



Five Days Composing Tourneys – Group A, #2

Theme: #2 with 2 thematic phases, try + solution. Both key-moves sacrifice a white piece to the black king, once on a square of the same colour as the BK square (diagonally from BK), the other time on the square of opposite colour (orthogonally from BK).

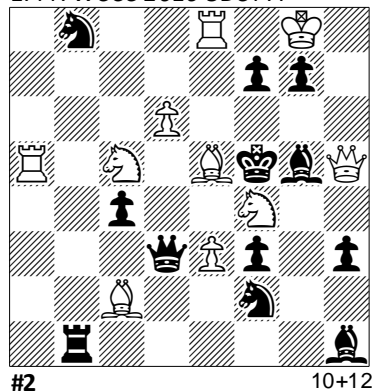
(Announcement: <http://wccc2016.matplus.net/ct/5DCTA.pdf>)

I had to exclude entries presenting passive sacrifices (the wonderful miniature No.17 could be published elsewhere), since they may use different mechanisms compared to active sacrifices. In the award advantage was given to the less known mechanisms, to the richness of play and unity of content in thematic phases. Since the sacrifices belong to the classic chess effects, I very much appreciated nice overall play. In spite of a very short period, the tourney produced many lively and fresh looking entries!

1st Place

Mikhail Marandyuk

1. Pr. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



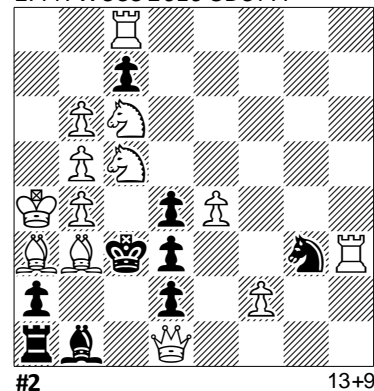
1.Se4! ~ 2.Sg3# 1... Rg1 2.Bd4#
 1... Kxe4 2.Bf6# 1... Sxe4 2.Qxh3#
 1... Qxe4 2.Bb2#
 1.Bf6? ~ 2.Qxg5# 1... Rg1 2.Sd7#
 1... gxf6 2.Sb3# 1... Kxf6 2.Qxf7#
 1... Se4!

2nd Place

Menachem Witztum

(Dedicated to Evgeni Bourd)

2. Pr. WCCC 2016 5DCT A

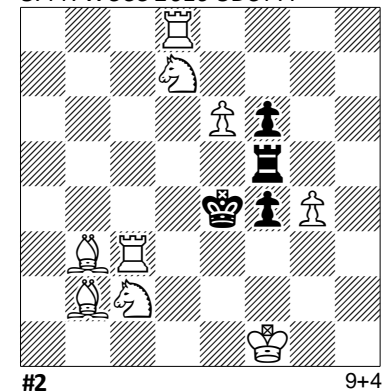


1.Sxd3! (-), 1... Kxd3 2.Qf3#
 1... cxb6 2.Sce5 #, 1... Bc2 2.Qxc2#
 1... S~ 2.Bb2#, 1... Bxd3 2.Qxa1#
 1.Sxd4? (-), 1... Kxd4 2.Bb2#
 1... cxb6 2.Sce6 #, 1... Bc2 2.Qxa1#
 1... S~ 2.Se2#, 1... c6!

3rd Place

Srećko Radović

3. Pr. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



1.Se5! ~ 2.Rc4# 1... fxe5 2.Bd5#
 (Rd4?) 1... Rxe5 2.Rd4# (Bd5?)
 1... Kxe5 2.Re3# (Rc4?)
 1.Rd3?(-) 1... f3 2.Rd4#,
 1... R~ 2.Sxf6# 1... Kxd3 2.Sc5#
 (2.Sf6?) 1... Rd5!

1st Prize - Mikhail Marandyuk (Ukraine) The two phases, strongly linked by the half-battery, offer more beauty than any other entry in the tourney. There is a double sacrifice in the try and a triple one in the solution, adding to the feel of thematic intensity. Not less than 3 shut-off mates (one using black self-pin, another black self-unpin) add a special value. There are 9 mates all together, with no boring repetitions, and with a perfect hierarchy: solution uses more attractive key, and more interesting variations. Let's hope this wonderful composition doesn't have a serious predecessor!

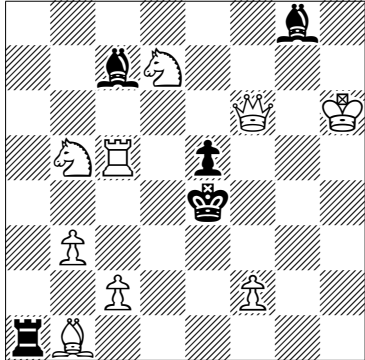
2nd Prize - Menachem Witztum (Israel) This problem will be remembered for uniting the themes of both WCCC 2016 official tourneys, including play of a masked white half-battery (the theme of the 3-hours QCT)! From the point of modern thematic, the content with 3 changes and two transferred mates is the most intensive in the tourney, but the capturing sacrifices and obvious refutation give it a more mechanical appearance.

3rd Prize - Srećko Radović (Serbia) Here we see a mutual activation of both indirect batteries in an eye-catching position. Surprising block in the try has a hidden refutation, and phases are additionally linked with the presence of double checks. As in No.14, the key phase is prominent one, with subtle avoiding of potential duals, all in an almost-Meredith setting.

4th Place

Aleksandr Feoktistov

1. HM WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

9+5

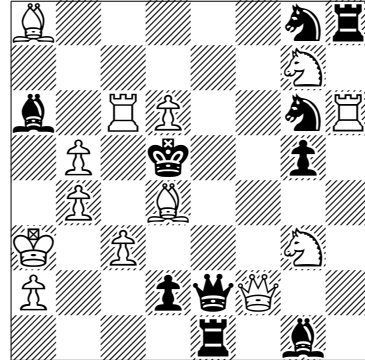
1.Rd5! ~ 2.Sc3#, 1... Kxd5 2.c4#,
1...Bxd5 2.Sc5# 1... Ba5 2.Rxe5#

1.Sd4? ~ 2.Qh4# 1... Kxd4 2.c3#
1... ed4 2.Qf5# 1... Bd8 2.Qxe5#
1... Ra6 2.c3# 1... Be6!

5th Place

Emil Klemanič

2. HM WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

13+10

1.Be5! ~ 2.Rc5# 1... Kxe5 2.Qf5#
1... Qxe5 2.c4#

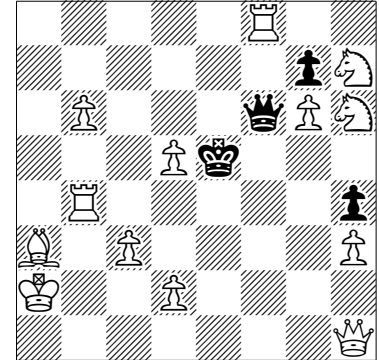
1.Se6? ~ 2.Sc7# 1... Kxe6 2.Qf5#
1... Qe6 2.c4# 1... Rh7!

1.Se4? 2.Rc5 # 1... Kxe4 2.Qf5#
1...Qe4 2.c4 # 1... Bb7!

6th Place

Marcos Roland

3. HM WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

b) bQf6=bSf6

13+4

a) 1.Rf4! ~ 2.Qe4# 1... Kxf4 2.Bd6#
1... Qxf4 2.Re8# 1... Qxg6 2.d4#
1... Qf5 2.Rxf5#
1.Sf5? ~ (Kxf5) 2.Qe4# 1... Qxf5!

b) 1.Sf5! (-) 1... Kxf5/S~ 2.Qe4#
1.Rf4? ~ 2.Rf5# 1... Kxf4 2.Bd6#
1... S~ 2.Qe4# 1... gxh6!

1st HM - Aleksandr Feoktistov (Russia) Two double sacrifices linked by the WP mates in a well-balanced content. Both construction and mates are performed with a good taste.

2nd HM - Emil Klemanič (Slovakia) 3x2 double sacrifices, leading to 3x2 transferred mates. Quite an achievement from thematic point of view, but the heavy position and a bit mechanical approach lessen the impression.

3rd HM - Marcos Roland (Brazil) A rare case when a twin using interchange of the same key-moves adds additional value: almost complete change of the threats! Solution of the b) twin is based on zugzwang, but the feeling of change is preserved.

Sp. HM – Georg Pongrac (Austria) A rich and attractive two-phase content, presenting beautiful variations. It would be logical to activate WQ directly, by 1.Rd3, but this is only a thematic try, with subtle refutation based on closing of c2-e4 line. Instead, Her Majesty should be indirectly activated, and then used for mates in variations. Well, this problem has a serious defect in unused WRe8 in the solution phase, but the overall beauty allows its place in the award.

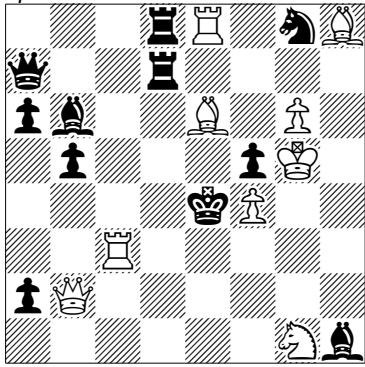
Commendations, in the order of appearance:

Comm. - Michael McDowell (Great Britain) A lightweight position with some beautiful mates and a wonderful key-move.

7th Place

Georg Pongrac

Sp. HM WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

9+11

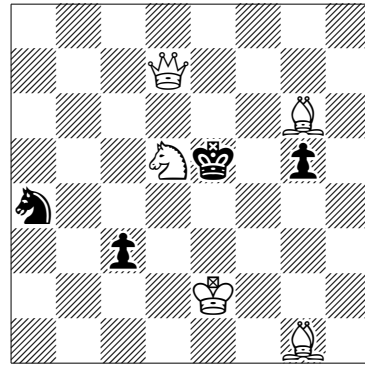
1.**Bd4!** ~ 2.Re3# 1... Kd4 2.Qb4#
1... Rd4 2.Qe2# 1... Bd4 2.Qc2#

1.Rd3? ~ 2.Bf5# 1... Kd3 2.Qe2#
1... Rd3 2.Qe5# 1... Rd4 2.Qe2#
1... Bd4!

8th – 12th Place

Michael McDowell

Comm. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

5+4

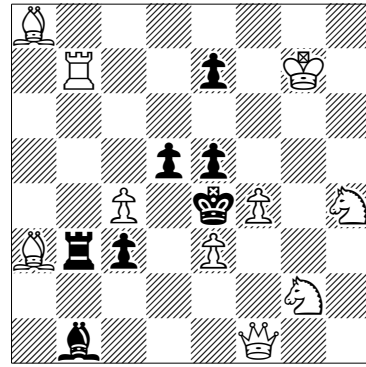
1.**Sf4!** ~ 2.Qd4# 1... Kxf4 2.Bh2# 1...
Kf6/gxf4 2.Bd4#

1.Be4? ~ 2.Qe7# 1... Kxe4 2.Qe6#
1... Sc5!

8th – 12th Place

Paz Einat

Comm. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

10+7

1.**cxd5!** ~ 2.Qc4 # 1... Kxd5 2.Rxb6 #
1... exf4 2.Rxe7# 1... Rb4 2.Rxb4 #
1... Bd3 2.Qf3 #

1.fxe5? ~ 2.Qf5 # 1... Kxe5 2.Rxe7#
1... dc4 2.Rb5 # 1...e6 !

(1.Rxe7 ~ 2.Bxd5/Rxe5#, 1...Rb7 !)

Comm. - Paz Einat (Israel) Mutual capturings of pawns activate battery that unites most of the play. There is a nice detail in refutation of the additional try, skilfully defending against both threats.

Comm. - Mark Erenburg (Israel) The bishops creating two indirect batteries may perhaps be a new detail in a well-known half-battery play.

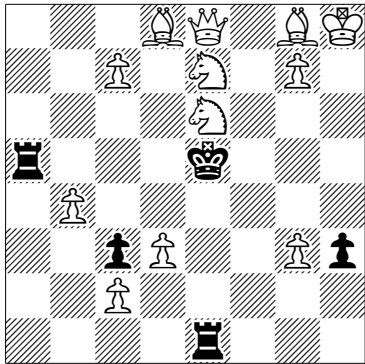
Comm. - Vasil Ďačuk (Slovakia) So called pseudo-Lender combination, in a heavy position.

Comm. - Emmanuel Manolas (Greece) Using WRf4 for two roles, sacrifice and pinning, makes a nice detail.

8th – 12th Place

Mark Erenburg

Comm. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

12+5

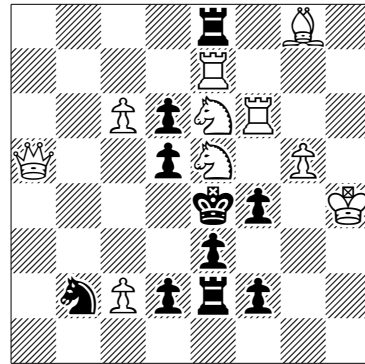
1. **Sf5!** – 2.Sed4# 1... Kd5 2.Sf4#
1... Kxf5 2.Qh5# 1... Ra6 2.Qb5#

1. Sd4? – 2.Sef5# 1... Kf6 2.Sd5#
1... Kd6 2.Sc8# 1... Kd4 2.Sc6#
1... Ra6!

8th – 12th Place

Vasil Ďačuk

Comm. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

10+10

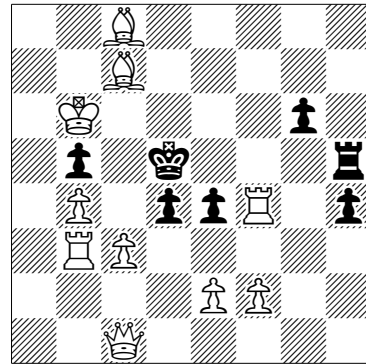
1.Sf3? (A) 2.Rxf4(B), 1...Rf8 2.Sed4(C)
1...Kxf3 2.Qxd5(D), 1...Sd3!

1.Sd4! (C) 2.Qxd5(D)
1...Rxc8 2.Sef3(A), 1...Kxd4 2.Rxf4(B)

8th – 12th Place

Emmanuel Manolas

Comm. WCCC 2016 5DCT A



#2

10+7

1.cxd4! ~ 2.Qc5# 1... Kxd4 2.Rd3#

1.Rxe4? ~ 2.Rxd4# 1... dxc3 2.Bb7#
1...Kxe4 2.Qh1# 1...Kc4!

Belgrade, August 2016.

Marjan Kovačević