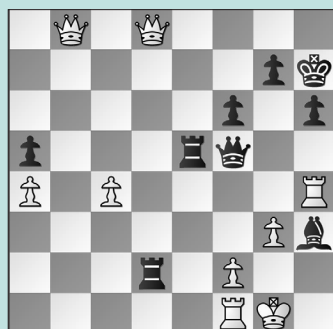


2025 FIDE GRAND SWISS, PT. 2

WEDNESDAY WORKOUT ■ SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

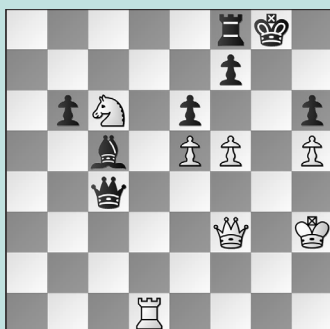
BY WGM SABINA FOISOR

PUZZLE 1.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 2.



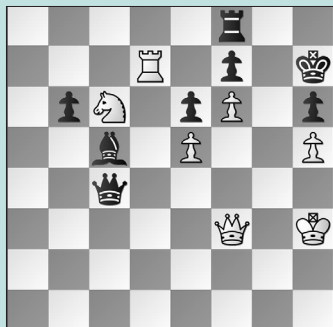
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 3.



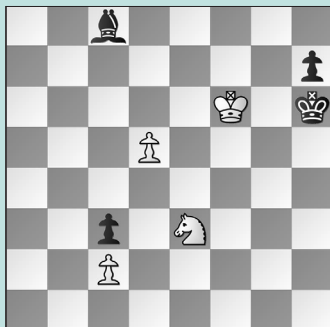
BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 4.



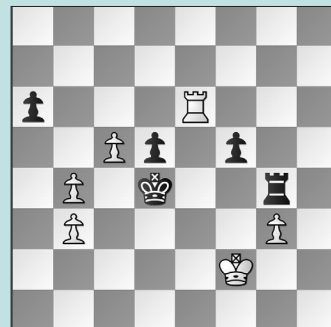
BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 5.



WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 6.



BLACK TO MOVE

SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE 1. 37. ... Qxf2+ No queen? No problem! 38. Rxf2 Re1+ 39. Kh2 Rxf2+ 40. Kxh3 Rh1+ 41. Kg4 f5+ 42. Kh5 g6 mate. (Mittal – Erdogmus, Samarkand, 2025) **PUZZLE 2.** 54. f6! Tightening the screws. 54. ... Kh7 Clearing the f8-square fails, too, e.g. 54. ... Ra8 55. Ne7+ Kh7 56. Qxa8 wins, as does 54. ... Rc8 55. Ne7+ Bxe7 56. fxe7 when the threat is now Rd1-d8+. 55. Ne7! Preventing ... Rf8-g8 before infiltrating on the g-file. Even better than 55. Nd8, which won in the game. But White must avoid 55. Rd7?? as we will see in Puzzle 4. (Kuzubov – Wojtaszek, Samarkand, 2025) **PUZZLE 3.** 24. ... Qh4+! After 24. ... Qxc1? 25. Rxc1 e3+ 26. Nxe3 Rd2+ 27. Kg3 Rd3 28. Kf2 Rd2+, Black

settled for a draw by repetition. 25. Rg3 Worse is 25. Ng3?? Qxh2+ when Black wins. 25. ... Rfd8! Preparing ... Rd3-d2+ against White's overloaded f1-knight. Now White is stuck without moves, so Black can slowly expand kingside. (Niemann – Sargissian, Samarkand, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 4.** 55. ... Bf2!! Before Nc6-d8-xf7 can be played, Black forces simplifications. 56. Kg2 Rg8+ 57. Kxf2 Qh4+ 58. Ke2 Rg3 Black has a mating attack, so 59. Rxf7+, forcing a perpetual, is best. (Kuzubov – Wojtaszek, Samarkand, 2025, variation) **PUZZLE 5.** 69. Nd1! Or 69. Nc4 Kh5 70. Nb6! Bh3 71. d6 Kh4 72. d7 also wins. But White's 69. d6?? ran into 69. ... Kh5 70. Nd5 Kg4 when Black's king and h-pawn activate in time to hold a draw. 69. ... Kh5

70. Nxc3 Kg4 71. Ke5 h5 Unlike the game, White's knight is in time to reach the e4-square. 72. Ne4 h4 73. c4 Threats of Ne4-f2+ slow Black down too much. (M. Muzychuk – Khalilova, Samarkand, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 6.** 44. ... f4! The only draw. In the game, 44. ... Kc3?? allowed 45. Rxa6 Kxb3 46. Rb6 Rc4 Or 46. ... d4 47. Rd6! Kxb4 (Note: 47. ... f4 48. c6 fxg3+ 49. Kg2 wins, as there is no ... Rg4-c4 now!) 48. c6 Rg8 49. c7 Rc8 50. Rd7 winning. After 47. c6 d4 48. b5 d3 49. Rb7 d2 50. Ke2, Black resigned. 45. Rxa6 Or 45. gxf4 Rxf4+ 46. Kg3 Rf8 47. Rxa6 Kc3 48. Rb6 d4 with sufficient counterplay. 45. ... Rxc3 46. c6 Rc3 47. b5 Kc5 48. c7 Kxb5 Black has enough counterplay to hold. (Donchenko – Karthikeyan, Samarkand, 2025, analysis)