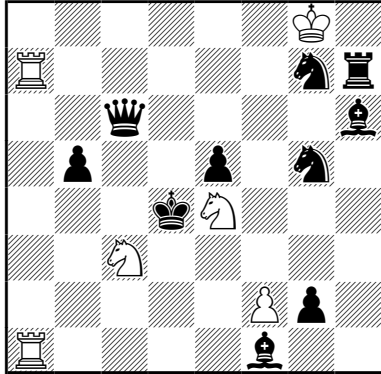


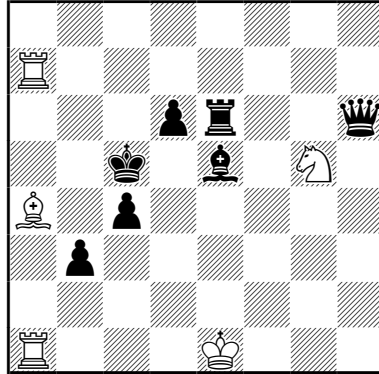
SHAKHMATNA MISL 2005 HELPMATES AWARD

**Chris FEATHER**  
Shakhmatna Misl 2005  
Prix



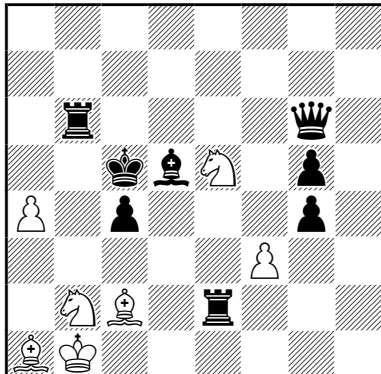
h#2 (6+10) C+  
2.1.1.1  
1.S5e6 T1a4+ 2.Dc4 Td7#  
1.S7e6 T7a4+ 2.Lc4 Td1#

**Mike PRCIC**  
**Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC**  
Shakhmatna Misl 2005  
1° Mention d'Honneur



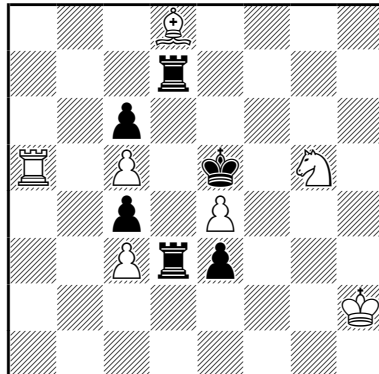
h#2 (5+7) C+  
2.1.1.1  
1.d5 Td1 2.Kd6 Se4#  
1.Kd5 0-0-0+ 2.Ld4 Ta5#

**Toma GARAI**  
Shakhmatna Misl 2005  
2° Mention d'Honneur



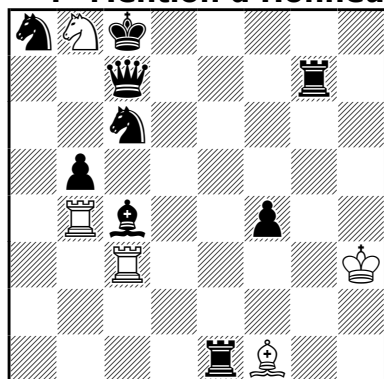
h#2 (7+8) C+  
b) ♔c5 ♚d5  
a) 1.Dd6 Lb3 2.cxb3 Sbd3#  
b) 1.Td6 Sbd3 2.cxd3 Lb3#

**Zoltán LABAI**  
Shakhmatna Misl 2005  
3° Mention d'Honneur



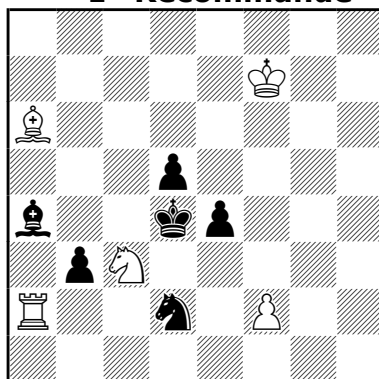
h#2 (7+6) C+  
2.1.1.1  
1.T3d6 cxd6+ 2.Kxd6 e5#  
1.T7d4 cxd4+ 2.Kxd4 Lf6#

**Kiril ZHELIAZKOV**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**4° Mention d'Honneur**



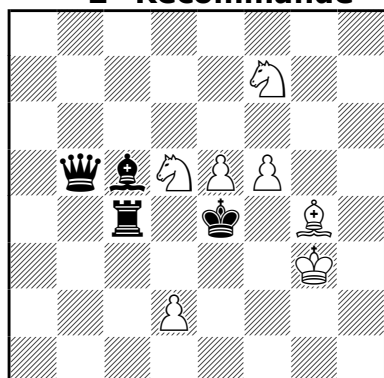
- h#2 (5+9) C+  
 b) ♖f1♞g3  
 a) 1.Lf7 Lxb5 2.Sd8 Ld7+  
 b) 1.Le2 Txf4 2.Db7 Tf8+

**Antonio GAROFALO**  
**Vito RALLO**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**1° Recommandé**



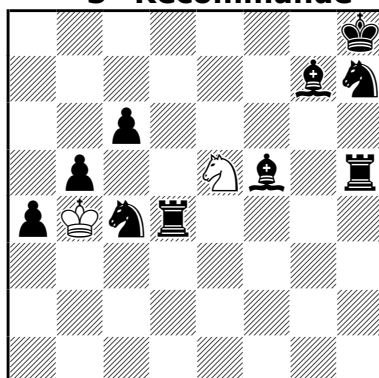
- h#2 (5+6) C+  
 b) ♖f2♞e2  
 a) 1.Sc4 Sb1 2.Kd3 Td2+  
 b) 1.Lb5 Sxe4 2.Kc4 Ta4+

**Zivko JANEVSKI**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**2° Recommandé**



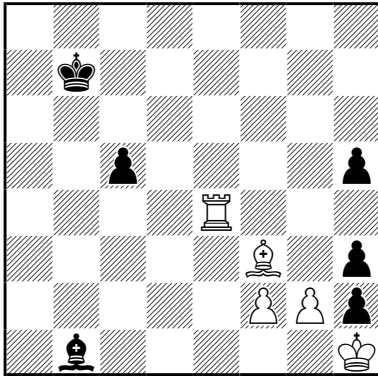
- h#2 (7+4) C+  
 2.1.1.1  
 1.Td4 Se3 2.Dd3 Lf3+  
 1.Ld4 Sf4 2.Dxe5 Sg5+

**Leonid CHERTKOV**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**3° Recommandé**



- h#2 (2+10) C+  
 2.1.1.1  
 1.Le6 Kc3 2.Lg8 Sg6+  
 1.Td8 Kc5 2.Tg8 Sf7+

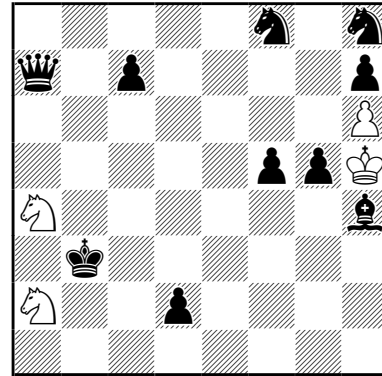
**Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**1° Prix**



h#4,5 (5+6) C+  
 b) - ♗h2

- a) 1...g×h3 2.Ka8 Kg2 3.h1=D+ Kg3 4.Dh2+ Kh4 5.Db8 Ta4#  
 b) 1...L×h5 2.Kc6 Th4 3.Kd5 g4 4.Ke4 Kg1 5.Kf3 g5#

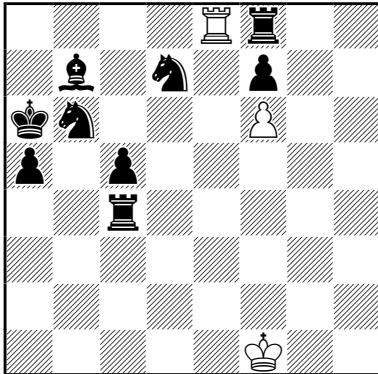
**Chris FEATHER**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**2° Prix**



h#4 (4+10) C+  
 2.1.1...

- 1.c5 Sb4 2.Dg7 h×g7 3.c×b4 g×h8=D 4.Ka2 Db2#  
 1.Dd4 Sb6 2.Dg7 h×g7 3.c×b6 g×f8=D 4.Ka4 Db4#

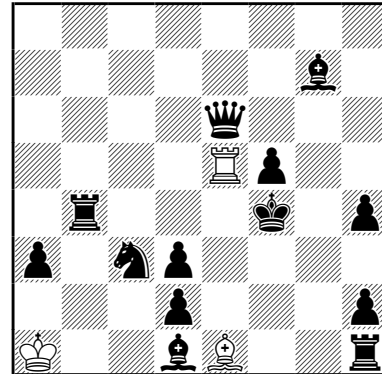
**Chris FEATHER**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**3° Prix**



h#4 (3+9) C+  
 2.1.1...

- 1.Tg8 Te6 2.Tg7 f×g7 3.Lc6 g8=D 4.Lb5 Da8#  
 1.Te4 Te7 2.T×e7 f×e7 3.Ta8 e8=S 4.Ta7 Sc7#

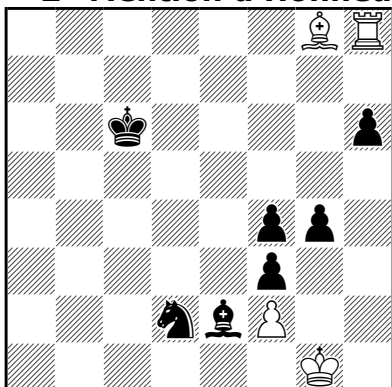
**Christopher J.A. JONES**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**1° Mention d'Honneur**



h#3 (3+13) C+  
 b) ♗f5□c4

- a) 1.Te4 T×f5+ 2.Ke3 Tf6 3.Se2 Lf2#  
 b) 1.Dh3 L×d2+ 2.Kg4 Lc1 3.Lf3 Tg5#

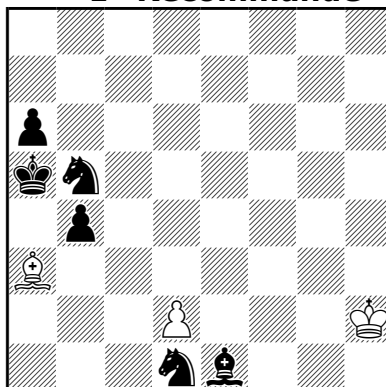
**Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC**  
**Bernd ELLINGHOVEN**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**2° Mention d'Honneur**



h#4,5 (4+7) C+

1...La2 2.Sb3 Tb8 3.Kd5 Txb3 4.Ke4 Txf3  
 5.Kxf3 Ld5#

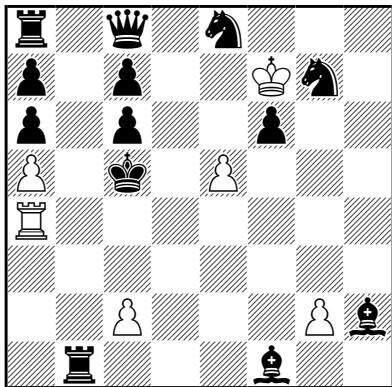
**Christopher J.A. JONES**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**1° Recommandé**



h#5 (3+6) C+

1.Lh4 Lb2 2.Lf6 Ld4 3.Sb2 Lc5 4.Lc3 dxc3  
 5.Sa4 cxb4#

**Gennady ZGERSKY**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**2° Recommandé**

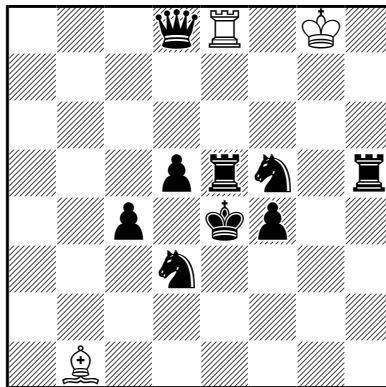


h#3 (6+13) C+

2.1.1...

1.Sd6+ exd6 2.Kxd6 g3 3.Kd7 Td4#  
 1.Tb6 axb6 2.Kxb6 c4 3.Kb7 Tb4#

**Helmut ZAJIC**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**3° Recommandé**

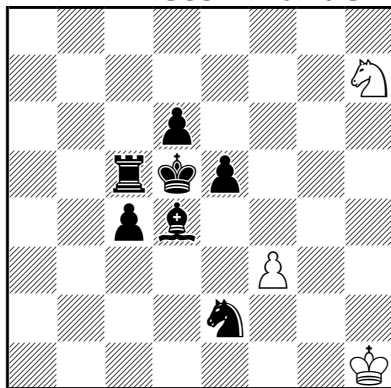


h#3 (3+9) C+

2.1.1...

1.Th3 Kf7 2.Te3 Tg8 3.f3 Tg4#  
 1.Db6 Lc2 2.De3 La4 3.d4 Lc6#

**Slobodan SALETIC**  
**Shakhmatna Misl 2005**  
**4° Recommandé**



h#3\* (3+7) C+

1...Sf8 2.Sf4 Sg6 3.Se6 Se7#  
 1.Tc6 f4 2.Lc5 f5 3.Sd4 Sf6#

# SHAKHMATNA MISL 2005 HELPMATES AWARD

69 helpmates participated in this tourney (36 twomovers, 19 threemovers and the rest 14 moremovers). There was a certain imbalance in the lot: about one entry out of four appears in the award, which is a good percentage in itself, but the quality of the rest  $\frac{3}{4}$  was rather mediocre with occasionally a few poor compositions.

## SECTION I : HELPMATES IN 2 MOVES

Anticipations or compositions of limited originality: No.10 is anticipated by PDB P0549623, No.13 by P0537571, No.77 by P0521005, No.97 by P0550804, No.113 by Živko Janevski (after György Bakcsi), 844 Orbit 16/2002 (exactly the same position, but with the bD on a7 and without the bpc6, mirrored). The sacrifices on the same square for black hideaways with Zilahi in No.36 are familiar from P0528023, while a black Ra1 would suffice. I prefer the less ambitious but more decent Gianni Donati, 3 Comm Best Problems 2000-01 (WinChloe 99803) than No.161. A simple Zajic without any additionally element does not justify the 19 pieces and the weak twin of No.190, as proven by Michael McDowell, 1 HM Quartz 2001-02 (WinChloe 159149), and by the composer himself with his Die Schwalbe 2000 (v) [WinChloe 162069] and Comm P. Kniest MT feenschach 1999 (WinChloe 204009).

Constructional defects: The wTg7 is useless in one solution of No.100. The wTa8 of No.131 is too expensive (in fact, it only stops cooks!) Same black moves in both solutions of No.159.

Limited interest: No particular thematic link among the phases of No.76, No.98, No.99 and No.143 (too formal). The content of No.37, No.78, No.111, No.129, No.130, No.158 and No.188 is less than average. The move Dg8 in No.59 not only pins the bT, but it also guards a flight. The black rook's captures in No.144 are too awkward. No.145 gives a rather schematic impression, even if the exchange of the black roles is interesting. The twin of No.160 shifts a thematic piece, which is quite disturbing. I would have preferred the B2 moves of No.9 were strategically more challenging.

**Prize No.11, 1/05 (Chris Feather):** Each wT pins the arriving on c4 black piece and delivers mate in turns, while Black has to shield the wK in advance from a check by these pieces landing on that square. This main plan is masterly enriched with dual avoidance based on which line each bS opens in the first move.

**1<sup>st</sup> Honourable Mention No.189, 12/05 (Mike Prcic & Fadil Abdurahmanović):** The idea of dual avoidance involving castling became quite popular after a recent article by Chris Feather in Die Schwalbe; here it is presented with pin-mates in an appealing Meredith setting.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Honourable Mention No.12, 1/05 (Toma Garai):** A noteworthy combination of withdrawal unpins / square-blocks in B1 with mutual white interference unpins after sacrifices, which yield a pleasant Zilahi. Earlier realisations are PDB P0552021 and Ivan Antipin, 8 Pr V. Chepizhny-70 JT 2004 (WinChloe 202265).

**3<sup>rd</sup> Honourable Mention No.57, 3/05 (Zoltán Labai):** Pawn-Zajic sacrifices with reciprocal black roles and model mates in a neat setting. The theme is quite easy with white pawns and it has been even tripled, for instance in PDB P0538370.

**4<sup>th</sup> Honourable Mention, No.38, 2/05 (Kiril Zheliazkov):** Rich play featuring line openings and interferences combined with a black masked half-pin. However, there are quite a lot of shortcomings, such as: wL has no alternative route to reach d7, which makes the wT line-opening accidental, the twinning is poor, and there is only one line-opening by Black in the Tf8# solution.

**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation No.112, 6/05 (Antonio Garofalo & Vito Rallo):** Anticipatory self-pins with the bK going onto the same pin-line and model mates on the square vacated on Black's first move. Chris Feather kindly advised that there are about 10 examples of this combination in his collection, four of which triple the theme, but no total anticipation came out.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation No.132, 7/05 (Živko Janevski):** Self-blocks on the same square in B1 with gate openings for the bD, followed by new self-blocks. Meanwhile, the wS should provide a shield for his king; yet, it is a shame that the move Se3 prevents not only the check, but also the capture of the mating piece. This is an inconsistency that should have been avoided.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation No.58, 3/05 (Lekhid Chertkov):** The wK tempo moves are nicely differentiated due to the potential self-pins of the knight, depending on which black unit departs to block the flight square. PDB P0523255 is quite similar and a minimal, too.

## SECTION II : HELPMATES IN MORE THAN 2 MOVES

The average level was clearly better than the h#2 section, but not so high as to justify individual awards for h#3 and h#n.

Anticipations or compositions of limited originality: The capture of the bD in No.43 is awful; such a bK/wK Platzwechsel has been presented more efficiently by PDB P0501570 and P0502001. No.79 is anticipated by Toma Garai, Sachové umení 1999 and by Valery Gurov, 3 HM Halkidiki Internet Tourney 2004 (WinChloe 200739 and 173260 respectively), No.82 by PDB P1002672 and Christer Jonsson, Special Comm Halkidiki Internet Tourney (WinChloe 173280), No.83 by Vatslav Gebelt, 5 Pr J. Pitkänen-50 JT 1991 (WinChloe 114769), while No.62, No.114 and No.118 are surpassed by the superior PDB P0549164, P0513226 and P0569639 respectively. There is nothing new in No.147 compared to PDB P0500757, P0509134 and P0583463 (the latter by the composer himself!). A warning of unfair behaviour to the composers of No.148, for this is merely a slight version of their 2 HM Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya 2004 (WinChloe 191125).

Constructional defects: The black play of No.40 is nice, but the composer should have persisted a little longer, since the bD and the capture Lxb4 could have been avoided easily, as the following version shows: White = Kc3 Td1 La2 Pb4e2e6 (6), Black = Kd5 Tb1c8 Lg7 Sc4d4 Pa3e7f5 (9), h#3, 2.1.1... No.84 is cooked (incorrect diagram?!), while White cannot castle in No.162, so this has no solution!

Limited interest: No.14 is surpassed by the more economic Yuri Gorbatenko & Vladislav Nefyodov, 7-8 Comm Uralsky Problemist 2001 (WinChloe 181287) and József Pasztor, 2 HM Csák-Majoros Tourney 2003 (WinChloe 191898) with white L/S and T/L as thematic pieces; compare also to the composer's 4 Pr Sakkélet 1998 (WinChloe 114373). The white play in No.41 is well-known from PDB P1002142, Aleksandr Semenenko, Die Schwalbe 2002 (WinChloe 201018) and Yuri Gorbatenko, 2 HM V. Vinokurov-50 JT 2003 (WinChloe 201072) with the black moves along the pin-lines being the only new element, achieved at a very high cost. Similarly, the only difference of No.61 compared to PDB P0504722, P1001657 and P1002896 is the introductory black Grimshaw, instead of the distant self-blocks; I, however, doubt if such an addition can justify the 22 pieces! Nothing really interesting happens in No.39 and No.60, while No.80 is too heavy for its content. Brutal captures in No.101 and weak B1 moves in No.116 and No.192. There is no particular thematic link between the solutions of No.102 and No.134. No.191 suffers from the same B3 move and mechanical play.

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize No.16, 1/05 (Fadil Abdurahmanović):** Contrasting, but of pleasing variety, strategy between the two parts, with king marches as a common element to achieve the required unity. In (a), Black promotes to queen to achieve a square block, who in her route hammers the wK that tries desperately to hide; mate is delivered by the set battery with a double check. The twin removes the black pawn, which makes g1 free for the wK, so that the bK can now drive to his own death towards f3; this time, White depends on two new batteries, created after Indian manoeuvres, with the humble pawn as the front unit. A nice and original experiment that I consider fully convincing.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize No.42, 2/05 (Chris Feather):** Tempo sacrifices of the two white knights with the very interesting feature that the position of the black pawn differentiates the whole play (which knight will gain the tempo and which route the bD will pick to her own sacrifice). Two

wD promotions and horizontally mirrored echo mates.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No.15, 1/05 (Chris Feather):** Sacrifices of the two black rooks to a single pawn for D/S promotions with good variety. I used this problem in the Greek solving championship of 2007 and the solvers who managed to crack it in full agreed that they really enjoyed it. They admitted that they had to spend quite some time to find the way to free the promotion square, open the Tg8 line and not interfere with Te4; indeed, the sacrifice on e7 comes as a true surprise.

**1<sup>st</sup> Honourable Mention No.133, 7/05 (Christopher J.A. Jones):** The manoeuvres of the wT/L re-arranging their position on the masked pin-lines to prevent check to the wK by the released black units are noteworthy and quite probably original. The black play comprises of self-blocks only and it is less interesting. The composer managed to avoid the troublesome dual Txe6 – Tf6 in a smart way, even if this made the rather artificial twinning necessary (try it without the black pawn on f5!)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Honourable Mention No.17, 1/05 (Fadil Abdurahmanović & Bernd Ellinghoven):** A logical single-liner: the wT should carry out a Kniest sacrifice, while the bK marches onto the mate square. The wL cannot simply hide away to h7 since it still guards the bK's route, so it must fly to the other side in order to be interfered by the bS. The black knight itself has to choose his arrival square carefully, for after Sc4? ... Txc4, the bK could not step forward any further.

**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation No.18, 1/05 (Christopher J.A. Jones):** The black bishop's pericritical manoeuvre is exactly the same as in the composer's PDB P1002493. This version, even if it lacks the formal element of the bishops' Platzwechsel, is lighter and deserves some recognition.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation No.193, 12/05 (Gennady Zgorsky):** A quite symmetric rendering of pawn-Zajic sacrifices with nice shut-offs of black lines in the spare W2 move.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation No.117, 6/05 (Helmut Zajic):** Changed self-blocks and model static pin-mates with clever use of the wK.

**4<sup>th</sup> Commendation No.81, 4/05 (Slobodan Šaletić):** A tricky Zugzwang problem with simple self-blocks and model mates; a bit old-fashioned, but neatly done.

Athens, 18 January 2010  
Harry Fougiaxis  
FIDE International Judge