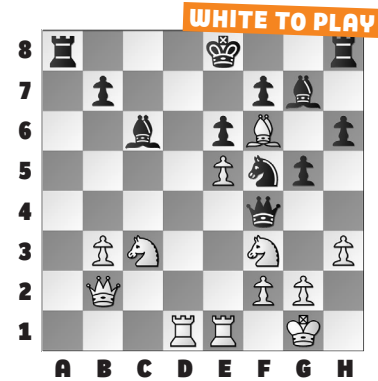# TACTICS TUESDAY
CHESS LIFE Kids ONLINE

WORLD RAPID & BLITZ, PT. 5

We continue the **FIDE World Rapid & Blitz** series by highlighting Women's Olympiad team members of the past, present, and future. IM Alice Lee played her first Olympiad in 2024 alongside GM Irina Krush, who has been on the team since 1998. WGMs Tatev Abrahamyan and Jennifer Yu did not take the trip to Budapest, but were part of the 2022 squad that tied for third.

Our **example** comes from Tatev the Tactical, who saw the Rd1-d8 mating idea and went for a decoy with **25. Qa3!**. After **25. ... Rc8 26. Ne2** Tatev switched attention to the e7, hitting Black's queen while eying the f5-knight, and **26. ...** Qe4 allowed **27. Ned4**, winning in Abrahamyan – Uuriintuya.

WHITE TO PLAY

1. WHITE TO PLAY

2. BLACK TO PLAY

3. WHITE TO PLAY

#4. WHITE TO PLAY

5. BLACK TO PLAY

6. WHITE TO PLAY

SOLUTIONS

1) It often takes three pieces to weave a mating net, but here the e- and f-pawns join in. **39. Ne7** mate. (Abrahamyan – Stanford, New York, 2024) **2) 36. ... Qh1+** The right check! **37. Kf2 Rg2** mate. (Lu – Abrahamyan, New York, 2024) **3) 28. Rxf5** An overload! **28. ... Qa1+** Where else? The rook drops after 28. ... Qxf5 29. Rxe7+ when Black's king is toast, while 28. ... Qh4 29. g3 finishes the removal of the guard,

but 28. ... Qg7 29. Rxe7 Qxe7 30. Rf7+ wins the queen. **29. Rf1** The checks run out and **Black resigned**. (Yu – Noshin, New York, 2024) **4) 34. Rxe4** Removing the guard of the d6-queen. Down to a few seconds, White's hand grabbed Black's queen before her brain could tell her to take the knight instead, and after 34. Qxd6 Nxd6 35. f3 the game later ended in a draw. **34. ... Qxf4 35. Rxf4** White is piece-up. (Krush – Zhukova, New

York, 2024, analysis) **5) 17. ... Qf6** Loose pieces drop off! **18. Bxc6 Bxc6** Having changed nothing, **White resigned** as 19. Qe2 is the only way to defend the knight, but **19. ... Nxc3** is decisive. (Wu – Lee, New York, 2024) **6) 23. Nc3!** On first blush, this does not appear too tactical. **23. ... Rc8 24. Ke1** But White threatens Ke1-d1, and nothing can be done. **24. ... f6 25. exf6+ Kxf6 26. Kd1** White wins material. (Abrahamyan – Guichard, New York, 2024)