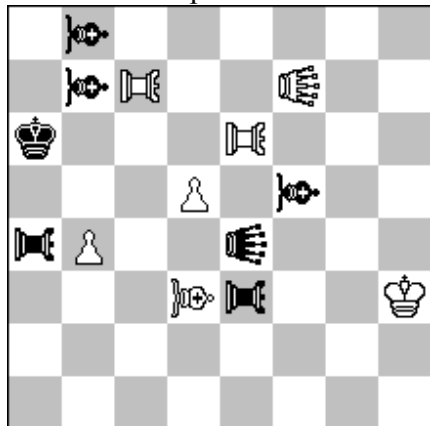


#1.

Vlaicu Crisan

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G57. 6th-13th place WCCT 2013



( 7 + 7 ) hs#3.5 b) wLEf7→d2

( 1 + 1 ) Leo ; ( 2 + 2 ) Pao ; ( 1 + 3 ) Vao

a) 1...PAe1 2.PAh6 VAd7 3.LEf1+ LEe2 4.VAg6+ LEe6#

b) 1...VAh7 2.VAf1 PAc3 3.LEh6+ LEg6 4.PAe2+ LEd3#

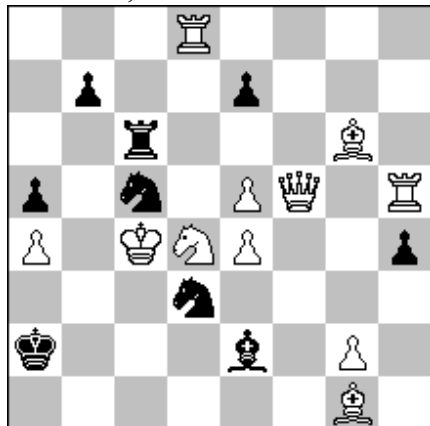
Judges: An excellent thematic complex, but some Chinese pieces (PAc7, VAb8, PAa4) carry out unpleasant technical functions. In my opinion, a better technical interpretation of this beautiful and difficult mechanism is possible (BUL) Though not being thematic, hideaway in B1 is a nice embellishment (JPN) W + B AB. Perfect analogy, determination by double checks, Bristol. Isolated S (SLO) A double check forces the right black piece to interpose on the check line, giving an anti-battery mate. It was a good idea to use the non-essential black Pao/Vao to make a Bristol on the first move (SWE)

#2.

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2nd Prize, 445. Julia's Fairies 2013 – 04.12.2013



( 11 + 9 ) hs#4 Take&MakeChess 1st rank b) bPh4 → e8

a) 1.Qc8 Rxc6→f7 2.Se6 Bxh5→f5 3.Bxc5→b3+ Kxb3→d1 4.Kxd3→f2+ Bxe6→d4#

b) 1.Qf1 Bxh5→h3 2.Sf3 Rxc6→f5 3.Rxd3→b2+ Kxb2→b6 4.Kxc5→d7+ Rxf3→d4#

Judge: Now have a look at the complicated and eventful solutions that can be [replayed here](#): 6 moves out of 8 are captures and pieces fly all over the place, especially both active Kings, in a weird ballet involving 4 pairs of units that reciprocally exchange their functions. During the solution, an indirect white royal battery and a direct black battery are created and many lines are opened and used for the complex strategy. This problem dwarfs previous achievements in Take&Make helpmates or helpselfmates and reminds of Vlaicu's [1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the FIDE Olympic Tourney, 2012](#) (hs#3 Take&Make).

A real *blockbuster*, as it was called by Shankar Ram, but not devoid of subtlety.

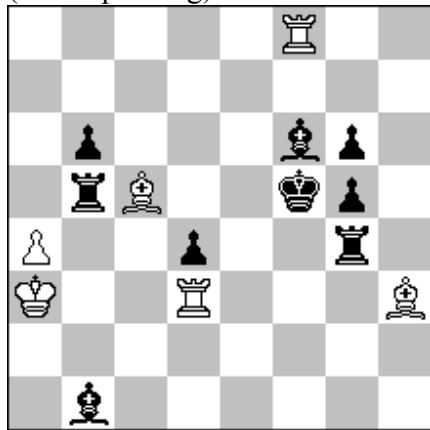
#3.

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FA1348. Strategems 66/2013

(award pending)



( 6 + 9 ) hs#4 2 solutions

1.Rxd4 Ke5 2.Rd3 Rg3 3.Bf5 Be7 4.Bd6+ Bxd6#

1.Bxd4 Ke4 2.Bc5 Be7 3.Rf5 Rg3 4.Re3+ Rxe3#

Full diagonal-orthogonal correspondence, with switchbacks, dual avoidance, delayed FML, unpins, pins, Pelle moves and pin mates.

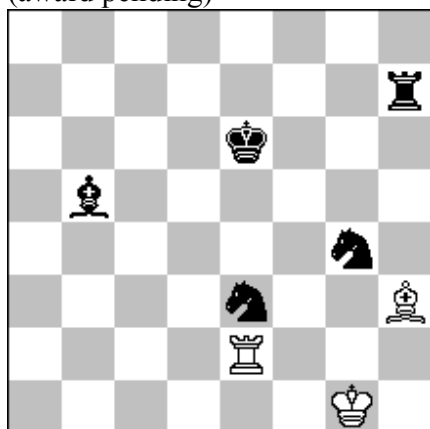
#4.

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958. Julia's Fairies 2015/II – 24.11.2015

(award pending)



( 3 + 5 ) h#2 2.1.1.1. CirceTake&Make Take&MakeChess

1.Bd7 Bxg4→h2[+bSf6] 2.Rxh2→d6[+wBf4] Bxe3→c4[+bSf5]#

1.Re7 Rxe3→f1[+bSd5] 2.Bxf1→f7[+wRf4] Rxg4→h6[+bSe5]#

Kjell Widlert: Wow! Everything fits like clockwork. Seems fresh despite all earlier examples of R+B double-check mates we have seen.

Shankar Ram: Perfectly matched ODT in a near miniature setting. Self blocks and double check battery mates, combined with the customary piece movement blizzard of t&m+anti-t&m!

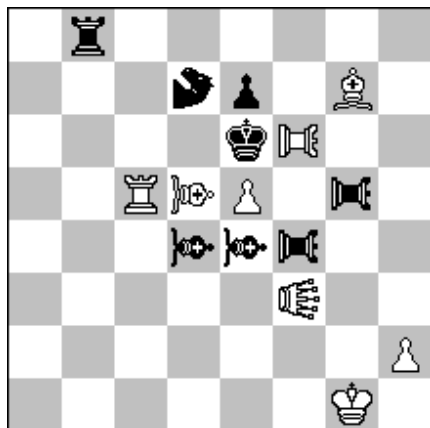
The WK's position doesn't look significant, but adds to the ODT effect.

#5.

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2nd Prize The Macedonian Problemist 2013



( 8 + 8 ) hs#3 2 solutions

( 1 + 0 ) Leo ; ( 1 + 2 ) Pao ; ( 1 + 2 ) Vao ; ( 0 + 1 ) Nao

1.PAf5! Rg8 2.VAxc8 VAxc7 3.PAf7+ PAxc8# (1.PAf7/PAf8?)

1.VAa8! Rb6 2.PAxb6 PAxc5 3.VAc6+ VAxb6# (1.VAc6/VAb7?)

Judge: In the first moves, White opens a line which is used by Black in the second move. White carefully avoids to interfere with both white and black lines. There is perfect orthogonal-diagonal unity and good Chinese strategy. The orthodox pieces play subordinate, but important roles: the black rook permits white Chinese captures, the white pieces change their functions, permitting black Chinese captures or guarding.

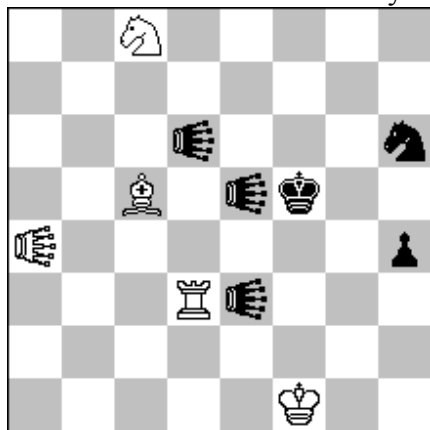
#6

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283. Julias Fairies 2013 (version) – 21.04.2013

Dedicated to Seetharaman Kalyan



( 5 + 6 ) hs#4.5 Superguards b) wKf1 ↔ wSc8

( 1 + 3 ) Lions

Superguards: Any piece (including Kings and pawns), which is observed by another piece of the same color cannot be captured. Pinned pieces also observe.

a) 1...Lla7! 2.Rxd6 Sf7 3.Rh6 Sd6 4.Be3 Sc4 5.Sd6+ Sxe3#

b) 1...Lld1! 2.Bxe3 Sg4 3.Bh6 Se3 4.Rd6 Sc4 5.Se3+ Sxd6#

Diagonal-orthogonal correspondence. Two pairs of pieces are mutually exchanging their roles:  
1. wRd3 & wBc5: capture of bLl, occupation of h6, superguard of wS vs. active sacrifice, hurdle for the key piece.

2. bLld6 & bLle3: passive annihilation vs. critical move freeing the mating square with specific dual avoidance: a) 1...Llb6?? allows 5...Ke6! while in b) 1...Lld2?? allows 5...Kf4!