

In this issue

Being very busy recently, I had little time to prepare more than the content of this issue. But it is something very welcome, at least from my viewpoint. Our 2022 judge Narayan Shankar Ram has prepared the award of the annual tourney, for which I am very grateful.

A few originals follow in the originals column Fresh Clash.

Stay safe and enjoy Conflictio!

Juraj Lörinc



Birthday cake for Bedrich Formánek 90 (* 6.6.1933). The point is that fairy piece grasshopper is called cvrček in Slovak, what is in fact Czech translation of cricket, while in Slovak this insect is called svrček. (*Photo by Ivan Jarolín.*)

Award of Conflictio 2022

by Narayan Shankar Ram

My thanks to Juraj Lörinc for inviting me to be judge. There were 58 originals by 11 composers from 6 countries published in the 7 issues of 2022, including one correction. I decided to split the award into a) Fairies (8 originals) and b) Others (50 originals).

Conflictio 2022	Σ	Awarded	Prize	H.M	Com.
Goal: #	32	9	4	3	2
Goal: s#	1	1	0	0	1
Goal: =	24	6	1	3	2
Retractor	1	0	0	0	0
With Fairy Pieces	4	4	3	0	1
Without Fairy Pieces	54	12	2	6	4
With Fairy Conditions	4	3	0	2	1
Without Fairy Conditions	54	13	5	4	4
With both Fairy Pieces and Conditions	0	0	0	0	0
With neither Fairy Pieces nor Conditions	50	9	2	4	3
With Fairy Board	2	1	0	0	1
Wenigsteiner (1-4)	0	0	0	0	0
Tanagra (5)	0	0	0	0	0
Miniature (6-7)	0	0	0	0	0
Gravure (8-10)	4	0	0	0	0
Meredith (11-12)	8	2	0	2	0
JF-10JT (13-15)	10	3	1	1	1
> 15	36	11	4	3	4
Move length: 2	53	13	3	6	4
Move length: 3	2	1	1	0	0
Move length: 4	1	1	1	0	0
Move length: 5	1	1	0	0	1
Move length: 7	1	0	0	0	0
Total	58	16	5	6	5

Some statistics:

There were a lot of interesting works and the work of selecting them was a pleasant task. My congratulations to the winners and best wishes for the continued success of *Conflictio*.

Shankar Ram Bangalore March 2023

a) Fairies

Though there were only 8 originals, the standard was very high.

1st Prize: N033 Peter Gvozdják

A wonderful matrix to show a complete 3x3 Lačný in a #4 plus a cycle of W2/W3/W4 moves in each phase!

In each phase, the capture of the wPA on d3/d4/e3 functions as the random move with the error of white line opening to the BK flight on d5. The other 2 non-capturing moves on d3/d4/e3 are corrections with dual avoidance, with a positive effect of creating a hurdle for the front piece and a negative effect of interfering with the rear piece on the 3 black lines. The primary positive effect of creating a hurdle for the front piece also acts as a secondary positive effect in both preventing the white continuation after the random move, as well avoiding the dual for the common negative effect of interfering with the rear piece.

This task has earlier been done by Peter: 2-3 Pr. e.a (dedicated to Loustau/Aschwanden), Pat a Mat, 2011; #4; (16+35). WinChloe# **404164**, which however uses a 10x10 board.

Other close forerunners are: Loustau/Aschwanden, 3rd Pr., Idee & Form, 2004-05, #4; (16+29) WinChloe# **160409**, which only has a cycle of W2/W3 moves and Aschwanden, Hon.Men, StrateGems, 2002, #3; 11x11 board; (25+21) WinChloe# **110662**, which is a #3 with a cycle of W2/W3 moves and also uses a 11x11 board. With a 2-phase Lačný, there are several examples, including the pioneering orthodox #3 by Milan Velimirović: 1st Prize, Die Schwalbe, 1986.

Set play:

- 1...Sd4 a 2.S×d2+ A RKL×d2,PA×d2 3.R×c5+ B S×c5 4.R×c3# C
- 1...Se3 b 2.R×c3+ B RKL×c3,NL×c3 3.S×d2+ C S×d2 4.R×c5# A
- 1...NL×d3 c 2.R×c5+ C VA×c5,NL×c5 3.R×c3+ A S×c3 4.S×d2# B
- 1...Kd5 2.S×e5+ NL×d3 3.RKLb7+ Ke6 4.c×d8=S#

1.PAd4? [2.S×e5#]

1...S×d4 a 2.R×c3+ B RKL×c3,NL×c3 3.S×d2+ C S×d2 4.R×c5# A 1...Se3 b 2.R×c5+ C BKL×c5,NL×c5 3.R×c3+ A S×c3 4.S×d2# B 1...NLd3 c 2.S×d2+ A RKL×d2,PA×d2 3.R×c5+ B S×c5 4.R×c3# C 1...Kd5 2.S×e5+ NL×d3 3.RKLb7+ Ke6 4.c×d8=S# 1...RKLd3!

1.PAe3! [2.S×e5#]

1...Sd4 a 2.R×c5+ C BKL×c5,NL×c5 3.R×c3+ A S×c3 4.S×d2# B

- 1...S×e3 b 2.S×d2+ A PAd×d2,PAb×d2 3.R×c5+ B S×c5 4.R×c3# C
- 1...NLd3 c 2.R×c3+ B RKL×c3,NL×c3 3.S×d2+ C S×d2 4.R×c5# A
- 1...Kd5 2.S×e5+ NL×d3 3.RKLb7+ Ke6 4.c×d8=S#



2nd Prize: N030 James Quah

A 5-1 Djurasevic cycle using 4 different white lion anti-batteries: e8-h5, f5-h5, h1-h5 and e1-g2-f4-h5. Several supplementary white and black lines also play a part: a1-c2-b4-d5c7-e8, b3-h3, c1-b3-c5-e6-g5, b7-h1, c7-e6-d4-f3-e1, c3-d5-f4-g6, f8-e6-f4-h3, e6-g6, g8e8, g8-g2 and g4-g6. In addition, the 3 thematic black moves by the Lib3 show correction, with Lig8 being the random move in both phases and the moves to d5 and e6 correcting it.

James has composed several examples of the Djurasevic theme, ranging from the simple to complex. This is a distinctive mechanism utilising numerous white as well as black lines.





3rd Prize: N029, Ladislav Salai jr. & Michal Dragoun

This problem shows the currently popular theme of changed mates in sub-variations of a 3-mover (WCCT-11 theme for section B!), which also goes by the name "Visserman" theme.

Here there are 4 such pairs of changed mates with a harmonious linkage between all of them and all featuring the firing of the Ge4/PAe8 battery. Orthogonal-Diagonal Transformation (ODT) is also present.

In the threat, the WG delivers the mates in Siers battery style using the VAd5 and PAf4 as hurdles.

After 1...RHd3, the VAd5 and PAf4 mate on e4, using each other reciprocally as hurdles – a sort of "Chinese Grimshaw".

1...g3 and 1...c4 both unblock remote BK flights on c5 and g4 to prevent the threat, but simultaneously block new remote flights on c4 and g3, leading to mates by the VAd5 and PAf4 using the WG as a hurdle – another reciprocal hurdle inversion when compared to the mates after 1...RHd3. Also present is a pair of mates by the 2 WBs.

1.Kg6! [2.Gh7+ Kd4 3.Gd7# 2...Kf3 3.Gf5#] 1...RHd3 2.Ge2+ Kd4 3.VAe4# 2...Kf3 3.PAe4# 1...g3 2.Gg4+ Kd4 3.PA×h4# 2...Kf3 3.Be2# 1...c4 2.Gc6+ Kd4 3.Bb6# 2...Kf3 3.VA×b7#



1st Honourable Mention: N028 Hubert Gockel

Breton specific underpromotion key, followed by 4x + 1x Breton specific correction moves by BR and BS, including 2x corrections by arrival on the unguarded square (Secondary Anti-Umnov) which are then utilised as selfblocks.



2nd Honourable mention: N037 Juraj Lörinc

4 defences each with two defence motives in a cycle to defend against the double threat. Related to Maleika's **1018-1029** but with a 4x cycle instead of double reciprocal change. And with 2 of the effects being Anticirce specific.

1.d×c5(c2)! [2.Bd4#, Re4#]

1...Qf5 A B 2.Shf3#

- 1...Re4 B C 2.Sdf3#
- 1...Bd4 C D 2.Rc5#
- 1...Sb6 D A 2.Qc7#

Defence motifs:

A – guarding of the mating square by unblocking of the Circe square of Black piece (Anticirce)

B – direct guarding of the mating square (orthodox)

C – altering the mating move by occupation of the arrival square (Anticirce)

D – gate closing (orthodox)



1st Commendation: N031 Juraj Lörinc

Full length threat + 2 variations in a s#5 with Locust specific maneuvers.

1.Bd4! [2.h3+ LOg×h3-i3 3.Sf5+ Kg5 4.Sd6+ K×g6 5.h7 LOa×c6-d5#] 1...LO×h6-i7 2.Sf5+ Kg5 3.Sg7+ Kh6 4.Se6+ K×g6 5.S×d8+ LO×c6-d6#, LO×c6-d5# 1...LO×h2-i2 2.Sg2+ K~3 3.Sf4+ Kg4 4.Sd5+ Kf3 5.Sc3+ LO×c6-d6#, LO×c6-d5# (other variations are shorter or dualistic)



2nd Commendation: N036 Hubert Gockel

Breton specific defences to prevent the double threat followed by Breton specific weaknesses utilised by the mates.

1...B×c6(×d7) 2.B×e6(×f4)#

1.B×e5(×g5)! [2.Rg5#, Sd4#] 1...S×c6(×e7) 2.Sd6# 1...B×c6(×d7) 2.B×e6(×h5)# 1...d×c6(×e7) 2.Qh7#



b) Others

There were 50 originals of which 48 were by the same composer, Gerhard Maleika, published in a series of 4 articles. These treated various ways of showing duals, defence motivations, move weaknesses with cycles, reciprocal changes, carousels, combinations and progressive reductions. These are summarised in the table below. I have selected for the award, those which I felt were the best ones from each group.

#	issue	##	type	Σ	theme	
1	37	859, 860	=	2	8 variations with duals and cycle of capturing pieces with BB and BS as thematic pieces	
2	37	861, 862	=	2	7 variations with triples, duals, singles and all combinations of W capturing pieces with BB star and BS 7/8 wheel.	
2a	38	887-889	=	3	Ditto, with BQ, BR and BSx3+BSx4 (half-pin)	
3	37	863-871	=	9	6 variations with duals and $4C_2$ =6 combinations of W capturing pieces; with BQ (2), BR, BB (3), BS (2), 2xBPx3 (half-pin)	
3a	38	890	=	1	Ditto with BSx5 + BPx1 (half-pin)	
4	37	872-875	=	4	5 variations with progressive duals 5-4-3-2-1 and with different W capturing pieces with BB (2), BS, BPx2+BPx3 (half-pin)	
4a	38	891-892	=	2	Ditto with BB and BSx4+BPx1(half-pin)	
5	37	876	=	1	7 variations with progressive duals 6-5-4-3-2-1 and 7th B move giving new mate and with different W capturing pieces	
6	42	984, 985, 989, 990	#	4	Triple threat separation with Carousel like cycle of defence motivations + defence stopping all 3 threats with all 3 motivations and giving new mate	
6a	42	983, 986, 987, 988, 991	#	5	Ditto, with pseudo carousel	
6b	42	992	#	1	Ditto, with pseudo carousel and 1 B defence having incorrect motivations	
7	42	993, 994	#	2	4-fold cycle of Black double weaknesses which are both required for the mate	
8	43	1018-1029	#	12	Double reciprocal change of B double motives in 4 variations to defend against double threat	
			=	24		
		Total	#	24		
			All	48		

1st Prize: N032 Gérard Doukhan

The obvious winner! Between the set play, 3 tries and the key, the author has managed to combine 5 different pattern themes. 3 of them are in the "pseudo" form, which while not as paradoxical as the regular versions, are still not very easy to achieve. The play is also of some interest, involving pins, selfpins and line openings.

Since many readers may be put off by this plethora of patterns, when shown together, I have listed them individually. I hope this will help to understand and appreciate them!

1.Qg8? B×e5! 1.Bf3? S×e5!

- 1.Qf3? Be3!

1.B×b3!

Pseudo Cyclic Anti-Reversal:

1.Qg8? A	1e3 2.Bf3# B
1.Bf3? <mark>B</mark>	1exf3 2.Qxf3# <mark>C</mark>
1.Qf3? <mark>C</mark>	1Sxe5 2.Bxb3# D
1.Bb3! D	1Rxe5 2.Qg8# A

Pseudo Cyclic Le Grand (Ukraine) theme:

1.Qf3?	2.Qxe4# <mark>X</mark>	1Rxe7+ 2.Sxe7# Y
1.Qg8?	2.Se7# <mark>Y</mark>	1Sc4~ 2.Sb6# Z
1.Bxb3!	2.Sb6# <mark>Z</mark>	1Bxe5 2.Qxe4# X

Pseudo Lender combination:

1.Qg8? <mark>A</mark>	2.Se7# <mark>Y</mark>	1Sxe5! 2.Bxb3# D	1Sc4~ 2.Sb6# <mark>Z</mark>
1.Bb3! <mark>D</mark>	2.Sb6# <mark>Z</mark>	1Rxe5 2.Qg8# <mark>A</mark>	1Re7+/xc6 2.S(x)e7# Y

Reversal:

1.Bf3? <mark>B</mark>	1exf3 2.Qxf3# C
1.Qf3? <mark>C</mark>	1exf3 2.Bxf3# B

Ellerman-Mäkihovi theme:

	1e3
Set Play	2.Bf3/Qf3#
1.Qg8?	2.Bf3#
1.Bxb3!	2.Qf3#



2nd Prize: 889 Gerhard Maleika

An interesting twist on the familiar combinative separation theme, shown with a half pin of two BSs. Here, the duals are not repeated, so that there are a total of 12 different stalemating moves on the 7 squares. These however occur with the grabs by all combinations of Q, R and B: QRB, QR, QB, RB, Q, R and B.



1st Honourable Mention: 860 Gerhard Maleika

A new interpretation of the Black knight wheel! After each move, the BS can be captured twice, with an 8-fold cycle of capturing pieces: Q/dP, dP/B, B/dS, dS/R, R/aS, aS/6P, 6P/K, K/Q.

1.Bh6! zz

1...Sc3 2.Q×c3= A, 2.d×c3= B 1...Se3 2.d×e3= B, 2.B×e3= C 1...Sf4 2.B×f4= C, 2.S×f4= D 1...Sb4 2.S×b4= D, 2.R×b4= E 1...Sb6 2.R×b6= E, 2.S×b6= F 1...Sc7 2.S×c7= F, 2.d×c7= G 1...Se7 2.d×e7= G, 2.K×e7= H 1...Sf6 2.K×f6= H, 2.Q×f6= A



2nd Honourable Mention: 990 Gerhard Maleika

Triple threat separation with a Carousel like cycle of two defence motivations and a 4th defence stopping all 3 threats with all 3 motivations and giving a new mate.

- 1.Se8! [2.Sc7# 2.R×e5# 2.Rd6#]
- 1...S×e4 x D B 2.Sc7#
- 1...B×e8 D x A 2.R×e5#
- 1...R×c5 B A x 2.Rd6#
- 1...g×f6 A B D 2.S×f6#
- A: a black piece opens a black move line (guarding by line opening)
- B: a black piece gains access to a square by its move (direct guarding)
- D: a black piece captures a threat piece (*capture of threat piece*)



3rd Honourable Mention: 987 Gerhard Maleika

Triple threat separation with a pseudo Carousel like cycle of two defence motivations and a 4th defence stopping all 3 threats with all 3 motivations and giving a new mate.

- 1.Qe5! [2.Q×d4#, 2.Q×f4#, 2.Q×e4#]
- 1...S×d3 A B C 2.S×g2#
- 1...e×f6 x C A 2.Q×d4#
- 1...B×f3 <mark>C x B</mark> 2.Q×f4#
- 1...Rc4 B A x 2.Q×e4#
- A: a black piece opens a black move line (guarding by line opening)
- B: a black piece gains access to a square by its move (*direct guarding*)

C: a black piece captures a guarding piece (*unguarding by capture*)



4th Honourable Mention: 1027 Gerhard Maleika

Double reciprocal change of doubled defence motives of black in 4 variations to defend against a double threat, with new mates for the defences.

1.Rf5! [2.R×b3#, R×c5#] 1...Rh5 2.R×b3# 1...Be6 2.R×c5# 1...c×b2 A F 2.c4# 1...B×f5 F A 2.Qc6# 1...Q×c7 B D 2.Q×a6# 1...R×d4 D B 2.S×d4#

A: a black piece captures a threat piece (*capture of threat piece*)

- B: a black piece captures a guarding piece (unguarding by capture)
- D: a black piece gains access to a square by its move (direct guarding)
- F: a black piece captures a pinning piece (unpinning by capture)



1st Commendation: 876 Gerhard Maleika

6 variations showing progressively reducing duals: 6-5-4-3-2-1. The duals are actually different moves but with the same white pieces. There is a 7th black move with a new stalemate by a different white piece.

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1.Qg5! [2.Q×f5=]

1...Se7 2.d×e7= A, 2.S×e7= B, 2.Rb×e7= C, 2.B×e7= D, 2.Rh×e7= E, 2.Q×e7= F

1...S×d6 2.S×d6= B, 2.Rbd7= C, 2.B×d6= D, 2.Rhd7= E, 2.Qd8= F

1...Sq7 2.Rb×g7= C, 2.B×g7= D, 2.Rh×g7= E, 2.Q×g7= F

1...Sh6 2.B×h6= D, 2.R×h6= E, 2.Q×h6= F

1...Sq3 2.Q×g3= F

1...Sq3 2.Q×g3= F

1...Se3 2.S×e3= G

876 - Gerhard Maleika
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2nd Commendation: 871 Gerhard Maleika

6 variations with duals and $4C_2=6$ all possible combinations of 4 white capturing pieces, here shown with a halfpin of 2 BPs.

1.Bf8! zz

1...g×f4 2.Se×f4= A, 2.Sg×f4= B 1...g4 2.Sg3= A, 2.B×g4= C 1...d4 2.S×d4= A, 2.Kd3= D 1...g×h4 2.S×h4= B, 2.Bh3= C 1...d×e4 2.Se3= B, 2.Ke3= D 1...d×c4 2.B×c4= C, 2.Kc3= D



3rd Commendation: 994 Gerhard Maleika

4-fold cycle of Black double weaknesses which are both required for the mate.

1.Bb3! [2.Qa4#]

- 1...Q×b3 F G 2.Sd3#
- 1...Q×d5+ G H 2.S×d5#
- 1...Q×c5+ H I 2.B×c5#
- 1...Q×b5 | F 2.Sc2#

F: a black piece blocks a square for the black king (*selfblock*)

G: a black piece opens a white checking line (*line opening*)

H: a black piece captures a white piece, thus enabling a white move to that square (square unblocking by capture)

I: a black piece loses access to a square by its move (*direct unguarding*)



Fresh clash 21

There are 4 originals in this issue.

N043 is a very special case, it is accompanied by the comparison problem **1104**.

N043 - Petko Petkov & Peter Gvozdják



- 1...NHd5 f 2.Q×d4#
- 1...BHd6 g 2.Q×d6#
- 1...NH×e6 h 2.Q×e6#
- 1...Sg1~ 2.RLe2#
- 1...BHc6!

1.Qf3! zz

1...BHf6 a 2.Q×f6# 1...BHf5 b 2.Q×f5# 1...BHf4 c 2.Q×f4# 1...RL×e4 d 2.Q×e4# 1...BHd4 e 2.CAf8# A 1...NHd5 f 2.Sc4# B 1...BHd6 g 2.CAd8# C 1...NH×e6 h 2.Sf7# D 1...Sg1~ 2.RLe2# 1...BHa4 2.e8=RL#

Ideal Rukhlis in 4+4 variations. We were quite satisfied with this position and were planning where to send it.

In that phase we discovered an earlier composition by G. Maleika (Die Schwalbe 1985, see WID 443548). Unfortunately for us the mechanism is exactly the same.

Unfortunately for Gerhard he missed to complete a perfect composition, rather he was satisfied with the scheme.

It seemed to us to be a pity not to show a better version to the public.

Therefore we decided to publish our joint position but not to be judged in a composing tourney (one of the authors is the judge in Conflictio 2023). (authors)

The twomover **1104** by Gerhard Maleika is given on the next page.



- 1.Qb3! zz
- 1...AL×e4 2.Sf3# 1...ALe3 2.Q×e3# 1...ALe5 2.CAg5# 1...ALd3 2.Q×d3# 1...b×c4 2.Q×c4# 1...ALd5 2.Se2# 1...ALc5 2.CAg3# 1...ALc3 2.Q×c3#

1.Qf5! zz

1...AL×e4 2.Q×e4# 1...ALe3 2.CAg3# 1...ALe5 2.Q×e5# 1...ALd3 2.Se2# 1...b×c4 2.Sf3# 1...ALd5 2.Q×d5# 1...ALc5 2.Q×c5# 1...ALc3 2.CAg5#

By chance we have also three originals **N044-N046** from Gerhard with the same idea shown in three different schemes.

N044 - Gerhard Maleika



1.Rh5? [2.R×h6=], 1…Bf4! b 1…Bd2 a 2.Rh2= A

1.Rgf5? zz, 1...Bd2! a 1...Bf4 b 2.R5×f4= B

1.Rc5? zz, 1...Bf8! 1...Bd2 a 2.Qh2= C 1...Bf4 b 2.Q×f4= D

1.Rd5! zz

1...Bd2 a 2.Rf2= E 1...Bf4 b 2.R×f4= F 1...Bc1 2.B×c1= 1...Be3 2.R×e3= 1...Bg5 2.R×g5= 1...Bg7 2.f×g7= 1...Bf8 2.B×f8=

The theme shown can be described as follows: A white piece opens a black move line, so that 2 new black moves are possible (**a**, **b**). With 2 moves of the white piece, there is only a stalemate move on each 1 black move (**A**, **B**). With 2 moves of the white piece there are stalemate moves on both black moves (**CD**, **EF**).

 N045 - Gerhard Maleika

 Mateina
 Mateina

 Mateina<

- 1.Bd2? zz, 1...Rg3! b 1...Re3 a 2.B×e3= A
- 1.Be1? zz, 1...Re3! **a** 1...Rg3 **b** 2.B×g3= **B**
- 1.Bb4? [2.B×a3=], 1...R×a4! 1...Re3 a 2.S×e3= C 1...Rg3 b 2.S×g3= D
- 1.Ba5! zz

1...Re3 a 2.Q×e3= E 1...Rg3 b 2.Q×g3= F 1...Rb3 2.B×b3= 1...Rc3 2.B×c3= 1...Rd3 2.R×d3= 1...Rf3 2.g×f3= 1...Rf3 2.g×h3= 1...Rh3 2.g×h3= 1...R×a4 2.R×a4=



- 1...Rf4 2.S×f4=
- 1...Rg4+ 2.h×g4= 1...R×h5 2.K×h5=

Which problem among **N044-N046** do you like the best? My favourite is **N046** because it is most economical, even if there are three different pins of bBd2 in **N044**. Your choice. (By the way there is always virtual threat in one phase...)

Juraj Lörinc

Annual tourney Conflictio 2023

All kinds of antagonistic problems will be accepted for originals column (Fresh clash – orthodox and fairy direct, self-, reflex mates and other aims of any length, any fairy elements), the main criteria for publication being antagonistic stipulation and sufficient quality. Possible originals from other articles will be included in the competition as well. **The tourney will be judged by Peter Gvozdják**, multiple sections might be created based on the quality and quantity of entries. Please, send the originals to Juraj Lörinc (address below).

Conflictio is an e-zine dedicated to chess problems with antagonistic stipulations Editor: Juraj Lörinc, juraj.lorinc+conflictio@gmail.com