

Belgrade Internet Tourneys 2018

Group C – fairy h#2 – Award

Jubilee Tourney : Dinu-loan Nicula – 50

by Dinu-loan Nicula

Thematic condition: „L-problem“ symbolized by Lortap and Locust.

Helpmate in 2 using Lortap condition, and Locust(s) fairy piece. No other fairy elements.

***Lortap:** A piece can't capture or give check if it is observed by a piece of its own side.*

***Locust (L):** Moves along Queen lines only by capturing an enemy unit, arriving on the square immediately beyond that unit, which must be vacant. If, in the same situation, instead of enemy unit there is a unit of the same colour, Locust observes it.*

In combination with Lortap condition, it would prevent this other unit from capturing or giving check.

Participants:

Hans Uitenbroek - NED (1), Juraj Lörinc - SVK (2,3), Theodoros Giakatis - GRE (4), Petko Petkov - BUL (4,6,7), Vlaicu Crişan - ROU (8,36*), Eric Huber - ROU (8*,9), Marko Klasinc - SLO (10), Raffi Ruppin - ISR (11), Jacques Rotenberg - ISR (12*,13*,14*), Pierre Tritten - FRA (12*,13*,14*), Daniel Papack - GER (15), S.K. Balasubramanian - IND (16*,17*,36*), Shankar Ram - IND (16*), S. Manikumar - IND (17*), Julia Vysotska - LAT (18*), Marjan Kovačević - SRB (18*), Ivo Tominić - CRO (19*), Franz Pachtl - GER (20*), Luis Miguel Martín - ESP (21*), Miodrag Mladenović - SRB (22,23,24), Jan Golha - SVK (25,26), Dieter Müller - GER (27,38*,39*), Hubert Gockel - GER (28,29,30), Karol Mlynka - SVK (31,32), Jaroslav Štůň - SVK (33,34,35), James Quah - SGP (37), Franz Pachtl - GER (38,39), Valeriu Petrovici - ROU (40)*

In the year of my jubilee, it was a very nice present from the part of my friend Marjan Kovacević to organise this anniversary tournament, with the strong support of Borislav Gadjanski, president of the Serbian Chess Problem Society. From the first edition of 2004, I have met them almost year by year at the International Solving Championship of Serbia (with special minilectures sessions, in which my interventions were in the field of Romanian chess history), so I am grateful to both not only for keeping this composing tourney, but for their whole attitude towards me in these so many years!

The theme of the JT, proposed by GM Marjan Kovacević (with a precious suggestion from the part of Julia Vysotska), was linked to the letter „L“ (=50, in roman figures):

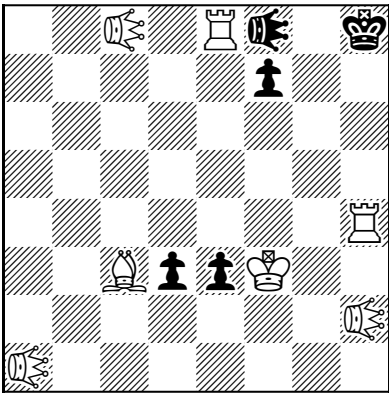
„Helpmate in 2 using Lortap condition and Locust (one or more of them) as the only fairy piece“.

There were 40 entries, of 26 authors/pairs of authors, from 15 countries. Being very satisfied of the problems' level, but also keeping into regard that it is a special occasion, I have decided to give awards to half of them!

The awarded compositions are:

Petko PETKOV

1st Prize, BIT 2018 C



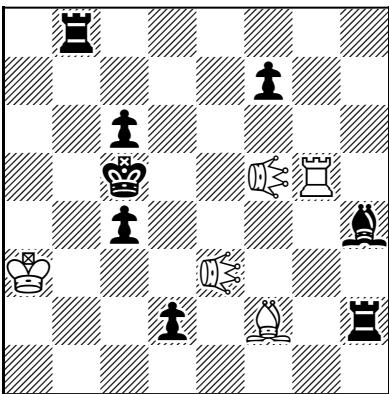
h#2 Lortap, Locust 7+5
a-c) Lf8→d4,f6

Very esthetical Meredith (aristocratic for white), with Zilahi cycle based on annihilation and with subtle model mates. The white's action is split between the group of orthodox pieces and the group of locusts (2x3), while all the black's moves are made by the locust, which captures the front piece from two of the sui-generis batteries, the mate being given by the third front piece. The rich strategic contents is expressed in a limpid and unforgettable manner.

- a) 1.Lxe8→d8 Bf6 2.Lxf6→g5 Rh7#
- b) 1.Lxc3→b2 Rb4 2.Lxb4→b5 Rg8#
- c) 1.Lxh4→h3 Re6 2.Lxe6→d7 Bg7#

Petko PETKOV

2nd Prize, BIT 2018 C



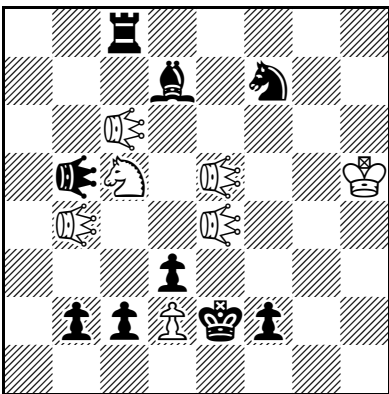
h#2 Lortap, Locust 5+8
b) Rh2→g6

Introductory selfpins of the black Rb8, preparing the transformation of the white battery, in order to prevent its deactivation. Spectacular changing of roles between the locusts (pinning/mating as rear pieces of the batteries), leading to an exemplary orthogonal-diagonal correspondence between the two phases. Perfect balance between art and logic.

- a) 1.Rb6 Rh5 2.Rxf2 Rh6#
- b) 1.Rb5 Bq1 2.Bxq5 Bh2#

Juraj LÖRINC

3rd Prize, BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 7+9
3.1.1.1

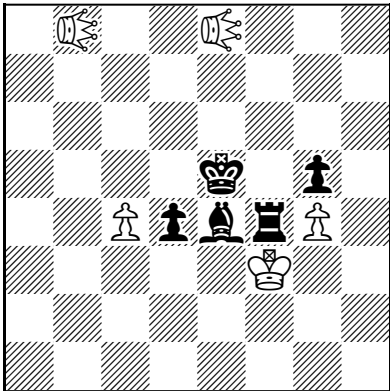
The cycle of the three black moves meets the round first moves of the white knight, in order to unpatrol the locust which will give mate. The batteries' strategy, with skillful use of the fairy condition&pieces, makes this entry to deserve a high ranking.

- 1.Lxb4→b3 Se6 2.Bxc6 Lxb2→a1#
- 1.Bxc6 Sa4 2.Sxe5 Lxb2→b1#
- 1.Sxe5 Sb7 2.Lxb4→b3 Lxc2→c1#

S.K. BALASUBRAMANIAN

Vlaicu CRIȘAN

4th Prize, BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 5+5

b) - bPg5

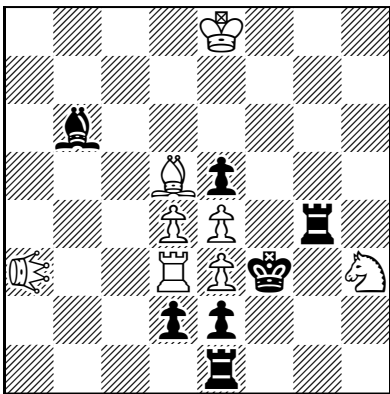
Surprising black's first maximal move with check, which unpatrols one different locust in each twin, the fairy pieces changing their roles in this fine ODT. Artistic „follow/my/leader” effect, with well motivated use of pawn g5 into the dual avoidance. Very elegant!

a) 1. Ba8+ Ke2 2. Ke4 Lxf4 → g3#

b) 1. Rf8+ Kg2 2. Kf4 Lxe4 → e3#

Hubert GOCKEL

5th Prize, BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 8+7

b) La3 → a8

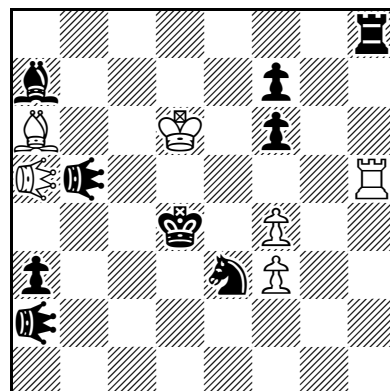
Even the function of the black rooks is subsidiary, I have appreciated the „orthodox” style of the problem with good interplay, in which by shortening the locust's action through the moves of the rook/bishop on their line, we reach to rather classical mates given by the batteries with locust as rear piece.

a) 1. Bc5 Rb3 2. Kxe3 Rb4#

b) 1. Bd8 Bb7 2. Kxe4 Bc8#

Petko PETKOV

1st Hon. Mention, BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 6+9

b) Rh8 → g6, c) Pf4 → g4

Thriller in which the suspense action takes place on the 5-th horizontal, with systematic sacrifices of the wR on the square where wK will give mate, while bL from b5 moves on the same line, in order to annihilate wL and thus to create the territory for the royal mate.

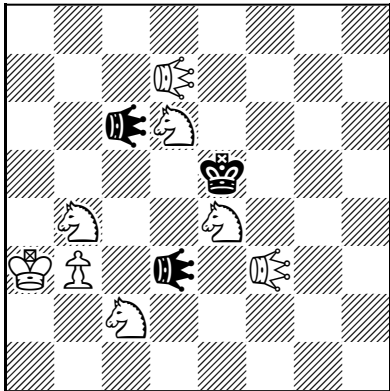
a) 1. Ra8 Rc5 2. Lxc5 → d5 Kc5#

b) 1. Rg2 Rd5 2. Lxd5 → e5 Kd5#

c) 1. Rh6 Re5 2. Lxe5 → f5 Ke5#

Julia VYSOTSKA
Marjan KOVAČEVIĆ

2nd Hon. Mention, BIT 2018 C



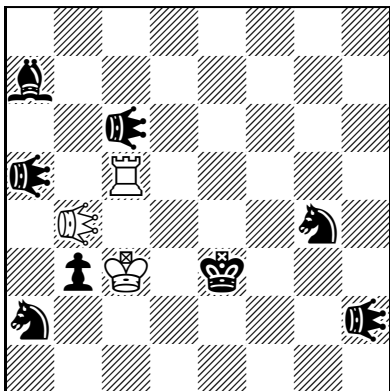
h#2 Lortap, Locust 8+3
 b)Sc2→c7

Good symmetry of the twins, with anticipatory moves of the knights to create the final L-S battery, with precise moves of the locusts in order to prevent the check from the knights and, in all, with three pairs of pieces exchanging roles. Called „Lepidoptera” by the authors, this problem with a butterfly-shape position is twice symbolic for me: its title begins with „L” and I see in it an unintended (but very welcome!) tribute to one of the movies I like most: „Butterflies are free” (1972)!

- a) 1.Lxf3→g3 Sd3+ 2.Lxd6→e6 Lxe6→f5#
 b) 1.Lxd7→e8 Sc6+ 2.Lxe4→f5 Lxf5→f6#

Miodrag MLADENOVIĆ

3rd Hon. Mention. BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 3+8
 3.1.1.1

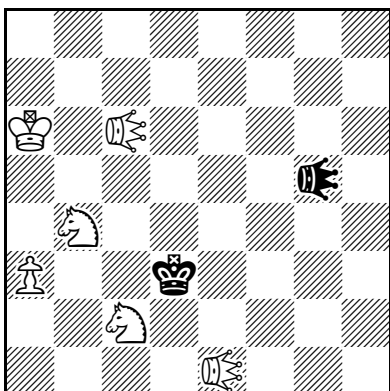
Tensionate duel of the two kings, each time the white one giving mate, after exiting out of the observation of wL (directly, in the first two solutions) and of the wR (indirectly, in the third).

- 1.Sc1 Kc2 2.Kd3 Re5#
 1.Kd4+ Kd2+ 2.Lxb4→c3 Kd3#
 1.Lxc5→d5 Kd2 2.Sf2 Ke2#

Vlaicu CRIȘAN

Eric HUBER

4th Hon. Mention, BIT 2018 C



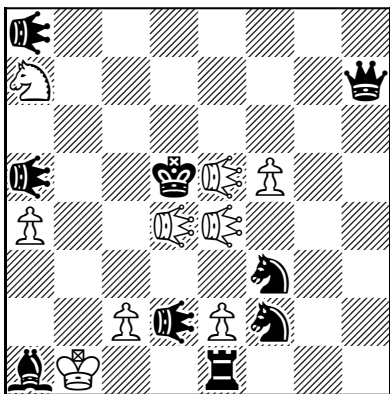
h#2 Lortap, Locust 6+2
 b-d)Kd3→c4,e3,d5

Beautiful twinning of this „helpmate-of-the-future”, with the bK turning around the d4 square. None of the eight knight moves is repeated: that is a performance, keeping into regard the narrow zone in which the mates are given and the necessities of patrolling/unpatrolling.

- a) 1.Kxc2 Sd3+ 2.Kd2 Sb2#
 b) 1.Kxb4 Sd4+ 2.Kc5 Sb3#
 c) 1.Kf2 Sd5 2.Lxd5→c5 Sa1#
 d) 1.Kd6 Se3 2.Lxe3→d2 Sa2#

Ivo TOMINIĆ

5th Hon. Mention. BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 9+9

3.1.1.1

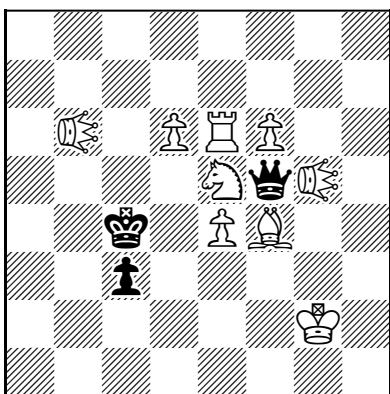
Cyclic Zilahi, with two trios of locusts: none of them is moving, but all the white's are giving mate! This take place due to each of the pawns from the triplet, which are unpatrolling the mating locust, after black has solved the aspect of reciprocal observation between the locusts, capturing one of them.

- 1. Bxd4 Sc8 2. Bc5 e3#
- 1. Sxe4 c4 2. Sg5 f6#
- 1. Sxe5+ Ka2 2. Sg6 c4#

Jacques ROTENBERG

Pierre TRITTEN

6th Hon. Mention, BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 9+3

2.1.1.1

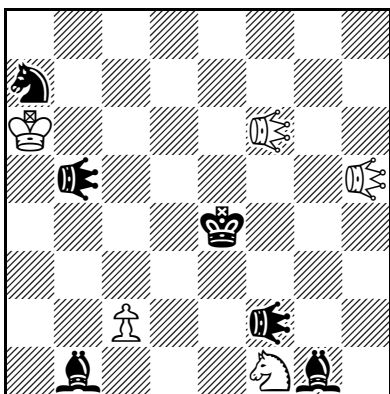
Meredith based on the critical moves made by the white orthodox figures, in order to allow the unpatrolling knight of e5, in a soft ODT construction. The lack of interplay hindered this problem to advance between the higher prizes.

- 1. Qxe6 Bh2 2. Qg4+ Lxg4→g3#
- 1. Qxf4 Re8 2. Qxf6 Lxf6→e7#

Franz PACHL

Dieter MÜLLER

7th Hon. Mention, BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 5+6

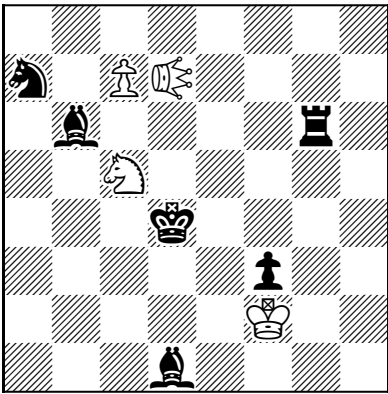
2.1.1.1

Nice antidual opening of bBb1 line by the white pawn, in order to fix the black king for the abdication in the center of the battle's champ.

- 1. Bh2 c3 [c4?] 2. Be5 Lxe5→d5#
- 1. Sc6 c4 [c3?] 2. Se5 Lxe5→d4#

Eric HUBER

1st Commend., BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 4+6

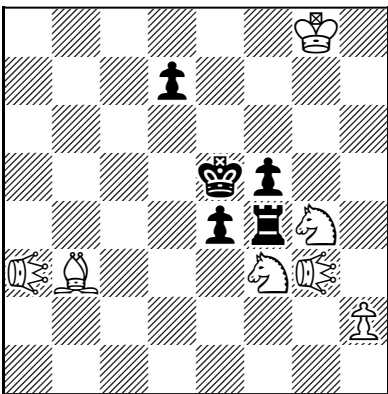
3.1.1.1

There were few problems with promotions in Locust, so I was pleased to find a good problem with this aspect. The first two solutions are very homogeneous (bK, which is the making all the six moves, patrols in each phase one of his bishops), meanwhile in the third solution it is him to be observed by the bR, after the temporary activation of the royal battery.

1.Kc3 c8R 2.Kd2 Sb3#
1.Kxc5 c8Q+ 2.Kd6+ Qc5#
1.Kd5 c8L 2.Kc6 Se6#

Hubert GOCKEL

2nd Commend., BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 7+5

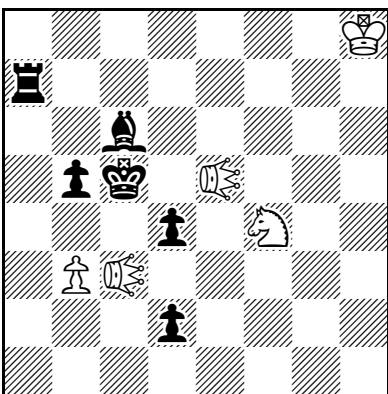
2.1.1.1

Enjoyable composition, in which the variable measure of the pawn's steps allows the combination aiming the mutual unpatrolling of the white knights, in each solution. It's a pity that 1...Kf7 has no other content than taking two flights for the bK.

1.d5 Bc4 2.d4 Sg5#
1.d6 Kf7 2.d5 Se3#

Daniel PAPACK

3rd Commend., BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 5+6

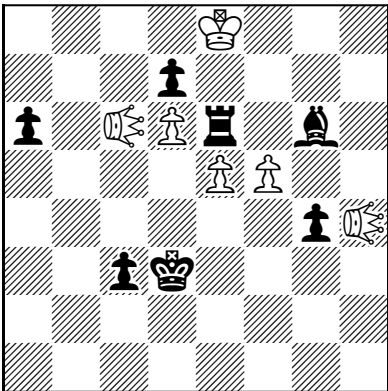
b) bPd2→e2

Based somehow on the symmetry related to the diagonal a7-g1, the problem is illustrating mainly the change of functions between the two locusts, by patrolling/unpatrolling each other, after the anticipatory pinning of the bR.

a) 1.Re7 Lxd2→e1 2.Kd5 Se6#
b) 1.Ra5 Lxe2→e1 2.Kc4 b4#

Dieter MÜLLER

4th Commend., BIT 2018 C



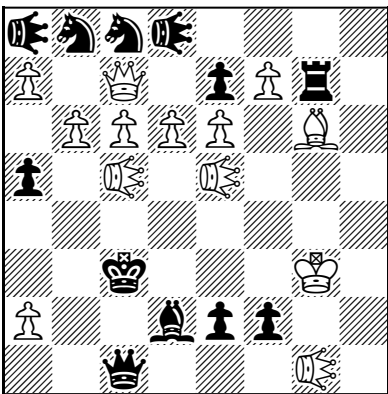
h#2 Lortap, Locust 6+7
b)Lh4→a8

On their initial fields, bR and bB are under control and cannot capture, so they have to make a unique (but subtle) move on their line, while (without a real cooperation between the two parts), the white locusts have an interchange of functions in the twins.

- a) 1. Rf6 Lxg4→f4 2. Rxd6 Lxc3→c2#
b) 1. Bh7 Lxa6→a5 2. Bxf5 Lxc3→d2#

Hans UITENBROEK

5th Commend., BIT 2018 C



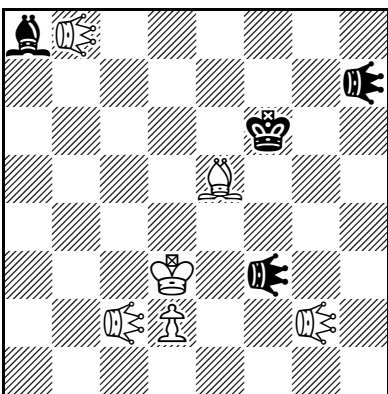
h#2 Lortap, Locust 13+12
b)Lg1→e1

Heavy construction, in which black aims to eliminate the reciprocal guard of the white locusts c5 and e5. Good dual avoidance at the anticipatory pinning of the bQ and also at the subtle mating move.

- a) 1. Qb2 Lxf2→e3 2. Lxc6→d5 Qd7#
b) 1. Qc2 Lxe2→e3 2. Lxd6→d5 Qb7#

Jaroslav ŠTÚŇ

6th Commend., BIT 2018 C



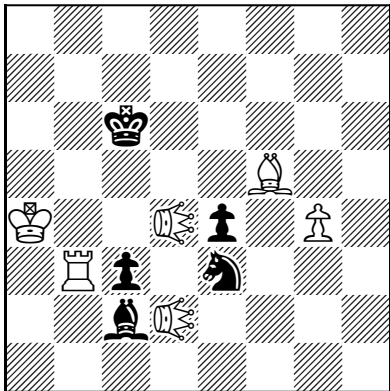
h#2 Lortap, Locust 6+4
b)Lb8→h2, c)Kd3→c4

One of the problems most difficult to solve, the strategy being thought around the black bishop from e5. The moves are made only by kings and bishops, equally distributing their moves in twins B and C, meanwhile twin A is a royal one.

- a) 1. Kf5 Kd4+ 2. Kf4 Ke3#
b) 1. Kg5 Bg3 2. Kh4 Bf2#
c) 1. Be4 Kd5 2. Bd3+ Ke6#

James QUAH

7th Commend., BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 6+5

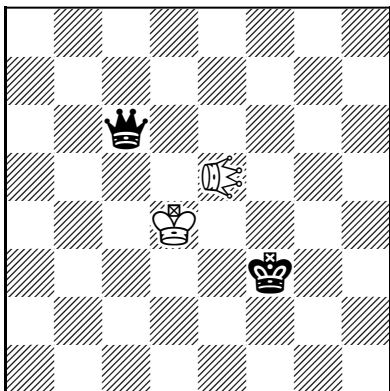
2.1.1.1

Subtle motivation for the black pawns' advancing: their initial field has to be free for the white figure which gives mate, but which cannot capture (being under observation).

1. Bd1 Lxe3→f4 2. e3 Be4#
1. Sd1 Lxc2→b2 2. c2 Rc3#

Marko KLASINC

Spec. Commend., BIT 2018 C



h#2 Lortap, Locust 2+2

2.1.1.1

Special Commendation for a Wenigsteiner problem

Still from the 70's a participant at the Romanian composing tourneys, the Slovenian problemist couldn't miss this contest, with a tricky entry in shape of diamond. Sometimes, chess is a poker!

1. Qe4 Ke3+ 2. Qg4 Kf2#
1. Qf6 Ke4 2. Kf4 Kf3#

Finally, a big "Thank you" to all the composers who have honored me by participating at this jubilee tournament. All of them are well-known names into our fief, so I regret that I couldn't give accolades more than the ratio of 50%. But I promise that, at my 60 JT, there will be more awards... you guess how many!

Date: 1st July 2018, Final version: 1st August 2018

Dinu-Ioan Nicula, *International Judge*