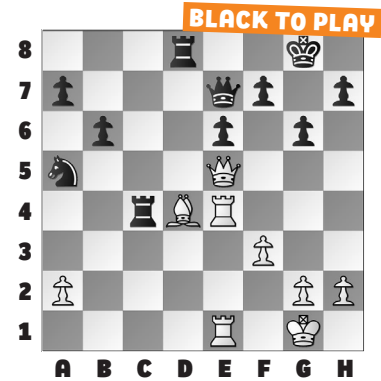# TACTICS TUESDAY

CHESS LIFE Kids ONLINE

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS, PT. 3
This week concludes our series on the **tournaments of champions**. The focus is on moves that look like sacrifices, but actually win material.

In this week's **example**, Black is up two pawns but facing mate on the dark squares. How should they defend? **25. ... Rdxd4!** A clever Exchange "sac." Instead, Black played 25. ... f6? and after 26. Qxf6 Qxf6 27. Bxf6 Rxe4 28. fxe4, White held on in Shangin – Zhang.

The text is an improvement because **26. Rxd4** walks into **26. ... Nc6!** immediately regaining material. Now, White is forced to play **27. Rxc4 Nxe5 28. Rxe5** when

Black's extra pawn on each flank provides winning chances.

BLACK TO PLAY

 # 1.   **BLACK TO PLAY**

 # 2.   **BLACK TO PLAY**

 # 3.   **WHITE TO PLAY**

#4.   **WHITE TO PLAY**

 # 5.   **WHITE TO PLAY**

 # 6.   **WHITE TO PLAY**

SOLUTIONS

1) **60. ... Nxc4+** This simple fork won Black a share of the Denker. Keep this pattern in mind... (Huston – Kaplan, Norfolk, 2024) **2)** **59. ... Ra3+!** **60. Kxa3 Nxc4+** See? That was helpful, right? White resigned seven moves later. (Huston – Kaplan, Norfolk, 2024) **3)** **28. Qxh5+ Rh6 29. Qxh6+** An easy pin to overlook! **29. ... Kg8 30. Bxg7** White picks up another pawn, as **30. ... Qxg7 31. Qxd6** regains the piece. **Black**

resigned six moves later. (Mulay – Abraham, Norfolk, 2024) **4)** **38. Rf6** Not the only winning move, but the clearest. In the game, Black played **38. ... Rcg8** loses to a similar pin as the previous puzzle. **39. Qxh5+ Kg7 40. Rxg6+ Kf8 41. Rf1+!** breaking the pin on White's queen just in time. (Abraham – Sharvesh, Norfolk, 2024) **5)** **12. Nxf6+!** The first of two "famous" opening traps from the Haring. The point is **12. ... Bxf6 13. Ng5!** combines the mate-

threat on the h7-square with the hanging b7-bishop. **13. ... Bxg5 14. Bxb7** White regains the piece, with a fork to boot! **14. ... Bf6 15. Bxa6** The full piece is mightier than the Exchange. White went on to win. (Liu – Zhou, Norfolk, 2024) **6)** **12. Nxd5!** White threatens Bf4-c7 to trap Black's queen. The great Akiba Rubinstein fell into this trap in two separate games! **12. ... Nxf4 13. Nxf4** The clean pawn is a major victory. (Tang – Verma, Norfolk, 2024)

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