

In this issue

This issue is dedicated to the article written by Indian master Narayan Shankar Ram on the Jacobs theme. The theme is mostly shown in threemovers, but also some other genres can show it. I am very glad to publish it as a very welcome contribution from readers. Also, it somehow counterbalances the fact that so far twomovers form majority of problems published in Conflictio. The series explaining the MOV and PAD symbolism for new-strategical twomovers will resume in the next issue.

And by the way, v2 following the issue number 18 above indicates that this copy of *Conflictio* is already improved as some errors slipped into the first version.

Juraj Lörinc

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Jacobs Theme Redux

by Narayan Shankar Ram

Introduction

In 1984, an article on this theme appeared in *feenschach*. Since then, many more examples have been composed and also many older ones found. The present article is a much expanded follow up. The Jacobs theme is, by its nature, a pure direct mate theme. As such, it is fitting that this article should appear in *Conflictio*.

The mechanism of the theme was first shown by the American composer Walter William Jacobs. It was published in the *British Chess Magazine* of October 1937, in a "short essay" by Jacobs, titled "Semi-Defences". The idea being that a black piece guarding 2 mates can only be said to be "semi-defending" them. Therefore, two such "semi-defences" are necessary to fully defend a mate.

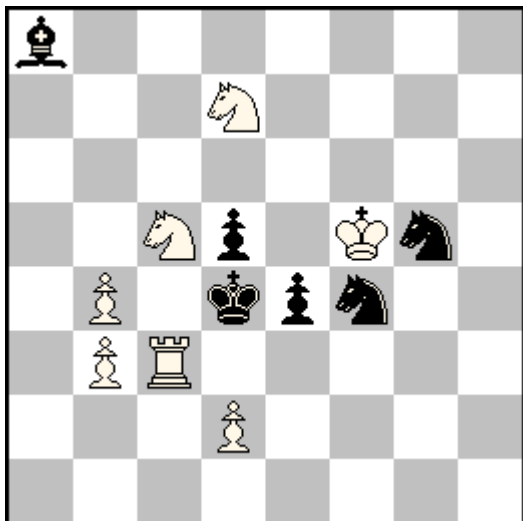
Extending the idea to a cycle by having 3 black pieces each guarding 2 out of 3 such mates gives us the Jacobs Theme, as seen in **239**. The original version with WRc3 on e3, WSd7 on e5, and key as

1.Rc3 was cooked by 1.Kxf4! I couldn't find out whether a correction was ever published. If not, then this pioneering work finally gets its due here!

The name "Jacobs" for the theme seems to have been used for the first time in the above mentioned *feenschach* article. Earlier names used were "semi-defence", "triple points", "cyclic overload"... The characteristic move pattern seen in all the examples is:

1...x 2.A, 3.B/C
1...y 2.B, 3.C/A
1...z 2.C, 3.A/B

239 – Walter W. Jacobs
 The British Chess Magazine
 October 1937(v)
 dedicated to Thomas R. Dawson



#3 (7+6) C+

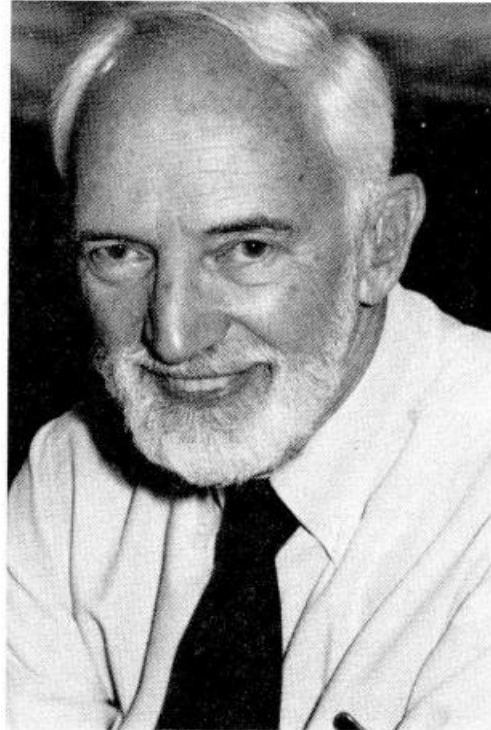
1.Se5! zz

- 1...Sf~ 2.Sf3+ Sxf3/exf4 3.Se6/Rd3#
- 1...Sg~ 2.Rd3+ Sxd3/exd3 3.Se6/Sf3#
- 1...e3 2.Se6+ Sfxe6/Sgxe6 3.Rd3/Sf3#
- 1...Ba8-b7 2.Sxb7 [3.Sc6#]

Jacobs composed both orthodox and fairy chess problems. He was problem editor of the *Chess Review*. In his work, he was involved in mathematics, computers and cryptology.

Some chess problem related and biographical information on Jacobs can be found in the links given [here](#). The most interesting one(for me) being the fact that he worked at Bletchley Park(links to [website](#) and [wikipedia](#)) during the second world war - the only Problemist, as far as I know. Other famous chess players at Bletchley Park being C.H.O'D.Alexander, Stuart Milner-Barry and Harry Golombek.

The basic mechanism consists of unguards. But, as will be seen, a wide



Walter Jacobs (November 1981)

variety of interpretations and extensions are possible, using pins, unpins, line openings, fairy chess specific effects and changed play.

These will be covered in two parts: orthodox and fairy. Various categories will be considered under each. The extensions will be classified as "mxn", where m is the number of thematic B pieces and n is the number of mates guarded by each B piece.

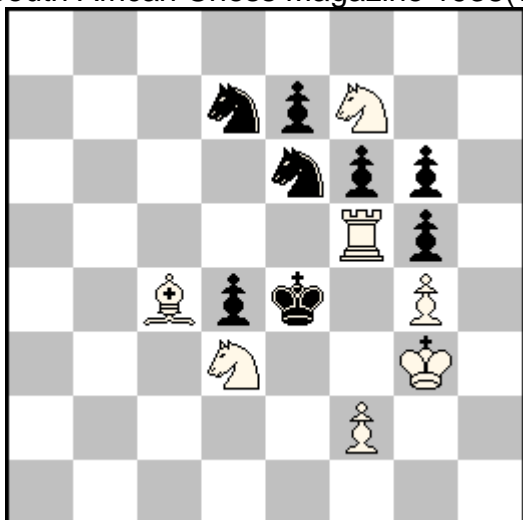
Orthodox

A total of 76 examples are shown, including 42 in the appendices.

Simple 3x2

Over the years, a large number of examples showing the basic mechanism have been published - one as recently as 2018! Some prominent ones will be shown here and the rest can be seen in the appendix.

240 – Thomas R. Dawson
South African Chess Magazine 1938(v)



#3 (7+8) C+

1.Rd5! zz

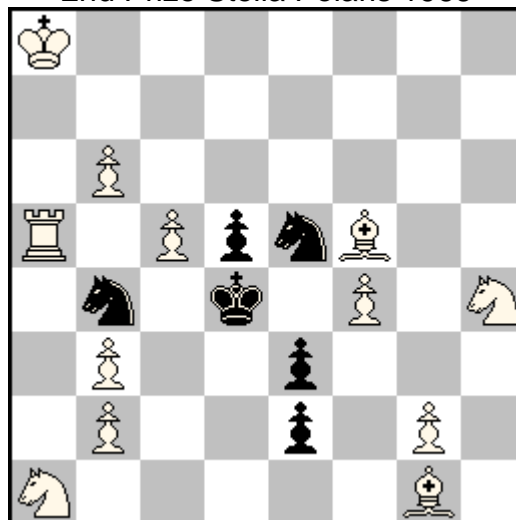
1...Sd~ 2.Sxg5+ Sxg5/fxg5 3.Sc5/Re5#
1...Se~ 2.Re5+ Sxe5/fxe5 3.Sc5/Sxg5#
1...f5 2.Sc5+ Se/Sdxc5 3.Sxg5/Re5#

T.R.Dawson's **240** appeared in 1938. The original version with WPd6 and no BPs on e7 and g6 had duals after 1...Sb8/f8(2.d7), Sc7(2.dxc7) and f5(2.Rxf5).

241 is an "inset" 3-mover, with key and defence serving to introduce the 3rd B and W Ss by promotion.

242 has pin mates throughout, with each B piece getting pinned on 2 different squares. It also has a separate threat, instead of zugzwang. **306** in Appendix 1 shows the same task.

241 – Michael Keller
2nd Prize Stella Polaris 1966

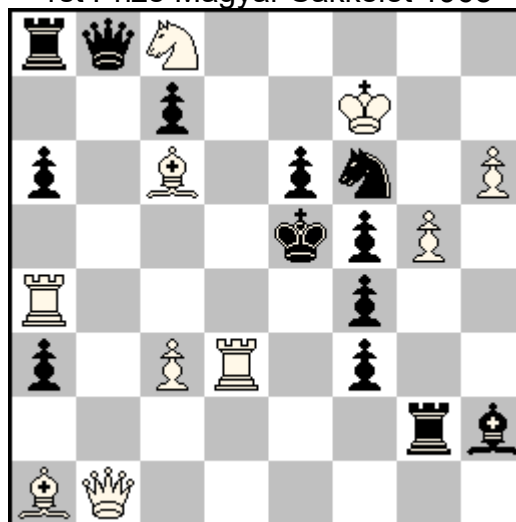


#4 (12+6) C+

1.b7! [2.b8=Q/B]

1...e1=S 2.b8=S zz
2...Sb~ 3.Sf3+ S1/5xf3 4.Sc2/Sc6#
2...S1~ 3.Sc6+ Sb/exc6 4.Sc2/Sf3#
2...S5~ 3.Sc2+ Se/bxc2 4.Sf3/Sc6#

242 – Vilmos Schneider
1st Prize Magyar Sakkélet 1968

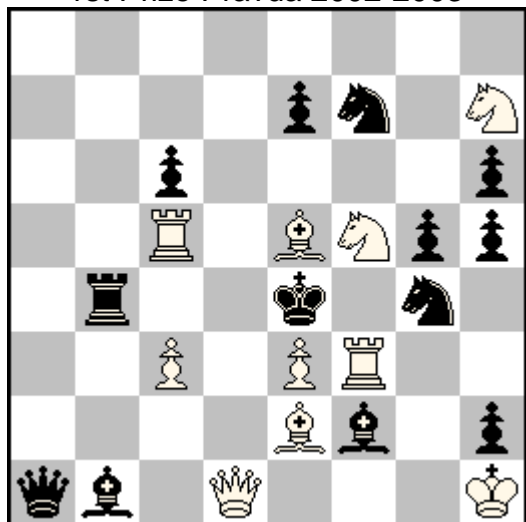


#3 (10+13) C+

1.h7! [2.h8=Q/B]

1...Rxc5 2.Ra5+ Sd5/Qb5 3.Qe1/c4#
1...Sxh7 2.c4+ Rb2/Qb2 3.Qe1/Ra5#
1...Qxc8 2.Qe1+ Re2/Se4 3.c4/Ra5#
1...Qb4 2.Qxb4 [3.Qd4#] Bg1 3.Qxf4#

243 – Štefan Sovík
1st Prize Pravda 2002-2003



#3 (10+13) C+

1.Bb8? [2.Rf4+ gxf4 3.Bf3#], 1...Sge5!

1.Bh8? [2.Rf4+ gxf4 3.Bf3#], 1...Sfe5!

1.Bd4? [2.Rf4+ gxf4 3.Bf3#], 1...e5!

1.Bg3! [2.Rf4+ gxf4 3.Bf3#]

1...Sge5 2.Sd6+ exd6/Sxd6 3.Sf6/Rxe5#

1...Sfe5 2.Sf6+ Sxf6/exf6 3.Rxe5/Sd6#

1...e5 2.Rxe5+ Sfxe5/Sgxe5 3.Sd6/Sf6#

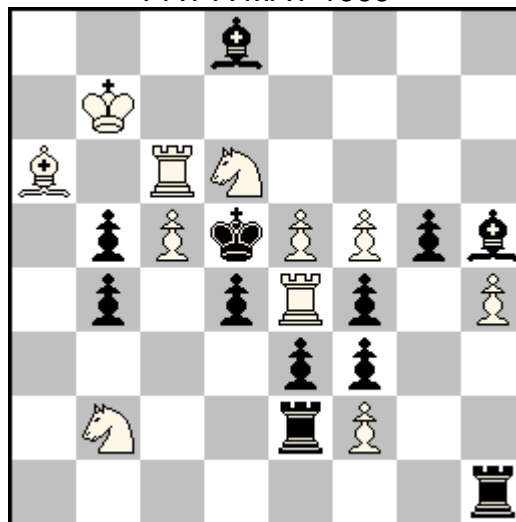
243 has all the 3 B defences on the same square, which is also the square vacated by the W key. Further, the W key piece makes 3 tries which are defeated by the thematic B defences.

244 shows the theme with quiet moves throughout, which requires it to be a 4 mover.

245 doubles the theme, using promoted Ss.

18 additional examples (**305 - 322**) are in [Appendix 1](#).

244 – Ľudovít Lačný
PAT A MAT 1999



#4 (11+12) C+

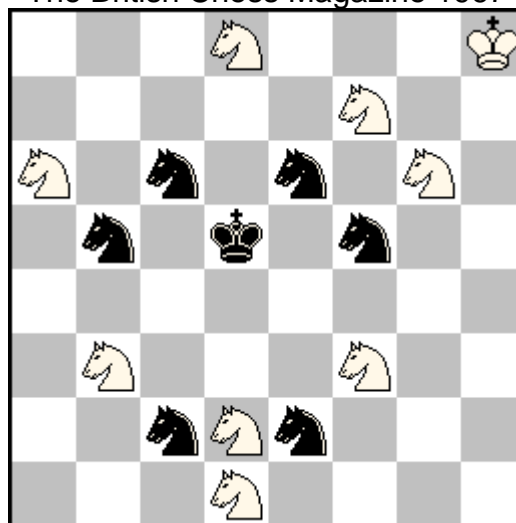
1.Sd3! [2.Sxb4#]

1...Ba5 2.Bxb5 [3.Bc4#] Rc1 3.hxg5
2...Rc2 3.e6 [4.Re5#]

1...Rb1 2.e6 [3.Re5#] Bf6 3.hxg5
2...exf2 3.Bxb5 [4.Bc4#]

1...Rb2 2.hxg5 [3.Sxf4#] Bxg5 3.e6
2...Rh4 3.Bxb5 [4.Bc4#]

245 – Robin C.O. Matthews
The British Chess Magazine 1967



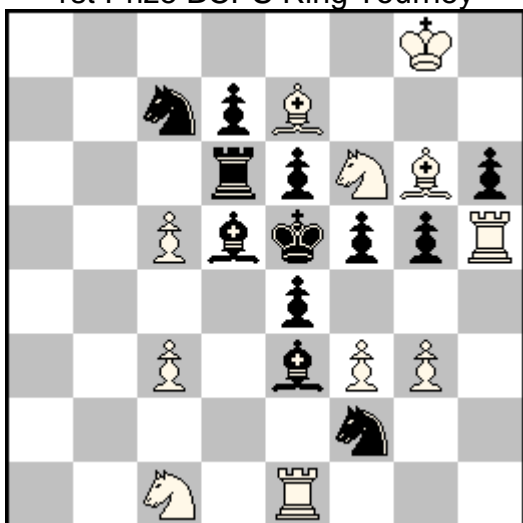
#3 (9+7) C+

1.Sfd4! zz

1...Sb5~/Se2~/Se6~ 2.Sf4+/Sc7+/Sc3+

1...Sc2~/Sc6~/Sf5~ 2.Se7+/Se3+/Sb4+

246 – Robin C.O. Matthews
Correspondence Chess 1962
1st Prize BCPS Ring Tourney



#3 (11+12) C+

1.Bh7! [2.Bxd6+ Kxf6 3.Rxh6#]
1...g4 2.Sd3+ Sxd3/exd3 3.Sxg4/f4#
1...Sg4 2.f4+ gx4/Bxf4 3.Sxg4/Sd3#
1...Bxc5 2.Sg4+ Sxg4/fxg4 3.Sd3/f4#

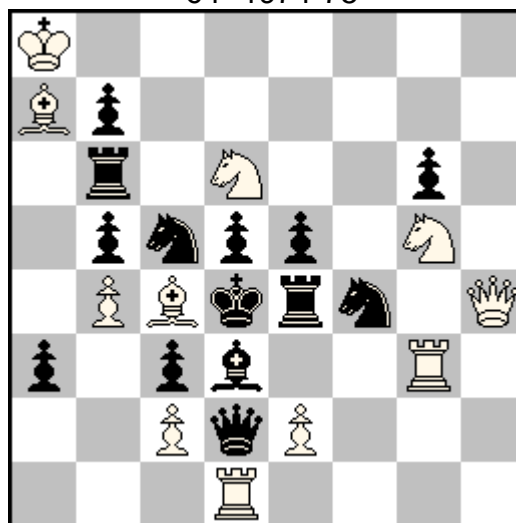
3x2 with half-pins

Instead of a single B piece guarding 2 mates, we can have 2 half-pinned B pieces, each of which guard one mate each. **246** shows this idea with 2 half-pin lines and one BSf2.

247, **248** and **249** show the full theme with 3 half-pin lines.

After Lobusov's "hat trick", nobody else seems to have attempted this task, in the orthodox field!

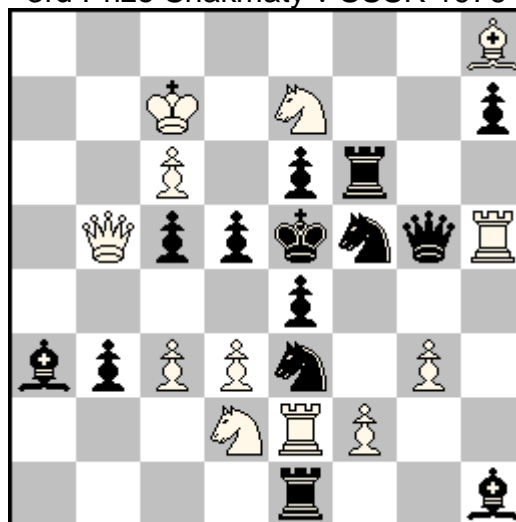
247 – Andrej Lobusov
5th Prize Petrov Memorial Tourney
"64" 1974-75



#3 (11+14) C+

1.Ba2! [2.Bxb6 [3.Bxc5#] Sfe6 3.Sxe6#]
1...Sfe6 2.Sxb5+ Rxb5/Bxb5 3.Sxe6/e3#
1...Qxc2 2.Se6+ Sc/Sfxe6 3.Sxb5/e3#
1...Sa4 2.e3+ Qxe3/Rxe3 3.Sxb5/Se6#

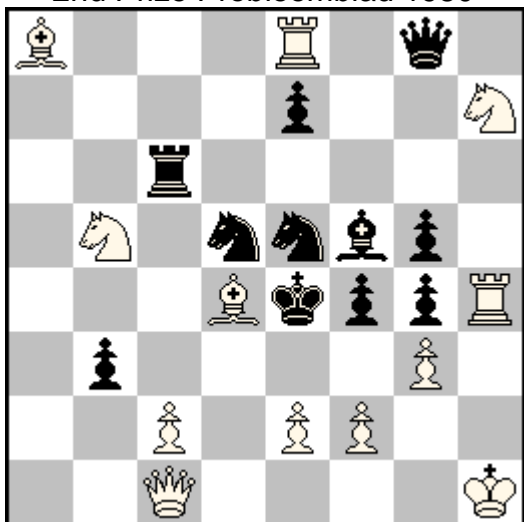
248 – Andrej Lobusov
3rd Prize Shakmaty v SSSR 1976



#3 (12+14) C+

1.Kd7! [2.Rxg5/2.Qb8+]
1...Sc4 2.d4+ Sxd4/cxd4 3.f4/Sxc4#
1...Qg8 2.Sc4+ Sxc4/dxc4 3.f4/d4#
1...c4 2.f4+ Qxf4/exf3 e.p. 3.d4/Sxc4#

249 – Andrej Lobusov
2nd Prize Probleemblad 1980



#3

(12+11) C+

1.c4! [2.Qb1+ Sd3 3.Qxd3#]
1...fxg3 2.Sf6+ exf6/Rxf6 3.f3/Que3#
1...Sd3 2.Qe3+ fxe3/Sxe3 3.f3/Sf6#
1...Rxc4 2.f3+ gxf3/Sxf3 3.Qe3/Sf6#

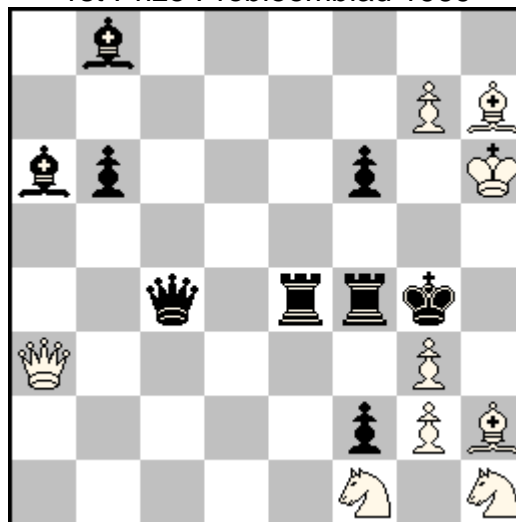
3x2 with third-pin

250 is a masterpiece. Each B piece guards one mate but also pins the remaining 2 B pieces by moving away from the pin line. In contrast to the usual move pattern, here there is a total of 6 thematic variations. The W 2nd moves are repeated, but there are changes after the same 2nd moves by B.

3x2 with line opening to BK flight and self pin

In the 80s, R.C.O.Matthews found a new mechanism. A Black piece can guard a mate and in addition, open a line to a BK flight. There are also pin mates after the BK flights. **251** shows this incompletely in 2 out of 3 variations. **252** achieves the complete scheme with 3 BK flights and 3 pin mates.

250 – Robin C.O.Matthews
1st Prize Probleemblad 1969



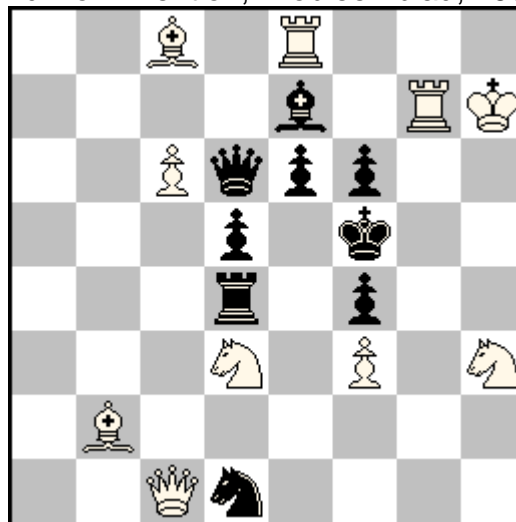
#3

(9+9) C+

1.Qa4! [2.Qd1+ R/Que2 3.Se3/g8Q#]
1...Re2 2.Sxf2+ Re/Rxf2 3.Se3/g8Q#
1...Re8 2.g8Q+ R/Qxg8 3.Se3/Sxf2#
1...Rf3 2.Se3+ Rf/Rexe3 3.Sxf2/g8Q#
1...Rf5 2.g8Q+ Rg5/Qxg8 3.Sxf2/Se3#
1...Qa2 2.Sxf2+ R/Qxf2 3.Se3/g8Q#
1...Qb3 2.Se3+ R/Qxe3 3.Sxf2/g8Q#

251 – Robin C.O.Matthews

2nd Hon. Mention, Probleemblad, 1983

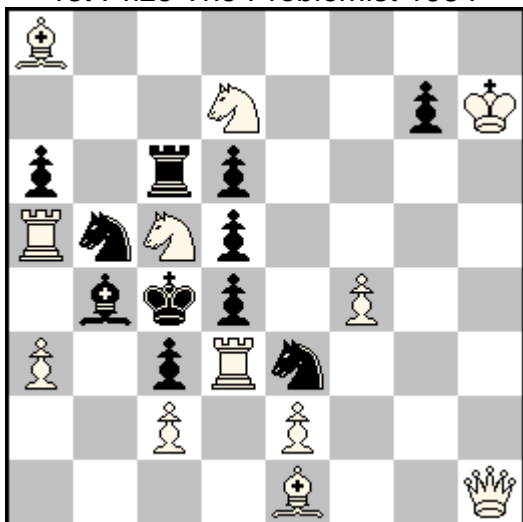


#3

(10+9) C+

1.Rf7! [2.Rg8 [3.Rg5#]]
1...Bf8 2.Qxf4+ R/Qxf4 3.Rxf6/Bxe6#
1...Rxd3 2.Bxe6+ Q/Kxe6 3.Qxf4/Rxf6#
1...Qd8 2.Rxf6+ B/Kxf6 3.Bxe6/Qxf4#
1...Sc3/f2 2.Qg1

252 – Robin C.O. Matthews
1st Prize The Problemist 1984



#3 (12+11) C+

1.Bf2! [2.Qb1 [3.Qb3, Qxb4, Qa2#]]
1...Se~ 2.Sb6+ Kxc5/Rxb6 3.Bxd4/Qxd5#
1...Rc8 2.Rxd4+ Kxd4/Sxd4 3.Qxd5/Sb6#
1...Sxa3 2.Qxd5+ Kxd5/Sxd5 3.Sb6/Rxd4#

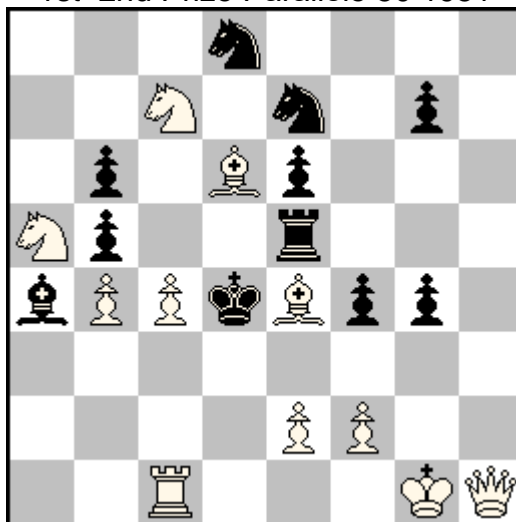
Simple 3x2 rotating

In 1951, **253** by R.C.O. Matthews appeared. Here, instead of 3 B pieces, there are only 2, and the threat is part of the theme. In the 2 variations, the B pieces "rotate" their roles (with the missing 3rd piece!).

The rotating form of the Jacobs theme also has an effect which later came to be known as the "Keller Paradox" - W checks on the square freshly guarded by B. It also has an "anti-form" of the Keller Paradox: B unguards the square where W is threatening to check. There seems to be no established name for this effect, though the "Caprice theme" comes close.

254 shows the same idea with 2 BRs. But here, one of the 2 mates is missing in each variation, due to the BRs "eclipsing" each other!

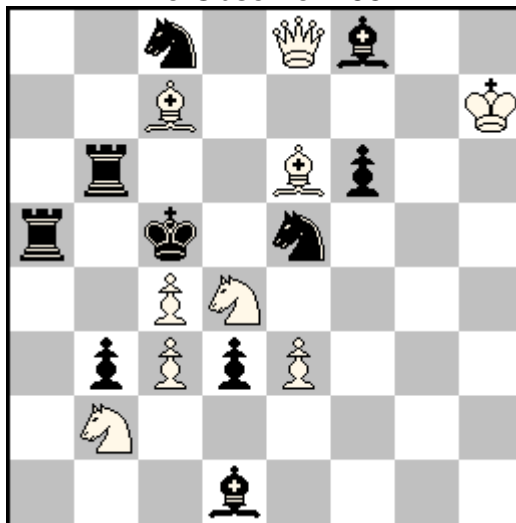
253 – Robin C.O. Matthews
1st-2nd Prize Parallèle 50 1951



#3 (11+11) C+

1.Bg6! [2.Sxb5+ R/Bxb5 3.Qe4/Sb3#]
1...Re3 2.Sb3+ R/Bxb3 3.Qe4/Sxb5#
1...Bc2 2.Qe4+ R/Bxe4 3.Sxb5/Sb3#
2...Kc3 3.Rxc2#
1...Sf5/xg6 2.Sxe6+ R/Sxe6 3.Qd5/Sc6#
1...bxa5 2.Bc5+ Rxc5 3.Qe4#

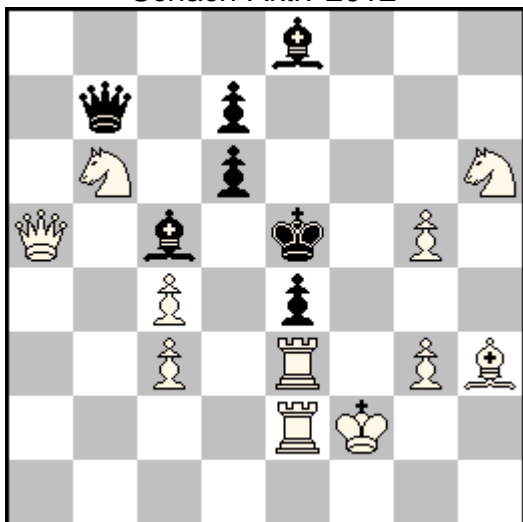
254 – Robin C.O. Matthews
The Observer 1951



#3 (9+10) C+

1.Bd5! [2.Qb5+ Ra/Rbxb5 3.Sa4/Se6#]
1...Raa6 2.Se6+ Rxe6 3.Qb5#
1...Rba6 2.Sa4+ Rxa4 3.Qb5#
1...Sxc4 2.Sxd3+ Kxd5 3.e4#
1...Bg4 2.Qc6+ S/Rxc6 3.Sxd3/Sxb3#

255 – Chris Handloser
Schach-Aktiv 2012



#3

(11+7) C+

1.Kf1? Qd5!, 1.Kg2? Bg6!
1.Ke1! [2.Sxd7+ B/Qxd7 3.Sf7/Rxe4#]
1...Qd5 2.Sf7+ B/Qxf7 3.Sxd7/Rxe4#
1...Bg6 2.Rxe4+ B/Qxe4 3.Sf7/Sxd7#
1...d5 2.Qxc5

255 has 2 thematic tries.

Like in the simple 3x2 type, a lot of examples have been published. 8 more (323 - 330) are in [Appendix 2](#).

3x2 rotating with unpins

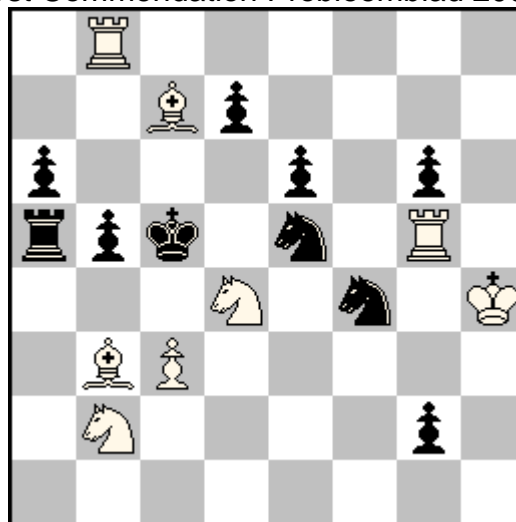
256 shows unpins by the B thematic moves. Similar examples by the same author are in [Appendix 3](#) (331, 332).

3x2 rotating with unpins, line opening and non recurring threat

In **257**, the threat 2.Bxf3+ does not recur as a mate in the variations. Instead, we have 3.Sc7, which similarly does not come as a 2nd move (It does, however, come as a byplay variation after 1...Ke6). Additional features are the unpins on e4 and the line openings to c6 and d4. Similar examples are in [Appendix 4](#) (333, 334) by the same author.

256 – Chris Handloser

1st Commendation Probleemblad 2007



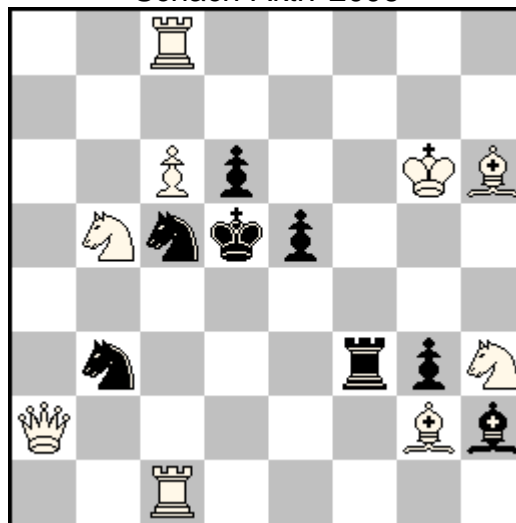
#3

(8+10) C+

1.Rb6! [2.Rxe5+ Sd5/d5 3.Sd3/Rc6#]
1...Sd5 2.Rc6+ Sxc6/dxc6 3.Sd3/Sxe6#
1...d5 2.Sd3+ Sfxd3/Se6d3 3.Sxe6/Rc6#

257 – Chris Handloser

3rd Prize Chlubna Memorial Tourney
Schach-Aktiv 2006

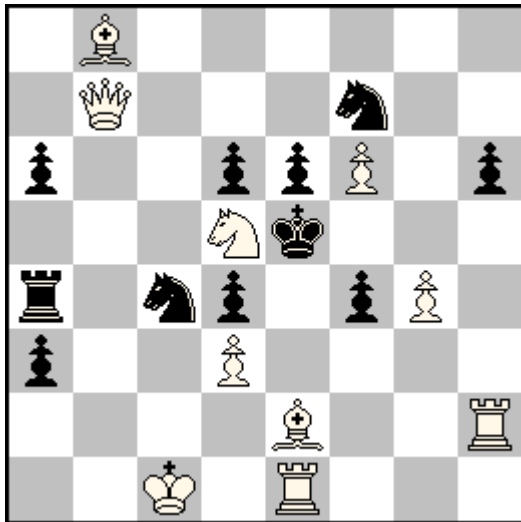


#3

(9+8) C+

1.Bg7! [2.Bxf3+ e4/Se4/Ke6
3.Sf4/Qxb3/Re8#]
1...e4 2.Qxb3+ Rxb3/Sxb3 3.Sf4/Sc7#
1...Se4 2.Sf4+ Rxf4/exf4 3.Qxb3/Sc7#
1...Ke4 2.Qe2+ Kd5 3.Qc4#
1...Ke6 2.Sc7+ Ke7 3.Re8#

258 – Chris Handloser
2nd Honourable Mention
Velimirović-64 MT 2016



#3 (10+11) C+

1.Qc7! [2.Qxd6+ Sc/Sfxd6 3.Bf3/Rh5#
1...Se3 2.Rh5+ Sf5/Sg5 3.Bf3/Qxd6#
1...Sg5 2.Bf3+ Se3/Se4 3.Qxd6/Rh5#

3x2 rotating with self pins

258 shows self pins and pin mates, along with a flight giving key. Similar examples are in [Appendix 5](#) (335, 336, 337, 338).

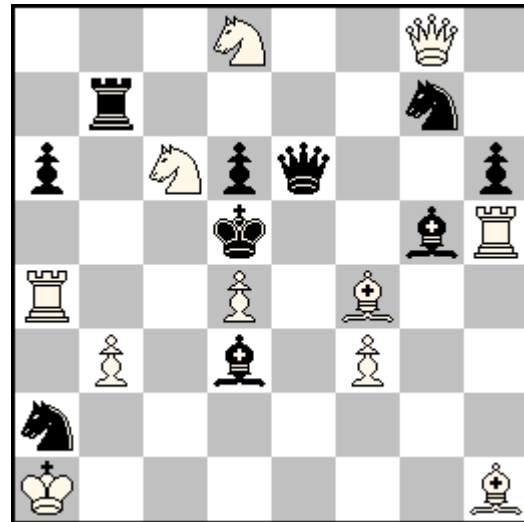
3x2 rotating with unpins and half-pin

259 has unpins which set up 2 new half-pin lines, leading to double pin and triple pin mates. After the threat, too, there are static single and double pin mates. Similar versions by the same author are in [Appendix 6](#) (339, 340, 341 [incomplete]).

3x2 rotating with half-pins

260 is the sole example with 2 half-pin lines (already set, and not created during the play). The BP and BQ move along their half-pin line, exchanging their guards of e6 with c5 and e3.

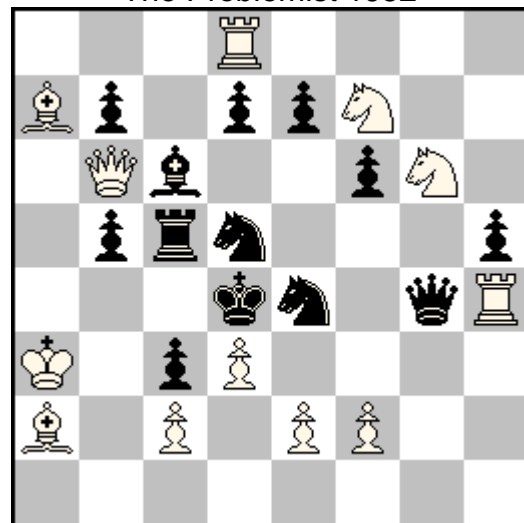
259 – Chris Handloser
3rd Honourable Mention
Chlubna MT Schach-Aktiv 2006



#3 (11+10) C+

1.Be3! [2.Ra5+ Bb5/Rb5 3.f4/Se7#]
1...Bf5 2.Se7+ Bxe7/Rxe7 3.f4/Ra5#
1...Rf7 2.f4+ Qe4/Be4 3.Se7/Ra5#

260 – Robin C.O. Matthews
The Problemist 1952

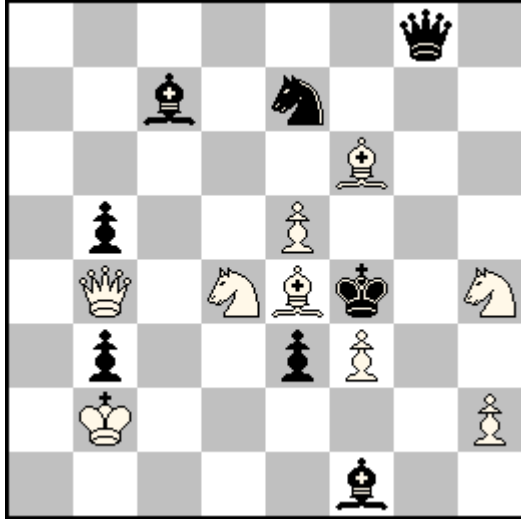


#3 (12+13) C+

1.Sf8! [2.Se6+ Qxe6/dxe6 3.Qxc5/e3#]
1...d6 2.Qxc5+ Sxc5/dxc5 3.Se6/e3#
1...Qf4 2.e3+ Qxe3/Sxe3 3.Qxc5/Se6#
1...b4+ 2.Qxb4+ Sxb4 3.e3#

261 – Dieter Kutzborski

1st Prize Deutsche Schachblätter 1971



#3

(9+8) C+

1.Ka3! [2.Sg2+ Q/Bxg2 3.Se6/Se2#]

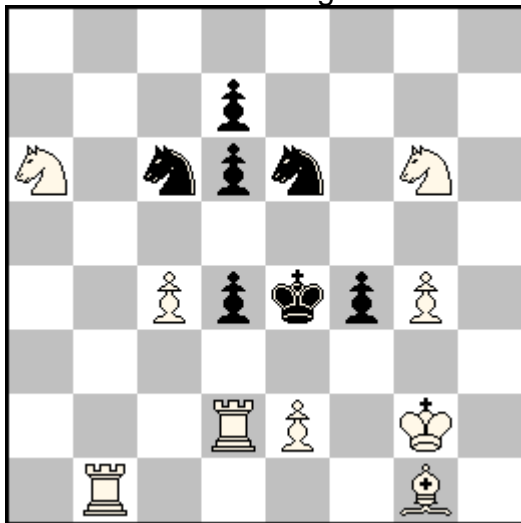
1...Qc4 2.Se2+ Q/Bxe2 3.Bd3/Sg2#

1...Bc4 2.Se6+ Q/Bxe6 3.Sg2/Bd5#

1...Qa8+ 2.Bxa8

262 – Claude Goumondy

5th Commendation diagrammes 1984



#3

b)Rb1→h4

(9+7) C+

a) **1.Rf1!**zz

1...d5 a 2.Sc5+ A Sxc5 3.Rxf4#

1...Sc~ b 2.Rxd4+ B Sxd4 3.Rxf4#

b) **1.Rh5!**zz

1...d5 a 2.Rxd4+ B Se/Scxd4 3.Sc5/Re5#

1...Sc~ b 2.Sc5+ A S/d6xc5 3.Rxd4/Re5#

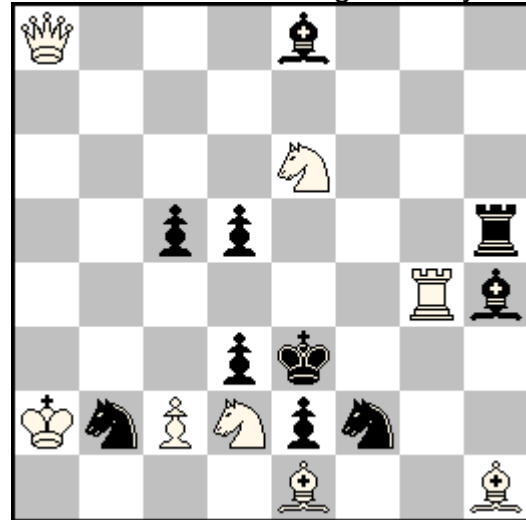
1...Se~ 2.Re5+ d6/Sxe5 3.Sc5/Rxd4#

1...Sg5! 2.Rxg5

263 – Claude Goumondy

Al Hamishmar 1983

3rd Prize Israel Ring Tourney



#3

(8+10) C+

1...Sa4 a 2.Sc4+ A dxc4 3.Qf3#

1...Se4 b 2.Rxe4+ B dxe4 3.Qxe4#

1.Qc6? [2.Qxc5+ d4 3.Qxd4#] Bxc6!

1.Qa3! [2.Qxc5+ d4 3.Qxd4#]

1...Sa4 a 2.Re4+ B dxe4/Sxe4 3.Sc4/Qxd3#

1...Se4 b 2.Sc4+ A S/dxc4 3.Qxd3/Rxe4#

1...d4 2.Qxd3+ Sb/Sfxd3 3.Sc4/Re4#

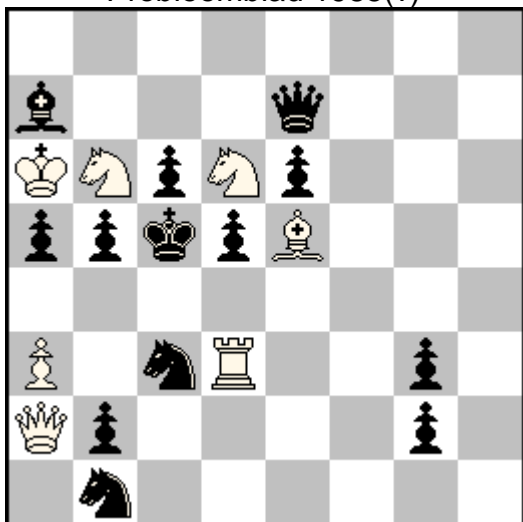
3x2 rotating with 2 new mates

In **261**, the moves Se6 and Se2 cannot occur in succession. Instead, there is a half-battery and shut-off mechanism with 2 new mates Bd5 and Bd3.

3x2 with changed play

262, **263** and **264** show reciprocal change with twins, set/actual and try/actual respectively. The full Jacobs theme is present only in the 2nd phase.

264 – Claude Goumondy
Probleemblad 1985(v)



#3

(7+13) C+

1.Qxb2? [2.R/Qxc3+]
1...d4 **a** 2.Se4+ **A** Sxe4 3.Qxd4#
1...b4 **b** 2.Sa4+ **B** Sxa4 3.Qd4#
1...Se2!

1.Qb3! [2.R/Qxc3+]
1...d4 **a** 2.Sa4+ **B** S/bxa4 3.Se4/Qc4#
1...b4 **b** 2.Se4+ **A** d/Sxe4 3.Qc4/Sa4#
1...Sc~ 2.Qc4+ d/bxc4 3.Se4/Sa4#
1...Sxa3 2.Qxa3+ b4 3.Rxc3#

3x2 rotating with changed play

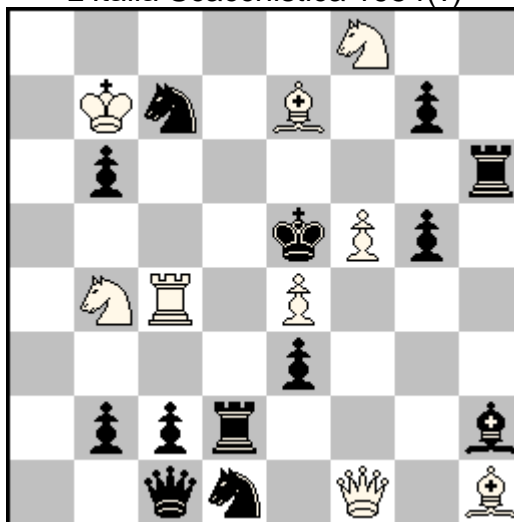
265 is a famous work, with Wurzburg-Plachutta in the set play, a flight giving key, Jacobs theme after the key and the set continuations coming back after new defences, thus also showing the Rukhlis theme.

266 and **267** shows reciprocal change between set and actual, with the Jacobs theme in the post key play.

1...Bxd4 **a** 2.Sc5+ **A** Bxc5 3.Qxd5#
1...Qxd4 **b** 2.Rf6+ **B** Ke5/Qxf6 3.Qf5/Qxd5#

1.Qg3! [2.Sxc7+ B/Qxc7 3.Sc5/Rf6#]
1...Bxd4 **a** 2.Rf6+ **B** B/Qxf6 3.Sc5/Sxc7#
1...Qxd4 **b** 2.Sc5+ **A** B/Qxc5 3.Sxc7/Rf6#

265 – Robin C.O. Matthews
L'Italia Scacchistica 1954(v)



#3

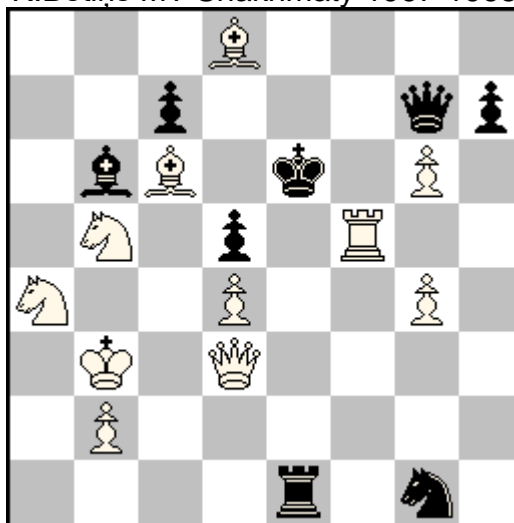
(9+13) C+

1...Rd/Rhd6 2.Sc6/d7+ 3.Sd7/Sc6#

1.Qh3! [2.Qxh2+ Rdxh2/Rhxh2 3.Sd3/Sg6#]
1...Rdd6 2.Sg6+ Rd/Rhxg6 3.Sd3/Qxh2#
1...Rhd6 2.Sd3+ R2/R6xd3 3.Qxh2/Sg6#
1...Se6 2.Sc6+ Kf4 3.Qf3#
1...Sd5 2.Sd7+ Kf4 3.Qf3#
1...Kf4 2.e5+ Kxe5/Rd4 3.Re4/Sd3#
1...Bf4 2.Qxh6 B~ 3.Sg6#

266 – Viktor Melnichenko
& Jurij Gordian

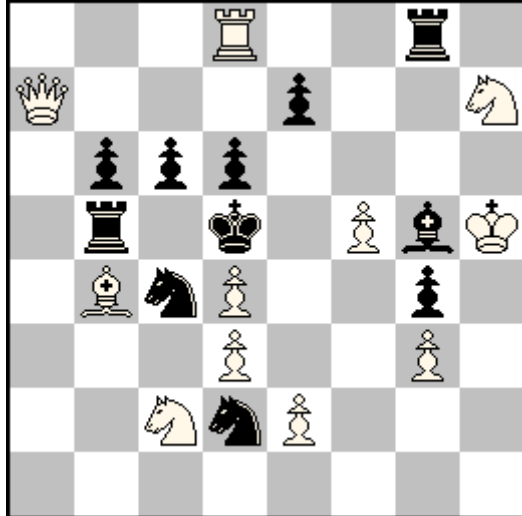
1st Honourable Mention
K.Bētiņš MT Shakhmaty 1967-1968



#3

(11+8) C+

267 – Michael Keller
Prize De Waarheid 1980(v)



#3 (12+11) C+

- 1...Se3 a) 2.Rxd6+ A exd6 3.Qf7#
 1...Be3 b) 2.Sf6+ B exf6 3.Qf7#
1.Qa1! [2.Qh1+ Sf3 3.e4#]
 1...Se3 a) 2.Sf6+ B e/Bxf6 3.Rxd6/Sxe3#
 1...Be3 b) 2.Rxd6+A S/exd6 3.Sxe3/Sf6#
 1...e5 2.Se3+ S/Bxe3 3.Rxd6/Sf6#

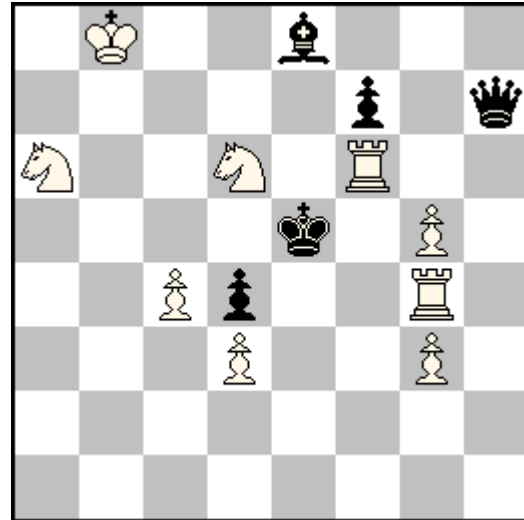
Using twins, **268** shows a total change of both defences and continuations, with only the threat remaining common. There is also an interesting exchange of squares between the defences and continuations across the twins.

3x2 split over 3 phases

In **269**, Sovík shows a new twist. The standard arrangement of 3 B pieces guarding 2 out of 3 squares is present. In each phase, a W piece occupies one of the 3 squares and its capture results in the familiar continuations with checks on the other 2 squares.

- 1.Bxd6? [2.Sd8+ Bxd8 3.Qg8#]
 1...Sxd6 2.Sxd4+ R/Sxd4 3.Qxf6/Rxd6#
 1...Sbxd6 2.Qxf6+ R/Sxf6 3.Sxd4/Rxd6#
 1...Bb6!
 1.Bxf6? [2.Sd8+ Bxd8 3.Qg8#]
 1...Rxf6 2.Rxd6+ Se/Sbxd6 3.Qxf6/Sxd4#
 1...Sxf6 2.Sxd4+ R/Sxd4 3.Qxf6/Rxd6#
 1...dxc4!

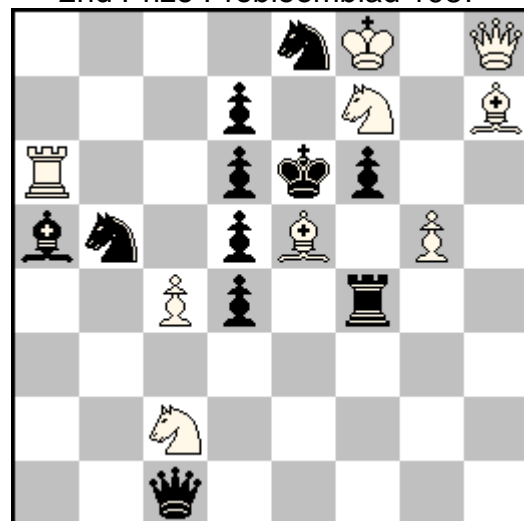
268 – Claude Goumondy
1st Commendation
Thema Danicum 1990



#3 b) wRg4→f3 (9+5) C+

- a) **1.Sc5!** [2.Sxf7+ Qxf7/Bxf7 3.Re4/Sd7#]
 1...Qf5 2.Sd7+ Qxd7/Bxd7 3.Re4/Sxf7#
 1...Bc6 2.Re4+ Qxe4/Bxe4 3.Sxf7/Sd7#
 b) **1.Sb4!** [2.Sxf7+ Qxf7/Bxf7 3.R3f5/Sc6#]
 1...Qe4 2.Sc6+ Qxc6/Bxc6 3.R3f5/Sxf7#
 1...Bd7 2.R3f5+ Qxf5/Bxf5 3.Sxf7/Sc6#

269–Štefan Sovík
2nd Prize Probleemblad 1987

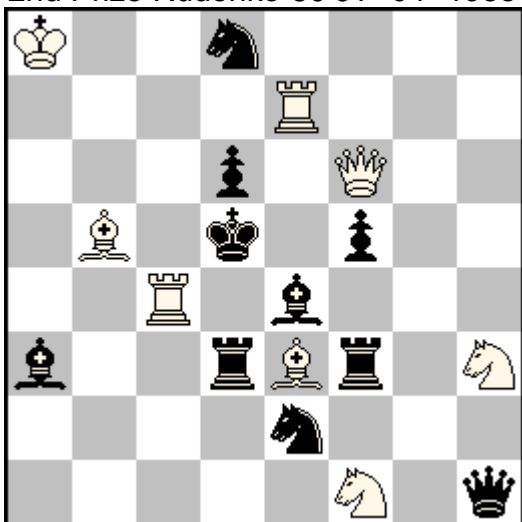


#3 (9+11) C+

- 1.Bxd4!** [2.Sd8+ Bxd8 3.Qg8#]
 1...Rxd4 2.Rxd6+ Se/Sbxd6 3.Qxf6/Sxd4#
 1...Sxd4 2.Qxf6+ R/Sxf6 3.Sxd4/Rxd6#

270 – Štefan Sovík

2nd Prize Rudenko-50 JT "64" 1988



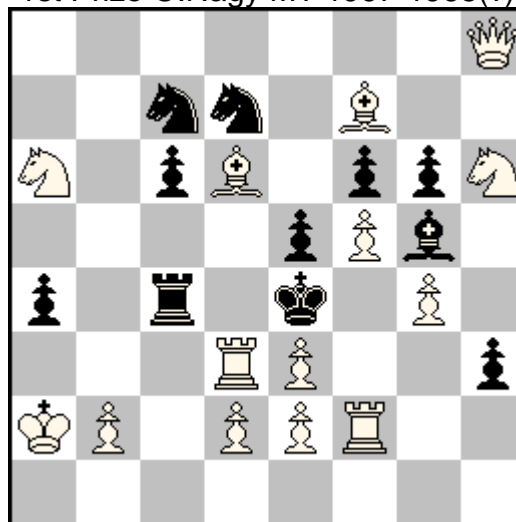
#3

(8+10) C+

- 1...Rfxe3 2.Qd4+ R/Sxd4 3.Sxe3/Sf4#
 1... Rdx3 2.Sf4+ R/Sxf4 3.Sxe3/Qd4#
 1.Bd4? [2.Re5+ dxe5 3.Qxe5#]
 1...Sxd4 2.Se3+ Rd/Rfxe3 3.Qxd4/Sf4#
 1... Rxd4 2. Sf4+ S/Rxf4 3.Qxd4/Se3#
 1...Qh2!
1.Bf4! [2.Re5+ dxe5 3.Qxe5#]
 1...Rxf4 2.Qd4+ R/Sxd4 3.Se3/Sxf4#
 1...Sxf4 2.Se3+ Rd/Rfxe3 3.Qd4/Sxf4#

271 – György Bakcsi

1st Prize O.Nagy MT 1967-1968(v)



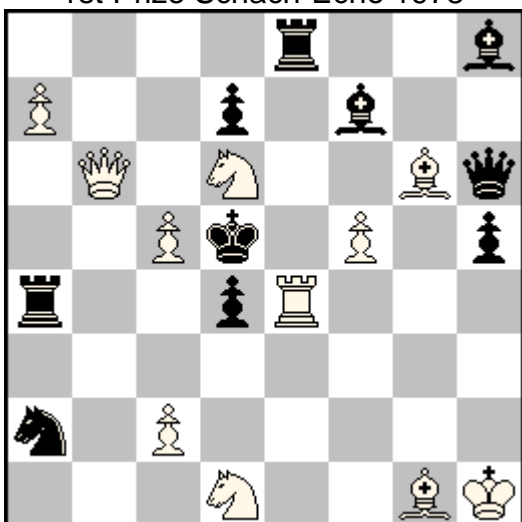
#4

(14+11) C+

- 1.Sg8!** [2.Qxh3 [3.Qf3,Qh1,Qg2#]]
 1...Bh4 2.Sxf6+ Sxf6 3.Rd4+ e5xd4/Rxd4
 4.Rf4/Sc5# (2...Bxf6 3.Qxh3)
 1...Rb4 2.Rd4+ exd4 3.Sxf6+ Bxf6/Sxf6
 4.Rf4/Sc5# (2...Rxd4 3.Qxh3)
 1...Bh6 2.Rf4+ exf4 3.Sc5+ Sxc5/Rxc5
 4.Sxf6/Rd4# (2...Bxf4 3.Qxh3)
 1...Rc2 2.Sc5+ Sxc5 3.Rf4+ Bxf4/exf4
 4.Sxf6/Rd4# (2...Rxc5 3.Qxh3)

272 – Hartmut Laue

1st Prize Schach-Echo 1978



#4

(11+10) C+

- 1.Bh2!** [2.Qb7+ Kxc5 3.Qb5#]
 1...Rb4 2.c4+ dxc4 3.Bxf7+ (2...Rxc4 3.Qb7+)
 1...Ra5 2.a8Q+ Rxa8 3.Se3+ (Rxa8 3.Qb7+)

270 is similar, except that the W piece already occupies one of the thematic squares in the diagram position and moves to the other 2 in the try and key. 5 more examples are in [Appendix 7](#) (342 - 346).

4x2 with short threat

The arrangement with 4 B pieces guarding 4 squares in a cycle for a #4 cannot work out of the box. It needs some artifice to avoid the duals. In **271**, Bakcsi achieves it with a quiet short threat in 3 moves.

272 is similar, but with a checking short threat, also in 3 moves.

- 1...Re5 2.Bxf7+ Qe6 3.c4+ (2...Re6 3.Qb7+)
 1...Qf4 2.Se3+ dxe3 3.a8Q+ (2...Qxe3 3.Qb7+)

Fairy

A total of 33 problems are shown here, including 6 originals and 1 in the appendix. Fairy definitions are [here](#).

3x2 with fairy effects

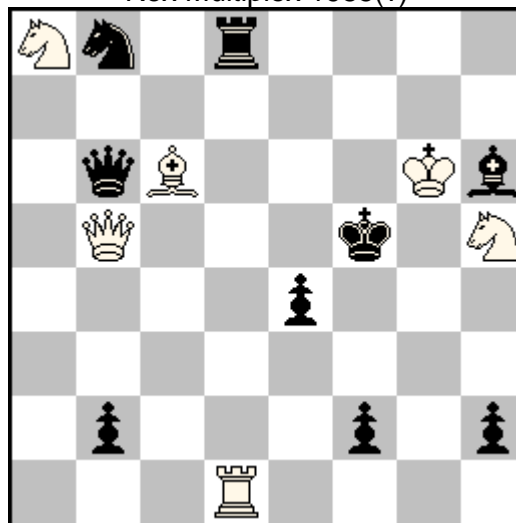
273 uses the Madrasi specific Holst promotion effect to show the Jacobs theme, along with a doubled B AUW. In his recent book on logical fairy chess problems, H-P.Rehm quotes this problem, with the WSf4 already on e6 and an additional WP on c5. This gives the 3rd thematic try 1.Sxd4+ with 1.c6 as the key.

274 is similar, with the thematic tries already present in full.

275 uses Anticirce. The 3 BQs focus the W rebirth squares d1, f1 and h1. Juraj Lörinc has observed that the BQs on d3 and g2 could be replaced by BSe3 and BBg2.

274 – Narayan Shankar Ram

3rd Honourable Mention
Rex Multiplex 1985(v)

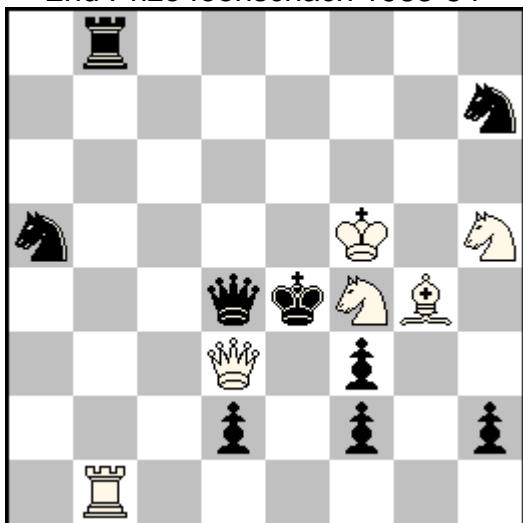


#3 Madrasi Rex Inclusiv (6+9) C+

1.Bb7! [2.Bc8+ Sd7 3.Rd5#]
1...b1=R 2.Sg3+ f1=S/h1=S 3.Sxb6/Bxe4#
1...f1=R 2.Bxe4+ b1=B/h1=B 3.Sxb6/Sg3#
1...h1=R 2.Sxb6+ b1=Q/f1=Q 3.Bxe4/Sg3#
1...Sd7 2.Sxb6+ b1=Q 3.Rd5#

273 – Narayan Shankar Ram

2nd Prize feenschach 1983-84

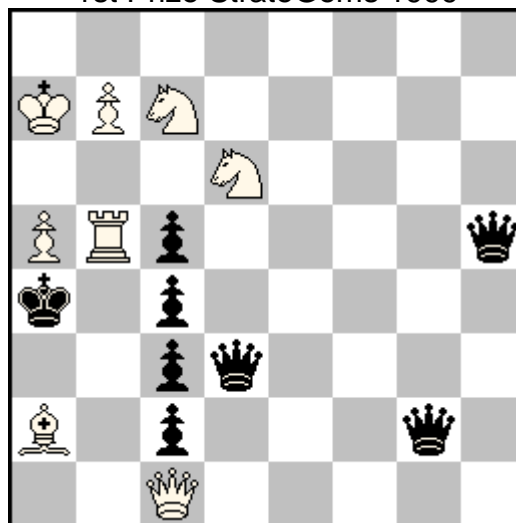


#3 Madrasi Rex Inclusiv (6+9) C+

1.Se6! [2.Sc5+ Sb7/Sb3 3.Rxb7/Rxb3#]
1...d1=R 2.Sg3+ f1=S/h1=S 3.Sxd4/Bxf3#
1...f1=R 2.Bxf3+ d1=B/h1=B 3.Sxd4/Sg3#
1...h1=R 2.Sxd4+ d1=Q/f1=Q 3.Bxf3/Sg3#
1...Sb3/b7 2.Rxb3/b7[3.Sc5#] Sf8/g5 3.Sf6#

275 – Hans-Peter Rehm

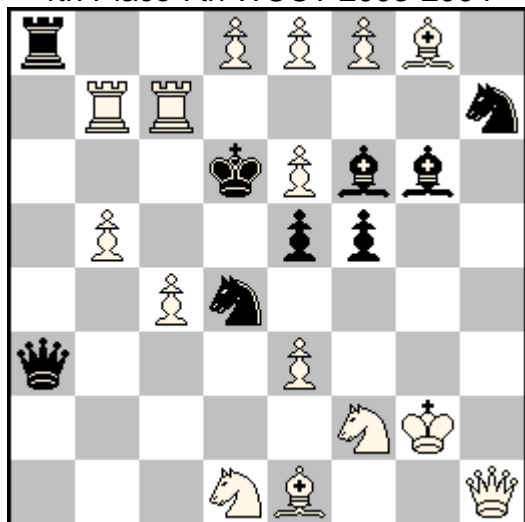
1st Prize StrateGems 1999



#3 Anticirce (8+8) C+

1.Sd5! [2.Sb6#]
1...Qhxd5(Qd8) 2.Bb3+ Qd/Qgf1 3.Qa3/Rb4#
1...Qgxd5(Qd8) 2.Qa3+ Qd/Qhd1 3.Bb3/Rb4#
1...Qxd5(Qd8) 2.Rb4+ Qg/Qhh1 3.Bb3/Qa3#
1...Qh/Qdd1 2.Sb6+ Ka3 3.Rb3#

276 – Valerij Gurov & Georgij Evseev
4th Place 7th WCCT 2003-2004



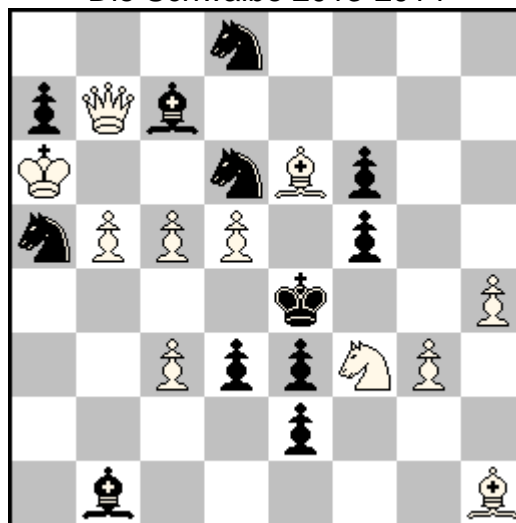
#3 (15+9) C+
Single Box Type 2

- 1.Qf1!** [2.Rd7+ Kc5 3.Rd5#]
1...Sxf8 2.Bb4+ Qxb4(Be8/Bd8) 3.Rc6/Se4#
1...Bxe8 2.Se4+ fxe4(Sf8/Sd8) 3.Rc6/Bb4#
1...Rxd8 2.Rc6+ Sxc6(Rf8/Re8) 3.Se4/Bb4#
1...Sxb5/Qc3 2.Qd3+/c5+

276 is a remarkable use of the single box(type 2) condition. The 3 WPs on the 8th rank can potentially be reborn as WS/WB/WR, to prevent the checks on e4/b4/c6. In the variations, each P is captured, preventing a rebirth on its square. W then forces a rebirth on one of the other 2 squares, leading to a check which cannot be prevented by capture as both of the rebirth squares are now blocked.

277 extends the 3x2 to a #6 by using the Popandopulo battery mechanism combined with Vertical Mirror Circe. The use of Circe removes the need for a 2nd WS for the battery, and also prevents the duals by capture of the BSs on c4/c6/f7(which seem unavoidable in an orthodox setting).

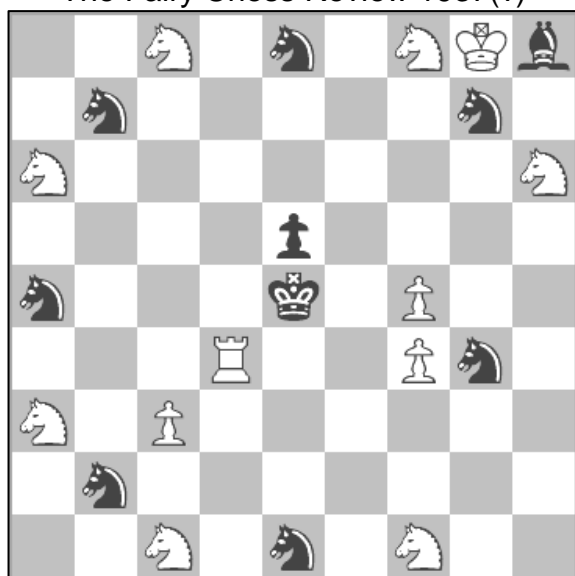
277 - Juraj Lörinc
& Jean-Marc Loustau
2nd Prize H-P.Rehm-70 JT
Die Schwalbe 2013-2014



#6 (11+12) C+
Vertical Mirror Circe

- 1.Bg2!** [2.Se1+ Ke5 3.Sxd3(e7)+
Bxd3(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Se1+ Ke5
6.Sxd3(Bf8)#]
1...S6xb7(Qe1) 2.Sd4+ Ke5 3.Sc6+
3...Sdxc6(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Sg5+
Ke5 6.Sf7#
3...Saxc6(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Sd2+
Ke5 6.Sc4#
1...Saxb7(Qe1) 2.Sg5+ Ke5 3.Sf7+
3...S6xf7(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Sd2+
Ke5 6.Sc4#
3...S8xf7(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Sd4+
Ke5 6.Sc6#
1...S8xb7(Qe1) 2.Sd2+ Ke5 3.Sc4+
3...Saxc4(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Sd4+
Ke5 6.Sc6#
3...Sdxc4(Sg1) 4.Sf3+ Ke4 5.Sg5+
Ke5 6.Sf7#

278 – Walter Jacobs
 “The Two Heptagons”,
 with birthday greetings to T.R.D
 The Fairy Chess Review 1937(v)



#4 9x9 board (12+10) C+

1.Ki8! zz

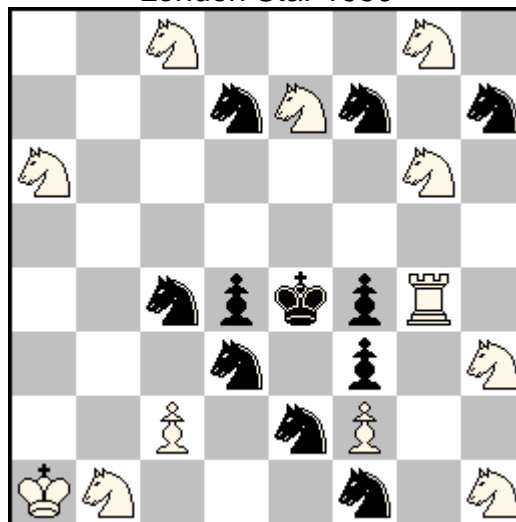
- 1...Sh4~ 2.Sc6+ Sbxc6 3.Sf7+ Sh/Se7 4.Sxg6/Sd7#
- 2...Saxc6 3.Sd3+ Se/Sbxd3 4.Sf3/Sc4#
- 1...Sh8~ 2.Sc4+ Sb2xc4 3.Sf3+ Sh/Se7 4.Sg6/Sd3#
- 2...Sa5xc4 3.Sd7+ Se/Sbxd7 4.Sf7/Sc6#
- 1...Se1~ 2.Sd7+ Se9xd7 3.Sg6+ S4/S8xg6 4.Sf3/Sf7#
- 2...Sb8xd7 3.Sc4+ Sb/Saxc4 4.Sd3/Sc6#
- 1...Se9~ 2.Sd3+ Se1xd3 3.Sg6+ S4/S8xg6 4.Sf3/Sf7#
- 2...Sb2xd3 3.Sc6+ Sb/Saxc6 4.Sd7/Sc4#
- 1...Sb2~ 2.Sf7+ Sh8xf7 3.Sf3+ Sh/Se7 4.Sg6/Sd3#
- 2...Se9xf7 3.Sc6+ Sb/Saxc6 4.Sd7/Sc4#
- 1...Sb8~ 2.Sf3+ Sh4xf3 3.Sf7+ Sh/Se7 4.Sg6/Sd7#
- 2...Se1xf3 3.Sc4+ Sb/Saxc4 4.Sd3/Sxc6#
- 1..Sa5~ 2.Sg6+ Sh4xg6 3.Sd3+ Se/Sbxd3 4.Sf3/Sc4#
- 2...Sh8xg6 3.Sd7+ Se/Sbxd7 4.Sf7/Sc6#

7x2

278 by Jacobs appeared in 1937, almost at the same time as his first orthodox 3 mover. Here, the 3x2 mechanism is extended to a 7x2 on a 9x9 board for a #4. The 7 BSs each guard 2 out of the 7 mating squares in a cycle. The published version has the WK on i8, which led to a cook 1.Kh7!

A setting on a normal board was obviously possible and Jacobs showed it in **279**.

279 – Walter Jacobs
 London Star 1950

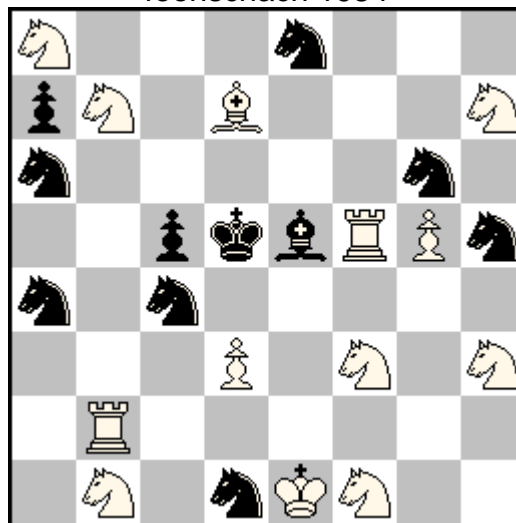


#4 (12+11) C+

1.Rh4! zz

- 1...c4/d3/d7/e2/f1/f7/h7~
- 2.Sc5/Sd6/Sd2/Sg5/Sf6/Rxh4/Sg3+

280 – Narayan Shankar Ram
 feenschach 1984



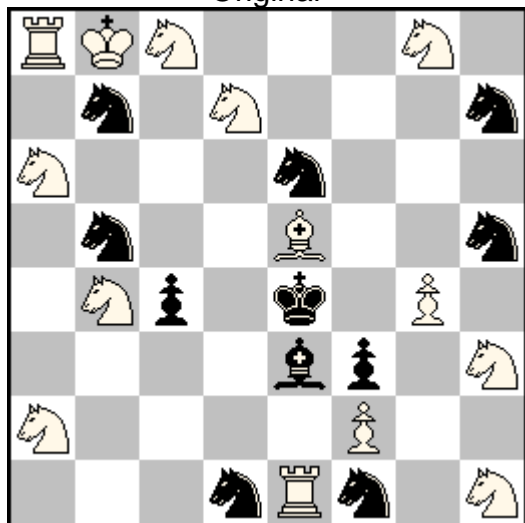
#4 (13+11) C+

1.Rb5! zz

- 1...a4/a6/c4/d1/e8/g6/h5~
- 2.Sf4/Rxe5/Sc7/Sf6/Se3/Rxc5/Sc3+

280 is one more "aspect", which appeared in the *feenschach* article.

281 – Jacques Rotenberg
(after Jacobs & Shankar Ram)
Original



#4 (14+11) C+

1.Ra7! [2.Rxb7 [3.Rxb5 [4.Sd6#]]]
1...Sdc3/Sfg3/Sbd4/Sh5~/Sed4/Sb7~/Sh7~
2.Sg5/Sac5/Sgf6/Sd6/Rxe3/Sg3/Sc3+

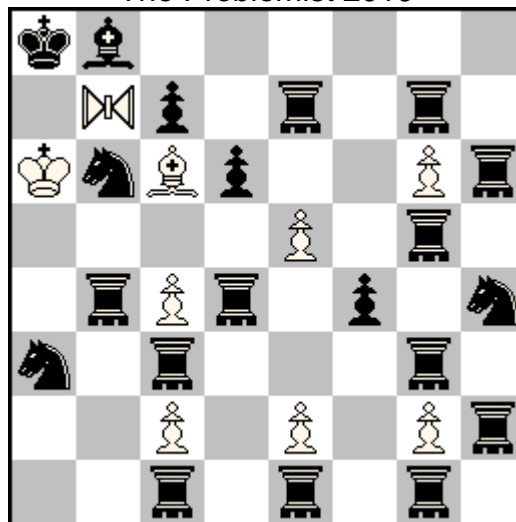
281 shows the 7x2 without any duals, due to the separate threat.

15x2 and higher

In general, the mx2 mechanism is possible for all $m = 3, 7, 15, 31, 63, \dots, 2^x - 1$, $x > 1$, for $\#x+1$. That is, 3, 7, 15, 31, 63... B pieces each guarding 2 out of 3, 7, 15, 31, 63... squares, cyclically, for #3, 4, 5, 6, 7...

282 to **285** show the 15x2 within the confines of the 8x8 board, using a combination of Diagram Circe, Wazirs and a new piece, "Equileaper" - which moves to all squares like a (non-stop) Equihopper, but without needing any hurdles.

282 – Narayan Shankar Ram
The Problemist 2019



#5 (9+20) C+
Black must capture, Diagram Circe
♙ = wazir, ♚ = equileaper

1.e2-e4? f4xe3 e.p.(e2)!, d6xe5!
1.e2-e3? f4xe3(e2)!
1.e5xd6? c7xd6(e5)!
1.c4-c5? d6xe5!, d6xc5(c4)!
1.EL~+? W/SxEL!

1.e6! zz

1...Whxg2 2.ELd5+ Wxd5(ELb7) 3.Eb1+
Wxb1(ELb7) 4.ELf1+ Wgxf1(ELb7) 5.ELh1#
4...Wexf1(ELb7) 5.ELd1#
3...Sxb1(ELb7) 4.ELb3+
Wcxb3(ELb7) 5.ELd3#, 4...Wbxb3(ELb7)
5.ELb5#

2...Sxd5(ELb7) 3.ELh5+ Whxh5(ELb7)
4.ELf7+ Wgxf7(ELb7) 5.ELh7#
4...Wexf7(ELb7) 5.ELd7#
3...Wgxh5(ELb7) 4.ELf3+
Sxf3(ELb7) 5.ELf5#, 4...Wxf3(ELb7)
5.ELh3#

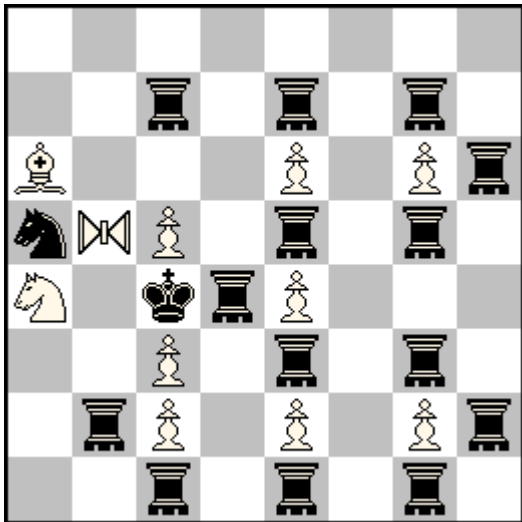
1...Sxg6/Whxg6/W1xg2/W3xg2/W5xg6
2.ELb3+/b1+/d7+/d3+/b5+

1...W7xg6/Wxe2/Wxe6(e5)/Wdxc4/W1xc2
2.ELd1+/f7+/f1+/h3+/h7+

1...W3xc2/Wbxc4/Sbxc4/Saxc4
2.ELf3+/f5+/h1+/h5+

283 – Narayan Shankar Ram

Julia's Fairies 2019



#5

(11+16) C+

Conditions and pieces same as 282

1.EL~+? W/SxEL!

1.c6! zz

1...Whxg2/Whxg6/W1xg2/W3xg2/W5xg6

2.ELf7+/f1+/h7+/d7+/d1+

1...W7xg6/W1xe2/W3xe2/W5xe4/W7xe6

2.ELh1+/h5+/b7+/b1+/h3+

1...Wdxe4/W1xc2/Wxc6(c5)/Wbxc2/Sxc6(c5)

2.ELb3+/f5+/f3+/d5+/d3+

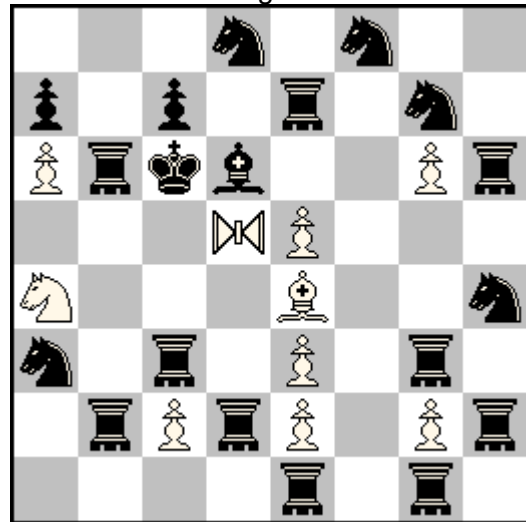
R.C.O.Matthews had mentioned, in his correspondence with me in 1983, as well as in his book, "Mostly Three=Movers", that mechanisms like the 7x2 and higher can be considered in non-chess situations. I quote from his letter of 12.12.1983: "... the logic of the play becomes more remote from chess and can be expressed in entirely non-chess form. Consider the following puzzle. Suppose 7 guards and 7 prisoners are sitting alternately in a ring. If a prisoner tries to escape, one of the guards next to him must follow him. Show that, if a guard leaves his post, it is always possible by two successive escape attempts by different prisoners to leave one prisoner unguarded. This is not analogous to the 7x2 theme, it is *identical* to it!"

1.EL~+? W/SxEL! 1.c5xd6? Bxd6(c5)!

1.c6! zz 1..a5/b2/c1/c7/d2/d6/e3/e5/f2/f6/g1/g7/h2/h4/h6x~ 2.ELh3+/h5+/h7+/h1+/f7+/f1+/f5+/f3+/d5+/d3+/d7+/d1+/b7+/b3+/b1+

284 – Narayan Shankar Ram

Original



#5

(11+16) C+

Conditions and pieces same as 282

1.EL~+? W/SxEL! 1.e5xd6? c7xd6(e5)!

1.e6! zz

1...Whxg2/Sxg2/Wxg6/W1xg2/W3xg2

2.ELb7+/b1+/d3+/f7+/b5+

1...Sgxe6/Sfxe6/Sdxe6/Wxe6(e5)/W1xe2

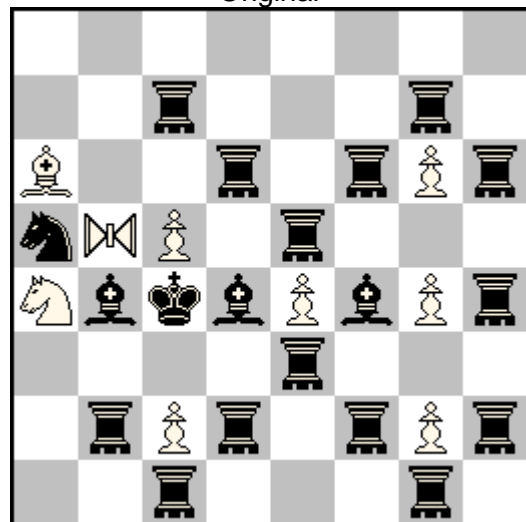
2.ELb3+/d1+/h1+/f1+/d7+

1...Wbxc2/Wcxc2/Wdxc2/Sxc2/Wxa6

2.ELf5+/h5+/h7+/f3+/h3+

285 – Narayan Shankar Ram

Original

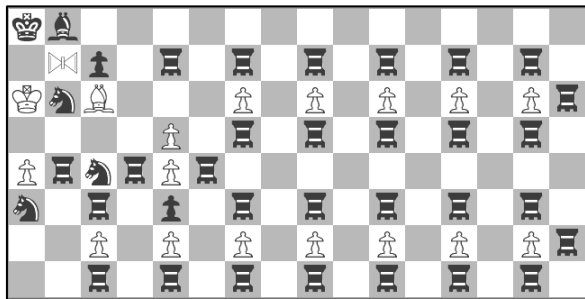


#5

(9+19) C+

Conditions and pieces same as 282

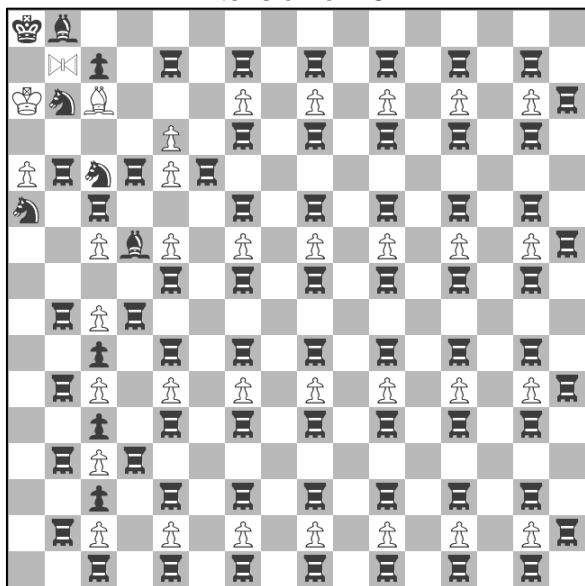
282a – Narayan Shankar Ram
Extension of 282



#6 Conditions & pieces same as 282 (18+36)

1.e6! zz

282b – Narayan Shankar Ram
Extension of 282



#7 Conditions & pieces same as 282 (34+71)

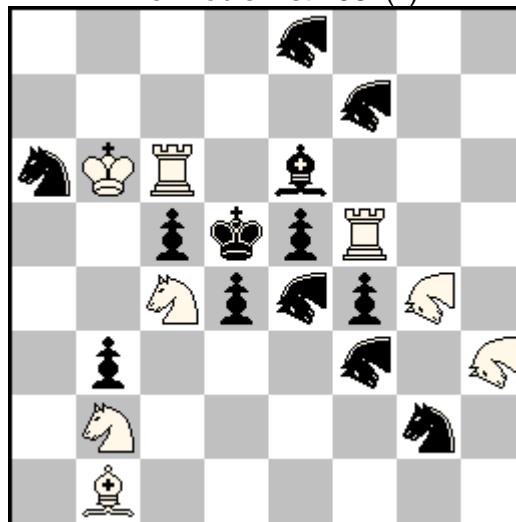
1.e14! zz

Further extension to 31x2, 63x2... using the same matrix is possible by increasing the board size and adding more pieces. 282 is extended to a 31x2 (#6) in 282a, and to a 63x2 (#7) in 282b. 347 in [Appendix 8](#) shows another simpler, generalised version.

4x3

In addition to the mx2 extension, a different extension is of the form mxm-1, m>2, for #m.

286 – Walter W. Jacobs
The Problemist 1981(v)



#4 (8+13) C+

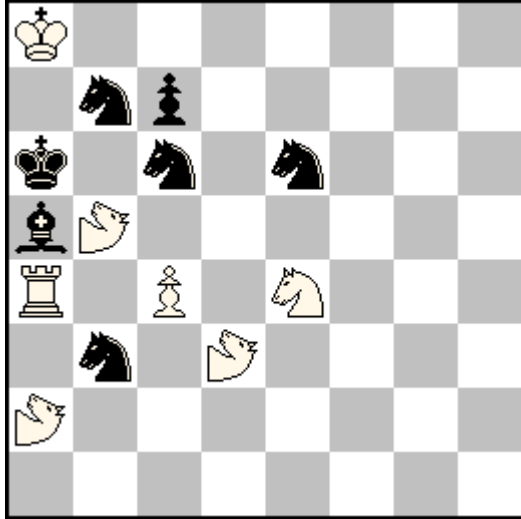
♞♞ = "diamonds" [♞] + (0,3) leaper

- 1.Bd3![2.Se3+ ~ 3.Dhxe3+ fxe3 4.Bc4#]
 1...Dfd2 2.Rd6+ Dfxd6 3.Df6+ D4/D8xf6
 4.Dg5/Rxe5#
 2...D4xd6 3.Rxe5+ Df/Dexe5 4.Dg5/Df6#
 2...D8xd6 3.Dg5+ Df/Dexg5 4.Rxe5/Df6#
 1...Dfc7 2.Df6+ Dfxf6 3.Rd6+ D4/D8xd6
 4.Dg5/Rxe5#
 2...D4xf6 3.Rxe5+ Df/Dexe5 4.Dg5/Rd6#
 2...D8xf6 3.Dg5+ Df/Dexg5 4.Rxe5/Rd6#
 1...Db4 2.Rxe5+ D3xe5 3.Rd6+ Df/Dexd6
 4.Dg5/Df6#
 2...D7xe5 3.Df6+ Df/Dexf6 4.Dg5/Rd6#
 2...Dexe5 3.Dg5+ D3/D7xg5 4.Df6/Rd6#
 1...Dec7 2.Dg5+ D3xg5 3.Rd6+ Df/Dexd6
 4.Rxe5/Df6#
 2...D7xg5 3.Df6+ Df/Dexf6 4.Rxe5#/Rd6#
 2...Dexg5 3.Rxe5+ D3/D7xe5 4.Df6/Rd6#

That is, 3,4,5,6... B pieces each guarding 2,3,4,5... squares, out of 3,4,5,6... squares, cyclically, for #3,4,5,6..., giving 6,24,120,720... = m! total variations.

286 by Jacobs appeared in 1981 - the first example of a 4x3. Again, he was dogged by the jinx that affected his other pioneering versions. The original version appeared without Bp5 and WSb2 and had no solution after 1...Sc5! Jacobs passed away in 1982, and no correction seems to have been made to this problem, till now.

287 – Narayan Shankar Ram
feenschach 1984



#4 (7+7) C+

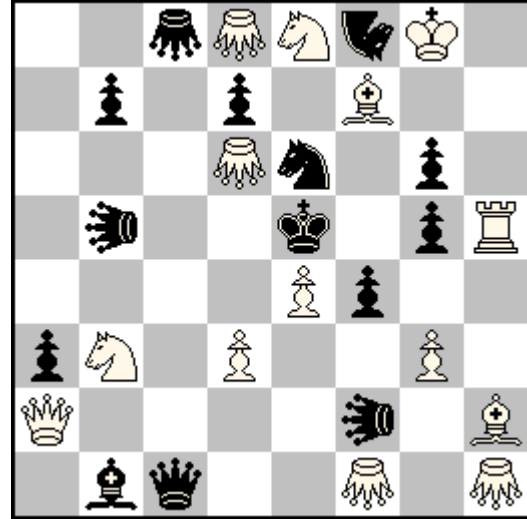
♞ = zebra

1.Ra3! ZZ

- 1...S7~ 2.Zd4+ Sexd4 3.Rxa5+ Sc/Sbxa5
4.Zd8/Sc5#
2...Scxd4 3.Sxc5+ Se/Sbxc5 4.Zd8/Rxa5#
2...Sbxd4 3.Zd8+ Se/Scxd8 4.Sc5/Rxa5#
1...Se~ 2.Rxa5+ Scxa5 3.Sc5+ S3/S7xc5
4.Zd4/Zxd8#
2...S3xa5 3.Zxd8+ Sc/Sbxd8 4.Zd4/Sc5#
2...S7xa5 3.Zd4+ Sc/Sbxd4 4.Zd8/Sc5#
1...Sc~ 2.Sc5+ Sexc5 3.Rxa5+ S3/S7xa5
4.Zd4/Zd8#
2...S3xc5 3.Zd8+ Se/Sbxd8 4.Zd4/Rxa5#
2...S7xc5 3.Zxd4+ Se/Sbxd4 4.Zd8/Rxa5#
1...S3~ 2.Zd8+ Sexd8 3.Rxa5+ Sc/Sbxa5
4.Zd4/Sc5#
2...Scxd8 3.Sc5+ Se/Sbxc5 4.Zd4/Rxa5#
2...Sbxd8 3.Zxd4+ Se/Scxd4 4.Sc5/Rxa5#

287 from the *feenschach* article, uses 4 BSs as the thematic B pieces and W Zebras to provide 2 of the mates, in a zz position.

288 – Ľudovít Lačný
PAT A MAT 1999



#4 (14+14) C+

♞♞ = grasshopper

♞ = nightrider

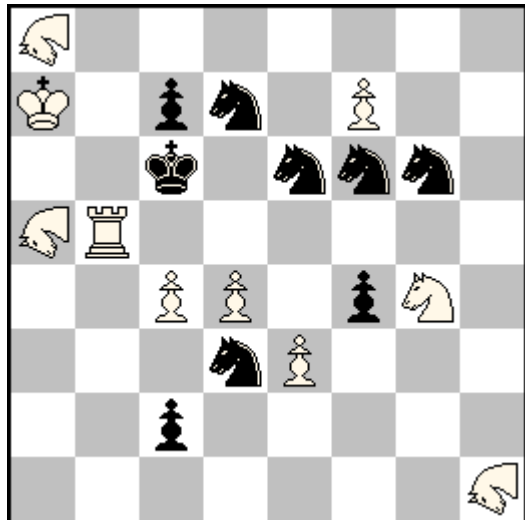
♞♞ = ♞+♞

1.Qa1!

- 1...Sd4 2.Ge1+ QGxe1 3.Gb8+ Qc7/QGxb8
4.gxf4/Rxg5#
2...Qxe1 3.Rxg5+ QGf/QGbf5 4.gxf4/Gb8#
2...QGbe2 3.gxf4+ QG/Qxf4 4.Rxg5/Gb8#
1...QGfb2 2.Gb8+ Sc7 3.Ge1+ Qxe1/QG5e2
4.gxf4/Rxg5#
2...Qc7 3.Rxg5+ Sxg5/QGf5 4.gxf4/Ge1#
2...QGxb8 3.gxf4+ S/Qxf4 4.Rxg5/Ge1#
1...Qb2 2.Rxg5+ QGff5 3.Gb8+ Sc7/QGxb8
4.gxf4/Ge1#
2...Sxg5 3.Ge1+ QGxe1 4.gxf4/Gb8#
2...QGbf5 3.gxf4+ QG2/Sxf4 4.Ge1/Gb8#
1...QGbb2 2.gxf4+ QGxf4 3.Gb8+ Sc7/Qc7
4.Rxg5/Ge1#
2...Sxf4 3.Ge1+ QG/Qxe1 4.Rxg5/Gb8#
2...Qxf4 3.Rxg5+ QGf5/Sxg5 4.Ge1/Gb8#

In 1999, an article by Ľudovít Lačný appeared in *PAT A MAT*. Lačný had independently discovered the Jacobs theme, including its extensibility (of the mxm-1 type). 288 appeared in this article. It showed the 4x3 with a checking key and used Nightriders, Grasshoppers and a combined Q+Grasshopper.

289 – Reto Aschwanden
 dedicated to Ľudovít Lačný
 Honourable Mention PAT A MAT 2002



#4

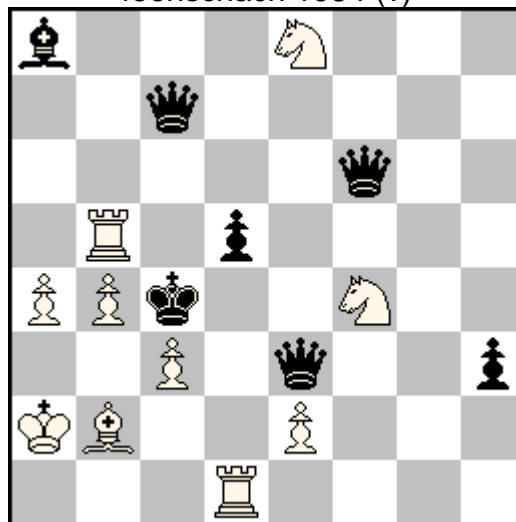
(10+9) C+

♘ = zebra

- 1.e4!** [2.d5+ Sxd5 3.exd5#]
 1...Se7 2.Rc5+ Sexc5 3.Se5+ S3xe5/S7xe5
 4.Zxf4/f8=Z#
 2...S3xc5 3.f8=Z+ Sexf8/Sdxf8 4.Zxf4/Se5#
 2...S7xc5 3.Zxf4+ Sexf4/Sdxf4 4.f8=Z/Se5#
 1...Sxd4 2.Se5+ Sgxe5 3.Rc5+ S3xc5/S7xc5
 4.Zxf4/f8=Z#
 2...S3xe5 3.f8=Z+ Sgxf8/Sdxf8 4.Zxf4/Rc5#
 2...S7xe5 3.Zxf4+ Sgxf4/Sdxf4 4.f8=Z/Rc5#
 1...Sb4 2.f8=Z+ Sgxf8 3.Rc5+ Sexc5/Sdxc5
 4.Zxf4/Se5#
 2...Sexf8 3.Se5+ Sgxe5/Sdxe5 4.Zxf4/Rc5#
 2...Sdxf8 3.Zxf4+ Sgxf4/Sexf4 4.Se5/Rc5#
 1...Sb6 2.Zxf4+ Sgxf4 3.Rc5+ Sexc5/Sdxc5
 4.f8=Z/Se5#
 2...Sexf4 3.Se5+ Sgxe5/Sdxe5 4.f8=Z/Rc5#
 2...Sdxf4 3.f8=Z+ Sgxf8/Sexf8 4.Se5/Rc5#

Possibly inspired by Lačný's example, **289** by Reto Aschwanden appeared in 2002. It uses the same matrix as **287**, but with a separate threat.

290 – Narayan Shankar Ram
 feenschach 1984 (v)



#4

Black Kamikaze (10+7) C+

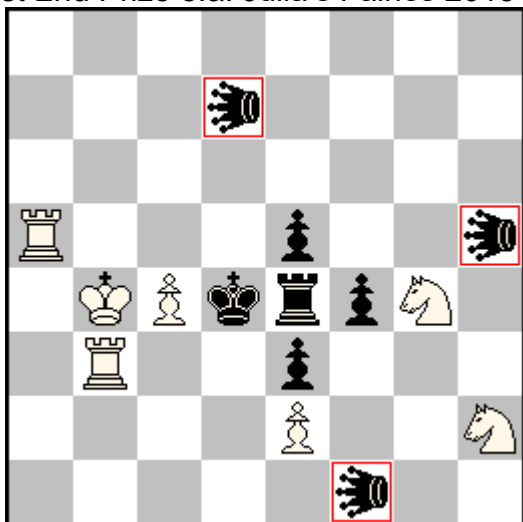
- 1.Sg2/Sxd5/Sxf6/Sxc7? hxg2/Bxd5/Qea7/Bc6!
1.Sg6! [2.Se5+ Qfxe5 3.Rc5+ Qe/Qcxc5 4.Rd4/Sd6#
 2...Qexe5 3.Sd6+ Qf/Qcxd6 4.Rd4/Rc5#
 2...Qcxe5 3.Rd4+ Qf/Qexd4 4.Sd6/Rc5#]
 1...Qfb6 2.Rc5+ Qbxc5 3.Se5+ Qe/Qcxe5
 4.Rd4/Sd6#
 2...Qexc5 3.Sd6+ Qb/Qcxd6 4.Rd4/Se5#
 2...Qcxc5 3.Rd4+ Qb/Qexd4 4.Sd6/Se5#
 1...Qeb6 2.Sd6+ Qfxd6 3.Rc5+ Qb/Qcxc5
 4.Rd4/Se5#
 2...Qbxd6 3.Se5+ Qf/Qcxe5 4.Rd4/Rc5#
 2...Qcxd6 3.Rd4+ Qf/Qbxd4 4.Se5/Rc5#
 1...Qcb6 2.Rd4+ Qfxd4 3.Rc5+ Qe/Qbxc5
 4.Se5/Sd6#
 2...Qexd4 3.Sd6+ Qf/Qbxd6 4.Se5/Rc5#
 2...Qbxd4 3.Se5+ Qf/Qexe5 4.Sd6/Rc5#

4x3 rotating

Analogous to the 3x2 rotating category, the 4x3 can also be treated similarly. In **290**, the 3 BQs each guard a different triplet of the 4 squares c5/d4/d6/e5. The 4th triplet(c5/d4/d6) is missing. After the key, the 3 BQs each move to b6 to "rotate" their roles. The original version had BBa8 on h1 and BPh3 on a7, which allowed a dual 1...Qeb6 2.Sd6+, Qfxd6 3.Rxb6(4.Rd4#) Qg7 4.Rc6#.

291 – Narayan Shankar Ram

1st-2nd Prize e.a. Julia's Fairies 2015-II



#4 (7+8) C+

□ = Kamikaze unit

♖ = alfil(2,2) + dabbaba(0,2) rider

1.Sh6! [2.Sf5+ ADdxf5 3.Sf3+ ADf/hxf3 4.Rd3/Rd5#
 2...ADxf5 3.Rd5+ ADd/hxd5 4.Rd3/Sf3#
 2...ADhxf5 3.Rd3+ ADd/fxd3 4.Rd5/Sf3#]
 1...ADhd1 2.Rd3+ AD7xd3 3.Sf3+ ADd/ADxf3
 4.Rd5/Sf5#
 2...ADd1xd3 3.Sf5+ ADd/fxf5 4.Rd5/Sf3#
 2...ADfxd3 3.Rd5+ AD1/7xd5 4.Sf3/Sf5#
 1...ADfd1 2.Rd5+ AD1xd5 3.Sf5+ ADd/hxf5
 4.Rd3/Sf3#
 2...AD7xd5 3.Sf3+ ADd/hxf3 4.Rd3/Sf5#
 2...ADhxd5 3.Rd3+ AD1/7xd3 4.Sf3/Sf5#
 1...ADdd1 2.Sf3+ ADdxf3 3.Sf5+ ADf/hxf5
 4.Rd3/Rd5#
 2...ADfxf3 3.Rd5+ ADd/hxd5 4.Rd3/Sf5#
 2...ADhxf3 3.Rd3+ ADd/fxd3 4.Rd5/Sf5#
 1...ADf/db5 2.Rxb5

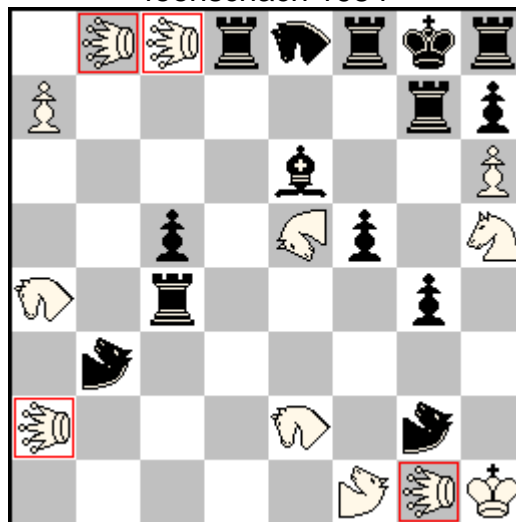
291 shows an angular transformation of the matrix using Alfil+Dabbaba riders instead of Qs.

4x3 rotating with third pins

Analogous to **260** which had 2 half-pin lines, **292** has 3 third-pin lines. The BRg7/BBe6/BRd8 move along their third-pin lines, exchanging their guards of d7 with f6, f3 and c5.

292 – Narayan Shankar Ram

feenschach 1984



#4 (12+14) C+

□ = Immobile unit

♖♗ = (1,5) leaper, ♘ = lion

♙ = camel = (1,3) leaper

♚♛ = antelope = (3,4) leaper

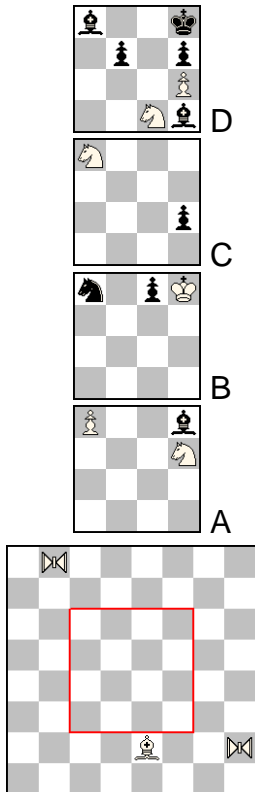
1.a8=CA! [2.CAd7+ Rgxd7 3.Sf6+ R/ANxf6
 4.(1,5)f3/ANxc5#
 2...Bxd7 3.(1,5)f3+ g/(1,5)xf3 4.ANxc5/Sf6#
 2...Rdxd7 3.ANxc5+ AN/Rxc5 4.(1,5)f3/Sf6#]
 1...Rg6 2.Sf6+ Rgxf6 3.CAd7+ B/Rxd7
 4.ANxc5/(1,5)f3#
 2...Rxf6 3.ANxc5+ AN/Rxc5 4.(1,5)f3/CAd7#
 2...ANxf6 3.(1,5)f3+ g/(1,5)xf3 4.ANxc5/CAd7#
 1...Bd5 2.(1,5)f3+ gxf3 3.Sf6+ R/ANxf6
 4.CAd7/ANxc5#
 2..Bxf3 3.CAd7+ Rg/Rdxd7 4.ANxc5/Sf6#
 2..(1,5)xf3 3.ANxc5+ AN/Rxc5 4.CAd7/Sf6#
 1...Rxc8 2.ANxc5+ ANxc5 3.Sf6+ R/ANxf6
 4.(1,5)f3/CAd7#
 2...R8xc5 3.CAd7+ R/Bxd7 4.(1,5)f3/Sf6#
 2...R4xc5 3.(1,5)f3+ g/(1,5)xf3 4.CAd7/Sf6#

4x3 rotating on a 3D board

An ascent to the third dimension! **293** uses a "stereo board" - which is a normal 8x8 board with an additional 4x4x4 cube on top of the squares bounded by c3/c6/f3/f6. Ps start out from their usual positions on the 8x8 board, and can use the additional space of the 4x4x4 cube. See rules here: [Link](#).

293 – Narayan Shankar Ram

Prize feenschach 1986



#4
(9+9)
Stereo Board
♞ = equihopper

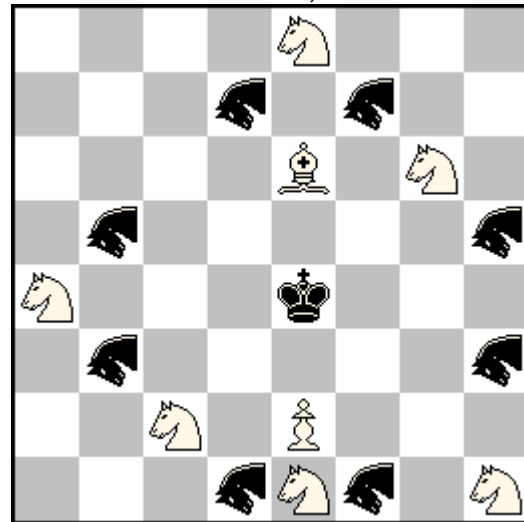
1.Eh2-b2! [2.Eb8-d4B+ Bcc3A 3.Sxf4C+ B3/B6xf4C
4.Sxd5D/Sxe6B#
2...B3c3A 3.Sxe6B+ Bc/Bfxe6B 4.Sxd5D/Sxf4C#
2...BAc3A 3.Sxd5D+ Bc/Bfxd5D 4.Sxe6B/Sxf4C#]
1...Bd6C 2.Sxf4C+ Bdx4C 3.Ed4B+ B3/B6c3A
4.Sxd5D/Se6B#
2...B3xf4C 3.Sxe6B+ Bd/Bfxe6B 4.Sxd5D/Ed4B#
2...BAxf4C 3. Sxd5D+ Bd/Bfxd5D
4.Sxe6B/Ed4B#
1...Be4D 2.Sxe6B+ Bexe6B 3.Ed4B+ Bc/Bfc3A
4.Sxd5D/Sxf4C#
2...Bcxe6B 3.Sxf4C+ Be/Bfx4C 4.Sxd5D/Ed4B#
2...Bfxe6B 3.Sxd5D+ Bc/Bexd5D 3.Ed4B/Sxf4C#
1...Bf5B 2.Sxd5D+ B5xd5D 3.Ed4+ Bc/Bfc3A
4.Sxe6B/Sxf4C#
2...B6xd5D 3.Sxf4C+ B5/B3xf4C 4.Sxe6B/Ed4B#
2...B3xd5D 3.Sxe6B+ Bc/Bfxe6B 4.Ed4B/Sxf4C#

The 3 BBs each guard a different pair of the 3 WS mates. Each also commonly prevents the mate by the Equihopper by interposing on c3A. In the variations, each BB exchanges its guard of c3A with the missing WS mating square it was not earlier guarding.

294 – Narayan Shankar Ram

Special Honourable Mention

Julia's Fairies, 2016-II



#4 (8+9) C+

♞ = ♞+(3,4) leaper
b) ♞ = ♞+(0,5) leaper
c) ♞ = (0,1)+(2,3)+(1,4) leaper
d) ♞ = (0,1)+(1,4)+(2,5) leaper
e) ♞ = (2,3)+(1,4)+(2,5) leaper
f) ♞ = (0,1)+(2,3)+(2,5) leaper

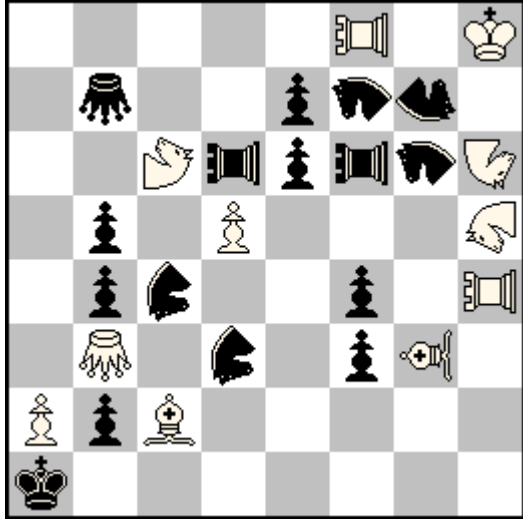
a) to f): **1.Sf3!** zz

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1...b3~	2.Sg3+(A)	2.Sf6+(B)	2.Sg5+(E)	2.Sd6+(H)	2.Sc3+(G)	2.Sf2+(F)
1...f1~	2.Sf6+(B)	2.Sc5+(C)	2.Sd6+(H)	2.Sc3+(G)	2.Sf2+(F)	2.Sg5+(E)
1...h5~	2.Sc5+(C)	2.Sd2+(D)	2.Sc3+(G)	2.Sf2+(F)	2.Sg5+(E)	2.Sd6+(H)
1...d7~	2.Sd2+(D)	2.Sg3+(A)	2.Sf2+(F)	2.Sg5+(E)	2.Sd6+(H)	2.Sc3+(G)
1...b5~	2.Sg5+(E)	2.Sf2+(F)	2.Sg3+(A)	2.Sd2+(D)	2.Sc5+(C)	2.Sf6+(B)
1...f7~	2.Sf2+(F)	2.Sc3+(G)	2.Sd2+(D)	2.Sc5+(C)	2.Sf6+(B)	2.Sg3+(A)
1...h3~	2.Sc3+(G)	2.Sd6+(H)	2.Sc5+(C)	2.Sf6+(B)	2.Sg3+(A)	2.Sd2+(D)
1...d1~	2.Sd6+(H)	2.Sg5+(E)	2.Sf6+(B)	2.Sg3+(A)	2.Sd2+(D)	2.Sc5+(C)

4x3 doubled and with changed play

294 started out as a matrix to double the 4x3 (analogous to **245** doubling the 3x2). I then noticed that a doubled Lačný cycle would be possible by changing the nature of the 8 B leapers! I had to take it to its logical conclusion over 6 phases - showing a 2x4 Lačný theme doubled (twins a/b) plus a 4x4 Lačný theme doubled (twins c/d/e/f). All this more or less buried the original achievement of a doubled 4x3 Jacobs!

295 – Ľudovít Lačný
PAT A MAT 1999



#5 (11+16) C+

- ♞ = (0,6)+(2,4)+(3,3) leaper
- ♞ = (2,3)+(1,4)+(3,4)+(0,6) leaper
- ♞ = (0,1)+(2,3) leaper, ♞♞ = pao
- ♞ = nightrider hopper, ♞ = rose
- ♞ = bishopper+bishop kangaroo
- ♞ = nightrider, ♞♞ = grasshopper

1.Bb1+!

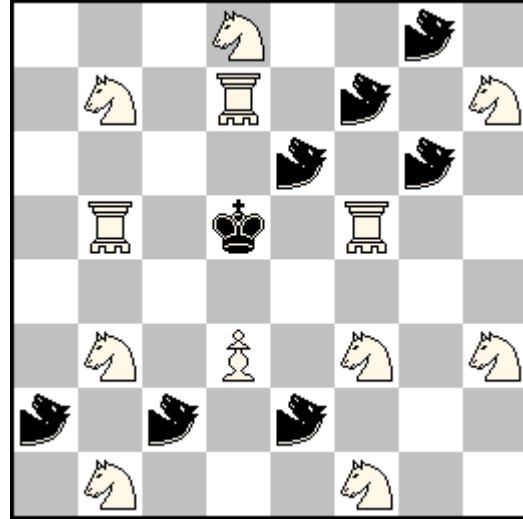
- 1...g6-d4 2.h4-h1+ g7-g1/f7-f1/d3-g1/c4-e1
- 3.g3-e5+/f8-a8+/h5-d7+/h6-g4+
- 1...g7-d4 2.g3-e5+ g6-c3/f7-c3/d3-c3/c4-c3
- 3.h4-h1+/f8-a8+/h5-d7+/h6-g4+
- 1...f7-d4 2.f8-a8+ g6-a6/g7-a7/d3-a5/c4-a7
- 3.h4-h1+/g3-e5+/h5-d7+/h6-g4+
- 1...d3-d4 2.h5-d7+ g6-c5/g7-c5/f7-c5/c4-c5
- 3.h4-h1+/g3-e5+/f8-a8+/h6-g4+
- 1...c4-d4 2.h6-g4+ g6-e3/g7-e3/f7-e3/d3-e3
- 3.h4-h1+/g3-e5+/f8-a8+/h5-d7+

5x4 and higher

295 from the Lačný article uses 9 types of fairy pieces and a checking key to show a 5x4 cycle.

In **296**, Georgij Evseev used only 2 types of fairy pieces to show a 7x6 cycle. He does better in **297** to show a 8x7 cycle, with only 3. Both **296** and **297** are C+ by WinChloe after long hours of testing. Full solutions not shown here.

296 – Georgij Evseev
Julia's Fairies 2017

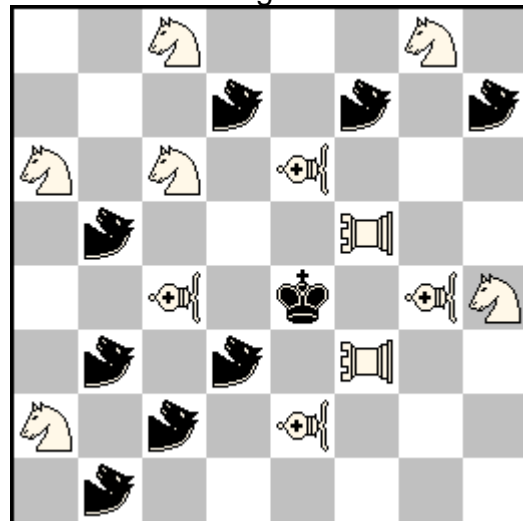


#7 (12+8) C+

- ♞ = (0,1)+(1,2)+(2,3)+(1,4)+(3,4)+(2,5) leaper
- ♞ = wazir

1.Sbd4! zz, with checks/mates on: c3, c5, d6, e3, e5, f4 & f6

297 – Georgij Evseev
Original



#8 (12+9) C+

- ♞ = (0,1)+(1,2)+(2,3)+(1,4)+(3,4)+(2,5) leaper
- ♞ = wazir, ♞ = dabbaba

1.Sg2! zz, with checks/mates on: c3, c5, d4, d6, e3, e5, f4 & f6

298 – Ľudovít Lačný
PAT A MAT 1999



#9 (16+27) C-

♖=Wazir; ♗=Fers; ♘=Alfil; ♙=Nao; ♚=Vao;
♜=Pao; ♞=Rose; ♟=Wazir+Nightrider Hopper;
♠=♘+ Camelrider
♡=Dabbaba+(3,7) Leaper; ♢=(0,4) Leaper+(0,3)
Rider
♣=Wazir+ Camelrider; ♤=Nightrider+Dabbaba
♥=♘+(2,5) Leaper; ♦=Wazir+(0,3) Rider
♧=Chinese
(0,4)+(1,3)+(2,3)+(2,5)+(3,4)+(4,5)+(4,6) Rider
♨=Chinese (3,5) Rider +
(2,4)+(3,3)+(3,6)+(4,7)+(5,5) Leaper; ♩=Chinese
Dabbaba Rider; ♪=Zèbre+Alfil; ♫=Monster1;
♬=Monster2; ♭=Monster3; ♮=Monster4;
♯=Monster5; ♰=Monster6; ♱=Monster7

1. ♖d3#!, 1. ♗d3#!, 1. ♘h5+!, 1. ♙xb4+!

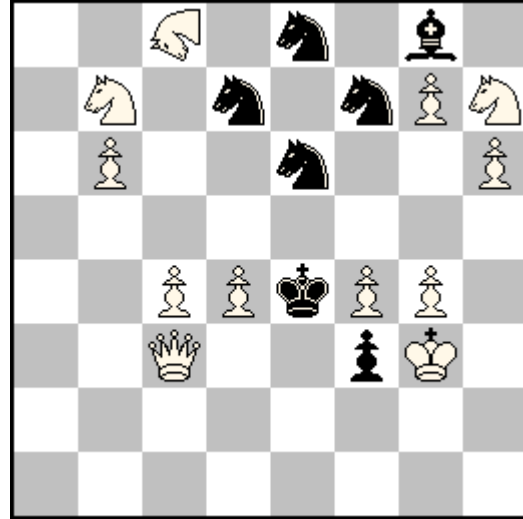
Finally, an incredible, though unsuccessful, attempt by the Slovak master. 298 tries to achieve the 9x8 cycle, on a 8x8 board, using 26 different types of pieces. The author's solution was not available. WinChloe signals two mates in 1 and two checking keys.

347a in [Appendix 8](#) shows a simple "generalised" version of the mxn-1 cycle.

"Super Jacobs"

299 shows a different extension of the basic 3x2 theme. There are 4 BSs each guarding 3 out of the 6 mating squares. Every combination of 2 BSs guards a common mate. And every combination

299 – Narayan Shankar Ram
2nd Commendation feenschach 1988



#3 Kamikaze Chess (12+7) C+

♖= wazir+zebra

1.Sf6+? Se/dxf6! 1.Sg5+? Sf/exg5!
1.WZe5+? Sf/dxe5! 1.WZc7+? Se/exc7!
1.Sc5+? Se/dxc5! 1.Sd6+? Sf/exd6!
1.Kf2? [2.Qe3#] Kxf4!

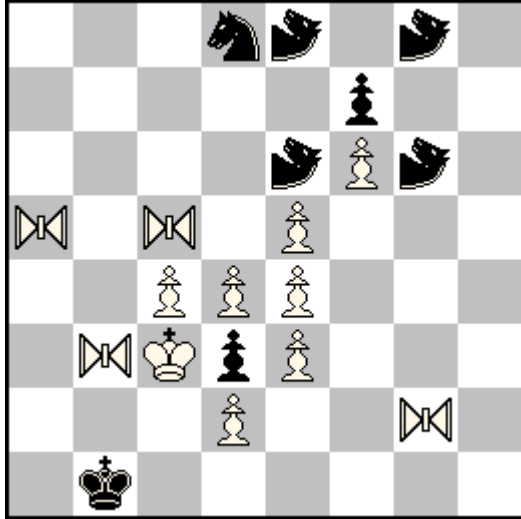
1.Qc3-d2! [2.Kf2 [3.Qe3#]]

1...Sfg5 2.Sf6+ Se/Sdxf6 3.Sd6/WZe5#
1...Sfd6 2.Sc5+ Se/Sdxc5 3.Sg5/WZe5#
1...Sfe5 2.WZc7+ S6/S8xc7 3.Sg5/Sd6#
1...Sec5 2.Sd6+ Sf/Secd6 3.Sg5/WZc7#
1...S6c7 2.WZe5+ Sf/Sdxe5 3.Sg5/Sc5#
1...Seg5 2.Sf6+ Se/d8xf6 3.WZc7/Sc5#
1...Sef6 2.Sg5+ Sf/Seg5 3.Sd6/WZc7#
1...S8c7 2.WZe5+ Sf/Sdxe5 3.Sd6/Sf6#
1...Sed6 2.Sc5+ Se/Sdxc5 3.WZc7/Sf6#
1...Sde5 2.WZc7+ S6/S8xc7 3.Sc5/Sf6#
1...Sdf6 2.Sg5+ Sf/Seg5 3.WZe5/Sc5#
1...Sdc5 2.Sd6+ Sf/Secd6 3.WZe5/Sf6#

of 3 BSs guards a different triplet of 3 W mates. Each BS potentially allows a triple when it moves. But by arriving on one of the 3 squares it guards, it prevents W from capturing it and thus forces a single reply. All this, plus the addition of the Kamikaze condition results in a total of 12 variations. The pattern of W's 1st and 2nd moves is:

A-BC/B-CA/C-AB, A-EF/E-FA/F-AE,
B-DF/D-FB/F-BD & C-DE/D-EC/E-CD.

300 – Narayan Shankar Ram
Julia's Fairies 2019



#3 (12+8) C+

Diagram Circe

♘ = non-stop equihopper

♞ = camel

1.Ef3+? CAg/xf3(Eb3)!, 1.Eh5+? CAg/exh5(Eb3)!,
1.Eh7+? CA6/8xh7(Eb3)!, 1.Ef5+? CAg/xf5(Eb3)!,
1.Ed5+? CAg/xd5(Eb3)!, 1.Ed7+? CA6/8xd7(Eb3)!

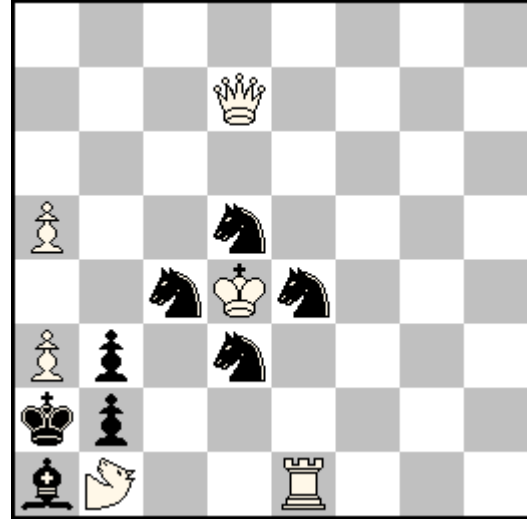
1.Eag3! zz

1...CAg d5 2.Eh5+ CAg/exh5(Eb3) 3.Ed7/Ef3#
1...CA6 d7 2.Eh7+ CA6/8xh7(Eb3) 3.Ef3/Ed5#
1...CAg f3 2.Ef5+ CAg/xf5(Eb3) 3.Ed7/Ed5#
1...CAg h5 2.Ed5+ CAg/xd5(Eb3) 3.Ed7/Ef5#
1...CA8 d7 2.Eh7+ CA6/8xh7(Eb3) 3.Eh5/Ef5#
1...CAg f5 2.Ef3+ CAg/xf3(Eb3) 3.Ed7/Eh5#
1...CAe f3 2.Ef5+ CAg/xf5(Eb3) 3.Eh5/Eh7#
1...CA6 h7 2.Ed7+ CA6/8xd7(Eb3) 3.Ef3/Eh5#
1...CAe h5 2.Ed5+ CAg/xd5(Eb3) 3.Ef3/Eh7#
1...CAe f5 2.Ef3+ CAg/xf3(Eb3) 3.Ed5/Eh7#
1...CA8 h7 2.Ed7+ CA6/8xd7(Eb3) 3.Ed5/Ef5#
1...CAe d5 2.Eh5+ CAg/exh5(Eb3) 3.Ef5/Eh7#
1...S~ 2.Ed5+ CAe/gxd5(Eb3) 3.Exf7#

My prosaic definition for this was: "3x2 Jacobs theme quadrupled with 4 B pieces & 6 W moves in 12 variations". But Jacques Rotenberg came up with the snappier name of "Super Jacobs"!

300 shows the theme with all mates by the single WEb3 and with model mates.

301 – Georgij Evseev
Original



#3 (6+8) C+

Diagram Circe

♞ = X = ♞+(0,3)+(2,3)+(1,4)+(3,4) leaper

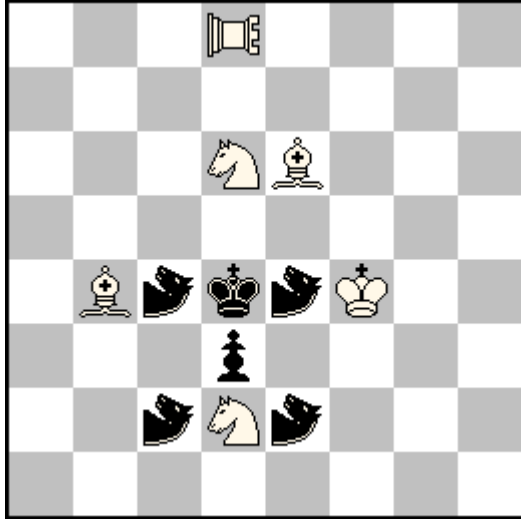
1.Xe5+? Sd/cxe5(Xb1)! 1.Xc5+? Se/dxc5(Xb1)!
1.Xb4+? S3/5xb4(Xb1)! 1.Xe3+? Sd/cxe3(Xb1)!
1.Xd2+? Se/cxd2(Xb1)! 1.Xc3+? Se/dxc3(Xb1)!
1...Kxa3 2.Qa4#

1.Qa4! zz

1...Sec3 2.Xe5+ Sd/cxe5(Xb1) 3.Xc5/Xd2#
1...Sec5 2.Xe3+ Sd/cxe3(Xb1) 3.Xc3/Xd2#
1...Sed2 2.Xb4+ S3/5xb4(Xb1) 3.Xc5/Xc3#
1...Sdc5 2.Xe3+ Sd/cxe3(Xb1) 3.Xb4/Xe5#
1...S3b4 2.Xd2+ Se/cxd2(Xb1) 3.Xc5/Xe5#
1...Sde5 2.Xc3+ Se/dxc3(Xb1) 3.Xc5/Xb4#
1...Sde3 2.Xc5+ Se/dxc5(Xb1) 3.Xc3/Xb4#
1...S5b4 2.Xd2+ Se/cxd2(Xb1) 3.Xc3/Xe3#
1...Sdc3 2.Xe5+ Sd/cxe5(Xb1) 3.Xb4/Xe3#
1...Scd2 2.Xb4+ S3/5xb4(Xb1) 3.Xe5/Xe3#
1...Sce5 2.Xc3+ Se/dxc3(Xb1) 3.Xd2/Xe3#
1...Sce3 2.Xc5+ Se/dxc5(Xb1) 3.Xd2/Xe5#

After seeing **300**, Georgij Evseev was inspired to compose **301**, with a very economical setting, using only a single W fairy piece.

302 – Narayan Shankar Ram
Julia's Fairies 2019



#3 (6+6) C+

Kamikaze Chess

♖ = wazir+(0,3) leaper

🐪 = camel

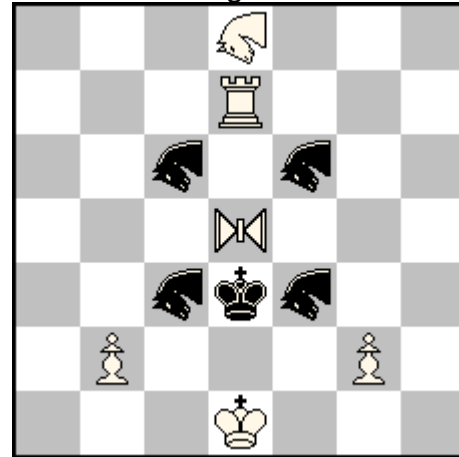
- 1.Sd2-f3+? CA2/4xf3! 1.Sd2-b3+? CA2/4xb3!
 1.Sd6-b5+? CAe/cxb5! 1.Sd6-f5+? CAe/cxf5!
 1.W03d5+? CAe2xd5 2.Sd6xe4 [3.Sd2-b3#]
 1...CAc2xd5!
 1.W03d8-d7+? CAe4xd7 2.Sd6-e4 [3.Bb4-c3#
 3.Bb4-c5#]
 1...CAc4xd7!
 1.Bg8? CAe4-f7! 1.Sd6xe4? CAc2-d5!

1.Be6-f7! zz

- 1...CA2d5 2.W03d7+ CAe/cxd7 3.Sb3/Sf5#
 1...CA2b3 2.Sf3+ CA2/4xf3 3.W03d5/Sf5#
 1...CAef5 2.Sb5+ CAe/cxb5 3.Sb3/W03d5#
 1...CAed7 2.W03d5+ CAe/cxd5 3.Sb3/Sb5#
 1...CA4b3 2.Sf3+ CA2/4xf3 3.Sb5/W03d7#
 1...CAeb5 2.Sf5+ CAe/cxf5 3.Sb3/W03d7#
 1...CAxf7! 2.Se4 [3.Bc3/c5#]
 1...CAcb5 2.Sf5+ CAe/cxf5 3.W03d5/Sf3#
 1...CA2f3 2.Sb3+ CA2/4xb3 3.W03d5/Sb5#
 1...CAcd5 2.W03d7+ CAe/cxd7 3.Sb5/Sf3#
 1...CAcf5 2.Sb5+ CAe/cxb5 3.W03d7/Sf3#
 1...CA4f3 2.Sb3+ CA2/4xb3 3.Sf5/W03d7#
 1...CAcd7 2.W03d5+ CAe/cxd5 3.Sf5/Sf3#

302 shows the theme in meredith, using the same Kamikaze mechanism of **299**.

303 – Jacques Rotenberg
& Narayan Shankar Ram
Original



#3 7x7 Board (6+5) C+

Diagram Circe

♖ = alfil + dabbaba

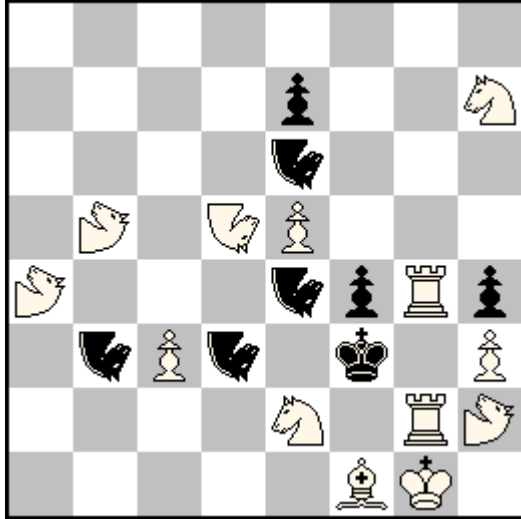
🐪 = camel

1.Rd5! zz

- 1...CAed6/xb2 2.ADd2+ CAe/cxd2(ADd4)
 3.ADb4/ADf6#
 1...CA3b4 2.ADf4+ CA3/5xf4(ADd4) 3.ADd6/ADf6#
 1...CAef6 2.ADb6+ CAe/cxb6(ADd4) 3.ADb4/ADd6#
 1...CA5b4/xf2 2.ADf4+ CA3/5xf4(ADd4)
 3.ADb6/ADd2#
 1...CAeb6 2.ADf6+ CAe/cxf6(ADd4) 3.ADb4/ADd2#
 1...CAed2 2.ADd6+ CAe/cxd6(ADd4)
 3.ADb4/ADb6#
 1...CAcb6 2.ADf6+ CAe/cxf6(ADd4) 3.ADd6/ADf4#
 1...CA3f4 2.ADb4+ CA3/5xb4(ADd4) 3.ADd6/ADb6#
 1...CAcd6/xf2 2.ADd2+ CAe/cxd2(ADd4)
 3.ADb6/ADf4#
 1...CAcd2 2.ADd6+ CAe/cxd6(ADd4) 3.ADf6/ADf4#
 1...CAcf6 2.ADb6+ CAe/cxb6(ADd4) 3.ADd2/ADf4#
 1...CA5f4/xb2 2.ADb4+ CA3/5xb4(ADd4)
 3.ADf6/ADd2#

303 shows the theme with battery mates and no duals on a 7x7 board. More collaborations by Jacques and myself, expanding on this idea will appear in other magazines this year.

304 – Narayan Shankar Ram
Julia's Fairies 2019



#3 (13+8) C+

♞ = nightrider
♝ = zebra

- 1.Za4-c1+? Ndxc1 2.Sg5+ N4/6xg5 3.Rf2/Rxf4#
1...Nb3xc1!
1.Sh7-g5+? N6xg5 2.Zc1+ Nd/bxc1 3.Rxf4/Sd4#
1...Ne4xg5!
1.Rf2+? Ne4/d3xf2!
1.Rxf4+? Ne6/d3xf4!
1.Sd4+? Ne6/b3xd4!
1.Nxf4? Ne1! 1.c4? Nc3!

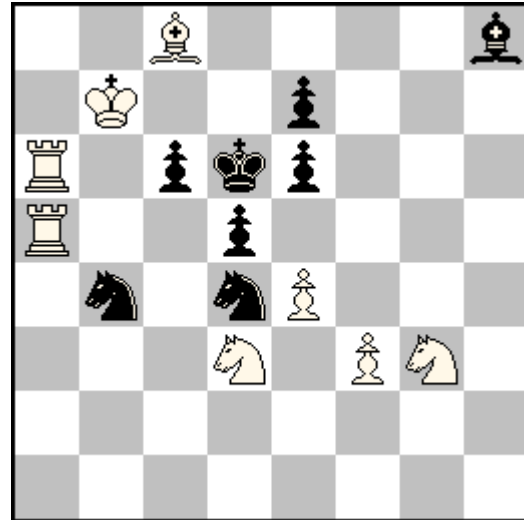
1.Nd5-b6! zz

- 1...Nc8 2.Sd4+ Ne/bxd4 3.Sg5/Nd2#
1...Nxc3 2.Zc1+ Nd/bxc1 3.Rf2/Nd2#
1...Ng8 2.Rxf4+ Ne/df4 3.Sg5/Rf2#
1...Nd8 2.Nd2+ Ne/bxd2 3.Sg5/Sd4#
1...Na8 2.Zc1+ Nd/bxc1 3.Rxf4/Sd4#
1...Nf8 2.Rf2+ Ne/df2 3.Sg5/Rxf4#
1...Nb2 2.Nd2+ Ne/bxd2 3.Rf2/Zc1#
1...Nh1 2.Sd4+ Ne/bxd4 3.Rxf4/Zc1#
1...Ne5 2.Sg5+ N4/6xg5 3.Rf2#/Rxf4#
1...Na5 2.Sg5+ N4/6xg5 3.Nd2/Sd4#
1...Nh6 2.Rf2+ Ne/df2 3.Nd2/Zc1#
1...Nxf1 2.Rxf4+ Ne/df4 3.Sd4/Zc1#

Instead of a single B piece losing control of 3 squares and triple avoidance seen so far, we can also have a line piece focusing on 3 squares and losing control of any one of them. This produces an equivalent effect. This idea is realised in **304**, with 4 BNs showing "tri-focal" play.

Appendix 1: Simple 3x2

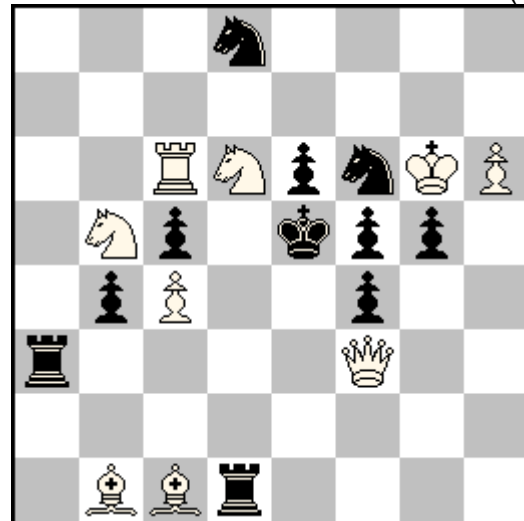
305 – György Bakcsi
Schakend Nederland 1966



#3 (8+8) C+

- 1.f4!** [2.e5+ Bxe5 3.fxe5#]
1...Sxd3 2.Sf5+ Sxf5/xf5 3.Rxc6/Rxd5#
1...Sf3 2.Rxd5+ Sxd5/exd5 3.Rxc6/Sf5#
1..e5 2.Rxc6+ Sbxc6/Sdxc6 3.Rxd5/Sf5#

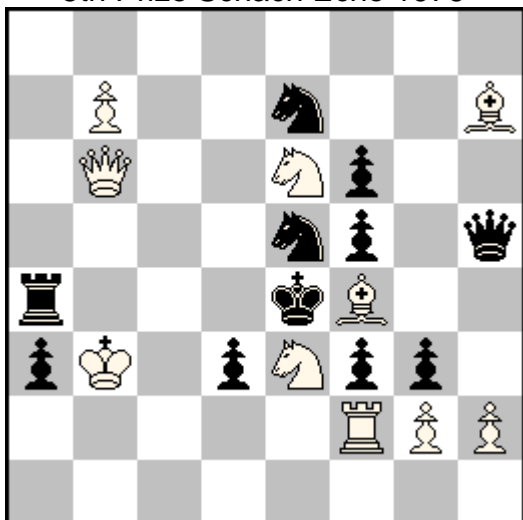
306 – Jean-Marc Loustau
3rd Prize U.S.Problem Bulletin 1984(v)



#3 (9+11) C+

- 1.h7!** [2.h8=Q/B]
1...Sxh7 2.Bb2+ Rd4/Rc3 3.Rxc5/Qe2#
1...Rh1 2.Qe2+ Se4/Re3 3.Rxc5/Bb2#
1...Ra7 2.Rxc5+ Sd5/Rd5 3.Qe2/Bb2#

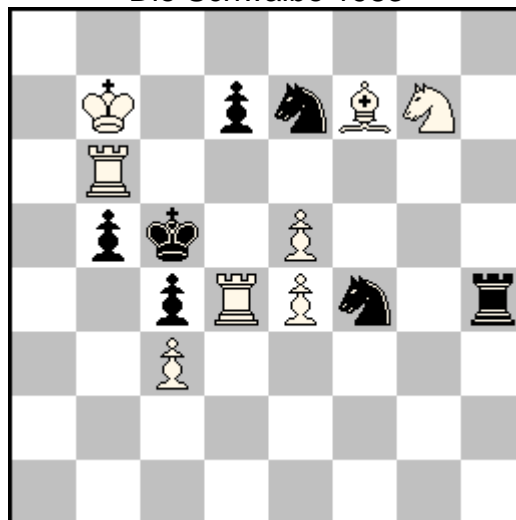
307 – Friedrich Chlubna
5th Prize Schach Echo 1976



#3 (10+11) C+

1.hxg3! [2.Qd4+ Rxd4 3.Sc5#]
1...Qf7 2.Qc6+ S5/S7xc6 3.gxf3/Bxf5 #
1...S5c6 2.Bxf5+ Q/Sxf5 3.gxf3/Qxc6#
1...S7c6 2.gxf3+ Q/Sxf3 3.Bxf5/Qxc6#
1...Rb4+ 2.Qxb4+ Sc4 3.Qxc4#

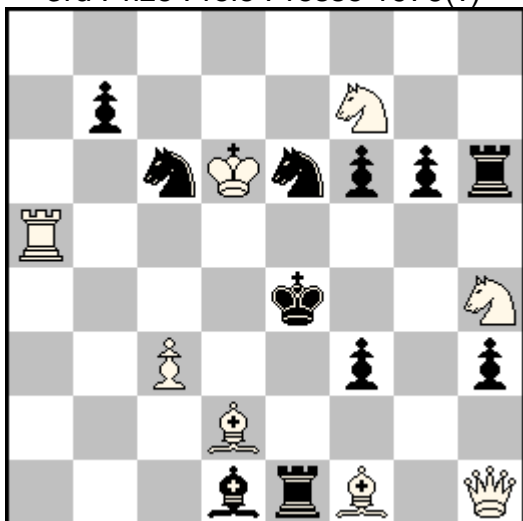
309 – Jean-Marc Loustau
Die Schwalbe 1983



#3 (8+7) C+

1.Ra6! [2.Rxc4+ bxc4 3.Ra5#]
1...Sfd5 2.Rc6+ S/dxc6 3.Rxd5/Sxe6#
1...Sed5 2.Se6+ S/dxe6 3.Rxd5/Rc6#
1...d5 2.Rxd5+ Se/Sfxd5 3.Rc6/Se6#

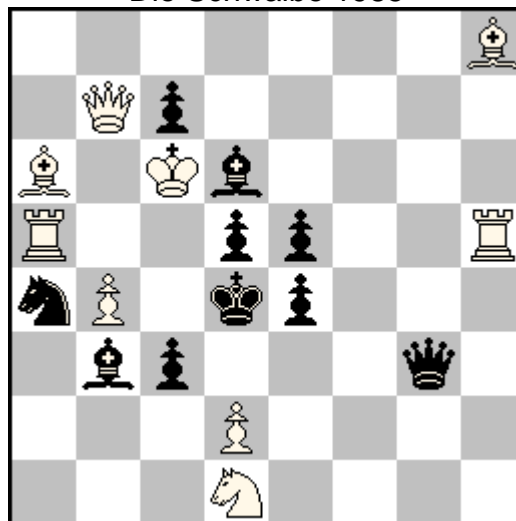
308 – Talip Amirov
3rd Prize Freie Presse 1976(v)



#3 (8+11) C+

1.Qg1! [2.Qg4+ Sf4 3.Qxf4#]
1...Se5 2.Sg5+ S/fxg5 3.Qd4/Rxe5#
1...Sf4 2.Re5+ S/fxe5 3.Qd4/Sg5#
1...f5 2.Qd4+ Sc/Sexd4 3.Re5/Sg5#
1...Re2/Rxh4/f2 2.Bxe2/Qxg6+/Qh1+

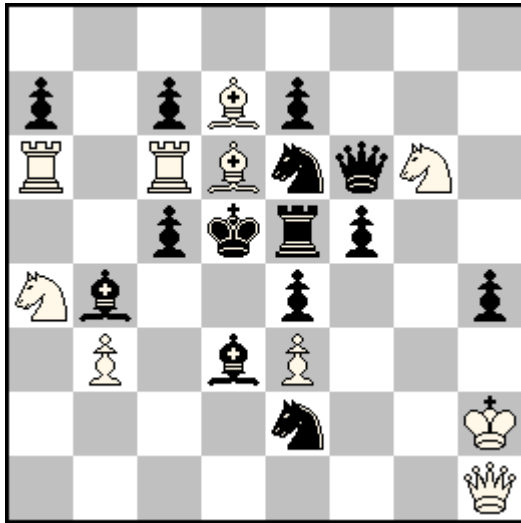
310 – Alexandr Pankratiev
Die Schwalbe 1985



#3 (9+10) C+

1.Qb5! [2.Qxd5+ Bxd5+ 3.Rxd5#]
1...Sb6 2.Bxe5+ Qxe5/Bxe5 3.dxc3/Qc5#
1...Bc5 2.dxc3+ Qxc3/Sxc3 3.Bxe5/Qxc5#
1...Qg8 2.Qc5+ Bxc5/Sxc5 3.Bxe5/dxc3#

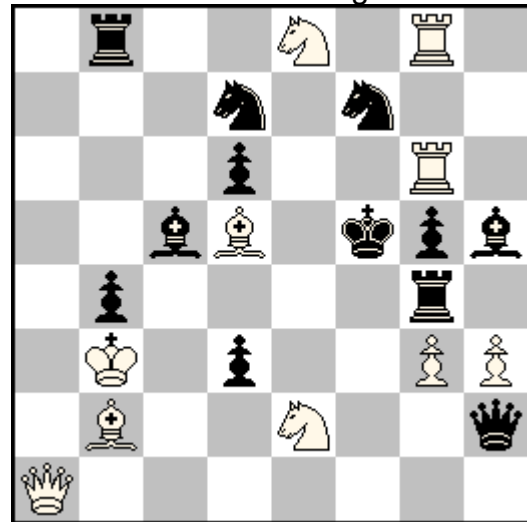
311 – Alexandr Pankratiev
2nd Prize Danas 1986



#3 (10+14) C+

1.Qa1! [2.Sxe7+ Qxe7 3.Qxe5#]
1...Sc3 2.Rxc5+ Sxc5/Bxc5 3.Sf4/Sxc3#
1...S6~ 2.Sc3+ Sxc3/Bxc3 3.Sf4/Rxc5#
1...Bc3 2.Sf4+ S2xf4/S6xf4 3.Sxc3/Rxc5#
1...e/cxd6 2.Rxd6+ c/exd6 3.Bc6#

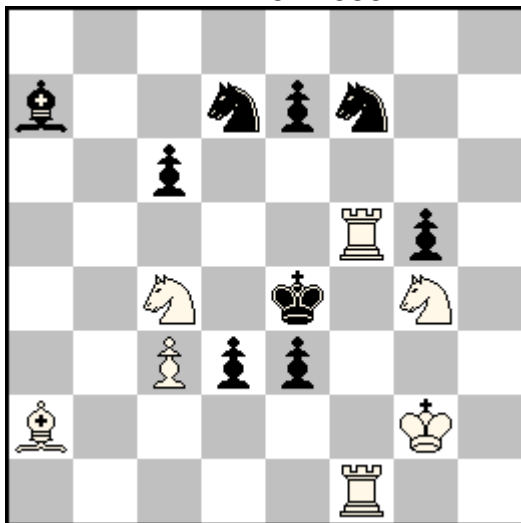
313 – Alexandr Pankratiev
2nd Honourable Mention
Sächsische Zeitung 1989



#3 (10+12) C+

1.Bh8! [2.Rg6-f6+ Sd7xf6 3.Qa1xf6#]
1...Sfe5 2.Sd4+ B/Rxd4 3.Sxd6/Rxg5#
1...Bd4 2.Rg5+ S/Rxg5 3.Sxd6/Sxd4#
1...Rd4 2.Sxd6+ S/Bxd6 3.Rxg5/Sxd4#

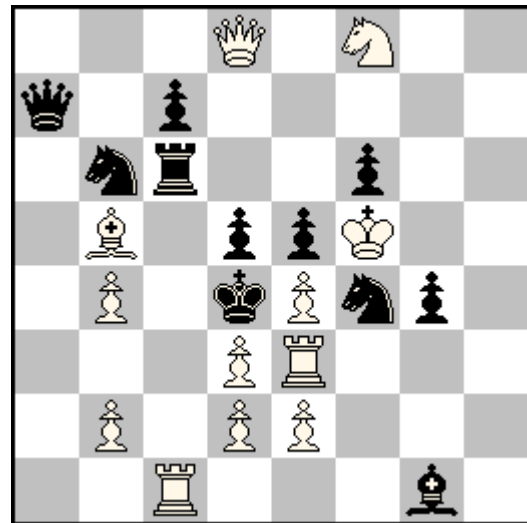
312 – Vyacheslav Pilchenko
Thèmes-64 1986



#3 (7+9) C+

1.R1f3! [2.Sf2+ exf2 3.Sd2#]
1...Sfe5 2.Sf6+ exf6/Sxf6 3.Sd6/Rxe5#
1...e5 2.Rxe5+ Sfxe5/Sdxe5 3.Sd6/Sf6#
1...Sde5 2.Sd6+ Sxd6/exd6 3.Rxe5/Sf6#

314 - Ľudovít Lačný
Moment 1999

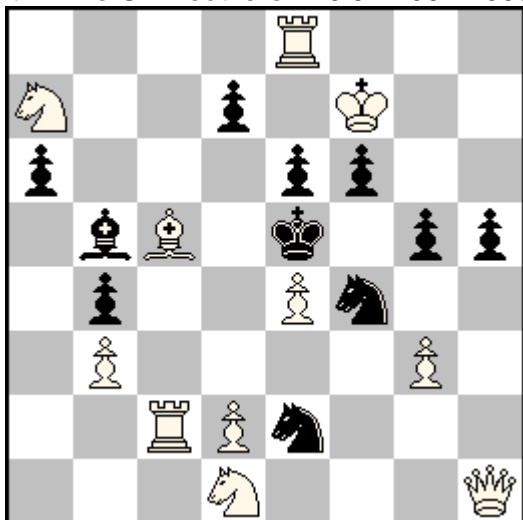


#3 (12+11) C+

1.Rg3! [2.e3+ Bxe3 3.dxe3#]
1...Sg2 2.Rc4+ R/Sxc4 3.Se6/Qxd5#
1...Rc4 2.Qxd5+ Sf/Sbxd5 3.Se6/Rxc4#
1...Sc4 2.Se6+ S/Rxe6 3.Qxd5/Rxc4#

315 – Grigorij Markovskij

4th Prize Chimedtzeren-70 JT 2002-2003



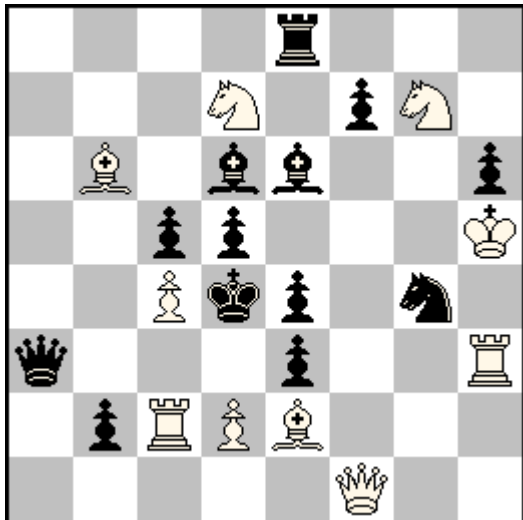
#3

(11+11) C+

1.Sf2! [2.Qa1+ Sd4/Sc3 3.Qxd4/d4#]
1...Sd3 2.Sc6+ d/Bxc6 3.Rxe6/Sxd3#
1...d5 2.Sd3+ S/Bxd3 3.Rxe6/Sc6#
1...Bd3 2.Rxe6+ S/dxe6 3.Sxd3/Sc6#
1...Sd4 2.Bxd4+ Kd6/xd4 3.Sc8/Qa1#

316 – Alexandr Pankratiev

2nd Prize Chimedtzeren-70 JT 2002-2003



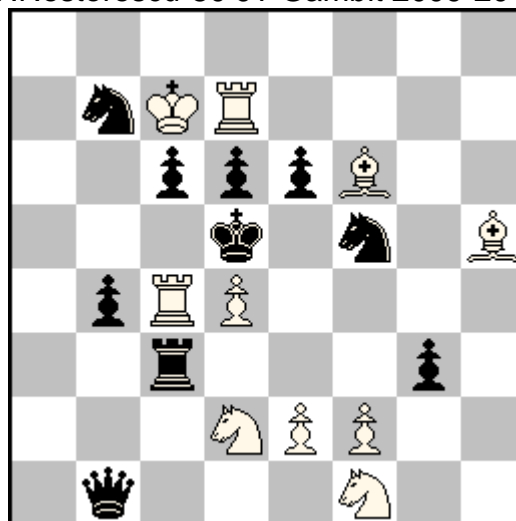
#3

(10+13) C+

1.Qf5! [2.Qxd5+ Bxd5 3.Sf5#]
1...Se5 2.Bxc5+ B/Qxc5 3.Qxe5/dxe3#
1...Be5 2.dxe3+ S/Qxe3 3.Qxe5/Bxc5#
1...Qa8 2.Qe5+ S/Bxe5 3.dxe3/Bxc5#
1...Sf6+/dxc4 2.Qxf6+/Sxe6+

317 – Valerio Agostini & Stefano Mariani

1st Honourable Mention
V.Nestorescu-80 JT Gambit 2009-2010



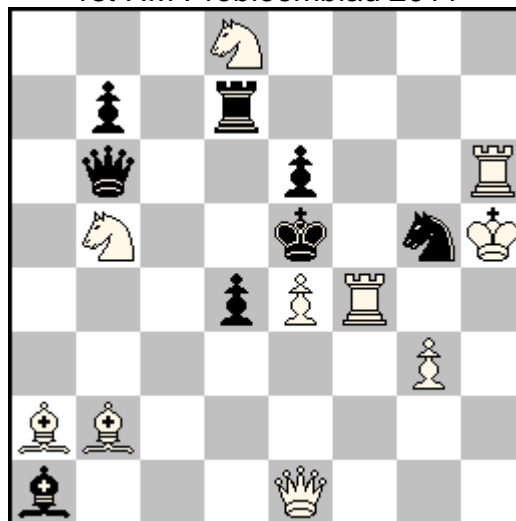
#3

(10+10) C+

1.f3! [2.e4+ Qxe4 3.fxe4#]
1...Se3 2.Rc5+ R/Sxc5 3.Sxe3/Rxd6#
1...Re3 2.Rxd6+ Sb/Sfxd6 3.Rc5/Sxe3#
1...Sc5 2.Se3+ R/Sxe3 3.Rxc5/Rxd6#

318 – Valerio Agostini & Antonio Garfalo

1st HM Probleemblad 2011

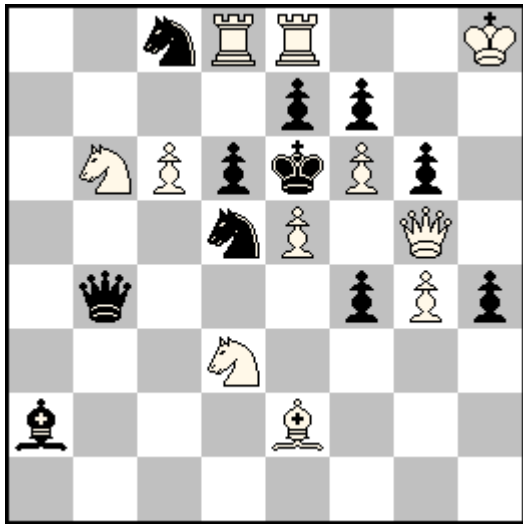


#3

(10+8) C+

1.Qe3! [2.Rf5+ exf5 3.Qf4#]
1...Sh3 2.Qxd4+ Q/Rxd4 3.Rxe6/Sf7#
1...Rf7 2.Rxe6+ Q/Sxe6 3.Qxd4/Sxf7#
1...Qxb5 2.Sf7+ R/Sxf7 3.Qxd4/Rxe6#

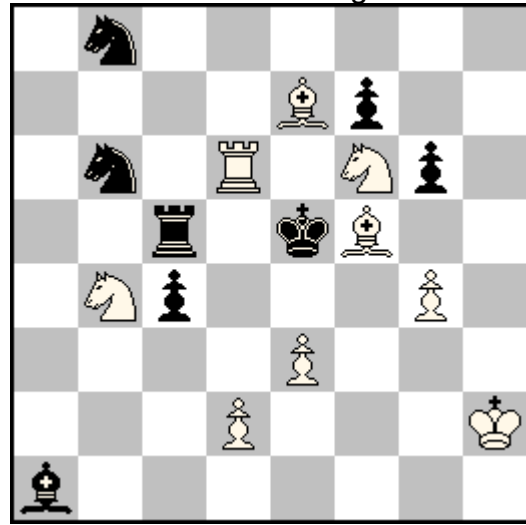
319 – Viktor Volchek
39th – 47th Place e.a
9th WCCT 2012-2013



#3 (11+11) C+

- 1.Bf3!** [2.Sd7 [3.Sf8#]]
 1...Scxb6 2.Sxf4+ Q/Sxf4 3.Rxd6/Rxe7#
 1...Qxb6 2.Rxe7+ Sc/Sdxe7 3.Rxd6/Sxf4#
 1...Sd~ 2.Rxd6+ Q/Sxd6 3.Sxf4/Rxe7#
 1...Qe4 2.Rxd6+ Sxd6 3.Sc5#

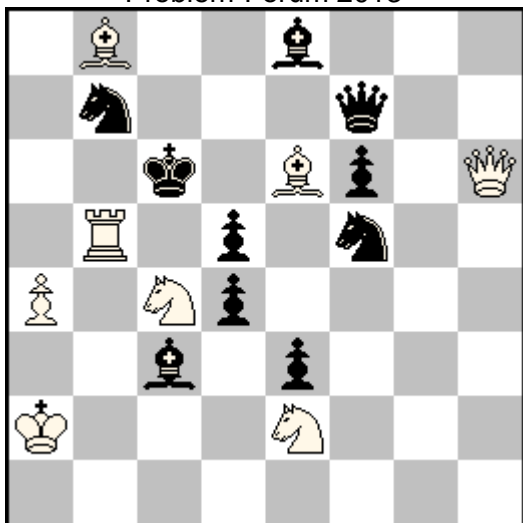
321 – Volker Zipf
Sächsische Zeitung 2014



#3 (9+8) C+

- 1.Kg3!** [2.d4+ Bxd4/cxd3 e.p 3.exd4/Sxd3#]
 1...Sd5 2.Sc6+ Sxc6/Rxc6 3.Sd7/Rxd5#
 1...Sc6 2.Rd5+ Sxd5/Rxd5 3.Sd7/Sxc6#
 1...Rd5 2.Sd7+ S6/S8xd7 3.Rxd5/Sc6#

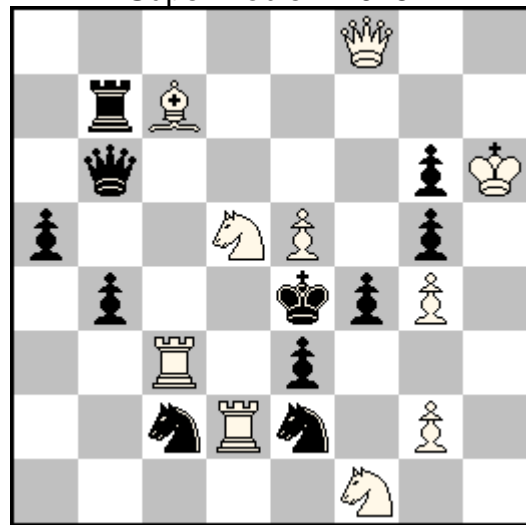
320 – Mikola Mironenko
Problem-Forum 2013



#3 (8+10) C+

- 1.Qf4!** [2.Bxd5+ Kd7,Qxd5 3.Qc7#]
 1...Sfd6 2.Sa5+ B/Sxa5 3.Sxd4/Qxd6#
 1...Sbd6 2.Sxd4+ B/Sxd4 3.Sa5/Qxd6#
 1...Ba5 2.Qd6+ Sb/Sfxd6 3.Sxa5/Sxd4#

322 – Alexandr Pankratiev
SuperProblem 2018



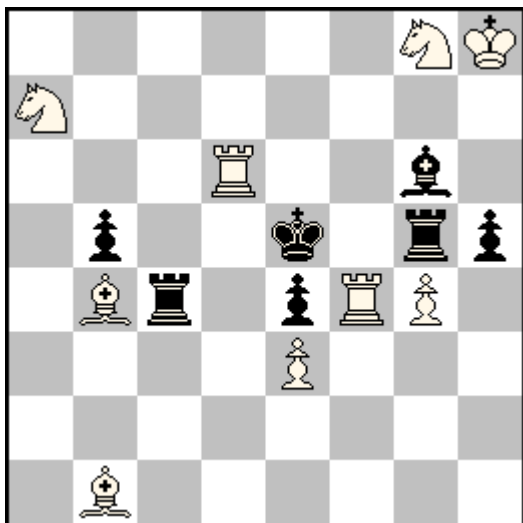
#3 (10+11) C+

- 1.Qc5!** [2.Sf6+ Qxf6 3.Qd5#]
 1...Scd4 2.Sg3+ S3/fxg3 3.Rxd4/Rxe3#
 1...Sed4 2.Rxe3+ S/fxe3 3.Rxd4/Sg3#
 1...f3 2.Rd4+ Sc/Sexd4 3.Rxe3/Sg3#
 1...Sxc3 2.Sxc3+ bxc3 3.Qd5#

Appendix 2: Simple 3x2 rotating

323 – Robin C.O. Matthews

3rd Prize The Problemist 1952



#3

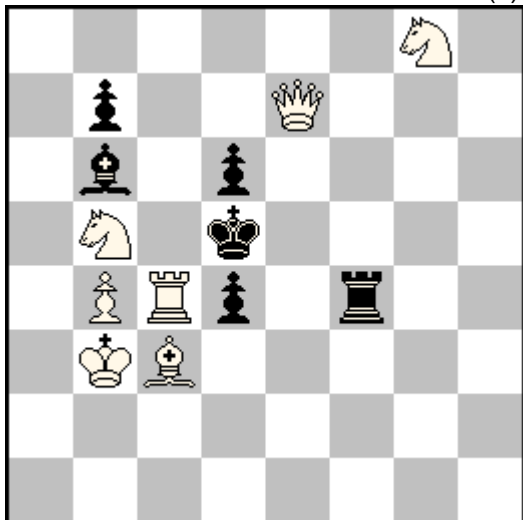
(9+7) C+

1.Sh6! [2.Rxe4+ B/Rxe4 3.Sf7/Sc6#]
 1...Be8 2.Sc6+ B/Rxc6 3.Sf7/Rxe4#
 1...Rc7 2.Sf7+ B/Rxf7 3.Rxe4/Sc6#
 1...Rc2/Rxb4/Rc5/Rc8+/Rvg4
 2.Bxc2/Rff6/Bxc5/Sxc8/Rf5+

324 – Torsten Linn

HM 14th Beginner's Ty

East German Chess Fed. 1985-1986(v)



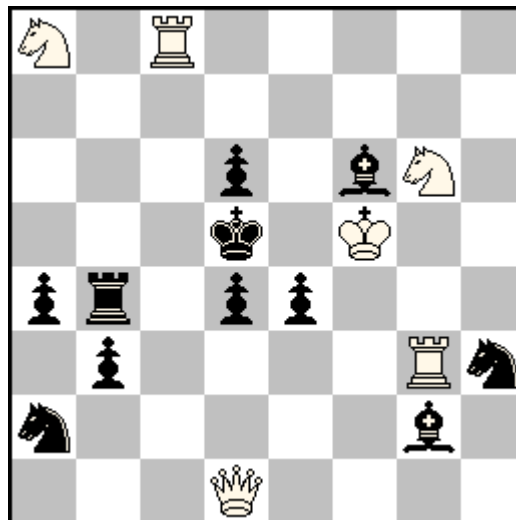
#3

(7+6) C+

1.Qe8! [2.Rxd4+ R/Bxd4 3.Sf6/Sc7#]
 1...Rf7 2.Sc7+ R/Bxc7 3.Sf6/Rxd4#
 1...Bd8 2.Sf6+ R/Bxf6 3.Rxd4/Sc7#

325 – Rashid Usmanov

2nd Comm "Odessa-97" Festival 1997



#3

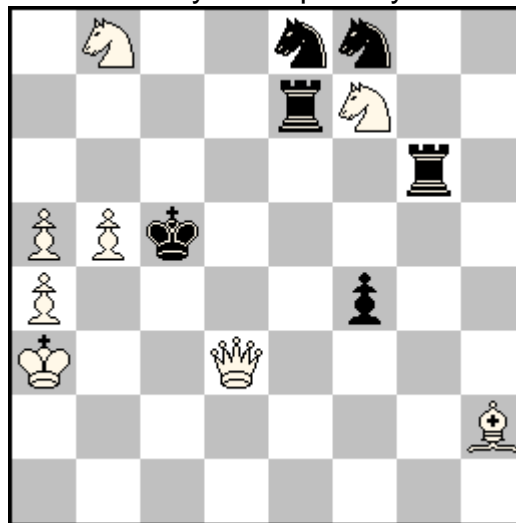
(6+11) C+

1.Rd3! [2.Rxd4+ B/Rxd4 3.Se7/Sb6#]
 1...Bd8 2.Sb6+ B/Rxb6 3.Se7/Rxd4#
 1...Rb7 2.Se7+ B/Rxe7 3.Rxd4Sb6#
 1...exd3 2.Qe1 [3.Qe6#] Sf4 3.Sxf4#

326 – Viktor Melnichenko

4th Prize Moscow Tourney

Shakmatnaya Kompozitsiya 2001



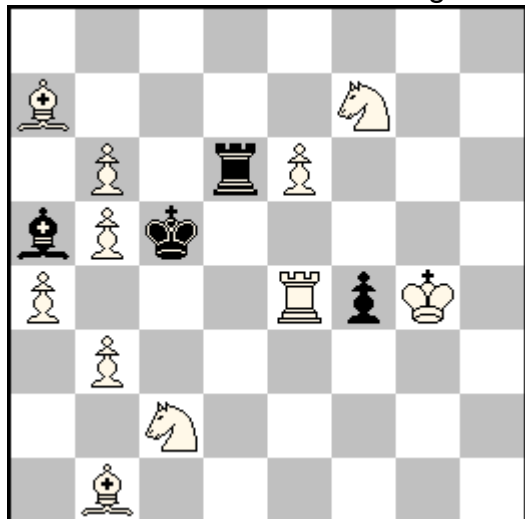
#3

(8+6) C+

1.Sd8! [2.Bg1+ Rvg1/Re3 3.Sa6/Sb7#]
 1...Rb6 2.Sb7+ Rxb7/Rexb7 3.Sa6/Bg1#
 1...Ra7 2.Sa6+ Raxa6/Rgxa6 3.Sb7/Bg1#
 1...f3 2.Kb3 [3.Qc4#] Rg3/Re3 3.Sa6/Sb7#

327 – Chris Handloser

Schweizerische Schachzeitung 2004



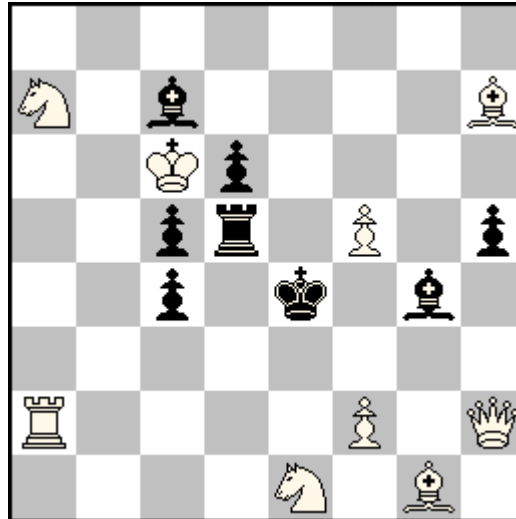
#3

(11+4) C+

1.Ba2! [2.b7+ Kd5,R/Bb6 3.Re5/b4#]
1...Bc3 2.Re5+ Rd5/Bxe5 3.b7/b4#
1...Rd4 2.b4+ R/Bxb4 3.Re5/b7#

329 – Chris Handloser

Neue Zürcher Zeitung 2015



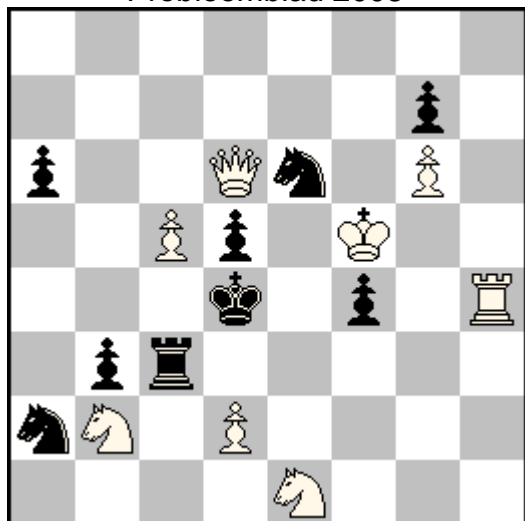
#3

(9+8) C+

1.Ra4! [2.f6+ Kd4/Rf5/Bf5 3.Sb5#/Rxc4/f3#]
1...Be2 2.Rxc4+ Rd4/Bxc4 3.f6/f3#
1...Rd3 2.f3+ R/Bxf3 3.Rxc4/f6#
1...Kd4 2.f3+ Kc3 3.Qc2#

328 – Chris Handloser

4th Honourable Mention
Probleemblad 2008



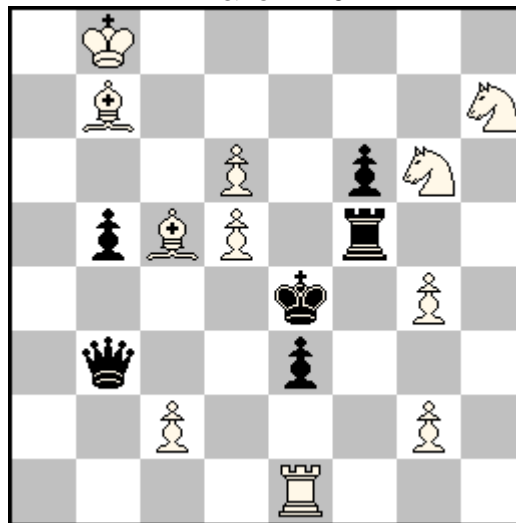
#3

(8+9) C+

1.Qb6! [2.c6+ S/Rc5 3.Rxf4/Sf3#]
1...Sg5 2.Sf3+ S/Rxf3 3.Rxf4/c6#
1...Re3 2.Rxf4+ Sxf4/Re4 3.c6/Sf3#

330 – Chris Handloser

Idée & form 2017



#3

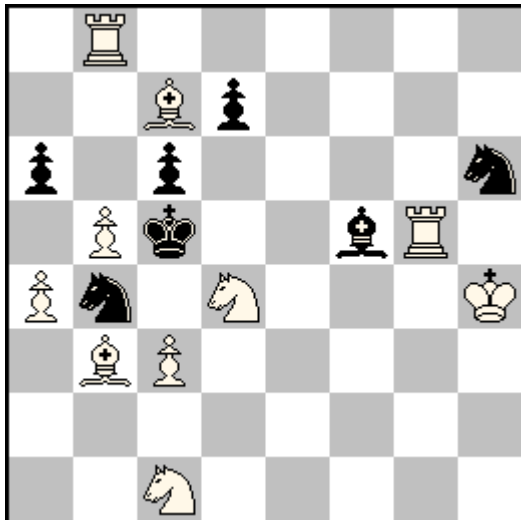
(11+6) C+

1.d7! [2.d6+ Q/Rd5 3.Rxe3/Sxf6#]
1...Rf3 2.Rxe3+ Q/Rxe3 3.d6/Sxf6#
1...Qc3 2.Sxf6+ Q/Rxf6 3.Rxe3/d6#

Appendix 3: 3x2 rotating with unpins

331 – Chris Handloser

4th Comm Die Schwalbe 2007-2008



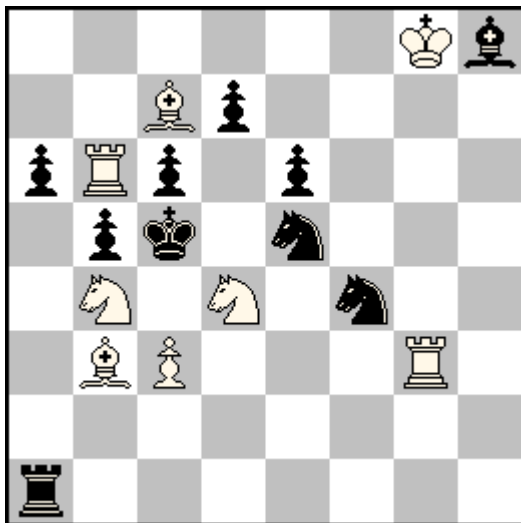
#3

(10+7) C+

1.Rb6! [2.Rxc6+ d7/Sxc6 3.Se6/Sd3#]
 1...Sd5 2.Se6+ B/d7xe6 3.Sd3/Rxc6#
 1...d5 2.Sd3+ S/Bxd3 3.Rxc6/Se6#

332 – Chris Handloser

Problem-Forum 2009



#3

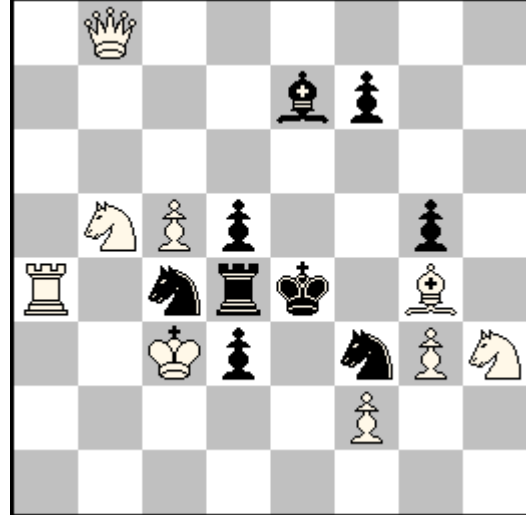
(8+10) C+

1.Rg5! [2.Sxe6+ S/d7xe6 3.Sd3/Rxc6#]
 1...Sd5 2.Rxc6+ S/d7xc6 3.Sd3/Sxe6#
 1...d5 2.Sd3+ Se/Sfxd3 3.Rxc6/Sxe6#

Appendix 4: 3x2 rotating with unpins, line opening and non recurring threat

333 – Chris Handloser

2nd HM Schweizerische Schachzeitung 2007-08



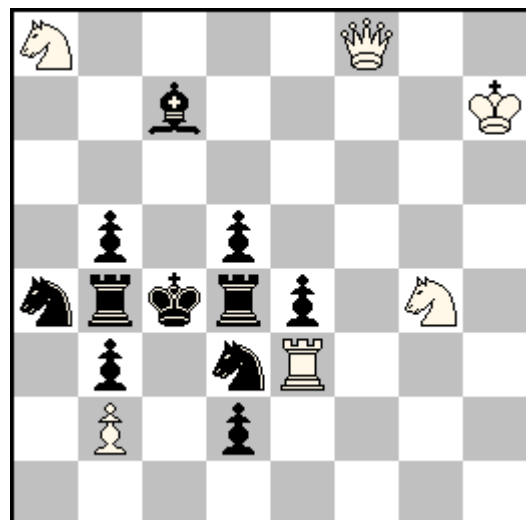
#3

(9+9) C+

1.Qe8! [2.Qxe7+ Sf/Sce5 3.Sxg5/Sd6#]
 1...Sfe5 2.Sd6+ B/Sxd6 3.Sxg5/Rxd4#
 1...Sce5 2.Sxg5+ B/Sxg5 3.Sd6/Rxd4#
 1...f6 2.Qg6+ Ke5,f5 3.Q(x)f5#

334 – Chris Handloser

2nd HM idée & form 2008-09



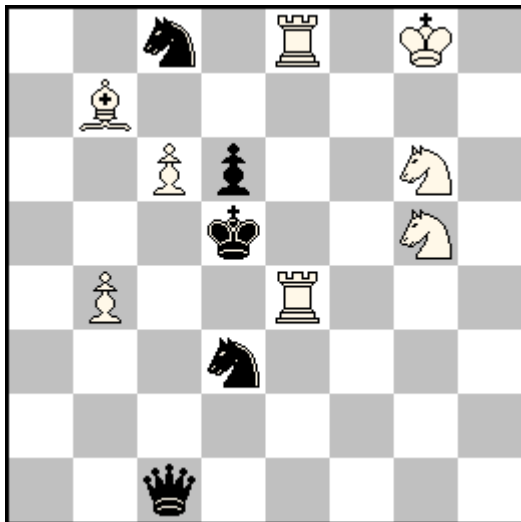
#3

(6+11) C+

1.Qc8! [2.Qxc7+ Sd/Sac5 3.Se5/Sb6#]
 1...Sdc5 2.Sb6+ B/Sxb6 3.Se5/Rc3#
 1...Sac5 2.Se5+ S/Bxe5 3.Rc3/Sb6#

Appendix 5: 3x2 rotating with self pins

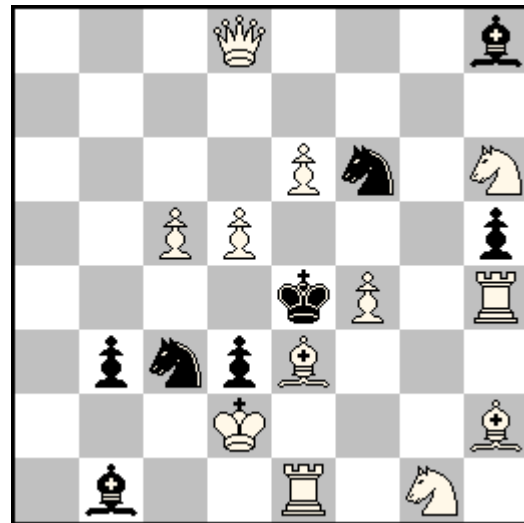
335 – Chris Handloser
2nd Prize Schach 2011



#3 (8+5) C+

1.Rf8! [2.Sf4+ Qxf4/Sxf4 3.c7/Rf5#]
1...Se5 2.c7+ Qc6/Sc6 3.Sf4/Rf5#
1...Qc3 2.Rf5+ Qe5/Se5 3.c7/Sf4#

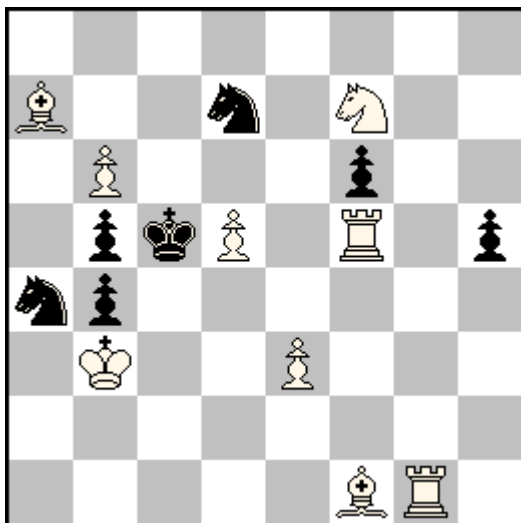
337 – Chris Handloser
1st Commendation
Problem-Forum 2014-2015



#3 (12+8) C+

1.Qa8! [2.d6+ Scd5/Sfd5 3.Bf2/f5#]
1...Sg4 2.Bf2+ Se3/Se2 3.f5/d6#
1...Se2 2.f5+ Sg4/Sf4 3.d6/Bf2#

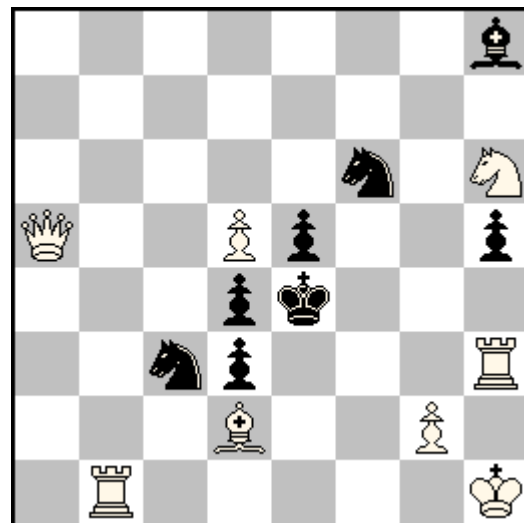
336 – Chris Handloser
2nd Prize Schach-Aktiv 2011



#3 (9+7) C+

1.Bg2! [2.b7+ Sab6/Sdb6 3.Rc1/d6#]
1...Se5 2.Rc1+ Sc4/Sc3 3.d6/b7#
1...Sc3 2.d6+ Se5/Sd5 3.b7/Rc1#

338 – Peter Sickinger
Troll 2019

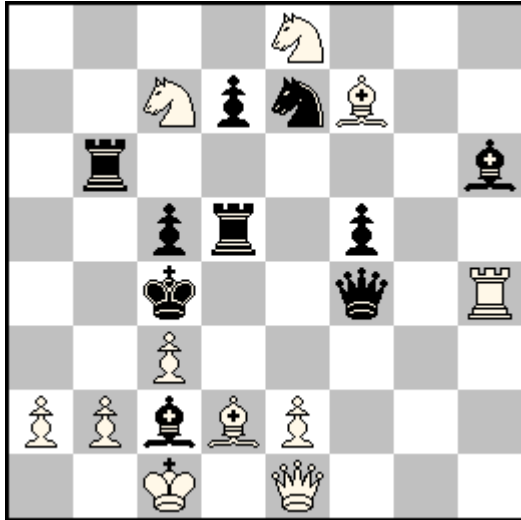


#3 (8+8) C+

1.Qa8! [2.d6+ Sc/Sfd5 3.Re1/Rh4#]
1...Se2 2.Rh4+ Sf4/Sg4 3.Re1/d6#
1...Sg4 2.Re1+ Se2/Se3 3.d6/Rh4#

Appendix 6: 3x2 rotating with unpins and half-pin

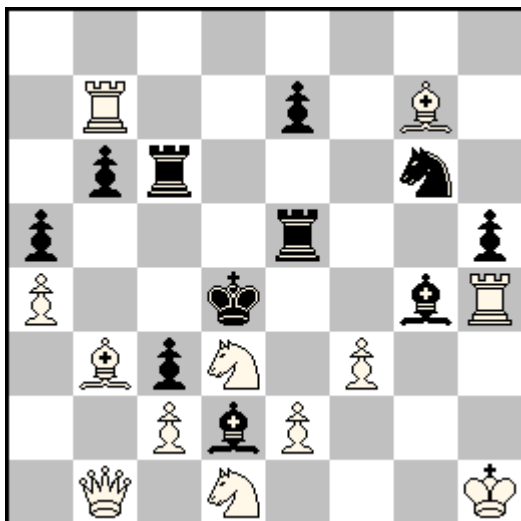
339 – Chris Handloser
1st Prize Die Schwalbe 2016



#3 (11+10) C+

1.Qf1! [2.b3+ Rxb3/Bxb3 3.Sd6/e3#]
1...Be4 2.Sd6+ Qxd6/Rxd6 3.e3/b3#
1...Re6 2.e3+ Rd3/Bd3 3.Sd6/b3#

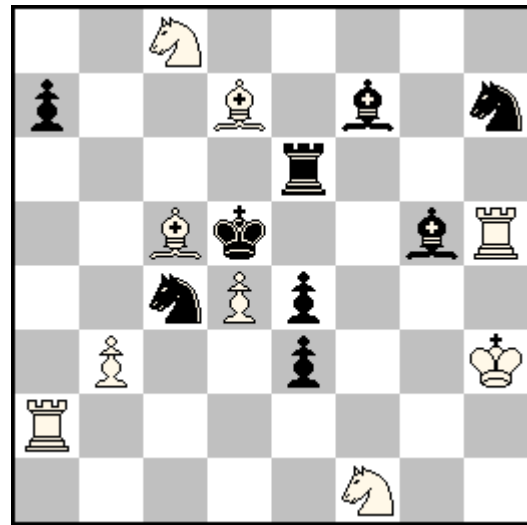
340 – Chris Handloser
1st Prize Problem-Forum 2010-2011



#3 (12+11) C+

1.Qa1! [2.Qxc3+ R/Bxc3 3.Rd7/e3#]
1...Bf4 2.Rd7+ Bxd7/Rd6 3.e3/Qxc3#
1...Rf6 2.e3+ B/Rxe3 3.Qxc3/Rd7#

341 – Chris Handloser
1st Commendation
Idée & form 2010-2011

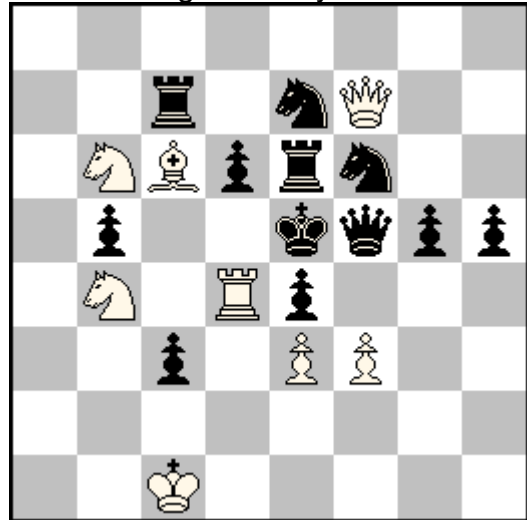


#3 (9+9) C+

1.Ra6! [2.Rd6+ R/Sxd6 3.Se7/Sxe3#]
1...Se5 2.Se7+ R/Bxe7 3.Rd6/Sxe3#
1...Re5 2.Sxe3+ B/Sxe3 3.Se7/Rd6#

Appendix 7: 3x2 split over 3 phases

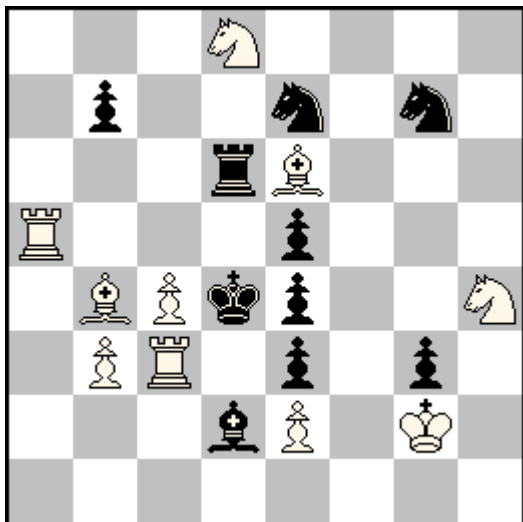
342 – Valerij Kirillov & Valentin Udartsev
1st Prize Magadanskaya Pravda 1995



#3 (8+12) C+

1...S/Rxc6 2.Sd7+/Rd5+
1.Bd7? [2.Rxe4+] S/Rxd7 2.Sc6+/Rd5+, 1...d5!
1.Bd5! [2.Rxe4+] Sf/Se6d5 2.Sc6+/Sc7+

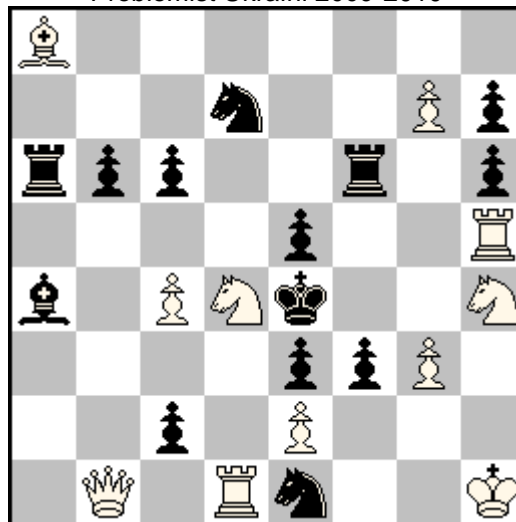
343 – Alexandr Pankratiev
Special Honourable Mention
Sredba na Solidarnosta 1995-1997



#3 (10+10) C+

- 1...Sxe6/Rxe6 2.Rd5+/Sf5+
1.Bd5? [2.Rd3+ exd3 3.Sf3#]
1...Sxd5/Rxd5 2.Se6+/Sf5+ 1...Rf6!
1.Bf5! [2.Rd3+ exd3 3.Sf3#]
1...Sgxf5/Se6f5 2.Rd5+/Se6+

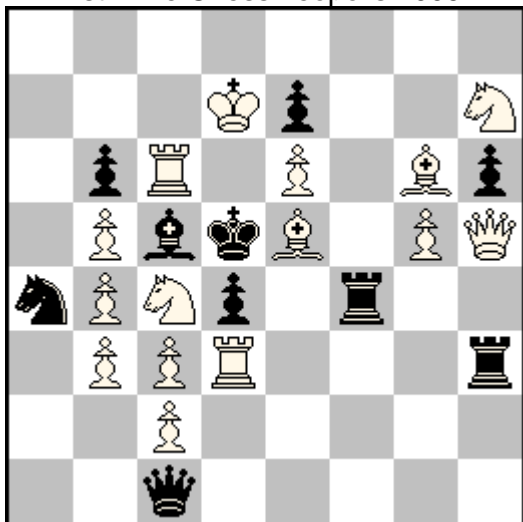
345 – Jevgenij Bogdanov
4th Prize M.Marandyuk-60 JT
Problemist Ukraini 2009-2010



#3 (11+14) C+

- 1.Sdxf3? [2.Rxe5+ Sxe5 3.Rd4#]
1...Sxf3/Rxf3 2.Bxc6+/Qxc2+ 1...Rd6!
1.Sxc2? [2.Sxe1+ Bc2 3.Qxc2#]
1...Sxc2/Bxc2 2.Bxc6+/exf3+ 1...Sc5!
1.Sxc6! [2.Rxe5+ Sxe5 3.Rd4#]
1...Bxc6/Rxc6 2.exf3+/Qxc2+

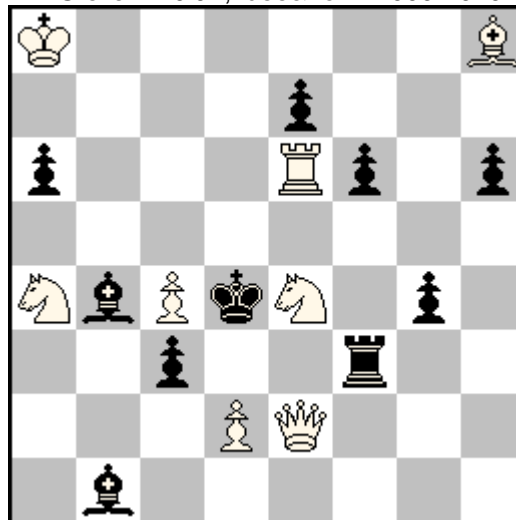
344 – Jevgenij Bogdanov
1st Prize Chess Leopoldis 2009



#3 (15+10) C+

- 1.Bf6? [2.Se3+ R/Qxe3 3.c4#]
1...Rxf6/exf6 2.Rd6+/Rd4+ 1...Rf5!
1.Bd6? [2.Se3+ R/Qxe3 3.c4#]
1...exd6/Bxd6 2.Rxd4+/Sf6+ 1...Rf5!
1.Bxd4! [2.Se3+ R/Qxe3 3.c4#]
1...Rxd4/Bxd4 2.Rd6+/Sf6+

346 – Jevgenij Bogdanov
1st HM O.Vollenweider - W.Issler-
H.Gfeller- 70 JT, idee& form 2009-2010



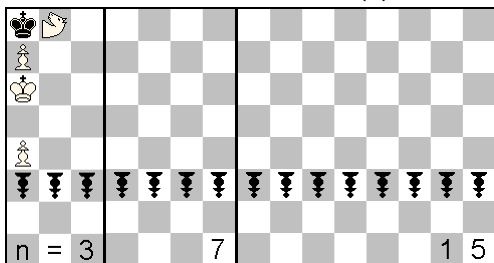
#3 (8+10) C+

- 1.Sexc3? [2.Re4+ Bxe4+ 3.Qxe4#]
1...Rxc3/Bxc3 2.Rd6+/Bxf6+ 1...Rf4!
1.Sxf6? [2.Re4+ Bxe4+ 3.Qxe4#]
1...Rxf6/exf6 2.Rd6+/dxc3+ 1...Rf4!
1.Sd6! [2.Re4+ Bxe4+ 3.Qxe4#]
1...exd6/Bxd6 2.dxc3+/Bxf6+

Appendix 8: Generalised mx2, mxm-1

347 and **347a** are “infinite” versions of the mx2 and mxm-1 forms of the Jacobs theme, using “*a judicious generality of terms and a proper choice of material*” (TRD)!

347 - Narayan Shankar Ram
feenschach 1984(v)



♘: “4-rank leaper” = moves to any rank 4 squares away, from where it checks BK.

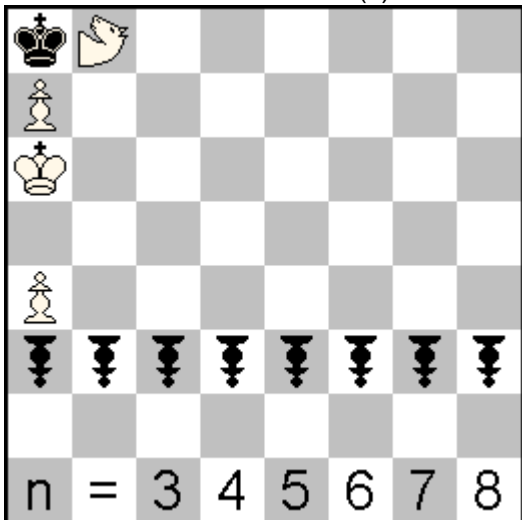
♟: P which can also capture diagonally on rank behind.

Vertical cylinder board: 3x8, 7x8, 15x8,...

Diagram Circe. # 3,4,5,...

1.a5! zz

347a - Narayan Shankar Ram
feenschach 1984(v)



♘: “4-Rank Leaper” = moves to any rank 4 squares away, from where it checks BK.

♟: P which can also capture on *any* square on rank behind, *except* the square directly behind.

Board: 3x8, 4x8, 5x8, 6x8, 7x8, 8x8,...

Diagram Circe. # 3,4,5,6,7,8,...

1.a5! zz

Afterword

Over the past few years, I had started collecting examples of the theme as and when I came across them. When I decided to write a follow up article, I did a more detailed search in the databases and also started asking some of my chess problem friends. This gave me much more material. I then sounded out Juraj about hosting this article in *Conflictio* and He graciously agreed. Preliminary sorting and classifying of the problems, triggered ideas for composing new examples by myself and others! Some of these were published, some are original for the article and some more will appear elsewhere. But the article finally got done. I hope you enjoyed reading it and are inspired to compose some problems of your own!

Acknowledgements:

Juraj Lörinc: For providing space in *Conflictio* and for the scan of Lačný's article.

Prof. Robin Matthews: For his encouragement, so many years back.

Michael McDowell and Steve Giddins: For the scan of the original BCM article.

Georgij Evseev: For his stimulating commentary on my examples in Julia's Fairies and for composing new examples.

Jacques Rotenberg: For his generous feedback on the "Super Jacobs" category and for a very deep and fruitful interaction and collaboration leading to additional examples.

K.Seetharaman: For scans of the pages concerning the Jacobs theme from *Mostly Three=Movers*.

Christian Poisson: For the WinChloe program and the Echecs database.

Dmitri Turevski: For the yacpdb.org database.

Julia Vysotska: For some of the definitions from Julia's Fairies. ([Link](#)).

Arthur Kalverboer: For *Fairy Chess Diagram Maker*. ([Link](#)).

Summary of types, move lengths, pieces, mates & variations

Type	Stipulation	B pieces	W mates	Variations	Total Variations
3x2	#3	3	3	3	$3 \times 2 = 6 = 3!$
3x2 rotating	#3	2	3	3	$3 \times 2 = 6 = 3!$
4x2(non-standard)	#4	4	4	4	$4 \times 1 \times 2 = 8$
7x2	#4	7	7	7	$7 \times 2 \times 2 = 28$
15x2	#5	15	15	15	$15 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 120$
$m \times 2, m = (2^x) - 1, x > 1$	# $x+1$	m	m	m	$m \times 2^x (x-1)$
4x3	#4	4	4	4	$4 \times 3 \times 2 = 24 = 4!$
4x3 rotating	#4	3	4	4	$4 \times 3 \times 2 = 24 = 4!$
5x4	#5	5	5	5	$5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 = 120 = 5!$
5x4 rotating	#5	4	5	5	$5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 = 120 = 5!$
$m \times m - 1, m > 2$	#m	m	m	m	m!
$m \times m - 1$ rotating	#m	m-1	m	m	m!

Time Line

1937: 3x2 (Jacobs)
 1937: 7x2 (Jacobs)
 1951: 3x2 rotating (Matthews)
 1952: 3x2 rotating with half pins (Matthews)
 1967: 3x2 doubled (Matthews)
 1967: 4x2 (Bakcsi)
 1969: 3x2 with third pin (Matthews)
 1974: 3x2 with 3 half pin lines (Lobusov)
 1981: 4x3 (Jacobs)
 1984: 4x3 rotating (Shankar Ram)
 1984: 4x3 rotating with third pin (Shankar Ram)
 1984: "Generalised" $m \times n / m \times m - 1$ (Shankar Ram)
 1984: 3x2 with BK flight mechanism (Matthews)
 1988: 3 phase split of 3x2 (Sovík)
 1988: "Super Jacobs" (Shankar Ram)
 2006: 3x2 rotating with unpins and 2 half pins (Handloser)
 2016: 4x3 doubled (Shankar Ram)
 2019: 15x2 (Shankar Ram)

References & links

- Jacobs biography: [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#)
- Problem pages of *Chess Review*, 1936, edited by Jacobs: [Link](#)
- "Semi-Defences", *BCM* (Jacobs), October 1937: [Link](#)*
- "Systematic Terminology", *BCM* (Dawson), 1947-51 - The Jacobs theme is covered under the discussion of the "triple point theme": [Link](#)*
- "Triple-Point Trios", *The Problemist* (Matthews), January 1952: [Link](#)*
- "The Jacobs Theme", *feenschach* (Shankar Ram), 1984: [Link](#)*
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- yacpdb.org: Jacobs theme problems can be queried by entering "Jacobs Cycle" in the keywords field, or just click link [here](#). As of August 2019, it locates 23 problems.

* These links will open a webpage. Click on the download button to view or save.

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Fairy Definitions

(Leaper type piece definitions given under the diagrams when they first occur)

Antircirce

Antircirce Calvet (the default type): After a capture the capturing piece (Ks included) must immediately be removed to its game array square (necessarily vacant, else the capture is illegal). Captures on the rebirth square are allowed. Game array squares are determined as in Circe. Antircirce Cheylan: As Antircirce Calvet except that captures on the rebirth square are not allowed.

Black must capture

If a capture is possible, Black must make it, else He moves normally.

Circe

Captured units (not Ks) reappear on their game-array squares, of the same colour in the case of pieces, on the file of capture in the case of pawns, and on the promotion square of the file of capture in the case of fairy pieces. If the rebirth square is occupied the capture is normal.

Diagram Circe

Like Circe, except that the rebirth square is the one occupied by the captured piece in the diagram position.

Equihopper/Non-stop Equihopper

Moves along any line over another unit of either colour to a square situated such that the hurdle stands at the mid-point between the Equihopper's departure and arrival squares. The English Equihopper cannot pass over an obstruction other than the hurdle when playing along Queen-lines. The non-stop/French Equihopper does not have this restriction.

Immobile unit

Cannot move or capture, but can check the opposite King

Kamikaze Chess

After a capture, the capturing piece also disappears, except for Ks.

Black Kamikaze

Kamikaze chess rule applied only to captures by Black

Kamikaze unit

Kamikaze chess rule applied only to the indicated pieces

Lion

Moves or captures along Queen lines over another unit of either colour to any square beyond that unit.

Madrasi/Madrasi Rex Inclusiv

Pieces, other than Kings, are paralysed when they attack each other, And cannot move, capture or give check, their only power being that of causing paralysis.

Madrasi RI (rex inclusive): the rule applies to Kings as well, so the two Kings may stand next to each other.

Single Box

A pawn can promote only to a piece whose equivalent has already been removed from the board by capture. Either side may have 2 Bishops on squares of the same colour, but neither side can ever have 3 Bishops or 2 Queens at the same time. The way the condition is applied defines the type of problem:

Type 1: A pawn on the 7th/2nd rank cannot advance to the promotion square until a piece of its own side is captured.

Type 2: If a pawn reaches the promotion square before any piece of its own side is captured, it remains dormant until a piece is captured, whereupon it at once takes the power of that piece. In the case of more than one dormant pawn, the side making the capture decides which of the opponent's dormant pawns takes the power of the captured piece. A dormant pawn cannot move but may be captured.

Vertical Mirror Circe

Like Circe, except that the rebirth is on the square which is vertically mirrored from the normal rebirth square. (E.g: a1->h1, e8->d8, b2->g2, etc.)

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Conflictio is an e-zine dedicated to chess problems with antagonistic stipulations
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