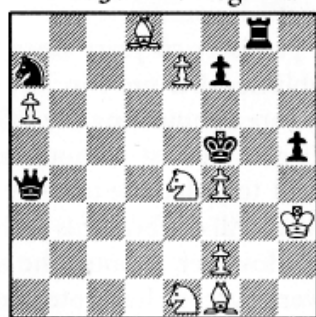


"email submissions are preferred."
 Judge 2014-2015: Luis Miguel Gonzalez

In our first study, after the introduction Black finds himself in a nasty situation where both his king and queen have some squares to go to, but all these moves fail on some knight fork. When Black escapes to an ending with a rook for the two knights, expecting to catch one of the knights, a second fork brings the victory home for White.

No 20302 M. Neghina



h3f5 3325.42 9/6 Win

No 20302 Mihai Neghina (Rumania).
 1.Sf6/i Rh8/ii 2.Bd3+/iii Ke6/iv 3.f5+/v Kd6/vi 4.Se4+/vii Kc6/viii 5.Sc2/ix h4/x 6.f3/xi Re8 7.f4 (Kxh4? Kd7;) Sc8/xii 8.Bb5+ Kxb5 9.Sc3+ Kxa6 10.Sxa4 Sxe7 11.Bxe7 Rxe7 12.Sc3 Rc7 13.Sd5 and the second fork secures both pawns and both knights; winning for White.

i) 1.Bd3? Qxe4 2.Bxe4+ Kxe4 draws, and 1.Sg3+ Ke6 2.Sd3 Qd4 3.Se4 Rxd8 (Qxe4?; Sc5+) 4.exd8Q Qxd8 even wins for Black.

ii) Qd1 (Kxf6; e8Q+) 2.Bd3+ Ke6 3.f5+ Kd6 4.Sxg8, or Re8 2.Sxe8 Qxe8 3.Kh2 win.

iii) 2.Sf3? Qa3 3.Kg2 Sc6 4.Sh4+ Ke6 5.Bc4+ Kd6 6.Se4+ Kd7 7.Bb5 Qc1 8.a7 Rg8+ 9.Sg3 Qa1 10.Sf5 Qxa7 11.Sh6 Rxd8 12.exd8Q+ Kxd8 13.Bxc6 Qc7 14.Bf3 Qxf4 15.Sgf5 Qg5+ draws, or 2.Be2 Qc6 3.Sf3 Qxf6 4.e8Q Rxe8 5.Bd3+ Kxf4

6.Bxf6 Kxf3 draws, or 2.Bg2 Sc6 3.Be4+ Qxe4 4.Sxe4 Kxe4 draws.

iv) Kxf6 3.e8Q+ Kg7 4.Bf6+ Kxf6 5.Qe5 mate. Kxf4 3.Bc7+ Kg5 4.Se4+ Kh6 5.Bf4+ Kg7 6.Be5+ f6 (Kh6; Bxh8, or Kh7; Sc3+) 7.Bxf6+ Kf7 8.Bxh8 wins.

v) 3.Be4? Qxa6 4.Sf3 Qc8 5.f5+ Kd6 6.Sg5 Qc4 7.Bd5 Qd3+ 8.Kh2 Qxf5 9.Sxf7+ (Sge4+ Ke5;) Kc5 10.Sxh8 Qxf2+ draws. 3.Sf3? Qxf4 4.Be4 Qxf6 5.e8Q+ Rxe8 6.Sg5+ Qxg5 7.Bxg5 Kd7 draws. 3.e8Q+? Rxe8 4.Sxe8 Qxe8 and Black even wins.

vi) Ke5 4.Sf3+ Kd6 5.Se4+ Kc6 6.Se5+ Kd5 7.Sc3+ (fork) Kxe5 8.Sxa4 and wins.

vii) 4.Sf3? Qa3 5.Be4 Sc8 6.a7 Sxa7 draws, or in this 6.e8Q Rxe8 7.Sxe8+ Kd7 and Black even wins.

viii) Ke5 5.Bc7+ Kd4 (Kxf5, Kd5; Sc3+) 6.Bb6+ Ke5 7.Sf3+ Kf4 (Kxf5, Kd5; Sc3+) 8.Seg5 (Sd2) and mate follows.

ix) The bK and bQ are not individually locked up, but they are chained together in a fork field... 5.Sf3? Qa3 6.Se5+ Kd5 7.f4 Sc8 8.e8Q/xiii Rxe8 9.Sf6+ Kd4 10.Sxe8 Qc1 draws.

x) Re8 6.Kg3 (heading towards e3 to support the forkfield) h4+/xiv 7.Kh3 Rh8 8.f3 wins, or Rg8 6.f4 Rh8 7.Kh4 wins, or Kd7 6.Sc5+ fork, or Kd5 (Kb5) 6.Sc3+ fork, or Qxa6 (Qa2) 6.Sb4+ fork, or finally Qb5 (Qb3) 6.Sd4+ fork, all winning for White.

xi) Here 6.Kh2 is an unnecessary loss of time, leading back to the mainline some moves later. Other options are no good: after 6.f4? f6 White is in Zugzwang (draw) or 6.Kg2? h3+ 7.Kh2 f6 8.Kg1 (After 8.f3 or f4 Qa2 there is no fork, so a draw) Rg8+ 9.Kh1 Re8 10.Kh2 Rh8 and White cannot triangulate his way out of this, so a draw, or 6.f6? Rg8 7.Kh2 (or in this 7.f3 Re8 8.f4 Rh8 draw) the passive defence 6...Rh8 is enough to draw.

xii) Rh8 8.f6 Re8 9.Kxh4 Rg8 10.Kh3 Re8 11.Kg3 Rg8+ 12.Kf3 Re8 13.Sc3 and since the wK now blocks the queen's escape squares (f/g/h4), this forces the Queen to move into the fork winning for White.

xiii) 8.Sf6+ Kd4 9.a7 Sxe7 10. Bxe7 Qc1 draws.

xiv) Sc8 7.Bb5+ Kxb5 8.Sc3+ Kxa6 9.Sxa4 Sxe7 10.Bxe7 Rxe7 11.Sc3 Rc7 (Re5; Se3) 12.Sd5 and the second fork secures the win.