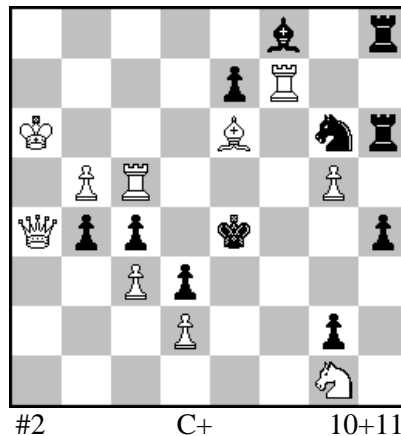


No. 1

Marco GUIDA, guidam129@gmail.com
10th World Chess Composing Tourney – 2015-17
4th-6th Place

Final Award Publ. on WCCC Web Site in December 2017



Set Play

1. ..., ♖e5 (a); 2. ♙d5 (A) ?
1. ..., ♗f4 (b); 2. ♙f5 (B) ?

Tries

1. ♖f3? [2. ♙f5 (A) ≠]
1. ..., ♗f4 (b); 2. ♖e3 (C) ≠
1. ..., bxc3; 2. ♗xc4 ≠
But 1. ..., ♗e5 (a) !

1. ♖cf5? [2. ♙d5 (B) ≠]
1. ..., ♗e5 (a); 2. ♖f5-f4 (D) ≠
1. ..., bxc3; 2. ♗xc4 ≠
But 1. ..., ♗f4 (b) !

1. ♗d1? [2. ♗e1 & 2. ♗f3 ≠]
1. ..., ♗e5 (a); 2. ♗e1 (G) ≠
1. ..., ♗f4 (b); 2. ♗f3 (H) ≠
But 1. ..., bxc3!

1. ♖ff5? [2. ♖xc4 ≠, not 2.(A)?]
1. ..., ♗e5 (a); 2. ♖cxе5 (E) ≠
But 1. ..., ♙g7!

1. ♗h3? [2. ♗f2 ≠, not 2.(B)?]
1. ..., ♗f4 (b); 2. ♖f7xf4 (F) ≠
1. ..., bxc3; 2. ♗xc4 ≠
But 1. ..., g1=♗/♙!

Solution

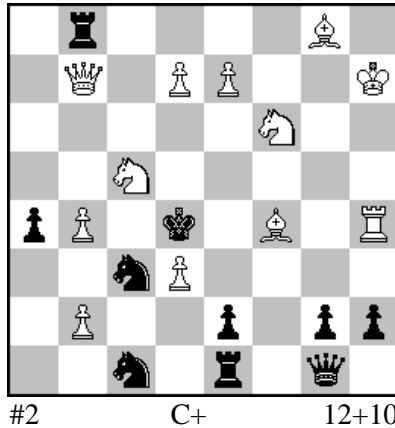
1. b6! [2. ♗c6 ≠]
1. ..., ♗e5 (a); 2. ♙d5 (A) ≠
1. ..., ♗f4 (b); 2. ♙f5 (B) ≠
1. ..., bxc3; 2. ♗xc4 ≠

Thematic Highlights

- ✓ 2 x Dombrovskis, Hannelius, 4x Zagoruijko:
- ✓ Threat Correction
- ✓ All revolves around the 2 squares e5 & f4, the thematic defenses 1. ..., ♗e5 (a) & 1. ..., ♗f4 (b) and the mates 2. ♙d5 (A) or 2. ♙f5 (B), both possible if squares e5 and f4 respectively would be guarded:
 - In SetPlay, each thematic defence self-blocks one of the squares, but the White Bishop cannot mate because the Bishop is pinned.
 - In the first 2 Tries (1. ♖f3? & 1. ♖cf5?), Rooks move beyond the critical squares to threaten the thematic mates, but Black can exploit the pinning of the Bishop to refute the Tries. Only one possible defence of the Knight, in turn, works, since the Key provides for a mate against the other defence taking advantage of the self-blocks on e5 and f4.
 - With the next 2 Correction Tries (1. ♖ff5? 1. ♗h3?), White attempts to control the critical squares using different approaches, but in doing so each Try introduces a negative effect making the thematic mates not viable anymore as threats. The keys however introduce new threats. Defences by the Black Knight introduce mate changes by captures.
- ✓ White gives-up in trying to control the critical squares to introduce the thematic mates, and attempt totally new routes. First with the 5th Try (1. ♗d1?, not strictly thematic, but allowing 2 changes of mates after the thematic defences), and finally with the Solution that provides anticipatory unpin of the thematic Bishop, therefore preparing for the thematic mates after the self-blocks on squares e5 b& f4.

No 2

Marco GUIDA, guidam129@gmail.com
6th FIDE World Cup 2018
2nd Prize & Silver Medal
Award Publ. on WCCC Web Site



Tries

1. ♖g4? [2. ♙e5 (A) ≠]
1. ..., ♚e3 (b); 2. ♙xe3 (C) ≠
But 1. ..., ♜xd3 (a) !
1. ♜h3? [2. ♘e6 (B) ≠]
1. ..., ♜xd3 (a); 2. ♜xd3 (D) ≠
But 1. ..., ♚e3 (b) !
1. ♚f3? [2. ♘e6 (B) ≠]
1. ..., ♜xd3 (a); 2. ♚xd3 (E) ≠
1. ..., ♚e3 (b); 2. ♚xe3 (F) ≠
But 1. ..., ♜b6 !

Solution

1. ♚c7! [2. ♚e5≠]
1. ..., ♜xd3 (a); 2. ♘e6 (B) ≠
1. ..., ♚e3 (b); 2. ♙e5 (A) ≠

Thematic Highlights

- ✓ Zagorujiko 1122
- ✓ Hannelius
- ✓ 2 x Dombrovskis paradox
- ✓ Judge Comments: *“This problem presents four well-connected phases. In the first two tries the wR/wB battery is disarmed with the two thematic black moves being, alternately, defenses and refutations. Try 1.Qf3? brings two different mates on the thematic defenses. In the solution we have a Hannelius relation between the mates on the thematic defenses and the threats & refutations of the tries 1.Sg4 & 1.Rh3. Moreover, we see also Dombrovskis effects on these defenses so the whole is an interesting Dombro-Zagoruiko (1/1/2/2 Zagoruiko) which combines the Hannelius theme”.*

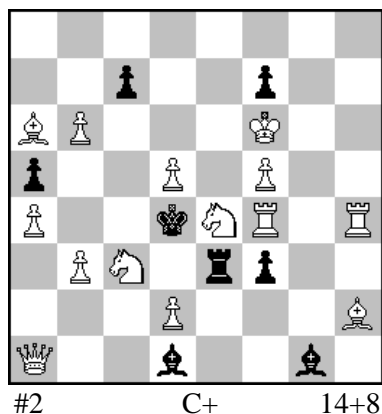
No. 3

Marco GUIDA, guidam129@gmail.com

Baku Chess Olympic Ty, 2016

4th Honourable Mention

Award published on the WCCC Web Site on June 4th, 2016



Tries

1. ♔c4? [2. ♖b5, ♖e2 ≠]

1. ..., ♜xc3 (a); 2. ♔xc3 (A) ≠ Mate given by rear piece of Queen-Knight battery

1. ..., ♜xe4 (b); 2. ♖xe4 (B) ≠ Mate given by firing Queen-Knight battery

But 1. ..., ♔xb3!

1. ♔a3? [2. ♔c5≠]

1. ..., ♜xc3 (a); 2. ♖xc3 (C) ≠ Mate given by firing Rook-Knight battery

1. ..., ♜xe4 (b); 2. ♔xe4 (D) ≠ Mate given by rear piece of Rook-Knight battery

But 1. ..., cxb6!

Solution

1. ♜xf3! [2. ♔e5≠]

1. ..., ♜xc3 (a); 2. ♜d3 (E) ≠ (not 2. ♔xg1 (F)?) Queen battery becomes pinning line

1. ..., ♜xe4 (b); 2. ♔xg1 (F) ≠ (not 2. ♜d3 (E)?) Rook battery becomes pinning line

1. ..., ♔xh2; 2. dxe3≠

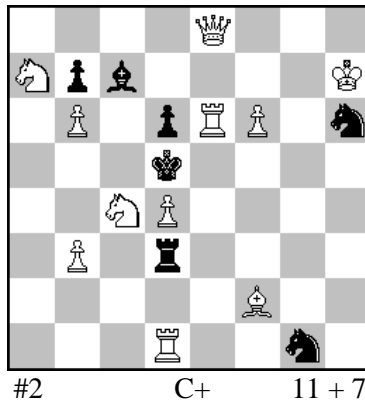
Thematic Highlights

- ✓ Zagoruiko 3x2
- ✓ Each of the two battery lines changes function across Tries and Solution
- ✓ Dual Avoidance in Solution

No. 4

Marco GUIDA, guidam129@gmail.com
100th Anniversary of Czechoslovakia, 2018
4th Prize

Award published on Oct. 28th, 2018



Tries

1. ♖e-e1(e2)? [2. ♜b5 (A), ♜e6 (B), ♜e4 (C) ≠]
1. ..., ♜e3; 2. ♘xe3≠
But 1. ..., ♞e2!
1. ♖e7? [2. ♜b5 (A) ≠]
1. ..., ♞xb6; 2. ♘xb6≠
But 1. ... ♜xb3 (a)!
1. ♖e4? [2. ♜e6 (B) ≠, not 2. ♜b5 (A)?]
But 1. ..., ♜xd4 (b)!

Solution

1. ♜e3! [2. ♜e4 (C)≠, not 2. ♜e6 (B)? 2. ♜b5 (A)?]
1. ..., ♜xb3 (a); 2. ♜e6 (B) ≠
1. ..., ♜xd4 (b); 2. ♜b5 (A)≠
1. ..., ♜xe3; 2. ♘xe3≠
1. ..., ♞xd4; 2. ♖exd3≠

Thematic Highlights

- ✓ 3rd Degree Threat Correction
- ✓ Triple Barnes
- ✓ Hannelius
- ✓ Bristol (vs. mates B & C)
- ✓ Flight-giving Key, with new mate after King's flight

No. 5

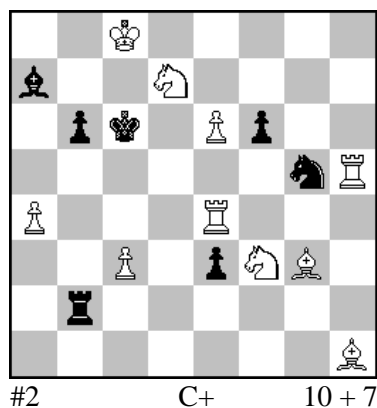
Marco GUIDA, guidam129@gmail.com

Strategems, 2016

1st Prize

Published in Vol. 19, SG73, January-March 2016, Problem No. T0905

Award published in Vol. 20, SG80, Oct-Dec 2017



Setplay

1. ..., ♖xe4 (a); 2. ♜d4 (A) ≠

1. ..., ♖xf3 (b); 2. ♜c4 (B) ≠

Try

1. ♜xe3 (C) ? [2. ♜d4 (A) ≠]

1. ..., ♖xf3 (b); 2. ♜xf3 (E) ≠

1. ..., ♜d5 (c); 2. ♜d2 (D) ≠

But 1. ..., ♜g2!

Solution:

1. ♜d2 (D) ! [2. ♜c4 (B) ≠]

1. ..., ♜d5 (c); 2. ♜xe3 (C) ≠

1. ..., ♖xe4 (a); 2. ♜xe4 (F) ≠

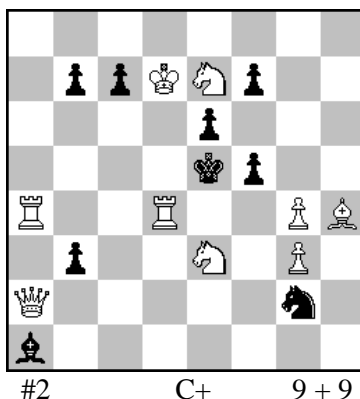
Thematic Highlights

- ✓ Reverse Hannelius (Set Play: 1..., a (b); 2. A(B)#; Try A-b; Solution B-a)
- ✓ Reversal Key-Mate
- ✓ Three-phases Cycle of Defenses with changed mates

No. 6

Marco GUIDA, guidam129@gmail.com
League of The Macedonian Problemists 2016
5th Prize

Award Published in Supplement to "The Macedonian Problemist", No. 51, Sept-Dec 2016



Tries

1. ♔d2? [2. ♘c4 (A) ≠]
1. ..., ♙xd4 (a); 2. ♔xd4 (C) ≠
1. ..., b5; 2. ♘c6 ≠
1. ..., ♞xe3; 2. ♔xe3 ≠
But 1. ..., ♞xh4 (b) !

1. ♘3d5 (B)? [2. ♙f6 ≠]
1. ..., ♞xh4 (b); 2. ♔e2 (D) ≠
1. ..., exd5; 2. ♙xd5 ≠
But 1. ..., ♙xd4 (a)!

Solution

1. ♔e2 (D) ! [2. ♘xg2 ≠]
1. ..., ♙xd4 (a); 2. ♘c4 (A) ≠
1. ..., ♞xh4 (b); 2. ♘3d5 (B) ≠
1. ..., ♞xe3; 2. ♔xe3 ≠
1. ..., ♞f4; 2. gxf4 ≠

Thematic Highlights

- ✓ 1 x Dombrovskis paradox (Threat/Mate A)
- ✓ 1 x Vladimirov effect (Key/Mate B)
- ✓ 1 x Key-Mate Reversal (Key/Mates B & D and thematic defence (b))
- ✓ Mate change after both thematic defenses across Tries and Solution
- ✓ White Battery matrix, with the firing piece ♘e3 active in the threat and in all thematic variations.