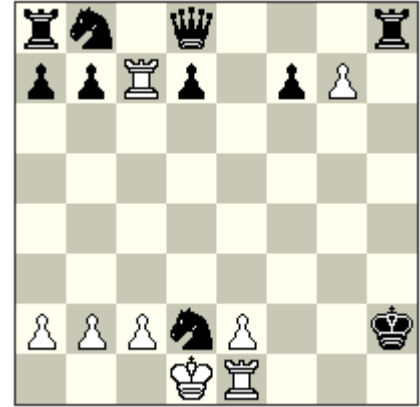
B) P. Rãican - original

C) P. Rãican - original

D) P. Rãican - mpk-Blätter 11/2013
Dedicated to D. Kostadinov

(13+13)   PG 10
Kobul Kings

(11+11)   PG 11
Kobul Kings

(8+10)   PG 16.5
Kobul Kings Masand

The circuit of one King (or both, if possible) seems to be a good theme for a PG. The problem B is my first attempt:

B) 1.d3 Sh6 2.Bxh6(bK=rS) rSf6 3.g4 rSxg4 4.Bg2 gxh6(wK=rB) 5.rBc3 h5 6.rBxh8(rS=rR) Bh6+ 7.rBe5 Qg8 8.rBxc7(rR=K) d6 9.rBa5 Bf5 10.rBe1 Bxd3(rB=K), wK circuit.

In C we have more activity for bK:

C) 1.d3 Sh6 2.Bxh6(bK=rS) rSf6 3.g4 rSxg4 4.Bh3+ rSxh6(wK=rB) 5.rBc3 g5 6.rBxh8(rS=rR) rRb6 7.rBc3 Sc6 8.rBe1 rRxb2(rB=wK) 9.Bxd7(rR=bK) Kxa1(wK=rR) 10.Bxc8(bK=rB) rBh8 11.Bxb7(rB=bK) Qxd3(rR=wK) and again wK circuit.

The problem D adds a Phoenix-Pronkin Q to an uncompleted wK circuit:

1.Sf3 e5 2.Sh4 Qxh4 (wK=rS) 3.rSf3 e4+ 4.rSxh4 (bK=rQ) rQe5 5.Rg1 rQxh2+ (rS=wK, wPc7, bPg2, bRg1) 6.Kg5 gxf1=Q+ (wK=rB) 7.rBd8 Qxd1 (rB=rQ) 8.rQxf8 (bK=rB) Qxc1 (rQ=rB) 9.rBc5 Qxb1 (rB=rS) 10.rSxe4(rQ=bK) Rg4+ (wPg7) 11.rSc3 Qg1 12.Re1 Qg3+ (bPc7, bPf2, wRg4) 13.rSd1 f1=S 14.Rh4+ (wPh7) Qxh4 (rS=rR) 15.hxg8=R (bK=rS) Sxd2 (rR=wK) 16.Rxc8 (rS=rB) Qd8! 17.Rxc7 (rB=bK).

Two conditions are not enough justified here. Something different is E.

E) P. Rãican - original

(7+16)   PG 14.5
Kobul Kings Masand

E) 1.Sf3 e5 2.Sh4 Qxh4 (wK=rS) 3.rSf3 e4+ 4.rSxh4 (bK=rQ) rQe5 5.Rg1 rQxh2+ (rS=wK, wPc7, bPg2, bRg1) 6.Kg4 **gxf1=Q+ (wK=rB)** 7.rBf5 Qxd1 (rB=rQ) 8.rQa5 Qxd2+(rQa5=wK, wPd7, bPc2, bPe2, bBc1) 9.Sc3 rQd6 **10.d8=Q+(wBc8, wBf8, bPc7)** rQxd8(wK=rQ) 11.Bh3 rQe8 12.Bf1 Qd8 13.Sd5 c5+ 14.rQe1 Bxb2(rQe1=wK) 15.Bxg7(rQe8=bK).

Notes: 1) The check 6...gxf1=Q+ has not a Masand effect, because it isn't directe.
2) Themes: wK and bK circuits, Q Phoenix-Pronkin, Q Schnoebelen, impostor Bf1.

I guess that many other ideas will happen with Kobul Kings in retro domain.

Series help-self with Circe rules
by P.Rãican

In **Quartz 38** and **Quartz 39** respectively have been edited length records for **series help-self targetX** (*) and **series help-self check**. Then, feenschach lounched a strong tournement for length records in **series help-self checkmate**.

We propose now to pull together all lenght records in **series help-self** with **Circe rules**. As always, the laboratory used for this research was again the excellent website ChessProblems.ca.

Part 1: ser-hs+ Circe

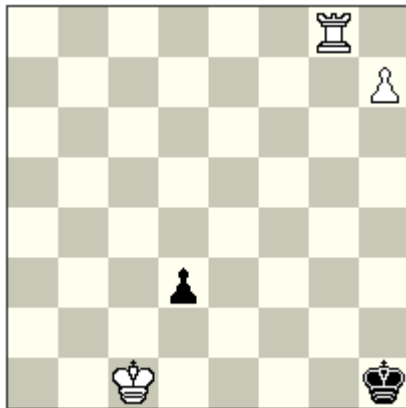The problems with this stipulation were produced in the first few months of this year.

1.1) 1.Kh5-g6 2.Kg6-f7 3.Kf7-e8 4.Ke8-d7 5.Kd7*c6[+wSb1] 6.Kc6-b6 7.c7-c5 8.c5-c4 9.c4-c3 10.c3-c2 11.c2*b1=B 12.Bb1-e4 13.Be4-a8 14.Kb6-b7 & 1.Ke5-d5 K~+. The first problem with this condition.
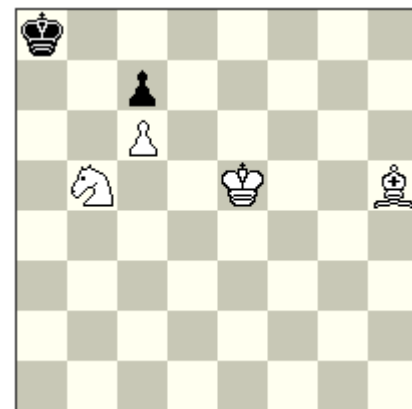
1.1) P. Rãican
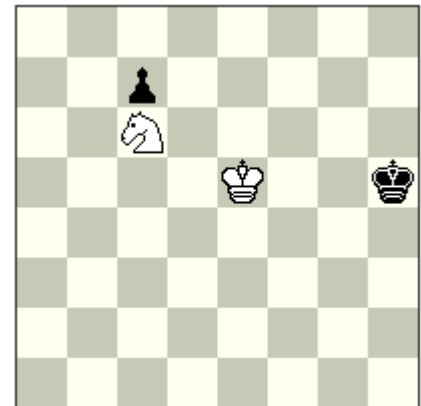
(2+2) ser-hs+14 C+
Circe

1.2) P. Rãican

(3+2) ser-hs+24 C+
Circe

1.2) 1.Kh1-h2 2.Kh2-h3 3.Kh3-h4 4.Kh4-h5 5.Kh5-h6 6.Kh6*h7[+wPh2] 7.Kh7-h6 8.Kh6-h5 9.Kh5-h4 10.Kh4-h3 11.Kh3*h2 12.Kh2-h3 13.Kh3-h4 14.Kh4-h5 15.Kh5-h6 16.Kh6-h7 17.Kh7*g8[+wRh1] 18.Kg8-f7 19.Kf7-e6 20.Ke6-d5 21.Kd5-c4 22.Kc4-b3 23.Kb3-a2 24.Ka2-a1 & 1.Rh1-h2 d3-d2 + This position is inspired by H. Moser & H. Schiegl, ser-h=24 Circe, feenschach 1975.
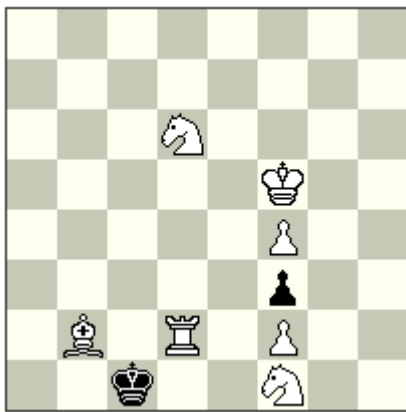
1.3) 1.Ka8-b8 2.Kb8-c8 3.Kc8-d8 4.Kd8-e7 5.Ke7-f8 6.Kf8-g7 7.Kg7-h6 8.Kh6-g5 9.Kg5-h4 10.Kh4-g3 11.Kg3-f2 12.Kf2-e3 13.Ke3-d3 14.Kd3-c4 15.Kc4-c5 16.Kc5*c6[+wPc2] 17.Kc6-b6 18.c7-c6 19.c6*b5[+wSb1] 20.b5-b4 21.b4-b3 22.b3*c2 23.c2*b1=B 24.Bb1-e4 25.Be4-a8 26.Kb6-b7 & 1.Ke5-d5 K~ +
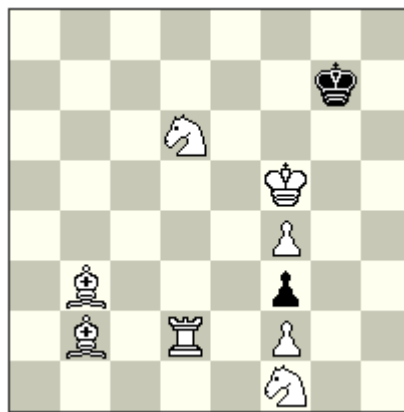
(*) Black makes first a series of N moves, then White makes a move which force the Black to reach X.
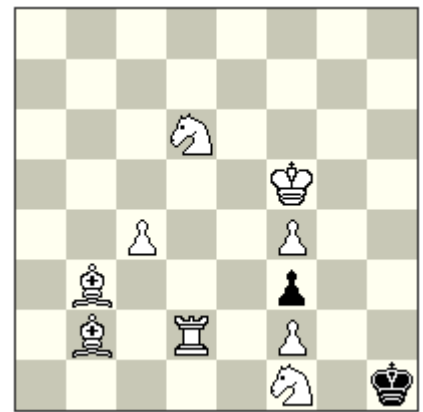
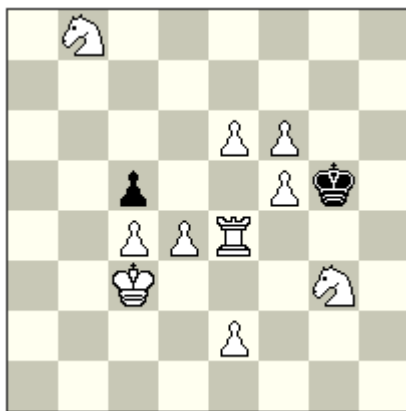1.3) P. Rãican

(4+2) ser-hs+26 C+
Circe

1.4) P. Rãican

1.5) P. Rãican

1.6) P. Rãican

(7+2)   ser-hs+59   C+
Circe

(8+2)   ser-hs+63   C+
Circe

(9+2)   ser-hs+70   C+
Circe

1.7) P. Rãican

1.8) P. Rãican
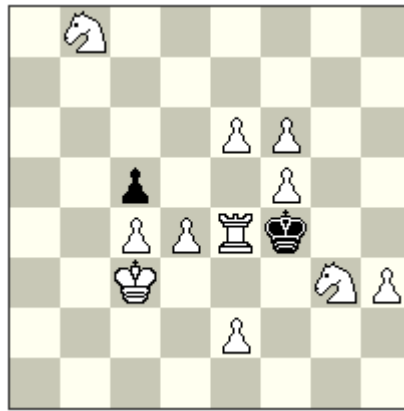
1.4) 1.Kc1-b1 .. 17.Kg2*f1[+wSb1]
18.Kf1-g2 ... 33.Ka2*b1 34.Kb1-a2 ...
51.Ke1*d2[+wRa1] 52.Kd2-e2
53.Ke2*f2 54.Kf2-g3 55.f3-f2 56.f2-
f1=B 57.Bf1-g2 58.Bg2-h1 59.Kg3-g2
& 1.Kf5-e4 K~ +

(10+2)   ser-hs+88   C+   (11+2)   ser-hs+92   C+
Circe   Circe

1.5) 1.Kg7-f8 .... 7.Kb4*b3 8.Kb3-b4 ... 21.Kg2*f1[+wSb1] ... 37.Ka2*b1 38.Kb1-a2 ... 55.Ke1*d2[+wRa1]
56.Kd2-e2 57.Ke2*f2 58.Kf2-g3 59.f3-f2 60.f2-f1=B 61.Bf1-g2 62.Bg2-h1 63.Kg3-g2 & 1.Kf5-e4 K~+

1.6) 1.Kg2 .... 14.Kb4*b3 15.Kb3-b4 ... 28.Kg2*f1[+wSb1] ... 44.Ka2*b1 45.Kb1-a2 ... 62.Ke1*d2[+wRa1]
63.Kd2-e2 64.Ke2*f2 65.Kf2-g3 66.f3-f2 67.f2-f1=B 68.Bf1-g2 69.Bg2-h1 70.Kg3-g2 7 1.Kf5-e4 K~ +

1.7) 1.Kg5-h6 ... 18.Kf2*g3[+wSg1] 19.Kg3-f2 ... 37.Kg5*f5[+wPf2] 38.Kf5-g6 ... 54.Ke1*f2 55.Kf2-e1 ...
72.Kf5*e4[+wRh1] 73.Ke4-e3 74.Ke3-f2 75.Kf2-e1 76.Ke1-d1 77.Kd1-c1 78.Kc1-b1 79.Kb1-a2 80.Ka2-a3 81.Ka3-
a4 82.Ka4-a5 83.Ka5-b6 84.Kb6-c7 85.Kc7-d8 86.Kd8-e8 87.Ke8-f8 88.Kf8-g8 & 1.Sb8-d7 c5*d4[+wPd2] +

1.8) 1.Kf4-g5 ... 20.Kg2*h3[+wPh2] 21.Kh3*h2 22.Kh2*g3[+wSg1] 23.Kg3-f2 ... 41.Kg5*f5[+wPf2]
42.Kf5-g6 ... 58.Ke1*f2 59.Kf2-e1 ... 76.Kf5*e4[+wRh1] 77.Ke4-e3 78.Ke3-f2 79.Kf2-e1 80.Ke1-d1 81.Kd1-c1
82.Kc1-b1 83.Kb1-a2 84.Ka2-a3 85.Ka3-a4 86.Ka4-a5 87.Ka5-b6 88.Kb6-c7 89.Kc7-d8 90.Kd8-e8 91.Ke8-f8
92.Kf8-g8 & 1.Sb8-d7 c5*d4[+wPd2] +

Will be interesting to compare these results with the ser-hs+ without Circe, see Quartz 39/2014:

| Number of units:	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Number of moves with Circe	-	14	24	26	-	-	59	63	70	88	92
*** without Circe	9	16	23	28	34	45	59	71	76	82	93

Part 2: ser-hs% Circe

%=win a piece.
   2.1) 1.Kd1-c1 ... 9.Kd7*e8[+wRh1]
10.Ke8-d7 ... 15.Ka3-a2 & 1.Rh1-a1 +
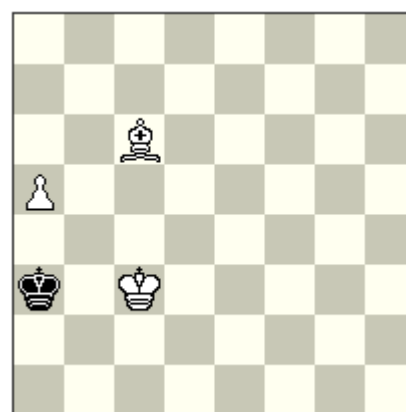Ka2*a1 % Here is no difference
between ser-hsx and ser-hs% [author]
   2.2) 1.Ka3-a2 2.Ka2-b1 3.Kb1-c1
4.Kc1-d1 5.Kd1-e2 6.Ke2-e3 7.Ke3-f4
8.Kf4-e5 9.Ke5-d6 10.Kd6-c7 11.Kc7-
b8 12.Kb8-a7 13.Ka7-a6
14.Ka6*a5[+wPa2] 15.Ka5-b6
16.Kb6*c6[+wBf1] 17.Kc6-b6 18.Kb6-
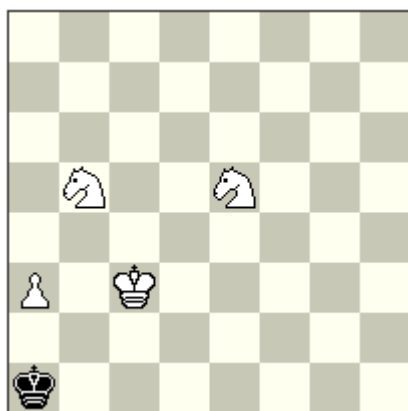a5 19.Ka5-a4 20.Ka4-a3 & 1.Bf1-b5
Ka3*a2 %

2.1) A. Tüngler
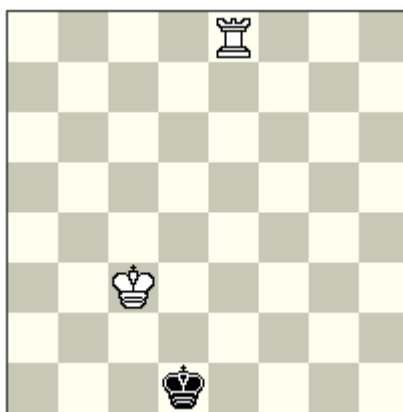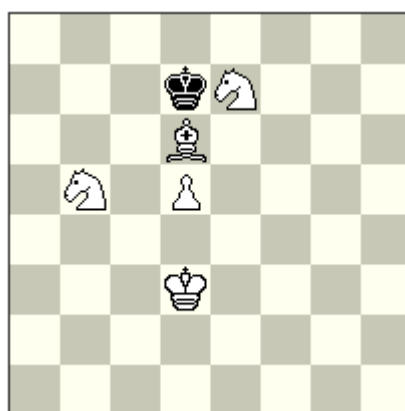
(2+1)   ser-hs% 15   C+
Circe

2.2) P. Rãican

(3+1)   ser-hs% 20   C+
Circe

2.3) A. Tüngler

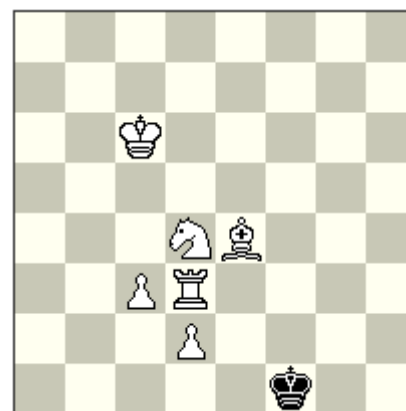(4+1)   ser-hs% 30   C+
Circe

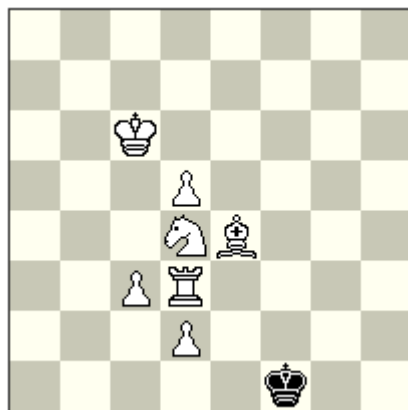### 2.4) P. Rãican

(5+1)   ser-hs% 37   C+
Circe

2.5) P. Rãican & B. Koludrović
dedicated to C. Pãcurar at 50 years
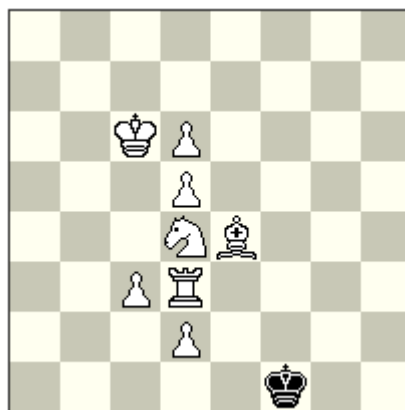
(6+1)   ser-hs% 49   C+
Circe

2.6) P. Rãican & B. Koludrović

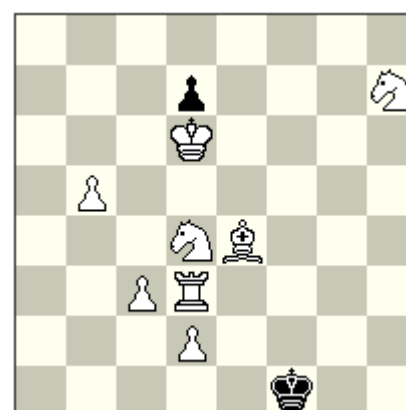(7+1)   ser-hs% 62   C+
Circe

2.7) P. Rãican & B. Koludrović

(8+1)   ser-hs% 66   C+
Circe

2.8) P. Rãican

(8+2)   ser-hs% 67   C+
Circe

2.3) 1.Ka1-b1 2.Kb1-c1 3.Kc1-d1 4.Kd1-e2 5.Ke2-e3 6.Ke3-e4 7.Ke4-d5 8.Kd5-c5 9.Kc5*b5[+wSb1] 10.Kb5-c5 11.Kc5-d5 12.Kd5-e4 13.Ke4-e3 14.Ke3-e2 15.Ke2-d1 16.Kd1-c1 17.Kc1*b1 18.Kb1-a2 19.Ka2*a3[+wPa2] 20.Ka3-a4 21.Ka4-b5 22.Kb5-c5 23.Kc5-d5 24.Kd5-e4 25.Ke4-e3 26.Ke3-e2 27.Ke2-d1 28.Kd1-c1 29.Kc1-b1 30.Kb1-a1 & 1.Kc3-c2 Ka1*a2 % This problem could not be converted to an ser-hsx.

2.4) 1.Kd7-e8 2.Ke8-f7 3.Kf7-f6 4.Kf6-g5 5.Kg5-g4 6.Kg4-f3 7.Kf3-f2 8.Kf2-e1 9.Ke1-d1 10.Kd1-c1 11.Kc1-b2 12.Kb2-b3 13.Kb3-a4 14.Ka4*b5[+wSb1] 15.Kb5-a4 16.Ka4-b3 17.Kb3-b2 18.Kb2-c1 19.Kc1-d1 20.Kd1-e1 21.Ke1-f2 22.Kf2-f3 23.Kf3-g4 24.Kg4-g5 25.Kg5-f6 26.Kf6-f7 27.Kf7-e8 28.Ke8-d7 29.Kd7*d6[+wBc1] 30.Kd6*e7[+wSg1] 31.Ke7-f6 32.Kf6-f5 33.Kf5-g4 34.Kg4-g3 35.Kg3-f2 36.Kf2-e1 37.Ke1-d1 & 1.Sg1-f3 Kd1*c1 %

2.5) 1.Kf1-e1 2.Ke1-d1 3.Kd1-c1 4.Kc1-b2 5.Kb2-a3 6.Ka3-a4 7.Ka4-a5 8.Ka5-a6 9.Ka6-a7 10.Ka7-b8 11.Kb8-c8 12.Kc8-d8 13.Kd8-e7 14.Ke7-f6 15.Kf6-e5 16.Ke5*e4[+wBf1] 17.Ke4-e5 18.Ke5-f6 19.Kf6-e7 20.Ke7-d8 21.Kd8-c8 22.Kc8-b8 23.Kb8-a7 24.Ka7-a6 25.Ka6-a5 26.Ka5-a4 27.Ka4-a3 28.Ka3-b2 29.Kb2-c1 30.Kc1-d1 31.Kd1-e1 32.Ke1*f1 33.Kf1-e1 34.Ke1-d1 35.Kd1-c1 36.Kc1-b2 37.Kb2-a3 38.Ka3-a4 39.Ka4-a5 40.Ka5-a6 41.Ka6-a7 42.Ka7-b8 43.Kb8-c8 44.Kc8-d8 45.Kd8-e7 46.Ke7-f6 47.Kf6-e5 48.Ke5-e4 49.Ke4*d3[+wRh1] & 1.Kc6-d5 Kd3*d2 % This position was found by Branko in ....1987 as a ser-h#54. I changed the stipulation.

2.6) 1.Kf1-e1 ... 16.Ke5*e4[+wBf1] 17.Ke4-e5 ...32.Ke1*f1 33.Kf1-e1 ... 49.Ke4*d3[+wRh1] 50.Kd3-e4 51.Ke4-e5 52.Ke5-f6 53.Kf6-e7 54.Ke7-d8 55.Kd8-c8 56.Kc8-b8 57.Kb8-a7 58.Ka7-a6 59.Ka6-a5 60.Ka5-a4 61.Ka4-a3 62.Ka3-b2 and 1.Rh1-a1 Kb2*a1 %

2.7) 1.Kf1-e1 ... 17.Ke5*e4[+wBf1] 18.Ke4-e5 ... 34.Ke1*f1 35.Kf1-e1 ... 52.Ke4*d3[+wRh1] 53.Kd3-e4 54.Ke4-e5 55.Ke5-f6 56.Kf6-f7 57.Kf7-e8 58.Ke8-d8 59.Kd8-c8 60.Kc8-b8 61.Kb8-a7 62.Ka7-a6 63.Ka6-a5 64.Ka5-a4 65.Ka4-a3 66.Ka3-b2 and 1.Rh1-a1 Kb2*a1 %

2.8) 1.Kf1-e1 2.Ke1-d1 3.Kd1-c1 4.Kc1-b2 5.Kb2-a3 6.Ka3-a4 7.Ka4-a5 8.Ka5-b6 9.Kb6-a7 10.Ka7-b8 11.Kb8-c8 12.Kc8-d8 13.Kd8-e8 14.Ke8-f7 15.Kf7-g7 16.Kg7-h6 17.Kh6-h5 18.Kh5-g4 19.Kg4-f4 20.Kf4*e4[+wBf1] 21.Ke4-f4 22.Kf4-g4 23.Kg4-h5 24.Kh5-g6 25.Kg6-f7 26.Kf7-e8 27.Ke8-d8 28.Kd8-c8 29.Kc8-b7 30.Kb7-b6 31.Kb6-a5 32.Ka5-a4 33.Ka4-a3 34.Ka3-b2 35.Kb2-c1 36.Kc1-d1 37.Kd1-e1 38.Ke1*f1 39.Kf1-e1 40.Ke1-d1 41.Kd1-c1 42.Kc1-b2 43.Kb2-a3 44.Ka3-a4 45.Ka4-a5 46.Ka5-b6 47.Kb6-b7 48.Kb7-c8 49.Kc8-d8 50.Kd8-e8 51.Ke8-f7 52.Kf7-g6 53.Kg6-h5 54.Kh5-g4 55.Kg4-f4 56.Kf4-e4 57.Ke4*d3[+wRh1] 58.Kd3*d2 59.Kd2*c3[+wPc2] 60.Kc3*d4[+wSg1] 61.Kd4-c4 62.Kc4*b5[+wPb2] 63.Kb5-c4 64.Kc4-d4 65.Kd4-e3 66.Ke3-d2 67.Kd2-c1 and 1.Sg1-f3 + Kxb2(Kxc2) %

 2.9) 1.Ke8-d8 ... 7.Ka5*a4[+wBf1] 8.Ka4-a5 ... 20.Kh5*h4[+wBc1] 21.Kh4-h5 ...37.Kb1*c1 38.Kc1-b1 ... 57.Kf4*e3[+wSg1] 58.Ke3-f4 ... 77.Kb1-c1 78.Kc1-d1 79.Kd1-e1 & 1.Qh1-d5 Ke1*f1 %

2.9) P. Rãican   2.10) P. Rãican
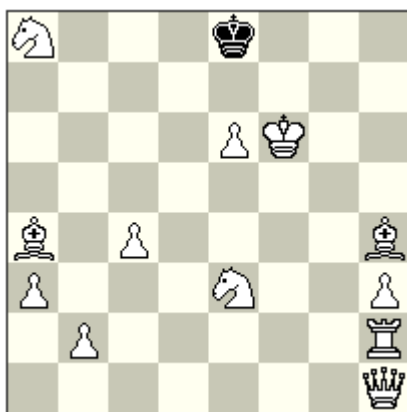
(12+1)   ser-hs% 79   C+   (13+1)   ser-hs% 80   C+
                Circe   Circe

 2.10) 1.Ke8-d8 ... 7.Ka5*a4[+wBf1] 8.Ka4-a5 ... 20.Kh5*h4[+wBc1] 21.Kh4-h5 ...37.Kb1*c1 38.Kc1-b1 ... 57.Kf4*e3[+wSg1] 58.Ke3-f4 59.Kf4-g3 60.Kg3-h4 61.Kh4-h5 62.Kh5-h6 63.Kh6-h7 64.Kh7-g8 65.Kg8-f8 66.Kf8-e8 67.Ke8-d8 68.Kd8-c8 69.Kc8-b8 70.Kb8-a7 71.Ka7-a6 72.Ka6-a5 73.Ka5-a4 74.Ka4-b3 75.Kb3-a2 76.Ka2-b1 77.Kb1-c1 78.Kc1-d1 79.Kd1-e1 80.Ke1*f1 & 1.Qh1-e4 Kf1*g1 %
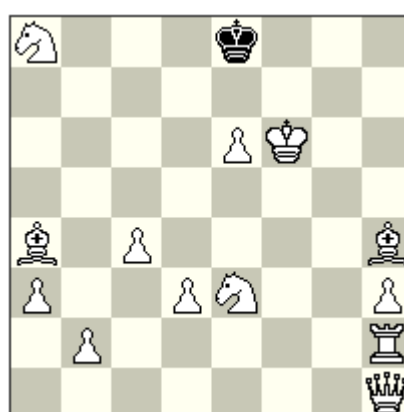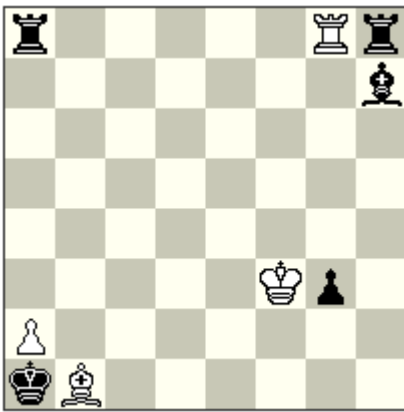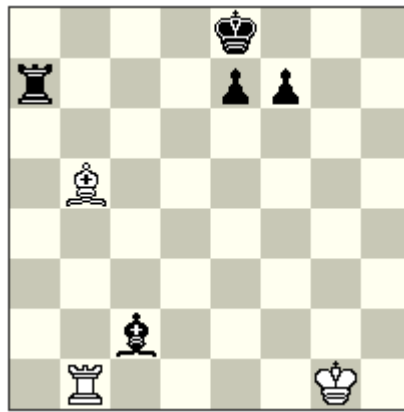
Originals
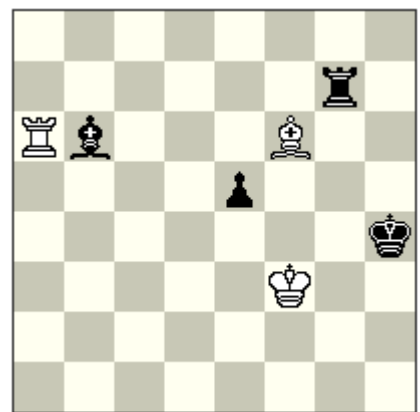## Fairies & Retros

840) A. Armeni & V. Rallo - I

(4+5)   Take&Make   h#2
b) Bb1 → h1

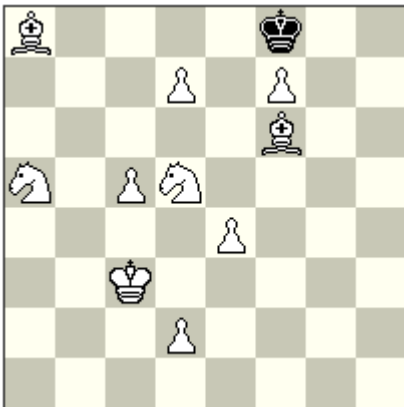### 841) J. Rotenberg
F

(3+5)   Provocation   h#2.5
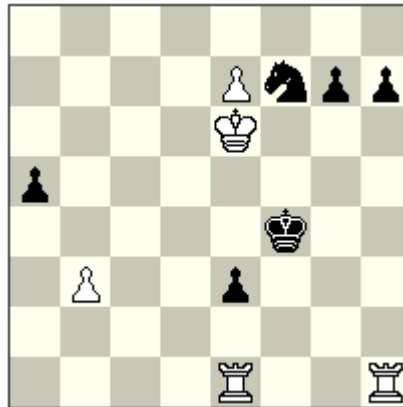4 sol.

842) J. Rotenberg
F

(3+4)   Provocation   h#2.5
2 sol.

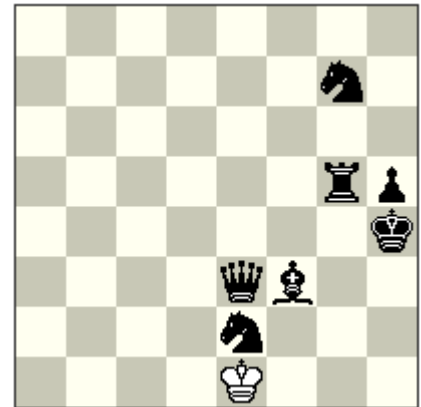### 843) Joost de Heer
NED

(10+1)   ser-h=43*

844) G. Sobrecases & P. Rãican − F & RO

(5+6)   2 sol   h#9
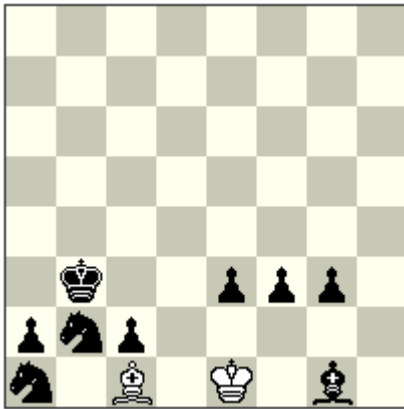Double Maximummer

845) A. Thoma
D

(1+7)   -3 & #1 Proca
AntiCirce   No FD

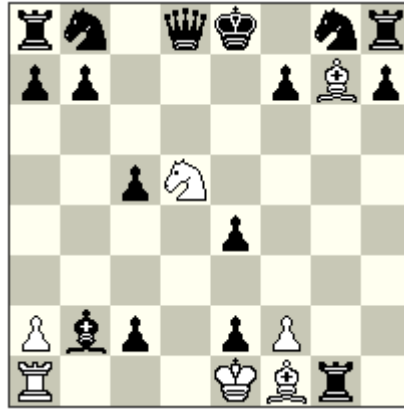## 846) K. Wenda
A

(2+9)   -6 & #1 Proca
AntiCirce   No FD

847) P. Rãican
RO

(7+16)   PG 14.5
Kobul Kings Masand

848) H. Grudziński
POL

(14+15)   PG 17.5
Parrain Circe

Solutions
Quartz 41/2015

840 (Armeni & Rallo):
a) 1.Bh7-e4 + Kf3*e4-c2 2.Ra8-a3 Rg8*h8-h1 #   b) 1.Rh8*g8-g4 Kf3*g4-b4 2.Bh7-b1 Bh1*a8-h8 #
In a), wBb1 is superfluous.

841 (Rotenberg):
1...Rb1-b4 2.Ra7-a8 Rb4-c4 3.Bc2-d3 Rc4-c8 #   1...Rb1-b3 2.Ra7-a2 Bb5-a4 + 3.Ra2-b2 Rb3-b8 #
1...Rb1-c1 2.Bc2-f5 Rc1-c6 3.Ra7-a5 Rc6-c8 #   1...Bb5-c6 2.Ra7-a8 Rb1-b5 3.Bc2-a4 Rb5-b8 #

842 (Rotenberg):
1...Ra6-a8 2.Rg7-e7 Ra8-h8 3.Bb6-d8 Rh8-h7 #   1...Bf6-d8 + 2.Bb6-e3 Ra6-f6 3.Rg7-d7 Rf6-h6 #

843 (de Heer):   1. d8=S=
1. Kxf7 16. Kxa8 28. Kxe4 29. Kxd5 43. Kc7 d8=R=

844 (Sobrecases & Rãican):   1.Sf7-g5 + Ke6-d5 2.Sg5-h3 Re1-a1 3.Sh3-g1 Ra1*g1 4.g7-g5 Rh1*h7
5.a5-a4 Rh7-h1 6.a4*b3 Rh1-h8 7.b3-b2 Rh8-a8 8.b2-b1=S Ra8-a1 9.Sb1-a3 Ra1-f1 #
        1.Sf7-d8 + e7*d8=B 2.h7-h5 Bd8-h4 3.g7-g5 Re1-a1 4.g5*h4 Rh1-b1 5.Kf4-g5 Rb1-h1 6.Kg5-h6
Rh1-b1 7.Kh6-g7 Rb1-h1 8.Kg7-f8 Ra1-g1 9.Kf8-e8 Rg1-g8 #

845 (Thoma): See the first article in this issue.

846 (Wenda): **1.Ke2xRd1(Ke1)!** f4-f3+ 2.Bc3xQe1(Bc1) Rd8-d1+ 3.Kd3-e2 Rg8-d8+ 4.Kc4-d3 Ka3-
b3+/Ka4-b3+ 5.Kb4-c4 Re8-g8+ 6.Bd2-c3 (Tempo) & 1.Bxe1(Bc1)#

    KK-mate, uncapture of both units occupying e1/e8, decoy of the uncaptured bR to e8 in several steps.
    The FD ....5.Kb4-c4 Re8-g8+ & 1.Re5# had to be excluded.

847 (Rãican):   See the second article in this issue.

848 (Grudziński): 1.h4 g5 2.hxg5 Sf6(pf3) 3.gxf6 a5(Sf4) 4.b4 axb4 5.Rh3(pb6) fxg2 6.Rc3(pb2) Rxa2 7.bxc7(pb3) gxf1=S(pb6) 8.cxd8=S(Bg2) Sa6(Qc6) 9.Sxf7 Qa4(pd5) 10.fxe7 Kxf7(pf6) 11.e8=B+ Ke6 12.Bxd5+ Kxd5(pc4) 13.Bxd7 Bd6(pb5) 14.Bh3 Se3 15.fxe3 Rd8(Sa3) 16.bxa3 Rg8(Sd3)+ 17.exd3 Rg4 18.Bf1.
    B Phoenix-Pronkin, S&s Ceriani-Frolkin.

        ****
        The themes for the **10th World Chess Composition Tournament** have been announced:
#2: Anticipatory unpin of a white piece.
#3: In variations, black defensive motif and the white response are of the same tactical nature.
#n: Sequential play of at least two different direct white batteries, with different rear pieces.
eg: Logical studies with the foresight theme.
h#: Black gives a battery check to the white King.
s#: At least two variations end with black mating move made to the same square, played by different black pieces.
fairies: In a solution of a helpmate with Take&Make fairy condition an "invisible capture" takes place.
retros: In an orthodox proof game several pieces exchange their places.

More clarifications and thematic examples can be found on **WFCC** website. Romanian composers are invited to submit their entries until **15th April 2016.** Cornel Pãcurar kindly created an workshop in this matter.

        Just received from our friend Dinu-Ioan Nicula - the last Editor of Buletin Problemistic - the belated ranking of **fairies** published in **2004 − 2006** period. The judge was Bjørn Enemark and the notation is in German. This report could be read at www.frsah.ro/2015/compozitie-sahista.

Award Buletin Problemistic - fairies 2004-06
by Bjørn Enemark, Denmark

        First, a thank you to Dinu-Ioan Nicula for asking me to judge this fairy section, it has been a pleasure. The overall standard was very high. There have been many candidates for the award and it has not been so easy to select. An important criterion has been interesting play. This has eliminated some of the long series movers where the king walks down through a long and winding, but predefined route to capture a blocking piece. I have given 5 prizes, 6 honorary mentions and 9 commendations. 8 out of these 20 awards went to Romanians. I have not wanted to be influenced by the composers' names so I have initially erased all names on the magazine pages in the jpeg-files that I received from Dinu.
Then a little statistics. Altogether, there were 56 problems by 33 different authors from 13 countries:
        *BP81: 4336-4343 (9)
        *BP82: 4395-4408, 4338V (15)
        *BP83: 4460-4465 (6)
        *BP84: 4521-4531(11)
        *BP85: 4580-4594 (15)
        Of these were 7 direct mates, 17 selfmates, 21 helpmates, 9 helpselfmates and 2 proof games. […]
        I excluded some problems:
-4343, 4404, 4465 and the original version of 4338 for having multiple solutions.
-4396 (ser-s#16) which has a predecessor in Gennadi L. Kukins ser-s#13 (PDB P1236035) with same last 5 moves and precisely the same mating position
-4531 and 4591 upon request from Componist, as proof games are now considered a separate category
and 4591 in the meantime was republished as R04 in Componist no. 1 (with the author's acceptance)
and for 4464 I had expected more from a Pickaninny with four Excelsiors and grasshopper promotions, like P1177460 by Wenelin Alaikov & Petko Petkov with four different mates.

And now for the award:

4585. Paul Răican, ROU
1. Pr., Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06

S#15   Circe   8+2

4406. Vlaicu Crişan, ROU
2. Pr., Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06

Ser-H#3   Supercirce   C+   3+7
             2.1...

1. Pr., 4585 (Răican):

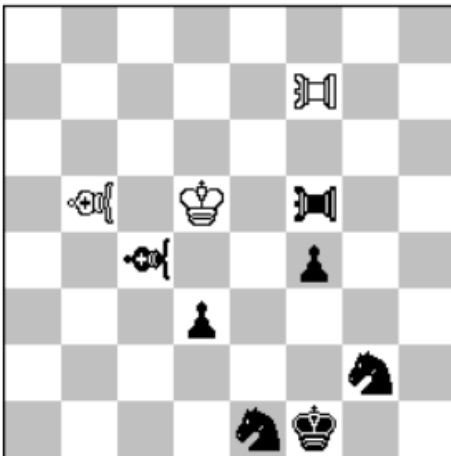| 1. Se5+ | Kxe3 (hTa1) | 2. Dxf3+ (sSg8) | Kd2 |
3. T4a2+	Ke1	4. Te2+	Kd1
5. Tb2+	Ke1	6. Dh1+	Sxh6 (hSg1)
7. Sh3+	Sxf7 (hLf1)	8. Lc4+	Sxe5 (hSg1)
9. Se2+	Sxc4 (hLf1)	10. Lg3+	Kd1
11. Sf2+	Ke1	12. Sg4+	Kd1
13. Se3+	Sxe3 (hSg1)	14. Dd5+	Sxd5
15. Sc3+	Sxc3#		

This aristocratic self mate in 15 moves has a long forced play, quite entertaining, where the lone defender, the black knight, again and again must save the ball at the goal line, using Circe to block for a check from the queen at h1. This is done by black's 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th move. It ends with a forced ideal mate.
It displays the Popandopoulo theme: a battery is established (the queen at h1) and fired several times with different front pieces. Here this is done in white's 7th, 8th and 9th move.
White has all his officers in play; this gives about 50 possible moves for white in each move. So even though black usually has only one move, this problem becomes impossible to test! The last 6 moves are tested ok in 18 minutes. The last 7 moves are tested ok in 51 hours. So testing just one more move (the last 8 out of the 15 moves) would probably take 1 year!

2. Pr., 4406 (Crişan)

1. VAxf7 [+hPAc4]   2. VAxc4 [+hPAf8]
3. PAxb5 [+hVAf7]   VAxc4 [+sVAg1]#

1. PAxb5 [+hVAf5]   2. PAxf5 [+hVAa6]
3. VAxf7 [+hPAb5]   PAxf5 [+sPAg1] #

In supercirce captured pieces may be placed anywhere. And in this little beauty with Chinese pieces all moves are captures, making the most out of the condition. Two solutions with perfect analogy, ODC. The rear piece of one battery is captured by the front piece of another. Since it is a series mover there may be no check to the black king so the rear piece is used to block. With a switchback the rear piece is reinstated only one square further away.
Then the front piece of the other battery captures the rear piece of the first one and places this piece as a new front piece. And for the finale the second battery is fired with a double check and a self block. The white king is the crankshaft of it all, acting as hurdle for both Vaos and Paos. Quite simple actually, but very nicely done. I just wonder why there is a knight and not a pawn at g2.

4530. Gaspar J. Perrone, ARG
3. Pr., Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06
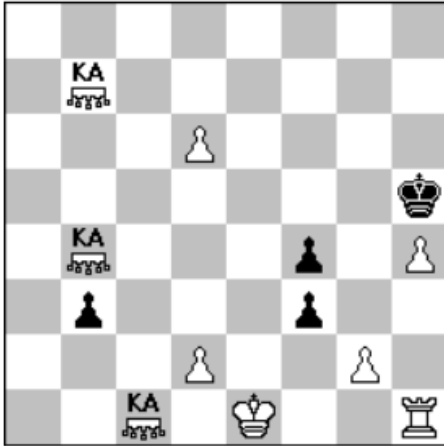
HS#5   C+   9+4

3. Pr., 4530 (Perrone)

1. 0-0	b2	2. Kh2	b1KA
3. Rg1	KAb8	4. KAh1+	Kxh4
5. g4+	fxg3 ep.#		

A kangaroo moves likes a grasshopper but needs two hurdles. They may be without intervening spaces. In this problem there are four of them and two of them have several functions:
- KAb7 is a hurdle for KAb1 and also a self block on h1
- KAb4 is a hurdle for KAb1 and delivers check on h4 after g4

The theme is Valladao, a problem that contains all of the three special moves of chess: castling, promotion and en passant. All in a helpselfmate in five.
The final move gives check to the bK with an exo-battery with a kangaroo as a rear piece and black's only defence is an en passant move that mates wK because it is a double check, from the pawn and another exo-battery with the newborn black kangaroo as a rear piece.

4590. Guy Sobrecases, FRA
4. Pr., Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06

HS#20.5   C+   11+6
Double maximummer

4. Pr., 4590 (Sobrecases)

The fourth prize goes to a helpselfmate in 20.5 moves!

1. -	Ld6+	2. Sxd6+	Dxd6+
3. Txd6	Txd1	4. Txd1	cxd1T
5. Ld5	Txd5	6. Le1	Td1
7. La5	Td8+	8. Lxd8	Kxd8
9. Ka7	Kc7	10. h8L	Kd8
11. Kb6	Kc8	12. Ka7	Kc7
13. g8S	Kd8	14. Lf6	exf6
15. Se7	fxe5	16. Sd5	Kc8
17. Sf4	exf4	18. Kb6	fxe3
19. Ka7	e2	20. Kb6	e1D
21. Ka7	Da5#		

The length is in itself an achievement in a helpselfmate. Here it is supplemented by bicolor AUW and also quadruple Phenix since each of the promotions has been preceded by a capture of a corresponding piece during the first eight moves where all the original officers plus the newborn rook are eliminated.

4592. Eric Huber, ROU
5. Pr., Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06
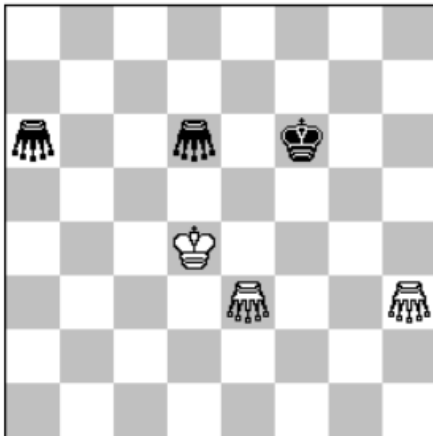
H#26*   Koeko   C+   3+3
Double maximummer

5. Pr., 4592 (Huber)

1. -	Gd3	2. Ge2	Gc5	3. Gg6	Gh7
4. Ge6	Ge3	5. Gg6	Gf5	6. Ge4	Gd3
7. Gc4	Gc5	8. Gc2	Gb1	9. Gxc5	Ke5
10. Gc6	Kd6	11. Ge7	Kxe7	12. Kf7	Kf6
13. Ke6+	Ke7	14. Kd5	Kd7	15. Ge8	Ke6
16. Kd6	Kd5	17. Ke5	Ke6	18. Kf6	Kf5
19. Kg5	Kg6	20. Kh6	Kh7	21. Kg7	Kg6
22. Gh5+	Kh7	23. Kh8	Kg6	24. Gf7	Gh7
25. Gh5	Gh4	26. Gf7	Kh7#		

1. Gg6	Gd3	2. Ge2	Gh7	3. Ge4	Gf5
4. Gc4	Gh7	5. Ge6	Ge7	6. Gf7	Gg5
7. Gd5	Gc5	8. Gf7	Ge7	9. Gd5	Gf8
10. Gc4	Gf5	11. Gg5	Gxg5	12. Ge4	Ge7
13. Ge8	Gg5	14. Kxg5	Gh5	15. Kh4	Gh3
16. Kg3	Gf3	17. Kf2	Gf1	18. Ke3	Ke4
19. Kf4	Kf5	20. Kg5	Kg6	21. Kh6	Kh7
22. Kg7	Kg8	23. Kh8	Kf7	24. Gg6	Gf8
25. Ge8	Gd8	26. Gg6	Kg8#		

Another lengthy double maximummer problem goes into the prize list,
an aristocratic miniature help mate in 26 with the Koeko condition.
Only kings and grasshoppers. In Koeko moves are only legal if the
piece ends up being ajacent to another piece on the board.
Its qualities is not just the length, it has a set play half a move shorter
that ends up with mate in the opposite corner, and a photographic
echo too!
This must be a lucky find! The Koeko condition is so contrary to normal
chess play that is hard to imagine composing such a long problem
without extensive use of the computer. Still, it is the result that counts
and a H#26 with photographic echoes is certainly worth a prize.

4526. Dinu-Ioan Nicula
& Vlaicu Crişan, ROU
dedicated to Lina
1. HM, Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06
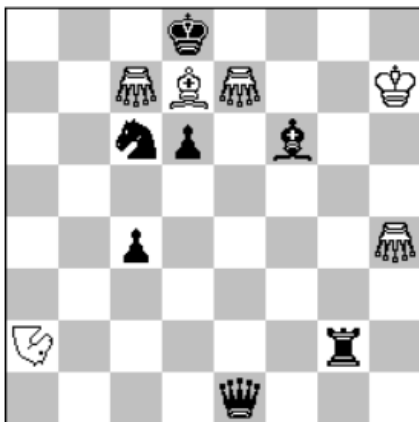
H#2   2.1...   C+   6+6

1. HM, 4526 (Nicula & Crişan)

1. Sb4	Gxb4	2. c3	Gd2#

1. Lg5	Nxg5	2. Tf2	Nf3 #

Change of function between the nightrider and the grasshopper.
Very neat analogy. First the pinned black piece moves away from the
king along the pin line (a Pelle move), and then the rear piece of the
other battery captures the pinned piece making a battery. To make the
battery work black must be prevented from 1) capturing the rear piece
and 2) interfering on the battery line.

4403. Michael Grushko, ISR
2. HM, Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06
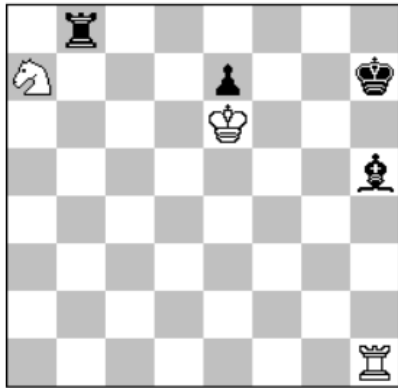
S=9   Circe   C+   3+4
          Maximummer

2. HM, 4403 (Grushko)

1. Sc6	Tb1	2. Sb8	Txb8 [Sg1]
3. Th3	Tb1	4. Tb3	Ld1
5. Sf3	Lxf3	6. Kxe7	La8
7. Ke8	Lh1	8. Tb7+	Txb7
9. Kf8	La6=		

White's knight and rook are cleverly eliminated in spite of the Circe condition. In move 6 the knight goes because of the black rook at b1 and in move 8 the rook is taken because of the black bishop at h1. The move 8. - Lxb7 is longer than 8. - Txb7 but is illegal due to self check.

4398. Jean-François Baudoin, FRA
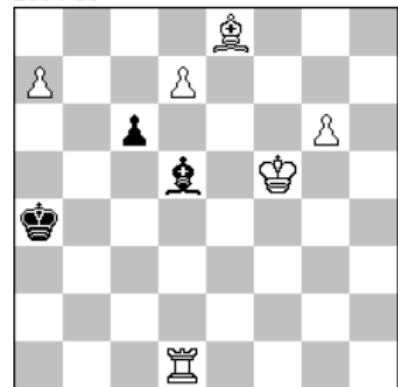3. HM, Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06
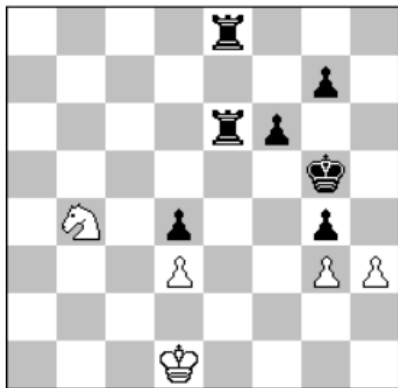
Ser-H#13   C+   4+7

3. HM, 4398. (Baudoin)

1. f5	2. Tg6	3. Te3	4. Txg3	5. Tf3
6. g3	7. g2	8. g1L	9. Lh2	10. Le5
11. Kf4	12. Tg3	13. g5 Sd5#		

Black constructs a fortress and bK enters.
The surprising thing here is that wBg3 is captured and that it is done by the rook at e8

4589. Guy Sobrecases, FRA
4. HM, Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06

HS#16   C+   6+3
   Double Maximummer
         Frankfurter Rex Exclusive

4. HM, 4589 (Sobrecases)

1. Th1	Lxh1(T)	2. Ke6	Th8	3. Lf7	Ta8
4. Le8	Txe8(L)	5. Kf5	Lxg6(B)+	6. Ke4	Kb3
7. Kd3	Ka2	8. Kc4	Kb1	9. Kb3	g5
10. Ka4	Kc2	11. d8S	Kd3	12. Se6	Kc4
13. Sf4	gxf4(S)	14. a8D	Sg6	15. Dh8	Sxh8(D)
16. Ka3	Da1#				

Another successful long double maximummer, this time with Frankfurter chess: When a piece makes a capture it changes into that piece, but retains its own color. bLd5 turns into T, L, B, S, D, so it is a kind of AUW even though there is not promotion involved for black. Due to the maximummer condition the pawns can only move when the corresponding K is caught at the edge, unable to make a diagonal move.

4580. Venelin Alaikov, BUL
5. HM, Buletin Problemistic fairies
2004-06
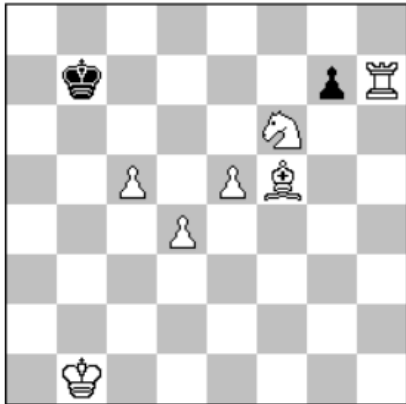
Ser-H#8   C+   7+2

B: wBe5→h6
C: B + wLf5→a5
D: C + wBh6→f5

5. HM, 4580. (Alaikov)

A:	1. Ka6	2. gxf6	3. fxe5	4. e4	5. e3
	6. e2	7. e1L	8. La5	Ld3#	

B:	1. Ka8	2. g5	3. g4	4. g3	5. g2
	6. g1L	7. Lh2	8. Lb8	Le4#	

C:	1. Kc8	2. gxh6	3. h5	4. h4	5. h3
	6. h2	7. h1L	8. Lb7	Th8#	

D:	1. Kc6	2. g6	3. gxf5	4. f4	5. f3
	6. f2	7. f1L	8. Lb5	Tc7#	

This series mover has many qualities:
- K-star in first move (bK must unpin the pawn)
- Pickaninny
- four excelsior runs by pawn g7
- promotion to bishop on e1, f1, g1 and h1

Some would disqualify it completely for having a white officer (S) not participating in the B-mate, but I think its qualities easily outweigh this. However, it would certainly have been ranked higher without this flaw.

4401. Neculai Chivu, ROU
6. HM, Buletin Problemistic fairies
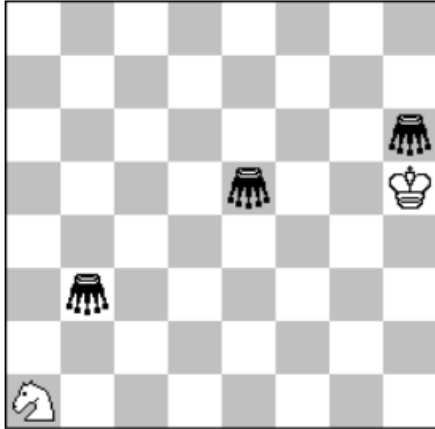2004-06
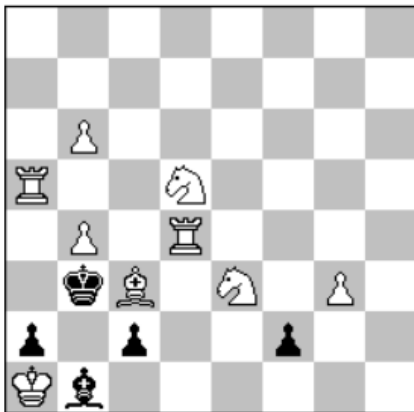
S#3   Maximummer   C+   9+5

6. HM, 4401 (Chivu)

1. Le1	ZZ		
1. -	fxe1S	2. Ta3+	Kxa3
		3. Sxc2+	Sxc2#
1. -	fxe1L	2. b5	Lxa5
		3. Sc3	Lxc3#
1. -	fxe1T	2. Td1	Th1
		3. Txb1+	Txb1#
1. -	fxe1D	2. Txa2	Dxb4
		3. Ta3+	Dxa3#

Fine S#3 with AUW. Black must promote the f-pawn with capture.

4339. Michael Grushko, ISR
1. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06

S#7   Circe   C+   2+3
             Maximummer
             B: wSa1→a8

1. Comm. , 4339 (Grushko)

A)
1. Sc2	Gd1	2. Sd4	Gd5
3. Kg6	Gc3	4. Sf5	Gg5
5. Sg7	Gh8	6. Kh7	Gg8
7. Kxh8 [+bGh1]	Gh7#		

B) wSa1→a8
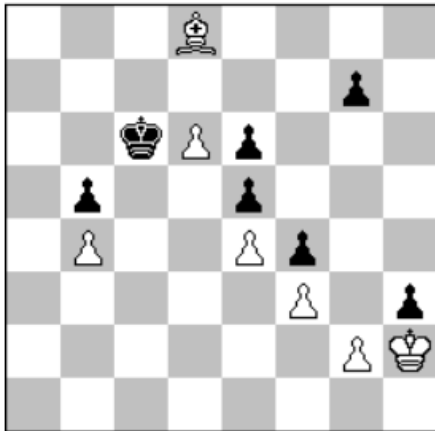| 1. Kg6 | Gf6 | 2. Sc7 | Gb8 |
3. Se6	Gb2	4. Kxf6 [+bGf1]	Gg7
5. Kxg7 [+bGg1]	Gg8	6. Kh8	Gf7
7. Sg7	Gf8#		

Two mates with this weak material, both in the h8-corner. Almost symmetrical around the diagonal. One of them is Circe dependent: in A) the grasshopper at g8 is self guarded.

4407. Igor Vereşciaghin
& Valerii Gurov, RUS
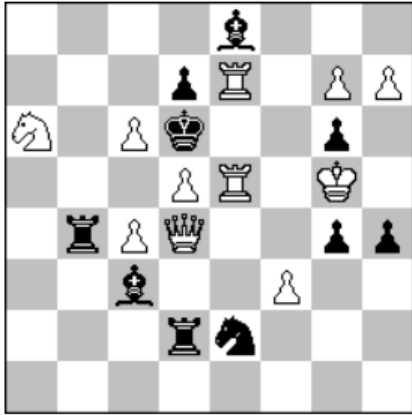2. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06

HS#7   C+   7+7

2. Comm., 4407 (Vereşciaghin & Gurov)

1. d7	Kd6	2. Lb6	Ke7
3. d8T	Kf6	4. Td1	Kg5
5. Th1	Kh4	6. Lg1	g5
7. g4	fxg3 ep.#		

Logical HS#7 ending in ZZ and forced ep-capture.

4400. Venelin Alaikov, BUL
3. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06

Semi-R#3   C+   11+10

3. Comm., 4400 (Alaikov)

1. Te3!	tr.	2. De5+	Lxe5	3. Kh6	Lf4#

1. -	Txd4	2. T3e6+	dxe6	3. Kf6	Txd5
1. -	Sxd4	2. c5+	Kxd5	3. Kf4	Se6#
1. -	Lxd4	2. Txd7+	Lxd7	3. Kxh4	Lf6#
1. -	Sf4	2. Dxf4+	Le5	3. Kh6	Lxf4#

After the threat black may defend with four moves all resulting in reflex mate. White K-star in third move. The position is a bit heavy though.

4529. Menachem Witztum, ISR
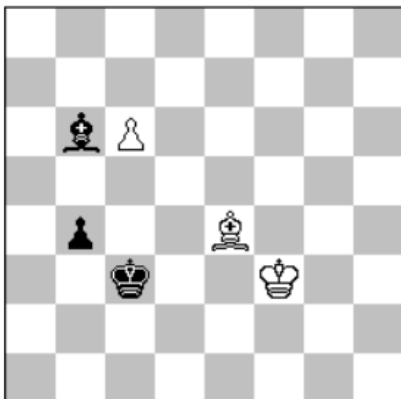4. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06
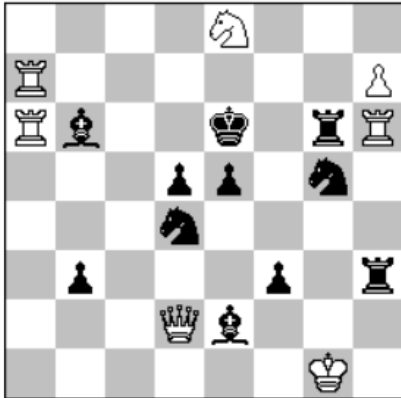
HS#2   B: bBe5➜f5   C+ 7+11

4. Comm., 4529 (Witztum)

A:
1. Dxg5   Lxa6   2. Dg4+   Sf5#

B:
1. Dxd4   Thxh6   2. De3+   Se4#

White queen captures one of the knights that both are front pieces in batteries. The other knight fires its battery at the end. This is called pseudo-Zilahi.
We also have Pelle moves by the queen and of course ODC.
The position is quite heavy though and the extra rook out of the box is a minus.

4521. Valer V. Demian
& Valeriu Petrovici, ROU
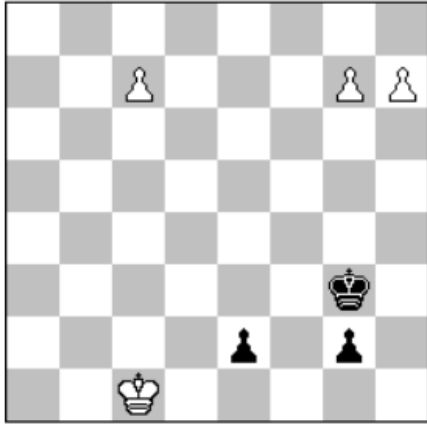5. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06

Ser-H#6   2.1...   C+   3+3

5. Comm., 4521 (Demian & Petrovici)

1. Kc4	2. Kb5	3. Ka6	4. Ka7	5. Ka8

6. La7   c7#

1. Kd2	2. Ke1	3. Kf1	4. Kg1	5. Kh1

6. Lg1   Kg3#

With simple means this miniature generate the same mate in opposite corners.

4344. Eric Huber, ROU
6. Comm., Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06

HS#4   Eiffel   C+   4+3

6. Comm., 4344 (Huber)

1. c8T   e1L   2. Tc2   g1T
3. g8D+   Kh4   4. h8T+   Lc3#

A fine miniature helpselfmate featuring 5 promotions. In Eiffel a pawn threatening a knight will paralyse the knight. Likewise for knight threatening bishop, bishop threatening rook, rook threatening queen and queen threatening pawn. Here this is used twice, the rook at g1 paralyses the queen at g8 and the bishop at c3 paralyses the rook at h8. Lc3 is the only way to prevent the mating of black: bK cannot enter the g-line because of self check when the g1-g8 line is broken.

4338V. Neculai Chivu, ROU
7. Comm., Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06
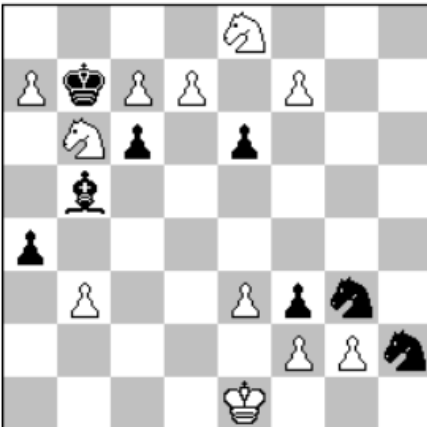
S#6   Maximummer   C+   11+8

7. Comm., 4338V (Chivu)

1. a8D+   Kxb6   2. c8S+   Kc5   3. f8L+   Kd5
4. d8T+   Ke4   5. Td1   Lf1   6. gxf3+   Sxf3#

Quite entertaining. By means of four promotions with check (AUW) black is forced onto the e-column, the maximummer condition makes it e4 instead of the safe spot e5. The final pawn check could easily be parried by Ke5/Kf5/Kxf3 but due to the condition it must be Sxf3#

4463. Neculai Chivu, ROU
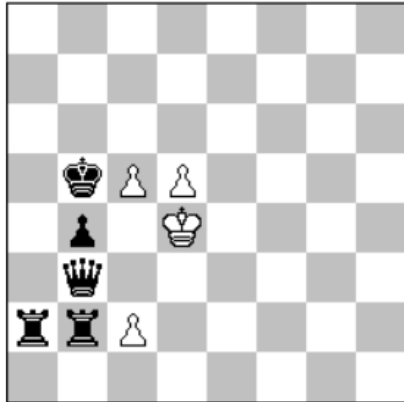8. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06
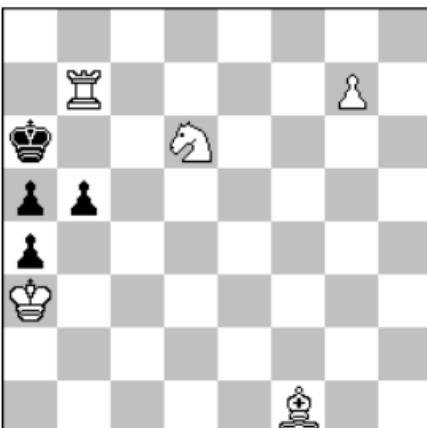
S#7   Circe   C+   5+4

8. Comm., 4463 (Chivu)

1. Ka2!   ZZ
1. -   a3   2. g8D   a4   3. Dc8   Ka5
4. Sxb5   Ka6/Kb4 5. Sd4+   Ka5   6. Tb4   Kxb4 [+hTa1]
7. Sb3   axb3 [+hSb1]#

Because of zugzwang black is forced to capture white rook and knight, creating two white self blocks.

4397. Jorma Pitkänen, FIN
9. Comm. , Buletin Problemistic
fairies 2004-06

9. Comm., 4397 (Pitkänen)

1. Ta6   2. Tba2   3. T2a5   4. Da3   5. b3
6. b2   7. b1S   8. Sc3   9. Sa2   10. Sb4
11. Da4 c4#

A neat puzzle with quadruple black self block and promotion to S

Ser-H#11   C+   4+5

Bjørn Enemark
2013-01-06

Editor's note:

This report had been long awaited, but was a pleasure to read it. It worth to be read by newcomers in chess composition too. Thank you, Bjørn, for the first prize granted. It was mostly a surprise for me, as I earned Commendations only for this kind of problems, till now.

A little word about Guy's 4th Prize & 4th HM: the condition Double Maximmumer is beloved by the French composer. I found 12 problems with this condition on Anticirce – his webblog. Here is one of them:

G. Sobrecases
Probleemblad 2007
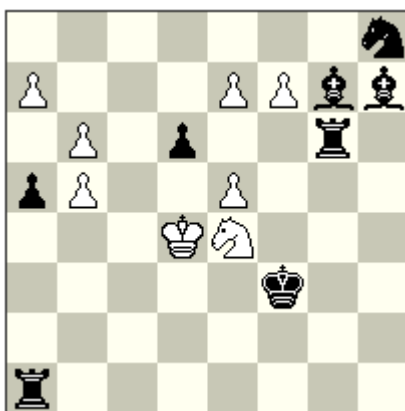
1.Cc3! Th1 2.Cb1 T×b1 3.Rc3 Th1 4.Rd2 Ta1 5.e×d6 Fb2 **6.a8=C** Fg7 7.Cc7 Fb2 8.Cd5 Fg7 9.Cc3 Th1 10.Ce2 Fa1 11.Cg1+ Tg×g1 **12.f8=C** Fg7 13.Cg6 Fa1 14.Ch4+ T×h4 **15.e8=C** Fg7 16.Cf6 Fb1 17.Cg4 Fa1 18.Ch2+ T×h2#   (C+ Popeye 4.69)

wS Ceriani-Frolkin x3.

(8+8)   s#18
Double Maximummer