PCCC/WFCC 70-JT Award

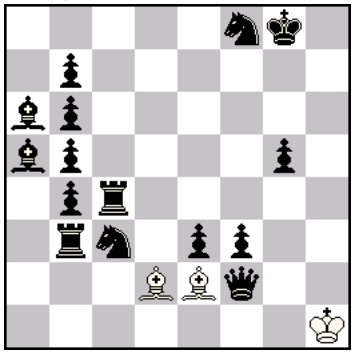
h#3.5 - 4.0 Free theme
Participants:
E01 Csák, János; E02 Cioflâncă, Mihaiu; E03 Neef, Wilfried; E04 Stolev, Nikola; E05 Togookhuu, Lkhundevin; E06 Hudák, Stanislav; E07 Varitsky, Aleksandr; E08 Velikhanov, Kenan; E09 Novomesky, Daniel; E10 Kovačević, Marjan; E11 Prcic, Mike; E12 Majoros, Bela; E13 Witztum, Menachem; E14 Trommler, Sven; E15 Danstrup, Niels; E16 Gurov, Valery; E17 Mihajlovski, Zlatko; E18 Murashev, Pavel; E19 Shorokov, Boris; E20 Dimitrov, Ognian; E21 Feoktistov, Aleksandr; E22 Gavryliv, Evgeny; E23 Bilokin, Yuri; E24 Svítek, Miroslav ; E25 Muljadi, Paul; E26 Drążkowski, Krzysztof; E27 Galma, Mykhailo; E28 Lois, Jorge Joaquin; E29 Vieira, Ricardo de Mattos; E30 Palazón, Luis Gómez; E31 Gasparyan, Aleksey; E32 Yuzyuk, Viktor; E33 Uță, Matei-Maria; E34 Chumakov, Gennady; E35 Yakubovsky, Cheslav; E36 Kolesnyk, Mykola; E37 Tanner, Henry; E38 Semenenko, Oleksandr; E39 Semenenko, Valery; E40 Oblyashevsky, Georgy ; E41 Rotenberg, Jacques; E42 Paliulionis, Viktoras ; E43 Sergiienko, Andrii; E44 Gavrilovski, Zoran; E45 Pankratiev, Aleksandr.

Judge's report:
I received 45 originals in anonymous form. A level of a tourney was satisfied but in average not extra high as I expected for such an important JT. Rewarded problems anyway show high standards. Among problems I excluded some of them because of defects or too similar already published problems.
References to database's Ids (WC-WinChloe, Y-YACDB, P-PDB):
No. 3: No reason for two black Queens.
No. 7: Already published (WC878323 P1406933)
No. 9: WC682923, WC781932 P1408857, WC804565 Y626702 P1368957
No. 11: WC82048 P1006099
No. 14: WC12516 Y609366
No. 16: WC217825
No. 21: WC375283 Y333933 P1182255 or WC329587 P1253902; although without King's cross
No. 22: WC116478 P1006792, WC161948 , WC489967 Y369059, WC950940 P1425531
No. 26: WC218919 P1007175
No. 35: WC13179 Y328338 P1107171 2sol, WC91896 Y100317 P1006861 3sol

At the end I selected four best originals for prizes plus one for the special prize. It was a real challenge to order them since they are of the same value for my taste. Different judges could probably rank them differently. For the first prize a position without twins decides, a touch of better economy prevails among second and third price, and a potential economization of position pushes the last one to the fourth place.

20. 9. 2026
Marko Klasinc
International judge of the FIDE

1st Prize
No. 1, János Csák



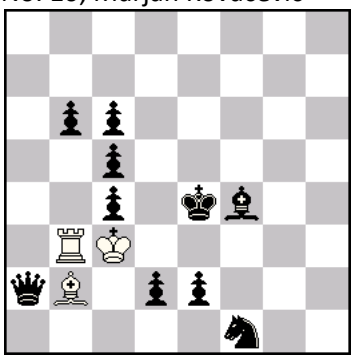
h#4 2.1.1.1... 3+15
5nk1/1p6/bp6/bp4p1/1pr5/1rn1pp2/3BBq2/7K

1.Sd5 B×b4 2.Sh7 Bc3 3.Bb4 B×c4 [B×f3?] 4.Bf8 B×d5 # (MM)
1.Rd4 B×b5 2.Kh8 Bd3 3.Bc4 B×c3 [B×e3?] 4.Bg8 B×d4 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

A good combination of different effects: anticipatory interference, mixed Bristol with Magnet, dual avoidance, chameleon echo - all in perfect harmony without twins. Model mates.

2nd Prize
No. 10, Marjan Kovačević



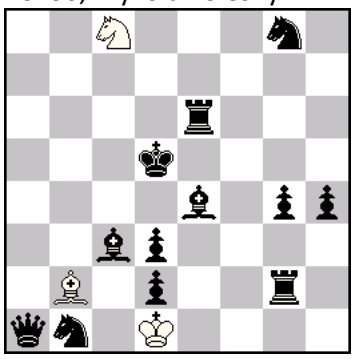
h#3.5 b)Pc6 → e3 3+10
8/8/1pp5/2p5/2p1kb2/1RK5/qB1pp3/5n2

a) 1... Kxc4 2.Qb1! Bc3 3.Ke3 Ra3! 4.Qe4+ Bd4 #
2.Sg3? Bc3 3.Ke3 ?? 4.Se4 Bd4 #
b) 1... Kc2 2.Qa8! Rc3 3.Kd4 Ba1! 4.Qe4+ Rd3 #
2.Sg3? Rc3 3.Kd4 ?? 4.Se4 Rd3 #

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Hidden tempo-try, white FML Grimshaw, tempo moves, crosscheck. Tempo-allowing-unpin by black Queen leads to cross-check instead of simple self-block on e4 by black Sf1. All in perfect construction and harmony.

3rd Prize
No. 36, Mykola Kolesnyk



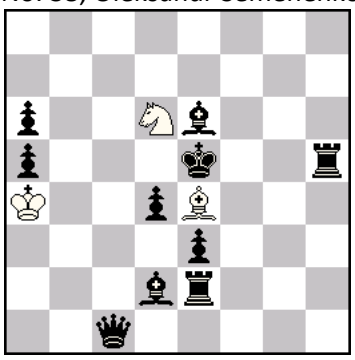
h#4 b)Ph4 → e3 3+12
2N3n1/8/4r3/3k4/4b1pp/2bp4/1B1p2r1/qn1K4

a) 1.Be5 Bd4 2.Qc3 Bg1 3.Rf2 Sb6+ 4.Kd4 Bxf2 # (MM)
b) 1.Bf6 Be5 2.Qd4 Bh2 3.Rg3 Se7+ 4.Ke5 Bxg3 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Consecutive mixed Bristol with double Magnet effect in both solutions ending with Maslar mates. Perfect construction and analogy in good economic position. Model mates.

4th Prize
No. 38, Oleksandr Semenenko



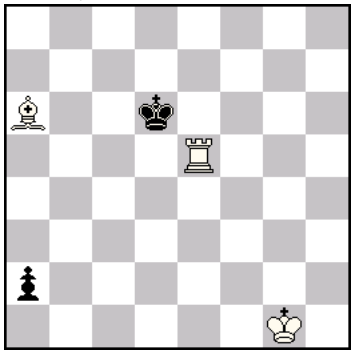
h#3.5 0.2.1.1... 3+10
8/8/p2Nb3/p3k2r/K2pB3/4p3/3br3/2q5

1... Ba8! 2.Qc3 Sb7 3.Ke4 Sd6+ 4.Kd3 Be4 # (MM)
1... Bh1! 2.Rg2 Sf7+ 3.Kd5 Kb3 4.Qc5 Bxg2 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

A good combination of Indian plus Klasinc with switchbacks of both white officers (so called mousetrap) in one solution and Maslar in the second one in a good position. Model mates. (A little economization: bRh5 to g5, bPe2, bRc2 instead of Qc1).

Special Prize
No. 42, Viktoras Paliulionis



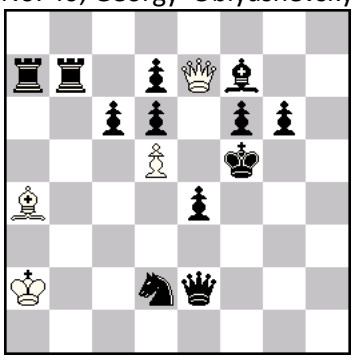
h#4 2.1.1.1... 3+2
8/8/B2k4/4R3/8/8/p7/6K1

1.a1=R+ (a1=Q+?) Bf1 2.Ra7 Ba6 3.Kc7 Rc5+ 4.Kb8 Rc8 # (MM)
1.a1=B (a1=Q+?) Re1 2.Bg7 Be2 3.Ke7 Bh5+ 4.Kf8 Re8 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Is it possible that such a superb five pieces miniature - featuring thematic tries and model echo mates - is a novelty? I couldn't believe that I didn't find anticipation in databases. I am sincerely satisfied that it remains also after the appeal period.

1st Honourable Mention
No. 40, Georgy Oblyashevsky



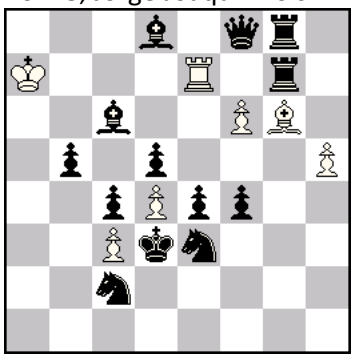
h#3.5 4+12
8/rr1pQb2/2pp1pp1/3P1k2/B3p3/8/K2nq3/8

1... Qe8!! (Q~?) 2.Bxe8 dxc6 3.Ke6 cxd7 4.Ke7 dxe8=Q #

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Unexpected active sacrifice of white Queen which enables wPd5 to reborn as real Phoenix on the same square in mating move. Difficult realization preventing Queen to deliver mate somewhere.

2nd Honourable Mention
No. 28, Jorge Joaquin Lois



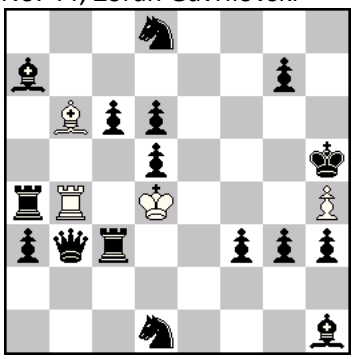
h#3.5 b)Pd4 → g4 7+13
3b1qr1/K3R1r1/2b2PB1/1p1p3P/2pPpp2/2Pkn3/2n5/8

a) 1... f7 2.Rxg6 Rxe4 3.KxRe4 fxg8=Q 4.Kf5 Qxg6 # (MM)
b) 1... fxg7 2.Bxe7 Bxe4+ 3.KxBe4 gxf8=Q 4.Ke5 Qxe7 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

In B2 black captures one of two white officers which both control e4 where the second one is actively sacrificed in W2. At the same time B2 enables white promoted Queen to reach the mating square. Economy is satisfied having in mind that there are white Rook and Bishop and a Pawn (potentially promoted to a Queen) on the board. Model mates.

3rd Honourable Mention
No. 44, Zoran Gavrilovski



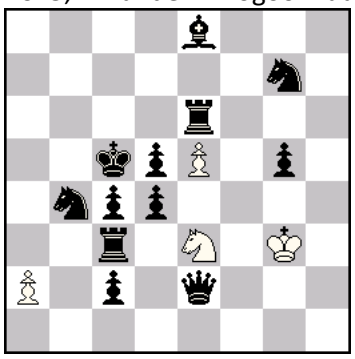
h#3.5 b)Kh5 → h2 4+16
3n4/b5p1/1Bpp4/3p3k/rR1K3P/pqr2ppp/8/3n3b

a) 1... Bc5! 2.dxc5+ Ke5 3.g6 Rb7 4.Rg4 Rh7 # (MM)
b) 1... Rc4! 2.dxc4 Ke4 3.g2 Bc7 4.Bg1 Bxd6 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Double openings of a line by active Zilahi sacrifices for white King's escapes from the line, and later another white officer leaving the same line. Good idea which costs pretty ugly forming of a twin position and all black forces. Model mates.

4th Honourable Mention
No. 5, Lkhundevin Togookhuu



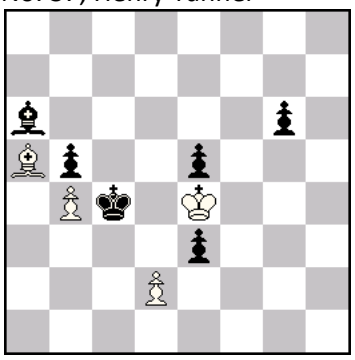
h#3.5 0.2.1.1... 4+12
4b3/6n1/4r3/2kpP1p1/1npp4/2r1N1K1/P1p1q3/8

1… a3 2.Sd3 Sg4 3.Bb5 Sf6 4.Rc6 Sd7 # (MM)
1… a4 2.d3 Sf5 3.Rb6 Sxg7 4.Bc6 Se6 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Different unpinnings of wSe3 direct solutions. Black Grimshaw with critical moves on c6. A bit artificial 6-fold cycle of change of functions between 6 pieces on squares b4, b5, c6, b6, d4, d3, which is not easy visible to a solver. Model mates.

5th Honourable Mention
No. 37, Henry Tanner



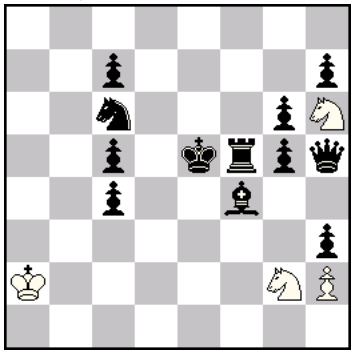
h#4 2.1.1.1... 4+6
8/8/b5p1/Bp2p3/1Pk1K3/4p3/3P4/8

1.Bc8 Bd8 2.Bg4 Bh4 3.Bd1 Be1 4.Bb3 d3 # (MM)
1.g5 Kf5 2.Kd5 d4 3.Kc6 Ke6 4.Bb7 d5 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Parallel play of Bishops in one solution and of Kings in the second one with only ten pieces. Model mates. A novelty?

1st Commendation
No. 29, Ricardo de Mattos Vieira



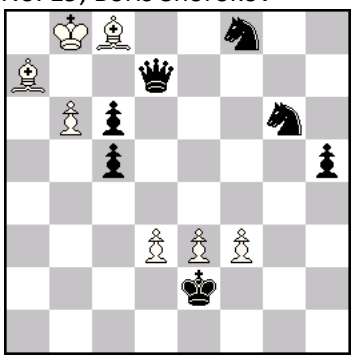
h#3.5 b)Pc5 → e4 4+12
8/2p4p/2n3pN/2p1krpq/2p2b2/7p/K5NP/8

a) 1... Sh4 2.Kd6 Sxg6 3.Rd5 Sf8 4.Be5 Sf5 # (MM)
b) 1... Sf7+ 2.Kd5 Sxg5 3.Bd6 Se6 4.Re5 Sgf4 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Black Grimshaw with critical moves on e5; bK, bR and bB exchange cyclically their final positions. Model mates.

2nd Commendation
No. 19, Boris Shorokov



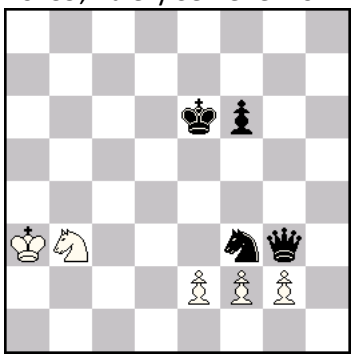
h#4 2.1.1.1... 7+7
1KB2n2/B2q4/1Pp3n1/2p4p/8/3PPP2/4k3/8

1.Qxa7+ bxa7 2.Kxd3 a8=Q 3.Kc2 Qa3 4.Kb1 Bf5# (MM)
1.Kxe3 b7 2.Qxc8+ bxc8=Q 3.Kf2 Qh3 4.Kg1 Bxc5# (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Nice passive Zilahi with b/w Phoenix and different promotions to Queen which doesn't mate at all. Chameleon echo. Some similar problems exist without mixed Phoenix, like WC673245 Y412637 P1353297. Model mates.

3rd Commendation
No. 39, Valery Semenenko



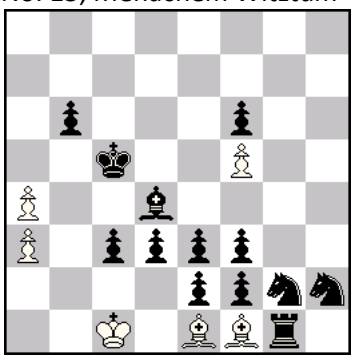
h#3.5 b)Sf3 → g4 5+4
8/8/4kp2/8/8/KN3nq1/4PPP1/8

a) 1... e4 **A** 2.Qd6+ Sc5+ **B** 3.Ke5 g3 **C** 4.Sd4 f4 # **D** (MM)
b) 1... f4 **D** 2.Qd3 g3 **C** 3.Qg6 Sc5+ **B** 4.Kf5 e4 # **A** (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Reverse order of all white moves (ABCD - DCBA). Not new (see WC715200 Y654004 with Zilahi and tempo moves; also WC713946 Y474667 P1357595) but in perfectly economic position. Model mates.

4th Commendation
No. 13, Menachem Witztum



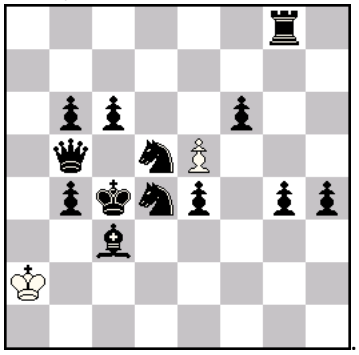
h#3.5 b)Kc5 → h5 6+13
8/8/1p3p2/2k2P2/P2b4/P1pppp2/4ppnn/2K1BBr1

a) 1... Bxc3 2.e1=S Bxd3 (Bxg2?) 3.f1=B Be4 4.Bc4 Bb4 # (MM)
b) 1... Bxf2 (Bd2?) 2.e1=B Be2 3.Sf1 Bxe3 4.Bh4 Bxf3 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Nice dual avoidances but not nice forming a twin position. Not exactly analogue play with different black promotions. Model mates.

5th Commendation
No. 8, Kenan Velikhanov



h#4 2.1.1.1... 2+13
6r1/8/1pp2p2/1q1nP3/1pknp1pp/2b5/K7/8

1.Kc5 e6 2.Qd3 e7 3.Kc4 e8=S 4.c5 Sd6 # (MM)
1.Qc5 exf6 2.Kb5 f7 3.Ka6 fxg8=Q 4.Qb5 Qa8 # (MM)

View in Helpmate Analyzer
View in Chess OLV Viewer

Reciprocal black King - Queen Klasinc combined with two different white promotions. Model mates. It was realized in one solution in WC211258 P0501353.