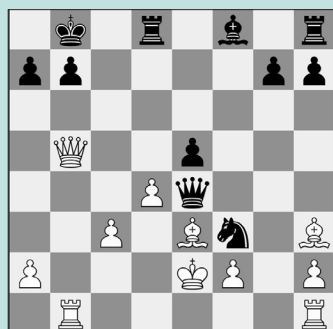


46TH OLYMPIAD: PUERTO RICO

WEDNESDAY WORKOUT ■ SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

BY JJ LANG

PUZZLE 1.



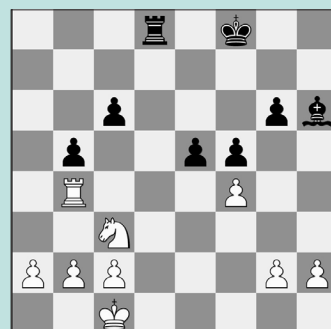
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 2.



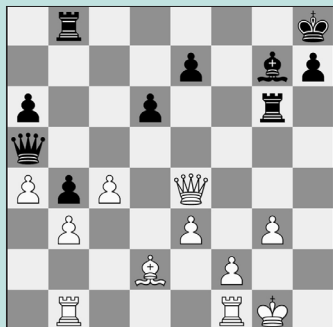
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 3.



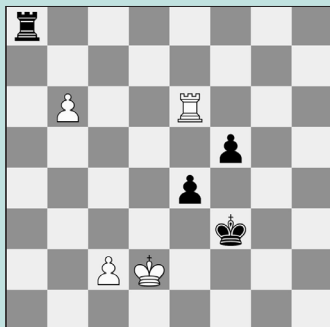
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 4.



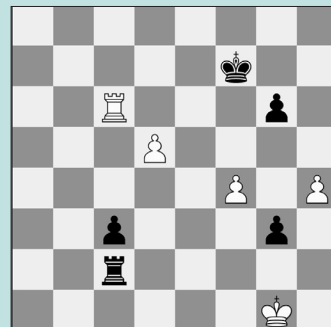
BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 5.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 6.



BLACK TO MOVE

SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE 1. 18. **Bf5!** White simplifies by deflecting Black's queen. 18. ... **Nxd4+** Or 18. ... **Qd5** 19. **Qxd5 Rxd5** 20. **Kxf3** wins. 19. **cxd4 Qd5** Or 19. ... **Qg2** 20. **Rhg1** forces 20. ... **Qd5**. 20. **Qxd5** Winning. (Rodriguez Santiago – McDonald) **PUZZLE 2.** 15. **Ncd5!** **Nxd5** If 15. ... **exd5**, 16. **Bxf6 Bxf6** 17. **Nxd5** is simplest. 16. **cxd5 Qa5** In the game, 16. ... **exd5** 17. **Bxg7 Kxg7** 18. **Nxd5 Qd7** 19. **Qc3+ Kh6** 20. **Rfd1** won. 17. **Qxa5!** **Nxa5** 18. **Bxg7 Kxg7** 19. **b4** Trapping Black's knight! (Toro Cruz – Capella) **PUZZLE 3.** 24. **g3** In the game, 24. **Ne2?? exf4** forced 25. **Rxf4** as White realized that 25. **Nxf4** c5 won the knight. With 25. ... **Kg7** 26. **c3 Re8** 27. **Kd1 Rxe2** 28. **Kxe2 Bxf4**,

Black won. 24. ... **c5** 25. **Rxb5 exf4** 26. **gxf4 Bxf4+** 27. **Kb1 Bxh2** 28. **a4!** White holds! (Zilleruelo Irizarry – Saraci, analysis) **PUZZLE 4.** 30. ... **Qh5** Instead, 30. ... **Be5??** allowed 31. **Kg2** intending **Rf1-h1** and a fatal attack. 31. **Kg2??** Best is 31. **Rfd1** when 31. ... **a5** is one of several ways to equalize; If 31. **Rfe1?**, 31. ... **Be5!** can't be met by **Bd2-e1**. 31. ... **Qe2!** White is in trouble, and natural moves lose. 32. **Qc2?** Or 32. **Rh1??** **Rf8** 33. **Be1 Rxg3+** wins similarly. 32. ... **Rxg3+**! 33. **Kxg3 Be5+** 34. **Kh4 Bf6+** 35. **Kg3 Rg8+** Black mates. (Mhango – Toro Cruz, analysis) **PUZZLE 5.** 42. ... **Rd8+** With 42. ... **f4??** White escaped after 43. **c4 e3+** 44. **Kc3 Kf2** 45. **c5** resulting in a queen-versus-bishop's-pawn draw. But 44. ... **Ke2** 45. **c5 f3** also

fails, as 46. **b7** comes with tempo, and 46. ... **Rh8** allows 47. **Rh6 Rg8** 48. **Rg6 Rf8** 49. **Rf6** repeating! 43. **Ke1 Rh8** 44. **Kd2 f4** 45. **c4 e3+** 46. **Kc3 Ke2!** Not 46. ... **Kf2?** 47. **c5 e2** 48. **b7 e1=Q+** 49. **Rxe1 Kxe1** 50. **c6** when White still draws. 47. **c5 f3** As **b6-b7** does not come with tempo, Black wins. (Blackwood – Almedina Ortiz, analysis) **Puzzle 6.** 47. ... **Kf8!! Zugzwang.** 47. ... **Ke7?** 48. **Re6+ Kd7** 49. **Rc6** leaves Black unable to make progress. 48. **Rc7** Giving up on **Rc6-e6+** as 48. **Kh1** allows 48. ... **Rh2+** 49. **Kg1 c2** when ... **Rh2-d2-d1+** wins. But 48. **Kf1 Rf2+** 49. **Ke1** (or 49. **Kg1 c2** transposes) 49. ... **c2** 50. **d6 Ke8**, followed by ... **Rf2-h2**. 48. ... **Ke8** 49. **d6 Kd8** Rook moves either concede the c-file or allow ... **Kd8-d7**. (Loglo – Pedrosa Rivera, variation)