

**AWARD OF THE  
'SEETHARAMAN-64 JUBILEE TOURNEY'  
for Superguards PROBLEMS.**

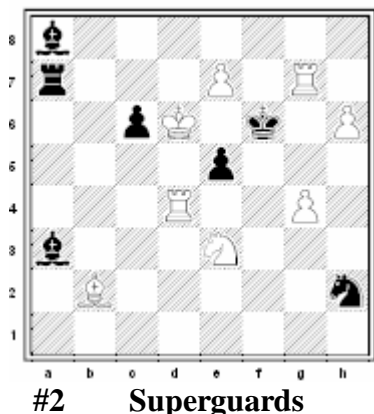
*I received 50 problems from C.G.S.Narayanan in anonymous diagrams. It was nice to get so many entries though the Superguards condition was programmed only in Winchloe. It is gratifying to know that so many leading composers liked the new fairy condition and that 17 of them (from 13 countries) participated in the tourney.*

*Many correspondents helped and encouraged me with valuable inputs before I publicized the new Fairy condition 'Superguards'. Apart from my Indian colleagues, special mention should be made of C.J.Feather, J.M.Rice (who suggested the name Superguards), Kevin Begley, Diyan Kostadinov, Petko A.Petkov, Christian Poisson & Julia Vysotska. I thank all the participants especially Mr.Jacques Rotenberg (20 entries!) and the Tourney Director. Congratulations to the award winners. Here is my award which will be final after 15 days.*

**Section A – Direct mates in two or three moves.**

*There were 10 entries for Section A of the Tourney. There were no three-movers. The quality of the awarded entries is very good. My ranking is as follows.*

**Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**  
**First Prize**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



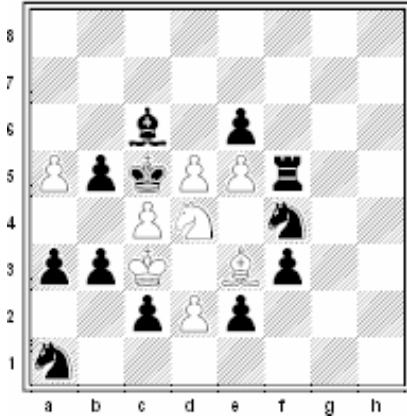
**Set play:** 1 ... B:b2 2. Sd5 # (A)  
1 ... Ra4 2. e8S # (B)

**Key:** 1. Kd7 ! (2. Rd6 #)  
1 ... B:b2 2. e8S # (B)  
1 ... Ra4 2. Sd5 # (A)  
1 ... Sf3 ! 2. g5 #  
1 ... e4 ! 2. Rd2 #

**First Prize: Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**

*In the set play 1...Ra4 abandons a potential guarding line, while 1...B:b2 frees the white rook from guarding duty. This is neatly reversed after the bi-valve key closing the rook line and opening the bishop line. The result is a nice reciprocal change of mates and effects. Excellent use of the Superguards condition.*

**Gerard Smits (Netherlands)**  
**Second Prize**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



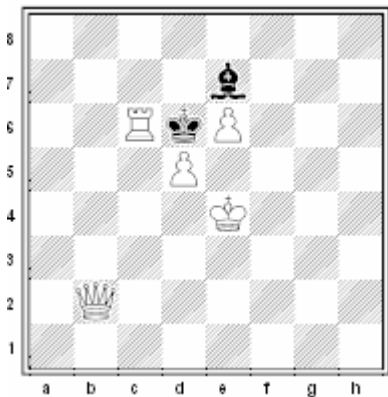
**#2 Superguards**

**Key: 1. d3 ! (2. S:f3 #)**  
**(1.S:f3+ ? Sd3 !).**  
**1 ... c1Q+ / e1Q+ / b4+**  
**2. Sc2/ Se2 / Sb5 #**  
**1... b2 / R:e5 / Bd7**  
**2. Sb3 / Sf5 / Sc6 #**  
**1... Sg2 2. S:e6#**

**Second Prize: Gerard Smits (Netherlands)**

*Beautiful traditional problem! The Thematic key allows three crosschecks and six of the knight wheel mates show the Umnov theme. Note that the mating move after 1....c1Q+ 2. Sc2 also superguards the Be3*

**Juraj Lorinc (Slovakia)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**#2 Superguards**

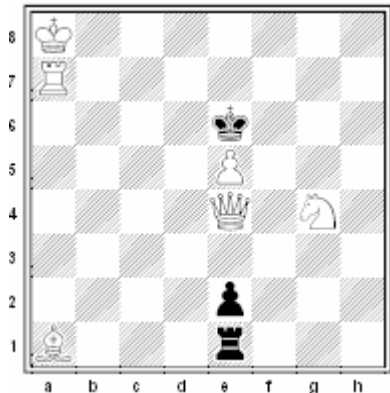
**Tries: 1. Ke5? Kc5 2.Kd6#**  
**1.... Bf8 !**  
**1. Qb8? Bf8 2. Q:f8#**  
**1... Kc5 !**

**Key: 1. Qb7! Bf8 2. e7 #**  
**Kc5 2. d6 #**

**1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention: Juraj Lorinc(Slovakia)**

*Two changed mates spread over three phases in a miniature. Good demonstration of mating the Superguarded King.*

**K.R.Chandrasekaran (India)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**#2 Superguards**

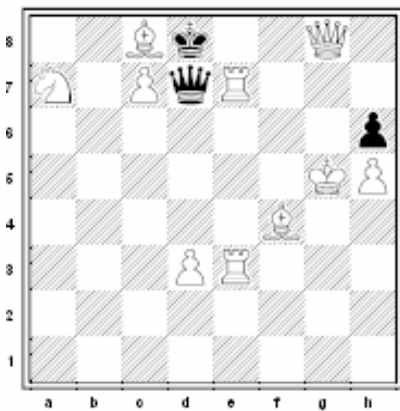
**Key: 1.Se3 !**  
**(2. Qc6/Qc4/Qd5/Qf5/Qg4/Qg6 #)**

**1... Rb1/Rc1/Rd1/Rf1/Rg1/Rh1**  
**2. Qc6/Qc4/Qd5/Qf5/Qg4/Qg6 #**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hon. Mention: K.R.Chandrasekaran (India)**

*Six-fold Fleck showing the Rook-Queen duel. Mates on the same file are neatly differentiated. The symmetry is a weak point.*

**Diyan Kostadinov(Bulgaria)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**#2 Superguards**

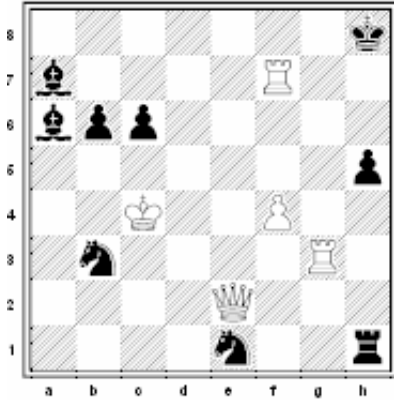
**Set play: 1...Qd6/Qd5/Qd4**  
**2. B:d6/Q:d5/Bd7 #**

**Key: 1. Qe8 zz**  
**1...Qd6/Qd5/Qd4**  
**2. Qd7/Rd7/Bd7 ! #**

**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation: Diyan Kostadinov(Bulgaria)**

*Another demonstration of using zuzwang to mate the superguarded King. The three different mates on d7 after pelle moves of the black queen are beautifully thematic and show triple avoidance and Umnov. The two changed mates from set play add merit. The double/triple checks are probably unavoidable. Deserves a prize but for the key taking an unprovided flight. I see no way to avoid it of course. WPb7 instead of white knight works just as well.*

**Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



#2 **Superguards**

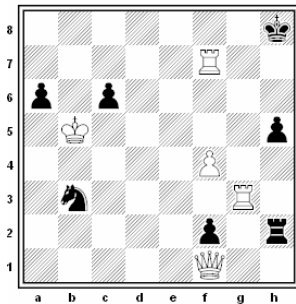
**Key. 1.Kb5 ! (2. Qe5 #)**  
**1... c5 2. Qe8 #**  
**1... Sc5 2. Qb2 #**  
**1... h4 2. Qh5 #**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation: Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**

*Four mates by the pinned queen, - two of them after bi-valve defences on c5. Good idea, but the construction may be improvable. I am giving below one possibility. The key of my version may look aggressive, but the try 1.Qd3? f1Q! shows that allowing f2-pawn to promote is good compensation. Anyway, three technical black pieces for a good key is too high a price !*

*Suggested version.*

*2nd Commendation*



(5+7)

#2 **Superguards**

**Try 1. Qd3 ? f1Q! 2. Rh7 #? Qa1 !**

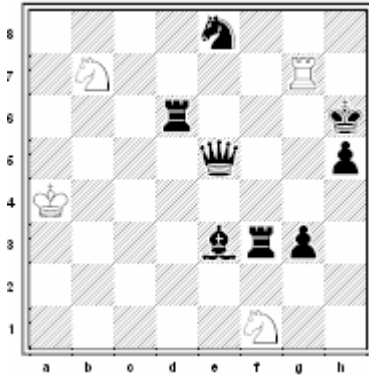
**Key. 1. Qe2 ! (2. Qe5).**

*No.50 (Jacques Rotenberg) also showed a nice Reciprocal Change using the same idea of the prizewinner but in a different scheme. Unfortunately, it had a flight-taking try and key and also an unprovided check. I do not want to include it in the award and give a low placing, as I believe the composer may be able to modify the scheme eliminating the defects.*

### Section B: Help-play problems

There were 40 entries for this section! It seems that composers prefer the Help-play form for the Fairy genres. The quality of the entries and variety of strategic ideas was very good. My ranking is as follows:

**Borislav Gadjanski (Serbia)**  
**First Prize**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



1. Ba7 Se3 (A) 2. Rb6 Sef5 !  
3. Qb8 Sd6 (B) #

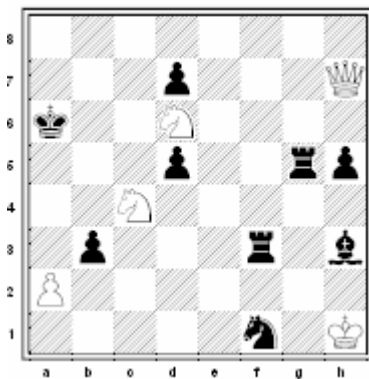
1. Rd1 Sd6 (B) 2. Bd2 Sdf5 !  
3. Qe1 Se3 (A) #

**H#3 Superguards Two solutions**

**No.40. First Prize: Borislav Gadjanski (Serbia)**

*Brilliant interchange of W1 & W3 moves, impossible in orthodox helpmates without a move of the black king. Great construction. Note the mutual shut off of the BR and BB, critical hideaway moves, the Umnov moves and the interchange of function of white knights. Meredith with rich Superguards strategy. Great problem.*

**S.K.Balasubramanian(India)**  
**Second Prize.**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



1. Qf5 ! Rf4 2. Q:d7 Rh4  
3. Qa4 + (Qb7 +?) Bc8  
#

1. Qd3! Bf5 2. Q:b3 Be4  
3. Qb7 + (Qa4+ ?) Ra3  
#

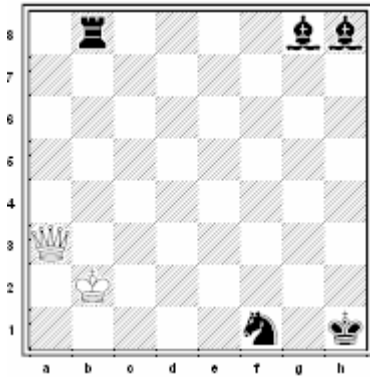
**HS#3 Superguards Two solutions**

**No.16 Second Prize: S.K.Balasubramanian(India)** *White has to clear a line for black to Superguard his King, while black forms mutual batteries. White queen has close the line of BB/BR before it can reach d7 or b3. There is nice dual avoidance on the last white move. Excellent!*

**S.K.Balasubramanian(India)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize.**

**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**1. Ka1 Se3 2. Qa7 Sg2  
3. Qg1+ K:g1 #**

**1. Ka2 Sd2 2. Qb2 Sb1  
3. Qg2+ K:g2 #**

**HS#3 Superguards**

**Two solutions**

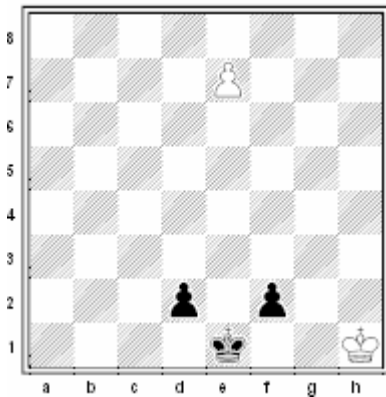
**Third Prize: S.K.Balasubramanian(India)**

*Nice miniature white minimal. The queen moving behind the black knight is piquant. That the black knight moves have additional motivation (in addition to hideaway) in the second solution might be considered a weakness, but the overall effect is very good !*

**Sebastian Luce (France)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize.**

**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013.**



**1. f1R+ Kg2 2. Rf8 e:f8Q  
3. d1S Qf2 #**

**1. f1B e8Q 2. Kf2 Qe4  
3. Kg3 Kg2 #**

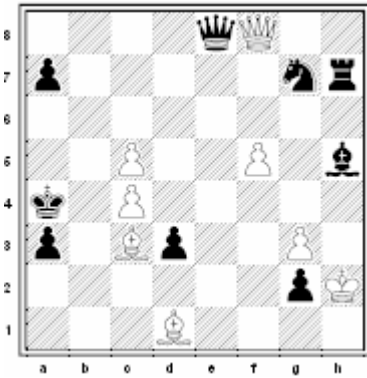
**H#3 Superguards**

**Two Solutions**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Sebastian Luce (France)**

*Brilliant AUW in miniature ! The solutions are different strategically, but nice. Good advertisement for the ANI form of helpmate !*

**Manfred Rittirsch (Germany)**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Prize**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013.**



(a) Diagram

1. g1S! Qf6 (Qd6?) 2. Se2 c6 #

(b) Move g3 to d6

1. g1R! Qf7 (Qe7?) 2. Rg4 d7 #

**H#2 Superguards**

(a) Diagram (b) g3 to d6.

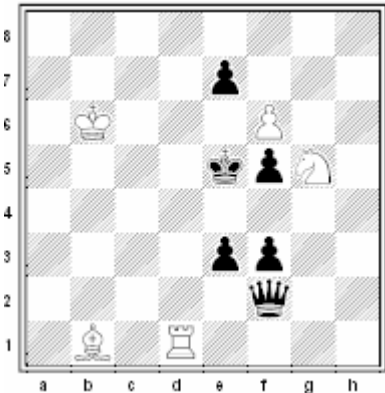
**5<sup>th</sup> Prize. Manfred Rittirsch (Germany)**

*Black wants to close the attack on the white bishop 'd1' by the underpromotion so that white can mate by shutting off the black queen guard. But each of these two help moves will provide a prospective Superguard defence for black against the planned mate. Anticipating this White has to carefully choose his first move on the rank. Brilliant! The twinning is a weakness. Pity the white king cant do the shut off on c6/d7.*

**Pierre Tritten (France)**

**1st Hon. Mention**

**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



(a) 1. Kd6 Bd3 2. e5 Be2 #

(b) 1. Ke4 Rd3 2. f4 Rd2 #

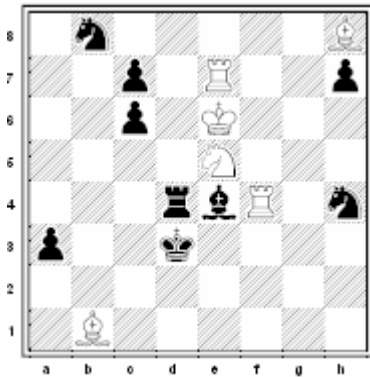
**H#2 Superguards**

(a) Diagram (b) WRg5.

**1st Hon. Mention: Pierre Tritten (France)**

*Perfectly matched solutions and mutual white battery formation. Black king moves into a white line pinning his pawn, White forms the battery releasing the superguarding pawn and the pawn moves away. Pity the closing of the queen line by the pawn is incidental.*

**Mario Parinello (Italy)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**1. Bh1 Sf3 2. Rd8 Kd7 #**

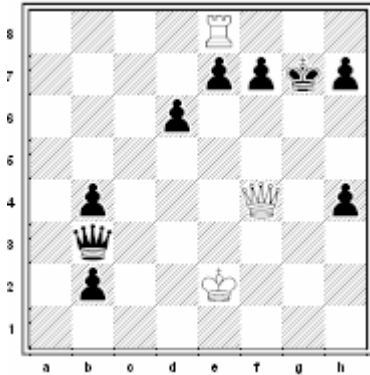
**1. Ra4 Sc4 2. Bg6 Kf5 #**

**H#2 Superguards**  
**Two solutions**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hon. Mention: Mario Parrinello (Italy)**

*Critical moves followed by shut-off of the Supeguarding piece has been attempted by many others also. Here it is neatly doubled with the critical moves of the same pieces in two different directions. A white pawn at b2 will do the work of WBh8.*

**Luis Miguel Martin (Spain)**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**1. Qg3 Kf3 ! 2. Kg8 Qg4 #**

**1. Qc3 Ke3! 2. Kh8 Qd4#**

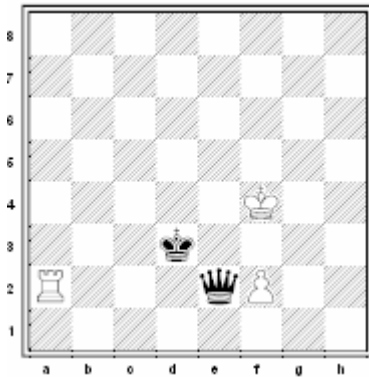
**H#2 Superguards**  
**Two solutions**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Hon. Mention: Luis Miguel Martin (Spain)**

*Nicely matched strategy in both solutions. The white queen and King provide mutual superguard!*



**Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



1. Qe8 f3 (Ra1?) 2. Ke3 Ke4 #

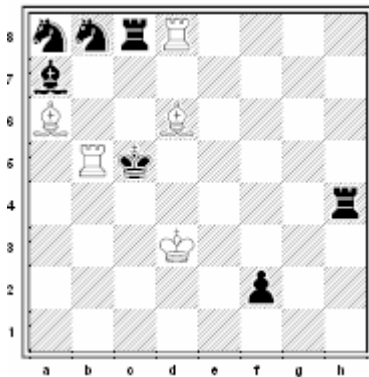
1. Qe7 Ra1 (f3?) 2. Ke2 Ke3 #

**H#2 Superguards**  
**Two solutions**

**4<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention: Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**

*Perfect chameleon echo mates. The mating square has to be chosen carefully depending on black's first move ! I prefer this two solution setting, and the long queen moves though the setplay form (with black queen already on e7) is also interesting.*

**Vlaicu Crisan (Romania) &**  
**Cornel Pacurar (Canada)**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



1. Kc4+ Bc5 2. Bb6 Rd4 #

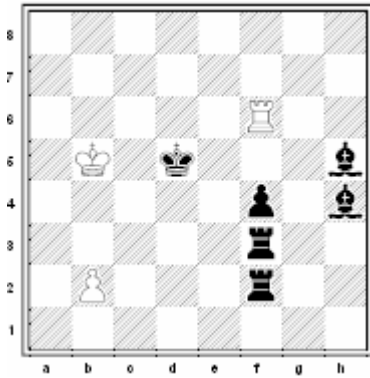
1. Kd4 + Rc5 2. Rc6 Bc4 #

**H#2 Superguards**  
**(a) Diagram (b) BRh4 → a4**

**5<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention: Vlaicu Crisan (Romania) & Cornel Pacurar (Canada)**

*Full of Line openings and closings The obstruction of the knights by R/B is a bonus.*

**Themis Argirakopoulos (Greece)**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



(a) **1. Rc3! b3 2. Kc5+ Kc4 #**  
*1.Rc2? ..... 3. Bf2 !*

(b) **1. Rc2! b4 2. Kc6+ Kc5#**  
*1. Rc3? .... 3. Be2 !*

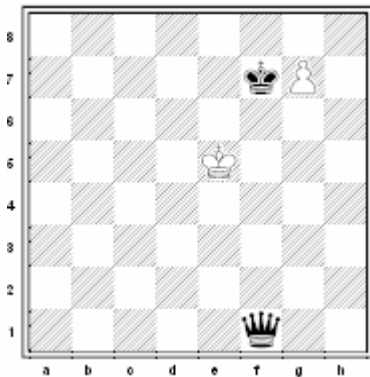
**H#2 Superguards**

(a) Diagram (b) WRf7

**6<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention: Themis Argirakopoulos(Greece)**

*Chameleon echo mates! Black has to choose the correct BR on his first move !  
 Unfortunately it is not possible to start the WR on f8 and convert it into a H#2.5.*

**Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**1. Ke8 Ke6 2. Qe1+ ! (Qe2+?) g8Q #**

**1. Ke7 g8Q 2. Qe2+ ! (Qe1+?) Ke6 #**

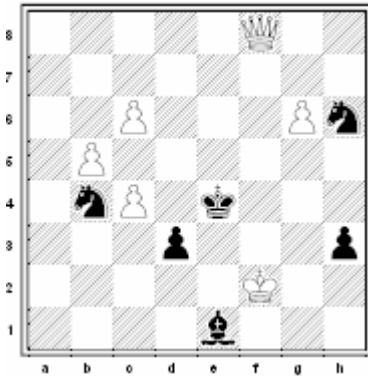
**H#2 Superguards**

**Two solutions**

**7<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention: Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**

*Tanagra, exchange of white moves, crosschecks and Dual avoidance !*

**Mario Parinello (Italy)**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



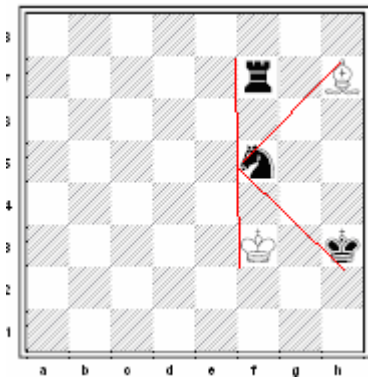
**HS#3 Superguards**  
**Two solutions**

1. Qf6 Sa6 2. b:a6 Sg8  
 3. Kf3+ S:f6#
1. Qc5 Sf7 2. g:f7 Sa6  
 3. Ke3+ S:c5#

**8<sup>th</sup> Hon. Mention: Mario Parinello (Italy)**

*Matched solutions. Repetition of the move Sa6 seems avoidable. Obviously the composer decided against adding a Black Ra1 (without WPC6), when all the black knight moves will be different. Is there a better method?*

**Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**  
**Special Hon. Mention**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



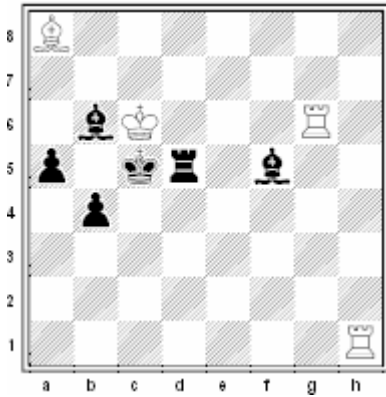
**H#2 Superguards**  
**Two solutions**  
**Letter K !**

1. Sh6+ Bf5+! (Be4?) 2. Kh4 Kg4 #
1. Sg7+ Be4 ! (Bf5 +?) 2. Kh2 Kg2 #

**Special Hon. Mention: Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**

*Very nice echo mates! Good dual avoidance on W1 move. The first black move (closing the black rook line) determines where the black king can be mated.*

**Hans Uitenbroek**  
 (Netherlands)  
 1<sup>st</sup> Commendation  
 Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013



1...Rd1 2. Ba7 Kb6 3. Re5 Bd5 #

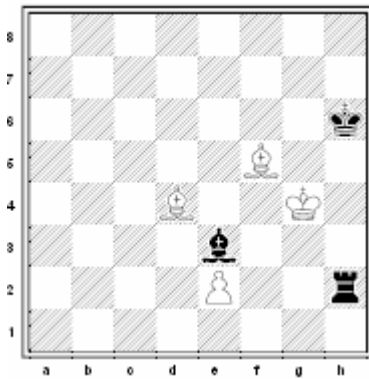
1...Rhh6 2. Re5 Kd5 3. Ba7 Rb6 #

**H#2.5 Superguards**  
 Two Solutions.

1<sup>st</sup> Commendation: **Hans Uitenbroek (Netherlands)**

*Nice echoed strategy of shutting off the Superguarding black pieces. Different white pieces shut off on the same squares in the two solutions.*

**S.K.Balasubramanian (India)**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation  
 Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013



1. Bg1 Bg6 2. Rf2 Kh5 #

1. R:e2 Bf6 2. Bf2 Kg5 #

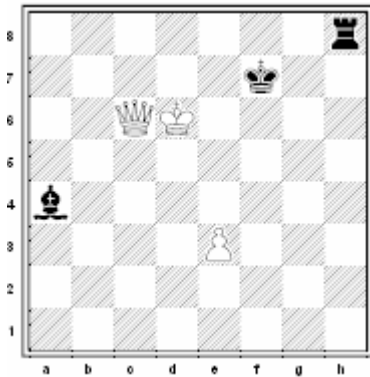
(3. Rh2/Be3 ?)

**H#2 Superguards**  
 Two Solutions

2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation: **S.K.Balasubramanian (India)**

*White king can close only one line while mating, so the black grimshaw after hideaway critical moves has to take care of the other line. Nicely matched solutions in miniature!*

**S.K.Balasubramanian (India)**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**H#2 Superguards**

(a) Diagram (b) BBh8

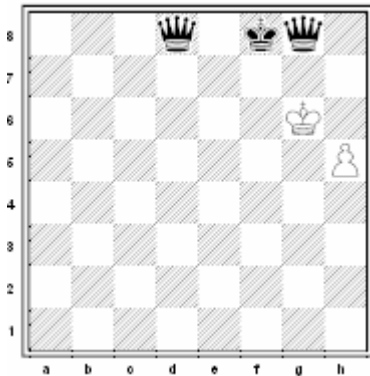
(a) 1. Ke8 Kd7 2. Kd8 Ke8 #

(b) 1. Kf6 Ke6 2. Ke5 Kf6 #

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation: S.K.Balasubramanian (India)**

*King-mates shutting off guards. With three other pieces on board, only the Kings move !*

**Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Commendation**  
**Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013**



**H#3 Superguards**

**Two solutions**

1.Qd1 Kf6 2.Qg6+ h:g6  
 3.Qf1 (Q ~ ?)Kf7 #

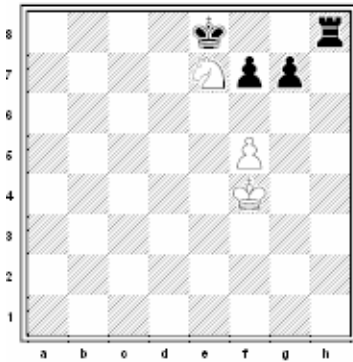
1.Qf6 K:f6 2.Qg1 (Q~ ?) h6  
 3. Kg8 Kg7 #

**4<sup>th</sup> Commendation: Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)**

*Another nice miniature. In each solution there is only one safe square for the black queen and the other queen has to be captured! Nice chameleon echo mates!*

*Finally three interesting Valladao tasks ranked equally.*

Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Commendation  
 Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013

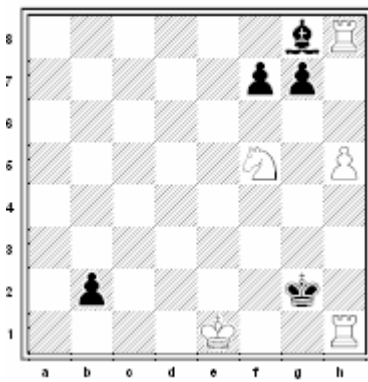


H#3 Superguards

1. g5+ f5:g5 e.p 2. 0-0 g7  
 3. Kh8 g8Q#

*Miniature. I would prefer WPh7 instead of white knight and the white king at h4. In this position there is the element of surprise for the solver that it is not the h7 pawn which promotes but the f5 pawn!*

Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Commendation  
 Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013

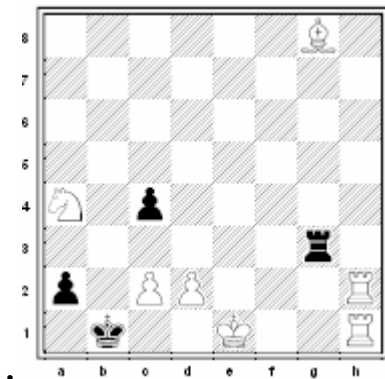


H#2 Superguards

1. g5 h:g5 ep 2. b1S! 0-0 #

*The promotion move is a tempo.*

Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Commendation  
 Seetharaman-64 JT, 2013



H#2 Superguards

1. a1S d4 2. c:d3 e.p 0-0 #

*The bi-valve e.p.capture is interesting. Note that 2.c3 ? won't do.*

*Nos.1&2 (Alan Bienabe, France) showed an interesting Phoenix idea. I hope the composer will be able to combine (by twinning) the two similar positions.*

***Participants.***

*Alain Bienabe (France)-2,  
K.R.Chandrasekaran(India)-2,  
Sebastian Luce (France)-2  
Hans Uitenbroek (Netherlands)  
Juraj Lorinc (Slovakia)-2  
Pierre Tritten (France)  
S.K.Balasubramanian(India)-4  
Luis Miguel Martin (Spain)  
Gerard Smits (Netherlands)*

*Cornel Pacurar(Canada)  
Vlaicu Crisan (Romania)  
Diyen Kostadinov(Bulgaria)  
Themis Argirakopoulos (Greece)-2  
Jacques Rotenberg (Israel)-20  
Borislav Gadjanski (Serbia)  
Manfred Rittirsch (Germany)  
Mario Parinello (Italy)-3*

*Thanks again to all the participants, the programmers, the editors of various magazines/columns and the Tourney Director C.G.S.Narayanan.*

***May 31, 2013  
India.***

***K. Seetharaman***