

MAROC ECHECS JUIN 2011

Award Jubilee Tourney Mohamed Moubarak Ryan 55

Judge's Report

55 problèmes , 28 auteurs , 18 pays:

Youness BENJELLOUN (Maroc), Carlos A. GRASSANO (Italie) , Baldur KOZDON (Autriche)
, Leonid MAKARONEZ (Israël) ,Victor VOLCHEK (Biélorussie) , Leonid LYUBASHEVSKY (Israël) , Abdelaziz ONKOUD (Maroc) ,Harald GRUBERT (Allemagne) ,Grigory POPOV (Russie)
, Jorma PITKANEN (Finlande) , Mikhaïl CROITOR (Moldavie) , Zoltán LABAI (Slovaquie)
,Valery I. REZINKIN (Russie) ,Marcel DORE (France) ,Alexandre SYGUROV (Russie)
,Evgeny ORLOV (Ukraine) ,Yuri GORDIAN (Ukraine) ,Richard BECKER (Etats-Unis) ,Miroslav SVITEK (République Tchèque) ,Ralf KRATSCHMER (Allemagne) ,Dinko PASKALEV (Bulgarie) ,Bernard DELOBEL (France) ,Daniel PERONE (Argentine) ,Alexandre PANKRATIEV (Russie) ,Christian POISSON (France)
,Radomir NIKITOVIC (Serbie) ,Zivko Janevski (Macédoine) ,Arieh Grinblat (Israël)

Three-movers

As I noted in the moremover report, I am a novice here, and I enjoyed doing the job, although I doubt I will do it again! My own personal bias is toward classic three-movers, so if I missed something I apologize to the author. But I found the standard of quality here quite good and it was difficult to make a decision.

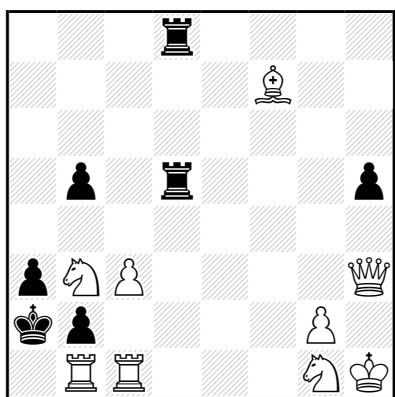
Here are my decisions:

Dinko PASKALEV
Jubilé M.M.Ryan-55
Maroc Echecs 2011
1° Prix

First prize : Dinko PASKALEV

The author's description says it all: this is a wonderful problem with many thematic points, and I do enjoy sacrificial keys. You have to dig into this one a bit to find all the nice small points that made it deserve first amongst a number of problems that were nearly equal.

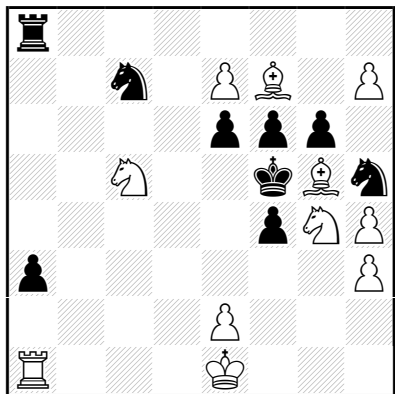
1.Dd3! [2.Dç2 et 3.Ta1‡]
1...T×d3,Td4 2.Cd4+ Td5 3.F×d5‡
1...R×b3 2.D×b5+ Ra2 3.Dç4‡



‡3

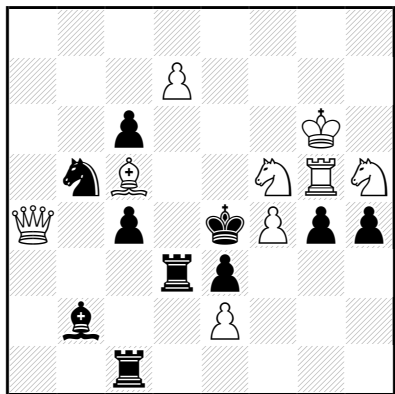
(9+7) C+

Abdelaziz ONKOUD
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
2° Prix



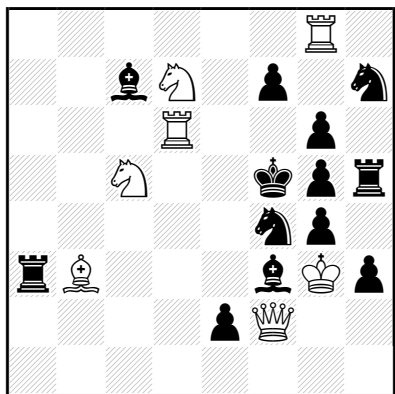
♠3 (11+9) C+

Alexandre SYGUROV
Jubilé M.M.Ryan-55
Maroc Echecs 2011
3° Prix



♠3 (9+10) C+

Abdelaziz ONKOUD
Jubilé M.M.Ryan-55
Maroc Echecs 2011
1° Mention d'Honneur



♠3 (7+13) C+

Second prize : **Abdelaziz ONKOUD**
 Of the Valladaos submitted to the tourney, this was the best, with a small (and thematic!) but interesting try and an underpromotion in addition to the promotion.

1.Td1? mais 1...Cg7!

1.0-0-0! [2.F×é6+ C×é6 3.Td5♠]
 1...Cg7 2.é4+ f×é3 e.p. 3.Tf1♠
 1...Td8 2.é×d8=D [3.Dd3♠] Cg3/é5/Cd5
 3.D×f6♠/Ch6♠/F×é6♠
 1...Ta6 2.h8=C [3.F×g6♠]

Third prize: Alexandre SYGUROV

This one, like the previous problem, could just as well have placed first or second. Not only do we have a nice collection of mates, but a combination of Novotny and Latvian Novotny, defenses on the same square, and changed play should the BK move to d5. If nothing else, impressive constructional skills.

1...Td6+ 2.C×d6+ C×d6 3.D×ç6♠
 1...Rd5 2.Cd4+ Ré4 3.Té5♠

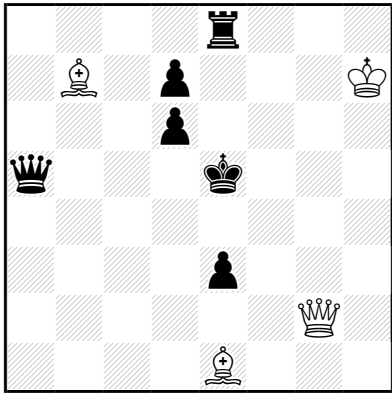
1.Fd4! [2.Cf6+ R×f4 3.T×g4♠]
 1...T×d4 2.Cfg3+ h×g3 3.Té5♠
 1...F×d4 2.Cd6+ C×d6 3.D×ç6♠
 1...Tg1 2.D×ç4 [3.D×ç6♠ 3.Dé6♠]
 F×d4 /T×d4 /C×d4 3.D×ç6/ Dé6 /Cd6♠
 1...Rd5 2.Cf6+ (2.Ff6?) Re6 2.d8=C#(Txd8?)

First honorable mention: Abdelaziz ONKOUD.

With a more convincing key and threat and lighter construction, this Barulin could have been a prizewinner and it is still quite good.

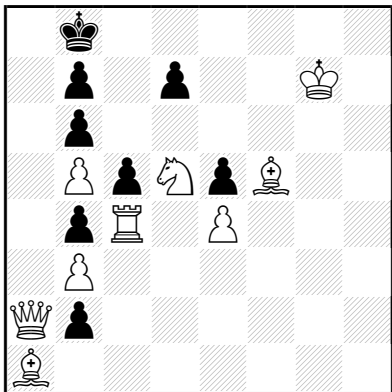
1.Tf8! [2.T×f7+ Cf6 3.T~×f6♠]
 1...Fd5 2.T×d5+ (2.Fç2+?) Fé5 3.T×é5♠
 1...Cd5 2.Fç2+ (2.T×d5+?) Td3 3.F×d3♠
 1...f6 2.T×f6+ C×f6 3.T×f6♠
 1...Fd8 2.Fé6+ C×é6 3.Td5♠

Marcel DORE
Jubilé M.M.Ryan-55
Maroc Echecs 2011
2° Mention d'Honneur



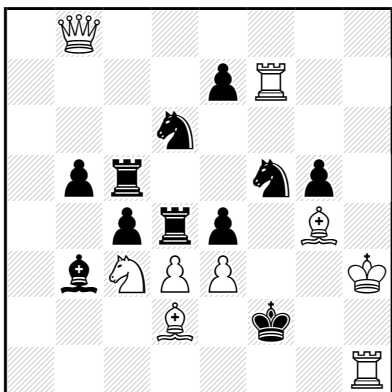
♠3 (4+6) C+

Dinko PASKALEV
Jubilé M.M.Ryan-55
Maroc Echecs 2011
3° Mention d'Honneur



♠3 (9+8) C+

Alexandre PANKRATIEV
Jubilé M.M.Ryan-55
Maroc Echecs 2011
4° Mention d'Honneur



♠3 (9+11) C+

Second honorable mention: Marcel DORE

I can overlook the checking key because it, as noted by the author, places the bishop en prise to the queen, and the mates are wonderful.

1.Fc3+!

1...D×ç3 2.Dg5+ Rd4/Ré6 3.Dd5♯/Fd5♯

1...Rf4 2.Df3+ Rg5 3.Ff6♯

1...Rf5 2.Df3+ Ré6/Rg5 3.Df6♯/Ff6♯

1...Ré6 2.Dg6+ Ré7 3.Df6♯

Third honorable mention: Dinko PASKALEV

This problem uses geometry very nicely, unusual in modern three-movers. The four corner effect is quite nice.

1.Tc1! Threat 2.Th1 and 3.Th8♯

1...b1=~,b×ç1=~ 2.F×é5 d6/Rç8 3.F×d6♯/Da8♯

1...b×a1=D/T 2.T×a1 and 3.Da8♯

Fourth honorable mention: Alexandre PANKRATIEV

I found the try play quite nice here, the set play unconvincing, although aesthetically pleasing.

1...Tç8 2.T×f5+ C×f5 3.Dh2♯

1...T×d3 2.C×é4+ C×é4 3.Dh2♯

1.Da7! [2.Da1 Fd1 3.C×d1♯]

1...T×d3 2.T×f5+ C×f5/T×f5 3.C×é4♯/Fé1♯

1...Tç8 2.C×é4+ T×é4/ C×é4 3.Fé1♯/T×f5♯

1...Fa4 2.D×a4 [3.Cd1♯]

There were four problems that could have been set for small commendations, but I left them out of the award as I felt the authors' might want to either continue to work on them or publish them in a small setting where solvers could appreciate. These include #17, a nice little Dombovskis, and #15, which had a nice Zagorouiko, and could compete for higher honors (perhaps even a prize) in a miniature tourney.

In summation, the quality of problems here was quite good. I only saw one problem I considered "not good" in the whole series of nineteen problems, and the authors should all be proud of their efforts to produce good quality problems for the jubilent. Too often, composers send all kinds of "cast-offs" to tourneys (I have even committed this "crime" myself a few times), this was not the case here. Congratulations to the award winners and much luck to the other problems should they appear in another tourney or publication.

Moremovers

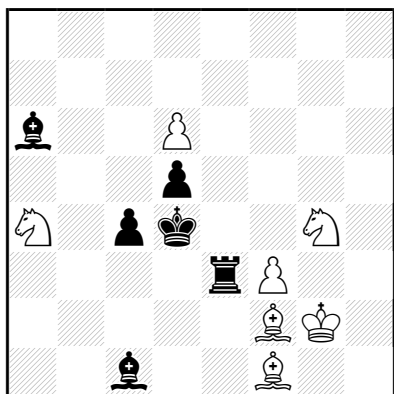
I'll first mention that I am a novice judge. I agreed because I wanted to try to do this at least once in my career, some of my friends having judged dozens of tourneys. I find it is too difficult (even in my career as a professor, I had trouble critiquing the work of others) and probably will not be something I will do again, simply because I think there are better experts out there. If, in my inexperience, I missed a good problem or my rankings seem odd, I ask the forgiveness of the participants I may have injured and wish them the best of luck with their problem in another tourney.

My rankings are based primarily on how they attracted my eye as a lover of good moremovers. I found just over a third of the problems deserved to be included in the award. Many of the others were interesting, from a solver's standpoint, and I felt they probably deserved their claim to fame in a newspaper column that publishes problems, or a magazine with dedicated solvers, such as the Problemist Supplement.

After receiving the anonymized diagrams from Abdelaziz, I divided this section of the tourney into two sub-sections, since there were interesting miniatures that deserved their own section, with almost a third of the problems being in that form. Some of the miniatures were too obviously database-mined, which is something I hope to see less of in the future (and you won't find those ones in the award). There were also some interesting study-like problems that I thought deserved special mention as well.

Sub-section One - "Regular" Moremovers

Grigory POPOV
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
1° Prix



#6

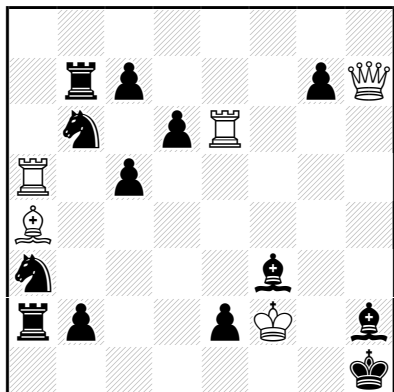
(7+6) C+

First prize : Grigory POPOV.

An excellent near-Meredith with a wonderful "rundlauf plus" of the white bishop, which defeats both the black rook and bishop on c1. The means by which the bishop is diverted is all part of the bishop's trip around the board. In the end, the start position is nearly re-established with the exception of the bishop having been diverted to b2. It is all oh so simple, but also oh so well-done.

1.Fh4! [2.Ff6+ Té5 3.F×é5‡]
 1... Té6 2.Fd8 [3.Fb6‡] T×d6 3.Fa5 [4.Fç3‡] Fb2 4.Fé1
 [5.Ff2‡] Té6 5.Ff2+ Té3 6.F×é3‡

Baldur KOZDON
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
2° Prix



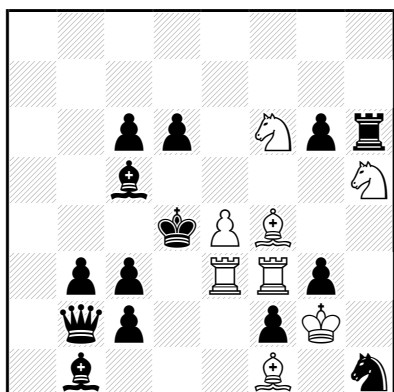
♠7 (5+13) C+

Second Prize :Baldur Kozdon.

The strategy is excellent and the piece sacrifices hard to fathom until you give the whole thing a good look. Like many problems in this tourney, heavy construction detracts a bit. The queen sacrifice at the end, with the rook mate, is quite beautiful. You don't need a lot of words to describe this one, play through the solution a few times and you will be suitably impressed.

- 1.Fc6 ? F×c6 , 1.T×c5 d×c5 , 1.T×e2 ? b1=D!
1.Dh3! (threat 2.D×f3♠)
 1...Fd5 2.Fc6 F×c6 3.T×c5 d×c5
 4.Te5 g5/g6 5.Te6/Te7 ~
 6.D×h2+ R×h2 7.Th6♠/Th7♠

Ralf KRATSCHMER
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
3° Prix



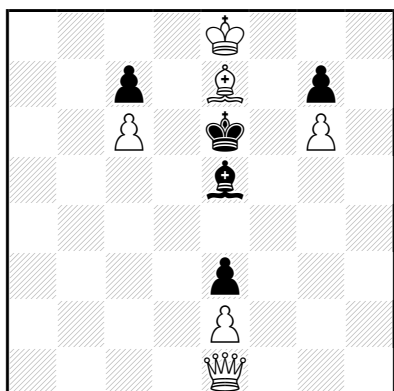
♠7 (8+14) C+

Third Prize :Ralf Kratschmer

I always am a sucker for the Berlin theme where it is not done heavy-handedly (sometimes the white "try" just looks like what the Germans call a Stümperzug, or fool's move), and the scuppering of the rooks in this fashion (a friend calls these "machine-gun" rooks) is also attractive, since the days I played chess, the double sacrifice of heavy pieces has been a favorite. Here the rooks simply impeded White from his main goal, so they must go! A heavy setting but well done.

- 1.Td3+!**
 1...Rç4 2.Td4+ R×d4 3.Td3+ Rç4 4.Td4+ R×d4 5.Cg7
 [6.Cé6♠] Th2+ 6.Rf3 [7.Cé6♠]

Miroslav SVITEK
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
Mention d'Honneur



♠5 (6+5) C+

Honorable Mention: Miroslav Svitek.

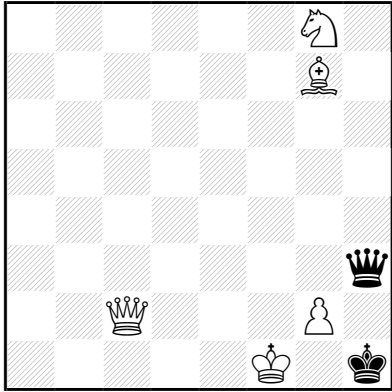
I've never been a big fan of symmetric/assymmetric, despite the fact that I am a great fan and student of Pauly. Too many of them are simply boring mating sequences that reflect the fact that there is little true symmetry on the board. The author does an excellent job here, with good tries and nice mates. I am sure it will end up in a collection of such problems one day.

- 1.Dh1!**
 1...Rf5 2.Dd5! K:g6 3.Q:e5 Kh6 4.Rf7 and 5.Dh2♠
 3..Rh7 4.Rf7 Rh6 5.Dh2♠
 1...Fe5~ 2.De4+ Fe5 3.D:e3 Rd5 4.Df3+ Rc4, Rd4/Ré6
 5.Dd3♠ /Df7♠
 3...Rf5 4.Dd3+ Rf4, Rg4 5.Df3♠
 4...Re6 5.Dd7♠

Commendations without rank

Three problems were submitted that were very study-like in their execution. I enjoy this style of moreover as it reflects a connection back to the game without being too game-like. One was a miniature, so it is mentioned there.

Baldur KOZDON
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
Recommandé



≠7

(5+2)

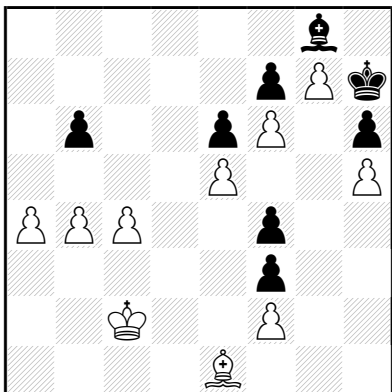
Recommandé : Baldur Kozdon

We start with queens on the board but exchange them in favor of a well-known mate that is not obvious from the start position. I suppose judges always play guessing games, I would guess this one to be by the famous German GM Kozdon, who has done many wonderful miniatures with the black queen on board. If not, perhaps we have a new Kozdon at work....

1.Dg6! [2.g×h3]

1...Dg3 2.Dh6+ Dh2 3.Cf6 D×h6 4.F×h6 Rh2 5.Ce4 Rh1
6.Cf2+ Rh2 7.Ff4‡

Jorma PITKANEN
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
Recommandé



‡7

(10+8) C+

Recommandé : Jorma Pitkanen

The key clears the c2 square for the queen mate, forcing a knight promotion by Black that delays things for one move. This is one you can show at the chess club to frustrate your non-problemist friends. They will walk away grumbling, but also be grudgingly impressed.

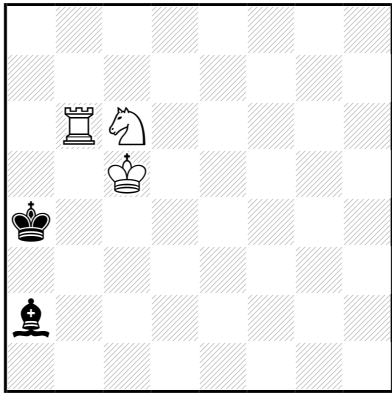
1.Rd2! blocus

1...b5 2.ç5 b×a4 3.ç6 a3 4.ç7 a2 5.ç8=D a1=C 6.Rd1
Cç2 ,Cb37.D×ç2‡

Sub-section Two – Miniatures

I felt, in addition to moving the 3 movers to their own section, that miniatures should have their own section to compete in since they comprised nearly a third of the entries. Here are my decisions. First and Second Prizes (shared) #22 and #23 The rundlauf of the knight in #22 is very attractive. The same for the Grimshaw in #23. Both show a style and grace I like to see in a miniature. Too many miniatures these days are somewhat lead-footed, reflecting their obvious database origins and a lack of discrimination by the “composer.”

Christian POISSON
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
1°-2° Prix

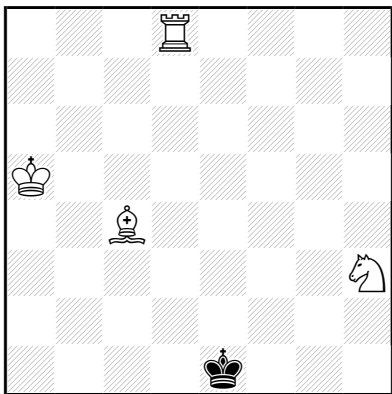


♠7 (3+2) C+

1°-2° Prix : Christian Poisson

1.Cd4! [2.Ta6♠] Ra3 2.Cç2+ Ra4 3.Tb4+ Ra5 4.Tb5+ Ra6
 5.Cb4+ Ra7 6.Cç6+ Ra6 7.Tb6♠
 6...Ra8 7.Tb8♠
 Losange du Cavalier blanc.

Christian POISSON
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
1°-2° Prix

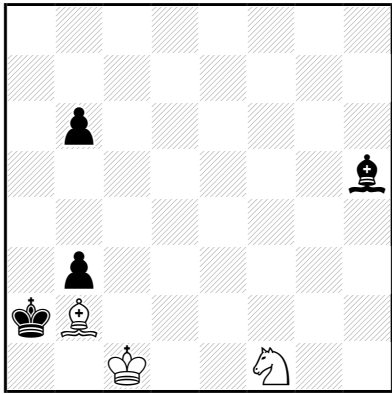


♠5 (4+1) C+

1°-2° Prix : Christian Poisson

1.Tg8?
 1...Rd1 2.Tg2 Rç1 3.Rb4 Rb1 4.Rç3 Ra1,Rç1 5.Tg1♠
 3...Rd1 4.Rç3 Rç1,Ré1 5.Tg1♠
 2...Ré1 3.Rb4 Rd1 4.Rç3 Rç1,Ré1 5.Tg1♠
 mais 1...Rd2!
 1.Fd3?
 1...Rd2 2.Rb4 Ré3 3.Rç3 Rf3 4.Tg8 Ré3 5.Tg3♠
 mais 1...Rd1!
1.Td3!
 1...Rf1 2.Fd5 Ré2 3.Fé4 Rf1 4.Ff3 Ré1 5.Td1♠
 3...Ré1 4.Ff3 Rf1 5.Td1♠
 1...Ré2 2.Rb4 Rf1 3.Tg3+ Ré1 4.Rç3 Rd1 5.Tg1♠
 2...Ré1 3.Rç3 Rf1 4.Tg3+ Ré1 5.Tg1♠
 3...Ré2 4.Tg3+ Rd1,Ré1 5.Tg1♠
 Grimshaw blanc.

Marcel DORE
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
3° Prix



♠7 (3+4)

Third prize : Marcel Doré

A very good strategic problem. A very nice mixture of ideas from other similar problems of the focal theme N/B; if they had not been seen before this could have taken the first prize here. Also study-like in its execution. Fourth Prize

1. Ce3 ! Ff3 ! 2. Cc4 !

2. Nf5 ? b5 !! = (2...Bc6 ? mate in 13!) If 3. Nd4 b4 != (3...B~ ? mate in 2)

2..... b5 3. Ce5 ! (any other move draws) **3..... Fe4 !**

4. Cd7 !! threatening 5. Nc5 and 6. Na6 ! followed by 7. Nb4 #

A) **4.... b4 ! 5. Ce5 !! z F~ 6. Cc6(d3) and 7. Cxb4 #**

Model mate. 5. Nb8 ? Bb7 != or 5. Nc5 ? Bd3 !=

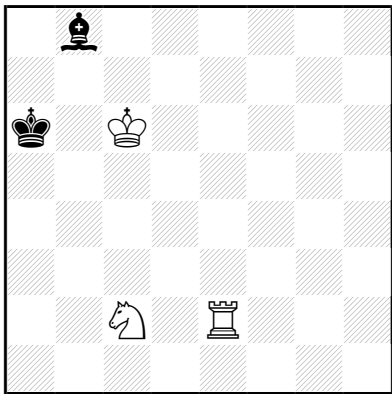
B) **4.... Bd3 ! 5. Nb8 !! b4(Be4) 6. Nc6(a6) and 7.**

Nxb4 (Nb4) # Model mate

5.Nf6 ? Be4 ! (5...Bc4 ? 6.Ne8! and mate in 3) 6.Nxe4 b4 ! 7. ?

Focal theme N/B with pawns

Christian POISSON
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
4° Prix



♠5 (3+2) C+

1.Cé3? [2.Ta2♠]

1...Fç7 2.Cç4 [3.Ta2+ Fa5 4.T×a5♠] Fa5 3.C×a5 R×a5

4.Té4 Ra6 5.Ta4♠

3...Ra7 4.Té8 Ra6 5.Ta8♠

mais 1...Ra5!

1.Té4? [2.Ta4♠]

1...Ra5 2.Ca1 [3.Cb3+ Ra6 4.Ta4♠] Fç7 3.Cb3+ Ra6

4.Ta4+ Fa5 5.T×a5♠

mais 1...Fç7!

1.Té3? [2.Ta3♠]

1...Fç7 2.R×ç7 [3.Té5 Ra7 4.Ta5♠] Rb5 3.Tç3 Ra6 4.Tç5

Ra7 5.Ta5♠

3...Ra4 4.Rç6 [5.Ta3♠]

3...Ra5 4.Rç6 [5.Ta3♠]

mais 1...Fd6!

1.Ca1! [2.Ta2♠]

1...Fç7 2.Cb3 [3.Ta2+ Fa5 4.T×a5♠] Fa5 3.C×a5 R×a5

4.Té4 Ra6 5.Ta4♠

3...Ra7 4.Té8 Ra6 5.Ta8♠

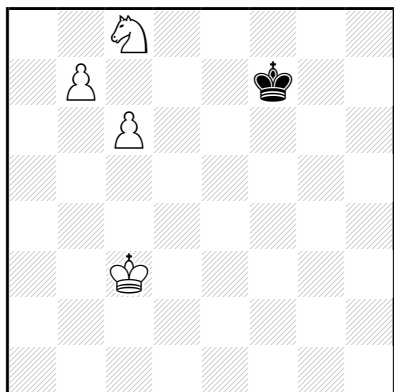
2...Ra7 3.R×ç7 [4.Ta2♠] Ra6 4.Té5 [5.Ta5♠]

1...Ra5 2.Té4 [3.Cb3+ Ra6 4.Ta4♠] Fç7 3.Cb3+ Ra6

4.Ta4+ Fa5 5.T×a5♠

Excellent tries are exhibited and the actual withdrawal key to the edge of the board shows the paradox one expects in a key.

Christian POISSON
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
Honorable mention



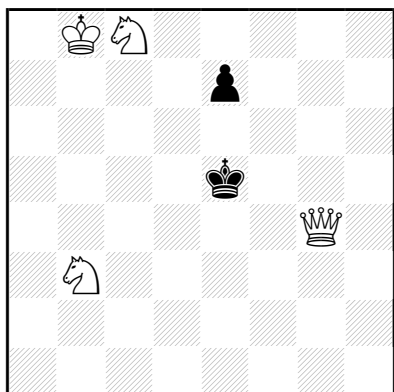
♠6 (4+1) C+

Honorable mention : Christian POISSON

The initial promotion is obvious but the subsequent play is very interesting with its underpromotions. A $\frac{3}{4}$ AUW in which I think the author might find a full AUW if he abandons the miniature form; I didn't find it, but came close several times (story of my life!).

1.b8=D! Ré6 2.Df4 Rd5 3.ç7 Rç6 4.Ca7+ Rb7 5.ç8=D+ Rb6 6.Dfç7‡
 4...Rd5 5.ç8=F Rç5 6.Dd4‡
 4...Rb6 5.ç8=D Ra5 6.Db4‡
 3...Ré6 4.Cb6 Ré7 5.ç8=T Ré6 6.Té8‡

Mikhaïl CROITOR
JT M.M.Ryan 55
Maroc Echecs 2011
Honorable mention



♠4 (4+2) C+

Honorable mention : Mikhaïl CROITOR

Sometimes a good king hunt is just what you need to perk yourself up. This one also has a good collection of mates. Well-suited as a solver's problem, and it perhaps belonged in a medium with a solving competition as did some of the others not mentioned here, but this one stood out to my eye.

1.Df3! blocus
 1...é6 2.Df2 Rd5 3.Dd4+ Rç6 4.Ca7‡
 2...Ré4 3.Cd6+ Rd5 4.Dç5‡
 3...Rd3 4.Dd2‡
 3...Ré5 4.Dd4‡
 1...Ré6 2.Cb6 Ré5 3.Cç4+ Ré6 4.Cç5‡

Respectfully submitted,

Steven B. Dowd
 May 2, 2011