



THE PUZZLING SIDE OF CHESS

Jeff Coakley

REBUS UPLOAD 05

number 220

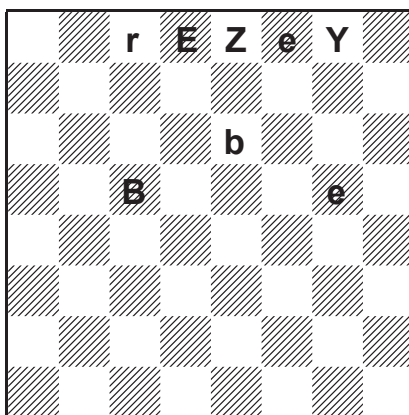
February 24, 2023

It's rebus month again. Here are four new puzzles to amuse and challenge your deductive skills. We start with something "breezy".



Rebus 90

"breezy"

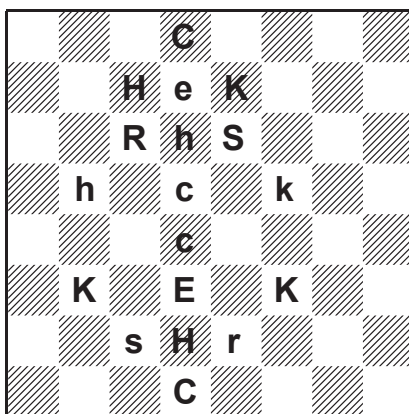


Each letter represents a different type of piece.
Uppercase is one colour, lowercase is the other.
Determine the position and, if possible, the last move.

The next puzzle is not named for the very underrated game of draughts, but rather for all the chess pieces who might potentially give check.

Rebus 91

“checkers”

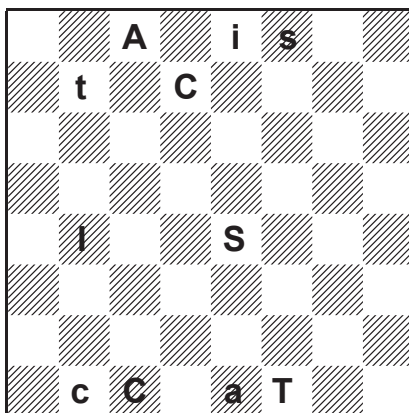


Each letter represents a different type of piece.
 Uppercase is one colour, lowercase is the other.
 Determine the position and, if possible, the last move.

Most rebus analysis is “tactical”. It primarily consists of determining piece and colour assignment by eliminating situations which would result in impossible checks. More complicated rebuses are usually enhanced with various forms of “retro content”. The following rebus is not so enhanced, but the tactics themselves are quite complicated.

Rebus 92

“tactics”



Each letter represents a different type of piece.
 Uppercase is one colour, lowercase is the other.
 Determine the position and, if possible, the last move.

The letter on b4 is a capital i, not a small L.

Someone once said, "There's more to life than chess." Perhaps they were referring to picture rebuses.

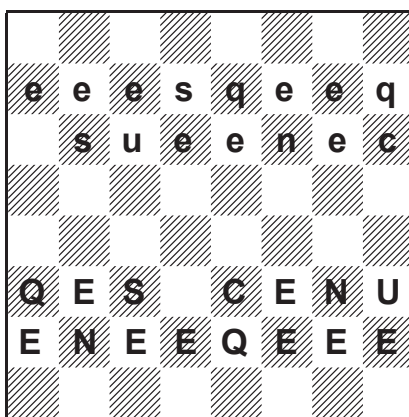
Riddle: "Slogan for a better world."



Our final rebus is not as difficult as our usual finales, but hopefully there is a little something here to rack your brain over.

Rebus 93

"sequence"



Each letter represents a different type of piece.
 Uppercase is one colour, lowercase is the other.
 Determine the position and the last move.

If you are looking for more chess rebuses, check out the *rebus index* in the appendix to column 188 (Rebusland). It lists over 200 problems, most of which are readily available online.

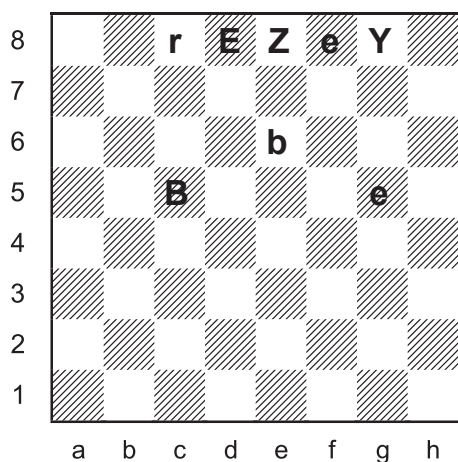
SOLUTIONS

All chess rebuses are joint compositions by Andrey Frolkin and Jeff Coakley, *Puzzling Side of Chess* (2023).

PDF hyperlinks. You can advance to the solution of any puzzle by clicking on the underlined title above the diagram. To return to the puzzle, click on the title above the solution diagram.

Archives. Past columns and an index of problem-types, composers, and side themes are available in the *Puzzling Side of Chess* archives.

Rebus 90

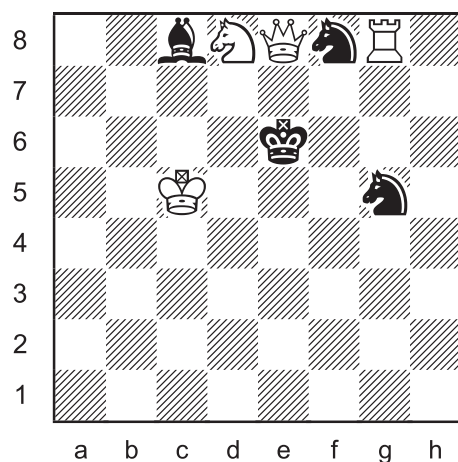


“breezy”

B = king
R = bishop
E = knight
Z = queen
Y = rook

caps = white

last move:
1.e7xd8=N++



(4 + 4)

- B** = ♔ Letter with one uppercase, one lowercase.
- ♔ = ∅ There are no pawns. Remaining letters are on 8th rank.
- E** ≠ ♞ Impossible double check (g5 f8).

One king is in check by letter E (♖g5, ♗f8, or ♘d8).

♔ = (RYZ) One king is in check by a queen (c8, e8, or g8).

The only legal double check is with the following piece assignment.

- E** = ♞
- Z** = ♔ Last move: 1.e7xd8=N++
- caps = white Uppercase promotion on 8th rank.

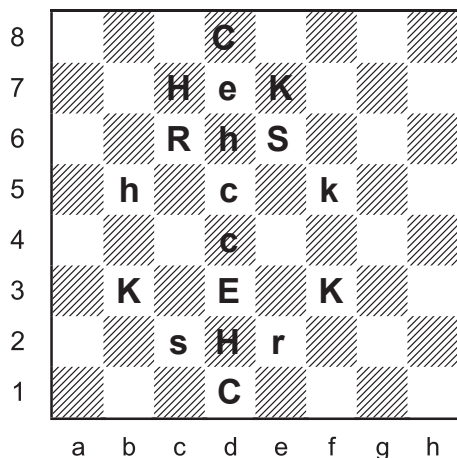
The type of piece captured on d8 is unknown.

R = ♗ R ≠ ♖ Three checks.

Y = ♖

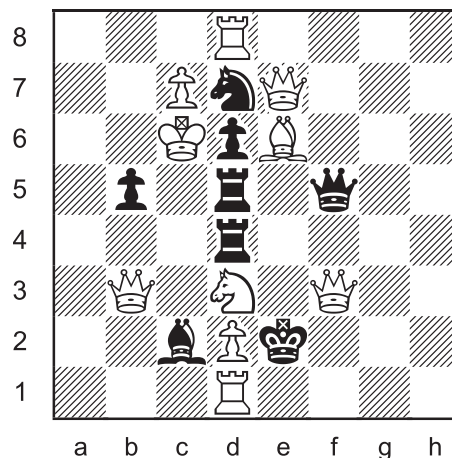


Rebus 91



“checkers”

C = rook
 H = pawn
 E = knight
 K = queen
 R = king
 S = bishop
 caps = white
 last move: 1.Q>f3+



♔ = (ERS)

E ≠ ♔

S ≠ ♔

R = ♔

K = ♔

The king on e2 is in check by the queen on f3.

C = ♖

E = ♞

H = ♙

caps = white

S = ♗

Letters with one uppercase, one lowercase.

If E = ♔ No letter can be queen.

If (CHKRS) = ♔ Both kings in check.

If S = ♔ No letter can be queen.

If (CHEKR) = ♔ Both kings in check.

If (CHES) = ♔ Both kings in check.

C ≠ ♖ Three checks (d1 d5).

C ≠ ♗ Both kings in check (d4).

C ≠ ♙ On 1st and 8th rank.

E ≠ ♖ Three checks (d3 d7).

E ≠ ♗ Impossible second check (d3 or d7).

H ≠ ♖ Both kings in check (b5).

If caps = black Both kings in check (pawn b5).

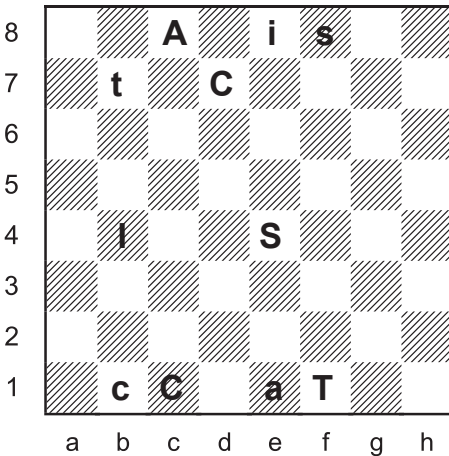
last move: 1.Q>f3+ This move may or may not have been a capture.



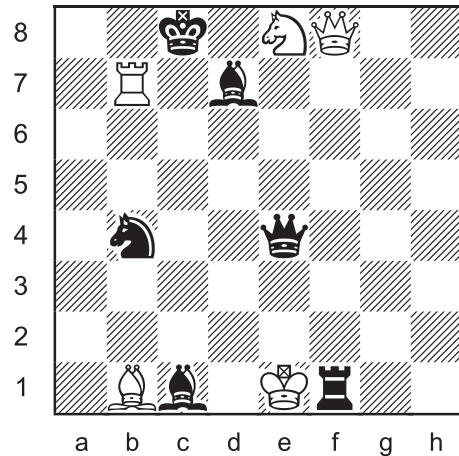
(10 + 8)

Rebus 92

"tactics"



T = rook
 A = king
 C = bishop
 I = knight
 S = queen
 caps = black
 last move:
 1...e2xf1=R++



(5 + 6)

= (AIST)

= ∅

T ≠

I ≠

S ≠

A =

Letters with one uppercase, one lowercase.

There are no pawns. All letters are on 1st or 8th rank.

If T =

The other four letters (ACIS) all "attack" one of the kings along a rank or file. So there are necessarily two checks: one by queen, one by rook.

S ≠ Both kings in check (e4 f8).

A ≠ Both kings in check (c8 e1).

There are no legal double checks. So T ≠ .

If I =

The other four letters (ACST) all "attack" one of the kings along a rank or file. So there are necessarily two checks: one by queen, one by rook.

There are no legal double checks. So I ≠ .

If S =

The three letters AIT each "attack" one of the kings along a file. One of those letters is a queen or rook and is giving check (from e1, e8, or f1).

C ≠ Impossible second check (b1).

I ≠ Impossible second check (b4).

T ≠ Impossible second check (b7).

() = ∅? Impossible to assign either or .

So S ≠ .

Rebus 92 *continued*

A = ♔

The other four letters (CIST) all “attack” one of the kings along a rank or file. So there are two checks: one by queen, one by rook.

The only legal double check is with the following piece assignment.

T = ♖

T ≠ ♔ Three checks (b7).

S = ♕

Last move: 1...e2xf1=R++

caps = black Uppercase promotion on 1st rank.

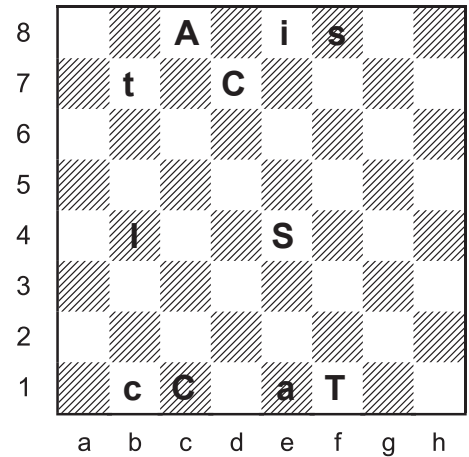
The type of piece captured on f1 is unknown.

I = ♘

I ≠ ♔ Three checks (b4).

C = ♙

The last piece of the puzzle is always the easiest.



REBUS page 3

Slogan for a better world ...

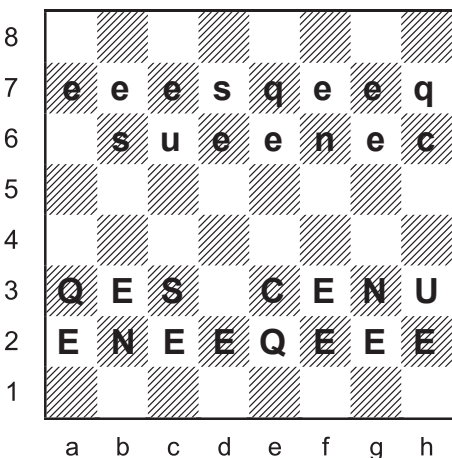


“Inspire change.”

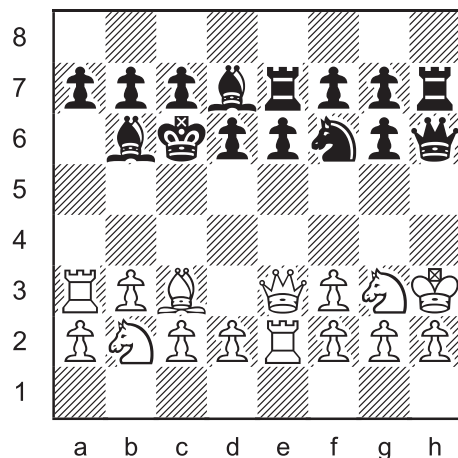
N-spire-change

Rebus 93

"sequence"



S = bishop
 E = pawn
 Q = rook
 U = king
 N = knight
 C = queen
 caps = white
 last move:
 1...Nh5-f6+



(15+ 15)

Each side has 15 pieces, so some deductions are very easy.

E = ♙

caps = white

All pawns are on the board, so there are no promoted pieces.

♔♚ = (CU) Letters with one uppercase, one lowercase.
 Other letters each have 3 or 4 instances.

♖♗♘ = (NSQ)

S = ♗ Q ≠ ♗ Impossible bishop on h7.

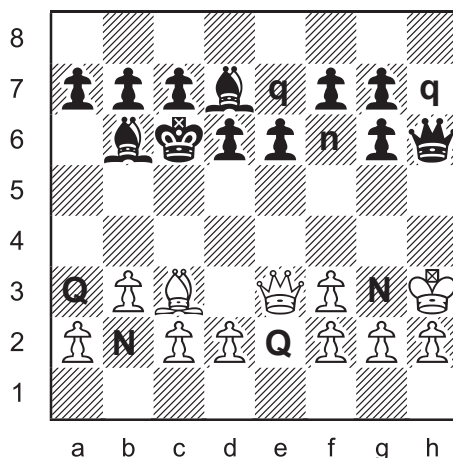
N ≠ ♗ Both white bishops on dark squares (b2 g3).

U = ♔ If C = ♚ U = ♚ Both kings in check (♗b6 ♚h3).

C = ♚ See diagram below. On the next page that is.



Rebus 93 *continued*



$\text{♖} \text{♘} = (\text{NQ})$

The missing white light-square bishop was captured on g6. That bishop could only have escaped the 1st rank after White captured e2xf3. The black piece captured on f3 could not be a rook because a black rook could not reach f3 until after the h-file was opened by ...h7xBg6. Therefore the black piece captured on f3 was a knight.

N = ♞ Black is missing a knight and there is only one lowercase N.
Q = ♜

Last move: **1...Nh5-f6+** The white king is in check by the queen on h6. The capture **1...Qxh6+?** is impossible. The non-capture **1...Qh6+?** is also impossible because White would already be in check by the rook on h7.



Until next time!

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