

WCCI 2016-2108 – SECTION E: HELPMATES

Marcos Maldonado Roland

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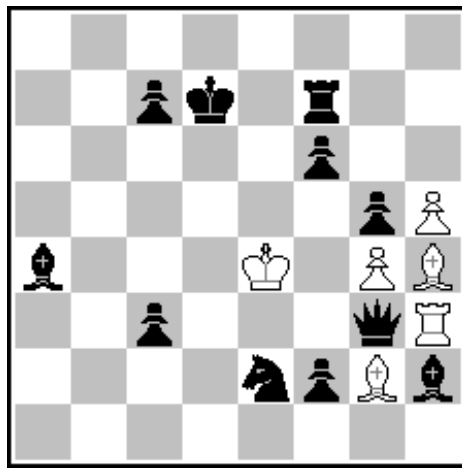
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Problem 1 – Marcos Roland

60th Congress of the WFCC - Dresden 2017

5th Azemmour Tourney - 5th Prize



h#3 2.1.1.1.1.1 (6+11)

8/2pk1r2/5p2/6pP/b3K1PB/2p3qR/4npBb/8

1.De3+ Txe3 2.Ke6 Lg3 3.Ld7 Kd3#

1.Dd3+ Txd3+ 2.Kc6 Lxf2 3. Lb5 Kf5#

Brochette (skewer) theme. Royal batteries. Orthogonal/diagonal correspondence. The first Black's moves have the immediate effect of allowing the White's rook to come into play (line clearance), but they have also effects only apparent later, opening the gate for the White's bishop and acting as hideaways of the Black's queen (Helledie theme). Foreshadowing the hideaway effect, the queen chooses the sacrificial way.

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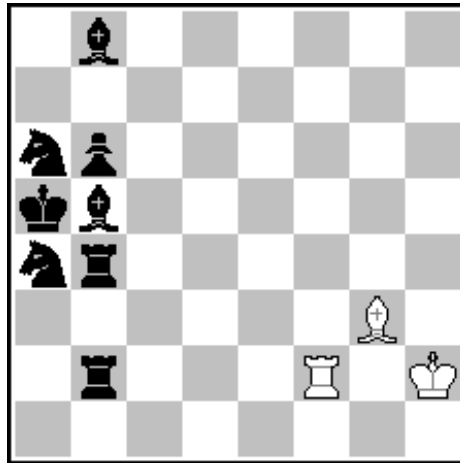
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Problem 2 – Marcos Roland

60th Congress of the WFCC - Dresden 2017

2nd Malbec Tourney

1st/2nd Prize ex aequo (version published in the bulletin of the Congress)



h#2.5 0.2.1.1.1.1 (3+8)

8/3p4/pnnbp3/2k1q3/p3b3/p4p2/1Pr5/K7

1...Le5 2.Le2 (1.Tf4?) Tf5 3.Tf4 Lc3#

1...Td2 2.Tf4 (1.Le2?) Le1 3.Le2 Td5#

Pelle moves. Ambushes. Reciprocal batteries. Bivalves. Exchange of Black's moves. Meredith. From the judges: "Outstanding matrix to show unpins of the front and rear pieces; wonderful inversion of functions of the two white pieces (once as the rear piece and once as the front piece)."

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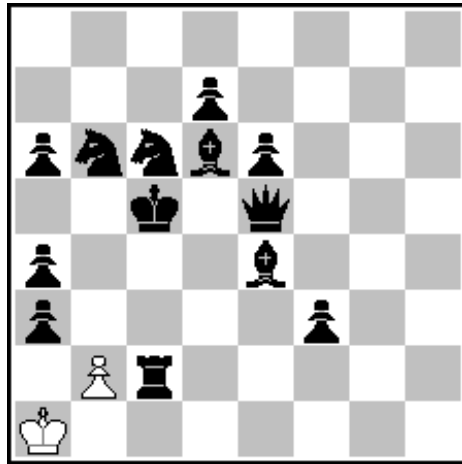
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Problem 3 – Marcos Roland

StrateGems 2017 – 4th Honorable Mention



h# 5.5 b) -Sb6 (2+13)

8/3p4/pnnbp3/2k1q3/p3b3/p4p2/1Pr5/K7

a)1...Kb1 2.Lc7 b4+ 3.Kd6 b5 4.Sc8 b6 5.Ld5 b7 6.Tc5 bxc8=S#

b)1...Ka2 2.Tc3+ bxc3 3.Lb1+ Kxb1 4.Kd5 Kc2 5.Lc5 Kd3 6.d6 c4#

The humble pawn

The author considered that the no-promotion of a pawn can be as paradoxical as an underpromotion. In both twins, the “b” pawn could promote to a queen, after treading the Excelsior path. However, in one diagram it promotes to a knight, in the other it doesn’t promote at all, “humbly” acting as a mere pawn. Since the White’s king plays actively in the second solution, controlling three squares, two blocking Black’s pieces in the first solution are not necessary in the second, and they sacrifice themselves, performing the Chumakov’s theme, with full utilization of the “strategic material” (the essential, not technical pieces) in both solutions, strengthening the link between them. Additionally, in the first diagram, we have a long trip of the White’s pawn (Excelsior theme), in the other the White’s king is the one who makes the long trip. The WK first moves also link the two solutions, with check-avoidances. Active sacrifice of the Black’s knight and mixed Phoenix in the first diagram. Hesitation of the White’s king in the second diagram. Model mates. White minimal.

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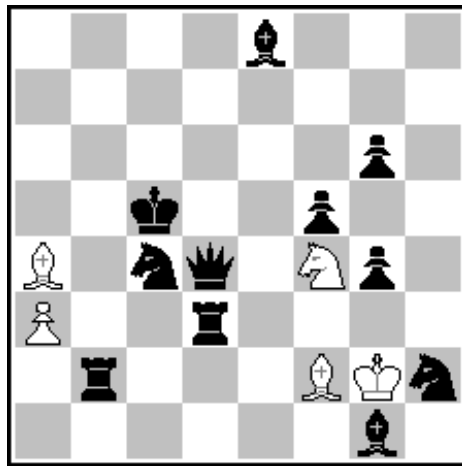
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Problem 4 – Marcos Roland

Andrey Selivanov's 50 Jubilee
3rd Commendation



h#3 b)Dd4 -> e3 (5+11)

4b3/8/6p1/2k2p2/B1nq1Np1/P2r4/1r3BKn/6b1

a) 1. Tb6 Lh4 2. Dd6 Le7 3. Td5 Se6#

b) 1. Kd4 Kh1 2. Kc3 Le1+ 3. Dd2 Se2#

The Black's queen is pinned in the initial position, and, in the course of the solution, she's unpinned, then pinned again by the same piece (WB) in another line, and the mate is delivered exploring this second pin and the interference of the BR by the pinned BQ. Full utilization of the strategic material in both solutions. Echo pin-model mates.

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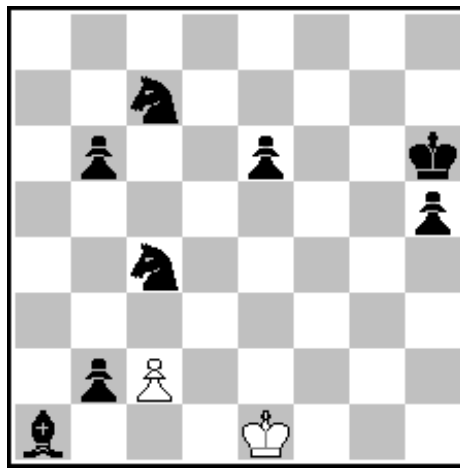
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Problem 5 – Marcos Roland

The Problemist of Ukraine 2017

Special Commendation



h#6 b) Sc4 -> c3 (2+8)

8/2n5/1p2p2k/7p/2n5/8/1pP5/b3K3

a) 1.Se5 c4 2.Sd5 cxd5 3.b1=L d6 4.Lh7 d7 5.Sg6 d8=S 6.Lg7 Sf7#

b) 1.Sd1 c4 2.b1=T c5 3.Lf6 cxb6 4.Ld8 bxc7 5.Tb7 cxd8=D 6.Th7 Df6#

Excelsior. Mixed AUW. Active sacrifices by Black. White minimal. In the second diagram, check-avoidance, annihilation of two Black's units, ambush. Model mates. Meredith. The mate positions are not guessable at first sight, the active blocking being not evident. All the strategic material, excepting for the BPb6, is fully utilized in both solutions. Despite of the same initial move (c4), the path of the lonely White's pawn is quite different from one diagram to the other.

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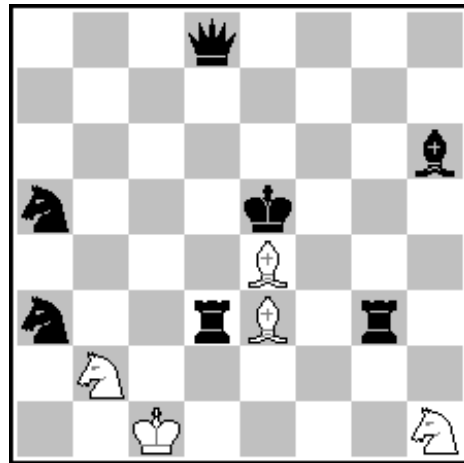
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Problem 6 – Marcos Roland

UBP 1991 – Commended

(version published in the bulletin of the
Unión Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez – UAPA, december/2018)



h#3 2.1.1.1.1.1 (5+7)

3q4/8/7b/n3k3/4B3/n2rB1r1/1N6/2K4N

1.Dd5 Lg2 2.Tf3 Sc4 3.Ke4 Sg3#

1.Dg5 Ld2 2.Tde3 Sf2 3.Kf4 Sd3#

Anticipatory self-pins. Chameleon-echo strategy. Pin-model mates. Economy: the barriers for the critical moves of the White's bishops, which prevent duals, are the White's king in the first diagram and the White's knight in the second one; full utilization of the strategic material in both solutions, without twinning; Meredith; aristocrat.

The original 1991 problem (which was not sent to the FIDE Album at the time) was this: 8/7q/6b1/3k4/3B4/b1rB1r2/Np6/1K4N1. Solutions: 1.Lc5 Lf2, etc. 1.Lf5 Lc2, etc. In the new, improved version, the Black's queen performs the job of the two Black's bishops, making for a perfect economy of the strategic material and strengthening the link between the solutions. A substantial improvement.