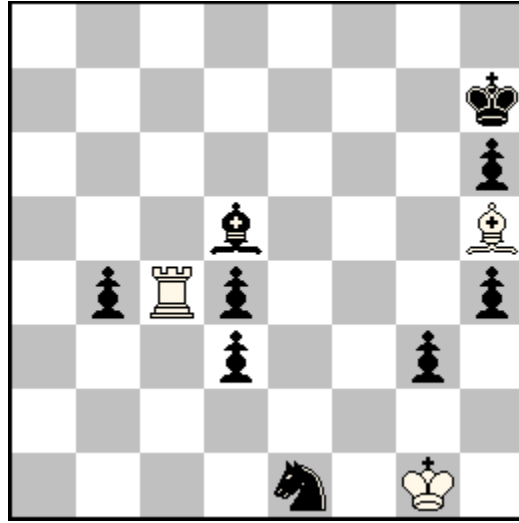


No.1
 Kostas Prentos
 6-days TT, WCCC Dresden 2017 (version)
 Section: Helpmates
 3rd Prize



h#3½ b) ♔h7→d6 (3+9) C+

[8/7k/7p/3b3B/1pRp3p/3p2p1/8/4s1K1]

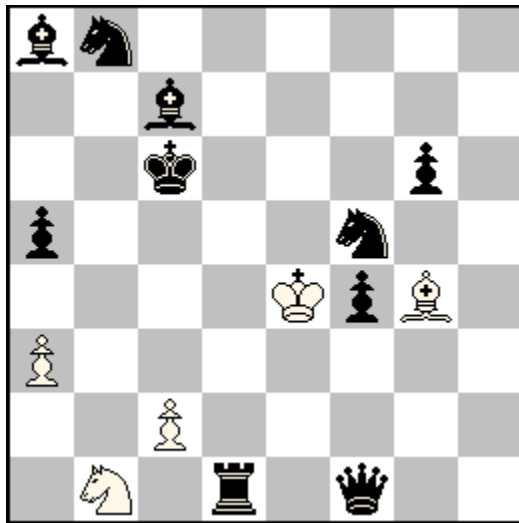
- a) 1...Be8 2.Bf7 Rc7 3.Kg6 Rxf7 4.Kh5 Rg7#
 b) 1...Rc1 2.Sc2 Bd1 3.Kc5 Bxc2 4.Kc4 Ba4#

White's critical move is followed by a line-closing move by Black that allows the black King to enter the closed line. White captures the black piece creating an Indian battery.
 A hybrid of Indian and Maslar with reciprocal battery creation.
 (Version from the WCCC Bulletin, without the bPe4)

Theme: Orthodox h#3½-10 moves. A piece A (queen, rook, bishop, knight) of any color leaves the square x. The opponent's king subsequently enters this square x. Piece A must not be captured in the course of the solution.

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No.2
 Kostas Prentos
 10th WCCT 2016-2017
 Section E (Helpmates)
 22nd-23rd Place



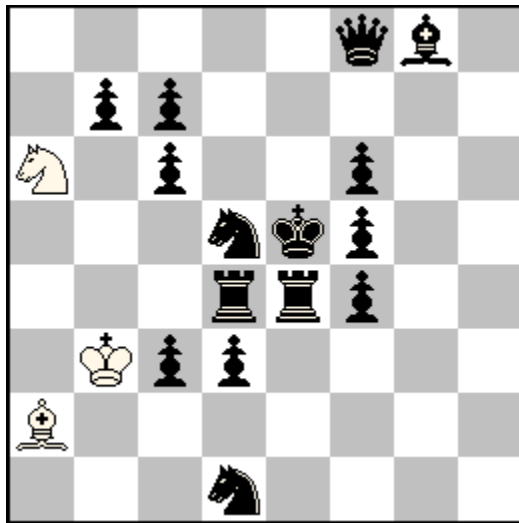
h#3 b) ♘b1→e3 (5+10) C+

[bs6/2b5/2k3p1/p4s2/4KpB1/P7/2P5/1S1r1q2]

- a) 1.Qa6 Bxd1 2.Kb5+ Kd3 3.Ka4+ c4#
 b) 1.Rd8 Sxf5 2.Kd7+ Kd4 3.Kc8+ Sd6#

The black royal batteries fire twice in each phase. The first battery is set in the diagram position. The second battery is built during the solution, following long critical moves by the pieces that subsequently will become the rear pieces of the created batteries. Cross-check mates are given by the white batteries that are also created during the solution.

No.3
 Kostas Prentos
 10th WCCT 2016-2017
 Section E (Helpmates)
 14th-16th Place



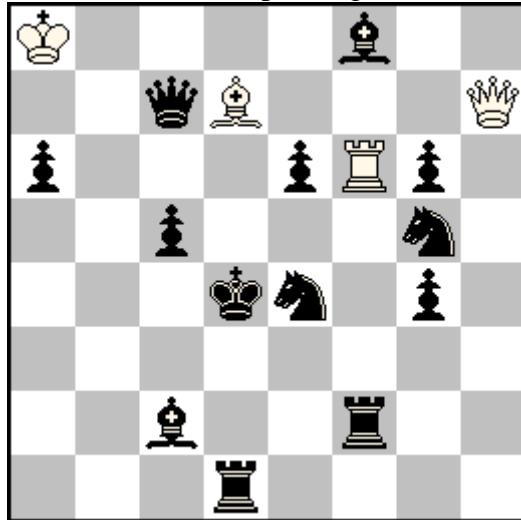
h#3 b) ♖d4→d6 (3+15) C+

[5qb1/1pp5/S1p2p2/3skp2/3rrp2/1Kpp4/B7/3s4]

- a) 1.Se7+ Ka3 2.Sc8+ Sc5 3.Sd6 Sd7#
 b) 1.Sb4+ Ka4 2.Sc2+ Sb4 3.Sd4 Sxd3#

The white Knight is pinned and unpinned in the course of the play.

No.4
 Kostas Prentos
 StrateGems 2017 (79/H2218)
 (Award pending)



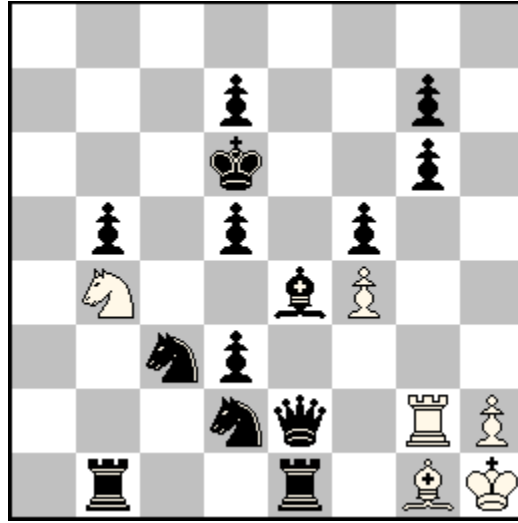
h#2½ 2.1.1.1.1 (4+13) C+

[K4b2/2qB3Q/p3pRp1/2p3s1/3ks1p1/8/2b2r2/3r4]

1...Qe7 2.Ke5 Rxe6+ 3.Kf5 Rf6#
 1...Qf7 2.Kd5 Bxe6+ 3.Kc6 Bd7#

Reciprocal battery double-check mates with switchbacks, assisted by the wQ's ambush maneuvers.

No.5
 Kostas Prentos
 RIFACE TT, Saint-Germain au Mont d'Or 2016
 Section: Helpmates
 2nd Prize



h#3 b) ♠ d5→g4 (6+14) C+

[8/3p2p1/3k2p1/1p1p1p2/1S2bP2/2sp4/3sq1RP/1r2r1BK]

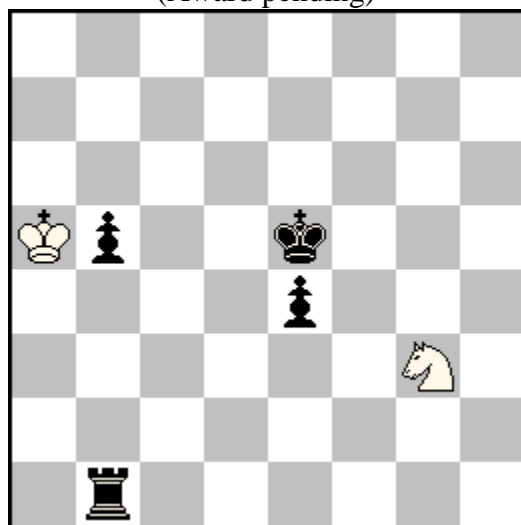
- a) 1.Rec1 Sc6 2.Sd1 Bb6 3.Sf3 Rxc6#
 b) 1.Bc6 Sa6 2.Sd5 Rxe2 3.Sf1 Bc5#

Black critical moves allow the shift of indirect unpins of the two white pieces between the two phases.

Theme: Helpmates of any length with the Onkoud-St Germain theme: Exchange of indirect unpins of two white figures A and B by two black figures C and D.

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No.6
 Kostas Prentos
 The Problemist 2017 (Vol.26, No.5/H4080)
 (Award pending)



h#5

(2+4) C+

- b) ♔a5→h2
- c) ♔a5→e7
- d) ♞g3→c2

[8/8/8/Kp2k3/4p3/6S1/8/1r6]

- a) 1.Kd4 Sf5+ 2.Kc3 Sd4 3.Kb2 Kb4 4.Ka1+ Ka3 5.e3 Sc2#
- b) 1.Kf4 Kh3 2.Kf3 Kh4 3.Kg2 Sxe4 4.Kh1 Kh3 5.Rg1 Sf2#
- c) 1.Rh1 Ke8 2.Kf6 Se2 3.Kg7 Sf4 4.Kh8 Kf8 5.Rh7 Sg6#
- d) 1.Kd6 Sb4 2.Kc7 Kxb5 3.Kb8 Ka6 4.Ka8 Sd5 5.Rb8 Sc7#

Black King's Star and 4-corner echo mates, with interesting play and no repeated moves throughout the different phases.

There are a few examples for comparison: P0550516, P1074552, P0504724, P0550229 in PDB and W212538, W360805 in WinChloe. All have some of the following weaknesses: Incomplete King star, weak twinning, weak play, move repetitions, impure echo mates.

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