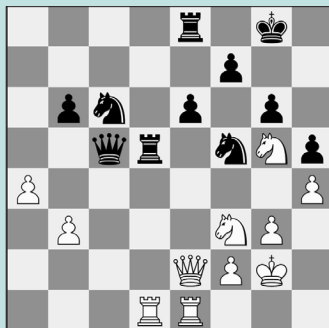


WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPS

WEDNESDAY WORKOUT ■ NOVEMBER 26, 2025

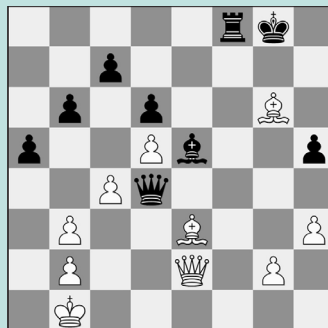
BY JJ LANG

PUZZLE 1.



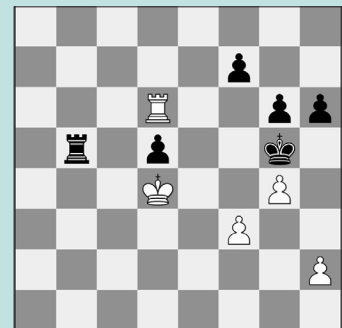
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 2.



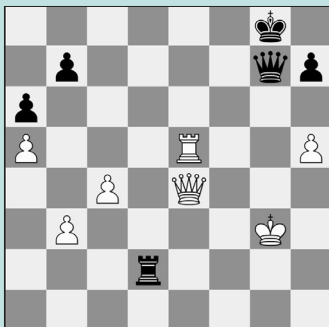
BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 3.



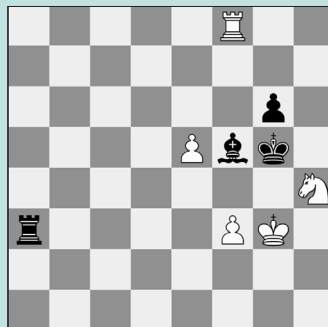
BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 4.



WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 5.



WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 6.



WHITE TO MOVE

SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE 1. 28. **Rc1** Overloading Black's queen. Starting with 28. **Ne4** also won: 28. ... **Qe7** 29. **Rxd5** **exd5** 30. **Nf6+** and the rook drops on e8. 28. ... **Qd6** 29. **Ne4** **Qe7** Defending the f6-square. 30. **Rxc6** At the cost of a piece! (Balajayeva – Khotenashvili, Linares, 2025) **PUZZLE 2.** 34. ... **Rf1+** The winning attack. 35. **Ka2** Capturing would hang mate on b2. 35. ... **Re1** Again with the overload! 36. **Qf2** Most testing. The game continued 36. **Bf7+** **Kf8** 37. **Bh6+** **Ke7** 38. **Bg5+** **Kf8** 39. **Bh6+** **Ke7** 40. **Bg5+** **Kxf7** 41. **Qxh5+** **Kf8** 42. **Bh6+** **Bg7** 43. **Qf5+** **Kg8** 44. **Qc8+** **Kh7** and Black won. 36. ... **Qxb2+** Not hanging mate on f7/h7. 37. **Qxb2** **Bxb2** 38. **Kxb2** **Rxe3** Black is winning. (Nandhidhaa

– Kamalidenova, Linares, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 3.** 35. ... **Rb3** The winning move! Black drops a pawn with check and continues to clean up White's kingside while losing tempi with every turn. 36. **Rxd5+** **Kf4** 37. **Rd7** **Rxf3** 38. **Rxf7+** **Kxg4** The h-pawn drops and Black wins. (Hou – Yip, Linares, 2025) **PUZZLE 4.** 53. **Kh3** The only way to survive, which happens to thrive. White lost with 53. **Kf4??** **Rf2+** 54. **Ke3** **Qg3+** 55. **Kd4** **Rf4** when the queen is a goner. 53. ... **Qd7+** 54. **Qg4+** The endgame should be winning after the queen trade, with **Kg4-g5** and play against Black's king. (Sargsyan – Song, Linares, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 5.** 78. **Nxf5** **gxf5** 79. **Rg8+** **Kh6** 80. **Kf4!** The winning move that had to be seen before the exchange of minor

pieces. With the e-pawn on the fifth rank and Black's king cut off by two files, White can shed the f-pawn and still be winning. (Beydullayeva – Javakhishvili, Linares, 2025) **PUZZLE 6.** 10. **Nxe5** This combination wins on the spot. White was still better in the game after 10. **Nbd2** but by no means winning yet. 10. ... **dxe5** 11. **Rxe4!** The point! 11. ... **fxe4** 12. **Qh5+** **g6** Or 12. ... **Ke7** 13. **Bg5+** nabs the queen. 13. **Qxe5+** **Kf7** 14. **Bb3!!** Even stronger than 14. **Qxh8?! Bxa4** when Black at least gets an Exchange back. 14. ... **Bg7** 15. **c5+** **Kf8** 16. **Bh6** This is just one of many crushing variations, and it doesn't matter where Black's bishop winds up after move 14: Black is close to getting mated regardless. (Hou – Yip, Linares, 2025, analysis)