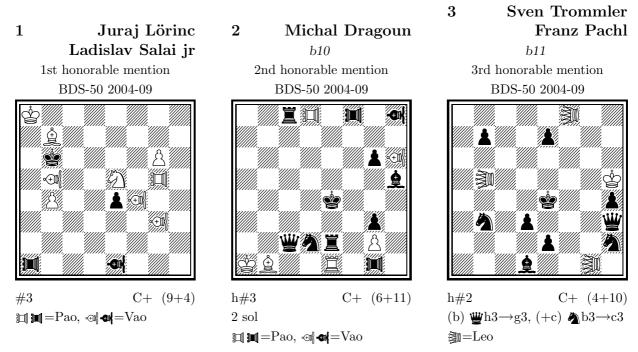
Brian-Stephenson-50 JT 2004-09

Award Section B by Torsten Linß, Prague, June 25, 2009

A total of 18 problems were submitted in the "Chinese" section of the tourney. The quality of the entries was satisfactory though outstanding problems (worth a prize) were missing. Nonetheless I enjoyed studying the entries, of which seven are worth being included in the award.



All honorable mentions suffer from flaws—either constructionally (1st hm) or conceptually (2nd, 3rd hm)—that do not allow awarding a prize.

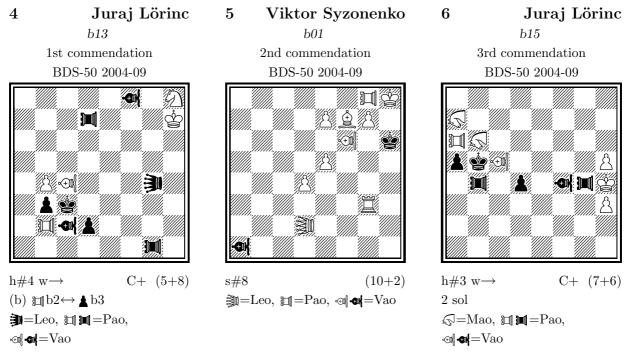
1st honorable mention: B16 by Juraj Lörinc & Ladislav Salai Jr The two variations show a pseudo le Grand with hopper specific Lewman and theme B. This has been shown before, see (i). However, the matrix is enriched by two Roman decoys that employ the power of the Chinese pieces ("hurdle" Roman). This is my favourite by a narrow margin. If it were not for the way c7 is guarded, this problem would have deserved a prize... 1.VAe2? (2.Sc4#) PAa4!, 1.VAe8? (2.Sd7#) PAa7!, 1.g7! (2.g8=PA ~ 3.PAb8#) 1.- PAd1 2.VAe2 (3.Sc4#) PAd3 3.Sd7# (2.VAe8? VAd2!), 1.- PAc1 2.VAe8 (3.Sd7#) PAc6 3.Sc4# (2.VAe2? VAc3!)

2nd honorable mention: B10 by Michal Dragoun Interesting line play around the two white Chinese men and the pinned pieces on the 1st row. The misuse of Chinese men for blocking e5 and f5 spoils the problem. Also the interference of bBh5 by 1.Sf3 is not well motivated. Where else can the bS go? I took the liberty of composing an alternative setting (ii) that avoids this by giving the bS more squares to chose from. (It is slightly

more economical too, but still fails to avoid the poor Chinese blocks.)
1.Sf3 VAc1 2.PAf5 PAd2 3.Qd3 R×e2#, 1.Sc4 PAd1 2.VAe5 VAd2 3.Re3 B×c2#

3rd honorable mention: B11 by Sven Trommler & Franz Pachl Cyclic change of functions of the three wLE. Unfortunately there is no common theme in the black play that matches the white cycle. The twinning is a bit chaotic.

(a) 1.Sd4 LEg5 2.Qf5 LEe1#, (b) 1.Qf4 LEb6 2.Sc5 LEa8#, (c) 1.Sd5 LEf1 2.Qf2 LEe8#



1st commendation: B13 by Juraj Lörinc Interesting strategy, but misuse of the wPA—a white dummy on b2/b3 suffices and would save the bPAg1 too...

(a) 1.- VAa6 2.LEg7+ (LEd4?) Sf7 3.LE×b2+ Sd6 4.VA×b4 Sb5#, (b) 1.- VAf1 2.PAd3+ (PAb7?) Sg6 3.PA×b3+ Sf4 4.LE×b4 Se2#

2nd commendation: B01 by Viktor Syzonenko Good finish, but the play digging the hole on e5 for the bVA is not particularly interesting.

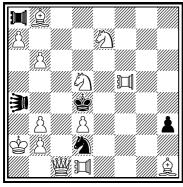
1.Rg6+? Kh5 2.Rg5#!!, 1.LEc3? VAb2!, 1.LEb2! VA×d4 2.Rg6 + Kh5 3.Rg5+ Kh6 4.LEd2+ VAe3 5.e6 VAf4 6.VAe5 VAe3 7.VAd6 VAf4 8.Rg3+ VAe5#

3rd commendation: B15 by Juraj Lörinc A MA as the back piece of a battery and quasi unpins of the black PAg4/VAf4 to enable sacrafices, but in the end the mating position is the same and the cage for the wK is clumsy.

1.- Kg5 2.PAg1 VA×g1 3.VAd6 PA×d6#, 1.- Kg3 2.VAe3 VA×e3 3.PAg6 PA×g6#

7 Juraj Lörinc b12

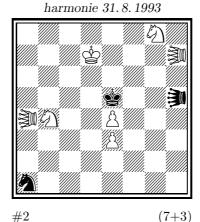
4th commendation BDS-50 2004-09



s#2C + (13+5)

(b) mirror vertically

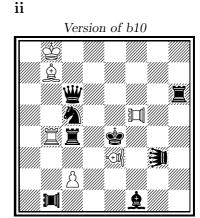
∌=Leo, **□ ⊫**=Pao



Torsten Linß

≥Lion

i



h#3 2 sol

≥ ELeo, **□ □** Pao, **□** Vao

4th commendation: B12 by Juraj Lörinc Le Grand and reciprocal change of mates, but with a trivial matrix.

- (a) 1.b4! (2.Qc4+ (A) LE \times c4#) LEa6 (x) 2.Sc6+ (B) LE \times c6#, 1.- LEa3 (y) 2.Qc5+
- (C) LE×c5#, 1.- LEa5 (z) 2.Qc3+ (D) LE×c3#, (b) 1.b4! (2.Sc3+ (B) LE×c3#) LEa3
- (x) 2.Qc5+ (A) LE×c5#, 1.- LEa6 (y) 2.Qc6+ (D) LE×c6#, 1.- LEa4 (z) 2.Qc4+ (C) $LE \times c4\#$
- (i) 1.LIb7? (2.Sc6#) LId5 2.Sd3#, 1.- LIb5!, 1.LIb1! (2.Sd3#) Sc2 2.Sc6#
- (ii) 1.Sd3 VAb6 2.LEf3 PAc5 3.Qd5 R×c4#, 1.Se6 PAb5 2.LEf4 VAc5 3.Rd4 B×c6#

Congratulations to the authors of the honoured problems, thanks to all participants and best wishes to Brian [for his 55th birthday...].

Torsten Linß

C + (6+8)