



The 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge Belgrade · 2016



One of the aims of the Belgrade World Congress of Chess Composition 2016 is to engage the youngest generation of chess composers. The concept of the 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge (YCCC) is to offer young minds very concrete thematic conditions of a constructional kind, to bridge the lack of deeper theoretical knowledge.

Finally, we are proud to present the Gallery of participants, including their recent photos and selected compositions. We hope that connecting young composers all over the world will help them feel that they have their own generation in a field dominated by much older authors.

Gallery of the YCCC 2016 Participants

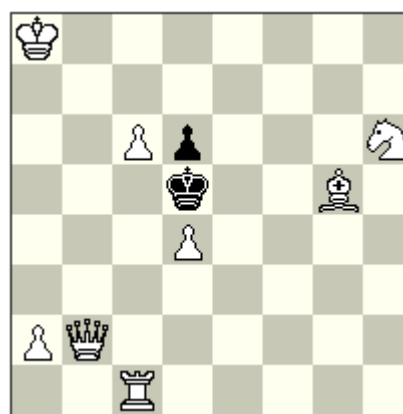
No.1



Glafira Kulish (Russia)
born 28.03.2008

Favourite published problem (the only one)

L.Kudryavceva, G.Kulish
ChessStar 2016



#2

(8+2)

1.Rd1
1...Kc4 2.Qb3#
1...Ke4 2.Qg2#
1...Ke6 2.d5#
1...Kxc6 2. Qb7#

Chess related successes:

Solving:

First place in the Volgograd region. Fifth place in Voronezh, and 4th place in the Kazan, the two phases of the Russian Cup.

Favorite genres in composition: Endgames.

School grade: Finished the 2nd class of elementary school.

No.2

Maksim Romanov (Russia)
born 16.09.2005

No published problem yet.

Chess related successes:

Solving:
Fifth in the Russian Championship.

School grade: Finished the 4th class of elementary school.

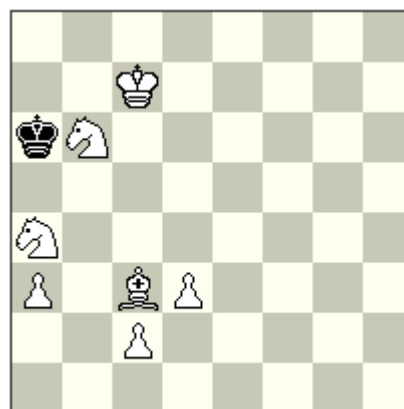
Hobbies and other interests: Gymnastics, breakdance.

No.3

Dušan Mijatović (Serbia)
born 17.11.2004

Favourite published problem

Dušan Mijatović
Politika 2015



#4

(7+1)

1.Sd5! Ka7 2.Kc8 Ka6/Ka8 3.Sc7+ Ka7 4.Bd4#,
1...Kb5 2.Kb7 K:a4 3.Bb4 Kb5 4.Sc3#

Number of published compositions: 2

Chess related successes:**Chess:**

First category (2014). Fourth place on the U12 Serbian Championship, fourth place on the Blitz U14 Serbian Championship (2015).

Solving:

Fifth in the U14 Serbian Championship (my first solving competition, 2015). Eighth in the U14 European Championship (2015).

Favorite genres in composition: Endgames.

School grade: Finished the 5th class of elementary school OŠ “Kneginja Milica”.

Hobbies and other interests: Mathematics – Going to the “School of young mathematicians”. Among other results, shared 1st place in the field of over 400 participants of the “Olympiad of elementary school”, organized by the Russian school for talented kids. Informatics – being the youngest member of the “SystemPro” school. Have handled bases of the programs C++, C#, html, Visual studio, SQL server, etc. Aikido – training in the “Novi Beograd” club, wearing the 10th kyu belt.

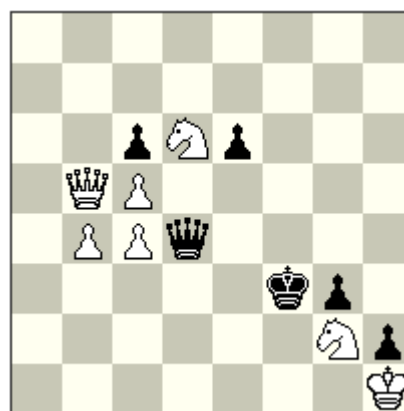
No.4

Ilija Serafimović (Serbia)
born 03.07.2004

Favourite published problem

Ilija Serafimović

1.Comm. SuperProblem TT-149



h#2 2 solutions (7+6)

1.Q:c5 Qa5 2.Qf2 Qh5 #

1.Q:c4 Qa6 2.Qg4 Qf1 #

Number of published/rewarded problems: 25/20

Chess related successes:**Chess:**

Winner of the U8 (2012) and U10 (2014) Youth Championships of Vojvodina.

Solving:

Winner of the U10 (2014) and U14 (2015) Serbian Championships. Third in the 11th International Solving Contest, Category 3 (U12), 2015. Winner of the 12th International Solving Contest, Category 3 (U12), 2016. Fifth in the U14 European Championship, 2015.

Favorite genres in composition: Helpmate in 2.

School grade: Finished the 5th class of elementary school “Miroslav Antić”, Pančevo.

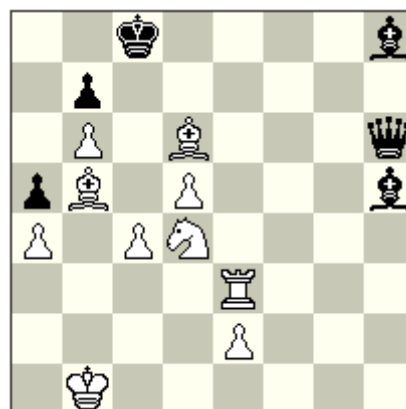
Hobbies and other interests: Basketball: playing for the basketball team “Kris Kros” Pančevo, as a playmaker. Mathematics: I like math and participate in various competitions. Computer games: I like “Top eleven football manager” and “FIFA 15”.

No.5

Roy Ehrlich (Israel)
born 09.12.2003

Favourite published problem

Roy Ehrlich
Variantim 2015



Win

(10+6)

1.Bd7+! (1.Sf5?! Qh7!) Kd8! (1...K:d7?! 2. Re7+ K:d6 3.Sf5+ Kc5 4.S:h6) 2.Sf5!! Bg6!? (2...Qg6 3.Ka2!! Bf6! 4.Be6! Qg1 5.Bc7+ Ke8 6.Bc8+! Kf7 7.Sh6+! Kf8 8.Bd6+ Kg7 9.Rg3+!) 3.Bc7+! K:d7 4.Re7+ Kc8 5.Re8+! B:e8 (Kd7 6.Rd8#) 6. S:h6.

Chess related successes:**Chess:**

Won a few regional competitions. Likes to play Swedish chess (couples). Together with a good friend Iftah have won 3 competitions, including one in Kiryat Ono, against 22 couples.

Solving:

Two times winner of a competition during a chess summer course in the Tel Aviv chess center. This year third in the ISC 2016, Category 3 (U12).

Favourite genres in composition: Endgames.

School grade: Finished the 6th class of elementary school.

Hobbies and other interests: playing chess, composing chess problems, playing football, reading books, computer games, especially: "League of Legends".

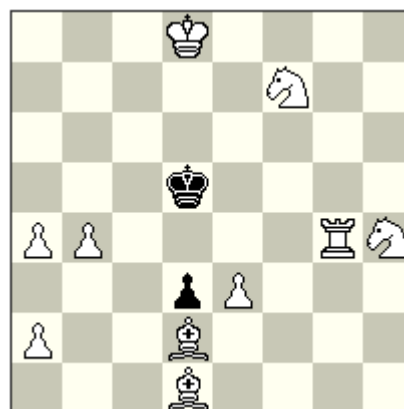
No.6



Alexei Abramenko (Russia)
born 03.03.2003

Favourite published problem

A. Abramenko
Volgograd Team ch.2012



#2

(10+2)

1.Re4? Ke4 2.Bf3# 1...Kc6!
1.Rc4? Kc4 2.Bb3# 1...Ke6!
1.Kc7? ~ 2.Bb3# 1...Ke6!
1.Ke7? ~ 2.Bf3# 1...Kc6!

1.Rg6!zz
1... Kc4 2.Bb3#
1...Ke4 2.Bf3#

Chess related successes:

Composing:

Won a competition in composing #1 problems, 2013 (theme No.5).

Chess:

Won a tourney dedicated to the Day of Fatherland Defenders, and the U14 Youth Chess Olympiad, organized by the newspaper "Arguments and Facts", 2013.

Solving:

Second in the V. Vinokurov 60 JT, 2013. Best junior in the postal Championship of the Volgograd region, 2015. The best result in the 2nd All-Russian postal Championship, 2016.

Favourite genres in composition: Endgames.

School grade: Finished the 8th class of elementary school.

Hobbies and other interests: Parkour, football, checkers, fishing.

No.7



Danila Pavlov (Russia)
born 22.09.2002

No published problem yet.

Chess related successes:

Chess:

Bronze medalist of the U12 World Championship of schoolchildren (Greece, 2013). Silver medalist at the U14 European Team Championship (Estonia, 2014). Bronze medalist of the U15 Russian Team Championship (Sochi, 2016). Winner of the U10 Russian Cup 2012, and the U14 Russian Cup 2015. Winner of the international youth tournament Moscow Open 2015. Winner of the All-Russian tournament Belaya Ladya 2013 (Astrakhan).

Solving:

Winner of the U15 FIDE World Championship (Moscow, 2016). Silver medalist of the U17 FIDE World Championship (Moscow, 2016). Bronze medalist of the U14 European Championship (Tallinn, 2014). Three times Winner of the U15 Russian Championship (Sochi, 2014, 2015, 2016). Winner of the Russian Championship in solving endgames (Sochi, 2016).

Favourite genres in composition: Endgames.

School grade: Finished 8th class of Gimnaziya No 7, Volgograd.

Hobbies and other interests: I love sports. My favorite football clubs are Spartak (Moscow) and Barcelona (Spain). In the championship of Volgograd in football among school children in 2015, I was awarded a silver medal and a prize – best goalkeeper.

No.8



Azer Abbasov (Azerbaijan)
born 22.05.1999

Favourite published problem

Azer Abbasov
Kobulchess-2013, No.398



h#3 2 solutions (6+9)

1.Kf7 Ba3 2.Rb1 Kxb1 3.Qg6 Bb3 #

1.Qg4 Bxf6 2.Kh5 Bg5 3.Rg6 fxg4 #

Number of published compositions: 4, 3 of them helpmates.

Chess related successes:

Chess:

The third in the in Azerbaijan zonal chess tournament.

Favourite genres in composition: Helpmates

School grade: Finished 11th class of elementary school.

Hobbies and other interests: I love to play football.

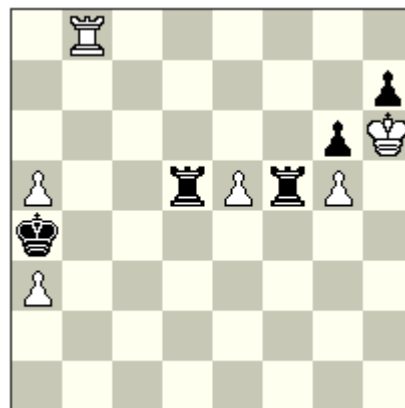
No.9



Alexey Popov (Russia)
born 23.11.1998

Favourite published problem

Alexey Popov
2.Pr. Azat Sadikov 80 MT



Draw

(6+5)

1. a6! Ra5 2. e6 Rfe5 3. e7! (3. a7? R:a7 4. e7 Ra:e7! -+) R:e7 4. a7 Ra:a7 5. Rb7! Ka5 6. a4 Ka6! 7. a5! *with two thematic lines:*

a) 7...Re8 8. Rb6+ K:a5 9. Rb5+ Ka4 10. Rb4+ Ka3 11. Rb3+ Ka2 12. Rb2+ Ka1 13. Rb1+ K:b1=

б) 7...Re6! 8.Re7! Rd6 9. Rd7! Rc6 10. Rc7 Ra:c7=

Number of published problems: 12

Number of rewarded problems: 9

Chess related successes:

Chess:

1st category player.

Solving:

Bronze medal in the FIDE world championship U19, 2016, 7th place in Helsinki WSC phase, and 9th place in Pardubice WSC phase, 2016.

Favourite genres in composition: Endgames.

School grade: Finished the 1st course of St.Petersburg Mining University.

Hobbies and other interests: Solving sudokus, crosswords, scanwords, etc. Table tennis.

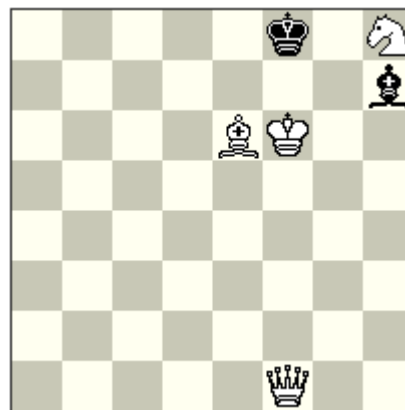
No.9



Marko Ložajić (Serbia)
19.07.1998

Favourite published problem

Marko Ložajić
4.HM SuperProblem TT-133 2015



#2 (4+2)
b) -Sh8; c) =b) -Be6; d) =c) -Bh7

- a) diagram: 1.Qb5 – 2.Qb8#, 1...Bg6 2.Sxg6#
 b) -Sh8: 1.Qh1! – 2.Qa8#, 1...Be4/Bg6 2.Qh8#
 c) = b) -Be6: 1.Qh3! – 2.Qc8#, 1...Bf5/Bg6 2.Qh8#
 d) = c) -Bh7: 1.Qc4 Ke8 2.Qc8#

Number of published/rewarded problems: 5/5.

Chess related successes:

Chess:

2nd place in U14 (2011) and U18 (2014) Belgrade Championships.

Solving:

2nd place in the 9th International Solving Contest 2013 (Category 2), the best junior and 6th overall in Serbian Solvers' League 2014.

Favourite genres in composition: Endgames, helpmates.

School grade: Gimnazija Crnjanski, year 12

Hobbies and other interests:

Listening to electronic music, playing tennis, football, table tennis, skiing, learning languages (I speak English and French, currently learning German), and theatre.



The 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge



Group A - Mate in two moves

Theme: Mixed pairs of black & white S promotions

(announcement: <http://www.matplus.net/pub/YCCC2016-1.pdf>)

The task was to show as many mixed (black/white) pairs of S-promotions, which were divided into three types in the Announcement.

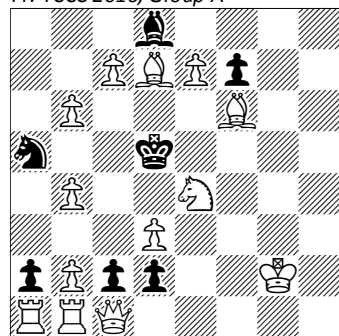
From Marjan Kovačević, the YCCC organiser, I received 7 different twomovers without the names of the authors. Most of the problems deal with “type 1” pairs, since they are the easiest to multiply. While for creating a new and pure pair of “type 2” or “type 3” both elements of the existing pair have to be changed, for “type 1” pairs it is sufficient to change the second element (the defence, since within one phase the first white move stays the same). The artificial opening of a new phase with repeated play (in 4 problems) is treated as “dilution” of the existing content and would not be accepted in other tournaments. However, I tolerate it here since it serves as a means of fulfilling the thematic requirement.

I have ranked the problems in the following way:

1st Place

Aleksey Abramenko

Pr. YCCC 2016, Group A



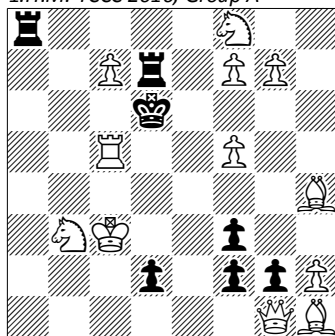
#2 13+7

1.e8S? - 2.Sc3#, 1...cbS 2.Qc5#,
1...d1S 2.Qg5#, 1...axbS 2.Rxa5#
1...Bxf6!
1.c8S! - 2.Sc3#, 1...cxbS 2.Qc5#
1...d1S 2.Qg5#, 1...axbS 2.Rxa5#

2nd Place

Ilija Serafimović

1.H.M. YCCC 2016, Group A



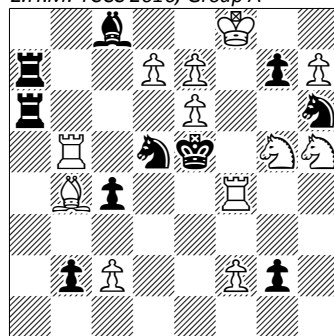
#2 12+7

1.g8S! - 2.Bg3#, 1... d1S+ 2.Qxd1#
1...f1S 2.Qd4#, 1...gxhS 2.Qg6#
1...Re7 2.Bxe7#, 1...Ra4 2.c8S#
1...Re8 2.fxe8S#

3rd Place

Danila Pavlov

2.H.M. YCCC 2016, Group A



#2 12+10

1.d8S? - 2.Sf3#(C), 1...g1S!
1...Ra3 (a) 2.Sc6# (A)
1.e8S? - 2.Bc3#, 1...b1S!
1...Ra3(a) 2.Bd6#(B), 1...Sf5 2.Re4#
1.h8S! - 2.Sg6#, 1...Rxe6 2.Sf3#(C)

1st Place, Prize: Aleksey Abramenko (Russia) Three analogous defences and the first move of the solution build three “type 1” pairs. By the pragmatic inclusion of the try, its first move is paired with the same defenses thus creating 3 new pairs. Altogether 6 pairs is a respectable accomplishment.

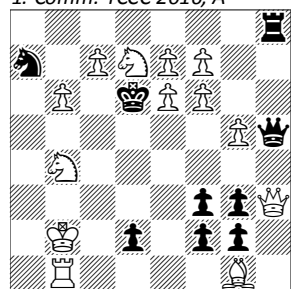
2nd Place, 1st HM: Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) Three “type 1” pairs within the same phase. Two unpaired S-promotions after rook defences nicely balance out the surplus of black promotions.

3rd Place, 2nd HM: **Danila Pavlov** (Russia) The author chose the more difficult path by displaying two “type 3” pairs. One mate is changed, and another transferred. Although the second try is contested by 1. dxc8S?, that flaw can, according to the explanation given in the introduction, transform into an advantage: a new pair with a common second element (the refutation 1...b1S!).

4th Place

Ilija Serafimović

1. Comm. YCCC 2016, A



#2

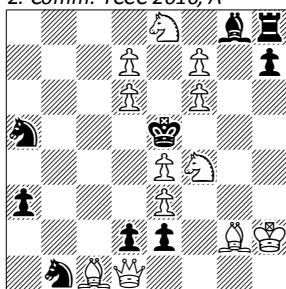
13+9

1. f8S!

5th Place

Aleksey Abramenko

2. Comm. YCCC 2016, A



#2

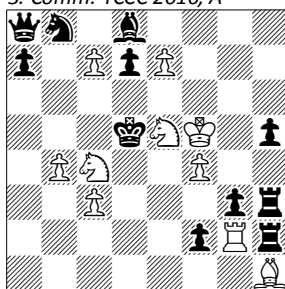
12+9

1. d8S! 1. f8S? Bc4!

6th Place

Maksim Romanov

3. Comm. YCCC 2016, A



#2

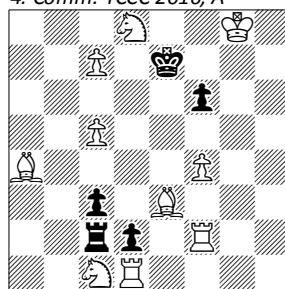
10+11

1. e8S! 1. c8S? Bb6!

7th Place

Glafira Kulish

4. Comm. YCCC 2016, A



#2

10+5

1. Re2!

4th Place, 1st Comm: **Ilija Serafimović** (Serbia) A single-phase display of two “type 1” pairs is enriched by promotional mates, among which the one on e8 follows an undefined defense.

5th Place 2nd Comm: **Aleksey Abramenko** (Russia) There are formally four “type 1” pairs (compare to rank 1), but the dual mate in a thematic variation is a big flaw.

6th Place, 3rd Comm: **Maksim Romanov** (Russia) Each phase brings one “type 1” pair, but in a crowded position.

7th Place, 4th Comm: **Glafira Kulish** (Russia) The only problem to display a “type 2” pair, however multiple threats should be avoided.

Split, 21.07.16.

Ivo Tominić



The 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge



Group B - Helpmate in two moves

Theme: *Sacrificial twins*

(announcement: <http://www.matplus.net/pub/YCCC2016-1.pdf>)

I received 12 very solid problems without the names of the authors. The number of problems with three thematic phases surpassed my expectations. The task record with 4 thematic variations proved to be a tough nut to crack.

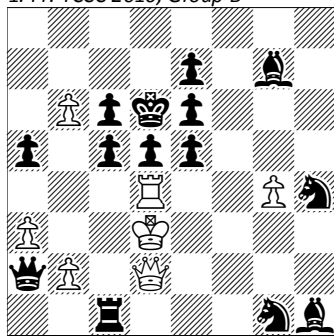
All the three-phase problems use a well-known scheme applied many times by the world's leading composers from Ukraine, who still use it today with success.

I propose the following ranking:

1st Place

Ilija Serafimović

1. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



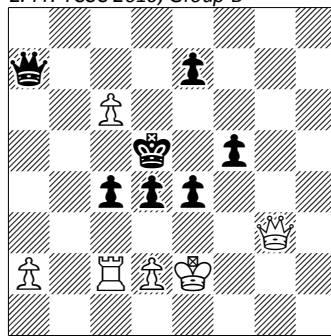
h#2 7+14
2 sol
b) wRd4=wPd4

- a) 1.Qa1 Re4 2.dxe4+ Ke3#
1.Sg2 Rc4 2.dxc4+ Ke4#
b) 1.a4 dxc5+ 2.Kxc5 Qb4#
1.Bf6 dxe5+ 2.Kxe5 Qh2#

2nd Place

Aleksey Abramenko

2. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



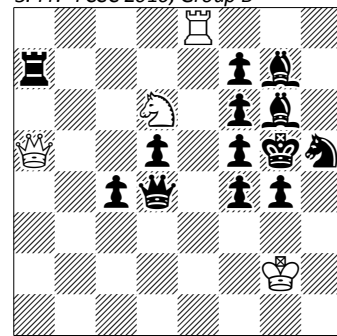
h#2 6+7
b), c) wRc2=wSc2=wBc2

- a) 1.Qc5 Rxc4 2.Kxc4 Qb3#
b) 1.e6 Sxd4 2.Kxd4 Qd6#
c) 1.e5 Bxe4+ 2.Kxe4 Qf3

3rd Place

Azer Abbasov

3. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 4+13
b), c) wSd6=wBd6=wRd6

- a) 1.Qb6 Sxf5 2.Kxf5 Qxd5#
b) 1.Qa1 Bxf4+ 2.Kxf4 Qd2#
c) 1.Ra6 Rxf6 2.Kxf6 Qd8#

1st Prize: Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) In the thematic sense, the maximum achievement. In the first phase two quiet WR sacrifices, and in the second two rough WP sacrifices with capturing of black pieces. In my opinion a good compromise, much better than the “harmonic” capturing of black pieces in all phases.

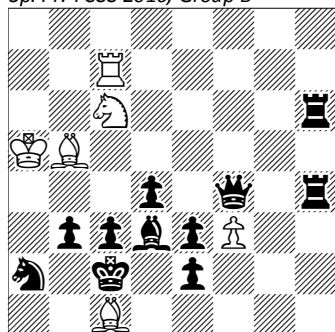
2nd Prize: Aleksey Abramenko (Russia) Three thematic phases in a spacious position, which makes the sacrifices more attractive. A very pleasant composition, especially for numerous modern composers who even consider the capturing of black pieces a theme or strategy.

3rd Prize: Azer Abbasov (Azerbaijan) Again three thematic phases in a position without white pawns. The BQ and BR hideaway moves are a nice overture for thematic play. However, a large number of inert black pawns is a minor aesthetic flaw.

4th Place

Marko Ložajić

Sp. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 6+11

b), c) wSb5=wBb5=wRb5

a) 1.Sb4 Bxd3+ 2.Kxd3 Sxb4#

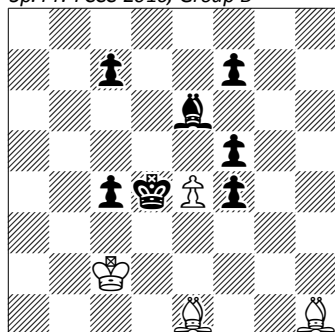
b) 1.Bg6 Sxc3 2.Kxc3 Se5#

c) 1.Be4 Rxb3 2.Kxb3 Sxd4#

4th Place

Roy Ehrlich

Sp. Pr. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 4+7

b) wPe4=wSe4

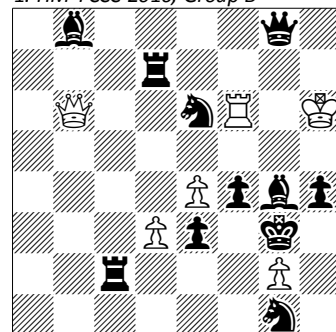
a) 1.f6 e5 2.fxe5 Bf2#

b) 1.Ke5 Sd6 2.cxd6 Bc3#

6th Place

Ilija Serafimović

1. HM YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 6+11

b), c) wRf6=wBf6=wSf6

a) 1.Rdc7 Rxf4 2.Kxf4 Qd6#

b) 1.e2 Bxh4+ 2.Kxh4 Qf2#

c) 1.Sg7 Sxg4 2.Kxg4 Qg6#

Spec. Prize: Marko Ložajić (Serbia) Unlike the previous problems where the mates were with the WQ, here the mating moves are by a direct and indirect S-R battery. This gives the problem a special freshness.

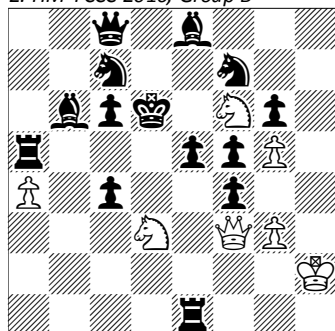
Spec. Prize: Roy Ehrlich (Israel) Two elegant quiet sacrifices of white pieces in a nicely constructed Meredith.

1st Hon.Mention: Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) The overture in the three thematic phases are isolated and unconnected interferences. Isolated interferences in the helpmate are regular, simple moves but are currently in trend.

7th Place

Dušan Mijatović

2. HM YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 7+14

b), c) wSd3=wBd3=wPd3

a) 1.Sb4 Bxd3+ 2.Kxd3 Sxb4#

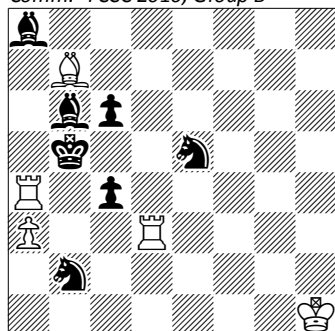
b) 1.Bg6 Sxc3 2.Kxc3 Se5#

c) 1.Be4 Rxb3 2.Kxb3 Sxd4#

8th Place

Alexey Popov

Comm. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 5+7

b) wRa4=wSa4

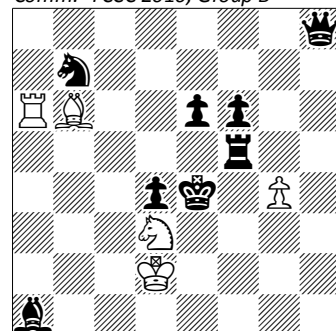
a) 1.f6 e5 2.fxe5 Bf2#

b) 1.Ke5 Sd6 2.cxd6 Bc3#

8th Place

Maksim Romanov

Comm. YCCC 2016, Group B



h#2 5+8

b) wBb6=wSb6

a) 1.Rdc7 Rxf4 2.Kxf4 Qd6#

b) 1.e2 Bxh4+ 2.Kxh4 Qf2#

c) 1.Sg7 Sxg4 2.Kxg4 Qg6#

2nd Hon.Mention: Dušan Mijatović (Serbia) Once again three phases in a somewhat crowded position, caused by the WP sacrifice. The pawn sacrifice was missing in other problems, and it is also a missing twin for the maximum task of 6 phases.

Commendations in order of appearance.

Commendation: **Alexey Popov** (Russia)

Commendation: **Maksim Romanov** (Russia)

Both problems are nice two-phase works,

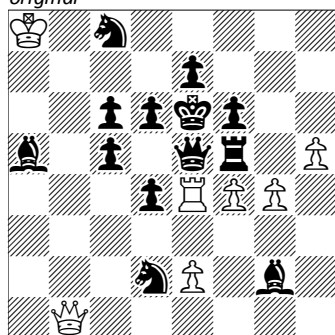
Sarajevo -July- 2016 Fadil Abdurahmanović

P. S.

I hoped to offer a lively and challenging thematic condition, for composers "from 7 to 77 years"! Two twins are easy to create, three - a bit more difficult, while four twins, as expected, remain a task for seniors. As a junior, I tried to find this quartet, but without computer it was almost impossible. Some days ago, right on my 77th birthday, the correct position was found:

Fadil Abdurahmanović

original



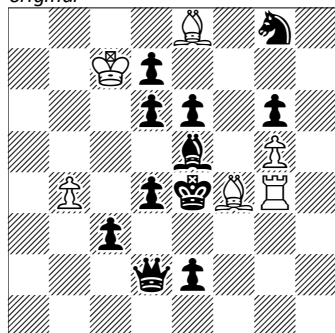
h#2 7+13
b-d) wRe4=wBe4=wSe4=wPe4

- a) 1.Kd5 Rd4+ 2.Kd4xR! Qd3#
- b) 1.Kd7 Bc6+ 2.Kc6xB! Qb7#
- c) 1.Rf4 Sf6 2.Kf6xS! Qg6#
- d) 1.Qd5 e5 2.fe5xP! Qf5#

It is also interesting to present three phases with pure active sacrifices, without capturing of black pieces:

Fadil Abdurahmanović

original



h#2 6+11
b),c) wBf4=wSf4=wPf4

- a) 1.Kd3 Be3! 2.de3xB! Bg6#
- b) 1.Kf5 Sd5! 2.ed5xS! Bd7#
- c) 1.Kd5 f5! 2.ef5xP! Bf7#

Thematic piece is the front piece of white direct battery. This way, we have destroying of white battery, too. However, the story is not over. The theme asks and teases to be realized in more economical position. Is it possible?

Such nonstandard challenges have been giving me a lot of pleasure. They also make a good training in the absence of more important and trendier ideas!



The 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge



Group C - Studies

Theme: *As long as possible*

(announcement: <http://www.matplus.net/pub/YCCC2016-1.pdf>)

The requirement of this tournament, "as long as possible" with a specific ending position, was invented in the 1980's when I tried to bring young composers to the demanding area of study composition. The idea of creating a "formula" for the study ranking makes the life of the young composers easier - they know what they are aiming and can compare several settings "scientifically". After looking in the entries that were submitted, I think that the final formula could be slightly more complicated and give a kind of "punishment" for every officer that exists on the board but does not move during the solution.

I received 10 studies . Sadly, I had to eliminate problem no. 1 because it was not thematic. The problem could receive high place but the final position is not thematic.

One study had a dual and I decided to make the solution shorter and to select the first position in the original solution which does not contain any flaw. This reduced the length of the solution, obviously, but kept the study in the award.

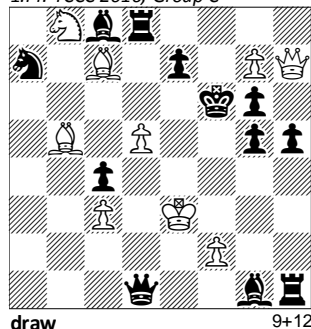
For studies with a repetition of moves or positions, for the purpose of calculating the problem length, I used only the shortest line without any repetition of positions.

Several problems had high level. This is the award:

1st Place

Marko Ložajić

1.Pr. YCCC 2016, Group C



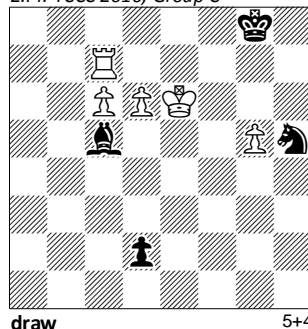
draw

9+12

2nd Place

Aleksey Abramenko

2.Pr. YCCC 2016, Group C



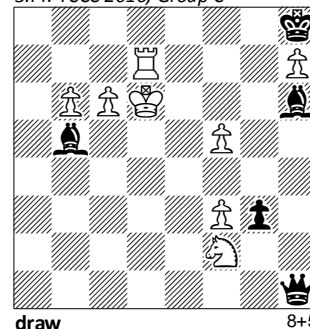
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5+4

3rd Place

Alexey Popov

3.Pr. YCCC 2016, Group C



draw

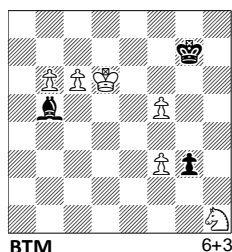
8+5

1st Prize, Marko Ložajić (Serbia) (length: 16). The artistic quality of this study is not high - a series of checks which ends with a stalemate position which is almost ready in the initial position. However, I admit that the author found a clever way to achieve a very long solution!

1. g8S+ Rxb8 2. Sd7+ Bxd7 3. Be5+ Kf5 4. Qf7+ Kxe5 5. Qxe7+ Kxd5 6. Qd7+ Kc5 (6...Ke5 7. Qe7+ Kf5 8. Bd7+ Qxd7 9. Qxd7+ Kf6 10. Qd4+ =) 7. Qxa7+ Kxb5 8. Qb7+ Ka5 9. Qa7+ Kb5 10. Qb7+ Kc5 11. Qc7+ Kd5 12. Qd7+ Ke5 13. Qe7+ Kf5 14. Qe5+ Kg4 15. Qg3+ Kf5 16. Qe5+ Kxe5 =

2nd Prize, Aleksey Abramenko (Russia) (length: 14). A beautiful problem with a clever try. It is possible to create a longer solution which could shift the problem to the 1st place (e.g.: start with 1.Bc8-e6+ Qc4xe6+ 2.Kf5xe6 d3-d2). But the composer's setting is probably the most elegant way to show his/her idea. After 1.Rc8+ Kh7 white could play 2.Rh8+!? which lose because of 2...Kg6! 3.Rg8+ Sg7+ 4.Rxg7+ Kxg7 and there is an additional wPg5 compared to the main solution after move 6. This pawn destroys the final stalemate. **1. Rc8+ Kh7 2. g6+ Kg7 3.Rg8+ Kh6 4. Rh8+ Kxg6 5. Rg8+ Sg7+ 6.Rxg7+ Kxg7 7. c7 d1Q 8. c8Q Qg4+ 9.Ke7=**

3rd Prize, Alexey Popov (Russia) (length: 11). Another elegant problem. I had to shorten the solution because white could exchange the order of moves 5 and 6 in the original position. White sacrifices 3 pieces to achieve the final stalemate. **1. Rd8+! K:h7 2. Rd7+ Kg8! 3. Rd8+ Kh7 (3. ... Kf7 4. Rd7+ Kf8 5. Rd8+ =; 4. ... Kf6? 5. Se4+ K:f5 6. S:g3+ +-)** **4. Rd7+ Bg7 5. S:h1 g2 6. R:g7+ K:g7 7. f6+ Kg6! 8. f7! K:f7 9. b7 g1Q 10. b8Q Qh2+ 11. Sg3! Q:g3+ 12. f4! Q:f4+ 13. Kd7 Q:b8=** (Try 1. S:h1? g2 2. Rd8+ K:h7 3. Rd7+ Kg8! 4. Rd8+ Kf7! 5. Rd7+ Kf6! -+)



1...g2 2.f6+! Kg6! 3.f7! Kxf7 4.b7 g1=Q! 5.b8=Q Qh2+
6.Sg3! Qxg3+ 7.f4! Qxf4+ 8.Kd7 Qxb8=

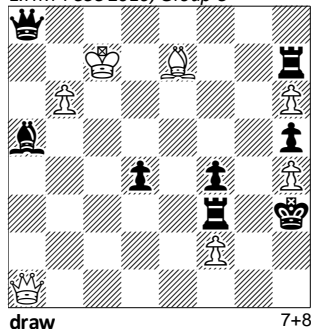
1st HM, Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) (length: 9). A similar approach to the first place - with 9 half moves only. **1.Qh1+ Kg4 2.Qg2+ Kf5 3.Qg5+ Ke6 4.Qf6+ Kd5 5.Qe6+ Kxe6=, 3...Ke4 4.Qg6+ Kd5/Ke5 5.Qe6+ Kxe6=**

2nd HM, Maksim Romanov (Russia) (length: 8). A nice study with several sacrifices. **1. g8Q Bxg8 2. a7 Bd5 3. a8Q Bxc6+ 4. Kxc6 h1Q+ 5. f3 Qxf3+ 6. e4 Qxe4+ 7.Kc7 Qxa8 =**

4th Place

Ilija Serafimović

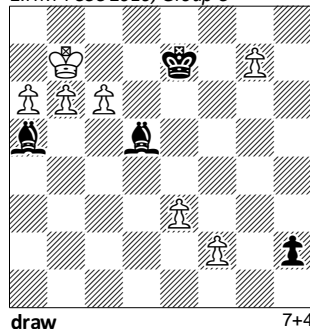
1.HM YCCC 2016, Group C



5th Place

Maksim Romanov

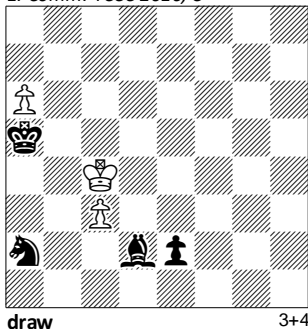
2.HM YCCC 2016, Group C



6th Place

Maksim Romanov

1. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



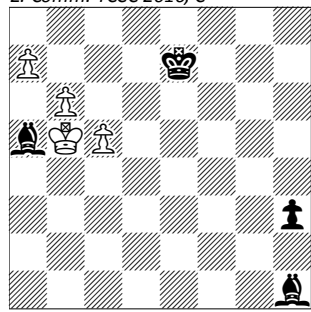
1st Commendation, Maksim Romanov (Russia) (length: 6). **1. a7 e1Q 2. a8Q+ Kb6 3. Qxa2 Qe6+ 4. Kb4 Qxa2 =**

2nd Commendation, Dušan Mijatović (Serbia) (length: 5). **1. c6 Bc6+ 2. Kc6 h2 3. a8Q h1Q+ 4. Kc7 Qa8=**

7th Place

Dušan Mijatović

2. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



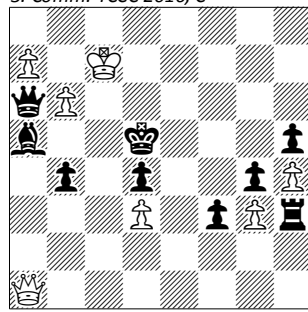
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4+4

8th Place

Ilija Serafimović

3. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



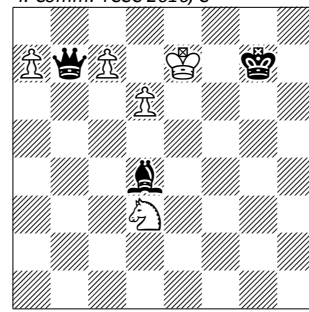
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7+9

9th Place

Dušan Mijatović

4. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



draw

5+3

3rd Commendation, Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) (length: 5). 1.a8Q+ Qxa8 2.Qa2+ b3 3.Qxb3+ Ke5 4.Qe6+ Kxe6=

4th Commendation, Dušan Mijatović (Serbia) (length: 4). 1. Sc5 Bc5 2. a8Q Qa8 3. c8Q Qc8=

Finally, I want to thank Marjan Kovačević for his help in conducting this tourney.

Ofer Comay, Tel Aviv, July 2016.