

Personligt

Som många av våra läsare vet är jag sedan oktober under behandling för leukemi. Behandlingen har hittills gått över förväntan, och jag mår alldeles utmärkt, så jag räknar med att ni får dras med mig ett bra tag än.

As many of you already know, I am under treatment for leukemia since October. The results so far have exceeded my expectations, so I plan to hang on for quite a while yet. Whether I will be able to travel to meetings abroad is still unclear, however.

Kjell Widlert

Dom Springaren s#2-3 2015

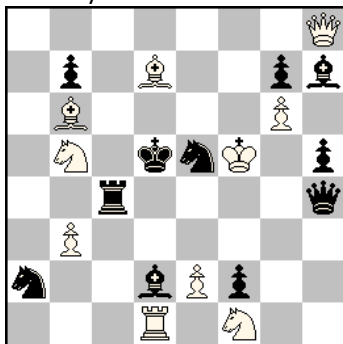
It is always nice to look new genres as a judge. I have never been judging selfmates before, but time is the first as well. Although I must admit it is harder to form an opinion about direct problems than for example helpmates.

I split the selfmates which were published during 2015 in two categories after the length of the problems. This is the judgment of selfmates in 2 or 3 moves.

There were published 6 selfmates which belong to this category. The quality was quite good, but I didn't find any exceptional problem which would be given a prize, so my award starts from honourable mentions.

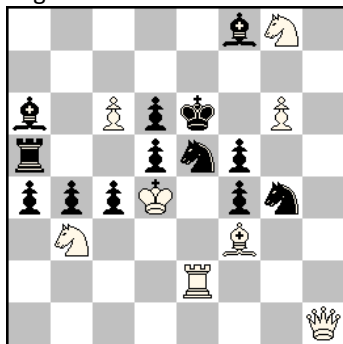
My proposition for the award is as follows:

1 HO 13257
Janne Syväniemi



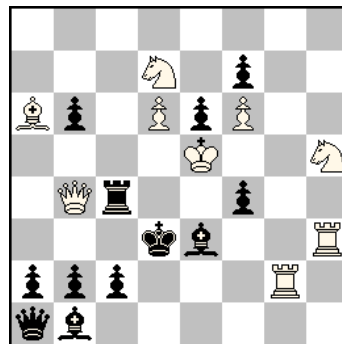
s#3

2 HO 13486
Eugeniusz Iwanow



s#2

3 HO 13487
Gunter Jordan



s#2

1st Honourable Mention 13257 – Janne Syväniemi

I like the keymove 1. Db8! and the three variations after that, where three different black pieces are mating the white King. The author is mentioning Black correction (probably meaning the Knight), because when black Bishop is mating White is forcing it with two sacrifices to mate. Very colourful problem, but there is no wow-factor.

1.Db8 (hot 2.e4+ Txe4 3.Dxe5 Txe5#)

1. – Se5~ 2.Dxb7+ Tc6 3.e4+ Dxe4#

1. – Sg4 2.Txd2+ Td4 3.Se3+ Sxe3#

1. – Sc6 2.Dg8+ Lxg8 3.Le6+ Lxe6#

(1. – Sc3 2.Sxc3+ Txc3 3.e4+ Dxe4#)

2nd Honourable Mention 13486 – Eugeniusz Iwanow

Also in this problem I fancy the keymove from corner to corner. I think the author's main variations are those which are ending with dxe5-moves. bSg4 decides by moving which mate will happen, but also Lb5 -variation is nice. Nice problem, but not a great one.

1.D~? Se3!

1.Dh8 (hot 2.Lxd5+ Txd5#)

1. – Se3 2.Dxe5+ dxe5#

1. – Sf6 2.Txe5+ dxe5#

1. – Lb5 2.Sc5+ dxc5#

3rd Honourable Mention 13487 – Gunter Jordan

This problem starts with wD pinning herself. Two very nice black unpins (bL/bT) which White at once uses by forcing the free black piece to mate by checking with a white knight.

1.Dxb2 (hot 2.Dd4+ Dxd4#)

1. – b5 2.Sc5+ Txc5#

1. – f3 2 Sf4+ Lxf4#

Commendations (in order of the appearance) without comments

13345 –

Eugeniusz Iwanow & Jaroslav Brzozowicz

1. – e5 2.Tf6+ Kf6#

1 h8=D? hot 2.Dg8+ Kg8#

1. – Se5,Te5 2.Dh7+ Kf6+ 3.Dg6+ Lxg6#

men 1. – e5!

1.Dh8 hot 2.Se5+ S,Txe5 3.Df6+ (Dg8+?) Kxf6#

1. – e5 2.Td4 (Txd3?) e4 3.Df6+ Kxf6#

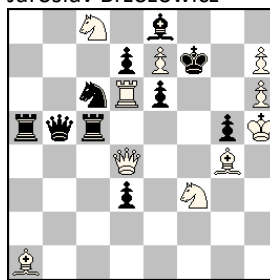
1. – Db2 2.Dg8+ Kf6 3.Dg6+ Lxg6#

1. – Tf5 2.Df6+ Txf6 3.Sxg5+ Dxg5#

Omn 13345

Eugeniusz Iwanow &

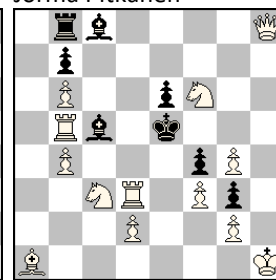
Jaroslav Brzozowicz



s#3

Omn 13488

Jorma Pitkänen



s#2

13488 – Jorma Pitkänen (Finland), 13488

1.Td7 zz

1. – Ta8 2.Sce4+ Txa1#

1. – Lxd7 2.Sfe4+ Txh8#

International Judge of Chess Composition

Kenneth Solja

Hyvinkää 31st January 2024

Dom Springaren s#4– 2015

I have tried here my very best, but like I have said earlier direct mates and selfmates are not easy to judge.

These problems had good quality. Top seeds are very good and can be examined carefully.

Here is my suggestion for the award:

1st Prize 13259 – Camillo Camnitzer

The whole problem turning point is happening on the fourth move, when the mass and the power are changing and that gives us very different ending than what one could believe from the initial diagram. I haven't seen Ceriani-Frolkin -theme before in the self-mate. The problem is very rich and needs very careful examination. I did like this very different selfmate very much.

1.f7?! S~!

1.d6 hot 2.Dxg5+ Kxe4 3.Df5+ Ke3 4.Sd5+! Kd2 5.Lf4+ Le3#

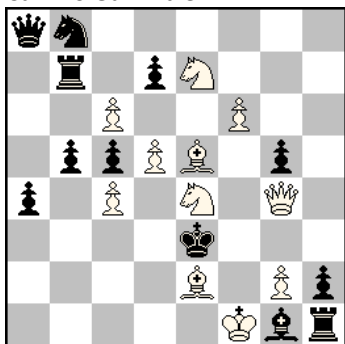
1. – dxc6 (4. – cxd5!) 2.f7! (3.f8=D ~ 4.Df2+ Lxf2#) Txe7 3.f8=D Tf7+ 4.Dxf7 ~ 5.Df2+

2. – Da5 3.f8=D De1+ 4.Kxe1 ~ 5.Df2+

2. – S~ 3.Lg3! (4.Lf2+) Kd4 4.Sxc6+! Ke3 5.Lf2+

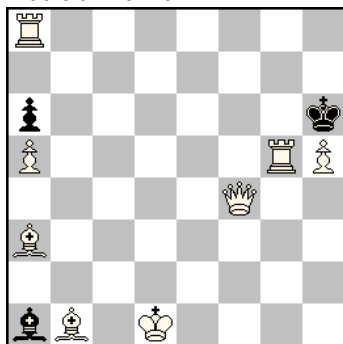
Hauptspiel: 2. – bxc4 3.Dg3+ Kxe4 4.Ld3+! cxd3 5.De1+ Le3#

1 Pr 13259
Camillo Gamnitzer



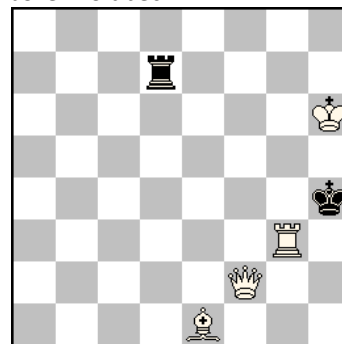
s#5

2 Pr 13491
Vladislav Buňka



s#9

Sp HO 13494
Jozef Holubec



s#14 2 lös

2nd Prize 13491 – Vladislav Buňka

The problem is full of white sacrifices and the point of everything is the Queen sacrifice. White will give away almost everything. And the one thing which I like in this problem is that the black King gives the checkmate but it is not guarding any square next to white King. Very enjoyable problem!

1.Lb2 Lxb2 2.Th8+ Lxh8 3.Tb5+ Kg7 4.h6+ Kg8 5.h7+ Kg7 6.Kc1 axb5 7.Kb2 b4 8.Ka1 b3 9.Df8+ Kxf8#

Special Honourable Mention 13494 – Jozef Holubec

The longest problem in this annual tourney with 2 solutions and those two solutions give echoes. The play itself is mechanical but accurate and therefore very enjoyable.

(A) 1.Te3+ Kg4 2.Dh4+ Kf5 3.De4+ Kf6 4.De5+ Kf7 5.De8+ Kf6 6.Df8+ Tf7 7.Dd6+ Kf5 8.De5+ Kg4 9.Tg3+ Kh4 10.Dd4+ Tf4 11.Te3+ Kg4 12.Dg7+ Kf5 13.Dd7+ Kf6 14.Lh4+ Txh4#

(B) 1.Tg5+ Kh3 2.De3+ Kh2 3.Th5+ Kg2 4.De2+ Kg1 5.Lf2+ Kg2 6.Lb6+ Kg3 7.Lc7+ Td6+ 8.Kg7 Kf4 9.Kf8 Kg3 10.Th6 Kf4 11.Tg6 Kf5 12.Dg4+ Ke5 13.Tg5+ Kf6 14.Ld8+ Txd8#

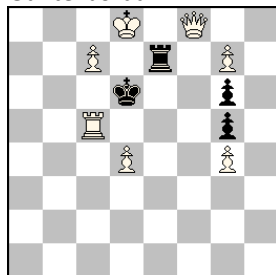
1st Honourable Mention 13346 – Gunter Jordan

Two solutions in s#7 with echomates and two Queen's function exchanges is a pretty good achievement. Pronkin and anti-Pronkin can also be seen. A masterpiece!

1.c8=T Ke6 2.Te5+ Kd6 3.Txg5 Ke6 4.d5+ Kd6 5.Df6+ Te6 6.g8=D Txf6 7.Df8+ Txf8#

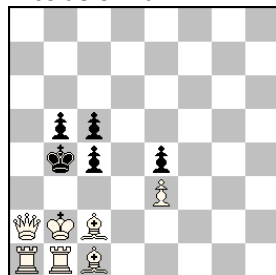
1.c8=S+ Ke6 2.g8=D+ Tf7 3.Sd6 Kf6 4.Se4+ Ke6 5.Dxg6+ Tf6 6.Ke8 Txg6 7.Dg8+ Txg8#

1 HO 13346
Gunter Jordan



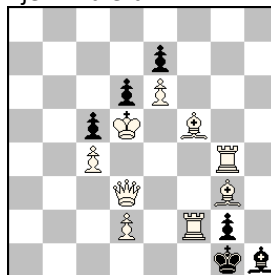
s#7 2 lösnn

2 HO 13492
Nicolae Chivu



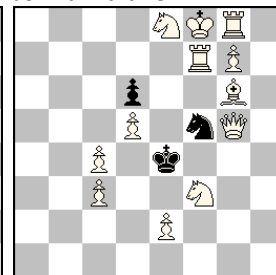
s#9 *

1 Omn 13262v
Gunter Jordan &
Kjell Widlert



s#7

2 Omn 13490
Jorma Pitkänen



s#7

2nd Honourable Mention 13492 – Nicholas Chivu

White officers versus Black pawns. White makes very complicated manouvre although keymove can be guessed from the initial position. Especially I like 6. Da7! -move. Setplay mate and the solution mate comes from different squares. Very good !

1. – c3#

1.Da6 c3+ 2.Ka2+ Kc4 3.Lxe4 c2 4.Tb2 Kc3 5.Txc2+ Kb4 6.Da7! c4 7.Tb2+ Kc3 8.Lb1 b4 9.Tb3+ cxb3#

1st Commendation 13262v – Gunter Jordan & Kjell Widlert

Logical problem which could have been made better by adding some small things. Also without them this problem is very nice although mainplan and foreplay have been mixed here. Hiding his bishop and rook white uses very nice manouvres.

1.Te2? Kf1 2.Txg2+ Kxg2 3.Df1+ Kxf1 4.T,Le4!

1.Lh4 Kh2 2.Lh7 Kg1 3.Tg6 Kh2 4.Te2 Kg1 5.Lg3 Kf1 6.Txg2+ Kxg2 7.Df1+ Kxf1#

2nd Commendation 13490 – Jorma Pitkänen (+)

In this problem especially is nice how white prepares the correct position before start the forced end of the problem. Two sacrifices of white gives forced modelmate.

1.Sh4 Ke5 2.Lh5 Ke4 3.Lf3+ Ke5 4.c5 dxc5 5.e3 c4 6.De7+ Sxe7 7.Sg6+ Sxg6#

Kenneth Solja

International Judge of Chess Compositions

Hyvinkää 31st January 2024

På självaste julafton kom vidstående hälsning från Estland till en grupp svenska problemvänner, och den vill vi gärna vidarebefordra. (Den är trevlig att lösa; gör det!) Det har visserligen gått en del tid sen dess, men som Indrek påpekar

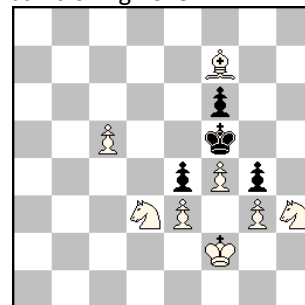
... och julen varar än till påska.

Men det var inte sant, och det var inte sant, för däremellan kommer Springar'n!

Det sistnämnda är dock i skrivande stund mest en from förhoppning och målsättning.

Indrek & Prem Aunver

Julhälsning 2023



#3 B: Bc5>f2