

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST

The best of Macedonia!

Special issue (№ 72-a)

Supplement to *The Macedonian Problemist* № 72, September – December 2023

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST LEAGUE 2023

Place	Name	Country	#2		#3		S#2-12		H#2½-3		Points total
			Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	
1.	Zoran Gavrilovski	MKD	7,8	5	1,2,6*,7	12	1,4	12	1,2,5,10	12	41
2.	Miroslav Svítek	SVK	6,10*	6	9	3	3	9	+	1	19
3.	Aleksandr Pankratiev	RUS	3,9	9	5*,r.	3.5	+	1	9*	1.5	15
4.	Ivan Soroka	UKR					2	10	3*	4.5	14.5
5.	Sven Trommler	GER	r.	1	r.	1	5	7	7	5	14
6.	Marco Guida	ITA	1,2	12							12
7.	Predrag Žuvić	CRO	5	7			10	2	r.	1	10
8.	Evgeny Gavryliv	UKR	+	1	8	4			3*,8*,9*	4.5	9.5
9.	Vidadi Zamanov	AZE	4*,10*	4	4**,6*,10*	3	8*	2	+	0.5	9.5
10.	Gennady Ignatenko	RUS			3	9					9
11.	Zoltán Labai	SVK	4*,r.	4	+	1	+	1	+	1	7
12.	Velko Aleksandrov	BUL					+	1	6	6	7
13.	Alexander Fica	CZ					6,r.	6			6
14.	Anatoly Styopochkin	RUS					7,9,r.	5			5
15-16.	János Csák	HUN							4*	4	4
15-16.	Gábor Tar	HUN							4*	4	4
17.	Yury Gorbatenko	RUS			5*	3.5				3.5	3.5
18.	Viktor Volchek	BLR			4**,10*	2.67	+	0.5			3.17
19.	Vadim Panuev	RUS	+	1	+	1	+	1			3
20.	Leonid Makaronez	ISR			4**	2.67					2.67
21-22.	Yuri Bilokin	UKR							8*	2	2
21-22.	Kostas Prentos	USA					8*	2			2
23.	Salman Javadzade	AZE	+	1					+	1	2
24-26.	Aleksey Ivunin	RUS							+	1	1
24-26.	Bela Majoros	HUN							+	1	1
24-26.	Kenan Velikhanov	AZE							+	1	1

27-30. Ivan Antipin (RUS); Jiří Jelinek (CZ); Christopher Jones (UK); Valery Kopyl (UKR) – 0.5 pts each.

31. Kabe Moen (USA) – 0 points.

Explanation of the symbols in the table

+/r. = Participation in one section or reserve: 1 point.

x = Anticipated or cooked problem: 0 points.

* = Joint problem: 1/2 (** = 1/3 etc.) of the points.

Please send your anticipation or other claims to zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com until 30 March 2024, when the awards of *TMP League 2023* will become final. The authors of the problems placed on the position of reserves are kindly asked not to publish their problems until that date.

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST LEAGUE 2023: MATE IN 2 MOVES

Judge: Pavel Murashev (Russia)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Zoltán Labai & Vidadi Zamanov – 1; Miroslav Svítek & Vidadi Zamanov – 2; Zoltán Labai & Miroslav Svítek – 3.a, 3.b; Miroslav Svítek – 4.a, 4.b; Vadim Panuev – 5; Sven Trommler – 6; Marco Guida – 7, 8; Vidadi Zamanov – 9; Salman Javadzade – 10; Kabe Moen – 11; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 12, 13, 14; Predrag Žuvić – 15; Zoltán Labai – 16; Zoran Gavrilovski – 17, 18, 19, 20 (after Gavrilovski)

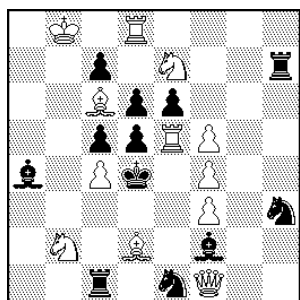
AWARD

I received 20 problems (and versions of two problems) in an anonymous form. In general, the overall level of the competition is not very strong (probably this is the cost of the “all-around” type of the tourney), but the 1st place is an excellent problem and interesting ideas were also encountered in other problems.

Ten problems are included in the award, which was revised upon anticipation claim concerning *Nes 11* and *19*. Among the problems which are not included in the top-10 are the following problems:

- *Nes 3.a, 3.b* (♔b3/♙d4, ♘d7/♙d4): The problem is good, but the idea has been encountered many times, and several complete predecessors exist: Wieland Bruch, 2nd Pr. *Diagrammes* 1993 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#233991>); and Rainer Paslack, *Problemblad* 1999 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#248847>).
- *Nes 5* (♙g7/♙e6): Unfortunately, this multi-phase problem with change of the functions of moves does not work well, because of a rude refutation with capture of the white moving piece, which looks completely non-aesthetic. And a beautiful solution has already been found for such a content: Alfréd Hochberger, 3rd Pr. *Die Schwalbe* 15th T.T. 1932 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#371689>).
- *Nes 6* (♙h4/♙d5): Not enough content for a modern #2. Therefore, the problem is placed in the position of a 2nd reserve.
- *Nes 9* (♙d7/♙d5): The author claimed that this problem shows the *Somov* theme. However, the *Somov* theme does not exist here because there is no interference with a line of a white piece on the mating move.
- *Nes 10* (♙h1/♙d5): Tries with capture of black units at the W1 move and capturing refutations of the tries are not aesthetic, to put it mildly. And the solution with zugzwang, and the complete preparation of the content before the key is not impressive.
- *Nes 11* (♙h5/♙e4): Marco Guida, 4th Pr. *Československo – 100* 2018 is a strong predecessor given that, in spite of the other defences, the basic Tertiary Threat Correction idea is completely identical. The older problem has a fewer pieces and *Hannelius* theme, which is much better.
- *Nes 13* (♙f1/♙f5): Unintelligible tries and solution with unpinning, but only one decent mate with self-pinning – everything else is rough.
- *Nes 16* (♙g6/♙d4): The thematic content is shown by flight-taking W1 moves, so the problem is ranked as a 1st reserve.
- *Nes 19* (♙d1/♙f4): Anticipated by Viktor Melnichenko & Valentin Rudenko, 11th Pl. Match Yugoslavia – USSR 1977, which has even richer content.
- *Nes 20* (♙g2/♙e4, after Z. Gavrilovski): Compared to the original, almost nothing has changed (3 pieces less), except interchanging the try and solution, and decreasing the thematic content.

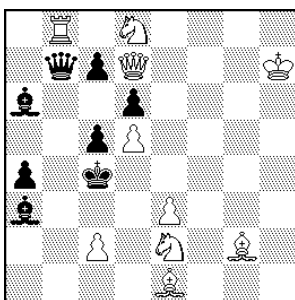
1st Place
№ 7 – Marco Guida



#2 ♚ ♚ 12+12

1. ♟:d5? (2. ♖e4#) e:f5!
1... d:e5 x 2. ♞e7#
1... ♚c2 y 2. ♚c3#
1... e:d5 2. ♖:d5#
1... ♜g5 2. ♖:f2#
1... ♞:f3 2. ♖d3#
1. c:d5? (2. ♖e4#) c4!
1... d:e5 x 2. d:e6#
1... ♚c2 y 2. ♖c4#
1... e:d5 2. ♖:d5#
1... e:f5 2. ♞:f5#
1... ♜g5 2. ♖:f2#
1... ♞:f3 2. ♖d3#
1. ♚:d5! (2. ♖e4#)
1... d:e5 x 2. ♚c6#
1... ♚c2 y 2. ♞c6#
1... e:d5 2. ♖:d5#
1... e:f5 2. ♞:f5#
1... ♜g5 2. ♖:f2#

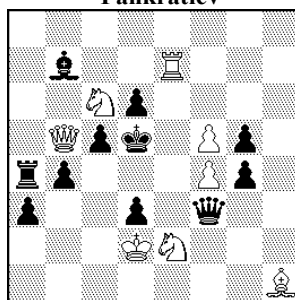
2nd Place
№ 8 – Marco Guida



#2 ♚ ♚ 10+8

1. ♞f4? A (2. ♚f1# B)
1... ♖:d5 x 2. ♚:d5#
1... ♖b3! y
1. ♞c3? C (2. ♖g4#, ♚f1+?)
1... ♖c8 2. ♚f1# B
1... ♖:d5 x 2. ♚:d5#[♚f1+?]
1... ♖b4 2. ♖:a4#
1... c6!
1. ♚f1! B (2. ♞f4# A, ♞c3+?)
1... ♖b3 y 2. ♞c3# C
1... ♖:d5 x 2. ♞d4#
1... ♜:d5 2. ♖e6#

3rd Place
№ 12 – Aleksandr
Pankratiev



#2 * ♚ ♚ 8+11

- 1... ♖e4 2. ♚:e4#
[1. f:g5? (2. ♞f4#)
1... ♚:c6 2. ♖:d3# B
1... ♖g2 2. ♚:g2#
1... b3 2. ♞c3#
1... d:e2!]
1. ♖e6?, 1. ♖e3? (2. ♞e7# A)
1... ♚:c6 2. ♖:d3# B
1... d:e2!
1. ♖c7? (2. ♖:d3# B)
1... b3 2. ♞c3#
1... ♚a6!
1. ♚e4! (2. ♖d4#)
1... ♖:e4 2. ♞e7# A
1... ♜:e4 2. ♖:d3# B
1... ♖:e2+ 2. ♖:e2#
1... ♖e3+ 2. ♖:e3#
1... ♖:f4+ 2. ♖:f4#
1... b3 2. ♞c3#

1st Place: № 7 – Marco Guida

Zagoruiko 3 x 2 with formation of 3 different masked batteries and 2 switchbacks. This may have been made earlier, but the problem looks great and, despite 24 pieces, the position does not look crowded.

2nd Place: № 8 – Marco Guida

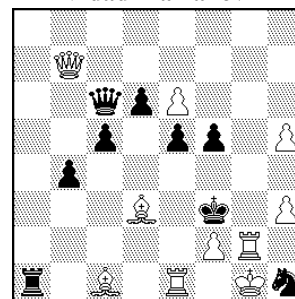
According to the author, the problem shows extended *Urania* theme (declared by him as a new idea), with *anti-Urania* in the threat and the variation mate. However, if one can accept fully that the threat involves a clear anti-dual, the thematic variation mate fails not because of weakening caused by the W1 move, but because of the fact that the black queen controls the line – the anti-dual is normal, not paradoxical, which somewhat levels out the author's basic idea. But the idea itself is interesting, and the W1 moves which give a square to the black king enrich the problem. In addition, there is *pseudo-Salazar* theme and exchange of the W1 move and the threat.

3rd Place: № 12 – Aleksandr Pankratiev

Nevska theme in synthesis with *Shedey* theme, choice of the W1 move, spectacular unpinning

of the black queen in the solution, and two pin mates after black self-pinning moves. One try is incomprehensible, adding nothing to the idea except a crude refutation by capturing the threatening piece. The problem would look better without showing this try.

4th Place
№ 1 – Zoltán Labai &
Vidadi Zamanov



#2 * ♚ ♚ 10+9

- 1... ♖e4 x 2. ♚e2# A
1. ♖g4? (2. ♚e2# A, ♖e3# B)
1... f:g4 2. ♖f7# C
1... f4! y
1. ♖h7? (2. ♖:f5#)
1... f4 y 2. ♚e2# A
1... ♖e4! x
1. ♖f7! C (2. ♖:f5#)
1... ♖e4 x 2. ♚:e4#
1... f4 y 2. ♖e3# A
1... ♞g3 2. ♖:g3#

4th Place: № 1 – Zoltán Labai & Vidadi Zamanov

The thematic content of this #2 is not very rich for a modern problem – *Dombrovskis* with a double threat and *Shedey* theme. But it is interesting that White unpins the black queen twice and there are two pin mates in the solution.

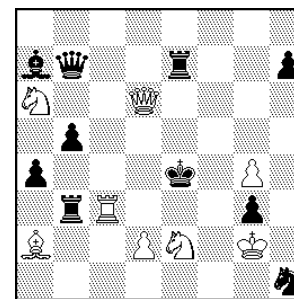
5th Place: № 15 – Predrag Žuvić

Pseudo le Grand, with 2 x 4 free change (after different black defences) of mates, and geometry that works like a well-oiled clock.

6th Place: № 4.a – Miroslav Svíték

This #2 shows the 11th WCCT theme with choice of the white 1st move and White combinations. Nothing new, W1 move by a white knight, banal defences by a rook and bishop with banal mates (after unguard or interference), but this is still a well-constructed problem.

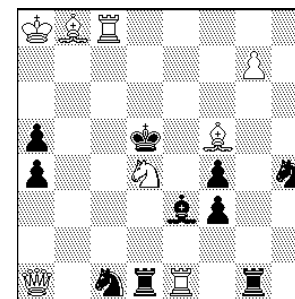
5th Place
№ 15 – Predrag Žuvić



#2 ♚ 8+10

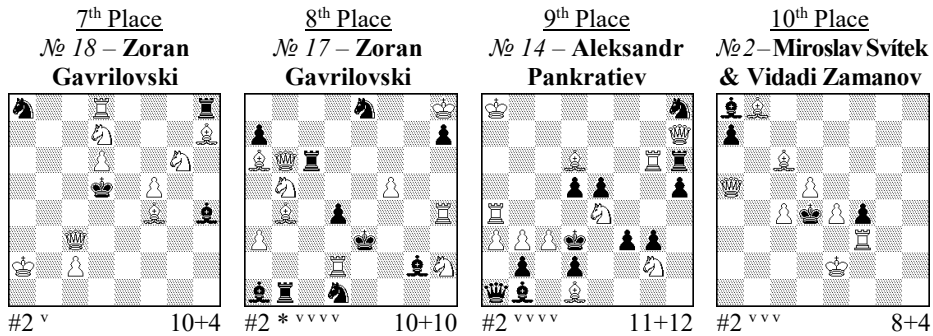
1. ♖c5? (2. ♖d4# A)
1... ♖d3 2. ♖f4# B
1... ♖b4 2. ♞c3#
1... ♖d7 2. ♖e5#
1... ♖d5 2. ♖:d5#
1... ♚:c5 2. ♞:c5#
1... ♖d7!
1. ♞b4! (2. ♖f4# B)
1... ♚b8 2. ♖d4# A
1... ♚e3 2. d3#
1... ♖b8, ♖c7 2. ♖d5#
1... ♖f7 2. ♖e6#
1... ♖e5 2. ♖d3#

6th Place
№ 4.a – Miroslav Svíték



#2 ♚ ♚ ♚ ♚ 8+10

1. ♞c2? (2. ♖e5#) ♖d4!
1... ♚d4 2. ♚e6#
1. ♞e2? (2. ♖e5#) ♚c5! x
1... ♖d4/♚d4/♞d3 y/♞g6 z
2. ♞c3# ♞:f4# ♖a2# ♞g8 ♖(♚)#
1. ♞b3? (2. ♖e5#) ♞d3! y
1... ♖d4/♚d4/♞g6 z
2. ♖c5# ♚c6# ♞g8 ♖(♚)#
1... ♚c5 x 2. ♖:c5#, ♚e6#
1. ♞e6? (2. ♖e5#) ♞g6! z
1... ♖d4/♚d4/♚c5 x/♞d3 y
2. ♖c5# ♞:f4# ♖:c5# ♖a2#
1. ♞b5! (2. ♖e5#)
1... ♖d4 2. ♞c3#
1... ♚d4, ♚c5 x 2. ♚e6#
1... ♞d3 y 2. ♖a2#
1... ♞g6 z 2. ♞g8 ♖(♚)#



- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>1. ♘e5? (2. ♖c4# A, 2. ♖d3+? B ♖c5!)</p> <p>1... ♗e4 2. ♖d3# B</p> <p>1... ♗b6!</p> <p>1. ♘g5! (2. ♖d3# B, 2. ♖c4+? A ♗:d6!)</p> <p>1... ♗e4 2. ♖c4# A</p> <p>1... ♗:d6 2. ♖c5#</p> <p>1... ♗f2 2. ♘f6#</p> | <p>1... ♗b2a, ♗c3x 2. ♖d4# A</p> <p>1... ♗c4 b, ♗c2y 2. ♖h6#</p> <p>1. ♘b5-? (2. ♗e2#) ♗f1! c</p> <p>1. ♘c3? (2. ♗e2#, ♖:d4# A)</p> <p>1... ♗c4 2. ♖h6#</p> <p>1... ♗:d2!</p> <p>1. ♘:d4? (2. ♗e2#)</p> <p>1... ♗b2a 2. ♘c2# [2. ♖:d4??]</p> <p>1... ♗c4 b, ♗c2y 2. ♖h6#</p> <p>1... ♗f1 c, ♗f3 2. ♘(:)f1#</p> <p>1... ♗:d4+ 2. ♖:d4# A</p> <p>1... ♗c3! x</p> <p>1. ♘d6? (2. ♗e2#)</p> <p>1... ♗b2a, ♗c3x 2. ♖d4# A</p> <p>1... ♗c4b 2. ♘c4# [2. ♖h6??]</p> <p>1... ♗f1 c 2. ♗e4#</p> <p>1... ♗f3 2. ♘f1#</p> <p>1... ♗c2! y</p> <p>1. ♘c7! (2. ♗e2#)</p> <p>1... ♗b2a, ♗c3x 2. ♖:d4# A</p> <p>1... ♗c4 b, ♗c2y 2. ♖h6#</p> <p>1... ♗f1 c 2. ♘d5#</p> <p>1... ♗f3 2. ♘f1#</p> | <p>1. ♗:e5? A (2. ♘c5#, ♗d4#)</p> <p>1... f:g2 2. ♗:g3# B</p> <p>1... d:e4 y 2. ♖d7# C</p> <p>1... ♗:a3!</p> <p>1. ♗:g3? B (2. ♗:f3#)</p> <p>1... ♗f6!</p> <p>1. ♖a7? (2. ♖c3#, ♖a6#)</p> <p>1... f:g2 2. ♗:g3# B</p> <p>1... d4!</p> <p>1. ♖d7? C (2. ♖b5#)</p> <p>1... f:g2 2. ♗:g3# B</p> <p>1... d:e4 y 2. ♗:e5# A, ♗b4# D</p> <p>1... d4!</p> <p>1. ♗b4! D (2. ♘c5#)</p> <p>1... ♗:e4 2. ♗g4#</p> <p>1... f:g2 2. ♗:g3# B</p> <p>1... d:e4 y 2. ♖d7# C</p> | <p>1. e5? A (2. ♗:f4# B)</p> <p>1... ♗:c4 x 2. ♖c3#</p> <p>1... ♗e4! y</p> <p>1. ♗:f4? B (2. e5# A)</p> <p>1... ♗:c4! x</p> <p>1. ♖b4? C (2. c5# D)</p> <p>1... ♗:e4 y 2. ♗:f4# B</p> <p>1... a5!</p> <p>1. c5! D (2. ♖b4# C)</p> <p>1... ♗c4 x 2. ♖c3#</p> <p>1... ♗:e4 y 2. ♗:f4# B</p> |
|---|---|--|--|

7th Place: Nº 18 – Zoran Gavrilovski
A banal *le Grand*, often found in miniatures. But the *Sushkov* theme with a homogeneous idea in the white introductory moves is a good addition to the content.

8th Place: Nº 17 – Zoran Gavrilovski
White correction with change of 3 mates and *Bartolović* theme. Alas, it fails to live up to either *Velimirović* attack or *Zagoruiko*; the rest is a banal content with many repetitions and black duals.

9th Place: Nº 14 – Aleksandr Pankratiev
Double *Salazar* with dual mates. Very controversial, and a lot of repetitions.

10th Place: Nº 2 – Miroslav Svíték & Vidadi Zamanov
The content is sufficiently rich (pseudo *Salazar*, *Urania*, *Dombrovskis* paradox), but the play resembles a play in a miniature, because of the flight-taking first move in the try, owing to which it was possible to show the thematic content.

1st reserve: Nº 16 (♔g6/♚d4) – **Zoltán Labai**
It shows *Urania* theme by means of taking away a free square from the black king. Although the author refers to *Dombrovskis* paradox, it is dubious whether the play is indeed paradoxical!?

2nd reserve: Nº 6 (♔h4/♚d5) – **Sven Trommler**
Only the *Zhuk* theme, and nothing more – not enough for a modern #2.

I thank all the participants and the Tourney Director. I wish them all the best, creative and sport successes.

Pavel Murashev, International judge of the FIDE for chess compositions,
07.12.2023 (revised on 04.01.2024 and 18.01.2024)

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST LEAGUE 2023: MATE IN 3 MOVES
Judge: *Aleksandr Sygurov* (Russia)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Leonid Makaronez, Viktor Volchek & Vidadi Zamanov – 1; Miroslav Svíték – 2, 3, 4; Vadim Panuev – 5; Zoltán Labai – 6; Sven Trommler – 7; Gennady Ignatenko – 8; Vidadi Zamanov – 9; Evgeny Gavryliv – 10; Vidadi Zamanov & Viktor Volchek – 11; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 12; Aleksandr Pankratiev & Yury Gorbatenko – 13; Zoran Gavrilovski – 14, 15, 16; Vidadi Zamanov & Zoran Gavrilovski – 17

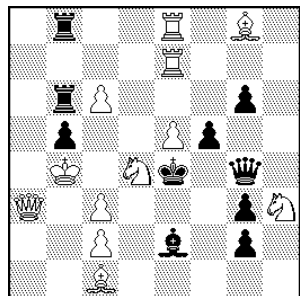
AWARD

The following problems are not included in the award:

- Nº 2 (♔f7/♚e5): There is no genuine variation allowing 2. ♗d6+ because this move is a pseudo-threat.
- Nº 4 (♔c2/♚c5): It repeats the scheme and play of problem Nº 3, but the quality of the play is worse, and there are many repetitions of the second white moves.
- Nº 5 (♔b8/♚d5): A dual with promotion of a white pawn into three different pieces is unacceptable; in the three-move genre, where a dual transformation into paired linear pieces with the same properties is not considered as a big weakness: ♖(♗) – a mate on a diagonal line or ♖(♗) – a mate on a lateral/orthogonal line. The scheme is quite simple and the need for the ♔f7/♗g8 battery raises questions.
- Nº 6 (♔b6/♚e4): the play in the tries 1. ♘e2? and 1. ♘h3? is repeated, while the try 1. ♗e5? ♗:e5! is unacceptable. The play in the solution is well-known, given that similar play has been shown in miniatures quite often.
- Nº 7 (♔g1/♚d4): The problem is original to some extent, but I as a judge cannot include it in the award due to the existence of some more interesting problems which use a similar mechanism, such as: Aleksandr Kuzovkov, 1st Pr. *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsiya* 2007 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#yacpdb321719>); Aleksandr Kuzovkov, 1st Pr. *Milan Velimirović MT* 2016 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#479252>); Aleksandr Kuzovkov, 64 – *Shakhmatnoe obozrenie* 2018 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#479251>); and Vladimir Kozhakin, *Comm. Olympic tourney* 2018 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#482306>).
- Nº 12 (♔g6/♚d4): This unremarkable problem has a well-known battery play and numerous captures of black pieces on the second or mating moves

The remaining twelve problems are ranked in the award as stated below.

1st Place
№ 16 – Zoran Gavrilovski



#3 12+10

1. ♖e6!! (2. ♗eg5+ ♔:g5
3. ♗:g5#)
1...f4 2. ♗c5+ ♔f5/♔f3
3. ♖f7#/♗d5#
1...♗d5+ 2. ♗f4++ ♔e4, ♔:c6
3. ♗d5#/♗d5#
1...♔:e5+ 2. ♗d4+ ♔d6, ♔f6
3. ♖d7#/♖f7#
1...♔f3+ 2. c4+ ♔e4, ♗d3
3. ♖e3#/♖:d3#

1st Place: № 16 – Zoran Gavrilovski

It was often written about such problems that they are the absolute favorite of the respective competitions. I know only two problems showing the cross-checks theme where, on the first move, the black king is given three free squares at once – Aleksandr Bakharev, 2nd Pr. *Aleksandr Grin – 70 JT* 1983 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#84956>) and Sergey Abramenko, *Problemblad* 1998 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#336919>). Closer to № 16 is the threemover by Aleksandr Kuzovkov, 3rd Pr. *Die Schwalbe* 1994 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#226784>) – the play in two variations of the actual phase coincides. The above does not at all detract from the merits of № 16, especially since there are differences in the schemes of all the aforementioned problems.

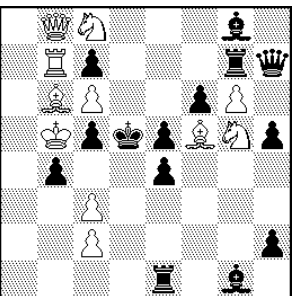
2nd Place: № 15 – Zoran Gavrilovski

The synthesis of the *Bristol* theme and *Novotny* interference has been known for a long time, but has relatively few implementations. The most famous is probably the threemover by Milan Vukcevic, 1st Pr. *Stošić MT* 1982 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#100917>). If I were the author, I would not single out the play of the threat and the variation 1...b:c3 2. ♖a2+ as a “second pair”, because this is too elementary and there are no artistic moments in this “pair”. Unfortunately, the introductory move is non-impressive.

3rd Place: № 8 – Gennady Ignatenko

Since the variations are not united by common black or white tactics, I will take the risk of offering the author my own concept of the relationship between the variations. The problem implements a monkey theme, because in response to three defenses by Black on the first move on the e4 square, White on the second moves goes to the “c” line – to the squares c4, c5 and c7. Simply put, the monkey theme with a square/line mechanism in the play of the black/white pieces. For even greater expression and formal completeness of the idea, it is necessary that in the variation 1...♗:e4 the white piece also gives a mate from the square d6.

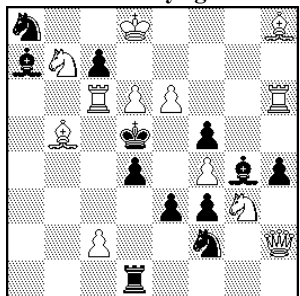
2nd Place
№ 15 – Zoran Gavrilovski



#3 11+14

1. ♖a7! (2. ♗:c5 A ~ 3. c4#,
2...♗:c5 3. ♖:c5#
2...b:c3 x 3. ♖a2# B)
1...b:c3 x 2. ♖a2+ B
2...♗d4 3. ♗:c5# A
2...c4 y 3. ♖:c4#
1...c4 y 2. ♗e3 (3. ♖c5#, ♗:e4#)
2...♖:e3/♗:e3 3. ♖c5#/♗:e4#
1...c:b6 2. ♖f7 (3. ♖d7#, ♗e6#)
2...♗:f7/♖:f7 3. ♖d7#/♗e6#

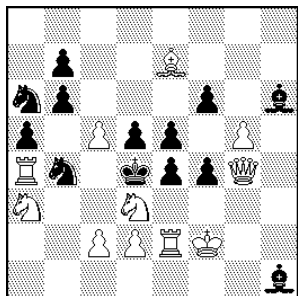
3rd Place
№ 8 – Gennady Ignatenko



#3 12+12

1. d:c7? A (2. ♖d6#) h:g3!
1. ♗e4! (2. ♗f6+ ♔:e6 3. ♗c4#)
1...♗:e4 2. c4+ d:c3 e.p.
3. ♖a2#
1...♔:e4 2. ♖c5 B (3. ♗c6#,
3. ♖e5#) 2...c:d6 3. ♗:d6#
1...f:e4 2. d:c7 A (3. ♖d6#)
2...♗c5 [2...♗:e4??] 3. ♖c5# B
1...♗b6 2. ♖c5+ ♔:e4 3. ♖e5#

4th Place
№ 1 – Leonid Makaronez,
Viktor Volchek &
Vidadi Zamanov



#3 11+13

1. ♖e1? (2. c3+ ♔:d3 3. ♖e2#)
1...♗f3!
1. ♗e1? (2. ♗f2 ~ 3. c3#)
1...♗:c5!
1. ♗g1! (2. ♗f2 ~ 3. c3#)
1...♗:c5 a 2. ♗:f4 (3. c3#)
2...e:f4 3. ♗:f6#
2...e3, ♗:a4 3. ♗e6#
1...♗f8 2. ♖:f4 (3. ♖e3#)
2...e:f4 3. ♗:f6#
1...e3 2. ♖:e3! ~ 3. c3#
1...♗c7 2. ♗:b4! (3. c3#, ♗b~#)
2...a:b4 3. ♖:b4#

4th Place: № 1 – Leonid Makaronez, Viktor Volchek & Vidadi Zamanov

Sacrifices on the square f4 with anti-dual play. Unfortunately, the immediate 1. ♗:f4? has two refutations. The difficulty of finding a proper reply to the moves by ♗b4 was not solved entirely successfully, but still the use of the white rook a4 is acceptable.

5th Place: № 13 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Yury Gorbatenko

Variations with sacrifices by white pieces. The motives are well-known. Only the variation 1...e:d5 2. ♖5c4+ with *Keller* paradox is of some interest! I would like to see another similar variation.

6th Place: № 17 – Vidadi Zamanov & Zoran Gavrilovski

Creation and play by three white batteries, and black correction.

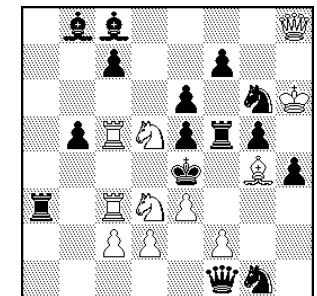
7th Place: № 14 – Zoran Gavrilovski

Opening and closure of lines and exchange of mates. By modern standards it is too simple; at least a 2nd pair of variations is needed. Compare with: Mikhail Marandiyuk, 3rd Comm. *StrateGems* 2010 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#325269>); and Arieh Grinblat, 2nd H.M. *Šachová skladba* 2014 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#396274>) – *pseudo le Grand* theme and reappearance of white thematic moves.

8th Place: № 10 – Evgeny Gavryliv

A three-phase change of play, but the idea doesn't seem completed. In such schemes the use of the white material is sometimes a weakness and, indeed, the rook after arrival to c7 is not needed

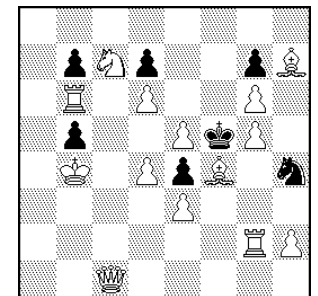
5th Place
№ 13 – Aleksandr Pankratiev
& Yury Gorbatenko



#3 11+15

1. ♖f6! (2. ♖:f5+ e:f5 3. ♗f6#)
1...♖f4 2. ♖:f4+ e:f4, g:f4
3. ♗f6#
1...♖f3 2. ♖:f3+ ♗:f3
3. ♗f6#
1...♗e7 2. ♖:e5+ ♖:e5
3. ♗f6#
1...♖a6 2. ♖3c4+ b:c4
3. ♗c3#
1...e:d5 2. ♖5c4+ b:c4/d:c4
3. ♗c5#, ♖c6#
1...♖:f2, ♖:f2 2. ♗:f2+
2...♖:f2, ♖:f2 3. d3#

6th Place
№ 17 – Vidadi Zamanov &
Zoran Gavrilovski



#3 14+7

1. ♖g3! (zugzwang)
1...♗g2 2. ♖f1! (zugzwang)
2...♗g2~ ♗:e3/♗:f4
3. ♖h3#/♗:e3#/♖:f4#
1...♗f3 2. ♖c5! (zugzwang)
2...♗f3~ ♗:e5 3. e6#/♖:e5#
1...♗:g6 2. ♖:b5 b6 3. e6#

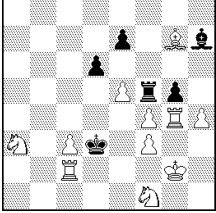
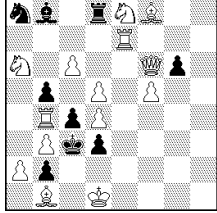
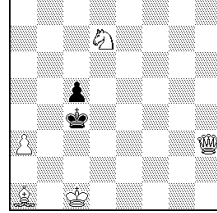
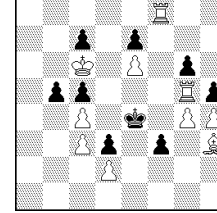
any more (apart from closing a black line) and can be replaced, for example, by a white pawn on the same square and the actual variations will remain the same. This is a significant drawback.

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST LEAGUE 2023: SELFMATE IN 2-N MOVES

Judge: Hartmut Laue (Germany)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Kostas Prentos & Vidadi Zamanov – 1; Jiří Jelinek & Miroslav Svítek – 2; Miroslav Svítek – 3; Vadim Panuev – 4; Sven Trommler – 5; Anatoly Styopochkin – 6, 7, 8; Alexander Fica – 9, 10, 13; Viktor Volchek & Vidadi Zamanov – 11; Velko Aleksandrov – 12; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 14, 15, 16, 17, 18; Zoltán Labai – 19; Predrag Žuvić – 20; Ivan Soroka – 21, 22; Zoran Gavrilovski – 23, 24

<p>7th Place № 14 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>#3 ♖ 11+6</p> <p>1. ♘h2? (2. ♖gg2 ~ 3. ♖gd2#) 1... ♗:c5! 1. ♘h1! (2. ♖gg2 ~ 3. ♖gd2#) 1... ♗:e5 2.f5 (3. ♖d4#A) 2... ♖d5(♗c4) 3. ♖d2#B [2.f.g5? ♘e4!] 1... ♗:f4 2.e6 (3. ♖d2#B) 2... ♖f6(♗d4) 3. ♖:d4#A [2.e:d6? e5!]</p>	<p>8th Place № 10 – Evgeny Gavryliv</p>  <p>#3 ♖ ♖ 14+9</p> <p>1. ♖d7? (2. ♗:c4+ b:c4 3. ♘b4#) 1... ♘d6 a 2. ♗:d6 C (3. ♗:b5#A, ♗e4#B) 2... ♗:c7, ♖b8 3. ♗c4#B 1...c:b3 b 2. ♗:b3+ ♗c4 3. ♘:d3# 1... ♘e5! 1. ♖e4? (2. ♗:c4+ b:c4 3. ♘b4#) 1...c:b3 b 2. ♖c3 ~ 3. ♖:d3# 1... ♖d6c 2. ♖g5 D ~ 3. ♖d2# 1... ♘d6! a 1. ♖c7! (2. ♗:c4+ b:c4 3. ♘b4#) 1...c:b3 b 2. ♖g5 D ~ 3. ♖d2# 1... ♖d6c 2. ♗:d6 C (3. ♗:b5#A, ♗e4#B) 2... ♗:f5, ♖e8 3. ♗:b5#A 2... ♗:c7 3. ♗e4#B</p>	<p>9th Place № 3 – Miroslav Svítek</p>  <p>#3 ♖ ♖ ♖ 5+2</p> <p>1. ♖g2? (zugzwang) 1... ♗b3 a 2. ♗b6 ~ 3. ♖b2# 1... ♗d3 b 2. ♗e5+ 2... ♗e3 3. ♖f3# 1... ♗b5! c 1. ♖h5? (zugzwang) 1... ♗d3 b 2. ♗e5+ 2... ♗e3, ♗e4 3. ♖f3# 1... ♗b5 c 2. ♖:c5+ 2... ♗a4 3. ♖b4# 2... ♗a6 3. ♖b6# 1... ♗b3! a 1. ♖c3? (zugzwang) 1... ♗b5 c 2. ♖:c5+ 2... ♗a4 3. ♖b4# 2... ♗a6 3. ♖b6# 1... ♗d5! d 1. ♗b8! (zugzwang) 1... ♗b5 c 2. ♖b3+ ♗a5 3. ♘c3# 1... ♗d5 d 2. ♖d3+ ♗e6 3. ♖d7#</p>	<p>10th Place № 11 – Vidadi Zamanov & Viktor Volchek</p>  <p>#3 ♖ 10+9</p> <p>1. ♖:c5? (zz) b4! 1. ♖d5! (zugzwang) 1... b4 2. ♘f1 ~ 3. ♘:d3# 1... b:c4 2.g5 (zz) f2 3. ♘g2# 1...g5 2. ♖ff5 ~ 3. ♖de5# 1...h:g4 2. ♘:g4 ~ 3. ♘:f3#</p>
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9th Place: № 3 – Miroslav Svítek

The content is expanded in three phases which all together include star-flights by the black king. There are repetitions of W2 moves between the tries, which blurs the change of play.

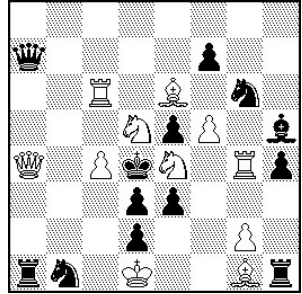
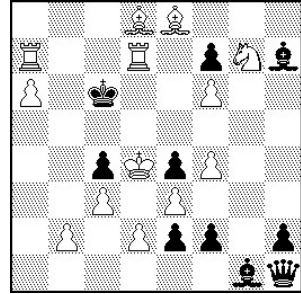
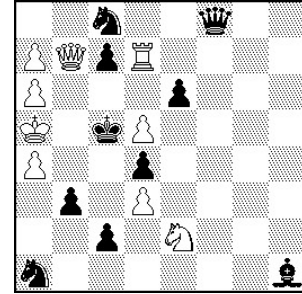
10th Place: № 11 – Vidadi Zamanov & Viktor Volchek

Four non-dualistic variations with quiet play by White. The black pawn c7 is superfluous (it can be avoided by moving the white rook from g5 to d5 and ♗e6 to e5, following which the problem would be solved by 1.e6!, and there would be a try: 1.g5? e6!).

1st Reserve: № 7 (♗g1/♗d4) – Sven Trommler

2nd Reserve: № 12 (♗g6/♗d4) – Aleksandr Pankratiev

AWARD

<p>1st Place № 24 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>S#3 11+13</p> <p>1. ♖d6! (♗f4+ ♗:e4 3. ♗:g6+ ♘:g4#) 1...f:e6 2. ♗b4+ ♗:c4 3. ♗a2+ ♗:a4# 1... ♖b8, ♗c7, ♗d7, ♗e7, ♗a6, ♗b6, ♗c5(♗a8, ♗b7, ♗a5, ♗e7) 2. ♗:e3+ 2... ♖:d6 (♗d5, ♗d5) 3. ♗:(:)d5+ ♗:g1#</p>	<p>2nd Place № 21 – Ivan Soroka</p>  <p>S#11 ♖ 13+10</p> <p>1. ♗e5? (2. ♖d6+ ♗c5 3.d4+ 3...e:d3 e.p. 4. ♖d5+ ♗:d5#, 3...c:d3! e.p.) 1. ♖e7+ ♗d6 2. ♖ad7+ ♗c6 3. ♖b7+! ♗d6 4. ♖ed7+ ♗c6 5. ♗e5!! ♗c5 6. ♖d6! ~ 7.b4+! c:b3 e.p. 8. ♖b5+ 8... ♗c4 9. ♖b4+ ♗c5 10.d4+ e:d3 e.p. 11. ♖d5+ ♗:d5#</p>	<p>3rd Place № 3 – Miroslav Svítek</p>  <p>S#3 9+10</p> <p>1. ♗c1! (2. ♖b6+ ♗:b6 3. ♗:b3+ ♗:b3#) 1... ♘:d5 2. ♖:c7+ ♘c6 3. ♗:b3+ ♗:b3# 1...e:d5 2. ♖a8 ~ 3. ♗:b3+ ♗:b3# 1... ♗d6 2. ♖b5+ ♗:b5 3. ♗:b3+ ♗:b3# 1... ♗d6 2. ♖c6+ ♗:c6 3. ♗:b3+ ♗:b3#</p>
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1st Place: № 24 – Zoran Gavrilovski

The threat and the variation 1...f:e6 show analogous and original battery play. Flight-giving discovered checks lead to new batteries whose rear pieces are captured on the mating move. The latter is also the case if Black parries the threat by disturbing the white battery line, a defence motive that allows 2. ♗:e3+ (inversion of motive), with a concluding switchback.

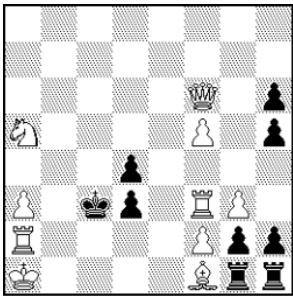
2nd Place: № 21 – Ivan Soroka

After 1. ♗e5?, the main obstacle against the threat 2. ♖d6+ ♗c5 3.d4+? is not just 3...c:d3 e.p., as this could be avoided by inserting 3.b4+ c:b3 e.p. However, the flight that then arises causes the first four moves as a first foreplan, shifting the ♖a7 to b7, which allows to gain control over c4 by moves 8 and 9. An impressive program of successive plans, involving en passant play. The role of ♗g7, the use of a promoted bishop and the lack of any serious defence after 5. ♗e5!! detract a little from the good impression.

3rd Place: № 3 – Miroslav Svítek

Defences by two different units on d5 and on d6. The ♖ visits five different squares on the W2 move. Fine harmony, unfortunately with a monotonous conclusion.

4th Place
№ 23 – Zoran Gavrilovski



S#3 * 10+9

- 1...g:f1 ♖2. ♖a6
- (3. ♖:d3+, ♖:d3+) ♖:g3
3. ♖:d3+ ♖:d3#
- 1...g:f1 ♜2. ♖:h6
- (3. ♖:d2+ ♜:d2#) ♜:g3+
3. ♖c1+ ♖:c1#
- 1. ♖h4!** (zugzwang)
- 1...g:f1 ♖2. ♖e4!
- (3. ♖:d3+ ♖:d3#) ♖~+
3. ♖e1+ ♖:e1#
- 1...g:f1 ♜2. ♖f4!
- (3. ♖:d2+ ♜:d2#) ♜:g3+
3. ♖c1+ ♖:c1#

4th Place: № 23 – Zoran Gavrilovski

There exist numerous examples with changed play after battery-forming minor black promotions, but here we have a harmonious uniform character with fourfold quiet play by the ♖ on the W2 moves, three of them allowing a black check. The changed play after 1...g:f1 ♖ is more interesting than that after 1...g:f1 ♜.

5th Place: № 5 – Sven Trommler

White's threat is to exploit the black half-battery, which is turned into a battery as a defence. This is certainly interesting, but move repetitions between the threat and the line 1...♖:b2, lack of strategic unity, unsatisfactory role of ♖b3 cannot go unmentioned.

6th Place: № 10 – Alexander Fica

Pleasant Forsberg twins with good model mates.

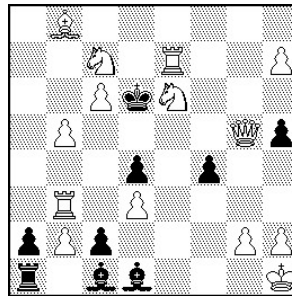
7th Place: № 7 – Anatoly Styopochkin

The removal of the obstacle (♙g4) against the attractive main plan is beautifully arranged, involving a triangle walk of the ♖. The basic pendulum mechanism has been used in extremely many problems in the past, which prevents a higher placement.

8th Place: № 1 – Kostas Prentos & Vidadi Zamanov

Neatly constructed mirrored mates.

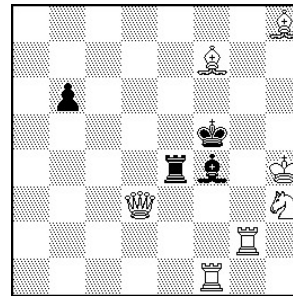
5th Place
№ 5 – Sven Trommler



S#5 14+9

- 1. ♖f6!** (2. ♗a6+ ♖d5
3. ♗:f4+! ♖:f4 4. ♖f5+
- 4...♖e5 5. ♖f3+ ♖:f3#)
- 1...♖:b2 2. ♗a8+ ♖d5
3. ♗:f4+ ♖c5 4. ♗e6+
- 4...♖d5 5. ♖f3+ ♖:f3#
- 1...♖f3, ♖g4 2. ♖:d4+ ♖:e7
3. ♖g7+ ♖d6 4. ♖f8+
- 4...♖e5 5. ♖:f4+ ♖:f4#
- [2...♖d5? 3. ♖b4+ ♖e5
4. ♖:f4+ ♖:f4#]

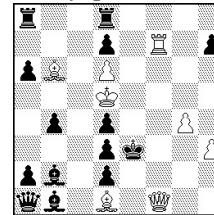
6th Place
№ 10 – Alexander Fica



S#5 b) ♖f4=♜f4 7+4

- a) **1. ♖f3!**, 1...~(b5)
2. ♖(:)b5+ ♖e5 3. ♖g5+
- 3...♖e4 4. ♖c4+ ♖:f3
5. ♖g3+ ♖:g3#
- b) **1. ♖g8!** 1...~(b5)
2. ♖f8 b4 3. ♖g8+ ♖g6
4. ♖g3+ ♖h6 5. ♖f6+
- 5...♜g6#

7th Place
№ 7 – Anatoly Styopochkin



S#11 ♖ ♖ 8+14

1. ♖:d4+? ♖:d4 2. ♖e7+
- 2...♖e5 3. ♖g1+ ♖f4
4. ♖g4??
- 1.g5? (2. ♖:d4+ ♖:d4
3. ♖e7+ ♖e5 4. ♖g1+
- 4...♖f4 5. ♖g4+ ♖e3
6. ♖d4+ ♖:d4#)
- 1... ♖f8!
- 1. ♖f6!** (2. ♖(♖):d4+ ♖:d4
3. ♖(♖):d4+ ♖:d4#)
- 1...♖b2~2. ♖h4
- (3. ♖:d4+ ♖:d4#)
- 2...♖b2 3.g5 ♖b2~
4. ♖h6 ♖b2 5. ♖f6
- 5...♖b2~6. ♖f1 ♖b2
7. ♖:d4+! ♖:d4 8. ♖e7+
- 8...♖e5 9. ♖g1+ ♖f4
10. ♖g4+ ♖e3
11. ♖d4+ ♖:d4#

9th Place: № 8 – Anatoly Styopochkin

Pleasing manoeuvre to interchange the places of ♖d2 and ♖f2.

10th Place: № 20 – Predrag Žuvić

A good option key and varied but thematically rather unrelated play, and an underemployed ♖e2.

1st Reserve: № 6 (♙g8/♙c8) – Anatoly Styopochkin

White-to-play with a change of the blocking units on g7 and h7.

2nd Reserve: № 9 (♙f8/♙d6) – Alexander Fica

Twins with mirrored elementary mates and different white minor promotions, both showing two variations. Otherwise there is no convincing connection between the two parts.

Congratulations to the successful authors! It was a pleasure to study the 24 submitted problems.

Kronshagen, December 18, 2023

Hartmut Laue, International Judge of the FIDE for chess compositions

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST LEAGUE 2023: HELPMATE IN 2½-3 MOVES

Judge: *Nikola Stolev* (North Macedonia)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Christopher Jones & Vidadi Zamanov – 1; Valery Kopyl & Vidadi Zamanov – 2; Miroslav Svíték – 3, 4, 5; Zoltán Labai – 6; Bela Majoros – 7; Sven Trommler – 8, 9; Kenan Velikhanov – 10; Salman Javadzade – 11; Evgeny Gavryliv & Ivan Soroka – 12; Evgeny Gavryliv & Yuri Bilokin – 13; Aleksandr Pankratiev & Ivan Antipin – 14,15, 16, 17, 19, 29; Velko Aleksandrov – 18; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 20, 21; Aleksandr Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavryliv – 22, 23; Aleksey Ivunin & Aleksandr Pankratiev – 24, 25, 26; Aleksey Ivunin – 27, 28; Predrag Žuvić – 30; János Csák & Gábor Tar – 31; Zoran Gavrilovski – 32, 33, 34, 35

AWARD

I thank the tourney director Zoran Gavrilovski for the invitation to judge this traditional tourney.

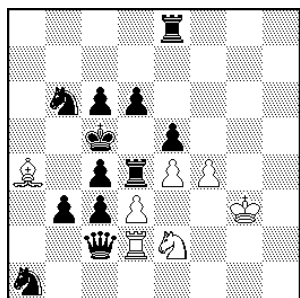
There were 35 entries in this tourney. The tourney level is not better than in the previous years, as most of the entries are of average quality and explore familiar ideas without any improvement.

Due to repetition of moves or other weaknesses, I did not rank *Nes* 3, 7, 11, 14, 20, 23, 26, 28 and 29. Here are observations for some of the other non-ranked problems:

- *Né 1*: a multiply explored theme;
- *Nes 2* and *6*: non-harmonious play;
- *Né 8*: double check;
- *Né 10*: capturing of black pieces looks unpleasant;
- *Nes 15, 16* and *19*: familiar play;
- *Né 25*: cooks.

Below I present the ranking of 10 problems + 2 reserves, with both my and the author's comments.

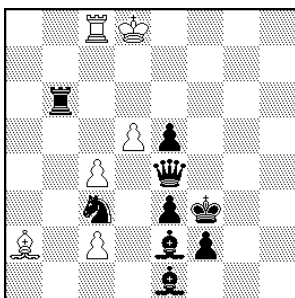
1st Place
Né 33 – Zoran Gavrilovski



H#2½ b) ♖e8=♙e8 7+12
c) ♜d4=♙d4

- a) 1...d:c4! 2. ♜:c4 ♜:d6
3. ♜b4 ♜:c6#
b) 1...♜:c2! 2. ♜:c2 ♞:d4
3. ♜b4 ♞e6#
c) 1...♞:c3! 2. ♙:c3 f:e5
3. ♙b4 d4#

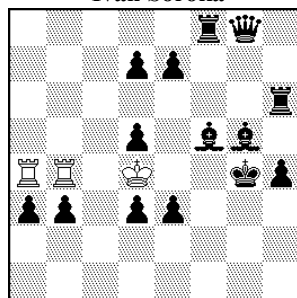
2nd Place
Né 35 – Zoran Gavrilovski



H#3 b) ♜d5→d2 6+9

- a) 1. ♙:c4 ♜:c4 A 2. ♙e2 ♜d4
3. ♜f3 ♙c4# B
b) 1. ♜:c4 ♙:c4 B 2. ♙e4 ♙e6
3. ♙f3 ♜c4# A

3rd Place
Né 12 – Evgeny Gavryliv & Ivan Soroka



H#3 2 solutions 3+14
b) ♜f8→f6

- a) 1. ♙e6 ♞:d3+ 2. ♙f3 ♜g4
3. ♙f6 ♜af4#
1. ♙f6+ ♞:e3+ 2. ♙g3 ♜:h4
3. ♙g6 ♜ag4#
b) 1. ♜fg6 ♞e5+ 2. ♙f4+ ♜:f4+
3. ♙g5 ♜:f5#
1. ♜g6 ♞:d5+ 2. ♙e4+ ♜:e4+
3. ♙f5 ♜e5#

1st Place: Né 33 – Zoran Gavrilovski

“Cyclic *Zilahi* with active sacrifices by white units and self-blocks on the B3 move on the same square (b4). *Forsberg* twins.” (Author) This shortened h#3 is the best achievement in the tourney.

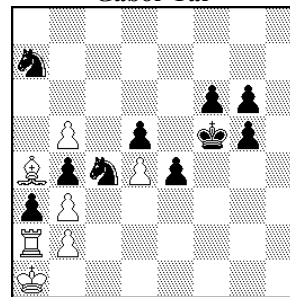
2nd Place: Né 35 – Zoran Gavrilovski

A pleasant achievement with the following content: “*Chumakov* theme – change of functions of two black pieces (♙/♜: captured/self-blocking, and *vice versa*. Two pairs of arrival of black pieces on the squares vacated by other black pieces (e2 and f3; e4 and f3), reciprocal vacation and arrival on the square c4 by the white pieces with exchange of the white 1st and 3rd moves.” (Author)

3rd Place: Né 12 – Evgeny Gavryliv & Ivan Soroka

According to the authors: “White *Bristol* in a) and sacrifices by the black bishops in b). A white royal battery in both twins”. In addition to the above content, in the second twin we also see distant self-blocks.

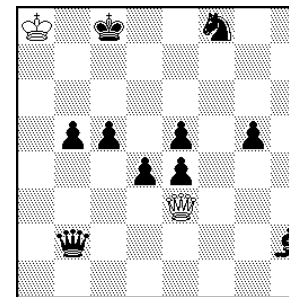
4th Place
Né 31 – János Csák & Gábor Tar



H#3 b) ♜f6→g4 7+10

- a) 1. ♜:b2 b6 2. ♜d3 ♜f2+
3. ♜f4 ♙d7#
b) 1. ♜:b5 b:a3 2. ♜c7 ♙d7+
3. ♜e6 ♜f2#

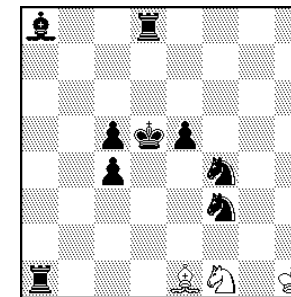
5th Place
Né 34 – Zoran Gavrilovski



H#2½ b) ♞a8→e8 2+10

- a) 1...♜:d4 A 2. ♜d2 ♜:e4 B
3. ♜d8 ♜b7#
b) 1...♜:e4 B 2. ♜g2 ♜:d4 A
3. ♜b7 ♜d8#

6th Place
Né 18 – Velko Aleksandrov



H#3 b) ♜e5→d3 3+9

- a) 1. ♙e4 ♙f2 2. ♜d3 ♙g1
3. ♙d5 ♞g3#
b) 1. ♙d4 ♞e3 2. ♙e4 ♞d1
3. ♜d5 ♙c3#

4th Place: Né 31 – János Csák & Gábor Tar

Exchange of functions of the white pieces and pin model mates in a heavy setting.

5th Place: Né 34 – Zoran Gavrilovski

A pleasant problem. The author described it in the following way: “Exchange of the white 1st and 2nd moves, exchange of the squares of arrival of the black and white pieces on the last move (d8/b7 and b7/d8), annihilation of black pawns by the white queen and self-blocks by the black queen.”

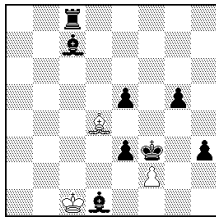
6th Place: Né 18 – Velko Aleksandrov

According to the author, this problem shows “change of functions of ♙e1/♞f1 (guarding 2 squares/giving a mate, and *vice versa*), white half-pin and two model mates.”

17th Place: Né 9 – Sven Trommler

Matching play with battery creation and one-two step play by the f-pawn.

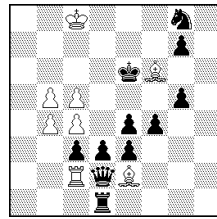
7th Place
№ 9 – Sven
Trommler



H#3 b) ♔d1→f1 3+8

- a) 1. ♖g4 ♙c3 2. ♗h4
2... ♙e1 3. ♙h5 f3#
- b) 1. ♖c2 ♙e5 2. ♗e1
2... ♙g3 3. e2 f4#

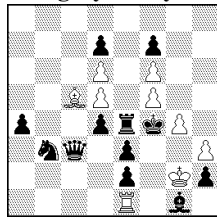
8th Place
№ 13 – Evgeny
Gavryliv &
Yuri Bilokin



H#3 2 solutions 8+11

1. d:c2 ♙h5 2. ♗d5
2... c:d5+ 3. ♗:d5 ♙f7#
1. d:e2 ♖a2 2. ♗d6
2... c:d6 3. ♗:d6 ♖a6#

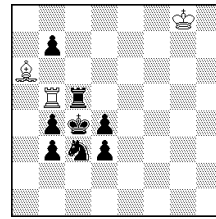
9th Place
№ 22 – Aleksandr
Pankratiev &
Evgeny Gavryliv



H#3 2 solutions 9+12

1. ♗:e1 ♙b4 2. ♗h4
2... ♙e1 3. ♗g5 ♙g3#
1. ♗:c5 ♖c1 2. ♗:d5
2... ♖c5 3. ♗:f5 ♖:f5#

10th Place
№ 32 – Zoran
Gavrilovski



H#2½ 2 solutions 3+8

- 1... ♖:b7+ 2. ♖b5 [♙b5?]
2... ♖b6 3. ♙d5 ♖c6#
- 1... ♖a5+ 2. ♙b5 [♖b5?]
2... ♖a1 3. ♖d5 ♖c1#

8th Place: № 13 – Evgeny Gavryliv & Yuri Bilokin

According to the authors, this problem combines *Zilahi* and *Zajic* themes.

9th Place: № 22 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavryliv

Zilahi + Follow-my-leader (*Umnov* effect).

10th Place: № 32 – Zoran Gavrilovski

“Play on the same square on the B2 and B3 moves, anti-dual self-pinning, change of functions of black pieces and pin model mates.” (Author)

1st Reserve: № 30 (♙h3/♙h6) – Predrag Žuvić

Sacrifices by black pieces. I would prefer a position with the following changes: - ♙f7, ♙g7= ♙g7, + ♙f2, + ♙g6, 4+8, 2 solutions.

2nd Reserve: № 24 (♙h8/♙c5) – Aleksey Ivunin & Aleksandr Pankratiev

A pleasant composition with double-check mates.

Skopje, 10.12.2023

Nikola Stolev, International Judge of the FIDE for chess compositions

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The editorial board of *The Macedonian Problemist* (TMP) expresses its profound gratitude to the tourney participants and to the expert and prompt judges Pavel Murashev, Aleksandr Sygurov, Hartmut Laue and Nikola Stolev for their precious support to TMP League 2023, to Geoff Foster for the language control, to Predrag Žuvić for the proof-reading and to a few websites' editors for re-publishing the awards of this formal tourney.

MODE OF CITATION AND DATE/VENUES OF PUBLICATION

The brochure with the awards of *The Macedonian Problemist* League 2023 is a special issue of *The Macedonian Problemist* (72-a), annexed to issue 72 of the magazine. Therefore, reference to this formal tourney should be made according to the following mode of citation: *The Macedonian Problemist* League 2023 (*The Macedonian Problemist* 72-a, December 2023).

The awards brochure of *The Macedonian Problemist* League 2023 was published at TMP group of the Facebook account of the editor of TMP and on websites in January 2024.

The magazine *The Macedonian Problemist* announces the formal tourney *The Macedonian Problemist* League 2024 in the following sections (and with the following judges): #2 (Pavel Murashev); #3 (Oleg Efrosinin); S#2-10 (Hans Gruber); and H#2½-3 (Nikola Stolev).

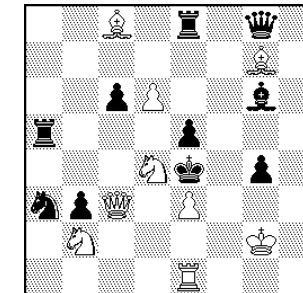
The themes for this formal tourney are free. In each section 10 problems will be ranked from the 1st Place (12 points) to the 10th Place (2 points) and two reserves (scoring 1 point) will be identified to serve as possible replacement of anticipated problems (if any). Authors of one or more problems which are not cooked, anticipated or non-thematic will score 1 point in the respective section. The overall ranking of authors will be based on the sum of their points from particular sections.

Composers may send an unlimited number of original problems (including joint problems) until 30 June 2024 to the tourney director at zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com or by snail mail: Zoran Gavrilovski, P. fah 137 (Poshta 2), Skopje MK-1001, North Macedonia.

The tourney brochure with the awards and the overall ladder of TMP League 2024 will be preliminarily shared with all participants by e-mail before the official publication of the awards in a supplement to the last 2024 issue of *The Macedonian Problemist*.

VERSIONS OF PROBLEMS FROM THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST LEAGUE

Zoran Gavrilovski
3rd Pl. TMP League 2016
(version by Z. Gavrilovski)

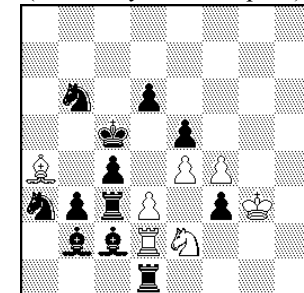


#2 * v 9+10

- 1... ♖d5 x 2. ♗d3# A
1... ♙d5 y 2. ♗:c6#
1... e:d4 2. ♗:d4#
1. ♘f5? (2. ♗d3# A) ♗c4!
1... ♖d5 x, ♗d5 2. ♘g3#
1... ♙d5 y 2. e4# B
1. ♘e6! (2. ♗d3# A)
1... ♖d5 x 2. ♘g5#
1... ♙d5 y 2. ♗:e5#
1... ♙f5 2. e4# B

Zagoruiko and Dombrovskis
paradox: 1...x 2.A#; 1.Try/sol.?
(2.A#) 1...x 2. ♘g3#/♘g5#.

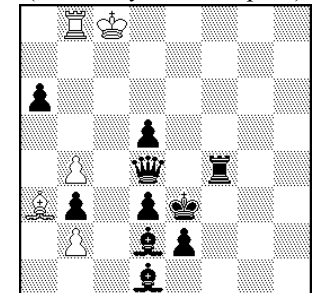
Zoran Gavrilovski
1st Pl. TMP League 2023
(version by Daniel Papack)



H#2½ 3 solutions 7+12

- 1... d:c4! 2. ♖:c4 ♖:d6
3. ♖b4 ♖c6#
1... ♖:c2! 2. ♙:c2 ♘d4
3. ♙b4 ♘e6#
1... ♘:c3! 2. ♙:c3 f:e5
3. ♙b4 d4#

Zoran Gavrilovski
2nd Pl. TMP League 2023
(version by Daniel Papack)



H#3 2 solutions 5+10

1. ♙:b4 ♖:b4 A 2. ♙d2 ♖c4
3. ♗e3 ♙b4# B
1. ♗:b4 ♙:b4 B 2. ♙d4 ♙d6
3. ♙e3 ♖b4# A