

Israel Ring Tourney: Selfmates Award 2006

Judge: Yuriy Gordian (Ukraine)

21 problems by 15 authors from Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Israel, Russia and Ukraine participated in IRT-2006. The average standard of the tourney was not high for such prestigious competition as the Israel Ring Tourney.

The following problems are excluded from the competition:

Vm 1483 (Brijukhanov) – dual 4.Ka1 Ke1 5.Sc4 b:c4 6.Re6+ Kd1 7.Qd5+ Kc1 8.Sa2+ Kc2 9.Rb6 c3 10.Rb2+ c:b2#;

Vm 1529 (Alaikov) – anticipated by Ivan Soroka, 3 Pr Zadachi i Etjudy 1998;

Vm 1575 (Makaronetz & Ljubashevski) – similar mechanisms were used many times, e.g. by G. Kozyura, even with model mates, including those with pinned white pieces;

Vm 1577 (Alaikov) – dual 3.Rg7+ Ke6 4.e8Q+ Kd5 5.Qh1+ g2 6.Qd1+ etc.

1st Prize: Vm 1573, Ivan Soroka (Ukraine)

An original mechanism of cyclic 2nd/3rd white moves with minor promotions. A key factor in determining the winner was the excellent additional variation 1...f6 with another promotion and unexpected 2nd mate including the pinning of the promoted piece.

1.Bb2! threat: 2.c:d8=S+(A) Q:d8 3.e:f8=S+(B) Q:f8# 1...R:c7 2.e:d8=S+(B) Q:d8 3.Sc5+(C) B:c5# 1...B:e7 2.Sc5+(C) B:c5 3.:d8=S+(A) Q:d8# 1...f6 2.e8=Q+ Be7 3.Qg8+ Sf7#.

2nd Prize: Vm 1480, Eugene Fomichov (Russia)

In trying to achieve its aim too soon White will open his bishop's line to get in the way of the final attack. Thus it is necessary to firstly interfere with this line. The threat is good and the conception is successfully underlined by tries.

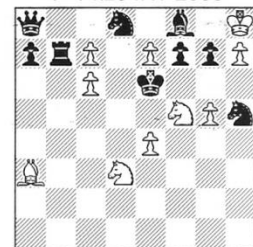
1.Se6+? S:e6 2.S:d5+ R:d5+ 3.Bc5 1.S:d5+? S:d5 2.Se6+ R:e6+ 3.Bc5; 1.Rd3! (2.Qf3+ K:g5 3.Qg4+ Kh6 4.Qg6+ R:g6#) 1...Rf1 2.Se6+ S:e6 3.Rd4+ S:d4 (Be4) 4.S:d5+ R:d5# 1...B:d3 2.S:d5+ S:d5 3.e3+ S:e3 4.Se6+ R:e6#.

3rd Prize: Vm 1479, Yoel Aloni

The content of the threat and the first variation is based on the creation of black batteries, unpinning of the front pieces, and mate by double checking. However, a full analogy of play is missing.

1.Kh3! threat: 2.Rf:e6+ B:e6 3.Qg2+ Rf3# 1...c2 2.Qg4+ Rf4 3.R:f4+ S:f4# 1...Q:h5 2.B:d3+ (e:d3#?) Kf4 3.Qg4+ Q:g4# 1...Q:g7 2.e:d3+ Kf3 3.Qg2+ (Qg4+?) Q:g2#.

Ivan Soroka
1st Prize IRT 2006



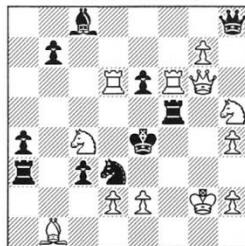
S#3 (10+9)

Eugene Fomichov
2nd Prize IRT 2006



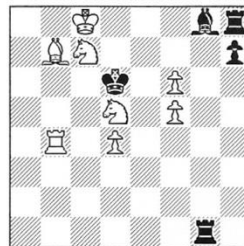
S#4 vv (11+12)

Yoel Aloni
3rd Prize IRT 2006



S#3 (12+10)

Ivan Soroka
1st Hon. Mention IRT 2006



S#3 (8+5)

Alexandr Azhusin
2nd Hon. Mention IRT 2006



S#2 (9+11)

1st Hon. Mention: Vm 1574, Ivan Soroka (Ukraine)
 Cyclic 2nd/3rd moves in a light construction. The variation 1...Rc1 is interesting, the other two are simpler.
 1.Se3! threat: 2.Sc4+(A) B:c4+ 3.Se8+(B) R:e8# 1...B7+ 2.Se8+(B) B:e8 3.Rb6+(C) Bc6# 1...Rc1 2.Rb6+(C) Rc6 3.Sc4+(A) B:c4#.

2nd Hon. Men.: Vm 1525, Alexandr Azhusin (Russia)
 A task-like problem with 5 variations analogous to the Dentist theme, but it is schematic.
 1.Sg2! threat: 2.Rc4+ b:c4# 1...c:d6 2.Qe5+ d:e5# 1...B:d6 2.Qf4+ B:f4# 1...S:d6 2.Qf5+ S:f5# 1...B:f6 2.Rd4+ B:d4# 1...R:f6 2.Re6+ R:e6#.

3rd Hon. Men.: Vm 1531, Torsten Linss (Germany)
 A pleasant mutate miniature. The aim is tempo losing.
 1...Kd1 2.Qc2+ Ke1 3.Sf3+ S:f3# 1.Sf3! 1...Kd1 2.Sf2+ Ke2 3.Sd4+ Ke1 4.Sh1 Kd1 5.Qc2+ Ke1 6.Sf3+ S:f3#.

Commendation (without grading)

Vm 1478, Yosi Retter
 Here, attention is attracted by the activity of the wK.
 1.Kd4! threat: 2.Qg3 threat: 3.Qc3+ Rd2# 1...g5 2.Ke3 g:h4 3.Re2+ R:e2#.

Vm 1481, Andrey Selivanov (Russia)
 Three promotions of the white pawn, but one of them is in the pseudo-threat.
 1.Ka8! threat: 2.b8=S+ Kb6 3.Sd7+ Q:d7 4.Qb7+ Q:b7# 1...Q:c4 2.b8=Q+ Q:c8 3.Sc7+ Q:c7 4.Qb7+ Q:b7# 1...Kb6 2.Qc7+ Ka6 3.b8=B Q:c4 4.Qc6+ Q:c6#.

Vm 1526, Aharon Hirschenson
 Simple reciprocal change of moves in two solutions. The problem would have been placed higher if realized in a single solution with two phases.
 1.Sd7! (zz) 1...K:e4 2.B:e5 h2# 1...K:c4 2.B:c5 h2#; 1.Sd5! (zz) 1...K:e4 2.B:c5 h2# 1...K:c4 2.B:e5 h2#.

Vm 1527, B. Zappas & G. Georgopoulos (Greece)
 Undoubtedly, the problem is similar to M.Keller's 1st Pr. *Schach 1982* as well as to a further development of the mechanism in M.Keller's and Yu.Gordian's 3rd Pr. A.Poushkin-200 JT, 2000. But the use of the white knight's batteries adds to the content, though additional material is needed.

1.Ba7? threat: 2.S:e5+ K:e5 3.S:e6+ Bf5# but 1...S:b6!
 1.Rb5? threat: 2.S:e6+ K:e6 3.S:e5+ Bf5# but 1...Sc7!
 1.Rd6? threat: 2.S:e5+ K:e5 3.Sg~+ Bf5# but 1...Sc7!
 1.Bd6? threat: 2.S:e6+ K:e6 3.S:e5+ Bf5# but 1...S:b6!
 1.Ra6! (zz) 1...Sc7 2.S:e5+ K:e5 3.S:e6+ Bf5# 1...Sb6 2.S:e6+ K:e6 3.S:e5+ Bf5# 1...b3 2.R:a8 b2 3.B:e5 B~ 2...e4 3.f:e4+ B:e4#.

Vm 1528, Leonid Makaronetz
 The number of pieces is not justified by the modest content of formation and activation of two black batteries.
 1.Rh5! (zz) 1...S:c7 2.Ra3+ d3 3.B:d3+ Kd4 4.Rd5+ S:d5# 1...R:c7 2.Se3+ e3 3.Rc3+ Kd4 4.Rc4+ R:c4#.

Vm 1532, Andrey Dikusarov (Russia)
 The problem is interesting with its final mate position.
 1.Qh8+! Sh6 2.Qe5+ Sf5 3.Q:h2+ Sh4 4.Sb1 b2+ 5.Kd1 b3 6.Bf1 c4 7.Qh3 c3 8.Qf3+ S:f3 9.Be2 c2#.

Vm 1576, Ivan Brjukhanov (Ukraine)
 Simple but elegant extra-miniature. Interesting pair of twins.
 a) 1.Sb2+! a:b2 2.Kb1 Ka3 3.Qb5 a4 4.Qa5 Kb3 5.Qc5 a3 6.Qd4 a2# b) 1.Kb1! a2+ 2.Ka1 Ka3 3.Qb5 a4 4.Qc5+ Kb3 5.Sd3 a3 6.Sb2 a:b2#.

Torsten Linss
 3rd Hon. Mention IRT 2006



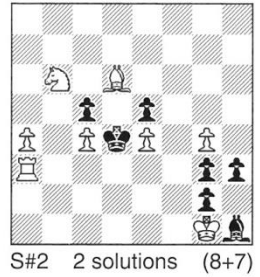
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 Comm. IRT 2006



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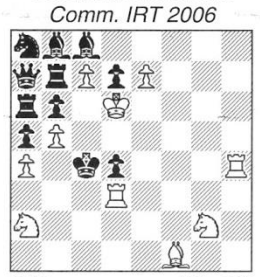
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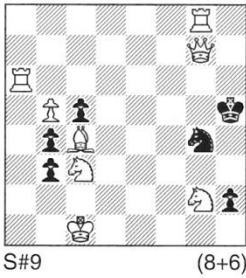
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