

# ~ En Passant ~

## Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club, Lansdale, PA – Spring 2020, Part 1

E. Olin Mastin, Editor

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This issue features Joe Mucerino's games from the past, and an Eric Funk vs. Alex MacFarlane "dual annotated" game, played in the 2020 NPCC 41st Winter Robin.

The purpose of these newsletters is to include as many games as possible by NPCC players irregardless of the strength of the participants.

Thanks to all for submitting games!

### Game from the NPCC 1998 18th Annual Fall Open Tournament Round: 2

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

**White: Joseph Mucerino (1835)**

**Black: Andrew Read (1758)**

**Date: 10/12/1998**

\*(Please copy and paste the HTML link at the end of this article into your browser to read the complete commentary and to be able to play thru the moves.)

[D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines] **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)**

Position after 3.e4 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - I was playing the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit back in those days. The problem I found with it was that white cannot get enough for the gambitted pawn if black plays an early ...Bf5.) **3...Nxe4** (Joe - This is called the Huebsch Gambit. It's pretty uncommon, but it's not bad.) **4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.Bc4 Nc6 [5...Bf5] 6.Be3 [6.c3 e5 7.d5 Nb8 8.Ne2 Bc5 9.Ng3 Qh4 10.Qe2 f5, etc... Meszaros,G (2220)-Sinkovics,P (2410) Hungary 1995 0-1 (40)] 6...e6 [6...e5 7.Ne2 Bg4] 7.f3 [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)**

Position after 7.f3 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) **7...Bd6N** [7...exf3 8.Nxf3 Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Qe1 Be7 11.Qg3 Bf6, etc... Zenkner,C (1909)-Mildenberger,H (1622) Berlin 2013 1-0] **8.Qd2** (Joe - Of course not 8.fxe4? Qh4+). [8.Qe2] **8...e5** [Better is 8...Rb8 9.g3 b5] **9.d5** (Joe - Trying to avoid exchanges.) [White should try 9.0-0-0!] **9...Nb8** (Joe - The computer found 9...exf3 with the threat of 10...Qh4+ and 11...Qxc4.) [9...exf3! 10.Nxf3 Ne7] **10.0-0-0= exf3** **11.Nxf3 [D] (p.2)** [11.gxf3= keeps the balance. 11...0-0 12.Ne2] **11...Bg4?** [Black should play 11...Nd7 12.Rde1 0-0] **12.Rdf1 [12.Bd3]= 12...a6 [D] (p.2) (Text cont. p.2)**

**\*Tournament has been postponed!**



## North Penn Chess Club G/45; d5 Dual Rated Tournament April 17th & 24th. A 4-Round Swiss

Two Rounds each night. One half point bye permitted for Rounds 1, 2 or 3. Must play Round 4 to be eligible for prize.

Registration: 7:00 to 7:45 PM April 17th. Round 1 game starts at 8:00 PM. Round 2 to follow. April 24th round 3 starts at 8:00 PM. Round 4 to follow.

Entry fee: \$10 NPCC Members/\$15 Non-Members. Prizes (Based on minimum of 10 Entrants): 1st Place = \$40. 2nd Place = \$30. Top in Lower Half\* = \$20. \*(Class Prize - Rating TBD on-site).

## NPCC Schedule April 2020

DATE	ROUND	EVENT	ROUND TIMES	TYPE
<del>17-Apr</del>	1 and 2 of 4 (Two rounds played each night.)	April 2020 G/45 "Two-Night" Tournament.	Registration: 7:00 to 7:45 PM Please arrive <b>no later than</b> 7:45PM to register. Rd.1 at 8:00 PM Rd. 2 to follow.	4-Round Swiss
<del>24-Apr</del>	3 and 4 of 4 (Both rounds played in one night.)	Continued	Rd. 3 at 8:00 PM Rd. 4 to follow	
TIME CONTROL	ENTRY FEE	PRIZES		COMMENTS
G/45;d5 (Dual rated)	\$10 NPCC Members/ \$15 Non-Members	<b>PRIZES</b> (Based on minimum of 10 Entrants): First Place = \$40, 2nd Place = \$30, *Top-in-Lower-Half = \$20 *(Class Prize - Rating TBD on-site)		One 1/2 point bye permitted for Round 1, 2, or 3.  Must play Round 4 to be eligible for prize.

**Note: Tournament has been postponed!**

Position after 11.Nxf3 (From p.1)



Position after 12...a6 (From p.1)



(Cont. from p.1) (Joe - Too slow. Black should play 12...Nd7.) [12...Nd7 stays ahead.] **13.Ng5!** [White has strong compensation.] (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) **13...Bh5?** [D]



(Joe - Black had to try the ugly 13...f6.) [13...f6 is more resistant.] **14.g4!+- Bg6** [14...Bxg4 15.Nxf7] **15.Bd3?** (Joe - Second best. 15.h4 was stronger.) [15.h4+- and the rest is easy.] **15...0-0** [D] (Next col.) [15...Rf8] **16.h4!** [aiming for h5.] **16...Be7??** (Joe - This loses. The computer recommends 16...Qe7.) [16...Qe7 17.Bxg6 fxg6] **17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.h5 Bxg5** (Joe - Compounding the error. Black should try 18...gxh5.) **19.Bxg5 f6?** (Joe - Black was lost, but now White has a forced mate.) **20.hxg6** [White mates.] (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 15...0-0 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - Threatening 21.Rh8+ Kxh8 22.Qh2+ mating.) **20...Re8** [D]



(Text cont. p.3)

(Cont. from p.2) **21.Rh8+!** (Joe - FASTER was 21.Bxf6.) **21...Kxh8 22.Qh2+ Kg8 23.Qh7+ Kf8 [D]**



**24.Rxf6+!** (Joe - 24...gxf6 25.Qf7 mate; 24...Ke7 25.Qxg7 mate; 24...Qxf6 25.Bxf6 also mates quickly.) **1-0**

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=vLEhm1rC6kWHFc46jkkrrpgGGGbkU5hNvpQHu9SpJ7GdQhWPtbt6iqhRJaOZHae>

### Game from the NPCC 2020 41st Winter Robin Tournament

#### Round: 7

Submitted by Eric and Alex with their comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].

**White: Alex Macfarlane IV (1933)**

**Black: Eric Funk (2079)**

**Date: 2/21/2020**

\*(Please copy and paste the HTML link at the end of this article into your browser to read the complete commentary and to be able to play thru the moves.)

[A50: Queen's Fianchetto Defense (1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 b6)] **1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 e5 3.d5 Nce7 4.c4 Ng6 5.Nc3 Nf6 [5...Bc5!=] 6.Nge2 [D]**



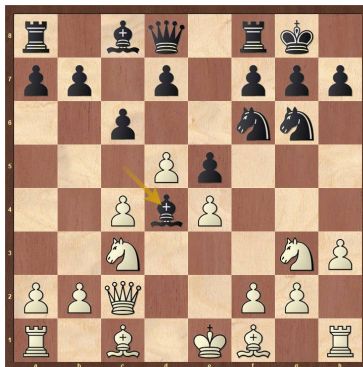
(Alex: The idea here was to maneuver the knight to f5 since it looked like a decent outpost from which to hit g7.)

[6.h4±] **6...Bc5** [6...h6= remains equal.]

**7.h3** [7.f3±] **7...c6** [7...h6=; 7...Nh5

8.Na4 Bb4+ (Text cont. next col.)

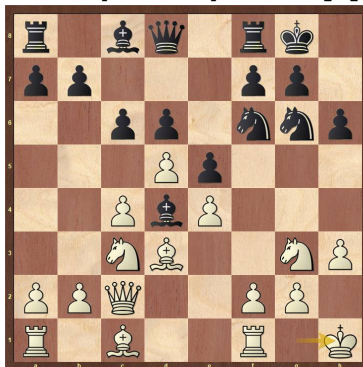
(Cont. from prev. col.) **9.Bd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 d6 11.g3 0-0, etc... Pohjala,H (2263)-Karttunen,M (2423) Finland 2012 ½-½ (41)] **8.Qc2N** [8.Ng3±; 8.Qb3 d6 9.g3 h5 10.Bg2 a6 11.Bg5 h4 12.0-0-0 Qc7 13.Rhf1 hxg3, etc... Relange,E (2420)-Chevallier,D (2295) Cannes 1994 1-0] **8...0-0** [8...cxd5± 9.exd5 0-0] **9.Ng3=Bd4 [D]****



[9...cxd5± 10.exd5 Nf4] **10.Bd3** [White should play 10.d6!±] **10...d6** [10...b5=]

**11.0-0** [11.Nce2± is superior.]

**11...h6** [11...Bd7=] **12.Kh1 [D]**



(Alex: Stepping off the diagonal so my f-pawn can move.) [12.Nce2±] **12...Ng4** [Better is 12...Re8=] **13.Nd1? [D]**



(Alex: Taking the Knight {g4} was obviously bad because of Qh4+ followed by Qxg3)

(Eric: The Knight retreat to d1 makes Black's game easier to play. I was afraid that Alex would play 13.Nf5 when I might be forced to retreat with 13... Nf6, abandoning the attack, or fully commit myself with 13... Bxf5 14.exf5 Qh4, when chaos ensues.) [13.Kg1± keeps the upper hand.] (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) **13...Qh4!± 14.Nf5 Bxf5! 15.exf5** [Black must now prevent Be2.] **15...Nf4 16.Bxf4! exf4 17.Be4** [17.dxc6± was worth a try. 17...bxc6 18.Be4] **17...c5** [With attack!] **[D]**

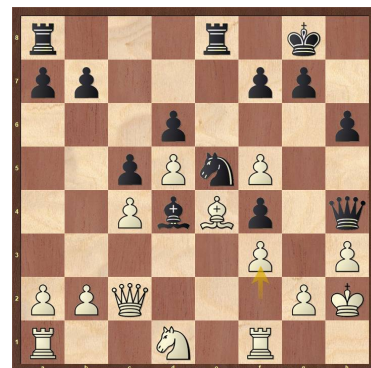


(Alex: Eric's control of the dark squares on my Kingside is really quite annoying

here.) **18.Kg1** [Better is 18.Qe2 Rfe8

19.Qxg4 Qxg4 20.hxg4 Rxe4 21.a4]

**18...Ne5 19.Kh2 Rfe8 20.f3 [D]**



(Alex: This completely abandons the e3 square, but I needed some place to put my Knight and get the a1 Rook into play. At this point I thought I might be holding the position, but completely underestimated the power of the doubled Rooks on the open {e} file.)

(Eric: There are so many tricky possibilities here it's impossible to go through them all. I thought Alex might play for complications with 20.Nc3 Nxc4 21.Nb5 ((to rid himself of the dark-squared bishop)) but then I have by lucky accident 21... Rxe4! 22.Qxe4 Nd2. On 20.g3 I can trade down into a better endgame: 20.g3 fxc3+ 21.fxc3 Ng4+ 22.Kg2 Ne3+ 23.Nxe3 Qxe4+)

**20...Re7 21.Rb1 [D]** (p.4) (Alex: This looks strange but there was a convoluted logic behind it. The obvious Nf2 loses a Pawn to Nxc4, so I wanted to defend the c4 Pawn by playing b3, but that would have dropped the a1 Rook.) **21...Rae8 22.b3?** [22.Nf2 Nxc4 23.Qxc4 Bxf2 (Text cont. p.4)

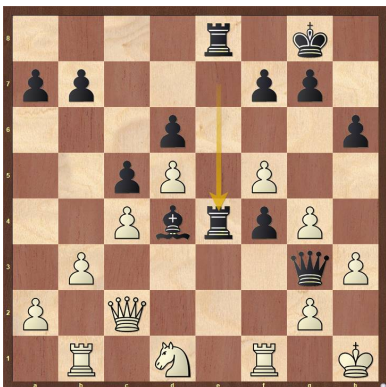
Position after 21.Rb1 (From p.3)



(Cont. from p.3) 24.Kh1] 22...Qg3+ 23.Kh1 [D]



[If only White now had time for Nf2...] 23...Ng4! 24.fxg4 Rxe4 [D]



(Alex: I resigned here because there is no reasonable way to meet the threat of Re2.)

(Eric: I thought Alex would try for 25.Nf2 Re2 26.Qd3, hoping against hope that I would trade Queens. ((Hey, who hasn't blundered in a winning position, especially when they are overly confident that "any" move wins?)) Of course, Black can finish with 26... Rxf2, 26... Bxf2, or 26... R8e3.) Accuracy: White = 29%, Black = 58%.] 0-1

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=hXJESHtifXAFBqf/uHi68OkplNU9xB+43mXJpmOw15xAsNwhF5yZmjHxDoG+hH>

## Game from the NPCC 2000 21st Winter Round Robin Tournament

### Round: 1

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (1881)

Black: NM Joseph Weber (2233)

Date: 1/7/2000

\*(Please copy and paste the HTML link at the end of this article into your browser to read the complete commentary and to be able to play thru the moves.)

[D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines]

(Joe - This was my first game against Joe Weber. ((It was also my first game of the 2000's as well as my first Winter Round Robin)). We played eleven times, and I scored +4 -6 =1 against him. We played many entertaining games, so I will be presenting some of them. He beat me pretty easily in this game. This game is from my worst tournament result ever. I scored 0-7, and I wrote an article, "Winter Robin Woes," in the Summer 2000 edition of DVC (Delaware Valley Chess), which was edited by Neil Brennen. I'll give this game a fresh analysis and will be looking at my notes from twenty years ago.) 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 Nxe4 [D]



(Joe - Weber plays the Huebsch Gambit, like we saw in my game against Andrew Read.) 4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.Bc4 g6 (Joe - In DVC, I wrote, "Many moves can be played here. 5...e6, blunting the bishop and controlling d5, is the most common." Stockfish 7 does not like the text move, and says that 5...Nc6, the move Read chose, is best.) [5...Nc6 6.Ne2 Na5 7.Bb5+ c6] 6.f3 (Joe - The computer does not like this move either. It suggests 6.c3, which is not the kind of move that you want to play in a gambit, (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) where you want to develop quickly and attack quickly. However, it is a flexible move, and the d4 Pawn will be needed to be defended anyway after 6...Nc6 or the move Weber chose.) [6.c3= remains equal.] 6...Bg7 (Joe - An interesting alternative is 6...e5.) [6...Nc6 7.c3 Bg7] 7.c3 (Joe - The computer for some reason prefers 7.fxe4 Qxd4 8.Qxd4 Bxd4 9.Nf3. I guess being a Pawn down with the Queens off the board is better than what I played!) [7.fxe4 8.Qxd4 Bxd4 9.Nf3] 7...0-0 [7...Nc6 8.Bg5 Na5] 8.fxe4 [D]



(Joe - From DVC, where I gave the move a "?!", "A bit greedy. I think 8.Be3 first is more solid." Stockfish's pick is 8.Qe2, and only thinks that 8.Be3 is stronger than the text by less than a tenth of a pawn.) [Black is slightly better.] 8...e5! (Joe - Putting pressure on the center, and trying to open things up before white castles.) 9.Nf3 exd4 10.cxd4 [Better is 10.0-0 Nc6 11.cxd4; \*10.Bg5 Qe8 11.0-0 dxc3 12.bxc3 Nc6 13.Qc2 Be6, etc... Fowler,J (2086)-Aloma Vidal,R (2398) L'Estartit 2007 0-1] 10...Bg4 [10...Nc6 11.Be3 Bg4] 11.Be3 Qe7N (Joe - Not the most accurate because it takes pressure off d4. Black should instead increase the pressure on that Pawn with 11...Nc6.) [11...Nc6 Threatening ...Bxd4! \*12.Qd2 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Nxd4 14.0-0 Nxf3 15.Qg2 Qf6 16.Bd5 Ne, etc... 0-1 (23) Feijoo Novoa,C (2095)-Garcia Carbo,M (2340) Burgas 1999] 12.Qd3 Nc6 [D] (p.5) [And now ...Nb4 would win.] 13.0-0? (Joe - Castling short was better. I was a bit over eager to defend d4 at all costs. The computer gives 13.0-0 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Rad8 15.d5 Na5 16.Rac1 Bxb2.) [13.0-0= and White stays safe.] 13...Nb4+ 14.Qb1 [Better is 14.Qb3 b5 15.Bd3] 14...Rae8 [Better is 14...b5+ 15.Bxb5 Be6] (Text cont. p.5)

Position after 12...Nc6 (From p.4)



(Cont. from p.4) 15.h3?? (Joe - That's going to be the ballgame.) [15.a3≠ Qxe4 16.Qxe4 Rxe4 17.Rde1 Rxe3 18.Rxe3] 15...Qxe4 [15...Bxf3-+ has better winning chances. 16.gxf3 Qf6] 16.Qxe4≠ Rxe4 17.Bd2 [17.hxg4≠ might work better. 17...Rxe3 18.Rde1] 17...Bxf3!-+ 18.Bxb4 [D]

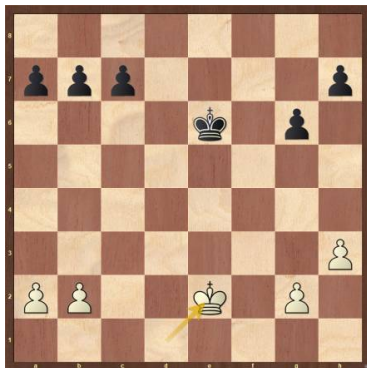


18...Bxd1 [Stronger than 18...Bxd4 19.gxf3 Be3+ 20.Kb1=; But not 18...Bxg2 19.Bxf8 Kxf8 20.Rh2≠] 19.Bxf8 Rxd4 [Much less strong is 19...Bxf8 20.Rxd1 Rf4 21.Bd5≠; 19...Ba4-+ 20.Bxg7 Kxg7] 20.Bxg7≠ [D]

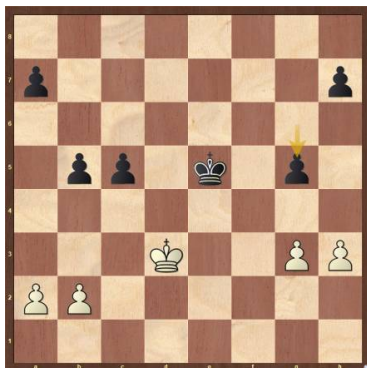


20...Kxg7?? (Joe - Weber and I both overlooked a resource for White. Black can keep an advantage ((although have Bishops of opposite colors)) after 20...Rxc4+ 21.Bc3) [Black should try 20...Rxc4+≠ 21.Bc3 Ba4] 21.Bxf7?? (Joe - DVC, "Oh no! 21.b3 wins material, and keeps White in the game, although Black certainly has compensation after 21...Bh5 (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 22.g4 Bxg4 23.hxg4 Rxg4." Stockfish also says that 21...Bxc4+ is equal. Either way, there is an imbalance, and anything can happen.) [21.b3=] 21...Kxf7-+ [Black is clearly winning.] 22.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 23.Kxd1 Ke6 24.Ke2 [D]



24...Ke5 25.Ke3 c5 26.g3 b5 27.Kd3 g5 [D]



(Joe - Generally speaking, in a King and Pawn ending where all the Pawns are straight, being a "clean" Pawn up is basically the same as being a Queen up.) 0-1 [Accuracy: White = 34%, Black = 52%.]

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<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=ZV5LcTp8PAoFawGtGcHDBK+qyYAnghBRtEKnj33+RWUxESF3KXvMdcLAcS1e7DMe>

**Game from the NPCC 2000 November Friday Swiss Tournament**

**Round: 4**

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

**White: Joseph Mucerino (1886)**

**Black: Gregory Nolan (2091)**

**Date: 12/1/2000**

\* (Please copy and paste the HTML link at the end of this article into your browser to read the complete (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) commentary and to be able to play thru the moves.) [A44: Semi-Benoni] 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c5 [D]



3.d5 e5 4.e4 d6 5.f4 Be7 6.Nf3?! [D]



(Joe - White should obtain a protected passed pawn immediately with 6.fxg5.) 6...Bg4 7.Be2 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Nbd7 9.0-0 exf4 10.Bxf4 0-0 11.Qe2 Re8 12.Rae1 h6 13.Qd2 Bf8 [D]



14.g4?! (Joe - This loses White up too much. Stockfish suggests several uninspired moves, of which I like 14.Nb5 the best.) Nh7 15.Qf2 Ne5 16.Qg3 Ng6 [D] (p.6) (Joe - Second best. The computer likes 16...Be7, heading for h4.) 17.Bg2 Be7 18.Qf2 Bf6 19.Bd2 Qb6 20.b3 Re7 (Joe - Not 20...Bd4 21.Bf3 Bxc3? 22.Qxf7+. Black's last move protects f7.) 21.Kh1?? [D] (p.6) (Joe - Missing the treat from the (Text cont.p.6)

Position after 16...Ng6 (From p.5)



Position after 21.Kh1?? (From p.5)



(Cont. from p.5) other direction.  
21.Ne2 holds everything together.)  
21...Bh4 22.Qf5 Bxe1 23.Bxe1 Rae8  
24.h4 Ne5 25.Bd2 c4 26.Ne2 cxb3  
27.axb3 Ng6 [D]



28.Be1 Nf6 29.Nc3 Ne5 30.g5 hxg5  
31.Qxg5 Nfg4 32.Bh3 f6 33.Qf4 [D]



33...Nh6?? (Joe - Black loses much of his  
advantage. The best way was the risky  
looking 33...g5 34.hxg5 Rh7.) 34.Be6+  
Kh7 35.Rg1 Ng6?? 36.Bf5 Nxf5  
37.Qxf5 Qe3 38.Qxg6+ Kg8 (Text  
cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 39.Qg3  
Qc1? [D]



(Joe - Black should trade Queens.)  
40.Qxd6?! (Joe - White should activate  
the Knight with 40.Nb5 and then  
41.Nxd6.) Qxc2 41.b4? f5?  
(Joe - Black should go for 41...Rxe4  
and try to take advantage of White's  
exposed king.) 42.Qg6?! (Joe -  
42.Qg3 is more accurate.) fxe4  
43.h5 (Joe - 43.d6 is stronger.)  
43...Qd3 [D]



(Joe - Threatening mate.) 44.Qg3??  
(Joe - Throwing away a good position.  
White can still win after 44.Kh2.)  
44...e3 45.h6 Qh7 46.Qxg7+  
Rxxg7 47.Rxxg7+ Qxg7 48.hxg7  
Kxxg7 49.Kg2 [D]



49... Rf8 50.Bg3 Rf5 51.d6 Kf7  
52.Kh3 Ke6 53.Ne2 Kd7 54.Nc3  
b6 55.Kg4 Rf2 56.Ne4 [D]  
(Next col.) 56...Rf1 57.Nc3 Rc1  
58.Be5 Ke6 59.Kf4?? Rc2?? [D]  
(Next col.) (Joe - Black could have  
won a piece with either 59...e2 or  
59...Rf1+.) (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 56.Ne4 (From prev.  
col.)



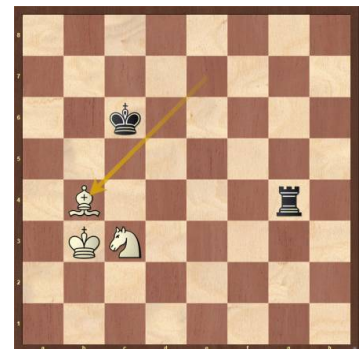
Position after 59...Rc2?? (From  
prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) 60.d7 Kxd7  
61.Kxe3 Kc6 62.Kd3 Rg2 63.Bd4 a6  
64.Kc4 Rb2 [D]



65.Bxb6 Rg2 66.Bc5 Rg4+ 67.Kb3  
Rh4 68.Be7 Rg4 69.Bc5 a5 70.Be7  
axb4 71.Bxb4 [D]



1/2-1/2 Copy and paste the link below into  
your browser:  
[https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=WkwYPZmk567dFtrpfOqu5g\\_L4rxwDjpyvtknk6gkHG/zfo61kHwlyTN+cBzifU0yP](https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=WkwYPZmk567dFtrpfOqu5g_L4rxwDjpyvtknk6gkHG/zfo61kHwlyTN+cBzifU0yP)

**Game from the NPCC 2001 22nd Winter Round Robin Tournament**

**Round: 4**

Submitted by Joe with his comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thusly].  
[D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines]

**White: Joseph Mucerino (1961)**

**Black: Joseph Weber (2200)**

**Date: 2/9/2001**

\*(Please copy and paste the HTML link at the end of this article into your browser to read the complete commentary and to be able to play thru the moves.)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 [D]**



**3...Nxe4 4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.Bc4 g6 6.Bg5 c5 7.dxc5 Qa5+ 8.Qd2 [D]**



**8...Qxc5 9.Rd1 (Joe - Threatening mate, of course.) 9...Nc6 10.Bd5 Bf5 [D]**



**11.Be3 Qd6?? [D] (Next col.) 12.Qc3 (Joe - Attacking the Rook and threatening to win the Queen.) 12...f6 [D] (Next col.) 13.Bf7+ Kxf7 14.Rxd6 exd6 15.Qb3+ Ke8 16.Qxb7 Rc8**

(Text cont. next col.)

**Position after 11...Qd6?? (From prev. col.)**



**Position after 12...f6 (From prev. col.)**



(Cont. from prev. col.)

**17.Ne2 d5 18.0-0 Bd7 [D]**



**19.Bxa7? (Joe - Not the most accurate. Better is 19.Nc3, 19.Nf4, 19.Qb3, 19.c4, something that hits at the center.)**

**19...Bd6 20.Bd4 Rf8 21.Bc3 Ke7 22.Qb6 f5 23.Nd4 Rc7 [D]**



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) **24.Nxc6+?** (Joe - The correct move is 24.Nb5! I was probably afraid of 24...Rb8, but then 25.Nxc7 Rxb6 26.Nxd5 wins.) **24...Rxc6 25.Qd4 Be6 26.Qa7+ [D]**



(Joe - Here I offered a draw. The computer says White is winning, but only offers a bunch of random checks and Queen maneuvers that do not accomplish anything.) **1/2-1/2**

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=l5MegLTZ+dlL74jM1mjN8M5fOxUq8iBWhBWA006nN5qGqGbPGxzqCfZ1VtBaUS41>

**Game from the North Penn Chess Club 2000 Membership Drive Tournament**

**Round: 1**

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

**White: Joseph Mucerino (1845)**

**Black: Arthur Price (2076)**

**Date: 8/25/2000**

\*(Please copy and paste the HTML link at the end of this article into your browser to read the complete commentary and to be able to play thru the moves.)

[C01: French: Exchange Variation] **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Be3 [D]**



(Text cont. p.8)

(Cont. from p. 7) (Joe - The Alapin Gambit.) **3...Nd7** (Joe - Black declines the gambit. If 3...dxe4 4.Nd2.) **4.e5** [4.c3 c5 5.exd5 exd5 6.Bb5 Qa5 7.Qe2 Kd8 8.Nd2 c4, etc... Vlad,D (2322)-Cristescu,A Bucharest 2002 1-0 (55)] **4...c5 5.c3 Qb6N** [5...Ne7 6.f4 (6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.Nbd2 Qb6 9.Rb1 h6 10.h4 a5, etc... Graham,N-Dudiefa,D Coventry 2005 ½-½) 6...Nf5 7.Bf2 cxd4 8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Nc3 Qa5, etc... Pareux,M (1550)-Gregoire,P (1390) Loire 2004 1-0] **6.Qd2 cxd4** [6...Ne7=] **7.cxd4± Ne7 8.f4?! [D]**



(Joe - It's better to develop with 8.Be3 and then if 8...Nf5 9.Bxf5. I'm sure I rejected that because I don't like to give up my light squared Bishop.) [White is slightly better.] **8...Nf5 9.Bf2! Bb4 10.Nc3 Qa5 11.Nf3 Nb6! 12.Rc1 Nc4 13.Bxc4! [D]**



**13...dxc4 14.0-0 0-0 15.a3 Bxc3! 16.Rxc3 Qd5 17.Qc2?! [D]**



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - It's better to prepare this move with 17.a4 first because of black's next move.) [17.g4= Ne7 18.Bh4] **17...b5± 18.g4?!** (Joe - 18...Ne7 is much more flexible.) **18...Nh6? 19.Ng5?! [D]**



(Joe - White should solidify his position with 19.h3.) [19.h3= should be considered.] **19...g6 20.h3 Bb7 21.Nf3** [21.Rf3= is superior.] **21...f6 22.Be3** [22.exf6!± Rxf6 23.Bg3] **22...fxe5?** [22...f5!→ 23.g5 Nf7] **23.dxe5= a5** [23...Nf7=] **24.Qd2** [24.a4±] **24...Nf7 25.Rc2? [25.Qd4=] 25...Rfd8? [D]**



(Joe - Black's Queen is a monster. White should have traded it off on the previous move, and Black should have avoided the trade of Queens.) [Better is 25...Qe4!± 26.Qf2 Qxf3 27.Qxf3 Bxf3 28.Rxf3 Nxe5!] **26.Qxd5 Bxd5 27.Kf2 Be4** [27...b4=] **28.Rd2± b4 29.axb4** [29.Rc1 is more appropriate.] **29...axb4= 30.Bd4** [White should try 30.Rc1=] **30...Ra2± 31.Rfd1 Rd5** [31...Rc8±] **32.Ke3= Bxf3! [D]**



(Text cont. next col.)

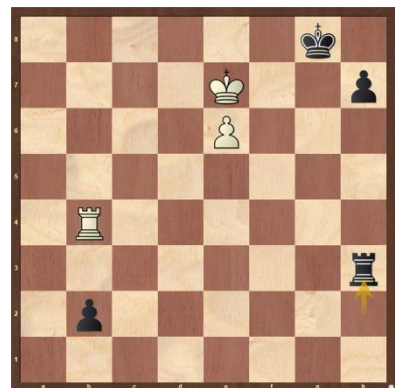
(Cont. from prev. col.) **33.Kxf3 Nd8?** [33...g5=] **34.Ke4? [D]**



(Joe - White had a strong move 34.Bc5! Rxd2 ((not 34...Rxc5?? 35.Rxd8+ leads to mate)) 35.Rxd2 Nc6 36.Rd6 Ra6.) [34.Be3± Rxd2 35.Rxd2] **34...Nc6 35.f5! gxf5+** [Better is 35...Kf7] **36.gxf5 Rxd4+ 37.Rxd4 exf5+ 38.Kxf5 Nxd4+ 39.Rxd4 Rxb2 40.Rxc4 [D]**



**40...Rf2+ 41.Ke6 b3 42.Rb4 b2 43.Ke7 Rh2 44.e6 Rxh3 [D]**



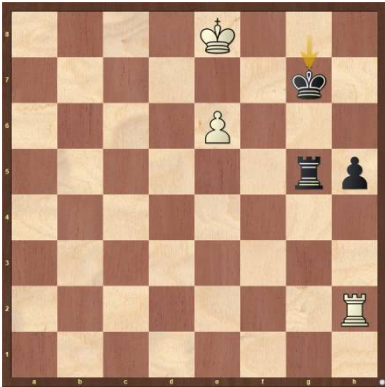
[44...Kg7= remains equal.] **45.Rxb2±** [Hoping for Rg2+] **45...Rg3??** (Joe - Black has to get his Pawn rolling with 45...h5. Black is lost after the text move.) [45...h5±] **46.Rf2?? [D]** (p. 9) (Joe - And this move gives back half a point. Obviously I wanted to cut off the black King. But the way to win is 46.Rd2 with the line 46...Kg7 (Text cont. p. 9)



Position after 46.Rf2?? (From p8.)



(Cont. from p.8) 47.Kd8 (note that the Rook on d2 eliminates checks) Ra3 48.e7 Ra8+ 49.Kd7 Ra7+ 50.Ke6 Ra6+ 51.Rd6 Ra8 52.Rd8 Ra6+ 53.Kd5 Ra5+ 54.Kc4 Ra4+ 55.Kb3 Re4 56.e8Q Rxe8 57.Rxe8 Kg6 58.Kc3 Kg5 59.Kd3 h5 60.Ke3 Kg4 61.Kf2 and White's King will make it to h1 and win.) **46...h5??** (Joe - Now White is winning again.) [Better is 46...Kg7] **47.Rh2! Rg5** [47...Rg7+± was worth a try. 48.Kf6 Rh7] **48.Ke8??** (Joe - And now the game is drawn again. Best was 48.Kf6 and second best was 48.Kd6. The rest of the game is drawn. Black can sacrifice his Rook for the Pawn, and force White to sacrifice his Rook for the h-Pawn.) [48.Kf6+± Ra5 49.Rg2+ Kh7 50.Rg7+ Kh6 51.Rg8 Kh7 52.e7! Ra6+ 53.Kf7] **48...Kg7 [D]**



[48...Ra5±] **49.e7!+±** [Strongly threatening Kd7.] **49...Rd5** [49...Rb5±] **50.Rg2+ Kf6 51.Re2** [51.Kf8+± Re5 52.Ra2 Rxe7 53.Rf2+ Kg5 54.Kxe7] **51...Ra5? [D]**



(Text cont. next col.)

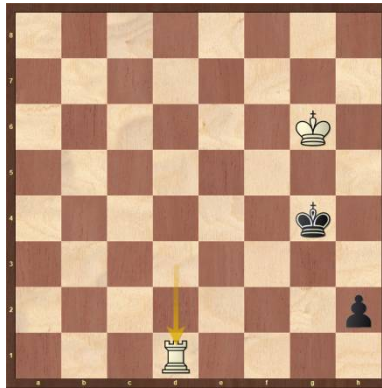
(Cont. from prev. col.) [51...Kg7!±] **52.Rd2?** [52.Kf8!+± Ra8+ 53.e8Q Rxe8+ 54.Rxe8] **52...Ra8+ 53.Rd8 Ra7 54.Rd6+ Kg5 55.Rd7 Ra2** [Black should play 55...Ra5±] **56.Rd5+± [D]**



**56...Kg4 57.Rd4+ Kg3 58.Rd3+ Kg4 59.Kf8 Re2 60.e8Q [D]**



[60.Rd4+± Kg3 61.e8Q Rxe8+ 62.Kxe8] **60...Rxe8+± 61.Kxe8 h4** [The position is equal.] **62.Kf7 h3 63.Kg6 h2 64.Rd1 [D]**



Accuracy: White = 61%, Black = 50%]  
1/2-1/2

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=q90AzsRzooNQFS3NYvAM0JI BxDofPmR6/pCiO9CE2tPMozkuiFMr8nSU OC9qFkhh>

This concludes this issue. More games in next issue.



Alexander MacFarlane IV



Eric Funk



Joseph Mucerino