

## MOREMOVERS 2008

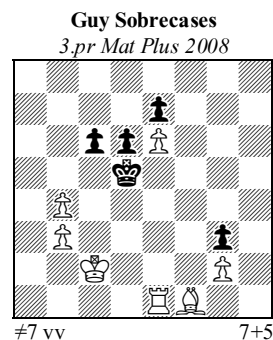
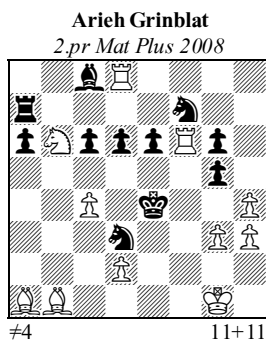
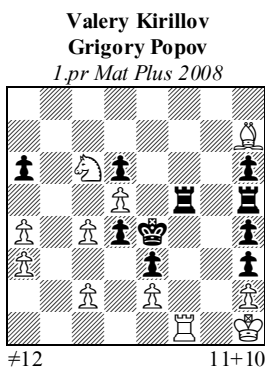
*Judge: Alexandr Feoktistov (Russia)*

A good number of 40 compositions by 28 authors took part in this tourney. By the number of compositions the competition was fairly representative, but the same cannot be said for the qualitative level. I was on the way to make the award in less than a year after the final issue of the magazine, when I was struck by a tragedy, a death of my wife near the end of 2009. Then I myself had a complex operation on the eye in 2010, which restricted my ability to work with a computer. The result of this were accumulated obligations, among which there were many pending awards. So I beg for your understanding and offer my apologize to colleagues and readers.

An additional factor was the lack of leading authors in this competition. The arbiter is faced to understandable difficulties when he can put with good reason five or six compositions in one order or another. But even in this case, I did not want to divide the places.

It turned out that the results of the tourney appear after the FIDE Album award for 2007-2009, where I was the director of the moremovers section. None of the problems published in the "Mat Plus" journal in 2008 was included in the Album. This confirms the above-mentioned, that there were no really striking compositions, which gave the additional difficulties in distribution of the winners. In such case the decisive factor is the judge's taste. However, there were enough compositions which were pleasant to analyze, and the competition cannot be recognized as unsuccessful.

I propose the following distribution of distinctions:



**1.pr** – 1.Rf3? a5! 2.Kg1 Rg5+ 3.Kf1 h5!; **1.a5!** Rg5 2.Rf3 Rh5 3.Kg1 Rg5+ 4.Kf1 Rh5 5.Ke1 Rg5 6.Rf1 Rh5 7.Kd1 Rg5 8.Kc1 Rh5 9.Kb2 Rg5 10.Rd1 d3 11.Rxd3 Kf3 12.Rd4#.

**2.pr** – **1.Kf1!** ~ 2.Rxd6 Sxd6 3.Ke2 ~ 4.Bxd3#, 1... Bd7 2.Ke2! Sfe5 3.hxg5 ~ 4.Rf4#, 1... Rd7 2.hxg5! e5 3.Ke2 ~ 4.Bxd3#, 1... d5 2.Sa4! d4 3.Sc5+ Ke5 4.Bxd4#, 1... e5 2.Ke2! Bg4+ 3.hxg4 ~ 4.Bxd3#.

**3.pr** – 1.Bc4+? Kd4 2.??; 1.Kc3? ~ 2.Bc4?, 1...c5! 2.b5 2.c4 3.b4 – stalemate; **1.Ba6!** Kd4 2.Bc4 d5 3.Bf1! c5 4.b5 c4 5.b4 c3 6.Re2 Kc4 7.Re4#.

**1st Prize: No.1137 – Valery Kirillov and Grigory Popov (Russia).** The main plan Rd1 fails due the distant flight on g5. It is necessary to attract the black rook to block it, but with the white king on h1 a check on g1 is possible. Therefore the king must be withdrawn to the safe place at b2. Immediate 1.Re3 would allow black to put white into a zugzwang position. Of course, it would be better if the white king made the maneuver from h1 to a1, but unfortunately authors fell short of it.

**2nd Prize: No.973 – Arieh Grinblat (Israel).** A powerful tactical instruments – interference on d7 and obstruction on e5. An ordinary key and quiet threat. Unfortunately there are some significant drawbacks. First, it is the repetition of the second and third move Ke2 – it is desirable to have this move only in thematic lines. Also unpleasant is triple 4.Bxe3#.

**3rd Prize: No.1134 – Guy Sobrecases (France).** Again, as in the first-placed problem, a try which leads to a stalemate, where a pendulum of the white bishop is combined with the switchback and the Indian maneuver. The plan is not as ambitious as in the first two moremovers, but the presentation is skilful.



**4.pr** – 1.Re4? Rc8!; 1.Rg4? Qxg4 2.Rg3 Rg7!; **1.Rxd4!** Qg7 2.Rd7! Qxd7 3.Qxg8+ Qc8 4.Rg3 d2 5.Rg2 d1=Q 6.Qg3+ Ka8 7.Qa3+ Qa4 8.Rg8! Qb8+ 9.Rxb8+ Kxb8 10.Qg3+ Ka8,Kc8 11.Qg8,Qc7# (8... Qxg8 9.Qf3+ Qe4 10.Qxe4+).

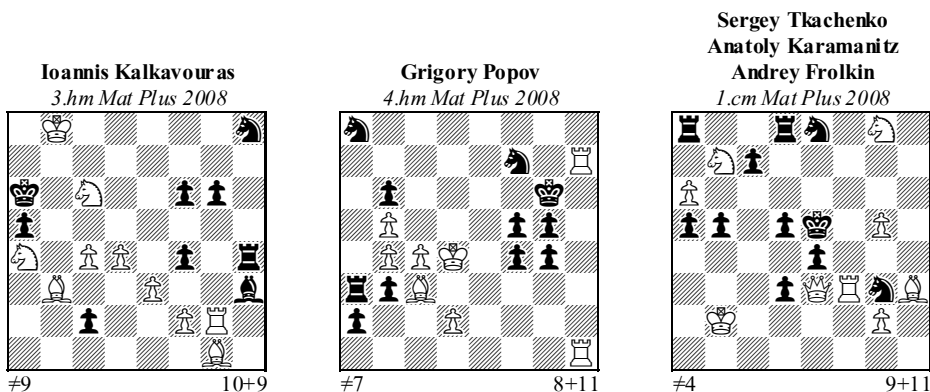
**1.hm** – 1.Rd1? a1=Q!; **1.0-0-0!** a1=Q+ 2.Kc2 Qa2+ 3.Kc3 Qa1+ 4.Kb4 Qxd1 5.Rxd1 h1=Q 6.f4+ gxf3(ep) 7.Rd5#.

**2.hm** – **1.Qg4!** ~ 2.Qg8+ Re6 3.Sd6,Qxe6# (A,B), 1... Rg5 2.Qe6+ (B) Rxe6 3.Sd2+ Kd4 4.Bb2#, 1... Bg5 2.Sd6+ (A) Rxd6 3.Sxe5+ Kd4 4.Bb2#, (1... Rf5 2.Qg8+ Rf7 3.Qxf7+, 1... Rg6 2.Qxg6 etc., 1... Bc8 2.Qxc8 3.Sd6+).

**4th Prize: No.893 – Borislav Stojanović (Serbia) – dedicated to Steven Dowd.** Totally unconventional design with excellent geometry of the white queen. If not for a couple of drawbacks, it would have taken first place. And the shortcomings are: not a pleasant pawn-capture introduction and actual stretching of the play, though beautiful, after 5.Tg2. I am not convinced in the correctness of the composition, although I used my best validation tools. (*Gustav confirmed the correctness – Ed. note*)

**1st Honourable Mention: No.1054 – Anatoly Styopochkin (Russia).** Classic setting for this author: castling – promotion – en passant (Valladao task), performed beautifully and skillfully.

**2nd Honourable Mention: No.1130 – Arieh Grinblat and Evgeni Bourd (Israel).** Grimshaw on g5 combined with changed functions of moves by the white knight and queen. Again, as in the second prize, an interesting mix of tactical elements. But again there is a visible flaw – a repetition of the mate 4.Bb2#. Roughly (for 10-15 minutes) it can be corrected as in the attached version. Perhaps there are other possibilities. Short threat is not a flaw here.



**3.hm** – 1.Sc5+? Kb6!; **1.Rg5!** ffg5 2.Ka8! Bg2 3.f3 Bxf3 4.e4 Bxe4 5.d5 Bxd5 6.Ba7! Bxc6+ 7.Kb8 Bxa4 8.Bxa4 ~ 9.Bb5#.

**4.hm** – 1.Kc4??; **1.Kd3!** Se5+ 2.Kd2 Sxc4+ 3.Kd3 Se5+ 4.Kd4 (2.Bxe5? b2+ 5.Kc4 Rh3!) Sf7 5.Kc4! Sd6+ 6.Kd3 Sf7 7..Rg7# (5... Se5+ 6.Bxe5 Ra7 7.R1h6#).

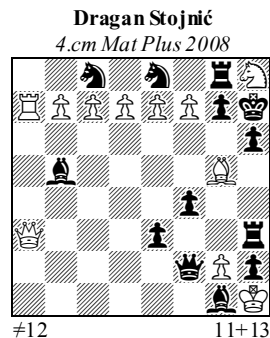
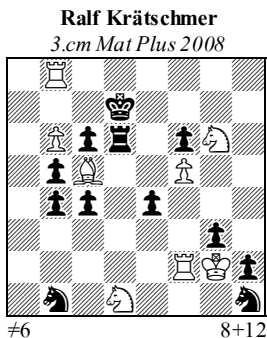
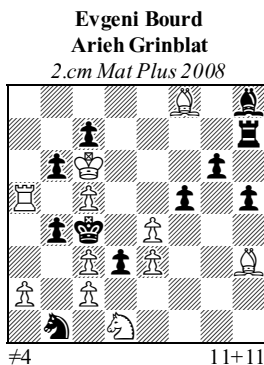
**1.cm** – **1.Qc5!** ~ 2.Qc3+ d4 3.Qc5+ Rd5 4.Qe7#, 1... e3 2.Qe7+ Kd4 3.Qxe3+ Kc4 4.Qc5#, 1... exf3 2.Qe3+ Se4 3.gxf3 ~,d4 4.f4,Qxe4#, 1... b4 2.Sxa5 exf3 3.Sc4+ Ke4 4.Qe3#, 1... Rxa6 2.Sxd8 Sd6 3.Qc3+ d4 4.Qc5# (2... Rf6 3.Qc3+ d4 Kd6 4.Sb7#).

**3rd Honourable Mention: No.1136 – Ioannis Kalkavouras (Greece).** In course of the solution, in order to inflict the final strike, white drops six pieces and complete the play by a model mate using the remaining material. Not so difficult, but by all means a pleasant composition.

**4th Honourable Mention: No.890 –Grigory Popov (Russia).** Something similar to the previous idea. If there a decisive bishop's action to a7 was prevented by three pawns, there is only one obstacle here – pawn c4. Finale is less interesting. Such plans should be crowned with a model mate.

**1st Commendation: No.1129 – Sergey Tkachenko, Anatoly Karamanitz and Andrey Frolkin (Ukraine).** Minimum of tactics and maximum of geometry. White has three core moves: Dts5, De7 and De3 that follow at different stages of the solution. But the authors have failed to make the most of the position. In terms of form very interesting is the variation 1... Be2(f5) 2.Rf5+ Ke6 3.Qf8! Kd7 4.Rf6 #. A possible way of upgrade would be a variation with 3.Qe7.

**2nd Commendation: No.974 – Evgeni Bourd and Arieh Grinblat (Israel).** Again we have to regret that a very interesting idea – Novotny interference and pendulum of bishop and rook – authors spoiled by a short threat. Probably, in this scheme, it is better to give up the Novotny.



**2.cm** – 1.Bg7! ~ 2.Sb2#, 1... Bxg7 2.Bf1 fxe4 3.Bh3 dxc2 4.Bf1#, 1... Rxg7 2.Ra4 bxc5 3.Ra5 bxc3 4.Ra4#.

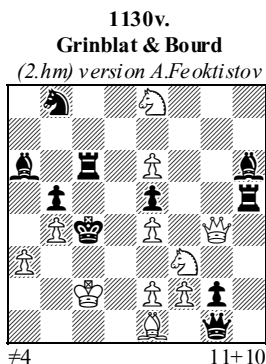
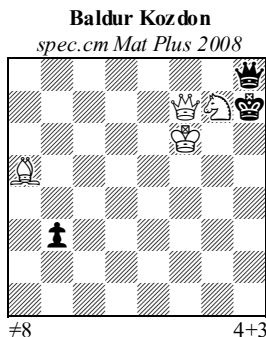
**3.cm** – 1.Rd2? Sxd2!; 1.Ra2 Sa3 2.Rd2 Rxd2+ 3.Sf2 Rd6 4.Sxe4 Sc2 5.Sxf6+ Rxf6 6.Se5# (4... Rd2+ 5.Sxd2 ~ 6.Sf8#).

**4.cm** – 1... Qg2+ 2.Kxg2 h1=Q#; 1.Qd3+ Bxd3 2.fxg8=Q+ Kxg8 3.dxe8=Q+ Kh7 4.Qg8+ Kxg8 5.bxc8=Q+ 6.Qg8+ 7.c8=Q+ 8.Qb8+ 9.e8=Q+ Kh7 10.Rxg7+ Kxg7 11.Qf7+ Kxh8 12.Bf6#

**3rd Commendation: No.979 – Ralf Krätschmer (Germany).** Simple but nice logical maneuver with decoy of the black knight and rook.

**4th Commendation: No.982 – Dragan Stojnić (Serbia).** Five promotions to queens, probably a task. In the age of computers author should have tried to make the first sacrifice quiet. In this case, the problem would have been among the prize-winners.

**Special Commendation for Miniature: No.801 – Baldur Kozdon (Germany)** The main advantages of this miniature are: a good introduction, excellent second move and the lack of “garbage branches” (obscuring sub-variations – MV ?!).



**spec.cm** – 1.Bc3! ~ 2.Ke7 b2 3.Sg~+, 1... Qd8+ 2.Ke5 Qg8 3.Qh5+ Kxg7 4.Kf5+ Kf8 5.Bb4+ Kg7 6.Qg6+ Kh8 7.Bc3+ Qg7 8.Qxg7#

**1130v** – 1.e7! ~ 2.Qg8+ Re6 3.Sd6,Qxe6#(A,B), 1... Rg5 2.Qe6+(B) Rxe6 3.Sd2+ Kd4 4.e3#, 1... Bg5 2.Sd6+(A) Rxd6 3.Sxe5+ Kd4 4.Bc3#; (1.Qg8? Rg5 2.e3! Qxe1 3.e7+ Rxg8 4.Sxe5#, 3... Re6 4.Sd6,Qxe6#(A,B)), 1... Bc8!

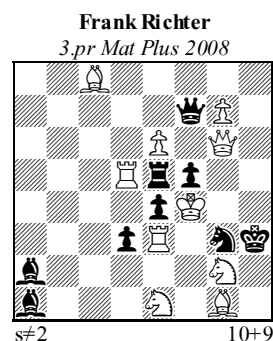
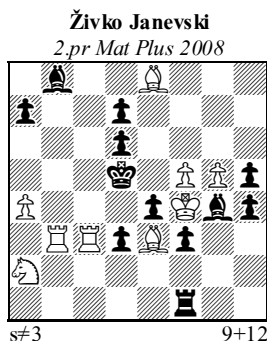
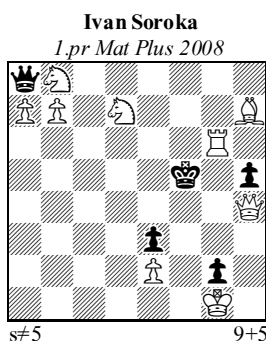
**1129v** – 1.Qc5! etc.

## SELFMATES 2008

Judge: *Andrey Selivanov (Russia)*

The annual contest of the magazine involved 31 problems by 16 authors. Several problems were found defective: No .911 by M. Babić & R. Blagojević is cooked in 8 moves (1.Bxb4 dxe3 2.Ke2 Kd4 3.Rf4+ Kd5 4.Rh5+ f5 5.Rf1 Kd4 6.Rd1+ Sd2 7.Rhh1 f4 8.Rhe1 f3#); No.913 by Y. Mintz is cooked in 19 moves; No.1065 by Ž. Janevski has illegal position (BBh8 and BPg7).

Competition in general was interesting, as indicated by the results.



**1.pr – 1.Qd4!** (~) h4 2.Rh6+ Kg5 3.Qf6+ Kg4 4.Rxh4+ Kg3 5.Qf2+ exf2#, 1... Qxa7 2.Rb6+ Kg5 3.Qc5+ Kh4 4.Rb4+ Kh3 5.Qxe3+ Qxe3#, 1... Qxb7 2.Rc6+ Kg5 3.Qd5+ Kg4 4.Rc4+ Kg3 5.Qxg2+ Qxg2#, 1... Qxb8 2.Rd6+ Kg5 3.Qe5+ Kg4 4.Rd4+ Kh3 5.Qh2+ Qxh2#.

**2.pr – 1.Rc2?** ~ 2.Rxd3+ exd3 3.Rc5+ dxc5#, 1... dxc2 2.Sb4+ Kc4 3.Bf7+ d5#, 1... Bxf5 2.Rb5+ Ke6 3.Re5+ dxe5#, 1... Rc1!; **1.Rc7?** ~ 2.Rxd3+ exd3 3.Rc5+ dxc5#, 1... Bxf5 2.Rb5+ Ke6 3.Re5+ dxe5#, 1... Bxc7 2.Sb4+ Kc4 3.Bf7+ d5#, 1... Rc1!; **1.Rc4?** ~ 2.Sb4+ Kxc4 3.Bf7+ d5#, 1... Kxc4 2.Rc3+ Kd5 3.Rc5+ dxc5#, 1... Bxf5!, 1.Ra3? ~ 2.Rc5+ dxc5#, 1... Bxf5 2.Bf7+ Be6 3.Rc5+ dxc5#, 1... Rc1!; **1.Rc1!** ~ 2.Rxd3+ exd3 3.Rc5+ dxc5#, 1... Rxc1 2.Sb4+ Kc4 3.Bf7+ d5#, 1... Bxf5 2.Rb5+ Ke6 3.Re5+ dxe5#.

**3.pr – 1.Qxf5+?** Q/Rxf5+ 2.Rxf5!, 1.Rd7? Bxe6!, 1.Rd6? Qxe6!, 1.Rdxd3? Qxg6!; **1.Rd8!** ~ 2.Qxf5+ Q/Rxf5#, 1... Bxe6 2.Qg4+ fxg4#, 1... Qxe6 2.Qh6+ Qxh6#, 1... Qxg6 2.Rxg3+ Qxg3#, 1... Qxg7 2.Qh6+ Qxh6#.

**1st Prize: No.907 – Ivan Soroka (Ukraine).** A problem with “Moscow material” (15 pieces) with a rich content. Three queen’s defenses are followed by systematic movement of the white rook and queen. All variations of involve the white rook battery. All four mating positions are different. A feeling of the whole complex.

**2nd Prize: No.1064 – Živko Janevski (Macedonia).** Very interesting, intense problem with choice of the first move, change of the play and a great key.

**3rd Prize: No.991 – Frank Richter (Germany).** Beautifully executed theme of the 2nd round of Liga Poblemita 2008 with change of tries and threats. Correction play of the

white rook in choice of the first move is really pleasant considering the fact that refutations of two tries become defences in the solution.



**4.pr – 1.Sg2!** ~ 2.Rd4+ Qxd4 3.Qd5+ Qxd5#, 1... b2 2.Se3 ~ 3.Re5+ dxe5 4.Qf5+ gxf5#, 1... c3 2.d4 ~ 3.Qf5+ gxf5 4.Re5+ dxe5#, 1... Qd4 2.Sf2+ Qxf2 3.Rd4+ Qxd4 4.Qd5+ Qxd5#.

**5.pr – 1.c3!** ~ 2.cxb4+ Kxb4 3.Qxd6+ Bc5#, 1... Sxc6 2.Bxh2+(Bg3?/Bf4?/Bf6?) Se5 3.Bxg1+ Rxc1#, 1... Sxf7 2.Bg3+(Bxh2?/Bf4?/Bf6?) Se5/Sg6 3.Bf2+ Bxf2#, 1... Sxe6 2.Bf4+(Bxh2?/Bg3?/Bf6?) Sg5 3.Be3+ Bxe3#, 1... bxc3 2.Bf6+(Bxh2?/Bg3?/Bf4?) Kb4 3.Qxd6+ Bc5#, 1... Sb7 2.Bxd6+ Kxc6 3.Rc5+ Bxc5#.

**1.hm – 1.Rg3!** ~ 2.Bxd3+(A) Rxd3 3.Qxd3+(B) Bxd3#, 1... Sc2 2.Qxd3+(B) Rxd3 3.Sd6+(C) Rxd6#, 1... Bb8 2.Sd6+(C) Bxd6 3.Sf2+(D) Rxf2#, 1... Rxe2 2.Sf2+(D) Rxf2 3.Bxd3+(A) Bxd3#, 1... Rd~ 2.Qf3+ Sxf3 3.Bxd3+ Bxd3#.

**4th Prize: No.906 – Aleksandr Azhusin (Russia).** Thematic variations show the play of black halfbattery, anti-Bristol, anti-dual play and exchange if 3rd and 4th move in two variations. Particularly pleasing are variations with quiet second moves of white. A minor flaw, in my opinion, is a short threat.

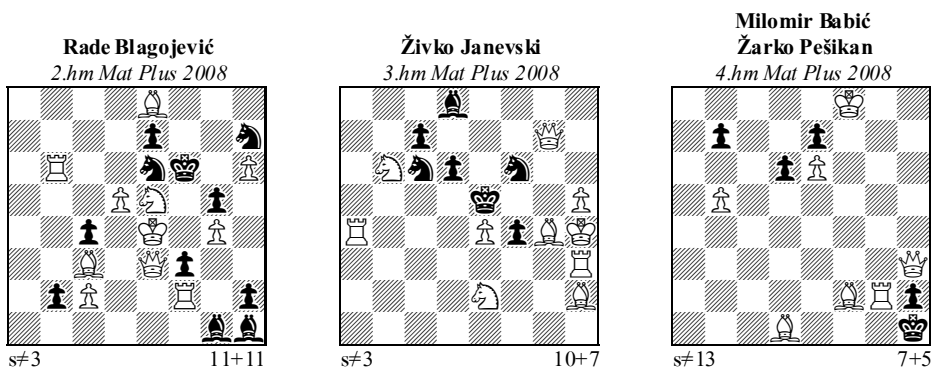
**5th Prize: No.992 – Dragan Stojnić (Serbia).** The problem with the anti-dual options on white's second moves. Theme is presented very skilfully. 5-fold play of white bishop's battery. Good key move.

**1st Honourable Mention: No.904 – Živko Janevski (Macedonia).** Cycle of white second moves AB-BC-CD-DA enhanced by corrective play of the black rook d2.

**2nd Honourable Mention: No.1147 – Rade Blagojević (Serbia).** Difficult to solve problem with unpins and pin, as well as the use of pin in a mate.

**3rd Honourable Mention: No.902 – Živko Janevski (Macedonia).** Three variations with battery mates by the unpinned knight. Good knight's defences protection 1... Sd4, Sb4 and anti-dual choice of white's second moves.

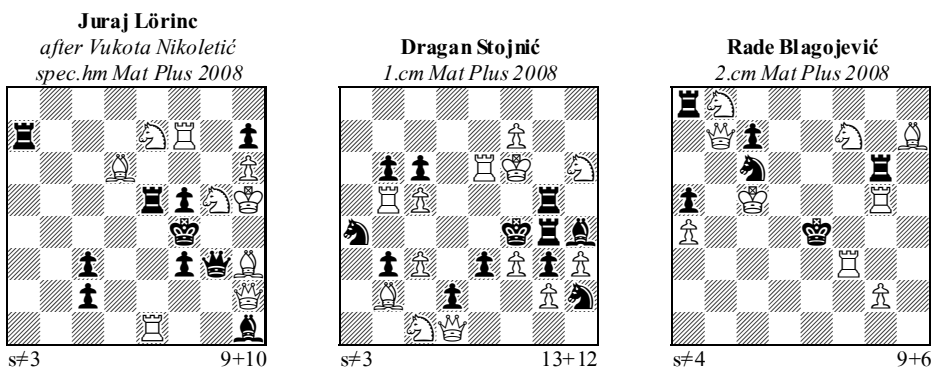
**4th Honourable Mention: No.1154 (version of No.912) – Milomir Babić and Žarko Pešikan (Serbia).** Problem of popular style with switchbacks of white pieces.



**2.hm** – 1.Qd2! ~ 2.Sc6+ Sd4 3.Rxf3+ Bxf3#, 1... Bxf2 2.Sxf3+ Bd4 3.Qxg5+ Shxg5#, 1... b1=S 2.Qf4+ gxf4 3.Sxf3+ Sxc3#.

**3.hm** – 1.Se~? Sd4!; 1.Sc1! ~ 2.Bxf4+ Kxf4 3.Qxf6+ Bxf6#, 1... Sb4 2.Qg5+ (Sd3+?) Kd4/Kxe4 3.Qd5+ Sxd5#, 1... Sd4 2.Sd3+ (Qg5+?) Kxe4 3.Qh7+ Sxh7#, 1... Se7 2.Qxe7+ Bxe7 3.Sd7+ Sxd7#.

**4.hm** – 1.Bb6! d5 2.Rg8! d4 3.Qf5 d3 4.Kg7 Kg2 5.Kh6+ Kh1 6.Kg5 Kg2 7.Kh4+ Kh1 8.Qf6 gxf6 9.Kg3 f5 10.Kf2 f4 11.Kf1 f3 12.Bf2 b6 13.Rg2 fxg2#.



**Spec.hm** – \*1...Qxh2 2.Rxf5+ Kg3 3.Rxf3+ Bxf3#, 1...f2 2.Se6+ Kf3 3.Bg4+ Qxg4#; 1.Bxf5! ~ 2.Qd2+ cxd2 3.Sh3+ Qxh3#, 1...Qxh2+ 2.Bh3+ Kg3 3.Rxf3+ Bxf3#, 1...f2 2.Sd5+ Bxd5 3.Bd7+ Bxf7#, 1...Bg2 2.Sh3+ Bxh3 3.Sg6+ hxg6#.

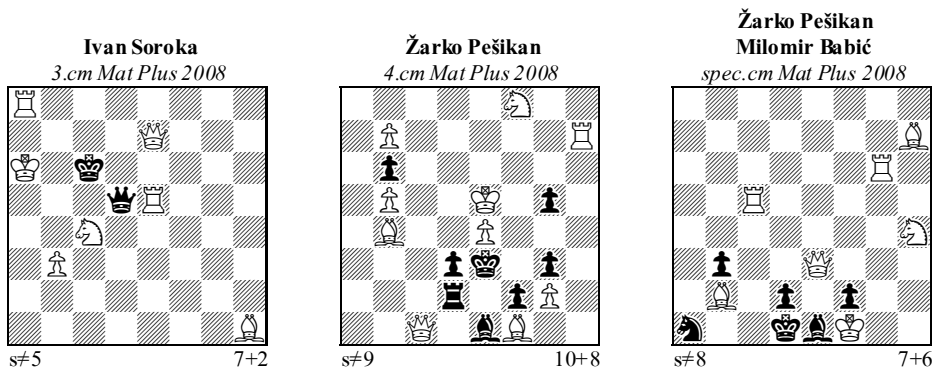
**1.cm** – 1.Sg8! ~ 2.Se7 ~ 3.Sg6+ Rxg6#, 1... Sxc5 2.Sd3+ Sxd3 3.Rf5+ Rxf5#, 1... Sxc3 2.Se2+ Sxe2 3.Be5+ Rxe5#, 1... Sxf3 2.Rb4+ Sd4 3.Qxg4+ Rxg4#.

**2.cm** – 1.Rh5! ~ 2.Sg5+ Ke5 3.Qb2+ Sd4 4.Sc6+ Rxc6#, 1... Rxb8 2.Qb1+ Rxb1 3.Re5+ Sxe5 4.Sd6+ cxd6#.

**Special Honourable Mention: No.903 – Juraj Lörinc (Slovakia) – after V. Nikoletić.** Development of the problem by a well known Serbian composer Vukota Nikoletić. Changed play in two variations looks good, as well as the check-provoking key.

**1st Commendation: No.1066 – Dragan Stojnić (Serbia).** The 8th WCCT theme realized in three variations.

**2nd Commendation: No.1148 – Rade Blagojević (Serbia).** Nice problem with unpins of the black knight in two variations and the unusual formation of mating positions.



**3.cm** – 1.b4?(~) Q~ 2.Rb5 ~ 3.Qe8+ Kc7 4.Ra7+ Qb7+ 5.Ka5 Qxa7#, 1... Qxh1!; **1.Ka7!** (~), 1... Q~ 2.Qe6+ Kc7 3.Rc5+ Qc6 4.Se5(~) Qxc5+ 5.Qb6+ Qxb6#, 1... Kb5 2.Rb8+ Kc6 3.Be4 Qxe4 4.Qe8+ Kc7 5.Rb7+ Qxb7#.

**4.cm** – **1.Bc3!** g4 2.Kd5 Kf4 3.Kd4 Kg5 4.b8=Q Kf6 5.Ke3+ Kg5 6.Bf6+ Kxf6 7.Qd8+ Ke5 8.Qc5+ bxc5 9.Qd4+ cxd4#.

**spec.cm** – **1.Ra4!** (Ra5?) Sc2 2.Ra1+ Sxa1 3.Ra5 Sc2 4.Ra1+ Sxa1 5.Qa7 Sc2 6.Qa1+ Sxa1 7.Sg2 (Sf5?) Sc2 8.Se3+ Sxe3#.

**3rd Commendation: No.1149 – Ivan Soroka (Ukraine).** Two variations with the black queen and a good first move which gives a flight to the black king.

**4th Commendation: No.1071 – Žarko Pešikan (Serbia).** Problem of popular style where two kings exchange their places.

**Special Commendation: No.1070 – Milomir Babić and Žarko Pešikan (Serbia).** Problem of popular style. White anti-dual play forces the black knight three times back to the square a1. Good realization of a well known idea.

## SELF MATES 2009

*Judge: Andrey Selivanov (Russia)*

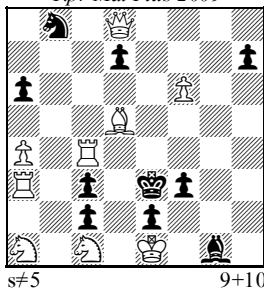
The annual tourney of the magazine involved 18 problems by 22 authors. No.1255, by P.Raican & I.Murarasu has a shorter solution in 18 moves. I propose the following distribution of distinctions:

**1st Prize: No.1251 – Aleksandr Azhusin (Russia).** A very complex design with a long quiet threat. In two main variations the Queen first pins and then unpins a black piece. Quiet moves in additional variations are impressive. Very active white queen. Without any doubt – a “present” for the solvers.

**2nd Prize: No.1357 – Zoran Gavrilovski (Macedonia).** Four-fold cycle of second and third white moves (AB-BC-CD-DA) expressed in fairly light setting.

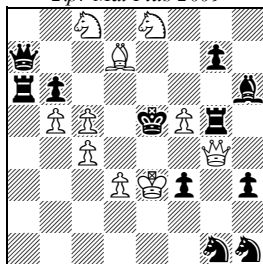


**Aleksandr Azhusin**  
1.pr Mat Plus 2009



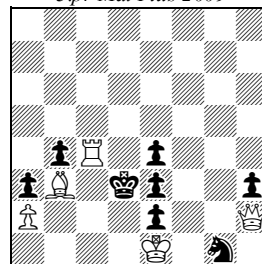
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**Zoran Gavrilovski**  
2.pr Mat Plus 2009



s#3 10+11

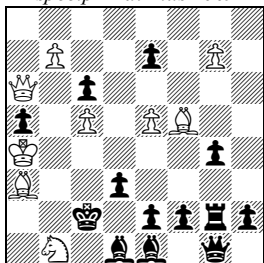
**Guy Sobrecases**  
3.pr Mat Plus 2009



s#8\* 5+8

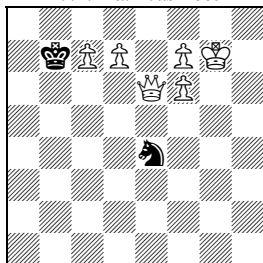
- 1.pr** – 1.Rh4! ~ 2.Qxb8 ~ 3.Qd6 ~ 4.Bb3 ~ 5.Qd2+ cxd2#, 3... Bh2 4.Qe5+ Bxe5 5.Rxc3+ Bxc3#, 1... Sc6 2.Qb6+ Sd4 3.Qb4!! (4.Sc2+) S~ 4.Qd4+ Sxd4 5.Sxc2+ Sxc2#, 1... Bh2 2.Qe8+ Be5 3.Qh5!! (4.Rxc3+) B~ 4.Qe5+ Bxe5 5.Rxc3+ Bxc3#, (1... d6 2.Qxd6 Sc6 3.Bxc6 ~ 4.Ra2 ~ 5.Qd2+ cxd2#, 3... Bh2 4.Qe5+ Bxe5 5.Rxc3+ Bxc3#).
- 2.pr** – 1.Se7! ~ 2.Sg6+ A Rxc6+ 3.Qf4+ B Bxf4#, 1... Rxf5+ 2.Qf4+ B Rxf4 3.d4+ C Rxd4#, 1... bxc5 2.d4+ C cxd4+ 3.Qxd4+ D Qxd4#, 1... Se2 2.Qd4+ D Sxd4 3.Sg6+ A Rxc6#, (1... Sf2/Sg3 2.Qe4+ Sxe4 3.Sg6+ Rxc6#).
- 3.pr** – \*1...Sf3#, 1.Q~? h2 2.Qxh2, 2... Sh3!; **1.Rc5!** Kd4 2.Qe5+ Kd3 3.Qb8!! h2 4.Qb5+ Kd4 5.Qxb4+ Kd3 6.Rh5! h1=~ 7.Rxh1 Sh3 8.Qd2+ exd2#, (3.Qe8? Kd4! 4.Qb5 Sf3+!, 3.Ra5!? h2 4.Qb5+ Kc3!).

**Ivan Soroka**  
spec.pr Mat Plus 2009



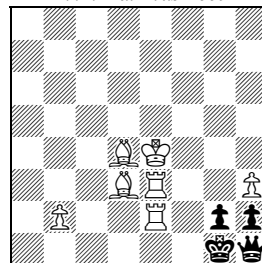
s#10 9+13

**Jacob Mintz**  
1.hm Mat Plus 2009



s#16 6+2

**Stephan Dietrich**  
2.hm Mat Plus 2009



s#11 7+4

- spec.pr** – 1.Qa8! (~2.Bxd3+ Kxd3#) Rg3 2.Qd8! (~3.Q/Bxd3+ Rxd3 4.B/Qxd3+ Kxd3#) Rg2 3.Qh8! Rg3 4.Qh7! Rg2 5.Qxh2! Rg3 6.Qh7! Rg2 7.Qh1!! Rg3 8.Qe4! Rg2 9.Qxg2 ~ 10.Bxd3+ Kxd3#.
- 1.hm** – 1.c8=Q+ Ka7 2.Qca6+ Kb8 3.Qe5+ Sd6 4.d8=R+ Kc7 5.Ra8 Kd7 6.f8=S+ Kc7 7.Sh7 Kd7 8.Qd5 Kc7 9.Qaa5+ Kd7 10.f7 Ke7 11.Qac5 Kd7 12.Kh8 Ke7 13.f8=B+ Kd7 14.Bg7 Ke7 15.Rg8 Kd6 16.Qf7+ Sxf7#.
- 2.hm** – 1.Bf6! Kf1 2.Rc2+ Kg1 3.Rc5 Kf2 4.Rf5+ Kg1 5.Kf4 Kf2 6.Bh4+ Kg1 7.Be4 Kf1 8.Kg3+ Kg1 9.Bf3 Kf1 10.Bxg2+ Kg1 11.Rf4 Qxg2#.

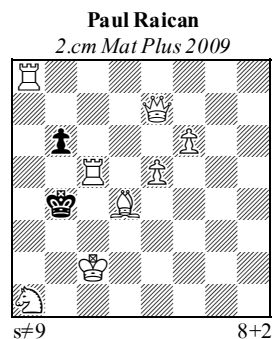
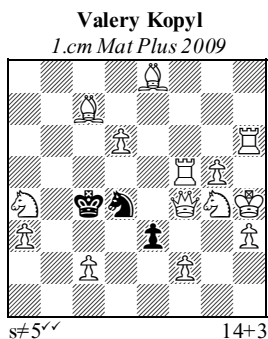
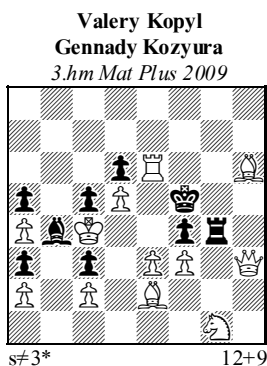
**3rd Prize: No.1450 – Guy Sobrecases (France).** This problem gave a hard time to the solvers in WCCC 2009 Open solving contest. Fata Morgana with the changed mate. Particularly surprising is the move 3.Qb8!

**Special Prize: No.1453 – Ivan Soroka (Ukraine).** One of typical problems in this field. Logical maneuvers of white queen, who is fighting against the black rook.

However, I do not like the dual in a threat 3.Q/Bxd3. Good that it appears only once. Unfortunately, such flaws occur in many problems of this style, but for some reason the judges are turning a blind eye to them.

**1st Honourable Mention: No.1361 – Jacob Mintz (Israel).** Only 8 pieces. White allumwandlung – successive promotions of white pawns to different pieces; quiet moves.

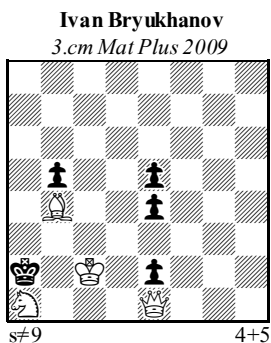
**2nd Honourable Mention: No.1253 – Stephan Dittrih (Germany).** Problem of popular style with complex formation of mating cages for the white king.



**3.hm** – \*1... fxe3+ 2.Kd3 c4+ 3.Kxe3 Bc5#; **1.Bd1!** fxe3+ 2.Kb3 e2 3.Sxe2 c4#.

**1.cm** – 1.Rh5? exf2!, 1.Kh5? e2!; **1.Re5!** (~), 1... exf2 2.Kh5 f1=Q 3.Qxf1+ Se2 4.h4 Kd4 5.Qf4+ Sxf4#, 1... e2 2.Rh5 e1=Q 3.Rxe1 Kd5 4.Sb6+ Kc5 5.Qf5+ Sxf5#.

**2.cm** – **1.Sb3!** (~), 1...b5 2.Kb1 Kxb3 3.Qe6+ Kb4 4.Qg4 Kb3 5.Rc3+ Kb4 6.Rc1 Kb3 7.Bb2 b4 8.Ra3+ bxa3 9.Ba1 a2#, 1...bxc5 2.Be3 Kb5 3.Qb7+ Kc4 4.Qd7 Kb4 5.Bd2+ Kc4 6.Kb1 Kb3 7.Qg4 c4 8.Ra1 c3 9.Bc1 c2#.



**3rd Honourable Mention: No.1358 – Valery Kopyl and Gennady Kozyura (Ukraine).** Fata Morgana with complete change of play and mates. Active white king who gets mated on different squares.

**1st Commendation: No.1447 – Valery Kopyl (Ukraine).** Two variations with chameleon echo mates by the black knight and the Hoffman theme in selection of the first move.

**2nd Commendation: No. 1452 – Paul Raican (Romania).** A two full-length lines “Gravure” (10 pieces) with two echo mates.

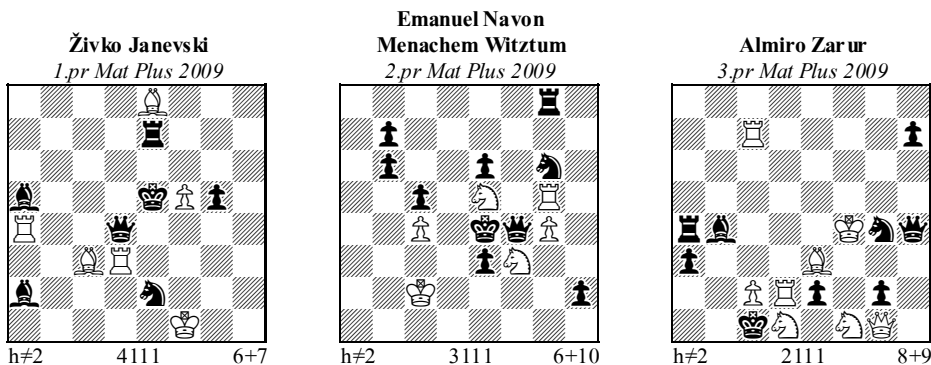
**3.cm** – **1.Sb3!** e3 2.Sc5 e4 3.Kc1 Ka1 4.Qc3+ Ka2 5.Qb3+ Ka1 6.Be1 b4 7.Sd3 exd3 8.Bc3+ bxc3 9.Qb2+ cxb2#

**3rd Commendation: No.1451 – Ivan Bryuhanov (Ukraine).** “Gravure” (only 9 pieces) with an ideal mate.

## HELPMATE TWOMOVERS 2009

Judge: *Borislav Gadjanski (Serbia)*

Exceptional tourney with many compositions of equally high quality, which made me considerable difficulties in reaching the judgment. As many as 18 problems found their place in the award, and few more out of 28 competing works might have deserved it. I apologize for the unjustifiable delay with the award. I decided to distribute the rewards as follows:



**1st Prize: No. 1459 – Živko Janevski (Macedonia).** Four-fold change of pin of the black queen. Mates utilize the pin of the queen along 4 different lines. An impressive task with only 13 pieces on the board. *1.Ke4 Rf3 2.Qc4 Bc6#, 1.Kf4 Bh5 2.Qe4 Rf3#, 1.Kd6 Rc4 2.Qd5 Rc6#, 1.Bc7 Ra5+ 2.Kd6 Bb4#.*

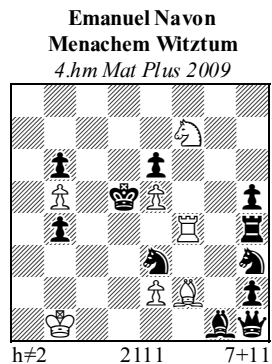
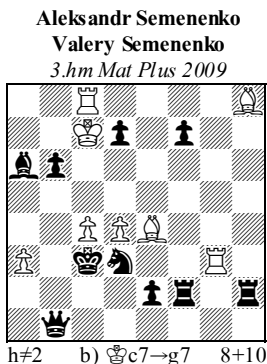
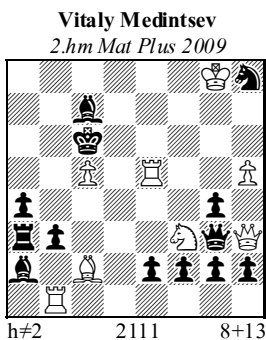
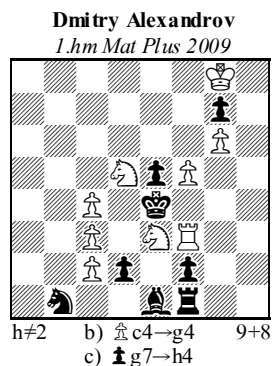
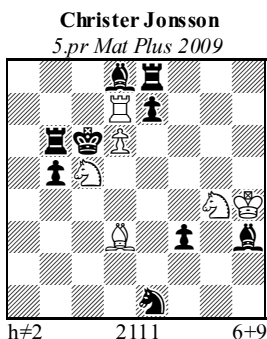
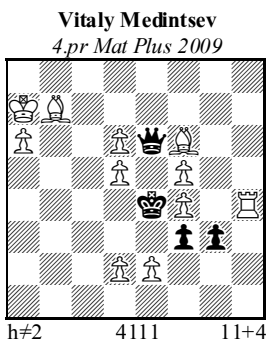
**2nd Prize: No.1367 – Emanuel Navon & Menachem Witztum (Israel).** Cyclic Zilahi and cyclic follow-my-leader play. All three captures are made by the black queen, which contributes to the mechanism to be striking and memorable. Economical setting. *1.Qxf3 Sc6 2.Sf4 Re5#, 1.Qxe5 Rf5 2.Qd4 Sg5#, 1.Qxg5 Sd2+ 2.Kd4 Sef3#.*

**3rd Prize: No. 1256 – Almiro Zarur (Brazil).** Black minor promotions with captures of pieces from white halfbattery. Promotions determine the play of Pc2 in W1. After selfpins of black promoted pieces the white halfbattery is activated. An exceptionally nice idea in a compact mechanism, where the author managed in a satisfactory way to avoid many “underwater reefs”. *1.exdS c3 2.Sxc3 Sg3#, 1.exfB c4 2.Bxc4 Sf2#.*

**4th Prize: No.1366 – Vitaly Medintsev (Russia).** Play of white pawn batteries in the HOTF style. Black queen in two phases blocks the square that is guarded in the initial position and clears the squares in front of white pawns so that white batteries could be activated by orthogonal movements of pawns. In other two phases the black queen sacrifices herself to allow the batteries to open by diagonal movements of pawns. Elegant compositions. *1.Qxd6 Rh5 2.Qxf4 d6#, 1.Qxf5 Bc8 2.Qxd5 f5#, 1.Qe5 Kb6 2.Kd4 fxe5#, 1.fxe2 Bd4 2.Kf3 dxe6#.*

**5th Prize: No.1365 – Christer Jonsson (Sweden).** “Double Zilahi” where black reciprocally captures two white pieces (which build the mate in the other phase) always leaves a good impression. This demanding idea is here excellently realized. *1.Sxd3 dxe7 2.Sxc5 Se5#, 1.Bxg4 Sb7 2.Bxd7 Be4#.*

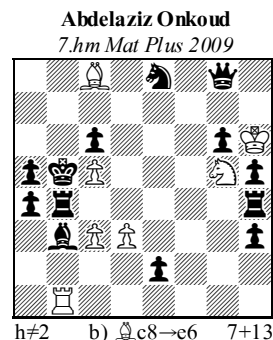
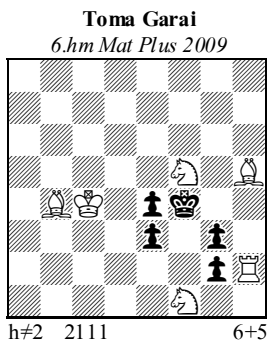
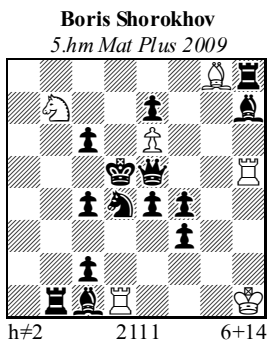
**1st Honourable Mention: No. 1464 – Dmitry Alexandrov (Russia).** Ambitious mechanism that shows a cyclic passive Zilahi combined with black minor promotions of the same pawn on the square d1. Promoted pieces block the squares where they capture white thematic pieces. The impression is slightly spoiled by unpleasant “technical” changes for twins. *a) 1.d1B Sxf1 2.Bxf3 Sg3#, b) 1.d1R Sg2 2.Rxd5 Re3#, c) 1.d1=S Rxf2 2.Sxe3 Sf6#.*



**2nd Honourable Mention: No.1369 – Vitaly Medintsev (Russia).** Two mates with Sd4 and Be4 are possible provided that white controls the square d7 and either b7 or b5. This prerequisite is the base for the whole strategy which involves a passive Zilahi, neutralization of black pawn batteries and changed functions of the WQ and WRb1. *1.Sf7 Qxg4 2.bxc2 Sd4#, 1.Sg6 Rxb3 2.gxf3 Be4#.*

**3rd Honourable Mention: No.1263 – Aleksandr Semenenko & Aleksandr Semenenko (Ukraine).** Mates by the white king after closings of two black lines in each of two phases, with special emphasis on the play of the white bishop. *a) 1.Kxc4 Bb7 2.Sb2 Kxb6#, b) 1.Kxd4 Bh7 2.Sf4 Kxf7#.*

**4th Honourable Mention: No.1262 – Emanuel Navon & Menachem Witztum (Israel).** Orthogonal-diagonal play with anticritical white moves and black gate-openings with simultaneous closings of black lines. *1.Sg4 Bxb6 2.Shf2 Rd4#, 1.Sg2 Rxb4 2.Shf4 e4#.*

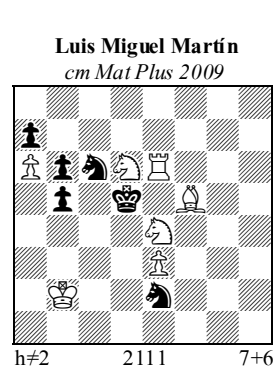
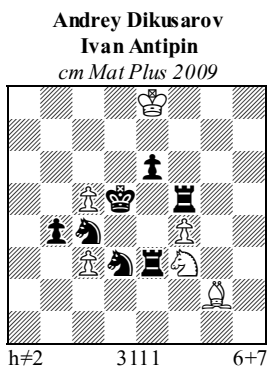


**5th Honourable Mention: No.1368 – Boris Shorokhov (Russia).** Double realization of white pins with simultaneous unpin of black (AZE) and subsequent unpin of black pieces and double-pin mates. *1.Bf5 Kg1 2.Qxe6 Rxf5#, 1.Bd2 Kh2 2.Sxe6 Rxd2#.*

**6th Honourable Mention: No.1259 – Toma Garai (USA).** This light position shows capture of the white piece with anti-dual minor promotions and nicely incorporated Kniest sacrifices. *1.gxf1=R Sxe3 2.Kxe3 Bd2#, 1.gxf1=S Sxg3 2.Kxg3 Bd6#.*

**7th Honourable Mention: No.1466 – Abdelaziz Onkoud (Morocco).** Both phases end with a mate on the square c4, which is initially controlled by 4 black pieces. *a) 1.Bd5 Se6 2.Be4 c4#, b) 1.Rbf4 Se4 2.Rf7 Bc4#.*

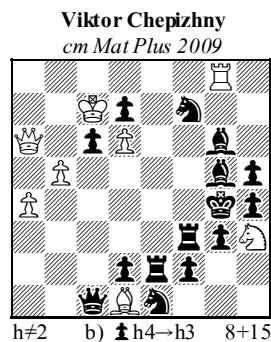
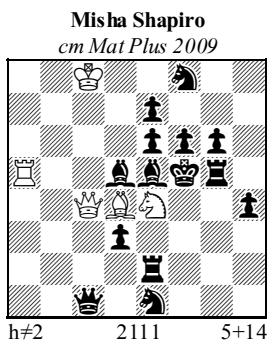
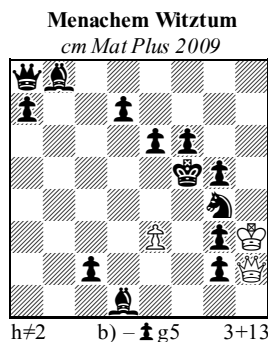
All commendations are classified as equal, without order:



**Commendation: No. 1261 – Abdelaziz Onkoud (Morocco).** Black selfpins by king's move with captures of white pieces lead to model mates after the selfblocks by the black queen. *1.Kxd5 Rxc5 2.Qc4 Bc6#, 1.Kxe5 Rxc5 2.Qe4 Sf7#.*

**Commendation: No.1458 – Andrey Dikusarov & Ivan Antipin (Russia).** Siers battery has different logic in a helpmate compared to orthodox problems, due to the additional condition (black helps). By captures of white pawns black releases a square for his king and enables the Siers-style play of the white battery. Three model mates on three different squares. *1.Sxf4 Sh2+ 2.Ke5 Sg4#, 1.Sxc5 Sd4+ 2.Kd6 Sb5#, 1.bxc3 Sd2+ 2.Kd4 Sb3#.*

**Commendation: No. 1460 – Luis Miguel Martín (Spain).** Anticipatory selfblocks on d4 and e5. Vacation sacrifices of the white knights. A distant pawn on a6 is a nuisance. *1.Sed4 Sc5 2.bxc5 e4#, 1.Se5 Sc4 2.bxc4 Rd6#.*



**Commendation: No. 1461 – Menachem Witztum (Israel).** Closings of black diagonals with the black Pd7 allows the white king to open a line for his queen. *a) 1.d5 Kxg2 2.Be5 Qh7#, b) 1.d6 Kxg3 2.Qe4 Qh5#.*

**Commendation: No. 1465 – Misha Shapiro (Israel).** Captures of interfering white pieces by a halfpinned black piece. Exchanged functions of white (Bd4-Se4) and black (Bd5-Be5) pieces. *1.Bxe4 Be3 2.Bc6 Qf4#, 1.Bxd4 Sc3 2.Be3 Qe4#.*

**Commendation: No. 1467 – Viktor Chepizhny (Russia).** Composition awakens the memory of the often reproduced problem by F. Abdurahmanović and Lj. Ugren from 1978 (1.pr. feenschach, P0535190) where two systems of black halfpin were combined with white castlings. The difference is that here the critical moves are performed by pieces from both halfpins (rook and bishop), while in the earlier problem both pieces (rooks) come from diagonal halfpin. In this problem white play is less interesting and twinning is rough. *a) 1.Re8 Qc8 2.Be7 Qxd7#, b) 1.Bc2 Qxc6 2.Rd3 Qe4#.*

## ENDGAMES 2010

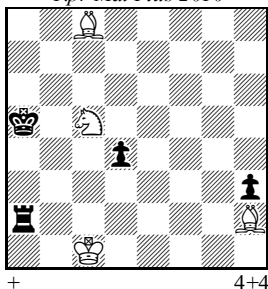
Judge: David Gurgenidze (Georgia)

There were 25 endgame studies published in the magazine “Mat Plus” in 2010. I must say that most of them didn't made a good impression. Only the presence of univocal sequences is very far from the artistic content.

I propose for award the following 8 studies:

**Iuri Akobia**

*1.pr Mat Plus 2010*



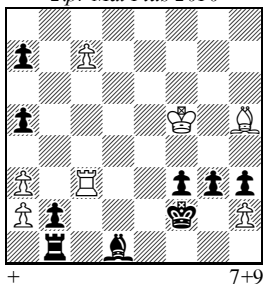
**1st-2nd Prize: No.1681 – Iuri Akobia (Georgia).** Bright dynamic play with of opportunities for both sides.

*1.Nb3+ Kb4 2.Nd2 Kc3 3.Nb1+ Kd3 4.Bf5+ Ke3 (4...Kc4 5.Be6+--)  
5.Bg1+ Ke2 6.Bxh3 (6.Be6? Kf1! 7.Bxd4 h2 8.Bc4+ Re2 =) 6...d3 7.Nc3+  
Ke1 8.Kb1! (8.Nxa2? d2+ =) 8...Ra8 9.Bh2! (Thematic try 9.Be3!? d2  
10.Kc2 Ra2+ 11.Kd3 d1Q+ 12.Nxd1 Kxd1 13.Bg4+ Ke1 =; Thematic try  
9.Ne4!? Re8 10.Bf2+ Ke2 11.Bg4+ Kf1 12.Bh3+ Ke2 positional draw)  
9...Rh8 10.Bg3+ Kd2 11.Bf4+! (11.Bg4!? Rg8 = (11...Kxc3? 12.Be5+ +-  
); 11.Be6!? Re8= (11...Kxc3? 12.Be5+ +-); 11.Bd7!? Rd8= (11...Kxc3?  
12.Be5+ +-) 11...Kxc3 12.Be5+ +-.*

**1st-2nd Prize: No.1552 – Richard Becker (USA).** Complex play with subtle mutual maneuvers.

**Richard Becker**

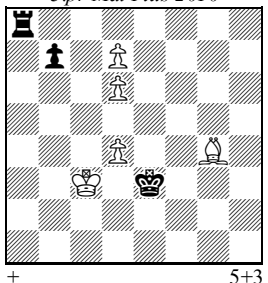
*2.pr Mat Plus 2010*



*1.Ba2! (Thematic try 1.b6? Ne1 2.Bc6 Nc2 3.Bb5 Ka8! 4.Bc6+ Kb8 5.Bb5  
Ka8 6.Bxa4 Nxa3 7.Kd3 Kb8 (Nb1) 8.Bc6 Nb1 9.Kc2 Na3+ 10.Kb3 Nb1  
11.Bg2 Nd2+ 12.Kc3 Nb1+ 13.Kb2 Nd2 14.Kc3 Nb1+ 15.Kd3 Na3 16.Bc6  
Nb1 positional draw. 17.Bb5 Na3 18.Ba6 not possible) 1...Nh4 (1...Ne1  
2.Bb1 Ng2 3.Kf3 Nh4+ 4.Kg3 +-) 2.Bf7 Ng2 3.Bh5 (3.Bg6? Ne1 4.Ke3  
Ng2+ 5.Ke4 Ne1 =) 3...Ne1 4.Bd1 Ng2 5.b6! (Thematic try 5.Bxa4? Nh4  
6.b6 Ng6 7.Be8 Ne7 8.Ke5 Nc8! 9.Bd7 Ne7 10.Be8 Nc8 11.Ke6 axb6  
draw; white is one tempo too late; 5.Bc2? Nh4 6.Kf4 Ng2+ 7.Ke4 Nh4 =)  
5...Nh4 6.Bh5 Ng2 7.Be8 Nh4 8.Bf7! (8.Bxa4? Ng6 9.Be8 Ne7 and white  
will again be one tempo too late. Instead, white maneuvers to lose the  
move) 8...Ng2 9.Bh5 Nh4 10.Be8 Ka8 11.Bxa4! Ng6 (11...Ng2 12.Bc6+  
Kb8 13.Bb7 Ne1 14.a4 Ng2 15.Kf3 Nh4+ 16.Kg4 (Kf4) 16...Ng6 17.Kf5  
Nf8 18.Bc8 axb6 19.a7+ Kxa7 20.Kf6 Nh7+ 21.Kg6 Nf8+ 22.Kg7 +-)  
12.Be8 Ne7 (12...Nf8 13.Kf5 Kb8 14.Bc6 Nh7 15.Bd7 Nf8 16.bxa7+ Kxa7  
17.Bc8 Kb8 18.a7+ Kxa7 19.Kf6 Nh7+ 20.Kg6 Nf8+ 21.Kg7 +-) 13.Ke5  
Kb8 14.Ke6 Nc8 15.Bd7 and White is just in time. Win.*

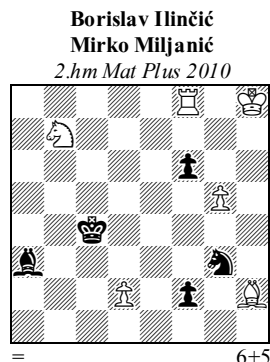
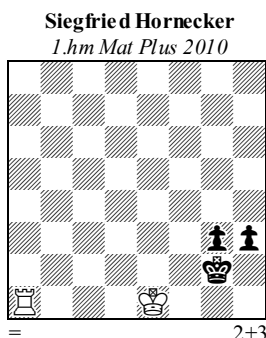
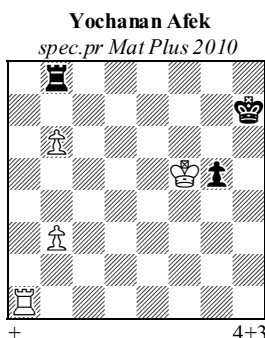
**János Mikitovics**

*3.pr Mat Plus 2010*



**3rd Prize: No.1683 – Janos Mikitovics (Hungary).** Witty maneuvers of the king and bishop are necessary to enable the promotion of the white pawn.

*1.Kc4! Ke4 (1...Ra4+ 2.Kd5! Ra5+ 3.Ke6 Ra8 4.Ke7 +-; 1...Ra4+ 2.Kd5!  
Ra5+ 3.Ke6 Ra8 4.Ke7 +-) 2.Be2!! (2.Bh3? Ra4+! 3.Kc5 Ra5+ 4.Kc4  
Ra4+! 5.Kc5 Ra5+ 6.Kb6 Ra6+ 7.Kc7 Rc6+ 8.Kb8 Rxd6 =; 2.Kc5? Ra5+  
3.Kb4 Ra8 4.Kc5 Ra5+ 5.Kb6 Ra6+ =) 2...Rd8 3.Bd3+! (3.Bg4? Ra8!!  
4.Be6 Ra4+ 5.Kc5 Ra5+ =) 3...Kf4 4.Kd5! (4.Kc5? Rxd7 5.Bb5 Rd8 6.d7  
Ke4 7.Ba4 b6+! =) 4...Rxd7 5.Bb5! (5.Ke6? Rd8 6.Ke7 Rh8!! 7.d7 Ke3!  
8.d5 Kd4! =) 5...Rh7 6.d7 Rh5+ 7.Ke6! (7.Kd6? Ke4 8.Bc4 Rh6+ 9.Kc7  
Rc6+ 10.Kb8 Rd6 =) 7...Rh8 8.Kd6! Ke4 9.d5 Kd4 10.Bc6!! b6 11.Ba4!  
Rh6+ 12.Kc7 (12.Ke7? Ke5! 13.Bc2 Rh8 14.Bb3 Rh7+ 15.Ke8 Rh8+  
16.Ke7 Rh7+ =) 12...Rh7 13.Bb3 +-.*



**Special Prize: No. 1680 – Yochanan Afek (Israel/Netherlands).** This elegant study has also practical significance.

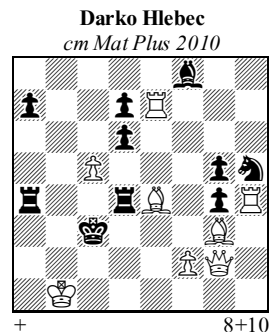
*1.Ra7+ (1.Ra6? g4 2.Kxg4 Kg6 3.Kf4 Kf6 4.Ke4 Ke6 5.Kd4 Kd6 6.b7+ Kc7 7.Kc5 Rh8 =) 1...Kh6 (...Kg8 2.Ra6 Kf7 3.Ke5 g4 4.Kd6 +-) 2.b7 g4 3.Kxg4 Kg6 4.Kf4 Kf6 5.Ke4 Ke6 6.Kd4 Kd6 7.Kc4 Kc6 8.Kb4 Rh8 9.Ka3!! (9.Ra8? Rh4+ =; 9.Ka5? Rh5+ 10.Ka6 Rb5 (10...Rh1? 11.b8N+ +-)) 11.Ra8 Rb6+ =) 9...Rb8 10.Ka4 Rh8 11.b4 Rb8 12.Ka5 Rxb7 13.Rxb7 Kxb7 14.Kb5 +-.*

**1st Honourable Mention: No.1677 – Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).** The study is decorated with good thematic try.

*1.Ra2+ Kg1 2.Ra3 Kh2 3.Ra1 Kg2 (3...g2 4.Kf2 g1Q+ 5.Rxg1 stalemate) 4.Ra2+ Kh1 5.Ra3 h2 6.Rxg3 stalemate.*

**2nd Honourable Mention: No.1685 – Borislav Ilinčić and Mirko Miljanić (Serbia).** Attractive play ends with well known stalemate.

*1.Rxf6 (1.Bxg3? f1Q 2.Nd6+ Kd5! 3.Kg7 Qg2 4.Rd8 Ke6 -+) 1...Bb2 2.d4! Bxd4 3.Kg8 Bxf6 4.gxf6 Nh5 (4...Nf5 5.Nd6+! Nxd6 6.Bxd6 f1Q 7.f7 =) 5.f7 (5.Nd6+? Kd3 -+) 5...Nf6+ 6.Kh8 Nd7 7.Ne5! Kxc5 (7...f1Q 8.Nxd7 =; 7...Nf8 8.Ne4!) 8.Bg1! fxx1Q 9.f8Q+ Nxf8 stalemate.*

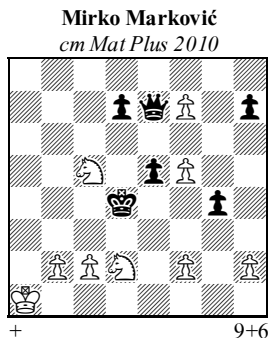


**Commendation: No.1689 – Darko Hlebec (Serbia).**

*1.Be5 dxe5 2.Rh3+ gxh3 3.Qxh3+ Kc4 4.Rxd7 Nf4 5.Rxd4+ exd4 6.Qd7 Rb4+ 7.Kc2 Bxc5 8.Qd5+ Nxd5 (8...Kb5 9.Qc6+ Kc4 10.Qa6+ Rb5 11.Bc6 +-) 9.Bd3#.*

**Commendation: No.1688 – Mirko Marković (Serbia).**

*1.Nxd7! Qxf7 2.c3+ Kd5 3.Nc4!! Qe7 4.f6 Qe6 (4...Qe8 5.Nxe5 Qa8+ 6.Kb1+-) 5.Ndb6+, and:  
A) 5...Kc6 6.f7 Qf6 7.Nxe5+! +-; or 5...Kc5 6.f7 Qxf7 7.b4+ Kb5 8.Nd6+ +-;  
B) 5...Ke4 6.f7 Qxf7 7.Nd6+ +-.*





## RETRO AND MATHEMATICS 2010

*Judge: Thomas Brand (Germany)*

For 2010 there were 44 retros to judge (15 original problems in issue 37-38, 11 in issue 39-40 plus 18 in the “Retrosshielding” article by Andrey Frolkin and Andrey Kornilov).

Three of these problems were cooked:

**1632** (Paul Raican) has been cooked by Kostas Prentos: Dual 3.Sf3 Sxe2 [Pf6] 4.Sd4 Sg3 5.Sb5 Sxf1 [Ba6] 6.Rh3 Sxh2 [Pb4] 7.Rh6 Sg4 8.0-0 Se5 9.Kh2 Sc6 10.Kh3 Sb8 11.Qf3 Sxf6 [Ph2] 12.Qxf6 [Sg8] and by Thierry Le Gleuher: 1.e4 Sf6 2.Qf3 Sxe4 [Ph6] 3.Ba6 Sg5 4.a4 Sxf3+ [Qf6] 5.Ke2 Sxg1+ [Sb5] 6.Rxg1 [Sg8] Sxh6 [Pb4] 7.Ra3 Sf5 8.Rg3 Sxg3+ [Rh6] 9.Kf3 Sh5 10.Rf1 Sf4 11.Kg3 Sh3 12.Kxh3 [Sg8]. This problem was not corrected.

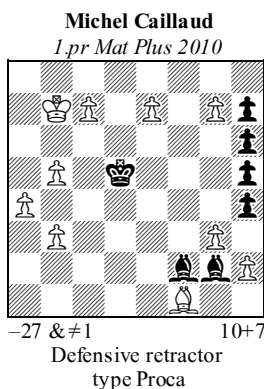
**33** (Andrey Frolkin & Andrey Kornilov) of the “Retrosshielding” article was cooked by Nikolai Ivanov Beluhov: “it was possible to alter the order of retraction of the black pawns (1.- f5 2.- f4 3.- g5:Bf4 ...)” Correction see below (2nd Commendation).

**49** (Andrey Frolkin & Andrey Kornilov) of the “Retrosshielding” article. Correction: diagram at end.

The average quality was high, but surprisingly against the actual retro trend I could not identify an outstanding proof game in this tourney. According to the high standard of this tourney I could include nine problems into this award.

*Many thanks to Milan and Hans for the invitation to judge this excellent tourney. It's a pity that Mat Plus stopped publishing original problems with the 2010 issue and this was the last year with informal tourneys – in my opinion Mat Plus was one of the world leading papers for originals – not only for retro problems.*

**1st Prize: No.1756 – Michel Caillaud (France)** – dedicated to Milan Velimirović. All missing white men have been captured by black pawns g.f.e. White will force black king into a mating net using pendulum mechanism – for the first time four pendula in an orthodox Proca retractor.



Retro: 1.Kb6-b7 Be1-f2+ (now White cannot play 2.Ka5-b6? Bf2-e1+ 3.Kb6-a5 Be1-f2+ 4.Ka5-b6 Bf2-e1+ as he will be first to be stopped by illegality of triple repetition of the position: 5.Kb6-a5??; to exploit this rule, he must start from a position initiated by Black – the usual trick to bring this kind of position is en passant capture) 2.d6xBc7!! Bb8-c7+ (1st occurrence of the position: a1) 3.Ka5-b6 Bf2-e1+ 4.Kb6-a5 Be1-f2+ (2nd occurrence: a2) 5.Ka5-b6 Bf2-e1+ 6.Kb6-a5 (and now Be1-f2+?? cannot be played as it brings an illegal 3rd occurrence of the position: a3?), so Kd4-d5+! is forced; this manoeuvre will be repeated three more times to reach the goal 7.Kc6-b6 Bh3-g2+ 8.c4xBb5!! Ba6-b5+ (b1) 9.Kd7-c6 Bg2-h3+ 10.Kc6-d7 Bh3-g2+ (b2) 11.Kd7-c6 Bg2-h3+ 12.Kc6-d7

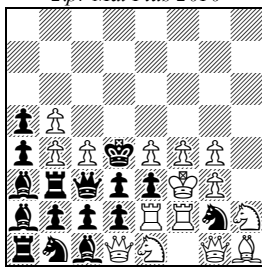
Ke4-d4+! (b3?) 13.Kc5-c6 Be1-f2+ 14.e5xBd6!! Bc7-d6+ (c1) 15.Kb4-c5 Bf2-e1+ 16.Kc5-b4 Be1-f2+ (c2) 17.Kb4-c5 Bf2-e1+ 18.Kc5-b4 Ke3-e4+! (c3?) 19.Kd5-c5 Bh3-g2+ 20.d3xBc4! Bb5-c4+ (d1) 21.Ke6-d5 Bg2-h3+ 22.Kd5-e6 Bh3-g2+ (d2) 23.Ke6-d5 Bg2-h3+ 24.Kd5-e6 Kf3-e3+! (d3?) 25.Kd4-d5 Be1-f2+ 26.Kc3-d4 Bf2-e1+ 27.Kd2-c3 & 1.Be2#.

This line corresponds to black “best defence”; of course, there are additional “poor” Black defences shortening the solution, e.g.: R: 1.-Kd4-d5+? 2.d6xBc7 Bb8-c7+ 3.Kc6-b6 and mate in 23 instead of 27 and so on, but as in direct longmovers this is not a drawback of the problem.

A tremendous retractor with impressive and highly original and elegant play – for me clearly the “number one” in this tourney. If you are looking for a tiny fly in the ointment, you might note that 20.d3xBc4 is not pure in aims – additionally it has to provide a guard for e4.

**2nd Prize: No.1642 – Dragan Lj. Petrović (Serbia).** The author called this “A circe retro monster”, I call it an excellent and original task of (not completely new) tempo play combined to a long range strategy for resolving the huge cage. It was a good decision of the author to clearly indicate the number of retro moves expected.

**Dragan Lj. Petrović**  
2.pr Mat Plus 2010



Circe 15+16  
322 moves ago White was  
in check

Retro: 1.Rf1-f2 a6-5 2.Qf2-g1 a7-a6 3.Rg1-f1 a5-a4 4.Qf1-f2 b6xQa5[Qd1] 5.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 6.Rf2-e2 a7-a6 7.Qa8xPa4[Pa8] a5-a4 8.Qe2-f1 a6-a5 9.Qd1-e2 c7xQb6[Qd1] 10.Qa5-b6+ a7-a6 11.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 12.Qc6-a8 a7-a6 13.Qh6xPc6[ Pc7] c7-c6 (Now the Qa4 demonstrates Frolkin’s 3+4 moves tempo play presented in Rex Multiplex 1983, PDB: P0008401. Using this manoeuvre the Qh6 goes back to d1 in order to take part in the revival of the missing wB.) 14.Qa6xPa4[Pa7] a5-a4 15.Qc6-a6 a6-a5 16.Re2-f2 a7-a6 17.Qa6xPc6[ Pc7] c7-c6 18.Qa5xPa6[Pa7] a7-a6 19.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 20.Rf1-g1 ... 62.Qd1-e2 a7-a6 63.Qa8xPa4[Pa7] a5-a4 64.Qc6-a8 b6xQa5[Qd1] 65.Qh6xPc6[ Pc7] a7xBb6 66.Bd8-b6+ c7-c6 67.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 68.Be7-d8 (The Queens changed

the roles. Once more we will use Frolkin’s manoeuvre) 117.Qd1-e2 a7-a6 ... 120.Re2-f2 a7-a6 121.Qa6xPc6[ Pc7] d7xQc6[Qd1] 122.Qa5xPa6[Pa7] a7-a6 123.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 124.Qh6-c6 a7-a6 (The following five moves form author’s new tempo manoeuvre to enable the next Q’s return to d1) 125.Qa8xPa4[Pa7] a5 126.Qd8-a8 a6-a5 127.Qa5-d8 a7-a6 128.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 129.Rf1-g1 a7-a6 ... 189.Qd1-e2 ... 199.Bf8xPd6[ Pd7] e7xQd6[Qd1] 200.Qh6-d6+ (Frolkin’s manoeuvre again) ... 249.Qd1-e2 ... 252.Re2-f2 a7-a6 253.Qa6xPe6[Pe7] f7xQe6[Qd1] 254.Qa5xPa6[Pa7] a7-a6 255.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 256.Bd6-f8 a7-a6 (Once more five moves play for the last Q’s return) ... 266.Qh5xPf5[ Pf7] ... 316.Qf1-f2 a7-a6 317.Qa8xPa4[Pa7] a5-a4 318.Rf2-e2 a6-a5 319.Qe2-f1 f6-f5 320.Qd1-e2 g7xQf6[Qd1] 321.Qe6-f6+ a7-a6 322.h3xPg4[ Pg7] g5-g4+ etc. With a lot of additional tries:

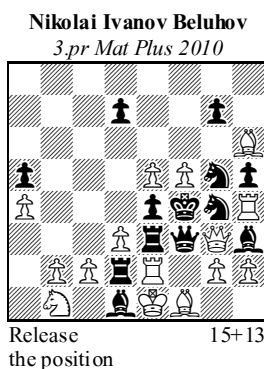
Try 1: 1.Rf1-f2 b6xQa5[Qd1] 2.Qa7-a5 a5-a4 3.Qc7-a7 a6-a5 4.Qf2-g1 b7-b6 5.Qa5-c7 a7-a6 6.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 7.Qa5-a4 a7-a6 and retro eternity.

Try 2: 1.Rf1-f2 b6xQa5[Qd1] 2.Qa8-a5 a5-a4 3.Qc6-a8 a6-a5 4.Qf2-g1 c7xBb6 5.Ba5-b6+ a7-a6 and retro eternity.

Try 3: 8.Qe2-f1 b7-b6 9.Qd1-e2 b6xQa5[Qd1] 10.Qg8-a8 a7xBb6 11.Bc7xPb6[Pb7]+ b7-b6 12.Qa4xPa5[Pa7] a6-a5 13.Bd6-c7 and although we have Q's tempo play (see 125th move) the Pb7 is fixed.

Try 4: 64.Qc6-a8 a6-a5 65.Re2-f2 a7-a6 66.Qa6xPc6[Pc7] d7xQc6[Qd1] and although we have Q's tempo play (see 125th move) there is no way to revive the wB.

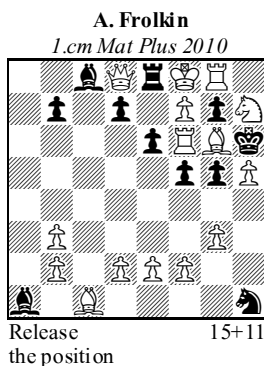
**3rd Prize: No.1636 – Nikolai Ivanov Beluhov (Bulgaria).** Very tricky cross-check tempo play combined with excellent tries result in a deep and complex classical resolution problem.



Retro: 1.Qf2-g3+ a6-a5 2.Sc3-b1 a7-a6 3.Sb5xPc3 c4-c3 4.Sd6-b5 Qg3-f3 5.Qg1-f2+ Qf3-g3+ (first cross-check tempo play) 6.Sf7-d6 Se6-g5 7.Sg5-f7+ (curiously releasing the bSg4 too early is one move too slow, this becomes evident later in the retroplay) Sd4-e6 8.Qh1-g1 Sb3-d4 9.Qg1-h1 Sa1-b3 10.Qf2-g1 a2-a1=S 11.Qg1-f2 a3-a2 12.Qf2-g1 (a wS uncaptured on a2 needs six moves to reach g4, and one uncaptured on a3 needs five, so the two possibilities seem equal in rights. But surprisingly they are not: The first uncapture leaves Black with an “un-recharged” tempo-mechanism in the southeast corner and strips him of one tempo-move!) b4xSa3 13.Sb5-a3 c5-c4 14.Sd6-b5 Qg3-f3 15.Qg1-f2+ Qf3-g3+ (the second cross-

check tempo move) 16.Se8-d6 c6-c5 17.Sf6-e8 Sf2-g4 18.Sg4-f6+ Qg3-f3 19.Qh1-g1 Rf3-e3 20.Re3-e2 Be2-d1 21.a3-a4 (Qg1 would require more black tempo-moves later; this is why White could not recharge the mechanism back at move 12 unplaying a3-a4) Bd1-e2 22.Be2-f1 c7-c6 23.Kf1-e1 b5-b4 24.Kg1-f1 b6-b5 25.Bf1-e2 Be2-d1 26.a2-a3 Bd1-e2 27.Re1-e3 Be2-d1 28.Ra1-e1 Ke3-f4, and the black King may escape via d4 and everything unlocks.

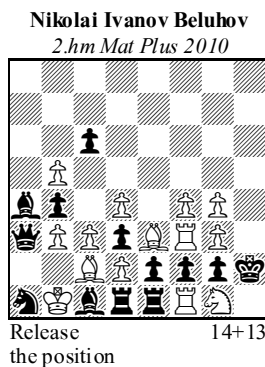
**1st Honourable Mention: retroshielding, No. 34 – Andrey Frolkin (Ukraine).** A very paradoxical repetition of retroshielding of the same piece being immobile initially



combined with elegant (double) line clearance. The nearby try to play immediately 2.Qc7-d8 3.Qc2-c7 4.Qd7xc2 results in a surprising retrostalemate of Black, excluding black rook from a8. For me the by far best original problem in the excellent “retroshielding” article by Andrey Frolkin and the late Andrey Kornilov.

Retro: 1.- Re7-e8+ 2. Rh8-g8! a2-a1=B 3. Kg8-f8 a3-a2 4. Qf8-d8! Re8-e7! 5. Qc5-f8! Re7-e8+ 6. Qc2-c5 a4-a3 7. Qc7xPc2! c3-c2 8. Qd8-c7 c4-c3 9. Qf8-d8!! Re8-e7 10. h4-h5 Rd8-e8 11. Qe8-f8 c5-c4 12. Kf8-g8 c6-c5 13. Ke7-f8, etc.

**2nd honourable Mention: No.1761 – Nikolai Ivanov Beluhov (Bulgaria).** Excellent and tricky shuffle in the southwest area of the board to extract a piece that eventually might unpromote at h1. The solution has to be deduced by different complex reasoning.



It cannot be White to move, for this would imply a retro-perpetual: Retro: 1.c7-c6 Sh3-g1 2.Kh1-h2 Sg1-h3+ 3.Kh2-h1.

So, the last moves were e.g. 1.- Sh3-g1 c7-c6 2.Rg1-f1 Rf1-e1 3.Sg5-h3 Re1-d1.

The cage is opened by unpromoting a black piece on h1. This must be one of the bRd1, bRe1 and bQa3, and either it must somehow get past the wRf1, moving carefully inside the limited space at the bottom of the board (getting past the wR in the h1-corner is impossible for an illegal check on the bK), or we should retract the rather tempting c2-c3 and extract a piece via b2-c3.

Let us analyse the latter. The pawns prevent us from extracting the Bishop c1 or the wK. So, we should extract the bQ. An extracting move like b2-c3 is impossible, for the wK must always occupy one of the a2, a1, b1, c1 (and b2) squares, so it must be Qa1-c3. This implies a wKc1 and bB where? bBa3 would force a piece to occupy b2!

So, the bB must be unpromoted. But with a bP preventing the Queen from coming from a3 to a1, there are no forward moves that we can play from bQa1, wKc1, bPa2 or a3 to arrive at the diagram position – or at any very different position at all! (Supposing, of course, that we are considering the first extraction of the bQ in the retroplay).

Besides, after c2-c3 a black piece cannot get past the wR either, for to that end we should have a wR at b1 and wK, wB, bRR, bQ and bB inside a1, a2, a3, b2 and c3 – and six pieces cannot fit inside five squares!

So, c2-c3 is just a try. Now, to get any piece past the wR (be it the wB or bQ – it clearly cannot be the wK), we should have this piece at c2, the wR at c1, and the other five pieces fitted inside a1, a2, a3, b1 and b2. But one of these pieces is a wK, and he should find himself surrounded by non-attacking enemy units! This turns out impossible to do, unless we unpromote one of these pieces on a1.

Probably that should be a R or a Q, the most dangerous pieces? bBa3, bPa2, wKa1, bRb2, wBb1, bQc2, wRc1 seems to do the job ... but there is no forward play from this position in which the wK leaves a1!

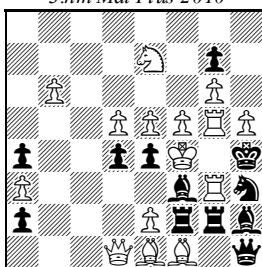
So, we should really unpromote the most harmless black unit – the Bishop!

The only possible arrangement now is bRa3, bPa2, wKa1, bRb2, wBb1, bQc2, wRc1.

Retro: 4.Bd1-c2 Bb2-c1 5.S~ Sc2-a1 6.S~ Ba1-b2 7.Ka2-b1 Qc1-a3+ 8.S~ Sa3-c2 9.Bc2-d1 Bb2-a1 10.Bb1-c2 Qc2-c1 11.S~ Rc1-e1 12.S~ Qd1-c2 13.S~ Sc4-a3 14.Ka1-a2 Ba3-b2+ 15.S~ Rc2-c1 16.S~ Rb2-c2 17.S~ Qc2-d1 18.S~ Rc1-f1 19.S~ Qd1-c2 20.S~ Qf1-d1 21.S~ Re1-c1 22.S~ Rc2-b2 23.S~ Bc1-a3 24.S~ Rb2-c2 25.Bc2-b1 S~

26.Bd1-c2 Rc2-b2 27.Kb1-a1 Ra2-c2 28.S~ Ra3-a2 29.S~ Bb2-c1 30.S~ Ba1-b2  
31.Kb2-b1 a2-a1=B+ 32.Bc2-d1 Rc1-e1 33.Bb1-c2 Qd1-f1 34.Ka1-b2 Rc2-c1 35.S~  
Rb2-c2 36.S~ Qc2-d1 37.Rc1-g1 Qd1-c2 etc.

**Nikolai Ivanov Beluhov**  
3.hm Mat Plus 2010



Last 27  
single moves? 15+12

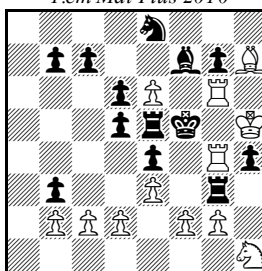
**3rd Honourable Mention: No.1641 – Nikolai Ivanov Beluhov (Bulgaria).** Again a very fine classical exact resolution with installation and firing two retro batteries, where Black nolens volens has to close the last gap in the southeast cage. A new one will be opened – just to be closed again.

Retro: 1... Sg1-h3+ 2.b5-b6 a5-a4 3.b4-b5 a6-a5 (not a7-a5?) 4.b2-b4 b3xSa2 5.Sb4-a2 a7-a6 6.Sc2-b4 b4-b3 7.Se3-c2! Kh3-h4 8.Rg4-g3+ Rg3-g2+ 9.Sg2-e3+ (an additional piece in the cage!) b5-b4 10.h4-h5 b6-b5 11.Rh5-g5 b7-b6 12.Rh8xPh5! h6-h5 13.Kg5-f4 h7-h6+ 14.Rf4-g4 Bg4-f3+ etc.

**1st Commendation: No.1758 – Thomas Volet (USA).** Another fine problem by the screening expert with a remarkable matrix in northeast. Thomas calls it “a sequel to 10731, Die Schwalbe 2000” (PDB P1000256), but you might also compare it in a certain kind with e.g. S. Wolobujev, 1st-2nd Prize Redkije shanry plus 1994 (PDB P1001361), not being anticipations, of course!

The matrix of the Bishops and the Kings in the Northeast corner requires a unit occupy g6 to provide a screen until the Ks can retract. But the Kings are fixed until a screen is provided on g5.

**Thomas Volet**  
1.cm Mat Plus 2010

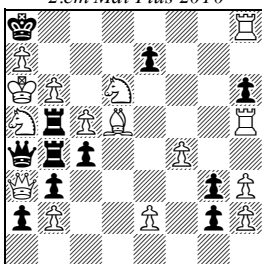


Resolve  
the position 12+13

Retro: 1... Rf3-g3 2.Rg3-g4 Rf4-f3 3.Bg8-h7 Rg4-f4 4.Rh6-g6 Rg6-g4 (substitution of bR as the g6 screening unit, as a wR must unpromote at a8 to allow the uncapture on the b-file of the unit that will eventually screen on g5) 5.Rh8-h6 Pb4-b3 6.Bh7-g8 Bg8-f7 7.Rg4-g3 Rf6-g6 8.Rg6-g4+ (substitution of the other wR as the g6 screening unit, as the bR is needed to screen at f6 to allow the WR at h8 to occupy f7 on its way to unpromote at a8) Bf7-g8 9.Rf8-h8 Bg8-f7 10.Rf7-f8 Pb5-b4 11.Rd7-f7 Bf7-g8 12.Rd8-d7 Bg8-f7 13.Ra8-d8 Bf7-g8 14.Pa7-a8=R Bg8-f7 15.Pa6-a7 Bf7-g8 16.Pa5-a6 Pa6xSb5 (the uncapture of the unit that can screen on g5) 17.Sc3-b5 Bg8-f7 18.Se2-c3 Bf7-g8. The BK will not be able to retract

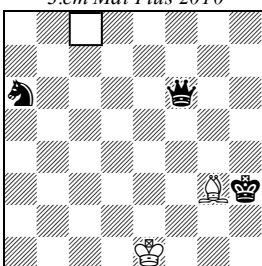
to f6 when the wS provides the necessary screen on g5 if a wR stands on g6 at that time, so, although a screening unit must continue to occupy g6, it is necessary to change the color of the Rook. Continue 19.Bg8-h7 Pa7-a6 20.Rg3-g6 Rg6-f6 (the BR returns to screen again at g6) 21.Bh7-g8 Bg8-f7 22.Sg1-e2 Bf7-g8 23.Sf3-g1 Bg8-f7 24.Sg5-f3 (the liberating screen at g5) Kf6-f5 etc.

Andrey Frolkin  
Andrey Kornilov  
2.cm Mat Plus 2010



Last 18 single moves? 15+11

Günther Weeth  
Klaus Wenda  
3.cm Mat Plus 2010



-6 & #1 2+3  
Defensive retractor  
type Proca  
Antircirce type Calvet  
Magical square type II c8

**2nd Commendation: retroshielding, No. 33vv – Andrey Frolkin (Ukraine) and Andrey Kornilov (Russia).** The double check (with mate) in the diagram position has to be prevented as a double uncheck in the retroplay. This of course requires the installation of two retroshields on b7 and b8. And by the way a typical example for the corrected version being far better than the original one!

Retro: 1.Bg8-d5# h7-h6! 2.f2-f4! (f3-f4?) f4xBg3 3.Sb7-d6 f5-f4 4.Bb8-g3 g3-g2 5.Bd5-g8! g4-g3 6.Bg2-d5 g5-g4 7.Bf1-g2 g6-g5 8.Rg5-h5 f6-f5 9.Rg1-g5 f7-f6 10.g2xh3.

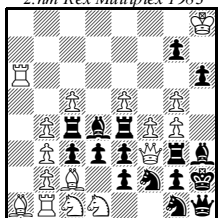
In this correction a try could be added to the content: 1...g4-g3 2.Th7-h8 g5-g4 3.Sb7-d6 g6-g5 4.Bd5-g8 g3-g2 5.Bg2-d5 g4-g3 6.Rd5-h5 g5-g4 7.Rd1-d5 f6xBg5 8.Rh1-d1 f7-f6 9.Bf1-g2?? retrostalemate.

**3rd Commendation: No.1638 – Günther Weeth (Germany) and Klaus Wenda (Austria).** An elegant AC Proca miniature demonstrating the power of magic squares in New-German manner.

The main plan R 1.Ka8xBb7[Ke1]? Bc8-b7+ 2.Bb7xRc8=bB[bBc8] Sb8-a6+ 3.Rg8-c8=wR & 1.Bg2+ fails to the open f-line (1... Qf1!), so in a quite simple foreplan this line has to be closed: R 1.Ke1xPf2[Ke1]! f3-f2+ (closes b7-g2, too ...) 2.Ke2xPd2[Ke1]! f4-f3+ (... and opens it again) 3.Ke1-e2 d3-d2+ and now follows the main plan. 4.Ka8xBb7[Ke1]! etc. (Not 5.Bb7xQc8=bB [bBc8]? Sb8-a6+ 6.Qg8-c8=wQ & 1.Bg2#, but 5... Qd8-f6+!

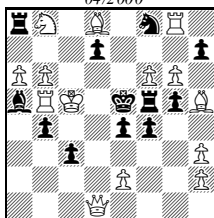
**Magical square type II:** A unit except King which enters a magical square changes its colour. **Type II:** If in Antircirce a unit captures another unit which stands on the magical square, then the capturing piece first changes its colour – on the magical capture – and is THEN reborn according to the Antircirce rules.

P0008401  
Andrej N. Frolkin  
2.hm Rex Multiplex 1983



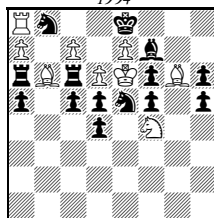
What is the minimum number of moves by w ♖a6? Circe Rex Inclusiv 16+16

P1000256  
Thomas Volet  
10731. Die Schwalbe 182  
04/2000



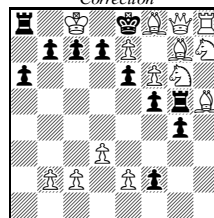
Resolve the position! 14+12

P1001361  
Sergej L. Wolobujew  
1.pr Redkiye zhamry-plus  
1994



Resolve the position! 9+14

Andrey Frolkin  
Andrey Kornilov  
(49) Mat Plus Review 13-14  
08/2010  
Correction



Release the position 14+11