~ En Passant ~

Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club of Lansdale, PA - Fall 2014, Part 1

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This issue will feature games played in July, August, September 2014. Thanks to all for submitting games!

Game from the NPCC 2014

July Swiss Tournament:
Round: 4

Submitted by Olin with my comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly]. White: Knox Bickford (1241)

Black: Olin Mastin (1566)

Date: 8/1/2014

[D07: Queen's Gambit: Chigorin Defense]
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 Nf6
5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Nc3 [D]



[6.Nbd2 Nf6 7.Qb3 Bc8] 6...Nxc3
7.bxc3 Qd5!? (Olin- Simply an idea I had on the spur of the moment, but not a very good one!) [7...e6 8.Bd3]
8.Qb3 0-0-0 9.c4 Qe4 10.Be2 e6
11.0-0 Be7 12.Ba3 Na5? [D]



[12...Qc2 saving the game. (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev.col.)
13.d5 Qxb3 (13...Qxe2?? Black is doomed if he takes the bishop
14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Bxe7) 14.axb3 Bxa3
15.dxc6 Bb2 16.Rxa7 bxc6] 13.Qa4
Bxa3 14.Qxa3 Nc6 15.Rab1
[15.Ng5!? might be the shorter path
15...Qc2 16.Bf3 Bg6] 15...Qxb1
16.Rxb1 Bxb1 (Olin – Trading my queen for two rooks was just about the only thing I had!)
17.Nd2 Bg6 18.Bf3 [D]



18...Ne7? [An oversight, but Black was lost anyway. 18...Rd6] **19.Qxa7** [19.Qxe7 and White can already relax 19...b6 20.Bc6] **19...c6** [19...Kd7 is one last hope 20.Nb3 b6 21.Qa4+ c6 22.Qa7+ Ke8 23.Qxb6 Bd3] 20.Nb3 Rd7?? (Olin - A final blunder. 20...Kd7 had to be tried rather than lose a rook outright!) 21.Qa8+! Kc7 22.Qxh8 Rd8 23.Qxq7 Nf5 24.Qe5+ Kc8 25.Be4 Nd6 26.Bxq6 hxq6 27.c5 Nc4 28.Qf4 f5 29.q4 Nb2 30.qxf5 qxf5 31.Qq5 Nd3 32.h4 Ne1 33.Qh6 Rg8+ 34.Kf1 Nf3 35.Qxe6+ Kc7 36.Qxq8 [D]



White resigns. 0-1 (Olin - A nice win for Knox.)

Games from the NPCC 2014 Membership Drive Tournament:

Round: 1

Submitted by Joe with his comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].

White: George Murphy (1413) Black: Joseph Mucerino (2105)

Date: 9/5/2014

[D53: Queen's Gambit Declined]
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3
c6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3
dxc4 8.Bxc4 b5 9.Bd3 a6 10.0-0
c5 11.Rc1 Bb7 [D]



12.Re1 c4 13.Bb1 Rc8 14.e4 b4 15.Na4 Qa5 [15...0-0=] **16.Bxf6**[16.d5 e5±] **16...Nxf6** [16...Bxf6!? and Black has air to breathe 17.a3 bxa3 18.bxa3 0-0] **17.Ne5** [D]



(Joe - The first crisis of the game. After 17...c3, it appears that white will roundup the pawn anyway, so I did not bother to do that. Rybka prefers that to the text, though, because Murphy's pieces would become a bit uncoordinated in the process of capturing the pawn.)

17...0-0 18.Nxc4 Qq5 [D] (p.2)

17...0-0 18.Nxc4 Qg5 [D] (p.2) (Text cont. p.2)

Position after 18...Qg5 (From p. 1)



(Cont. from p. 1) 19.Qd2?! (Joe - A slight error that allows black to get his pawn back with 19...Nxe4, but I missed an important detail in my analysis. After 19...Nxe4 20.Bxe4, I missed the fact that the bishop on e7 protects my queen, so I thought that 20...Qxd2 was forced. Black would lose a piece in that line. The correct move is 19...Bxe4. If 20.Rxe4, now black can play 20...Qxd2 21.Nxd2 Rxc1+ winning. Or if 19...Bxe4 20.Qxq5 Bxq5, the rook on c1 is under attack, so white has to play something like 21.Ne3. Rybka's suggestion after 19...Bxe4 is 20.f4 Qf5, and white still has a slight advantage.) 19...Qh4? [D]



[Pawn e4. live or die! 19...Nxe4!? looks like a viable alternative 20.Bxe4 Bxe4] **20.f3** [20.Nab6!? Rc7] **20...Rfd8**± (Joe - One tactic I was trying to set up was 21...Rxd4 22.Oxd4 Bc5, winning the queen. Of course, I cannot do that now because of the knight on a4. But I was trying to make that work.) 21.b3 Qh5 22.Qe3 Bf8 23.Nab6 Rc7 24.e5 Ne8? [D] (Next col.) (Joe - It was painful to make this move; it looked so ugly. I rejected 24...Nd7 and 25...Nd5 because black looks pretty bad in those lines. The text avoided exchanges so that is why I chose it. Rybka says that white is winning now.) [24...Nd7 is best] 25.Na5 Rxc1 **26.Rxc1** [26.Qxc1?! Bxf3 27.Qf4 Bd5] (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 24...Ne8? (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev.col.) 26...Bd5 27.Nxd5 Rxd5 28.Nc4 [28.Nc6!? keeps an even firmer grip 28...a5] 28...g6 29.Be4 Bh6 [29...Rd8 30.Nb2] 30.f4 Rd8 31.Qf2 Qg4 [31...Bf8 32.g3 Nc7 33.Bf3] 32.g3 Bf8 [D]



(Joe - My original intention was to play 32...g5 but after 33.Ne3 white has a huge advantage.) 33.Ne3 Qh3 34.Bg2 Qh6 35.Nc4 [35.d5!? seems even better 35...Be7] 35...g5 36.fxg5 Qxg5 37.Rc2 (Joe - White should pressure f7 with 37.Rf1) 37...Bh6 [37...Qg6 38.Re2 Qb1+ 39.Re1 Qg6] 38.Na5 Qg4 39.Bf3 Qxd4? [D]



[39...Og6 hardly improves anything 40.Nc6 Rd7 41.Re2 (41.Nxb4?! a5 42.Rc8 axb4)] (Joe - Greedy. White can now win a piece.) 40.Qxd4 Rxd4 41.Nc6? (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - White can win the knight with 41.Rc8 and 42.Bc6. In the text, White still has an advantage, but is no longer winning.) 41...Rd3 42.Kg2 Bf8 43.Be2? (Joe - This is a mistake because now the bishop no longer protects the knight on c6.) [43.Kf2!?] 43...Rc3 [D]



(Joe - Believe it or not, black has equalized!) 44.Nd4 Nc7 45.Rxc3 bxc3 46.Bc4? (Joe - Now black will go a pawn up. White should have played Ke3.) 46...Bg7 47.Nc2 [D]



[In the style of Nimzovich]
47...Bxe5 48.Kf3 Bf6 49.Ke4 Kf8
50.Kd3 Ke7 51.Nb4 Kd6 52.Nxa6
Nd5? [D]



(Joe - This looks like another losing move. 52...Nxa6 should draw with the bishop of opposite color ending, but I wanted more. I thought a bishop verses knight would be winnable, (*Text cont. p.3*)

(Cont. from p.2) although I realized that even that would be difficult in this position. White's queenside pawns are simply more mobile than black's pawns, and that is what gives him an advantage.) 53.Bxd5 Kxd5 [53...exd5 54.a4] 54.Nb4+ Kc5 55.a3 Bg7 56.Na2 c2 57.Kxc2 [D]



57... Bd4 (Joe - Rybka prefers 57...Kd4. I did not want my king to stray to far away from white's queenside pawns. White is winning again.) 58.Kd3 Bg1 59.h3 f5 60.Nc3 h5? [60...Kc6 61.b4] 61.Ne2 Bf2 62.Nf4 h4 [62...Bxg3 63.Nxe6+Kd5] 63.qxh4 e5 [D]



(Joe - I established connected passed pawns, but white should be able to blockade these.) 64.Ng2 e4+ 65.Ke2 Bd4 66.h5 Bb2 67.h6 Bxa3 68.h7 Bb2 69.Ke3 [69.Nf4!? makes it even easier for White 69...Kb4 70.Ng6 Kxb3] 69...Bc1+ 70.Ke2 Bb2 [D]



(Joe - Murphy offered a draw, but this is the best position he had all the game! (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.)
There are lots of ways to win, including 71.Nf4-g6, which was analyzed after the game.)

1/2-1/2

(Joe - A great performance by George Murphy! He was the lowest rated player I failed to beat in three years, since I drew Drew Zumpino, then rated 930 but now a 1600)

Round: 1

Submitted by Olin with my comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].

White: Olin Mastin (1539) Black: Caleb Zhang (1050)

Date: 9/5/2014

[A05: Réti Opening] 1.Nf3 d6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.d3 c5 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.e4 Qc7 [D]



8.Rb1 0-0 9.b3 Nb4 10.a3 Nc6 11.Bb2 Be6 [D]



(Olin -- Black places his bishop in front of his pawns. Is this good?)
12.Re1 b5 13.e5 Nd7 14.exd6
Qxd6 [14...exd6!? 15.Bxg7 Kxg7]
15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Ne4 Qc7
17.Nfg5 [17.Qd2!?] 17...Bf5
18.Qd2 f6 19.Nf3 Nde5 [D] (Next col.) [19...Bxe4!? should be examined more closely 20.Rxe4 Rad8]
20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Nc3 Rab8
22.Nd5 [22.f4!? Nc6 23.Qf2]
22...Qd6 23.h3? [D] (Next col.) [Releasing the pressure on the opponent] (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 19...Nde5 (From prev. col.)



Position after 23.h3? (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) (Olin - A blunder of the first magnitude!) [23.b4 is a viable option 23...Rbc8 24.f4] 23...Bxh3!! **24.Nf4?** [24.Be4] (Olin - Of course. Why didn't I think of this? Much better than what I played.) 24...Bxq2 25.Kxq2 Qc6+ [25...g5 keeps an even firmer grip 26.Rxe5 fxe5 27.Ne2] **26.Kh3?** (Olin - I figured I was completely lost now.) [26.Kf1] **26...q5** (Olin - I didn't understand why Black would not have played 26...Nf3.) 27.Nh5+ Kh6 [27...Kg6!? seems even better 28.q4 Qf3+ 29.Nq3 Qxq4+ 30.Kg2] 28.Qe2 [D]



[28.g4 Qf3+ 29.Ng3] **28...Rg8** (Olin - I expected 28...g4+! (*Text cont. p.4*) Page 3 of 6

(Cont. from p.3) He is letting me off the hook.) [28...g4+ makes sure everything is clear. 29.Kh4 Nf3+ 30.Kxg4 Rg8+ 31.Kh3 Qd7+ (31...Kxh5?! is a useless try 32.Kg2) 32.Kg2 Nxe1+ 33.Rxe1 Qd5+ 34.Qf3 Qxf3+ (34...Qxh5 is impossible. 35.Rh1 Qxh1+ 36.Kxh1) 35.Kxf3 Kxh5 36.Rxe7 Kg6] 29.g4 Rbd8 30.Qe4 Qe6? [Gives the opponent new chances. 30...Qxe4 31.Rxe4 Rd4] 31.Ng3 [D]



31...Rd4? (Olin - Now Black blunders.) [31...Kg7 32.b4 Qa2 33.bxc5 Qxc2=] **32.Nf5+ Kg6** [32...Qxf5, There is nothing better in the position. 33.Qxf5 Rxq4] 33.Nxd4+ f5 34.Qxf5+ (Olin - Yes, 34.gxf5+! was the way.) [34.gxf5+ Kf6 35.Nxe6 g4+ 36.Kg3 Nc6 37.Qxc6 Rb8 38.Nd8+ e6 39.Rxe6+ Kg5 40.Nf7+ Kxf5 41.Qd5#] **34...Qxf5 35.Nxf5 Kf6 36.Re3** [36.Nxe7!? and White can already relax. 36...Re8 37.Nd5+ Kf7] **36...e6** [36...Nc6 is no help. 37.c4 bxc4 38.dxc4] **37.Nq3 Rq6** [37...Nf7 does not solve anything. 38.Ne4+ Kg7 39.c4] **38.Rbe1** [38.Nh5+ might be the shorter path 38...Ke7 39.Rxe5 Kd6] 38...Rh6+ **39.Kg2** [39.Nh5+ and White takes home the point 39...Ke7 40.Rxe5 c4 41.dxc4 bxc4 42.Rxq5 Kd6] 39...Nxq4 40.Rxe6+ Kq7 41.Rxh6 [41.Nf5+ Kf8 42.Nxh6 Nxh6 43.Rxh6 Kg7 44.Ree6 c4 45.Ra6 g4 46.bxc4 g3 47.Rhc6 bxc4 48.Rxa7+ Kf8 49.Rc8#] 41...Nxh6 42.Re7+ [D]



Black resigns. (Cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) (Olin - I was lucky to win due to my opponent's help. He had it in the bag, but made a few bad choices rather than aggressively pursuing the win.) [42.Re7+ Nf7 43.Ne4] 1-0

Round: 7

Submitted by Bob with selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].

White: Gary Stevens (1200) Black: Bob Pisciotta (1555)

Date: 9/5/2014

[D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines] 1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 d5 3.f4 e6 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 c4 6.Bc2 [D]



6...Bd6 7.Nf3 Nbd7 8.0-0 Nf8 [8...0-0!?= is an interesting idea] 9.Ne5 Ng6 10.Nd2 Ne7 11.Ndf3 [11.e4 0-0 12.Nexc4 dxc4] 11...b5 12.Ng5 [D]



12...Bxe5? [Further deteriorates the position. 12...0-0 13.Na4 Na61 **13.fxe5 Ne4** [13...Ng6 14.e4 Bb7] **14.Nxf7 Qd7** [14...Qc7 15.Nxh8 Nf5 16.g4] 15.Nxh8 Nf5 16.g4 **Nh6** [16...g6 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.gxf5 exf5 19.d5] 17.Qf3 Qe7 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.Qxe4 [D] (Next col.) 19...Bb7 20.Qxh7 0-0-0 21.Ng6 **Qg5 22.Qxg7** [22.h3 Nxg4 23.h4 Nf6+ 24.hxg5 Nxh7 25.Ne7+ Kd7 22...Qxq4+ 23.Kf2 Qq2+ [D] (Next col.) 24.Ke1 Kb8 [24...Qxh2 25.Ne7+ Kb8] **25.Qf6** [25.Qxh6 Qc6] 25...Rg8 26.Nf4 (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 19.Qxe4 (From prev. col.)



Position after 23...Qg2+ (From prev. col.)



[26.Qxe6 Be4 27.Nh4 Qg5]
26...Qxh2 27.Bd2 Qg3+ 28.Kd1
Ng4 29.Qxe6 Rh8 30.Qd6+ Ka8
[D]



31.Ne6 Nf2+ 32.Rxf2 Bf3+ 33.Rxf3 Qxf3+ 34.Kc2 Qe4+ 35.Kd1 Qf3+ 36.Kc2 Qe4+ 37.Kd1 Rh1+ 38.Be1 Qd3+ [D]



0-1

Round: 2

Submitted by Don with his comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].

White: Dave Hamalian (1396) Black: Don Funk (1697)

Date: 9/12/2014

[B02: Alekhine's Defense: Chase Variation and lines with early Nc3] 1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.Nc3 d6

5.Nf3 [D]



5...dxe5 (Don - White's opening a bit unusual. Think Bg4 better for black here.) **6.Nxe5 e6** (Don - N3d7 would be better.) [6...g6!?] **7.Qf3 Qe7** (Don - Qf6 was better. This blocked black bishop.) [7...Qf6 8.d4 Nc6 9.Qxf6 gxf6 10.Nxc6 bxc6] **8.c5 N6d7 9.Nxd7** Nxd7 [9...Qxd7!? 10.d4 Qxd4] **10.d4 c6 11.Bf4 [D]**



11...Qf6? [11...e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Qe4] 12.Rd1 Be7 [12...g5!? 13.Bc7 Qxf3 14.gxf3 f5] 13.Ne4 Qf5 14.g4 [14.Bd3 Qd5 15.Bd6 Qxa2 16.Bxe7 Kxe7] 14...Qg6? (Don - Qd5 15. b3 b5 is better.) [14...Qd5 15.Bg2 Nf6 (15...Qxa2? doesn't work because of 16.Qc3) 16.Nxf6+ gxf6] 15.Bd6? [D]



(Don - Better for white would be Bd3 followed by Nd6+) [15.Bd3 f5 16.Nd6+ Bxd6 17.gxf5 (17.cxd6?! Qxg4 18.Qxg4 fxg4) 17...exf5 18.Bxd6 (18.cxd6?! Qe6+ 19.Kd2 0-0)] 15...Nf6 16.Bd3 Bd7 17.Bxe7 Kxe7 18.Nd6 Qxg4 [D]



19.Qg3? [19.Qxg4 Nxg4 20.Rg1] **19...Qxd4 20.Qxg7 Qb4+** [20...Qxc5!? 21.Qxf6+ Kxd6 22.Qf4+ Ke7 23.Qh4+ Ke8] **21.Kf1 [D]**



[21.Rd2 Raf8 22.Qg5=] **21...Rae8?** [21...Raf8 22.Qg5 Qg4 23.Qxg4 Nxg4 24.Rg1 (24.Nxb7? is no good 24...Rb8 25.Nd6 Rxb2)] **22.Qg5** [22.Qxf7+ Kd8 23.Qxf6+ Kc7 24.Qe5] **22...Qg4** [D]



[22...Reg8 23.Qe5 Nd5 24.Nf5+ Kd8 25.Qb8+ Bc8 26.Qd6+ Ke8=]
23.Qxg4 Nxg4 24.Re1? [D] (Next col.) [24.Nxe8 would have given White a clear advantage 24...Bxe8 25.h4] 24...Rb8 (Don - a5 or b6 would be better.) 25.Rg1 (Don - White may have thought this was a mistake and black could safely (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 24.Re1? (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) take the rook pawn with check. But the knight would be lost after Nxh2+ 26.Ke2 Rhg8 27.f3) 25...h5 [25...Nxh2+ 26.Ke2 Rhg8 27.Rxg8 Rxg8 28.Rh1 Ng4, etc...] 26.h3 Nh6 27.Re5 f5 28.Rg6 [D]



[28.f4 Nf7 29.Rg7=] **28...Rbg8?** (Don - Nf7 much better.) [28...Nf7 29.Nxf5+ Kd8 30.Rexe6] **29.Rxh6!** Rxh6 30.Nxf5+ Kf6 31.Nxh6 Rh8 32.Rxh5 Kg7 33.Rg5+ [D]



33...Kxh6 34.Rg6+ Kh5 35.Rg7 Bc8 36.b4 Rf8 37.Ke2 Kh4
38.Rg6 Kxh3 39.f3 e5 40.Ke3 Bf5? 41.Bf1+? [41.Bxf5+Rxf5 42.Rg7] 41...Kh4 42.Rg7 Bc8 43.Re7 [D] (p.6) 43...Kg3 44.Be2 Rf4 45.a3 Rf5? 46.Rg7+ [46.Re8 Bd7 47.Rb8] 46...Kh4 47.Ke4 Kh5? 48.Re7 [48.Rxb7 Rf8 49.Rxa7 Kg5] 48...Kg5? [48...Rf4+ 49.Kxe5 Rf5+] (Cont. p.6) Page 5 of 6

Position after 43.Re7 (From p. 6)



(Cont. from p.5) 49.Rxe5 Kf6 [D]



50.f4 Be6? (Don - Black had to play Rxe5+ and then Ke2 to defend d3) [50...Rxe5+ 51.fxe5+ Ke7] **51.Rxe6+! Kxe6 52.Bg4** [D]



Black resigns 1-0

Round: 2

Submitted by Olin with my comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].

White: Michael O`Gara (1315) Black: Olin Mastin (1536)

Date: 9/12/2014

[D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines] 1.d4 d5
2.e3 Bf5 3.Bd3 Bxd3 4.Qxd3 a6 [D]
(Next col.) (Olin - 4...c6 would be the better move, but I wanted to play c5 later.) 5.Nf3N Nf6 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.0-0 e6 8.e4 c5? [8...dxe4 9.Nxe4 Be7 10.Bf4] 9.Bf4? [Better is 9.exd5 exd5 10.Nh4] 9...cxd4 10.Nxd4 [Better is 10.Qxd4 Bc5 11.Qd3 dxe4 12.Nxe4] 10...e5? [D] (Next col.) (Olin - not a good move with (Cont. next col.)

Position after 4...a6 (From prev.col.)



Position after 10...e5? (From prev.col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) without being castled!) [Better is 10...Nc5 11.Qh3 Ncxe4 12.Nxe4 dxe4] 11.exd5 Bd6? [11...Qc7 12.Rfe1 0-0-0] 12.Rfe1 12...0-0 13.Nf5 [D]



13...Nc5? (Olin - 13...exf4 should have been my move. I did not gain anything by attacking White's queen.)
14.Qq3 Nh5 15.Qq4 [D]



15...g6? 16.Bg5 f6 17.Bh6 Rf7 18.b4! [D]



18...Qd7 (Olin - with this pin on White's knight, I felt I had the possibility of winning my piece back. 19.bxc5 Bxc5 20.Rad1 (Olin - White missed his best move.) [20.Be3 Bf8 21.Nh6+ Bxh6 22.Qxd7 Rxd7 23.Bxh6] 20...Qxf5 21.Qxf5 gxf5 22.Bd2 Rd8 23.Na4 Rxd5 24.Bh6? Rxd1 25.Rxd1 Bf8? [25...Rc7] 26.Rd8 Ng7 27.Nc5 f4 28.Bxg7 Rxg7 29.Ne6 [D]



29...Rf7 30.f3 h6 31.a4 f5 32.c4 Rf6 33.Nxf8 Rxf8 34.Rd7 Rf7 35.Rd6 Kg7 36.Re6 Rc7 37.Rb6 e4 38.g3 fxg3 39.hxg3 exf3 40.Kf2 Rxc4 41.Rxb7+ Kg6 42.Rb6+ Kg5 43.Rxa6 Rc3 44.Rb6 h5 45.Rb4 Ra3 46.Rc4 Kg6 [D]



(Olin - Draw agreed and I felt lucky at that!) 1/2-1/2

More games from the Membership Drive in the next issue. www.northpennchessclub.org

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