



The 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge



Group B - Helpmate in two moves

Theme: *Sacrificial twins*

(announcement: <http://www.matplus.net/pub/YCCC2016-1.pdf>)

I received 12 very solid problems without the names of the authors. The number of problems with three thematic phases surpassed my expectations. The task record with 4 thematic variations proved to be a tough nut to crack.

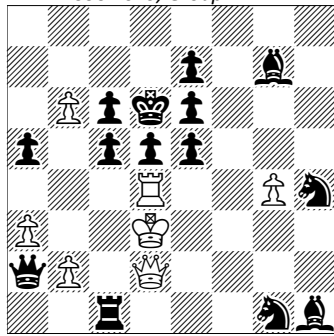
All the three-phase problems use a well-known scheme applied many times by the world's leading composers from Ukraine, who still use it today with success.

I propose the following ranking:

1st Place

Ilija Serafimović

1. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



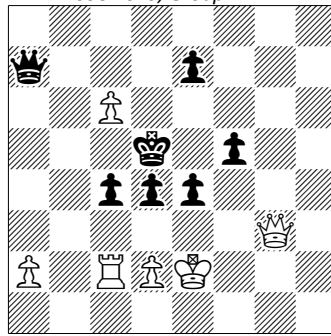
h#2 7+14
2 sol
b) wRd4=wPd4

- a) 1.Qa1 Re4 2.dxe4+ Ke3#
1.Sg2 Rc4 2.dxc4+ Ke4#
b) 1.a4 dxc5+ 2.Kxc5 Qb4#
1.Bf6 dxe5+ 2.Kxe5 Qh2#

2nd Place

Aleksey Abramenko

2. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



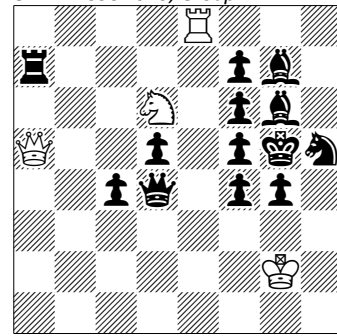
h#2 6+7
b), c) wRc2=wSc2=wBc2

- a) 1.Qc5 Rxc4 2.Kxc4 Qb3#
b) 1.e6 Sxd4 2.Kxd4 Qd6#
c) 1.e5 Bxe4+ 2.Kxe4 Qf3

3rd Place

Azer Abbasov

3. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 4+13
b), c) wSd6=wBd6=wRd6

- a) 1.Qb6 Sxf5 2.Kxf5 Qxd5#
b) 1.Qa1 Bxf4+ 2.Kxf4 Qd2#
c) 1.Ra6 Rxf6 2.Kxf6 Qd8#

1st Prize: Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) In the thematic sense, the maximum achievement. In the first phase two quiet WR sacrifices, and in the second two rough WP sacrifices with capturing of black pieces. In my opinion a good compromise, much better than the “harmonic” capturing of black pieces in all phases.

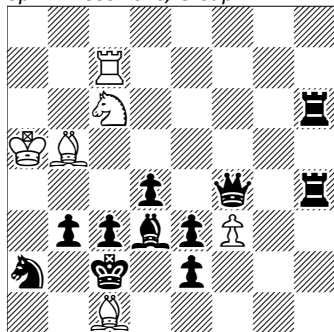
2nd Prize: Aleksey Abramenko (Russia) Three thematic phases in a spacious position, which makes the sacrifices more attractive. A very pleasant composition, especially for numerous modern composers who even consider the capturing of black pieces a theme or strategy.

3rd Prize: Azer Abbasov (Azerbaijan) Again three thematic phases in a position without white pawns. The BQ and BR hideaway moves are a nice overture for thematic play. However, a large number of inert black pawns is a minor aesthetic flaw.

4th Place

Marko Ložajić

Sp. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 6+11

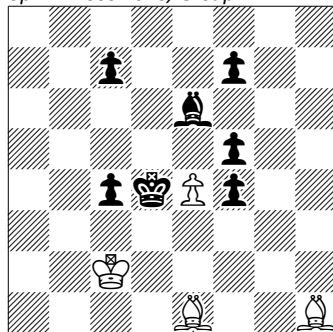
b), c) wSb5=wBb5=wRb5

- a) 1.Sb4 Bxd3+ 2.Kxd3 Sxb4#
- b) 1.Bg6 Sxc3 2.Kxc3 Se5#
- c) 1.Be4 Rxb3 2.Kxb3 Sxd4#

4th Place

Roy Ehrlich

Sp. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 4+7

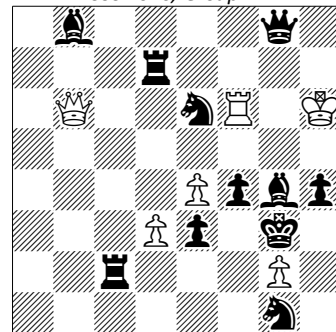
b) wPe4=wSe4

- a) 1.f6 e5 2.fxe5 Bf2#
- b) 1.Ke5 Sd6 2.cxd6 Bc3#

6th Place

Ilija Serafimović

1. HM YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 6+11

b), c) wRf6=wBf6=wSf6

- a) 1.Rdc7 Rxf4 2.Kxf4 Qd6#
- b) 1.e2 Bxh4+ 2.Kxh4 Qf2#
- c) 1.Sg7 Sxg4 2.Kxg4 Qg6#

Spec. Prize: Marko Ložajić (Serbia) Unlike the previous problems where the mates were with the WQ, here the mating moves are by a direct and indirect S-R battery. This gives the problem a special freshness.

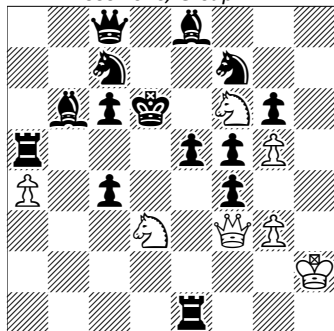
Spec. Prize: Roy Ehrlich (Israel) Two elegant quiet sacrifices of white pieces in a nicely constructed Meredith.

1st Hon.Mention: Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) The overture in the three thematic phases are isolated and unconnected interferences. Isolated interferences in the helpmate are regular, simple moves but are currently in trend.

7th Place

Dušan Mijatović

2. HM YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 7+14

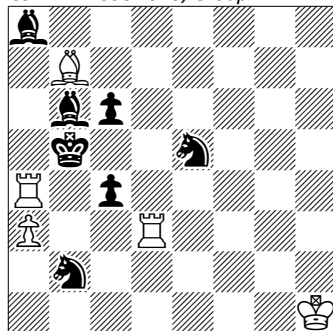
b), c) wSd3=wBd3=wPd3

- a) 1.Sb4 Bxd3+ 2.Kxd3 Sxb4#
- b) 1.Bg6 Sxc3 2.Kxc3 Se5#
- c) 1.Be4 Rxb3 2.Kxb3 Sxd4#

8th Place

Alexey Popov

Comm. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 5+7

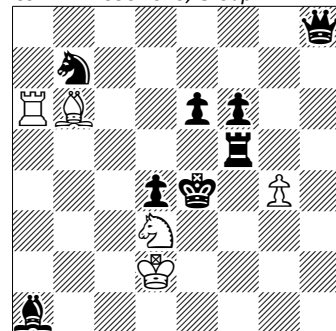
b) wRa4=wSa4

- a) 1.f6 e5 2.fxe5 Bf2#
- b) 1.Ke5 Sd6 2.cxd6 Bc3#

8th Place

Maksim Romanov

Comm. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 5+8

b) wBb6=wSb6

- a) 1.Rdc7 Rxf4 2.Kxf4 Qd6#
- b) 1.e2 Bxh4+ 2.Kxh4 Qf2#
- c) 1.Sg7 Sxg4 2.Kxg4 Qg6#

2nd Hon.Mention: Dušan Mijatović (Serbia) Once again three phases in a somewhat crowded position, caused by the WP sacrifice. The pawn sacrifice was missing in other problems, and it is also a missing twin for the maximum task of 6 phases.

Commendations in order of appearance.

Commendation: **Alexey Popov** (Russia)

Commendation: **Maksim Romanov** (Russia)

Both problems are nice two-phase works,

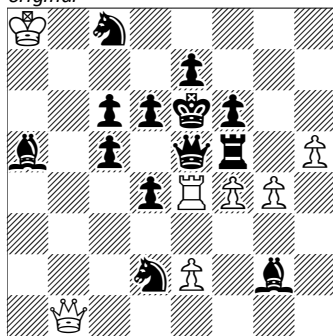
Sarajevo -July- 2016 Fadil Abdurahmanović

P. S.

I hoped to offer a lively and challenging thematic condition, for composers "from 7 to 77 years"! Two twins are easy to create, three - a bit more difficult, while four twins, as expected, remain a task for seniors. As a junior, I tried to find this quartet, but without computer it was almost impossible. Some days ago, right on my 77th birthday, the correct position was found:

Fadil Abdurahmanović

original



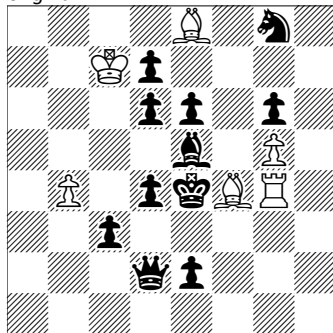
h#2 7+13
b-d) wRe4=wBe4=wSe4=wPe4

- a) 1.Kd5 Rd4+ 2.Kd4xR! Qd3#
- b) 1.Kd7 Bc6+ 2.Kc6xB! Qb7#
- c) 1.Rf4 Sf6 2.Kf6xS! Qg6#
- d) 1.Qd5 e5 2.fe5xP! Qf5#

It is also interesting to present three phases with pure active sacrifices, without capturing of black pieces:

Fadil Abdurahmanović

original



h#2 6+11
b),c) wBf4=wSf4=wPf4

- a) 1.Kd3 Be3! 2.de3xB! Bg6#
- b) 1.Kf5 Sd5! 2.ed5xS! Bd7#
- c) 1.Kd5 f5! 2.ef5xP! Bf7#

Thematic piece is the front piece of white direct battery. This way, we have destroying of white battery, too. However, the story is not over. The theme asks and teases to be realized in more economical position. Is it possible?

Such nonstandard challenges have been giving me a lot of pleasure. They also make a good training in the absence of more important and trendier ideas!