

US CADETS: TANI REPEATS

This week's puzzles come from the **2025 US Cadet (U-16) Championship**, where 14-yearold IM-elect **Tanitoluwa "Tani"**

JULY 01, 2025

Adewumi took first for a second straight year, again going an undefeated 6/7 score to win another \$10,000 dollar scholarship (provided half by the Dewain Barber Foundation and half by US Chess) In our example, Black won with 32. ... f3+ 33. Bxf3 Or 33. Kxh3 Bxg4+ is similar. But now 33. ... Rxf3 34. Kxf3 Bxg4+ wins after 35. Kg2, as seen in Deng – Adewumi. But what was Black's response to 35. Kxg4? The fantastic 35. ... **Ng1!** when White's king loses both emergency exits.

BY JJ LANG



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SOLUTIONS

1) 41. ... Rxh3+! and White resigned in light of 42. gxh3 g2+ 43. Kh2 g1=Q mate. (Lin – Jiang, Schaumburg, 2025) 2) 20. Bxd5 White wins an Exchange. 20. ... Qxd5 21. Nb6 Qc6 22. Nxa8 White's f2-f3 is enough to stop ... Bh7-f5-h3, so has nothing to show for the Exchange. (Jiang – Zhu, Schaumburg, 2025) 3) 33. Nxe6 White crashes through. 33. ... gxf3+ If 33. ... fxe6 34. Qxg6+ Qg7 (or 34. ... Kf8 35. Rf4+ Ke7 36. Rf7+ wins the queen) 35. Qxe6+ Kh7 36. Rxg4 leads to mate. **34. Kf1** A fun aside: 34. Kh3? allows 34. ... fxe6 35. Qxg6+ Qg7 36. Qxe6+ Kh7 37. Rg4 Rf8! and White has no blockader. **34. ... fxe6 35. Qxg6+ Qg7 36. Qxe6+ Kh7 37. Rg4** White's attack is fatal. (Zhu – Colville, Schaumburg, 2025) **4) 26. Rfe1! Rxd2** The game continued 26. ... R2e6 27. Rxe6 Rxe6 28. Re1 Kf7 29. Rxe6 Kxe6 when the d6-pawn

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gave winning chances. 27. Rxe8+ Kf7 28. Re7+ Kf8 29. Rxd2 With the d6-pawn supported, White's material plus is just a bonus. (Colville – Deng, Schaumburg, 2025, variation) **5) 28. Nd5!** Defending the e7-rook while creating interference on the a2-g8 diagonal. **28. . . . Qxd5** Black had nothing better. **29. exd5 Kxe7 30. d6+!** White is winning. (Colville – Lin, Schaumburg, 2025) **6) 42. . . . Qxf5 43. Qxc5** Otherwise, Black is just ahead two pawns. **43. ... Ra2!** and **White resigned**. (Rao – Jiang, Schaumburg, 2025)

