

Hungarian Chess Federation 100 Jubilee Tourney Award

On the 100th anniversary of its establishment, the Hungarian Chess Federation organized an international formal chess problem tourney for helpmates in 3.5 to 4.5 moves.

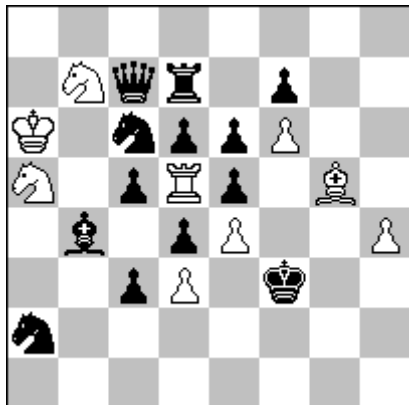
Theme: the capture of at least 2 white pieces (not pawns) during the solution. Multiple solutions and twinning were allowed, but every solution had to be thematic. Fairy pieces and conditions were not allowed.

Regarding the tourney theme, I considered it essential that the captured white pieces should play a role in all positions for problems with twins or one solution. However, in the case of problems with two or more solutions, if a captured piece is superfluous in some solution, but its existence is required for another solution, I did not consider this shortcoming to be a reason for eliminating the problem.

Due to the above principles, I did not place problem 24, which would have a chance for a prize otherwise, where in one position the captured white knight is superfluous (it can even be taken off the board), and, accepting a claim, I canceled problem 25, which originally received a special prize, for a similar reason.

There were 46 entries by 30 authors from 13 countries. The problems that show the theme more than once in multiple solutions or twins excel in the tourney

1st Prize - Aleksandr Semenenko & Valery Semenenko, Ukraine

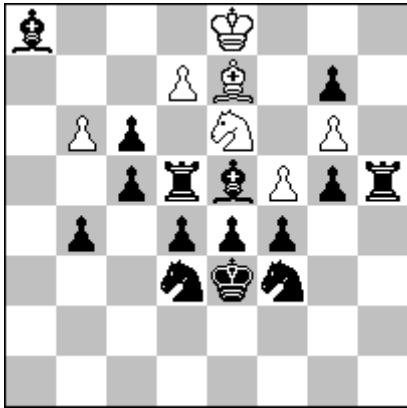


8/1Nqr1p2/K1nppP2/N1pRp1B1/1b1pP2P/2pP1k2/n7/8
h#3.5 2 solutions (9+13)

1...Be3 2.Kxe3 Rxd4 3.Kxd4 Sxc5 4.Kxc5 Sb3#
1...Bf4 2.Kxf4 Rxe5 3.Kxe5 Sxd6 4.Kxd6 Sc4#

The active sacrifices of 3 white pieces are repeated in two solution lines. The black king's march is followed by the mating move of the same white knight yielding a model mate in both solutions. An excellent multiple rendering of the theme in a harmonious realization.

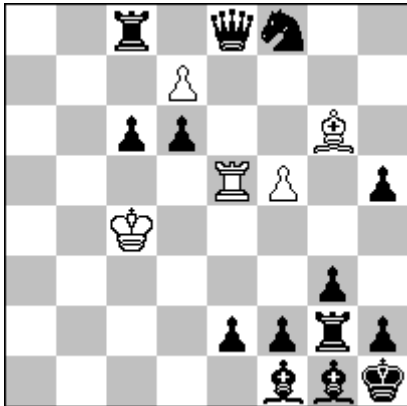
2nd Prize - Boris Shorokhov, (without country name)



b3K3/3PB1p1/1Pp1N1P1/2prbPpr/1p1ppp2/3nkn2/8/8
 h#3.5 2 solutions (7+15)
 1...Sxd4 2.Kxd4 Bxc5+ 3.Kxc5 d8=B 4.Kd6 Be7#
 1...Sxf4 2.Kxf4 Bxg5+ 3.Kxg5 d8=S 4.Kh6 Sf7#

The active sacrifices of the white knight and bishop are followed by white minor promotions where one of the captured pieces and then the other one is reborn thematically as Phoenix. The lines in both solutions end with model mates by the promoted pieces.

3rd Prize - Fadil Abdurahmanovic, Bosnia-Herzegovina



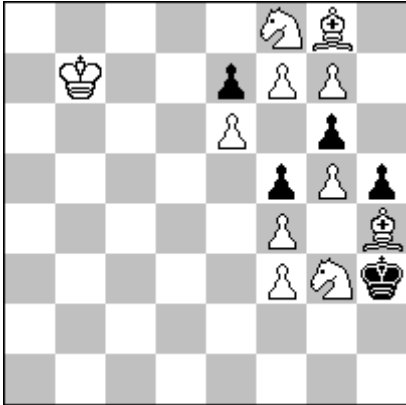
2r1qn2/3P4/2pp2B1/4RP1p/2K5/6p1/4pprp/5bbk
 h#4 2 solutions (5+14)

1.Qxe5 dxc8=Q 2.Qxf5 Qxc6 3.Qh3 Qxg2+ 4.Kxg2 Be4#
 1.Qxg6 d8=Q 2.Qxf5 Qh4 3.Qb1 Qxh2+ 4.Kxh2 Rxh5#

The black queen can only remove the disturbing f5 pawn from the path of the mating white piece if it also captures the other white piece. Meanwhile, the d7 pawn promotes to queen in both solutions and then sacrifices itself in a square next to the black king.

During a Zilahi theme rendering and, in one solution, the spectacular hide-away of the black queen, a parade of fireworks takes place on the board, which is, however, overshadowed by the fact that the white piece captured in the first move is actually superfluous (passive sacrifice). In my opinion, this is not a serious fault for twin problems.

1st Honorable Mention - Gennady Chumakov, (without country name)

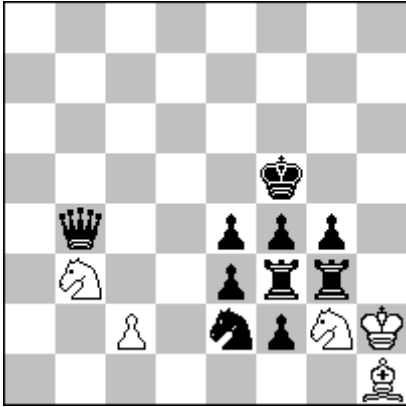


5NB1/1K2pPP1/4P1p1/5pPp/5P1B/5PNk/8/8
h#4* (11+5)

1...Sxh5 2.Kxh4 Sxg6+ 3.Kxh5 f8=Q 4.Kxg6 Qf7#
1.Kxh4 Sxh5 2.Kxh5 Sxg6 3.Kxg6 Bh7+ 4.Kxh7 g8=Q#

In addition to the 3 white pieces captured in the set play, the fourth is also sacrificed in the solution. Meanwhile, two different white pawns are promoted to queens creating two different mates.

2nd Honorable Mention - Franz Pachl, Germany

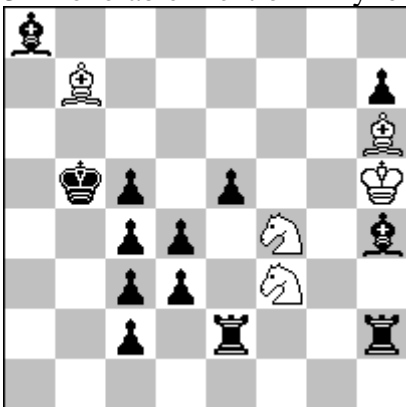


8/8/8/5k2/1q2ppp1/1N2ppr1/2P1npNK/7B
h#3.5 2 solutions (5+10)

1...Sxe3+ 2.Rxe3 Bxe4+ 3.Kxe4 c3 4.Kf3 Sd2#
1...Sxf4 2.Kxf4 Bxf3 3.Kxf3 c4 4.Sf4 Sd4#

The black king tries to reach f3 in two different ways, to which the sacrifices of the white knight and bishop are necessary. The two model mates of the remaining white knight require the closing of the lines of black queen by the white pawn, enriching the solutions with harmonious strategic elements.

3rd Honorable Mention - Mykola Kolesnik & Valery Semenenko, Ukraine

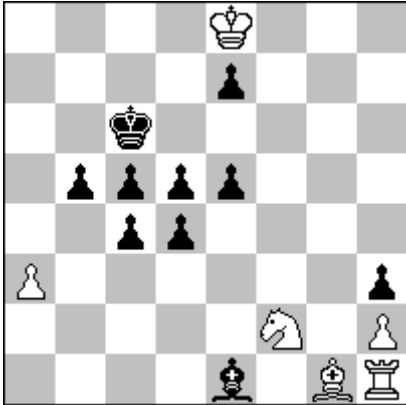


b7/1B5p/7B/1kp1p2K/2pp1N1b/2pp1N2/2p1r2r/8
h#3.5 2 solutions (5+13)

1...Bd5 2.e4 Bxc4+ 3.Kxc4 Sxd3 4.Kxd3 Se5#
1...Bf8 2.Re3 Bxc5 3.Kxc5 Sxd4 4.Kxd4 Se6#

With the strong white material mate can only be achieved by sacrificing one of the white knight-bishop pairs in two analogous twin solutions, meanwhile the remaining other pair of knight-bishop delivers mate. An economical construction with model mates.

4th Honorable Mention - János Csák, Hungary



4K3/4p3/2k5/1pppp3/2pp4/P6p/5N1P/4b1BR

h#3.5 (6+10)

b) bBe1-->h8 +c) bPe5-->b6

a) 1...Kxe7 2.Bxf2 Kd8 3.Bxg1 Rxc1 4.Kd6 Rg6#

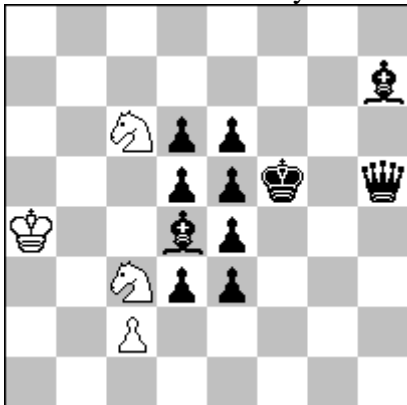
b) 1...Se4 2.dxe4 Be3 3.Kd5 Kd7 4.dxe3 Rd1#

c) 1...Sd3 2.cxd3 Bxd4 3.cxd4 Kxe7 4.Kc5 Rc1#

The problem shows the threefold elimination of a white knight-bishop pair with rook mates using 16 pieces and slightly heavy continuous twins

Commendations without order:

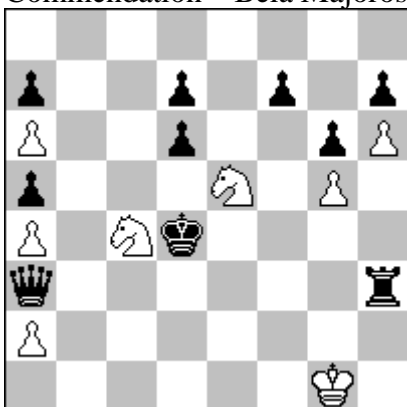
Commendation - Vitaly Medintsev, (without country name)



8/7b/2Npp3/3ppk1q/K2bp3/2Npp3/2P5/8
h#3.5 2 solutions (4+11)

1...Sxe4 2.Kxe4 Sxd4 3.Kxd4 Kb4 4.Be4 c3#
1...Sxe5 2.Kxe5 Sxd5 3.Kxd5 Kb5 4.Qe5 c4#

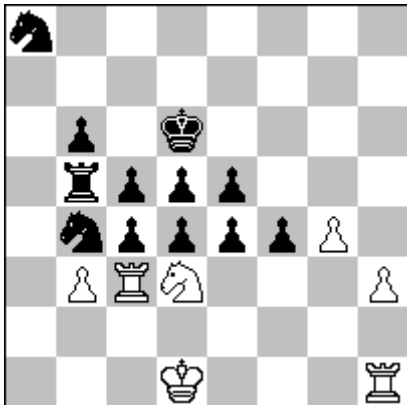
Commendation – Béla Majoros Béla, Hungary



8/p2p1p1p/P2p2pP/p3N1P1/P1Nk4/q6r/P7/6K1
h#3.5 2 solutions (8+10)

1...Sxg6 2.hxg6 h7 3.Kxc4 h8=Q 4.Kb4 Qd4#
1...Sb6 2.axb6 a7 3.Kxe5 a8=Q 4.Ke6 Qe4#

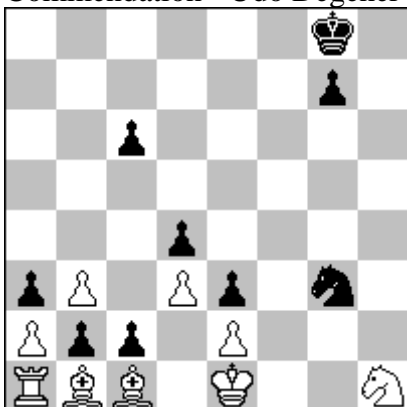
Commendation - Aleksandr Pankratyev, (without country name) & Evgeny Gavrilov, Ukraine



n7/8/1p1k4/1rppp3/1nppppP1/1PRN3P/8/3K3R
h#3.5 2 solutions (7+12)

1...Sxb4 2.dxc3 Sxd5 3.Kxd5 Ke2 4.Kd4 Rd1#
1...Sxe5 2.Kxe5 Rf3 3.exf3 Kd2 4.Ke4 Re1#

Commendation - Udo Degener & Mirko Degenkolbe, Germany



6k1/6p1/2p5/8/3p4/pP1Pp1n1/Ppp1P3/RBB1K2N
h#4 2 solutions (9+9)

1.bxc1=S Bxc2 2.Sxb3 Bxb3+ 3.Kh8 0-0-0 4.Sxh1 Rxh1#
1.Kh8 Bxe3 2.cxb1=R+ Kd2 3.Rxh1 Rf1 4.Rh7 Rf8#