## In this issue

Just one article in this issue (and one reminder at the end). Do not expect anything mono-thematic though. Almost all kinds of antagonistic problems, with fewer orthodox direct mates than usual (but compensated by orthodox selfmates). Why so? Simply– this is what I have enjoyed from the chess composition during the seaside vacations. Enjoy it too.

Juraj Lörinc

Enjoyed at the seaside

78 - Hans Peter Rehm
1st Prize Die Schwalbe 1993
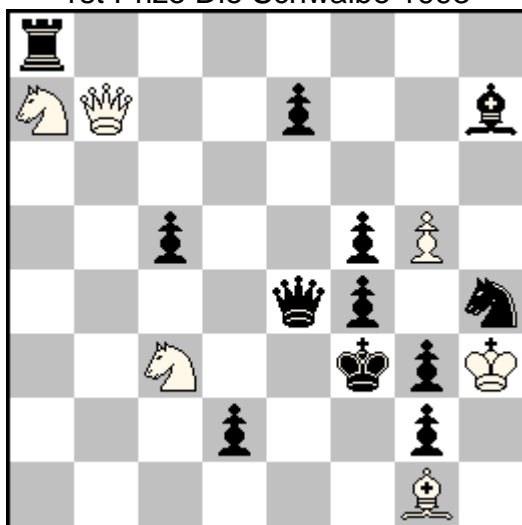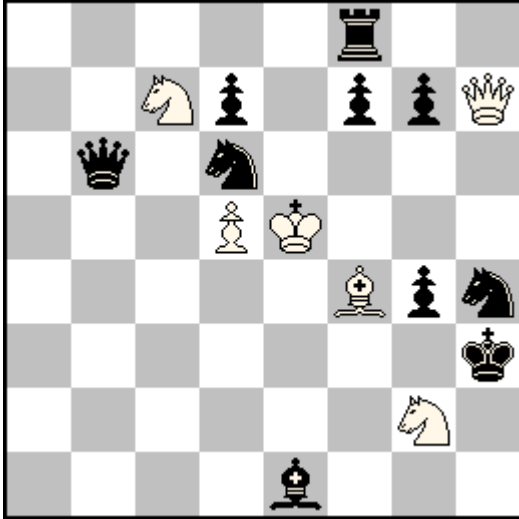

#7   (6+12) C+

1.Sc6 [2.Se5#] Sg6!

1.Qb3! [2.Qd1+ Qe2 3.Q×e2#] Qe2,Qe1
2.Qf7 [3.Qh5#] Bg6 3.Qd5+ Qe4 4.Qb3
[5.Qd1+ Qe2 6.Q×e2#] Qe1 5.Qb7+ Qe4
6.Sc6 [7.Se5#] Q×c6 7.Q×c6#

My family have spent almost a fortnight in Kemer, Turkey. Swimming in the sea, sunbathing, going down slides in an aquapark, reading – and studying some older chess composition magazines (well, only me, Leo and Hanka were not interested). The selection presented below includes Conflictio-relevant problems in some way interesting for me.

The single orthodox direct mate **78** opens the selection. Strong white try with threat mate from sheltered square e5 is refuted, therefore White has to employ pendulum manoeuvre of wQ taking 5 moves with linear roundtrip b3-f7-d5-b3. The threat 3.Qh5# is rather unexpected, resulting in the bS blocked at h4, unable to defend anymore. The way of controlling the play with limited number of cookstoppers is admirable.

79 - Günther Weeth & Klaus Wenda
The Problemist 2006

Proca Retractor in 3 & #1 (6+10)
Anticirce

80 - Juraj Lörinc
4th-5th Honourable Mention e.a.
Christmas Tourney Springaren 2003-05

#2   (11+9) C+

◨ ◧ = bishop lion, ▦ ▦ = rook lion
♘ = nightrider

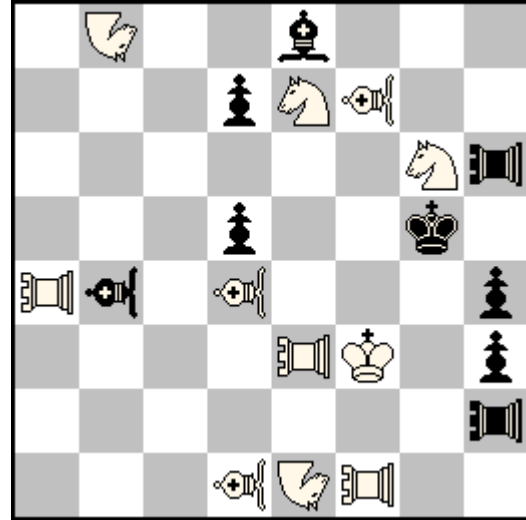**-1.Kf5-e5!** Rg8-f8+ -2.Ke6-e5
-2…e7×Qf6(f7)+ -3.Qb2-f6 & 1.S×h4(Sg1)#
-2…e7×Rf6(f7)+ -3.Rf8-f6 & 1.R×g8(Rh1)#
-2…e7×Bf6(f7)+ -3.Bg3-f4 & 1.B×h4(Bc1)#
-2…e7×Sf6(f7)+ -3.Sa8-c7 & 1.S×b6(Sg1)#
-2…e7×Pf6(f7)+ -3.Se3-g2 & 1.f×g7(g2)#

-1.Ke6-e5? e7×Rf6(f7)+!

Combination of Anticirce with Proca Retractor was proven as truly fruitful combination. The uncaptures are generally easier to determine than without Anticirce, as capturing piece must find itself on Circe square after capture, i.e. only piece from the Circe square can make uncaptured.

In **79** the critical position appears after taking back -2.Ke6-e5. White king is under doublecheck from two pawns and Black can now retract only uncapture -2…e7×Xf6. Selection of uncaptured piece is done by Black, but no choice saves him. In any case White uses uncaptured piece for attaining the checkmate. Rook uncapture motivates the preparatory retraction of the key.

1…d6 **a** 2.Ke2# **A**
1…BLf8 **b** 2.Kf2# **B**

1.Se5! zz
1…d6 **a** 2.Kf2# **B**
1…BLf8 **b** 2.Ke2# **A**
1…B×f7 2.S×f7#

Obviously, I was not particularly enjoying content of my own creation **80**, as I knew it quite well. It has some merits, reciprocal change based on line combinations, with mates given by royal battery and so on.

But frankly speaking, I was happy to find it reproduced in selection prepared by someone else. My works are not reproduced very often, even if they receive awards. They might be too weak, not so interesting, poorly constructed or too complicated due to various reasons, so they fail to be reproduced. Thus seeing **80** selected and commented on positively by editor, it was for me a reason for a bit of author's pride.

81 - Alexandr Azhusin
1st Prize Thema Danicum 2004-05
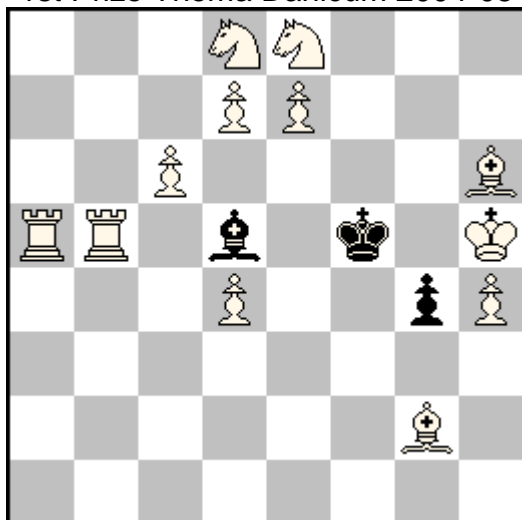
s#8   (12+3) C+

1.Ra7! g3 2.Se6 K×e6 3.d8=S+ Kf5 4.Sf6 K×f6 5.e8=S+ Kf5 6.Sb7 Ke6 7.Sc5+ Kf5 8.Rf7+ B×f7#

Single variation selfmate shows attractive Phénix theme doubled. Two white knight sacrifices are followed by pawn promotions on the same squares where knights stand in the diagram position. The point of white attack is to relocate Sd8 to a square where it would guard e6 and not f7, moreover Bd5 must be unpinned, therefore c5 is the correct choice for wS. Then, however the manoeuvre requires that bK cannot go to e7 and f7, so Pd7 must open Ra7 to e7 and then Pe7 should open the line further to f7 too.

Final points (made at the beginning) is the choice of rook moving to the 7th rank – Rb7 would block b7 for knight, thus it must be a-Rook playing the key.

82 - Dieter Werner
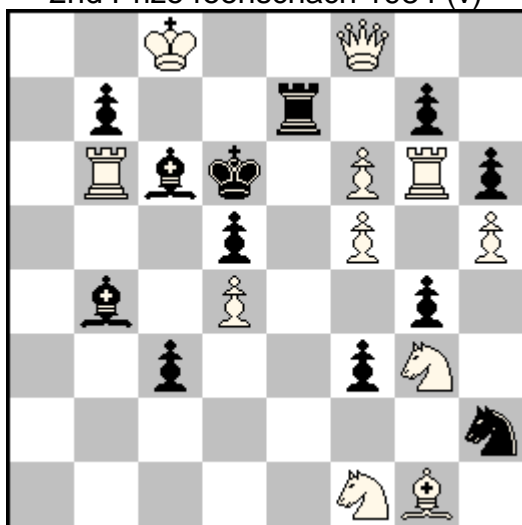### 1st Prize 13th TT harmonie 2006
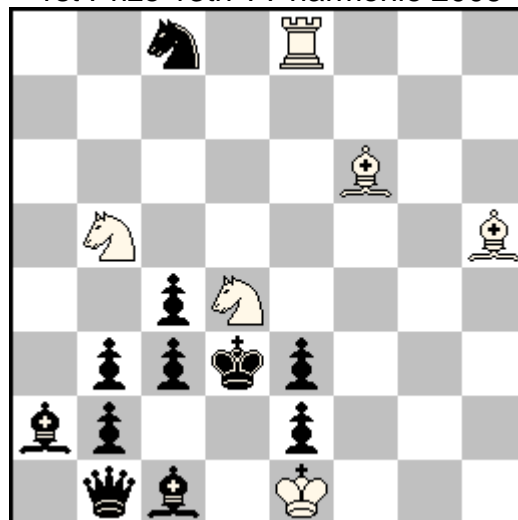
s#10   (6+11) C+

1.Bg5! [2.R×e3+ B×e3#] Qc2 2.Sc6 [3.B×e2+ Q×e2#] Qb1 3.Sbd4 Qc2 4.Re5 [5.Sb4+ K×d4 6.Sc6+ Kd3 7.B×e2+ Q×e2#] Sa7 5.Se6 Qb1 6.Scd4 Qc2 7.Bf4 Sb5 8.Sc5+ K×d4 9.Se6+ Kd3 10.B×e2+ Q×e2#

Even longer selfmate is based on the fight of black queen with a group of white officers. Black queen on the first rank allows White to threat rook check on e3, Qc2 on the other hand has access to e2 for threats involving B×e2+. White attacks on e2 and e3 are switched on and off by white knights playing to or departing from d4, thus guarding or unguarding c2 and e2.

I like here the beautiful construction without White pawns and precise play of White pieces.

83 - Klaus Wenda
dedicated to P. Kniest- 70
2nd Prize feenschach 1984 (v)

s#8   (11+12) C+
Circe

84 - Waldemar Tura
3rd Commendation feenschach 2004

#9   (2+10) C+
◍ = leo, ◫ = pao, ◈ = vao

1.Se3! [2.Se4+ d×e4(Sb1) 3.B×h2(Sb8)+ g3 4.Qd8+ Rd7 5.Q×d7(Ra8)+ S×d7(Qd1)#]
1…Sf1   2.Se×f1(Sg8)!   [3.Q×e7(Rh8)+ S×e7(Qd1)#]
2…S×f6(f2) 3.Qd8+! Rd7 4.R×f6(Sb8)+ g×f6(Ra1)   5.Re1   [6.Q×d7(Ra8)+ S×d7(Qd1)#]
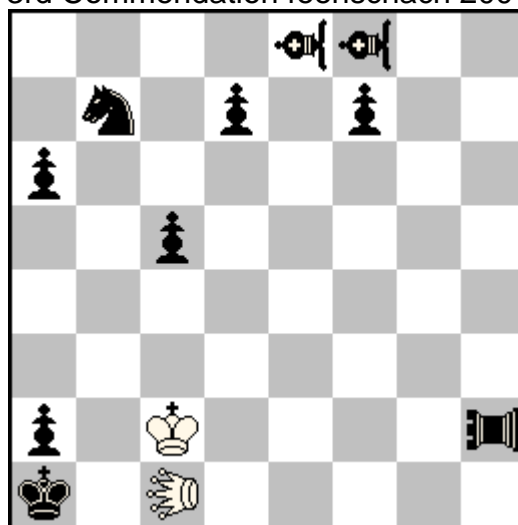5…Sa6   6.Qf8+   Re7   7.R×a6(Sg8) [8.Q×e7(Rh8)+ S×e7(Qd1)#]

Circe condition is fully used in the play of **83**. The key black pieces are Re7 and Sh1. They are forming two different batteries during play, depending on the squares where White captures them:
- either Ra8-Sb8-Kc8 or
- Rh8-Sg8-Kc8.

The key guards d5, thus threatening combination with captures and sacrifice opening line h2-d6. Sh2 jumping away to f1 obviously guards but allows combination with capture squares colours switched. Then the history repeats from g8 to f6, then again from b8 to a6 and finally there is no way to leave g8 due to blocking of all relevant squares. Stunning Circe problem.

1.LEd1? [2.Kc1#], 1…PAh1!

1.LEh1! [2.Kc1#] PAg2 2.LEg1 [3.Kc1#] PAf2 3.LEf1 [4.Kc1#] PAe2 4.LEe1 [5.Kc1#] PAd2 5.LEd1 [6.Kc1#] VAh6 6.LE×d7 [7.LEa4#] PAd3 7.LEa4+ PAa3 8.Kc1 [9.LEd1#]

The try of **84** shows that White has to make preparations before playing to d1 with leo. The try and solution play have a Dresden flavour as good pao defence is substituted, after other defences of the same pao, by a new defence by VAf8. Presence of pao at d2 allows White to construct by capturing Pf7 a completely new threat on the a-file that must be parried by black pao on the third rank. The black defence is thus destroyed and leo can return to d1 after triangular roundtrip.

The form of white minimal adds to overall impression.

85 - Franz Pachl
3rd Prize Probleemblad 2001 (v)
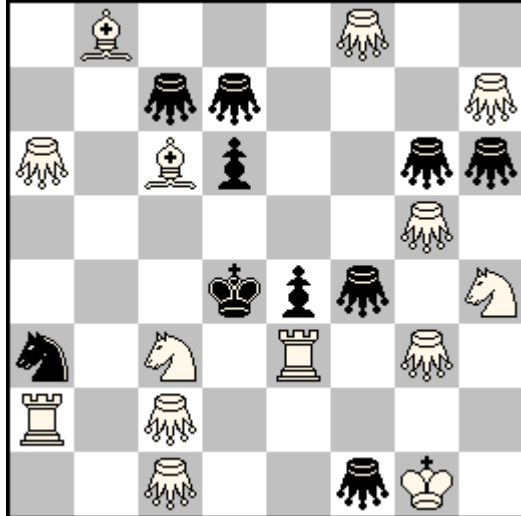
#2   (14+10) C+

♖♜ = grasshopper

1.Bd5? **A** [2.Ba7# **E**]
1…Gc6 **a** 2.G×d6# **B**
1…Sc4 **b** 2.R×e4# **C**
1…Ge5 **c** 2.Se2# **D**
1…Sb5 2.Ga1#
1…Gb7!

1.G×d6! B [2.Bd5# **A**]
1…G×c6 **a** 2.R×e4# **C**
1…Sc4 **b** 2.Se2# **D**
1…Ge5 **c** 2.Ba7# **E**
1…Sb5 2.Ra4#
1…Gd2,Gh2 2.Sf5#

Once upon a time I was a judge of the competition where **85** competed. The mechanism of key-threat paradox is well known (hopper jumps over piece making move in function of key and threat, utilizing antibattery in one threat and some additional motif in the other), but incorporation of three thematical variations means that both keys have to do a lot in terms of motivation. Let's see whether I can identify all effects.
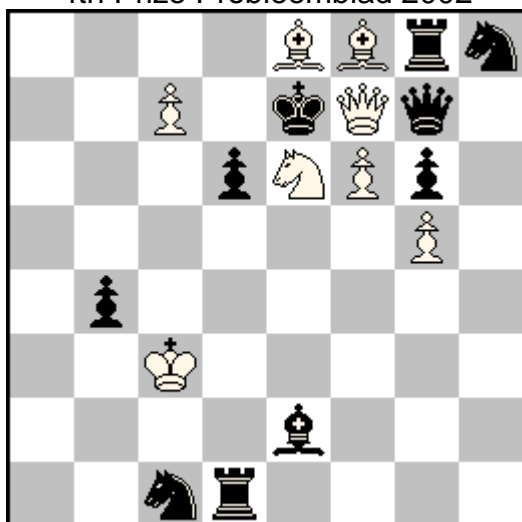
1.Bd5
- Removes hurdle from Gc7-c5
- Prepares hurdle for Gd6-d4
- Prepares hurdle for Gc6-e4
- Provides hurdle for Gg5-c5
- Prepares hurdle for Ge5-c5
- Unguards d5
- Guards c4
- Opens Gd7-a4

1.Gxd6
- Provides rear piece of vertical antibattery Gd6-d5-d4
- Removes rear piece of line Ga6-c4-d3
- Removes Ga6 from line Ga6-a2-a1, making checkmate Ga1# impossible

Some motifs might have been missed, but in any case, it is quite clear that the first move of bishop is richer from the motivation point of view. In any case, grasshoppers are extremely well exploited for the new-strategical change with repetition, to achieve very difficult Djurašević cycle with 5 elements.
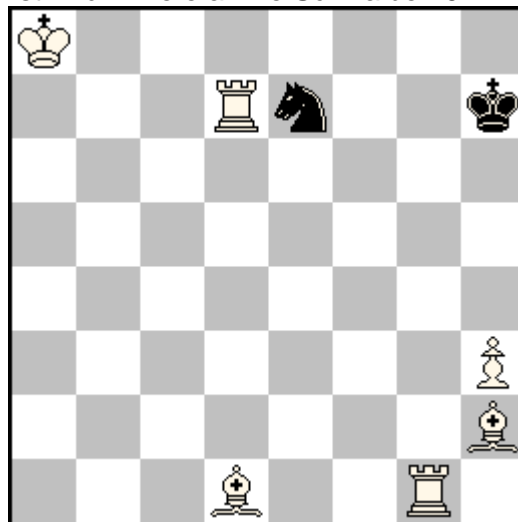
86 - Hubert Gockel
4th Prize Probleemblad 2002

#2   (8+10) C+
Anticirce

87 - Theodor Steudel & Gerd Rinder
1st-2nd Prize e.a. Die Schwalbe 1974-75

r#16   (6+2)

1.Kd2! [2.c8=S#]
1…Q×f7(Qd8) 2.K×e2(Ke1)#
1…Q×f8(Qd8) 2.K×d1(Ke1)#
1…Q×f6(Qd8) 2.K×c1(Ke1)#

86 has limited content, but it is quite pointed. The key unpins Pc7 threatening knight promotion. Captures of three black pieces by wK are not threatened as bQ can capture white pieces on the f-file.

But bQ must hurry and defends against threat precisely by three captures, so that it can act further from d8. As a consequence, two mates seem possible in each variation (one white piece is removed. But then it turns out that types of pieces blocking Circe squares c1, d1 and e2 were not chosen randomly. Rather, if wK has captured wrong black piece, the one unpinned by defence could parry the check by re-blocking the Circe square. Nice scenario.
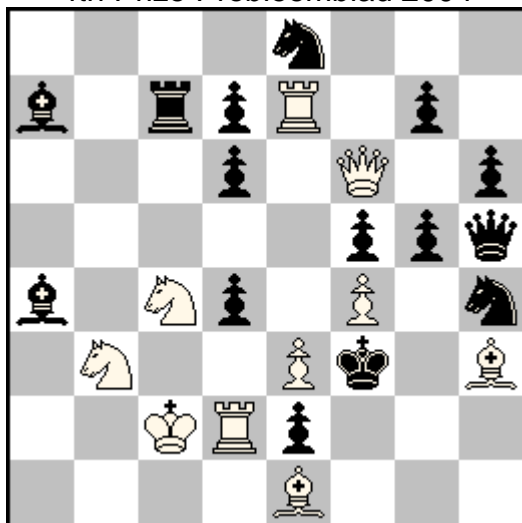
1.Kb7! Kh6 2.Bf4+ Kh7 3.Kc7 Kh8 4.Be5+ Kh7 5.Kd8 Kh6 6.Bf4+ Kh7 7.Ke8 Kh8 8.Be5+ Kh7 9.Kf8 Kh6 10.Bf4+ Kh7 11.Bh5 Kh8 12.Be5+ Kh7 13.Be8 Kh6 14.Bf4+ Kh7 15.Rg7+ Kh8 16.Rf7 Sg6#
1…Kh8 2.Be5+ Kh7 3.Kb6 Kh6 4.Bf4+ Kh7 5.Kc5 Kh8 6.Be5+ Kh7 7.Kd4 Kh6 8.Bf4+ Kh7 9.Ke3 Kh8 10.Be5+ Kh7 11.Kf2 Kh6 12.Bf4+ Kh7 13.Rg4 Kh8 14.Be5+ Kh7 15.Kg3 Kh6 16.Kh4 Sf5#

Obviously, White cannot let bS free in **87** as then forcing checkmate even with reflex condition would be impossible. So, with bK on h7 White can make free move constructing mating net, while on h6 or h6 bishop must keep him busy by checks. Thus, the first move of bK determines where the mating net can be constructed. As a result, we get beautiful echo.

88 - René Jean Millour
dedicated to Solène Millour 03/06/04
4th Prize Probleemblad 2004

#2   (10+15) C+

Anticirce

1.Q×g7(Qd1)? [2.Q×e2(Qd1)#]
1…e×d1=Q(Qd8)! 2.Bg4+? f×g4(g7)!

1.Q×d6(Qd1)? [2.Q×e2(Qd1)#]
1…e×d1=R(Ra8)! 2.Sd6? no check

1.Q×d4(Qd1)? [2.Q×e2(Qd1)#]
1…e×d1=B(Bc8)! 2.Sd4+? B×d4(Bf8)!

1.Q×g5(Qd1)? [2.Q×e2(Qd1)#]
1…e×d1=S(Sg8)! 2.f×g5(g2)? impossible

1.Q×h6(Qd1)! [2.Q×e2(Qd1)#]
1…e×d1=Q(Qd8) 2.Bg4#
1…e×d1=R(Ra8) 2.S×d6(Sg1)#
1…e×d1=B(Bc8) 2.S×d4(Sg1)#
1…e×d1=S(Sg8) 2.f×g5(g2)#

Another selected Anticirce twomover based on captures (after **86**), The idea of White is to mate by queen from d1 by annihilation of Pe2. There are 5 reasonable ways to capture something (Pf5 is out of question because of looming Qg6+). However, four tries are refuted by black AUW as absence of

black pawns hampers checkmating in various ways.

89 - Petko A. Petkov
dedicated to H. Gruber-40
1st Prize Probleemblad 2000
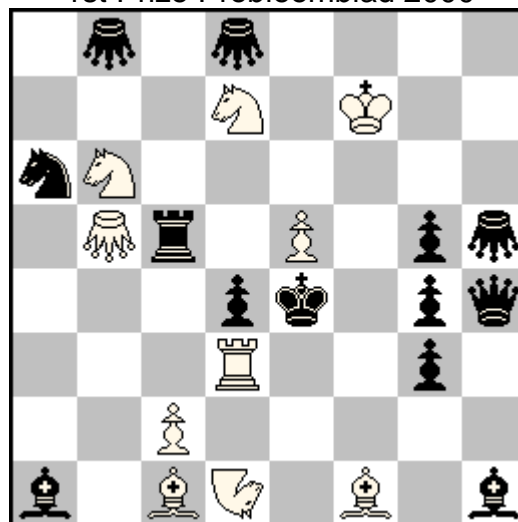
#4   (10+13) C+

♘ = nightrider, ♞♟ = grasshopper

1.Ge2! [2.Gc4+ R×c4 3.Sf6+ K×e5 4.S×c4#]
1…Gf5 2.Be3+ Kf3 3.B×g5+ Ke4 4.Re3#
(2.Re3+? Kf4! 3.Rxg3+ Kxg3!)
1…Gf4 2.Re3+ Kf5 3.R×g3+ Ke4 4.Ne3#
(2.Ne3+? Kf3! 3.Ng7+ Kf2!)
1…Gf3 2.Ne3+ Kf4 3.Ng7+ Ke4 4.Be3#
(2.Be3+? Kf5! 3.Bxg5+ Kxg5!)

89 is memorable fourmover that I remember already back from March 2001 when I have reproduced it at Chess Composition Microweb. My commentary from these days is still valid:

„Excellent fairy moremover! In threat there is move 3.Sf6+, Black defends by grasshopper moves to f-file as this would cause selfcheck after Sf6. Good defence motive, isn't it? Black error lies in blocking 3 potential flights, that allows anticritical moves by 3 white riders across e3 and then antibattery mate there. But white must be careful. This way the cycle of 2nd and 4th white moves is executed in an

exceptionally attractive manner. Composition worth of the name above diagram!"

90 - Manfred Zucker & Michael Schreckenbach
1st Prize Thema Danicum 1993
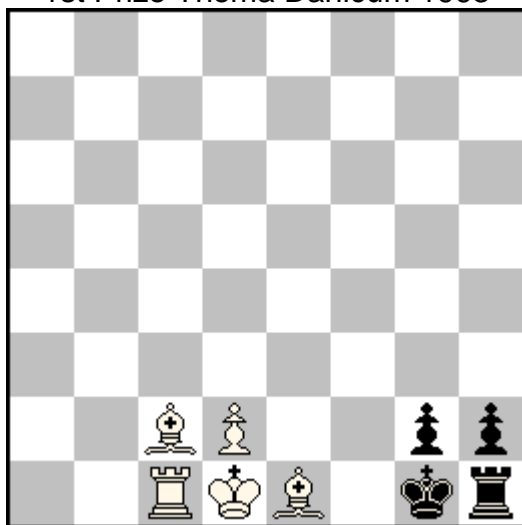
s#11   (5+4) C+

1.Ba4! Kf1 2.Bb5+ Kg1 3.Rc4 Kf1 4.Rc8+ Kg1 5.Bd7 Kf1 6.Rf8+ Kg1 7.Bf5 Kf1 8.Bc2+ Kg1 9.Bf2+ Kf1 10.Bg1+ K×g1 11.Rf2 K×f2#

White wants to force Black to open battery line on the first rank by Kf2#. Placing Be1 on f2 is not enough, so that Rc1 must be placed on f2. But once again bK must be kept busy by checks. This is possible in cooperation with Bc2. It turns out white bishop has to make a roundtrip c2-a4-b5-d7-f5-c2. This roundtrip is captureless (it is not so surprising as black pieces are concentrated in the SE corner), but moreover the play has beautiful geometry.

91 - Hubert Gockel
1st Honourable Mention harmonie 2010
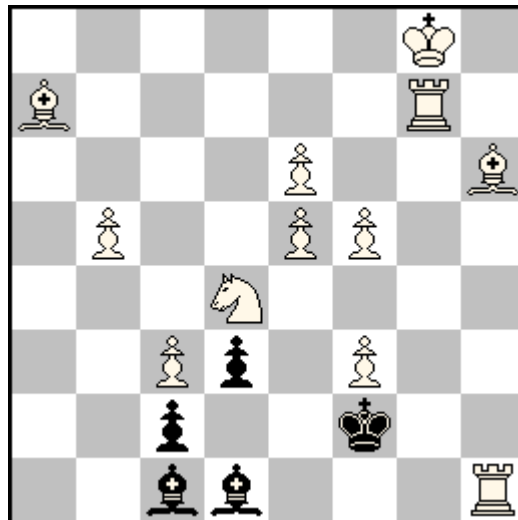
#2   (12+5) C+
Annan

1.Bc5? zz
1…B×f3 **a** 2.Sb3# **A**
1…Be2 **b** 2.Sc6# **B**
1…d2!

1.Ka8! zz
1…B×f3+ **a** 2.Sc6# **B**
1…Be2 **b** 2.Sb3# **A**
1…d2 2.S×c2#

Obviously, White battery cannot checkmate immediately due to two flights e2 and f3. The flight e2 is blocked by 1…Be2, in such case checkmating battery has to take care of f3. In the try Sc6 gets the bishop movement, while with Ka8 having bishop movement in solution the knight should not close the line a8-f3.

The capture of Pf3 assigns bishop movement to bK. Consequently, White does not need to care about flights e2 and f3. Additional motivation is in place. Bc5 must be guarded from b3, while Ka8 is checked by Bf3+ and line f3-a1 must be cut.

Altogether this a non-standard way of showing reciprocal change. One can even say that defence 1…B×f3+! corrects the defence 1…Be2 as it removes flight e2 as well but prevents the original mate by additional motif.

92 - Frank Richter
Prize e.a. 17th TT Problemkiste 1998
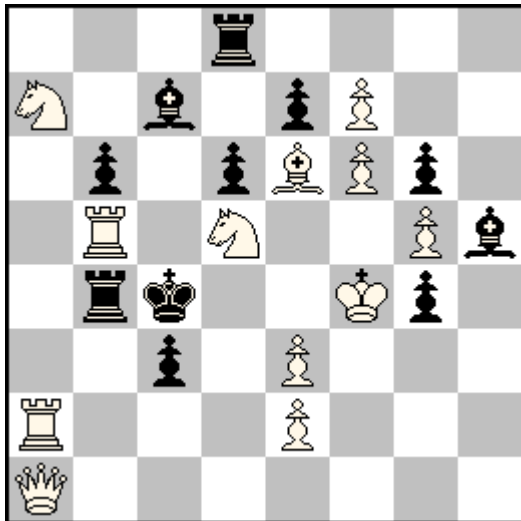
s#2   (12+11) C+
Andernach

1.Ra4? [2.S×b4(N)+ **A** d5#]
1…Kb3+! **a**

1.Qc1? [2.S×c3(N)+ **B** d5#]
1…c2! **b**

1.f×e7(N)! [2.Sf6+ d5#]
1…Kb3+ **a** 2.S×b4(N)+ **A** d5#
1…c2 **b** 2.Sc3+ **B** d5#

The tries prepare threats involving captures by bS opening the battery. The knight is pinned for Black, preventing return to d5. But 1.Ra4? unguards c2 and 1.Qc1? unguards c3, allowing Black to refute.
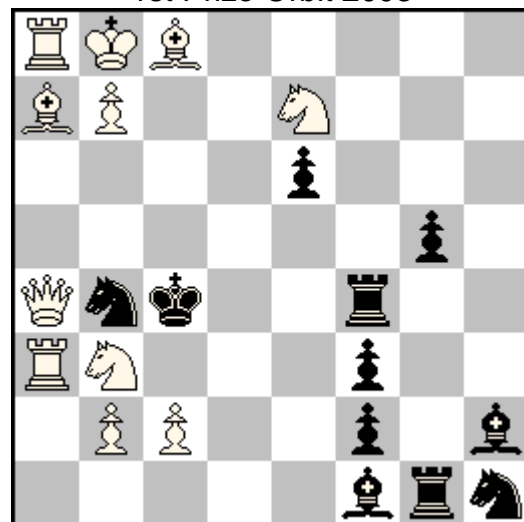
The solution provides an empty square for wS, motivating a new threat. Refutations of tries become defences in

solution (motivated by check to White and opening of a1-e5) and two set variations follow. As a result we get an Andernach-specific Dombrovskis theme (if we are ready to accept the fact that thematic variations are prepared in the set play).

It should be noted that Andernach chess is quite unwieldy for showing interesting content in direct mates and selfmates, so that **92** is quite good achievement.

93 - Frank Richter
1st Prize Orbit 2003

s#3   (11+11) C+

1.Sc1! [2.Rb3 [3.Qa6+ S×a6#]]
1…e5 2.Rd3 [3.Qa6+ S×a6#] Rf6 3.Rd4+ e×d4#
1…Sg3 2.Re3 [3.Qa6+ S×a6#] Rf5 3.Re4+ S×e4#
1…Rg3 2.R×f3 [3.Qa6+ S×a6#] Rf5 3.Rc3+ R×c3#

The quiet threat of **93** works when Ra3 leaves a-file, b3 is then the only square where no harm would be inflicted to plans of White. Black defends by closing the battery line Bh2-Rf4-Ka8, so that Rf4 cold defends against the threat via f6 or f5. White then just changes the arrival square of the rook in the second move,

letting Black continue its defence plan, albeit with different outcome due to firing of a transformed battery. The fact that all 2nd moves of White are quiet adds to the overall impression, moreover the construction is quite clean (Ra8 and Bc8 only blocking do not disturb me).

Juraj Lörinc

1st TT Conflictio C 10.10.2018 reminder

In No 4, Conflictio has announced formal thematical tourney for chess problems with antagonistic stipulations with compulsory reciprocal change. The reciprocal change can be a part of a larger complex of changes, but it should be a prominent recognizable feature.

Judge: Narayan Shankar Ram (India)

The competing problems can be of any length, their aim can be any (mate, stalemate or other). Any form of twins, multiple solutions, duplex or set play are allowed, as well as fairy elements. The tourney might be divided to multiple sections if enough problems are received, depending on the opinion of the judge.

Entries should be sent by email to juraj.lorinc+conflictio@gmail.com before October 10th, 2018. The award will be published in Conflictio.

Please, let know your friends about our competition!