

StrateGems 2012 Solving Championship

By Danny L. Dunn

Romuald Lazowski has won the StrateGems 2012 Solving Championship. Romuald had perfect scores for #2, #3, #n, #s, and #H. **Radovan M. Tomašević** was second with perfect scores in #2, #3, #n, #s, and #H and was also first in E, F#, R, and PG! **Hans Nieuwhart** was third. **Wilfried Seehofer** also had perfect scores in S# and H#. **C. C. Frankiss** was first in C and Q.

Once again, more points were earned for Helpmates (3360.5) than any other type of problem. Fairies (1930.5) were second, followed by ThreeMovers (1332), Series-Movers (1296), Moremovers (1212), Selfmates (815), Proof Games (805), TwoMovers (694), Retros (204), Stalemates (184), and Studies (171).

If anyone feels that their 2012 score is incorrect, please let me know and I will double check the results.

Name	Total #2	Total #3	Total #n	Total E	Total S#	Total H#	Total C	Total Q	Total F#	Total R	Total PG	Total
Perfect Score	74	180	206	133	154	349	207	35	404	80	168	1990
Lazowski R.	74	180	206	38	154	349	165	34	355	17	140	1712
Tomašević R.	74	180	206	114	154	349	0	0	376.5	52	154	1659.5
Nieuwhart H.	72	153	152	0	55	348	168.5	12	251	21	133	1365.5
Seehofer W.	64	117	199	5	154	349	128	0	271	10	0	1297
Frankiss C.C.	0	0	0	0	140	348	200	35	372	25	143.5	1263.5
Belcsak L.	4	150	100	7	42	323	158	19	143	44	161	1151
Gasparyan A.	72	177	192	7	63	335	94	0	16	0	0	956
Moulton D.	74	130	27	7	26	276	142	7	94.5	11	52.5	847
Keith B.	14	3	5	0	0	286.5	77.5	12	40.5	7	21	466.5
v.d. Laan P.	36	53	55	0	20	150	42	7	0	0	0	363
Bua B.	62	138	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	243
Morse J.	68	0	0	0	0	49	110	7	0	0	0	234
Balinth G.	20	45	27	6	7	59.5	0	0	0	0	0	164.5
Lee F.	26	3	0	0	0	89.5	11	4	0	0	0	133.5
Casalino R.	34	3	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	86
Ganapathi G.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4	0	15
Wenda K.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7
Dittmann W.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6

Series-movers and Stalemates 2011 Award change. The 1st Prize winner was cooked by Mike Neumeier: 1.e8B 2.Bd7 3.Bc8 4.Ke7 5.Ke8 6.Rxd2 7.Rd8 8.f8S 9.Sd7 10.Bc5 11.Bf8 12.e6 13.e7 14.b6 15.bxa7 16.a8R 17.Rb8 18.a7 19.a8B 20.hxg7+ Kg8=. The author, George Sphicas, has informed me that he does not have a correction. Thus, the problem is removed from the award, and the order of the winners becomes: 1st Prize Izrael Tzur, 2nd Prize Radovan M. Tomašević, 3rd Prize Dan Meinking & Petko A. Petkov and the 4th Prize Radovan M. Tomašević. All the rest remains the same.

Milan Vukcevic 75 Jubilee Tourney Results

Introduction by Michelle Vukcevic



I just wanted to tell everyone how touched I am that you participated in Milan's Jubilee tourney. Milan always said that no one ever has a completely independent idea - that one always "stands on the shoulders" of thinkers that came before. He would be extremely pleased and proud to know that his life's work of problem composition might have inspired or even influenced another problemist. He would have enjoyed having brought composers together and would have enthusiastically participated in long discussions on how to find a better move, a tighter logic or a more beautiful flow of pieces. For Milan, the collaboration and exchange of ideas was as important as the goal of creating a spectacular problem. And for me and our family, it is an honor to know that his efforts and talents are remembered. Thank you.

#2 section, Judge: Vasyl Dyachuk

I received 39 entries without names. The level of competition was good thanks to the prize winners. I excluded from the award the following two entries:

- Stefan Felber has two refutations after the try 1.Bc8? Bc6! and Qe6! as well as duals after defenses 1...e4/Se4.
- Philippe Robert is anticipated by W.Bruch, *Rochade Europa* 2000, 3rd Prize (<http://www.yacpdb.org/?id=227530>)

I propose the following ranking:

1 st Prize Marjan Kovačević	2 nd Prize Marco Guida	3 rd Prize Wieland Bruch	4 th Prize Dragan Stojnić
#2√√√ (10+10)	#2*√ (11+9)	#2√√ (9+13)	#2*√ (15+7)

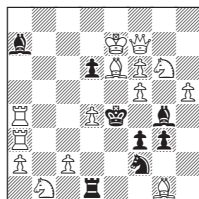
1st Prize - (Marjan Kovačević) A complex three-phase realization of changed and reciprocally changed mates. The threat from the first phase becomes the reply to different black defenses (Shedey theme). Very successful, harmonious mechanism with interesting play and an excellent key-move. **Solution:** 1.Qc6? (2.Rc3#), 1...Rd5 2.Qxd5#, 1...Re4 2.Qe4#, 1...Rxc4 2.Qxc4#, 1...Rf4!, 1.Sxg4? (2.Rxd6#), 1...Rxc4 2.Qxc4#, 1...d5!, 1.Sfd5? (2.Rxd4#), 1...Rxd5 2.Rxd6#, 1...Re4/Rf4 2.Rc3#, 1...Rxc4 2.Qxc4#, 1...Ke4 2.Re6#, 1...Bf2!; 1.Se4! (2.Rxd4#), 1...Rd5 2.Rc3#, 1...Rxe4 2.Rxd6#, 1...Rxc4 2.Qxc4#, 1...Bf2 2.Sxf2#, 1...Kxe4 2.Re6#.

2nd Prize - (Marco Guida) Three-phase change and reciprocal change. The try and the solution present interchange of self-block and captures (the Bikos theme). The play is quite harmonious, based on control of two thematic squares. **Solution:** 1...Rxe5[a] 2.Qb7[A]#, 1...Bxd4[b] 2.c4[B]#, 1.Qg4? (2.Qxe6#), 1...Rxe5[a] 2.c4[B]#, 1...Bxd4[b] 2.Qxd4[C]#, (1...Kxe5 2.Qxe6#, 1...Bh3 2.Qe4#), 1...Rf5!; 1.Sc4! (2.Sxe3#), 1...Rxe5[a] 2.Qxe5[D]#, 1...Bxd4[b] 2.Qb7[A]#, (1...Kxd4 2.Sb6#).

3rd Prize - (Wieland Bruch) A classic reciprocal change in two phases, with the Line A theme in the variation 1...d2. **Solution:** 1.Re3? (2.Sf3#), 1...d2 2.Qc3#, 1...Bc2!, 1.Qe1? (2.Sf3#), 1...d2 2.Qe3#[A] - Theme A (square e3), 1...Sc6 2.Qc3#[B] - close line c7-c4, 1...Bc5!; **1.Sd6!** (2.Sf3#), 1...d2 2.Qc3#[B] - Theme A (square e3), 1...Sc6 2.Qe3#[A] - close line c7-c5, 1...Bc2 2.Qa1#.

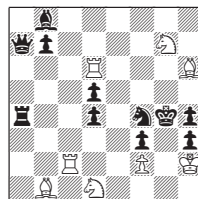
4th Prize - (Dragan Stojnić) A complex of ideas which includes the following: White correction (with Bristol moves as corrections), the Barnes theme, the pseudo Le Grand theme, anti-dual choice of threats and changed mates. **Solution:** 1...Qxc5 2.Be5#, 1...Qxe4 2.Rxe4#, 1.Rxb5/Rb~? (2.Qc3[A]/Qe3[B]#) Rd3!, 1.Rg3? {2.Qc3#[A] (2.Qe3#?)}, 1...Qxc5 2.Qe3#[B], 1...Ke5/Rd3/Rc1 2.R(x)d3#, 1...b4! (1.Re3? Qxc5 2.Be5#, 1...b4!); **1.Rf3!** {2.Qe3#[B] (2.Qc3#?)}, 1...Qxe4 2.Qc3#[A], 1...Kxe4/Qxg5/Rd3/Rc1 2.Qe3/Qc3/R(x)d3#.

1st Honorable Mention
Dragan Stojnić



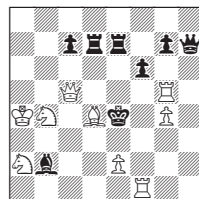
#2*√√√

2nd Honorable Mention
Aaron Hirschenson



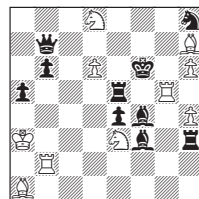
(14+8) #2√

3rd Honorable Mention
Petr Novicky



#2√

1st Commendation
Aaron Hirschenson



(8+9) #2√√√ (10+10)

1st Honorable Mention - (Dragan Stojnić) The content is similar to that of the 4th Prize. However, there is no Barnes theme, and 2.Qe6# doesn't come as a result of the clearance, but instead of the square vacation by the Bishop. **Solution:** 1...Rxd4 2.Sd2#, 1...Sd3 2.Sc3#, 1.Be~? (2.Qe6#[B]), 1...Sd3 2.Sc3#, 1...Bxf5!, 1.Bd5+? Kxf5! (2.Qd5#?[A]), 1.Bc4? {2.Qd5#[A] (2.Qe6#?)}, 1...Rxd4 2.Qe6#[B], 1...Kxd4/Kxf5 2.Qd5#[A], 1...Rd3!; **1.Bb3!** {2.Qe6#[B] (2.Qd5#?)}, 1...Sd3 2.Qd5#[A], 1...Bxf5/Ke3/Kxf5 2.Bd5/Qe6[B]/Qd5#[A].

2nd Honorable Mention - (Aaron Hirschenson) A three-phase reciprocal change. The mechanism of the masked interferences of black lines in the tries and the half-pin in the solution is not new. **Solution:** 1.Rc5? (2.Bf5#), 1...d3[a] 2.Se3[A]#, 1...Sd3[b]!, 1.Rc7? (2.Bf5#), 1...Sd3[b] 2.Rg6[B]#, 1...d3[a]!; **1.Rc4!** (2.Bf5#), 1...d3[a] 2.Rg6[B]#, 1...Sd3[b] 2.Se3[A]#.

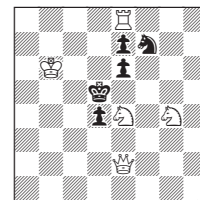
3rd Honorable Mention - (Petr Novicky) Change from Anti-Bristol in tries to Bristol in solution. Hidden Grimshaw and Dombrovskis paradox. **Solution:** 1.Rd5? (2.Qc2#[A]), 1...Bxd4[a] 2.Qxd4#, 1...Rxd5 2.Qxd5#, 1...Bc3 2.Sxc3#, 1...Qh3![b]; **1.Bg1!** (2.Qe3#), 1...Bxd4[a] 2.Qc2#[A], 1...Rxd4 2.Qxe7#, 1...Rd3 2.exd3#, 1...Qh3[b] 2.Qf5#, 1...Bc1 2.Sc3#.

1st Commendation - (Aaron Hirschenson) Changed mates in three-phases. A similar mechanism (but with a better result) was used by V.Dyachuk & V.Kopyl PCCC-50, 2010, 3rd Prize <http://www.yacpdb.org/?id=343649>. The capture of the threat-piece in the try 1.Rbg2? detracts, and the same refutation doesn't add much to the main content. **Solution:** 1.Rb3? (2.Rf5#), 1...Bg4[a] 2.Sxg4[A]#, 1...Bxg5[b]!, (1...Qd7/Qxh7/Qc8 2.Sd5#), 1.Rb5? (2.Rf5#), 1...Bxg5[b] 2.Bxe5[B]#, 1...Bg4[a]!, 1.Rbg2? (2.Rf5#), 1...Bxg5[b] 2.hxg5[C]#, 1...Bg4[a]!; **1.Rf2!** (2.Rf5#), 1...Bxg5[b] 2.Sg4[A]#, 1...Bg4[a] 2.Bxe5[B]#.

2nd Commendation - (K. Seetharaman) In two phases, we have three changed mates after black correction. **Solution:** 1.Qd3? (zz), 1...S~ 2.R(x)d8#, 1...Sd6! 2.Sc3#, 1...Se5! 2.Se3#, 1...e5!; **1.Rxe7!** (zz), 1...S~ 2.Rd7#, 1...Sd6! 2.Sef6#, 1...Se5! 2.Sgf6#, 1...d3 2.Qxd3#.

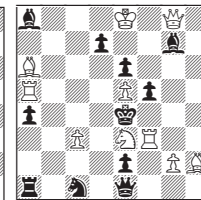
3rd Commendation - (Petr Novicky) A three-phase cycle of a double threat, with a three-phase changed mate after the same defense 1...Qd2. Unfortunately, the use of the white Queen is sparse. (Diagram and solution next page.)

2nd Commendation
K. Seetharaman



#2√

3rd Commendation
Petr Novicky



#2*√

(5+5) (10+11)

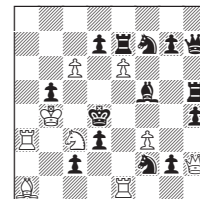
Solution: 1...f4 2.Qh7#[C], 1.Sg4? (2.Rf4[A]/Re3[B]#), 1...Qd2[a] 2.Sf2#, 1...fxg4 2.Qh7#[C], 1...Bh6 2.Sf6#, 1...Qg3!, 1.Sc4? (2.Re3[B]/Sd6[C]#) (Rf4?), 1...Qd2[a] 2.Sxd2#, 1...Qxc3!; **1.Sxf5!** (2.Sd6[C]/Rf4[A]#) (Re3?), 1...Qd2[a] 2.Sg3#, 1...Bxe5 2.Rxe5#, 1...exf5 2.Qc4#.

#3 section, Judge: Robert Burger

StrateGems created this unusual event to honor the memory of a composer who was, for many years, the heart and soul of the U.S. problem fraternity. Without Milan's guidance and charisma, the Good Companions have languished. The good news is that, as this event illustrates, the world's composers remember him and the composing style in which he excelled.

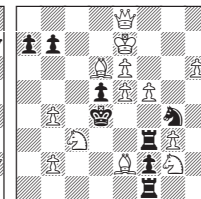
This judgment was done without knowledge of the composers' names, as is customary in a formal tourney. Their descriptions of their themes and their solutions were accurate, with few exceptions. Four prizes and several honorable mentions are hereby awarded, subject to claims of anticipation. Given the high quality of the entries, the choice proved difficult. Several problems not mentioned in this award have not been relegated to a long list of commendations; rather, the judge feels this work is deserving of further effort and placement in other events.

1st Prize
Stanislav Vokál



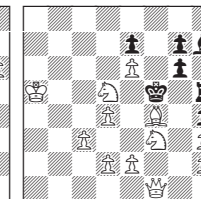
#3

2nd Prize
Evgeny Bourd &
Arieh Grinblat



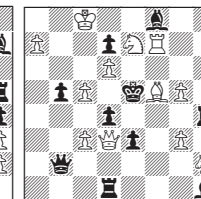
#3√√√

3rd Prize
Piotr Ruszczyński



(13+8) #3

1st Honorable Mention
Eugene Fomichev



(12+7) #3*

(12+10)

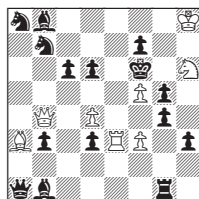
1st Prize - Stanislav Vokál Remote self-blocks in Siers battery arrangement are common, but the unity achieved with line closings based on three moves by the Black Pawn at d7 is stunning. The coup de grace is the return of the key piece to its original square after a fourth Pawn self-block. Bravo! **Solution:** **1.Ra6!** (2.Sxb5+ Kd5 3.Sc7#), 1...dxc6 2.Sa4+ Kd5 3.Sb6#, 1...dxc6 2.Sd1+ Kd5 3.Se3#, 1...d6 2.Se2+ Kd5 3.Sf4#; 2...Ke3 3.Qf4#, 1...d2 2.Sxb5+ Kd5 3.Sc7#; 2...Kd3 3.Ra3#. (1.Qb8/Qg1? Be4!, 1.Qc7? Se4!)

2nd Prize - Evgeny Bourd & Arieh Grinblat The tries 1.Qb5? and 1.Qc8? are irrelevant to the reciprocal change accomplished after 1.Qh5? and 1.Qg6! Unity is achieved with the same threat and similar Q+P batteries. The logic inherent in this type of arrangement adds to the surprise of the changes. **Solution:** 1.Qb5? Rxc3!, 1.Qc8? (2.Qc5#), 1...Rxc3 2.Qxc3+ Ke4 3.Qd3#, 1...b6!, 1.Qh5? (2.Qxg4+ Rf4 3.Qxf4#), 1...Sg4~[a] 2.Sb5+[A] Ke4 3.Qxf3#, 1...Rxc3[b] 2.Bc5+[B] Kxe5 3.f6#, 1...Sh2!; **1.Qg6!** (2.Qxg4+ Rf4 3.Qxf4#), 1...Sg4~[a] 2.Bc5+[B] Kxe5 3.Qf6#, 1...Rxc3[b] 2.Sb5+[A] Ke4 3.f6#, (1...Rf4 2.Bc5+ Kxe5 3.gxf4#)

3rd Prize - Piotr Ruszczynski One might cavil that the flight at e6 gives away the key, yet the key not only allows crosschecks, but also gives two flights itself. There is an old-fashioned quality to this that Milan would have enjoyed. No cycle here, but the byplay after 1...g5 and the light construction shine through. **Solution:** 1.Sc7! (2.Be5 & 3.Qb1#), 1...Kf6+ 2.Sg5! (3.Be3#) Rxc5+ 3.Be5# , 1...Ke4+ 2.Bg5! (3.Qb1#) Rxc5+ 3.Sxc5# , 1...Kxf4+ 2.Se5+ Ke4 3.Qf3# ; 2...Kc5 3.Sf7#, 1...g5 2.Qb1+ Kf6 3.Be5# ; 2...Kxf4 3.Sd5#.

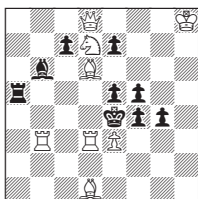
1st Honorable Mention - Eugene Fomichey A new 'take' on the Nowotny: the key sets one up, yet only in the sense that the interferences lead to further variations after other Black defenses. Then, the set third mates after Black plays a set Grimshaw now become second move mates after the Nowotny moves! An original conception. **Solution:** 1...Re4/Be4 2.Qxe4+! Bxe4/Rxe4 3.Sg4/Sf3#; **1.Be4!** (2.Sg6+ Ke6 3.Rf6#), 1...Qf2 2.cxd4+ Ke6 3.Qb3#, 1...Rf1 2.Qxd4+ Ke6 3.Qd5#, 1...Rxe4 2.Sg4+! Rxc4/Ke6 3.Qf5/Rf6#, 1...Bxe4 2.Sf3+! Bxf3/Ke6 3.Qf5/Rf6#, (1...Rh6 2.Bd5, 1...Rf4 2.gxf4+, 1...Ke6 2.Bd5+/Rf6+).

2nd Honorable Mention
L.Lyubashevsky
& L.Makaronez



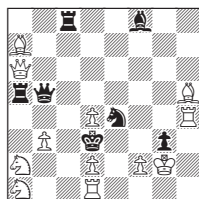
#3 (8 + 15)

3rd Honorable Mention
L.Lyubashevsky
& L.Makaronez



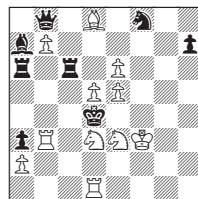
#3 (8 + 9)

4th Honorable Mention
Sergey Khachaturov



#3 (12+7)

5th Honorable Mention
Stefan Sovik



#3*√ (11+8)

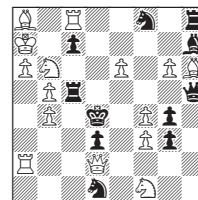
2nd Honorable Mention - Leonid Lyubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez Plausible tries are defeated by unguards. These tries return as second moves after a stunning key. The byplay occasioned by the Black Knights elevates this to memorable quality. **Solution:** 1.fxg4? (2.Sg8#) Rxc4!, 1.Re5? (2.Sg8#) Qxd4!; **1.Qe1!** (2.Re6+ fxe6 3.Qe6#, 1...Sc7 2.Re5! (3.Sg8#) dxe5 3.Qe5#, 1...Sc5 2.Re7! & 3.Rxf7#, 1...Sd8 2.Qa5! c5 3.Qxd8#; 2...Sc7 3.Sg8#, 1...Rxe1 2.fxg4! & 3.Sg8#.

3rd Honorable Mention - Leonid Lyubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez This graceful composition avoids the plausible Nowotny try 1.Bc5? Yet the key threatens a further Nowotny on this square. The return of 3.Sc5 in one of the main lines isn't matched by similar play in the other, but what can one expect? **Solution:** **1.Bxe5!** (2.Sc5+ Rxc5/Bxc5 3.Qd4/Qd5#), 1...Rxe5 2.Qxc7! (3.Qxe5#) Bxc7 3.Rd4#; 2...Ra5 3.Qxf4#, 1...Bxe3 2.Rb4+ Kxd3 3.Sc5#; 2...Bd4 3.Rxd4#, 1...c6 2.Qxe7! (3.Sf6#) Ra8+ 3.Bb8#, 1...e6 2.Bxc7! (3.Sf6#) Bd4+ 3.Rxd4#; 2...Bxc7 3.Rd4#, 1...Ra8 2.Qxa8+ c6 3.Qxc6#, 1.Bc5? (2.Sf6+), 1...Rxc5 2.Sxc5+ Bxc5 3.Qd5#, 1...fxe3!

4th Honorable Mention - Sergey Khachaturov Grimshaws at c5 allow Gamage interferences and Queen mates, nicely separated. **Solution:** **1.Rf4!** (2.Rf3+ Ke2 3.Re3#), 1...Rc5 2.Sb4+ Kxd4 3.Qf6# (3...Qe5?), 1...Bc5 2.Sc1+ Kxd4 3.Qd6# (3...Qd5?), 1...Sf6/Sg5 2.Bc5! Rxc5/Bxc5 3.Sb4/Sc1#, 1...Sxd2/Sxf2 2.Qg6+ Qf5 3.Qxc3# (3...Qf3?).

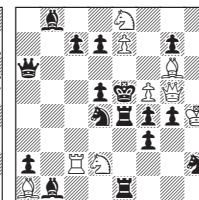
5th Honorable Mention - Stefan Sovik A cycle of three mates follows the try and key by Bishop d8. Unfortunately, the set defenses which further this cycle are gratuitous. **Solution:** 1...Qd6 2.Sf2+ Kc5[a] 3.Se4#[A]; 2...Kxe5[b] 3.Sg4#[B], 1...Bc5 2.Sb2+ Kxe5 3.Sc4#, 1.Be7? (2.Sf2+ Kxe5[b] 3.Sg4#[B]), 1...Ra4 2.Sb4+[C] Kxe5 3.Sxc6#, 1...Rc4 2.Sb2+[D] Kxe5 3.Sxc4#, 1... h5!; **1.Bf6!** (2.Sf2+ Kc5 3.Se4#[A]), 1...Ra4 2.Sb2+[D] Kc5 3.Sxa4#, 1...Rc4 2.Sb4+[C] Kc5 3.Sxa6#

6th Honorable Mention
C.G.S. Narayanan



#3 (15+11)

7th Honorable Mention
Alexander Kuzovkov



#3* (9+16)

6th Honorable Mention - C.G.S. Narayanan

A four-fold Black correction by the Black Rook at c5. The key piece is unfortunately out of play, but the pyrotechnics are commendable. **Solution:** **1.Ra4!** (2.bxc5+[A] Kxc5 3.Qb4#, 1...R~/Rc1 2.Bg7+ Qe5 3.Bxe5#, 1...Rxb5!? 2.Be4! (3.Qxd3#) Rxb4/Sb2 3.Qxb4/Qb2#, 1...Rd5!? 2.Qc1! (3.Qc4#) (2.Be4?) (2...Qd5?) 2...Rc5/Sc3 3.bxc5[A]/Qe3#, 1...Re5!? 2.Rxc7! (3.Rc4#) (2.Be4? Rxe4!) (2.Qc1? Sc3! 3.Qe3?)

2...Rc5/Se3 3.bxc5[A]/Qb2#, 1...Rf5!? 2.Ra3! (3.Q,Rxd3#) (2.Rxc7? Rf7!) (2.Qc1? Rxf4!) 2...Rxf4 3.Qxf4# (2...Qf5?).

7th Honorable Mention - Alexander Kuzovkov Defenses by 1...c6 and 1...d6 result in reciprocal changes by interplay of White Queen and Bishop. The price in construction is unfortunately high. **Solution:** 1...c6 2.Bf7![A] & 3.f6#, 1...d6 2.Bh7![B] & 3.Qg7#; 2...g6 3.Qf6#; **1.Rc5!** (2.f5+ Ke6 3.Qxd5#), 1...c6 2.Bh7![B] & 3.Qg7#; 2...g6 3.Qf6#, 1...d6 2.Bf7![A] & 3.f6/Rxd5#; 2...Rd3 3.Rd5#.

The U.S. chess problem community owes its international counterparts full thanks for this tribute to our former friend and mentor. His geniality and humor were legendary. I recall one day confessing to him that the first thing I do on receiving a new problem magazine is to look for my name. "I do too," he replied at once; "I do too!"

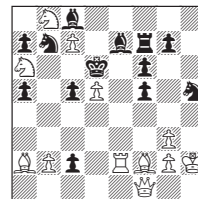
#n section, Judge: Richard Becker

I felt honored when asked to judge the #n section of the Milan R. Vukcevic Memorial. He was an extraordinarily gifted man who brought a world-class level of expertise to all his earthly endeavors. I've read all his books and articles on chess composition and I remain greatly impressed.

From the tourney director, I received 18 problems in anonymous form. I was very satisfied with the high quality of the entries.

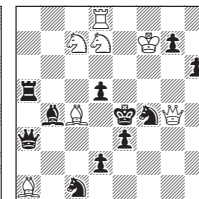
Before presenting the awarded moreovers, I must clarify one point. The tourney announcement stated that problems showing reciprocal change, Bristols, Nowotnys, and other of Milan's favorite themes would be given special consideration. I didn't do this, but only because doing so would have been redundant. The best entries all showed these themes, and any special consideration would not have changed their ranking. You could say we received the kind of thematic problems we asked for. I suspect another factor was also in play. I believe the themes favored by Milan were precisely those that are fertile with possibilities for deep and beautiful results. Now let's see the results from our honored participants.

1st Prize
Sergey Khachaturov



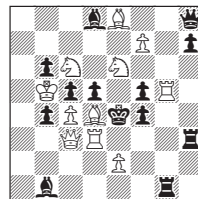
#4 (12+13)

2nd Prize
Valery Kirillov



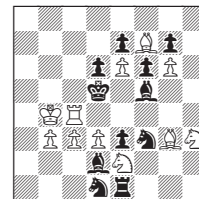
#4 (7+11)

3rd Prize
Aleksandr Kuzovkov



#4 (11+13)

4th Prize
Stefan Sovik



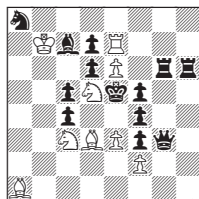
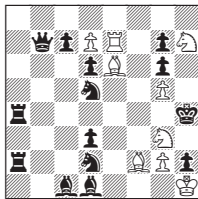
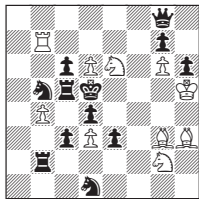
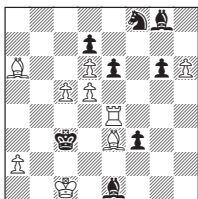
#5 (11+11)

1st Prize - (Sergey Khachaturov) Our champion moreover displays no fewer than four distinct Bristols. It is remarkable that no Bristol is already set in the starting position. (Allow me to speak of Bristols as if they were a type of battery.) All must be formed by moves of the wQ. Two thematic tries form Bristols with wQ as the rear piece, but Black defends by adding another guard to the targeted squares: 1.Qg1? c1Q!, 1.Qe1? Sf4! Instead, the wQ heads for the intersection point of the clearance lines where she becomes the front piece in two new Bristols simultaneously. We happily note that the two Bristol threats can be differentiated by the defenses to the thematic tries. The thematic tries reappear on the second move as thematic variations along with some respectable by-play. An excellent idea in a well-executed problem! **Solution:** 1.Qc1! (2.Qe3 c1Q 3.Qe6+ Bxe6 4.Rxe6#; 2...Sf4 3.Qxc5+ Sxc5 4.Bxc5#; 2...c4 3.Qa3+ Kxd5 4.Qd3#), 1...c4 2.Qg1 (3.Bxc5+ Sxc5 4.Qxc5#) Kxd5 4.Qd4#; 2...Kxd5 3.Rd1+ K~ 4.Qe1#, 1...f4 2.Qe1 c4 3.Re6+ Bxe6 4.Qxe6#; 3...Kxd5 4.Qe4#.

2nd Prize - (Valery Kirillov) There is often a certain charm to problems with no white pawns. This problem is definitely a charmer. In response to two different moves by the bSc1, the wS's make Novotny interferences on c5. It is a nice point that both bS moves are self-blocks. The small White force is well utilized, particularly the wQ, who is able to deliver another mate in the additional variation 1...Bd6 2.Re8! **Solution:** 1.Se6! (2.Qxf4#), 1...Sd3 2.Sec5+ Bxc5 3.Sf6+ gxf6 4.Bxd5#; 2...Rxc5 3.Re8+ Se5+ 4.Rxe5#; 2...Sxc5 3.Re8+ Se6 4.Rxe6# (2.Sdc5+? Sxc5!), 1...Se2 2.Sdc5+ Rxc5 3.Sg5+ hxg5 4.Re8#; 2...Bxc5 3.Bxd5+ Kd3 4.Qf5# (2.Sec5+? Bxc5!), 1...Bd6 2.Re8 dxc4 3.Sec5+ Kd5 4.Qf3#.

3rd Prize - (Aleksandr Kuzovkov) This problem illustrates the broader definition of Bristol that Milan so successfully championed. The clearance moves are made not purely for their clearance effects, but also for another purpose, one that is intrinsic to some more complex theme. Here the clearances by the wR and wB create Plachutta interferences. The very ambitious theme necessitated a slightly heavy setting. **Solution:** 1.Bd7! (2.Sxc5+ bxc5 3.Bxf5#), 1...Bxg5 2.Rg3 Rg3 3.Qf3+ Rxf3 4.Sxg5#; 2...Rh3g3 3.Sxg5+ Rg5 4.Qf3#, 1...R3xg5 2.Bf6! Bxf6 3.Qe5+ Bxe5 4.Sxg5#; 2...Qxf6 3.Sxg5+ Qxg5 4.Qe5#.

4th Prize - (Stefan Sovik) After the fair key, the set replies to 1...Bxc3 and 1...Sxc3 are changed reciprocally. It isn't just White's second moves that see a reciprocal change. All of White's moves in both variations are cleanly switched around. The diagram is a little cluttered due to the need to plug a few squares. **Solution:** 1...Sxc3 2.Sf4+[A] Ke5 3.Sg2+ Kd5 4.Sxe3+ Bxe3 5.Sxc3#[B], 1...Bxc3+ 2.Sxc3+[B] Sxc3 3.Sf4+[A] Ke5 4.Se2+ Kd5 5.Sxc3#; 1.Kb5! (2.Rc5+ dxc5 3.c4#), 1...Sxc3+ 2.Sxc3+[B] Bxc3 3.Sf4+[A] Ke5 4.Se2+ Kd5 5.Sxc3#, 1...Bxc3 2.Sf4+[A] Ke5 3.Sg2+ Kd5 4.Sxe3+ Sxe3 5.Sxc3#[B], 1...Rxe2 2.Sf4+.

1 st Honorable Mention Jozef Havran	2 nd Honorable Mention Piotr Rusczyński	3 rd Honorable Mention Eugene Fomichev	1 st Commendation Eugene Fomichev
			
#4*	(9+13) #6	(9+14) #4	(10+12) #4 (9+8)

1st Honorable Mention - (Jozef Havran) The "delayed Siers battery" theme from 9th WCCT is shown here three times in the set play and three times in the actual play. Reciprocal change of White's second moves occurs between 1...fxe3 and 1...Qxf2. While the set variations all have the same "delay" moves 2...c3 3.Bxc3+, the actual variations are more interesting (as they should be) with different delaying moves in each. **Solution:** 1...fxe3 2.Sd1+ c3 3.Bxc3+ Kxd5 4.Sxe3#, 1...Qxf2 2.Se2+ c3 3.Bxc3+ Kxd5 4.Sxf4#, 1...Sb6 2.Sb5+ c3 3.Bxc3+ Kxd5 4.Sxc7#;

1.Bxc4! (2.Sb1+ Ke4 3.Sd2#), 1...fxe3 2.Se2+ Ke4 3.exd7+ Re6 4.Sxg3#; 3...Qe5 4.Sdc3#, 1...Qxf2 2.Sd1+ Qb2 3.Bxb2+ Ke4 4.Sf2#, 1...Ba5 2.Sb5+ Bc3 3.Bxc3+ Ke4 4.Sxd6#.

2nd Honorable Mention - (Piotr Rusczyński) A deep scheme with good unity of play. Only Black's first moves 1...Qb2 (abandoning a line) and 1...Bb2 (cutting a line) show a difference in mechanisms. The rest of the line openings and closings correspond perfectly between the two variations. **Solution:** 1.Rf7! (2.Sf5+ Kg4/Kh5 3.Sxg7#), 1...Qb2 2.Se4+ Kh5 3.Rf4 Sxf4 4.Sg3+ Kh4 5.Se2+ Kh5 6.g4#, 1...Bb2 2.Se2+ Kh5 3.Rf3 Sxf3 4.Sg3+ Kh4 5.Se4+ Kh5 6.g4#.

3rd Honorable Mention - (Eugene Fomichev) A nice problem with full length threat plus three solid variations. In the two main thematic variations, the wS's are annihilated on d5, Umnov style, to clear mating squares for the wBh3. The cross-check in the 1...Qe8 variation appears to be incidental, as White would not otherwise have a choice of mating continuations. **Solution:** 1.Re7! (2.Sc7+ Sxc7 3.Re5+ Kxd6 4.bxc5#), 1...Qe8 2.Sef4+ Kxd6+ 3.Sd5+ Kxd5 4.Be6#, 1...Rxb4 2.Sgf4+ Kxd6+ 3.Sd5+ Kxd5 4.Bg2#, 1...Rc4 2.Sef4+ Kxd6 3.Rd7+ Ke5 4.Sd5#.

1st Commendation - (Eugene Fomichev) The bPe6 has set defenses for both of White's anti-critical threats. If White plays his anti-critical moves consecutively, secondary defenses become available to Black after his pawn vacates e6. White's foreplan is to disrupt Black's secondary defenses by decoying one of the two black pieces waiting on the eighth rank. A pity the key-move must be so powerful, particularly when the position is nearly a block.

2nd Commendation
Leonid Makaronez



#8 (7+11)

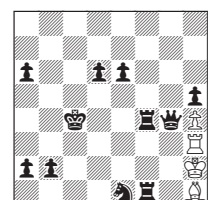
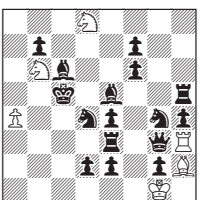
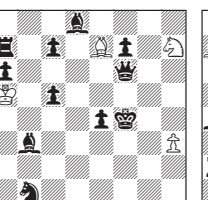
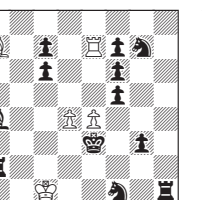
Solution: 1.Bf1? exd5! 2.Ra4 Se6!, 1.Ra4? e5! 2.Bf1 Bxd5!; 1.h7! (2.h8Q+/hxg8Q), 1...Sxh7 2.Bf1 exd5 3.Ra4 ~ 4.Bd4#, 1...Bxh7 2.Ra4 e5 3.Bf1 ~ 4.Rc4#.

2nd Commendation - (Leonid Makaronez) The foreplan involves a trip by the wK to c3 and back. The entertaining sacrifice 3.f6! is not a Roman decoy, but an annihilation move to clear the f5 square. **Solution:** 1.Sxc5? Bxc5 2.Qxc5 Sd7!; 1.Kd2! Bh6+ 2.Kc3 Bg7+ 3.f6 Bxf6+ 4.Kd2 Bg5+ 5.Kd1 Be7 6.Sxc5+ Bxc5 7.Qxc5 Sd7 8.Bf5#.

section, Judge: Jorge Marcelo Kapros

I am judging this tournament instead of Dan Meinking, who sadly died on 23rd November 2012, at the early age of 52. Dan had a great knowledge of themes and I ask for tolerance from those authors who had many expectations with entries that I left aside probably because I have not understood them as Dan would have done.

I received 57 problems on uniform and anonymous diagrams with the authors' comments. The general level of compositions was high. I propose the following ranking:

1 st Prize Boris Shorokhov	2 nd Prize Menachem Witztum	3 rd Prize N.Kolesnik, A. & V. Semenenko	4 th Prize Fadil Abdurahmanović
			
h#3½ 2 sols. (4+11)	h#3 2 sols. (6+16)	h#4 2 sols. (4+11)	h#3½ 2 sol. (5+12)

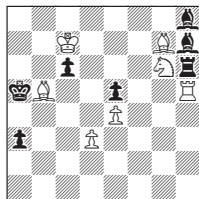
1st Prize - (Boris Shorokhov) The idea of adding a tempo move to the well-known sequence of Grimshaw forming a battery + tempo by the rear piece of the battery + battery mate is amazing, and the cortege of the Bristols is a gem. Solution: 1...Rf3 2.Kd5 Bg2! 3.Rc4 Bh1! 4.Qd4 Rf5#, 1...Bf3 2.Kb3 Rg3! 3.Rb4 Rh3! 4.Qc4 Bd1#.

2nd Prize - (Menachem Witztum) The articulation of the Bristols is a marvel. The concept is exceptional and the execution is masterful. Solution: 1.Ra3 (Rb3?) Sxf7 2.Qb3 (Qf4?) Rxb3 3.Bd6 Bxd6#, 1.Bb8 (Bc7?) Sxc6 2.Qc7 (Qf3?) Bxc7 3.Rc3 Rxc3#.

3rd Prize - (Nikolai Kolesnik, Aleksandr Semenenko & Valery Semenenko) An impressive mechanism due to accuracy of the sequence and strict attention to choice of moves. A great composition! Solution: 1.Qg5 Sf6! (Bf6?) 2.Bd1! (Sd2?) Sg4 3.f5! (Bf3?) Bf6 4.Bf3 Be5#, 1.Qf5 Bf6! (Sf6?) 2.Sd2! (Bd1?) Bd4 3.Bg5! (Sf3?) Sf6 4.Sf3 Sh5#.

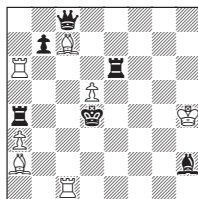
4th Prize - (Fadil Abdurahmanović) The batteries are created intelligently and attractively. A good idea. Nice work. Solution: 1...d5+ 2.Ke2 Be3! 3.Ke1 exf5 4.Rf2 Bd2#, 1...exf5+ 2.Kf2 Re3! 3.Kg1 d5 4.Rah2 Rgx3#.

5th Prize
Andrey Dikusarov
& Ivan Antipin



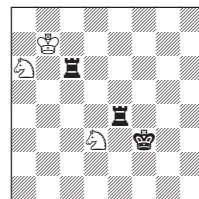
h#2 2 sols. (7+7)

1st Honorable Mention
Fadil Abdurahmanović
& Marjan Kovačević



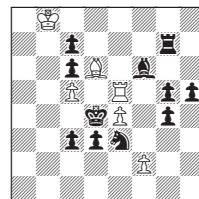
h#2 2 sols. (7+6)

2nd Honorable Mention
Viktoras Pauliulionis



h#4½ 3 sols. (3+3)

3rd Honorable Mention
Fadil Abdurahmanović



h#3 2 sols. (6+11)

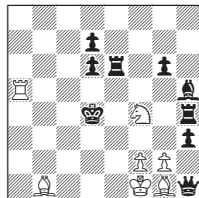
5th Prize - (Andrey Dikusarov & Ivan Antipin) I enjoyed the black Grimshaw. A delightful Zilahi. Solution: 1.Rxg6 Bxe5 2.Rf6 Bc3#, 1.Bxg7 Sxe5 2.Bf6 Sxc6#.

1st Honorable Mention - (Fadil Abdurahmanović & Marjan Kovačević) The three pairs of mutual interferences constitutes a jolly task that impresses me. Solution: 1.Bd6 Bc4 (Rb1!?) 2.Kc5 Bb6#, 1.Re5 Rc4+ (Bb1!?) 2.Kxd5 Rd6#.

2nd Honorable Mention - (Viktoras Pauliulionis) A beautiful miniature featuring three echo ideal mates, a skillful performance. I hope there is no anticipation. Solution: 1...Sb2 2.Rc3 Sc4 3.Ke2 Kc6 4.Kd3 Kd5 5.Re2 Sb4#, 1...Sc7 2.Rcc4 Sc5 3.Ke3 Kc6 4.Kd4 Kd6 5.Re3 Sb5#, 1...Sdc5 2.Kf4 Sc7 3.Ke5 Kc8 4.Kd6 Kd8 5.Re5 Sb7#.

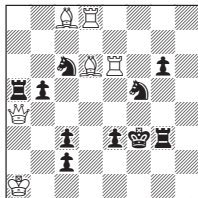
3rd Honorable Mention - (Fadil Abdurahmanović) An elegant and harmonious presentation of critical moves and Bristols. Solution: 1.Sc4 Bf8 2.Be7 f4 3.Bc5 Bxc5#, 1.Sd5 Re8 2.Re7 f3 3.Rxe4 Rxe4#.

4th Honorable Mention
Mikhail Gershinski



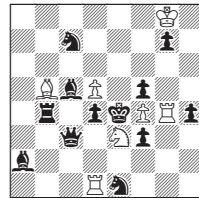
h#2 2 sols. (7+9)

5th Honorable Mention
Vitaly Medintsev



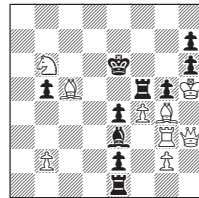
h#2 2 sols. (6+10)

1st Commendation
Abdelaziz Onkoud



h#2 2 sols. (7+12)

2nd Commendation
Mark Erenburg



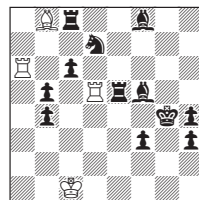
h#2 b) Ke6→d3 (9+10)

4th Honorable Mention - (Mikhail Gershinski) Nice mixture of themes showing entertaining solutions. A fine achievement. Solution: 1.Bg4 Sd5 2.Ke5 f4#, 1.Rg4 Sd3 2.Ke4 f3#.

5th Honorable Mention - (Vitaly Medintsev) The blend of black self-pins and white Grimshaw may not be unusual but as the whole, the problem is attractive. Solution: 1.Sfd4 Re5 2.Kf4 Rf8#, 1.Sb4 Be5 2.Ke4 Bb7#.

1st Commendation - (Abdelaziz Onkoud) A pleasant combination of clearance with self-pin. Solution: 1.Qxe3 Bc4 2.Qxf4 Rxe1#, 1.Sxd5 Sc4 2.Sxf4 Bc6#.

3rd Commendation
Schönholzer Andreas



h#2 2 sols. (4+12)

2nd Commendation - (Mark Erenburg) Bristol, pin and self-block joined quite well. Solution: a) 1. Bd4 Ra3 2. Bf6 Qb3#, b) 1. Rxc5 Bc8 2. Rc2 Qd7#.

3rd Commendation - (Schönholzer Andreas) Curious setting for familiar black play of interferences and critical moves. Solution: 1.Re7 Ra4 2.Be6 Rxb4#, 1.Bc2 Rxc6 2.Re4 Rg6#.

[Note: The entry by Marcin Banaszek, h#3, b) Kd7→f7, wKd1 Rb8 Bb7 (3), bKd7 Qa8 Bf8 Pc5-f5 (5) is anticipated by P1242155 in Chess Problem Database Server.]

section, Judge: Petko A. Petkov

Twenty-one entries were in competition. Unfortunately, their quality was not satisfactory for such a great occasion. Aesthetically speaking, most of the entries were far from Milan's brilliant style, which included his favorite themes. This may be partially to the severe depletion of themes and ideas in modern selfmate.

The following entries were not considered for the award:

Geoffrey Cavency (s#4, wKe1/bKc5) - A mechanical extension of a classical Babson task from three to four moves with a very weak key.

Harald Grubert (s#6, wKd2/bKd4) - A trivial mates without adequate strategy in a position with twin.

Gennady Koziura (s#7, wKc4/bKe4) - This idea is well-known and has been shown in many old problems by Ukrainian authors.

Gennady Koziura (s#7, wKe1/bKe3) - The so called "Dynamic echo" is presented in a mechanical shape with abundance of white material, bad key-move and repetition of move 0-0-0 in both variations, which is aesthetically unacceptable.

V. Klipachev (s#75, wKh5/bKe5) - I cannot understand the aesthetical value of this s#57 (C-) in which there are unusually large number of mechanical and uninteresting moves.

Zoltan Labai (s#3, wKc1/bKe5) - Noted by the author as Ideal Rukhlis + Bristol (s#3) . In reality such a synthesis does not exist here. Ideal Rukhlis is not executed, and after white move 2.Bg5(+) there is no Bristol.

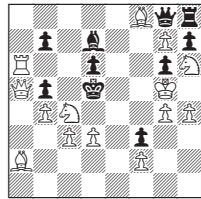
Sven Trommler (s#3, wKb3/bKg5) - Good Bristol motives but too much non-thematic repetitions of white moves.

Gennady Koziura (s#3, wKb4/bKd4) - The four-fold play of the white King, as a forward battery-piece, is well-known. For example: A. Selivanov, *Orbit* 2000, 3rd Prize, etc.

Stephan Dietrich (s#6, sKb8/bKd6) - Moremover with only one variation.

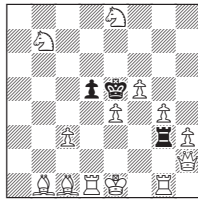
Alexey Gasparyan (s#9, wKe1/bKh6) - Moremover with only one variation.

After careful consideration I propose the following ranking:

A.Selivanov, A.Azhusin,
O.Shalygin, S.Borodavkin

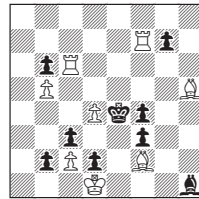
s#5

(14+10)

2nd Prize
Gennady Koziura

s#5

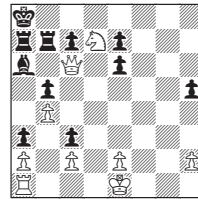
(13+3)

1st Honorable Mention
Ivan Soroka

s#17

C-

(8+9)

2nd Honorable Mention
Stanislav Vokál

s#10

(9+11)

1st Prize - (Andrey Selivanov, Alexandr Azhusin, Oleg Shalygin and Sergey Borodavkin)

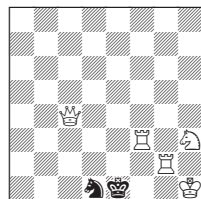
The best problem of the tourney. The authors called the entry a "Selfmate in the future type 2+2". In the threat and in the second variation (after 1...b6) we see interesting duel between the Queens. Both variations after 1...Qg7 and 1...Qxf8 demonstrate a fine black-white Bristol. Good additional motive, in all variations, is the play of the white S/B battery. **Solution:** 1.Qc7! (2.Sxd6+ Ke5 3.Qc5+ Qd5 4.Qe3+ Qe4 5.Qf4+ Qxf4#), 1...b6 2.Sa5+ Ke5 3.Sc6+ Bxc6 4.Qe7+ Qe6 5.Qf6+ Qxf6#, 1...Qg7 2.Sb6+ Ke5 3.Sxd7+ Qxd7 4.Bg7+ Qxg7 5.Qe7+ Qxe7#, 1...Qxf8 2.Sd2+ Ke5 3.Sxf3+ Qf3 4.Sf7+ Qxf7 5.f4+ Qxf4#.

2nd Prize - (Gennady Koziura) Chameleon-echo mates with pinned black Pawn. Good tries 1.Sbd6? d4! and 1.Sa5? dxe4! Unfortunately there are no thematic tries after 1.Kf1? d4! and 1.Rf1? dxe4! because the play has duals. Thus, the mentioned "Double Hoffmann theme" fails aesthetically. **Solution:** 1.Sbd6? d4!, 1.Sa5? dxe4!, 1.Kf1? d4!, 1.Rf1? dxe4!; **1.Sd8! (zz)**, 1...dxe4 2.Kf1 e3 3.Sf7+ Kf4 4.Qf2+ Rf3 5.Re1 Rxf2#, 1...d4 2.c4 d3 3.Sc6+ Kxe4 4.Qe2+ Re3 5.Rf1 Rxe2#.

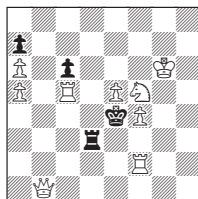
1st Honorable Mention - (Ivan Soroka) A difficult logical solution in which White needs twelve moves to capture bPb6! This long overture seems good, but only partially, because there is little active counter-play by black. **Solution:** Without bPb6 White could realize the main plan: 1.Re7+ Kd5/Kf5 2.Rc5+ Kd6 3.Rf7! Bg2/~ 4.Rc6+ Kd5 5.Bxf3+ Bxf3#; **1.Bg6+!** Kd5 2.Rf5+ Ke4 3.Rf6+! Kd5 4.Bf7+ Ke4 5.Rce6+ Kd5 6.Rxb6 Ke4, bPb6 is captured and now the three white pieces return to their original squares 7.Rbe6+ Kd5 8.Rc6+! (back) Ke4 9.Bg6+! Kd5 10.Rf5+ Ke4 11.Rf7+! (back) Kd5 12.Bh5! (back) Ke4 13.Re7+ Kd5/Kf5 14.Rc5+ Kd6 15.Rf7! (another return) Bg2/~ 16.Rc6+ (another return) Kd5 17.Bxf3+ Bxf3#

2nd Honorable Mention - (Stanislav Vokál) A typical problem for solvers! We cannot say that this opus is logical or strategic, although there are here some elements of both. The reason for the award is the difficult and unusual solution. **Solution:** 1.0-0-0! e5 2.Rd3! e4 3.Rxc3 e3 4.Rc5 h4 5.c3 h3 6.Kc2! e6 7.Kb3 e5 8.Kxa3 e4 and after this preparatory play our main goal can be realized, so follows 9.Rc4! bxc4 10.Ka4! Bb5#.

Commendation - (Torsten Linß) This is a typical "Computer-problem" which seems excellent with its aristocratic form and with the three phases (twins). But in such long moreovers, sufficient thematical identity in play is lacking and here the solutions are rather technical.

Commendation
Torsten Linß

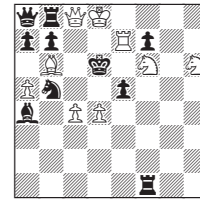
s#10 b/c)

Commendation
Pavlos Moutecidis

s#14 2 solutions (9+4)

Solution: a) 1.Qe4+ Se3 2.Rc2 Kd1 3.Sf2+ Ke1 4.Rf5 Kf1 5.Qd3+ Ke1 6.Re2+ Kf1 7.Se4+ Sxf5 8.Rh2+ Ke1 9.Qd2+ Kf1 10.Sg3+ Sxg3#, b) 1.Re3+ Be2 2.Qd3 Kf1 3.Rf3+ Ke1 4.Qc3+ Kd1 5.Rf1+ Bxf1 6.Rd2+ Ke1 7.Rd4+ Ke2 8.Qd2+ Kf3 9.Sg1+ Kg3 10.Qg2+ Bxg2#, c) 1.Qc3+ Rd2 2.Sg5 Kd1 3.Rg1+ Ke2 4.Qc4+ Rd3 5.Qa2+ Rd2 6.Qa6+ Rd3 7.Qc4 Kd2 8.Rf2+ Ke3 9.Qe4+ Kxf2 10.Sh3+ Rxh3#.

Commendation - (Pavlos Moutecidis) Chameleon-echo mates after long and difficult play, but the finales are well known. **Solution:** 1.Qh1+! Rf3 2.Kg5 Kd3 3.Qf1+ Ke4 4.Qg2 Kd3 5.Rd2+ Ke4 6.Se7 Ke3 7.Rc3+ Ke4 8.Rxc6 Ke3 9.Sd5+ Ke4 10.Kh5 Kf5 11.Rf6+ Ke4 12.f5 Kxe5 13.Re6+ Kxf5 14.Qh3+ Rxh3#, **1.Rxc6!** Kd5 2.Qb5+ Ke4 3.Rc4+ Rd4 4.Qb7+ Kd3 5.Qb3+ Ke4 6.Sd6+ Kd5 7.Rc7+ Rc4 8.Rd2+ Ke6 9.f5+ Kxe5 10.Qg3+ Rf4 11.Kh6 Kf6 12.Rf7+ Ke5 13.Re7+ Kf6 14.Qh4+ Rxh4#.

Commendation
Gennady Koziura
& Valery Kopyl

s#3

(9+10)

Commendation - (Gennady Koziura & Valery Kopyl)

White and black correction with nice addition of the try 1.Shg4?. **Solution:** 1.Sf~? exd4!, 1.Shg4? Sxd4!; **1.Sfg4!** (2.Rd7+ Ke6 3.Rd5+ Rxc8#), 1...S~ 2.Bc7+ Kc6 3.Be5+ Rxc8#, 1...Sxd4 2.Sxf7+ Rxf7 3.Re6+ Sxe6#.

The editors of *StrateGems* sincerely thank all the composers for honoring Dr. Milan Vukcevič by participating in this tourney. All prize winners will receive books while the rest of the awardees will receive one-year electronic subscriptions to *StrateGems*.

Milan Velimirović (1952-2013)(Edited excerpts from M.Kovačević announcement in *Mat Plus*)

Milan Velimirović passed away on February 25th, 2013. He was sick for quite some time and he spent the last month bed-ridden. He checked into a hospital and died a day later. Milan was 60 years young.

Milan was born on April 21st 1952. He used to say that when he composed his first Lacny #2, while still in high school, it changed his life completely. As a teenager, he began working for a chess magazine, *MAT*, and at twenty-two took over the chess problem section. As the main editor, he made *MAT* a high-class problem chess magazine. During the period of 1974-85, he offered new, and much higher standards to the world.



Milan was the first international master of chess composition, and the first grandmaster solver in Serbia. He was the key solver regarding many medals won by the national team in World Solving Championships, including the gold medal in 1982.

As a grandmaster of chess composition, Milan aimed to achieve the highest goals and to develop crystal-clear mechanisms. This was crowned by the complex cyclic change, his Queen of the Themes.

His spirit lives transparently in the construction of the *Mat Plus* website, created for the pleasure and education of the problem chess world.