

The AWARD of JULIA'S FAIRIES 2016/I **informal tournament**

by IGM Petko Petkov

31 composers from 14 countries participated in the tournament Julia's Fairies 2016-I. The number of published originals - 103 - was amazing, and indicates well what great interest there is for the site! As always, many problems received comments from a wide range of readers and experts. This has become an impressive tradition, and in this regard, Julia's Fairies is a good model for many other magazines and websites throughout the world!

The overall level of the tournament is very high, although of course this assessment relates primarily to the problems I've awarded and, in the highest degree, to the problems that received prizes.

Among the remaining originals, many do not satisfy standards of content and form. This is normal in every competition with so many participants and originals. Of course, we should also respect and welcome the authors whose publications created interest for a wide range of readers if even they did not demonstrate their best abilities in this tournament.

During more than 60-year of practice in chess composition, I have been the judge of hundreds of international competitions. But, surprisingly enough, this is the first time I have judged a competition with more than 100 problems, where many of the best problems are miniatures (from 2 to 7 figures), and which have dozens of problems composed in a beautiful aristocratic form! Probably this wonderful paradox will please the wide range of lovers of our art!

In accordance with the new decisions of WFCC regarding classification in the "G" section - Fairies in FIDE Albums, I've decided to make my award in two sections: A) Problems without fairy conditions (with or without fairy pieces: type G1) and B) All other problems that have fairy conditions (type G2).

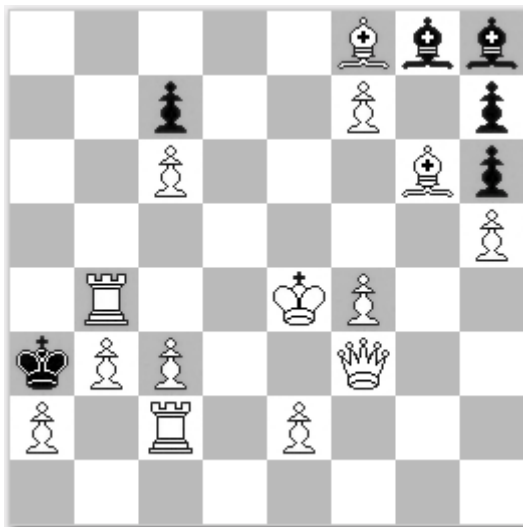
Sofia,

November 9th, 2018

A) Problems without fairy conditions

Only 14 problems by 11 authors from 9 countries in this section, but here we see an excellent creative level in the works of the masters of this genre! No doubt the rewarded problems will be enjoyed by a large audience of readers.

No.1084 **Georgy Evseev & Vitaly Medintsev**
Russia
JF-2016/I, Section A
1st Prize



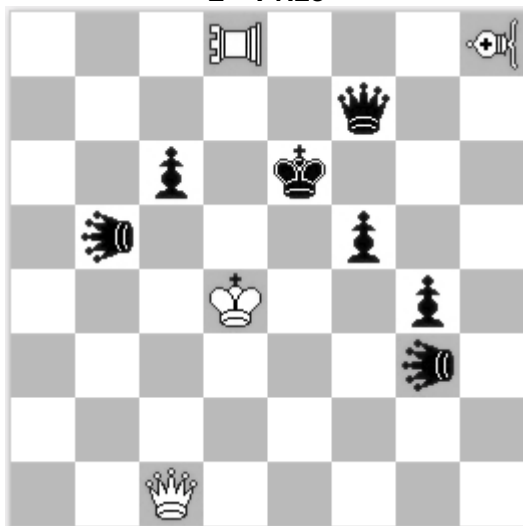
hs#4.5 b) Pf7→g7 (14+6)

1st Prize – No.1084 Georgy Evseev & Vitaly Medintsev (16.06.2016)

This is certainly the most complicated and interesting problem in the competition! The main heroes are the black Bishops, who demonstrate an excellent strategy with a mutual exchange of functions: annihilation captures on c3/b3 followed by switchbacks on the squares h8, g8, and then new self-pins on the squares b3/c3. These wonderful chameleon-echo mates are in harmony with the miraculous white play - change of functions of white Bishops, blocks on e4 square with different white pieces, exchange of black moves 1-4 and 3-5.

- a) 1...Bxc3 2.Bf5 Bh8 3.Bg7 Bxf7 4.Ke5 Bxb3 5.Re4 Bxg7#
b) 1...Bxb3 2.Bc5 Bg8 3.Bf7 Bxg7 4.Kd5 Bxc3 5.e4 Bxf7#

No.1030 **Michal Dragoun**
Czech Rep.
JF-2016/I, Section A
2nd Prize



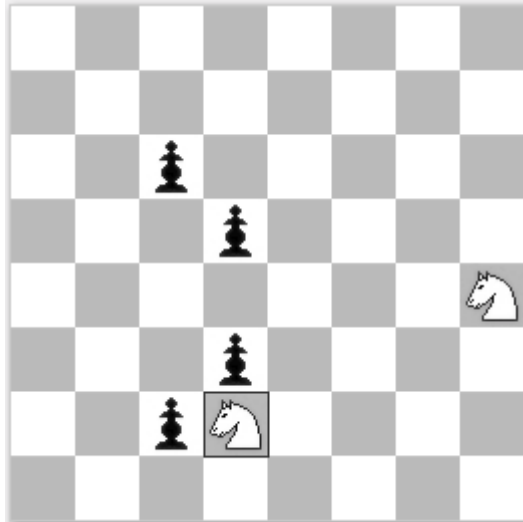
hs#3 b) Qf7→e7 (4+7)
LEO b5, g3
PAO d8 ; VAO h8

2nd Prize – No.1030 Michal Dragoun (30.03.2016)

Although this problem is a synthesis of familiar Chinese motifs (reciprocal active sacrifices of two pairs of pieces, etc.), the overall impression of this Meredith (only 11 pieces!) is wonderful! Particularly beautiful are blocks of the e3 and c4 squares by white Queen, as well as the mating moves, in which the black King plays a double role: once being a front piece of the anti-battery and once being the opening piece of the indirect battery. A small minus here is the static role of the strongest black piece – the queen, which has a very important thematic role, but unfortunately does not make a single move. But in the author's concept, the activation of it in only 3 moves seems to be impossible.

- a) 1.PAd7 LEc3 2.VAxc3 LEXd7 3.Qe3+ Kd6#
b) 1.VAg7 LEd3 2.PAXd3 LEXg7 3.Qc4+ Kf6#

No.1008 **N.Shankar Ram**
India
JF-2016/I, Section A
3rd Prize



=4

(2+4)

Paralysing Sd2

b) Turn Board 90° clockwise (h4→d1)

3rd Prize – No.1008 N.Shankar Ram (20.02.2016)

The author's comment: "Combinatorial WS 4x3x2 tour cycle doubled in miniature". Undoubtedly, such "chess combinatorics" can be a theme of many high-class problems. The aesthetics here are more peculiar and, probably, it can be fully felt only by the readers who are prone to mathematics. I think that the famous Indian maestro here presented his "patent design" in a great form (6 units in total!) and this is an additional bonus of this wonderful problem!

a) 1.pSb3!

1...c1=Q 2.Sg6 d2 3.Se7 d4 4.Sxc6 = 3...c5 4.Sxd5 =
2...d4 3.Se5 d2 4.Sxc6 = 3...c5 4.Sxd3 =

2...c5 3.Sf4 d2 4.Sxd5 = 3...d4 4.Sxd3 =

1...d2 2.Sf5 c1=Q 3.Se7 d4 4.Sxc6 = 3...c5 4.Sxd5 =
2...d4 3.Sxd4 c1=Q 4.Sxc6 = 3...c5 4.Sxc2 =

2...c5 3.Se3 c1=Q 4.Sxd5 = 3...d4 4.Sxc2 =

1...d4 2.Sf3 c1=Q 3.Se5 d2 4.Sxc6 = 3...c5 4.Sxd3 =
2...d2 3.Sxd4 c1=Q 4.Sxc6 = 3...c5 4.Sxc2 =

2...c5 3.Se1 c1=Q 4.Sxd3 = 3...d2 4.Sxc2 =

1...c5 2.Sg2 c1=Q 3.Sf4 d2 4.Sxd5 = 3...d4 4.Sxd3 =
2...d2 3.Se3 c1=Q 4.Sxd5 = 3...d4 4.Sxc2 =

2...d4 3.Se1 c1=Q 4.Sxd3 = 3...d2 4.Sxc2 =

b) 1.pSd6!

1...c4 2.Se3 .e4 3.Sd5 b5 4.Sxf6 = 3...f5 4.Sxb6 =

2...b5 3.Sg4 e4 4.Sxf6 = 3...f5 4.Sxe5 =

2...f5 3.Sxc4 e4 4.Sxb6 = 3...b5 4.Sxe5 =

1...e4 2.Sc3 c4 3.Sd5 b5 4.Sxf6 = 3...f5 4.Sxb6 =

2...b5 3.Sxe4 c4 4.Sxf6 = 3...f5 4.Sxc5 =

2...f5 3.Sa4 c4 4.Sxb6 = 3...b5 4.Sxc5 =

1...b5 2.Sf2 c4 3.Sg4 e4 4.Sxf6 = 3...f5 4.Sxe5 =

2...e4 3.Sxe4 c4 4.Sxf6 = 3...f5 4.Sxc5 =

2...f5 3.Sd3 c4 4.Sxe5 = 3...e4 4.Sxc5 =

1...f5 2.Sb2 c4 3.Sxc4 e4 4.Sxb6 = 3...b5 4.Sxe5 =

2...e4 3.Sa4 c4 4.Sxb6 = 3...b5 4.Sxc5 =

2...b5 3.Sd3 c4 4.Sxe5 = 3...e4 4.Sxc5 =

(variations with c1=R/B/S identical to c1=Q)

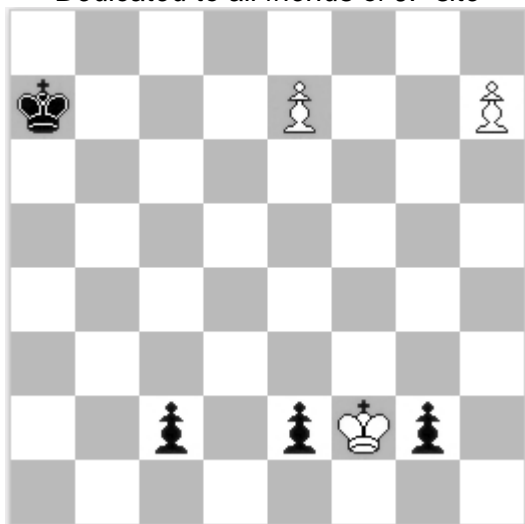
No.1047 Ya'akov Mintz

Israel

JF-2016/I, Section A

1st Honorable Mention

Dedicated to all friends of JF site



hs#5

(3+4)

1st Honorable Mention – [No.1047](#) Ya'akov Mintz

(12.04.2016)

Very nice miniature, where all 5 pawns are promoted (AUW + 1). Problems of this kind are a favorite area of creativity of many composers. However, I hope that this problem, created with maximum economy of material, has no anticipations.

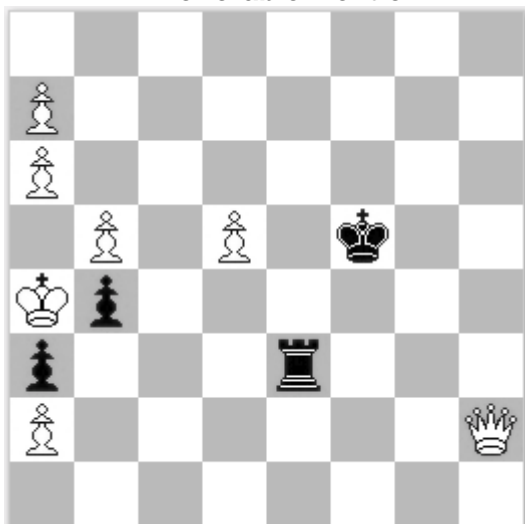
1.h8=Q e1=R 2.Qc8 Rh1 3.e8=Q g1=B+ 4.Ke1 c1=S
5.Qe3+ Bxe

No.1046 Aleksey Oganessian

Russia

JF-2016/I, Section A

2nd Honorable Mention



hs#5

b) bBe3

(7+4)

2nd Honorable Mention – [No.1046](#) Aleksey

Oganessian (11.04.2016)

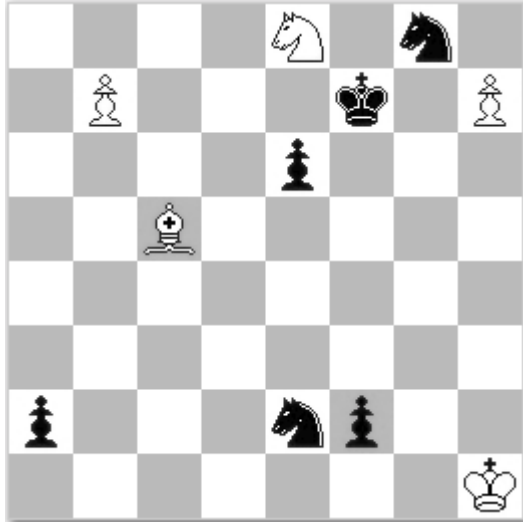
The basic idea here is well known - after the active play of two kings, who often perform long manoeuvres, the black King gives mate as a battery piece. However, there are some pleasant new details in Oganessian's problem - the white King is mated in different corners (a8 and a1), the "Forsberg"-style twinning (replacing the Rook with Bishop) is also unusual.

a) 1.Ka5 Kf6 2.Kb6 Ke7 3.Kb7 Kd8 4.Ka8 Re8 5.Qc7+
Kxc7#

b) 1.Kb3 Ke4 2.Kc2 Kd4 3.Kb1 Kc3 4.Ka1 Bd4 5.Qc2+
Kxc2#

No.1080 **Aleksey Oganessian**
Russia

Special Honorable Mention
Dedicated to Unto Heinonen



hs#2.5

(5+6)

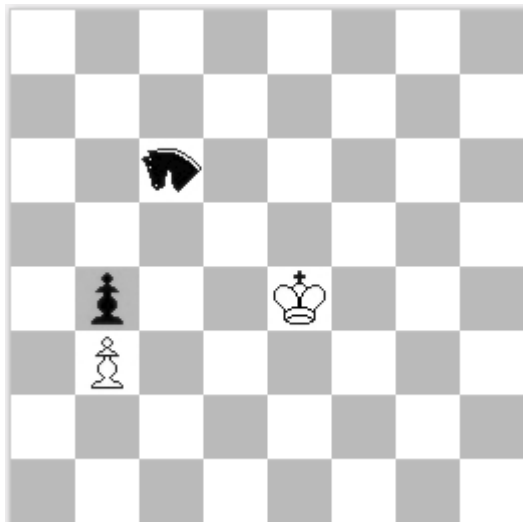
Special Honorable Mention – [No.1080](#) Aleksey Oganessian (26.05.2016)

Surprisingly, this is the first HS# problem, where mixed AUW is presented in 2.5 moves only, without any fairy condition! In my opinion, this opus deserves a special distinction, regardless of whether more economical problems of this kind will be published later or not. It is curious that the author writes: "A scheme of the problem is similar to longer hs#3 and hs#4 by Unto Heinonen to whom I dedicate this problem."

1...f1=B 2.b8=R a1=Q 3.h8=S+ Qxh8#

No.1073 **N.Shankar Ram**
India

JF-2016/I, Section A
1st Commendation



h=2*

2 solutions

(2+2)

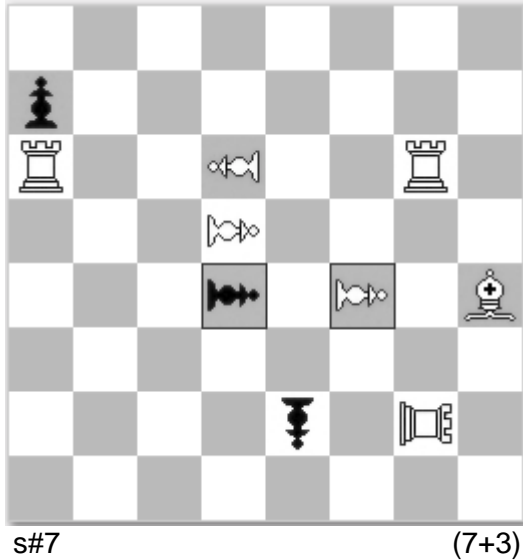
Kangaroo-Rose c6
(no bK)

1st Commendation – [No.1073](#) N.Shankar Ram (21.05.2016)

With only 4 pieces on the board and the shortest length (only H=2), the author demonstrates interesting, although already known, manoeuvres of active pieces. The problem could get a higher reward, but unfortunately the repetition of 2... Kc6= in the solutions in my opinion is a significant disadvantage.

1...Kd3 2.KRc2 Kxc2 = ("stationary" switchback)
1.KRc2 Kd5 2.KRc6 Kxc6 = ("normal" switchback)
1.KRc6 Kd5 2.KRc6 Kxc6 = (two "stationary" switchbacks)

No.1070 **Krassimir Gande**
Bulgaria
JF-2016/I, Section A
2nd Commendation



Royal Dummy d4, f4
Berolina Super Pawn d6
Super Pawn d5
Reverse Pawn e2
Rook-Locust g2

2nd Commendation – [No.1070](#) Krassimir Gande
(14.05.2016)

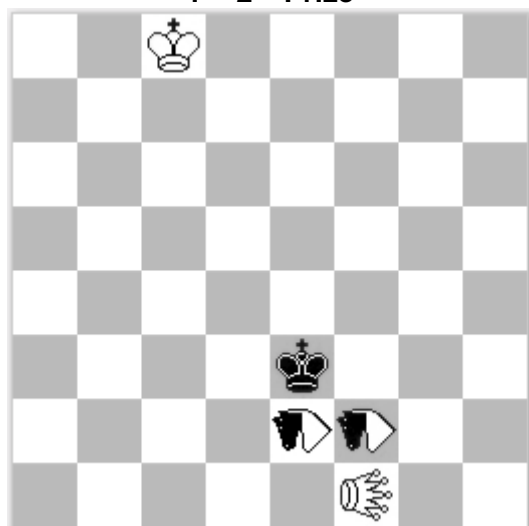
The author writes “Super AUW after black Excelsior”. From the theoretical point of view - this is an impressive task. But, in my opinion, the practical realization of the idea here is not satisfying: the abundance of fairy pieces and especially the mechanical use of static Royal Dummy pieces are minuses of the problem.

1.BSf8=S! PPe4 2.SPd7 PPe5 3.Rd6+ PPxd6
4.SPd8=Q PPd7 5.Qc7 PPd8=Q 6.Qd7+ Qxd7 7.Rd6+
Qxd6#
5...PPd8=S 6.Qb6+ axb6 7.Se6+ Sxe6#
5...PPd8=R 6.Rd6+ Rxd6 7.Bf6+ Rxf6#
5...PPd8=B 6.Bf6+ Bxf6 7.Qe5+ Bxe5#
5...PPd8=LR 6.Rd6+ LRxd6→d5 7.Qe5+ LRxe5→f5#

B) Problems with fairy conditions

In this section there were 89 problems by 28 composers from 13 countries. The competition was on a very high level; with dozens of problems which could get the highest rewards, it wasn't easy to evaluate published originals. It involved many months of analysis and testing.

No.1000 Vlaicu Crişan Romania JF-2016/I, Section B 1st- 2nd Prize



h#4.5 2 solutions (2+1+2)
PWC
Contra Grasshopper f1
Rose-Locust e2, f2

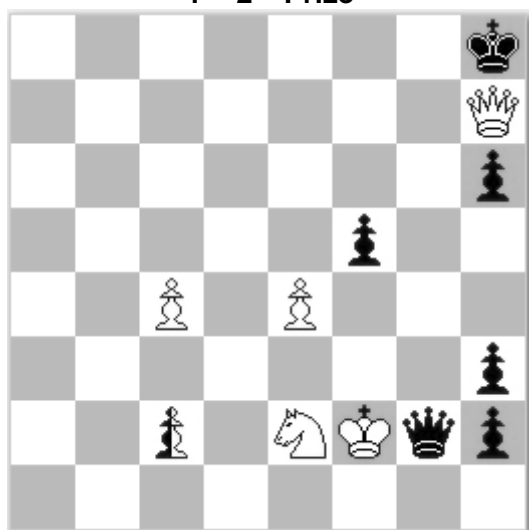
1st- 2nd Prize – [No.1000](#) Vlaicu Crişan (02.02.2016)

This beautiful problem was described by the author as "Ideal mirror mates after intensive PWC specific play with diagonal-orthogonal correspondence." I'd like to explain that a very important component of the thematic content here is the active play of the white king. Although to a large extent PWC is a restrictive condition, the play in this problem is quite long, making the solutions difficult. The originality of this problem was already noted on the website. The comparison of this work by Vlaicu Crişan with the helpmate in two by Didier Innocenti (1st Prize J. Bertin MT 1989 -1991) is possible, but also abstract at the same time. Such an analogy in no degree reduces the value of Vlaicu's idea, which is expressed in great aristocratic Tanagra form!

1...CGd3 2.nLSxd3→c5 (+CGf2) CGd4 3.nLSxd4→e6 (+CGe2) Kb7 4.nLSxe2→c1 (+CGe6) Kb6 5.nLSxe6→g5 (+CGc5) CGa7#

1...CGf4 2.nLSxf4→e6 (+CGe2) CGe4 3.nLSxe4→c5 (+CGf2) Kd8 4.nLSxf2→h3 (+CGc5) Ke7 5.nLSxc5→b3 (+CGe6) CGe8 #

No.1048 Mario Parrinello Italy JF-2016/I, Section B 1st- 2nd Prize



hs#3 3 solutions (5+6+1)
Anti-Circe Symmetry
Anti-Kings
Neutral Pc2

1st- 2nd Prize – [No.1048](#) Mario Parrinello (17.04.2016)

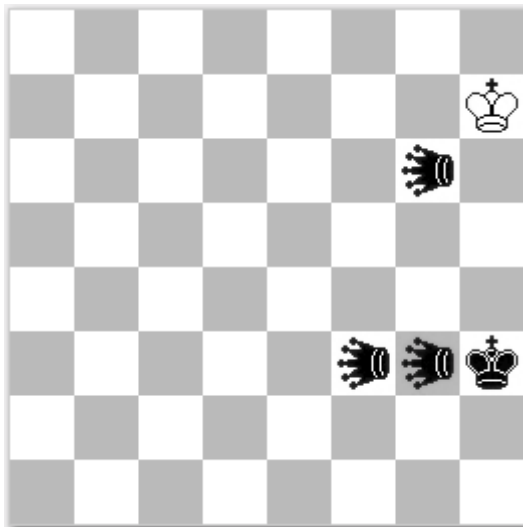
A very interesting complex, although some motives of the content of this problem (typical for the play with Anti-Kings) are already known. The combination between the remarkable white knight self-blocks in interaction with the neutral pawn, the thematic activity of the white king, and the duel between the white and black queen is impressive! All this is wonderfully demonstrated by the Italian grandmaster in Meredith form.

1.Sg1 c1=nR 2.Ke1 Qg8 3.Qxg8 (Qg8→b1)+ nRxb1 (nRb1→g8)#

1.Sd4 c1=nB 2.Ke3 Qg7 3.Qxg7 (Qg7→b2)+ nBxb2 (nBb2→g7)#

1.Sf4 c1=nS 2.Ke2 Qg6 3.Qxg6 (Qg6→b3)+ nSxb3 (nSb3→g6)#

No.990 **Václav Kotěšovec**
Czech Republic
JF-2016/I, Section B
3rd Prize



ser-h#26 2 solutions (1+4)
Köko
Kangaroo f3, g3, g6

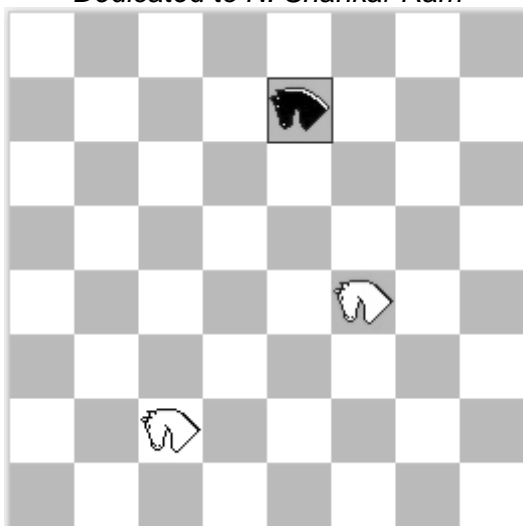
3rd Prize – No.990 Václav Kotěšovec (06.01.2016)

It looks almost unbelievable: an aristocratic Tanagra series problem, in 26 moves, with beautiful chameleon-echo mates after very active black play! I think that in such problems an important aesthetic requirement is the long distance between the chameleon-echo constructions. This criterion is met excellently here - in the first solution, the black King is mated on h5, in the second on f8, but in the initial position he stands on h3! Typical work of maestro Kotěšovec, who has created dozens of other remarkable problems in the same super-style, which would have been practically impossible without the help of a computer.

1.Kg2 2.KAg1 3.KAg4 4.Kf2 5.Ke3 6.KAd3 7.KAc3 8.Kf3
9.KAg3 10.KAh3 11.Kf4 12.Kg5 13.KAg6
14.Kf5 15.KAe6 16.Ke5 17.Kd6 18.KAc6 19.KAf6 20.Ke5
21.Kf5 22.KAh3 23.Kg5 24.Kh5 25.KAh8 26.KAh4 Kh6#

1.Kg4 2.KAg2 3.Kf4 4.Ke4 5.KAd5 6.KAc6 7.Kf3 8.KAg2
9.Kg4 10.KAg5 11.KAg6 12.Kf5 13.KAh5 14.KAe5
15.KAd5 16.Kg5 17.KAh5 18.Kf6 19.Kf7 20.KAe8 21.Ke6
22.KAe4 23.KAe7 24.KAe8 25.Kf7 26.Kf8 Kg8#

No.1081 **Georgy Evseev**
Russia
JF-2016/I, Section B
4th Prize
"Merry-go-round"
Dedicated to N. Shankar Ram



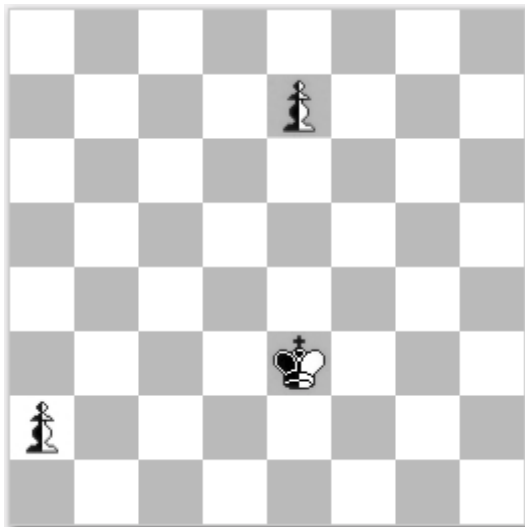
h#11 (2+1)
Active Chess
Rose-Hopper c2,f4
Royal Rose-Hopper e7

4th Prize – No.1081 Georgy Evseev (27.05.2016)
Dedicated to N. Shankar Ram

Great manoeuvres of three pieces, which end in a beautiful, unexpected mate! It is surely impossible to create two solutions here. On the other hand, this task would probably be an irresistible mystery for many solvers, even from the ranks of the world elite. A remarkable discovery!

1.rRPb4 RPa2 2.rRPe1 RPg2 (2. ?? RPa2-d5 3.rRPb4-e7
RPc2-g6, etc.) 3.rRPh4 RPg6 4.rRPe7 RPc6 5.rRPb4
(compare with position after first move)
RPd5 6.rRPe7 RPg6 7.rRPb4 RPa6 8.rRPf4 RPe2
9.rRPc7 RPa8 10.rRPc3 Rpb5 11.rRPc7 RPe8#

No.986 **Geoff Foster**
Australia
JF-2016/I, Section B
5th Prize



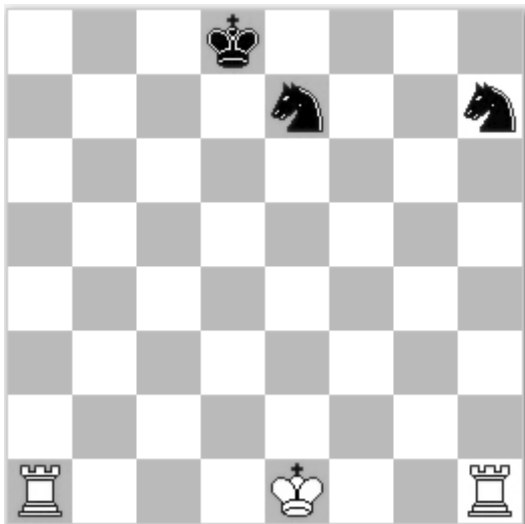
h#2.5 b) nPa2→c2 (0+0+3)
Phantom Chess
KoBul Kings

5th Prize – [No.986](#) Geoff Foster (04.01.2016)

In the most economical form, the composer demonstrates a neutral AUW, and - in H#2.5, which is much more complicated than in H#2. The use of two fairy conditions is very harmonious. In my opinion, everything is clear here, including the use of a neutral King. A wonderful creative achievement!

- a) 1...e8=nB 2.a1=nQ nBe2 (via f1) 3.nQa4 nrBxe2 (e2=rB)#
b) 1...nKd2 2.c1=nS e8=nR 3.nRe3 nrSxc1 (c1=rS)#

No.1036 **Anatoly Steepochkin**
Russia
JF-2016/I, Section B
6th Prize



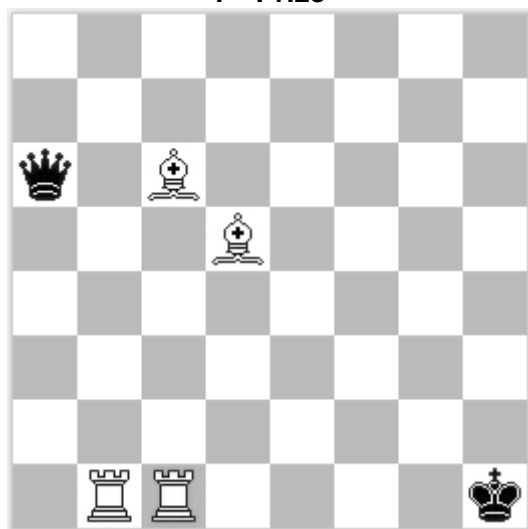
h#2.5 2 solutions (3+3)
Köko

6th Prize – [No.1036](#) Anatoly Steepochkin (03.04.2016)

A favourite theme of the author - two white castlings, combined with additional fairy conditions and motifs. Here the implementation is very pleasant, the design is flawless (again, an aristocrat and only 6 pieces!), and the chameleon echo-mates, of course, decorate the problem even more.

- 1...0-0-0+ 2.Sg6 Re1 3.Sf6 Re8#
1...0-0 2.Ke8 Re1 3.Sg6 Rf8#

No.1029 **Peter Harris**
South Africa
JF-2016/I, Section B
7th Prize



h#3.5 b) Qa6→f3 (4+2)
Super-Andernach
Isardam

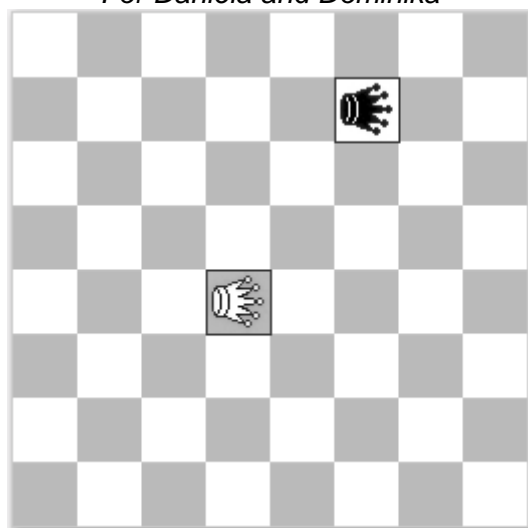
7th Prize – No.1029 Peter Harris (26.03.2016)

A very rare, I would even say an “exotic” combination of fairy conditions, in this case without the participation of the white king on the board. The play is long, complex and interesting, with a sufficient number of thematic motifs, and the mates are obtained after excellent play of the white battery, demonstrating the combined effect of both fairy conditions!

a) 1...Bb5 [b5=b]+ 2.Kg1 Bg2 [g2=b] 3.Qa2 [a2=w] Rc4 [c4=b]+ 4.Bf1 [f1=w] Bxc4 [c4=b]#

b) 1...Bb3 [b3=b] 2.Bd1 [d1=w] Rb3 [b3=b] 3.Kg1 Ba4 [a4=b] 4.Qe2 [e2=w] Bxb3 [b3=b]#

No.1072 **Peter Harris**
South Africa
JF-2016/I, Section B
Special Prize
For Daniela and Dominika



h#2,5 2 solutions (1+1)
Sentinels
Royal Princess d4, f7

Special Prize – No.1072 Peter Harris (17.05.2016) *For Daniela and Dominika!*

A wonderful problem, symbolic to the highest degree - at the beginning there are only two princesses on the board - these are the girls to whom this fairy (fairy tale?) is dedicated! The game is very interesting, with two amazing finishes that are difficult to foresee in the beginning! Everything is very beautiful!

1...rPRc6 (+Pd4) 2.rPRg5 (+Pf7) rPRd5 (+Pc6) 3.rPRd8 (+Pg5) c7#

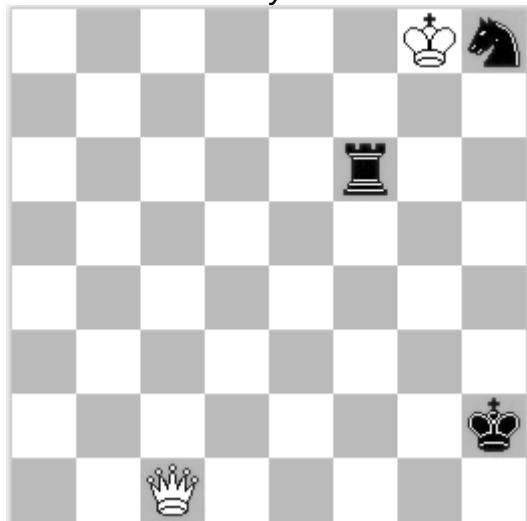
1...rPRg7 (+Pd4) 2.rPRg6 (+Pf7) rPRh6 (+Pg7) 3.rPRh7 (+Pg6) g8=PR#

No.1001 **Georgy Evseev**
Russia

JF-2016/I, Section B

Special Prize

Dedicated to Diyan Kostadinov



hs#3.5

2 solutions
Phantom Chess
KoBul Kings

(2+3)

Special Prize – No.1001 Georgy Evseev (03.02.2016)
Dedicated to Diyan Kostadinov

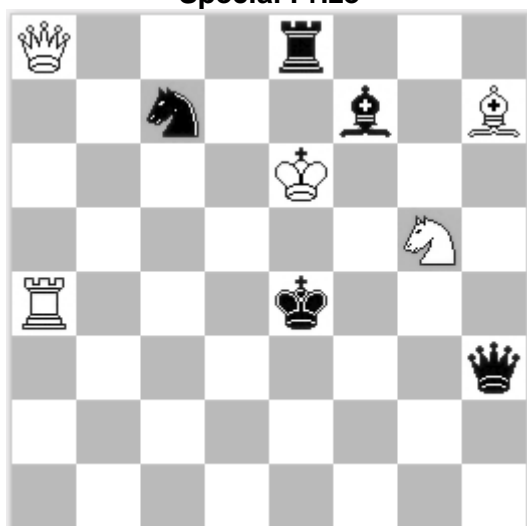
This nice miniature (again an aristocratic Tanagra!) deserves special attention. Here the Russian maestro demonstrates the play with an unusual combination of fairy conditions: KoBulChess + Phantom Chess. Please note that because of illegal selfcheck there are interesting thematic motifs in both finales - in the first solution 5.Kxg6 (f6 = rR)! is impossible, in the second - 5.Qxg3 (h2 = rR)!

1...Kg3 2.Kxh8 (g3=rS) Rg6+ 3.Kh7 rSe4 4.Qe3+ rSf6#
1...Sg6+ 2.Kg7 Rf6-g8+ (via h8) 3.Kh6 Sf4 4.Qxf4
(h2=rS)+ Rg3#

No.1063 **Peter Harris**
South Africa

JF-2016/I, Section B

Special Prize



hs#3

duplex
Chameleon Chess
Andernach Chess
Isardam

(5+5)

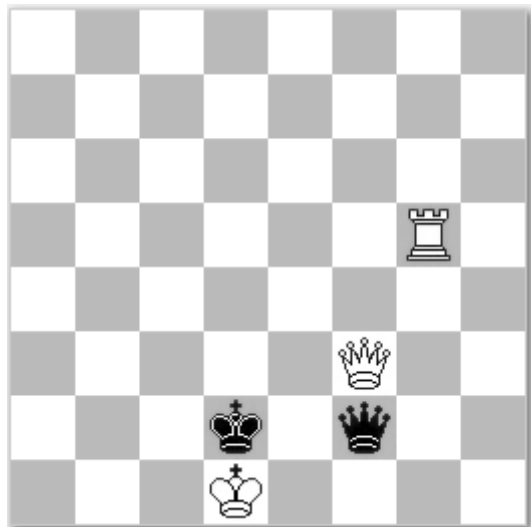
Special Prize – No.1063 Peter Harris (06.05.2016)

The most non-standard problem in the competition! Using only pieces (this is also an aristocrat!) and using three fairy conditions, the author demonstrates beautiful and even, may I say, completely "wild" play, but in addition - in duplex form. Of course, one cannot speak here about complete thematic analogy, but still, in both phases some amazing, charming motifs are repeated.

1.Sf3=B+ Ke3 2.Ra3=Q+ Kd4 3.Be4=R+ Sd5=B#

1.Bg8=R+ Kf7 2.Qe3=S Kf6 3.Re6=Q+ Sxe6=B#

No.1027 **Peter Harris**
South Africa
JF-2016/I, Section B
1st Honorable Mention



hs#2 b) wSg5 (3+2)
Chameleon Chess
Anti-Andernach
Lortap

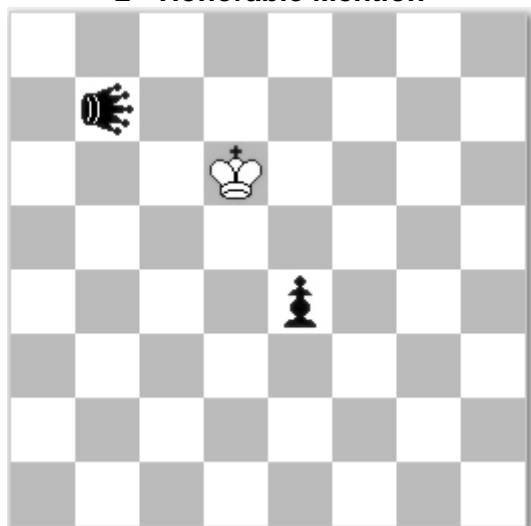
1st Honorable Mention – [No.1027](#) Peter Harris
(26.03.2016)

Aristocratic Tanagrain Peter Harris's typical style: a combination of three fairy conditions, non-standard play and unexpected mates. And yet, it seems to me that here the length of just 2 moves is not enough to sufficiently reveal the potential of this ensemble.

a) 1.Rg1=Q [g1=b] Kc2 2.Kc1+ Qe2=S [e2=w]#

b) 1.Se6=B [e6=b] Bh3=R [h3=w] 2.Qg2=S [g2=b]+ Qe3=S [e3=w]#

No.1009 **Erich Bartel**
Germany
JF-2016/I, Section B
2nd Honorable Mention



ser-s#14 b) MGb7→f6 (1+2)
Circe Equipollents
Marguerite b7

2nd Honorable Mention – [No.1009](#) Erich Bartel
(21.02.2016)

With 3 pieces only the author demonstrates interesting play, which ends with two chameleon-echo mates in different corners of the board, containing thematic motifs! Unfortunately, there is symmetry between the white series play in each solution.

a) 1.Kc7 2.Kb8 3.Kxb7 (+MGb6) 4.Kxb6 (+MGb5) 5.Kxb5 (+MGb4) 6.Kxb4 (+MGb3) 7.Kxb3 (+MGb2) 8.Kc4 9.Kd5 10.Kxe4 (+Pf3) 11.Ke3 12.Kxf3 (+Pg3) 13.Kg2 14.Kh1 g2#

b) 1.Ke7 2.Kxf6 (+MGg5) 3.Kxg5 (+MGh4) 4.Kh5 5.Kxh4 (+MGh3) 6.Kxh3 (+MGh2) 7.Kg4 8.Kf5 9.Kxe4 (+Pd3) 10.Ke3 11.Kxd3 (+Pc3) 12.Kxc3 (+Pb3) 13.Kb2 14.Ka1 b2#

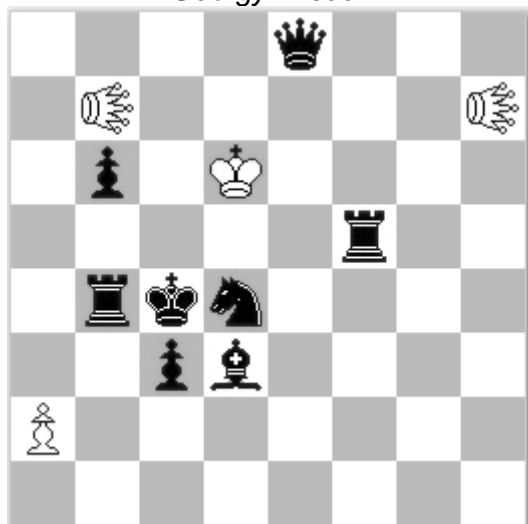
No.1071.1 Vito Rallo & Mario Parrinello

Italy

JF-2016/I, Section B

3rd Honorable Mention

Dedicated to Laco Packa and Georgy Evseev



h#2

2 solutions

(4+8)

Andernach Chess

Kangaroo-Lion b7, h7

3rd Honorable Mention – [No.1071.1](#) Vito Rallo & Mario Parrinello (version of No.1071 – 27.05.2016) *Dedicated to Laco Packa and Georgy Evseev*

The active sacrifices of the white Kangaroo-Lions are interestingly combined with typical Andernach Chess effects. The mating moves show original switchbacks with change of colour. ODT.

1.Qe4 KLb1 2.Bxb1 [b1=w] Bd3# (3.Qxd3=w?? illegal self-check)

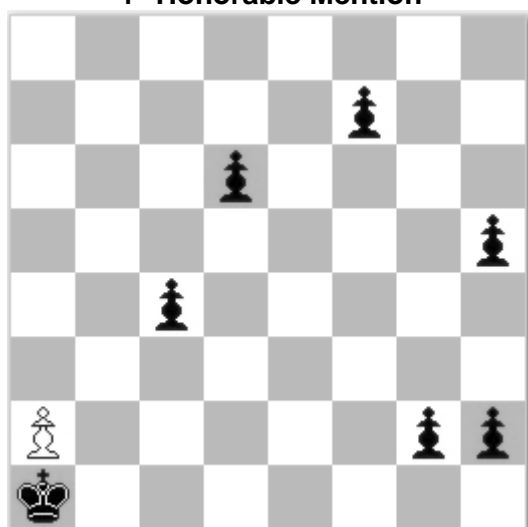
1.Qb5 KLb1 2.Rxb1 [b1=w] Rb4# (3.Qxb4=w?? illegal self-check)

No.1011 Sébastien Luce

France

JF-2016/I, Section B

4th Honorable Mention



ser==27

(1+7)

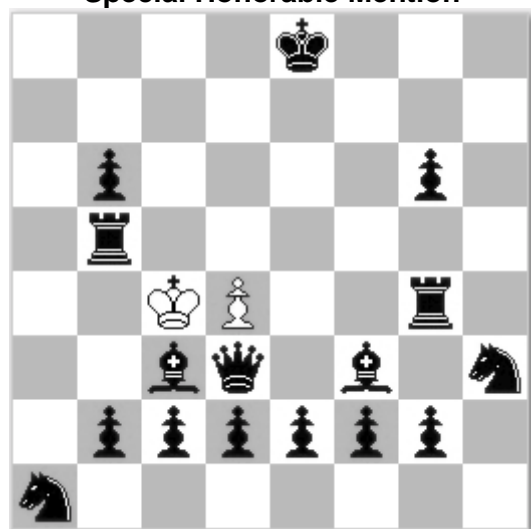
Degradation

4th Honorable Mention – [No.1011](#) Sébastien Luce (21.02.2016)

The author writes: “The most economical AUW in Degradation only.” In a constructive aspect, this is undoubtedly a good discovery, but it seems to me that the solution of the problem is too mechanical and on the other hand, it is easy to find, as White has only one pawn in the initial position.

1.a4 2.a5 3.a6 4.a7 5.a8=B 6.Bxg2=P 7.g4 8.gxh5 9.h6 10.h7 11.h8=R 12.Rxh2=P 13.h4 14.h5 15.h6 16.h7 17.h8=S 18.Sxf7 19.Sxd6 20.Sxc4 21.Sb2=P 22.b4 23.b5 24.b6 25.b7 26.b8=Q 27.Qb3 =

No.996 **Erich Bartel**
Germany
JF-2016/I, Section B
Special Honorable Mention



ser--18

(2+16)

Circe File
Disparate

Special Honorable Mention – [No.996](#) Erich Bartel
(31.01.2016)

Comment of the author: "The whole black armada gets paralyzed (pawns) and incarcerated (king and his royal suite)". Yes, this all is quite interesting and probably not very easy to realize. Unfortunately, in this series problem the Disparate condition is utilised on the last move only.

1.Kxd3 (+Qd8) 2.Kc4 3.Kxb5 (+Rb8) 4.Kc4 5.Kxc3 (+Bc8)
6.Kxb2 (+Pb7) 7.Kxa1 (+Sa8) 8.Kb2 9.Kxc2 (+Pc7)
10.Kxd2 (+Pd7) 11.Ke3 12.Kxf3 (+Bf8) 13.Kxg4 (+Rg8)
14.Kxh3 (+Sh8) 15.Kxg2 (+Pg7) 16.Kxf2 (+Pf7) 17.Kxe2
(+Pe7) 18.d5 =

No.1026 **Hubert Gockel**
Germany
JF-2016/I, Section B
1st Commendation



#2

(7+9)

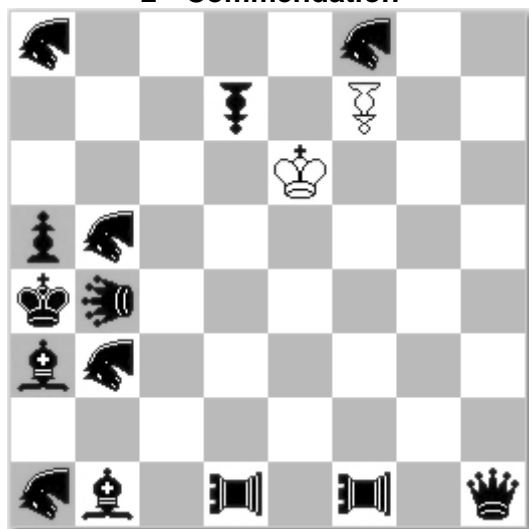
Eiffel Chess

1st Commendation – [No.1026](#) Hubert Gockel
(19.03.2016)

Although the content demonstrates only the change of two mates - after 1... Re3 and 1...Rf4, the thematic effects are very pleasant. Initially, of course, 1.Qxe4 + ?? is impossible because this move leads to self-check by the g4 pawn!

1.Qxe4? illegal selfcheck by bPg4
1.Sxg2? ~ 2.Qxe4#
1...Re3 2.Sxe3# 1...Rf4 2.Sxf4# 1...Se7!
1.Kg3! ~ 2.Qxe4#
1...Re3 2.Bxe3# 1...Rxf4 2.Kxf4# 1...Se7 2.Rc7#

No.1064 **Krassimir Gandev**
Bulgaria
JF-2016/I, Section B
2nd Commendation



h#2 6 solutions (2+14)

Circe

Berolina Pawn f7,d7

NAO a1,a8,b3,b5,f8

PAO d1, f1

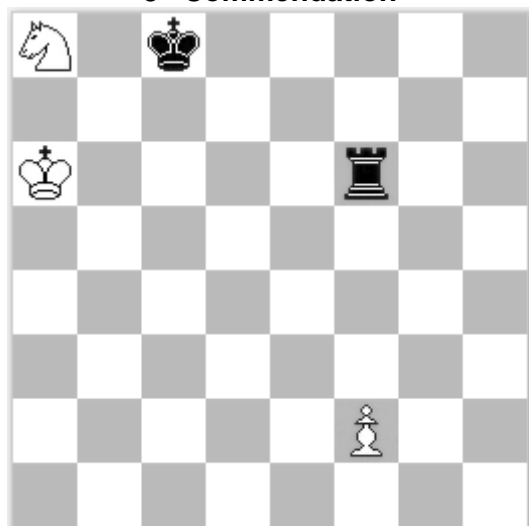
Dolphin b4

2nd Commendation – [No.1064](#) Krassimir Gandev
(08.05.2016)

Speaking abstractly, the idea of demonstrating a white super AUW with only white King and pawn is an extremely complex and difficult plan, especially in conjunction with the Circe condition. But here the practical realization does not satisfy - there is an abundance of black pieces on the board which do not participate in all solutions.

- 1.NAc2 BPxf8=R 2.NAxf8 (+Ra1) Rxa3#
- 1.Bg6 BPe8=S 2.Bxe8 (+Sb1) Sc3#
- 1.PAe1 BPe8=Q 2.PAxe8 (+Qd1) Qxb3#
- 1.PAe1 BPe8=B 2.PAxe8 (+Bf1) Bxb5#
- 1.NAf3 BPg8=PA 2.BPb5 PAxa8#
- 1.NAc4 BPg8=DO 2.NAb2 DOa2#

No.992 **Michael Grushko**
Israel
JF-2016/I, Section B
3rd Commendation



Pser-hs#12 (3+2)

Anti-Circe

3rd Commendation – [No.992](#) Michael Grushko
(13.01.2016)

The Pser-hs#n stipulation is used very rarely, although there are certainly very interesting possibilities in this arena. Here, in combination with Anti-Circe condition, the author has created an interesting work, with a difficult solution, although in one phase only.

- 1.Re6 2.Re1 3.Kb7+ Kb5 4.Kc6+ Kc4 5.Kd5+ Kd3 6.Ke4+ Ke2 7.Kf3+ Kf1 8.Kg2+ Ke2 9.Ra1 10.Rxa8 (+Ra8)
- 11.Re8+ Kf1+ 12.Kh1 Kg1+ 13.Re1#

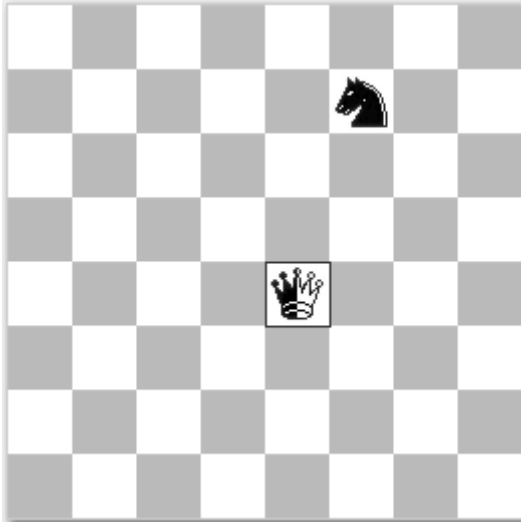
No.1052 **Peter Harris**

South Africa

JF-2016/I, Section B

4th Commendation

Dedicated to Geoff Foster



hs=3

(0+1+1)

Sentinels Pion Advers

Chameleon Chess

Neutral Royal Qe4

b) Sf7→c7 ; c) Sf7→b4 ; d) Qe4→b7

4th Commendation – [No.1052](#) Peter Harris (21.04.2016)

Dedicated to Geoff Foster

Using only two pieces, the author presents curious four-phase play. The solutions are interesting, but unfortunately, the stalemate finales are heterogeneous - three times the king is stalemated in the Bishop phase and once in the Knight phase.

a) 1.nrQg2=nrS (+Pe4) Sg5=B (+Pf7) 2.f8=R e3 3.Rf2=Q+ exf2 =

b) 1.nrQc6=nrS (+Pe4) Sa6=B (+Pc7) 2.nrSa7=nrB (+Pc6) c5 3.c8=S+ Bxc8=R (+Pa6) =

c) 1.nrQb7=nrS (+Pe4) nrSa5=nrB (+Pb7) 2.b8=Q e3 3.Qb6=S e2 =

d) 1.nrQb6=nrS (+Pb7) Sh8=B (+Pf7) 2.f8=B nrSa8=nrB (+Pb6) 3.Bg7=R Bxg7=R =