

~ En Passant ~

Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club, Lansdale, PA – Spring 2021, Part 1

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This issue features Joe Mucerino's games played in March, April, and May in 2021.

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 April - May Swiss Tournament

Round: 1

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

White: Daniel Duan (1798)

Black: Joseph Mucerino (2137)

Date: 4/9/2021

*(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.)

[D48: Semi-Slav: Meran System: 7...b5 8 Bd3

a6] (Joe - This is my first game against Mr.

Duan, who has done pretty well since recently joining the club.)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6

3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 c6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3

[D] (Next col.) 6...dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5

8.Bd3 a6 9.a3?! (Joe - A bit passive.

There are several moves White can chose from, including 9.O-O, e4, or even a4.)

9...c5 [D] (Next col.) 10.dxc5? (Joe -

This wastes time for White. Black will

(Text cont. next col.)

Position after Position after 6.Bd3

(From prev. col.)



Position after Position after 9...c5

(From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) recapture with the Knight and gain a tempo on the Bishop.)

10...Nxc5 11.Bc2N [11.Be2

Bb7 12.O-O Qxd1 13.Rxd1 Nb3 14.Rb1

b4 15.axb4 Bxb4, etc... Cerveny,M

(2320)-Petr,M (2452) Litomysl 2009 0-1

(48)] 11...Qc7 (Joe - The computer

prefers trading Queens, but I do not

agree if Black wants to win. Back in

(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) the 2017 U.S. Open, in the first round, I played against Jose de la Colina, who was rated 1545. We traded Queens in the late opening / early middlegame, and I had to really grind him down in order to win. If I were playing a Master, I would not mind trading Queens, and I would play 11...Bb7 here. But I was not looking for another grind in this game, so I avoided the Queen trade. The interested reader is invited to look at the Summer 2017, Part 5, edition of En Passant if they would like to see the de la Colina game for comparison.)

(Editor: The game has been inserted following this game.) [11...Qxd1++ 12.Kxd1 Bb7] 12.b4= [D]



(Joe - If 12.O-O, Black can play 12...Bb7, and now the Knight on c5 can land on the must more attractive e4 square.)

12...Ncd7 13.Bb2 Bb7 14.Rc1 Rd8

15.Qe2 Qb8 16.Rd1?! [D] (p.2)

(Text cont. p.2)

May 2021 Announcement:

NPCC tournaments have been concluded for April of 2021.

Notifications will be sent out via email as to when tournaments are scheduled later in May 2021 and beyond.

Position after 16.Rd1?! (From p. 1)



(Cont. from p. 1) (Joe - It was time for White to castle.) **16...Bd6** (Joe - Now if 17.O-O Bxf3 wins the h2 pawn.) **17.h3 O-O 18.Nb1?** (Joe - Again, White needed to castle. The Rook on h1 never participated in the game.) **18...Ne4?!** (Joe - The computer preferred 18...Ne5 or 18...Rc8. I wanted to clog the b1-h7 diagonal so I wouldn't get mated.) [18...Bxf3=+ 19.gxf3 Be5] **19.Qd3? [D]**



(Joe - Walking into potential discovered attacks against the Queen cannot be good.)

[Better is 19.Rd4= Nef6 20.Nbd2]

19...Ndf6 20.Nd4?? (Joe - I was really hoping for 20.Qd4?? when 20...Bc7! traps the Queen.) [20.Qe2=+] **20...e5 21.f3? [D]**



[21.Nf3 Bxb4+ 22.axb4 Rxd3 23.Bxd3]

21...Ng3 [D] (Next col.) (Joe - The computer says 21...exd4 is even stronger, but the text is plenty good.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/Black=0.18] **0-1**

Position after 21...Ng3 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=410KHCgNOF7TqOuyc6F9dkBclFmKlr/L3tETVnPAzB4OHuf7VHsRHVGv6hyXEeMO>

The game mentioned by Joe for Comparison from the 118th U.S. Open, August 2017, reproduced here:

White: Jose De La Colina [FL] (1545)
Black: Joseph Mucerino (2073)
Date: 8/1/2017

[D53: Queen's Gambit Declined: 4 Bg5 Be7: Early deviations] **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 b5 9.Be2 [D]**



(Joe - Although this move is fine, 9.Bd3 is more common.) [9.Bd3 a6 (9...Bb7 10.O-O a6 11.a4 b4 12, etc...Atalik,S (2570)-Hertneck,G (2524) Bad Wiessee 2003 ½-½ (47)) 10.Rc1 (10.O-O c5 11.dxc5 (11.Qe2 0-0, etc...Marshall,F-Lasker,E St Petersburg 1914 ½-½ (46)) 11...Nxc5 12.Bc2 Bb7 13.b4 Ncd7, etc...Bersamina,P (2318)-Abelgas,R (2319) Manila 2014 ½-½ (59)) 10...Bb7 11.O-O Rc8 12.a4 0-0, etc...Schlechter,C-Bernstein,O Coburg 1904 ½-½ (39)]

9...a6 10.O-O Bb7 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 (Joe - This is the better way to recapture, because now white cannot play 12.Ne4.) **12.a3 [D]** (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 12.a3 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - The idea is to try to clamp Black with 13.b4. Well, Black is not going to fall for that. Better is 12.Ne5 or 12.Rc1.)

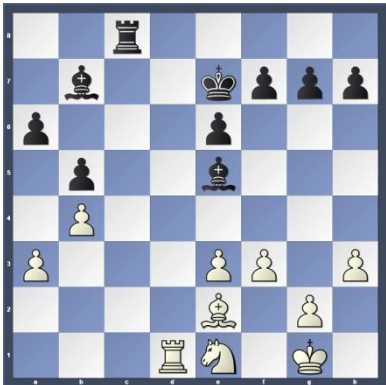
12...c5 13.dxc5 Bxc5 14.Qxd8+ Rxd8 (Joe - Trading Queens did not make me happy against a lower rated opponent, because it will make winning much more difficult. Black has the Bishop pair and has equalized without even trying, but the position is equal.) **15.Rfd1 Ke7** (Joe - With the Queens off the board, it is better to keep the King in the center than to castle.) **16.b4?!** (Joe - Probably the first detectable error that White has made. The Knight on c3 is now loose. 16.Rac1 would have been a better choice.) **16...Bd6** (Joe - Trying to avoid the trade of Rooks, and hoping to play ...Be5 one day.) **17.Rac1 Rc8 18.Nb1?!** (Joe - Another small error, giving up control of d5 and e4. 18.Nd4 would have been better.) **18...Bd5 [D]**



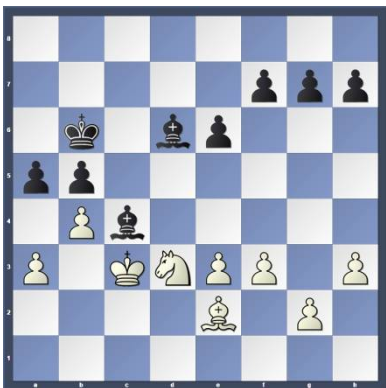
(Joe - "What did your opponent's move allow you to do?" It allowed me to improve my Bishop. The computer, though, preferred 18...Ne4 or 18...Rad8.)

19.Nbd2 Rhd8 20.h3 Ne4 21.Nxe4 Bxe4 (Joe - Trading down should help me, because his Pawns on a3 and b4 are on dark squares and I have a dark squared Bishop and he does not.) **22.Ne1** (Joe - Again, White allows Black to creep forward.) **22...Be5** (Joe - Black now has a clear advantage, although the win is still far away.) **23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.f3 Bb7 [D]** (p.3) (Text cont. p.3)

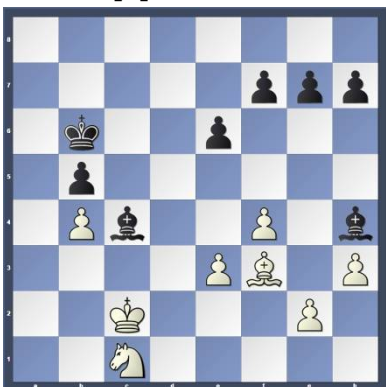
(Cont. from p.2) Position after 24...Bb7
(From p.2)



(Cont. from p.2) (Joe - I lost a good chunk of my advantage on this move. Stockfish 7 chose 24...Bg6. I rejected that move because after 25.e4 I would have to play ...f6 and later ...e5 to free the Bishop. Now I see that is the better way to go, because then the Bishop can choose to move along either the a2-g8 diagonal or the b1-h7 diagonal.) [24...Bg6!?] 25.Nd3 Bd6 26.Rc1 Rxc1+ 27.Nxc1 [A minor pieces endgame occurred] 27...Kd7 (Joe - It is time for Plan-B.) 28.Kf1 Kc7 29.Ke1 Kb6 30.Kd2 a5 31.Nd3 Bd5 32.Kc3 Bc4?! [D]

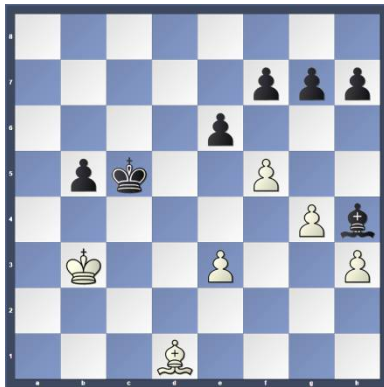


[The Black Bishop on an outpost] (Joe - This allows White to force an opposite color ending with 33.bxa5+ Kxa5 34.a4. 34...bxa4 drops the Bishop on c4, 34...Kxa4 allows 35.Nb2+, and the best move, 34...Bxd3 35.Bxd3 also enters into a Bishop of opposite color endgame.) 33.f4 Be7 34.Nc1 Bf6+ 35.Kc2 axb4 36.axb4 Bh4 37.Bf3?! [D]

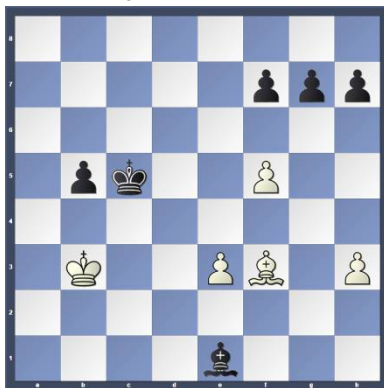


(Text cont. next col.)

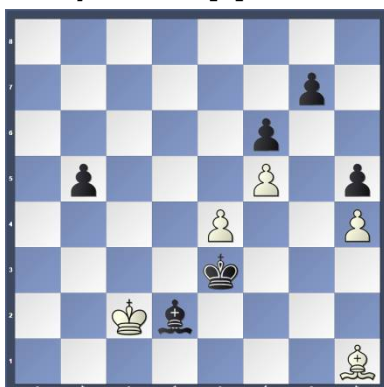
(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - Losing a Pawn but entering the Bishop of opposite color ending.) 37...Be1 38.Nd3 Bxd3+ 39.Kxd3 Bxb4 40.g4 Be7 41.Bd1 Kc5 42.Kc3 Bf6+ 43.Kb3 Bh4 44.f5? [D]



(Joe - Now White will have two pawn islands instead of one.) 44...exf5 45.gxf5 Be1 (Joe - Trying to cut off White's king.) 46.Bf3? [D]

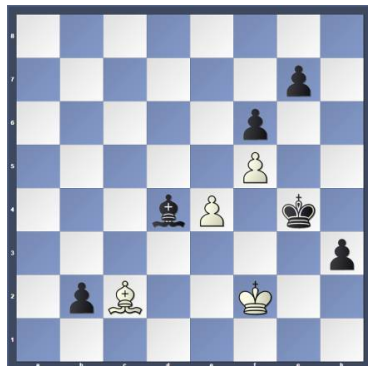


(Joe - Possibly the decisive error.) [46.Kc2!?] 46...Bd2 47.e4 Kd4 (Joe - Black's King and Bishop are both stronger than their White counterparts.) 48.Bh1? [Better is 48.Bd1!] 48...f6 (Joe - Trying to prevent e5.) 49.Kc2 [49.h4 b4] 49...Ke3 50.h4? [50.Bg2 is still a small chance 50...Kf2 51.Bh1] 50...h5! [D]



(Joe - Although Black's Pawn is on the same color as White's Bishop, White's Bishop will never be able to defend it.) 51.Kd1 b4 52.Bg2 Bc3? (Joe - This is still winning, but stronger is (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 52...Kd3, 32...Kc3 and push the b-Pawn.) 53.Kc2 [53.e5 what else? 53...Bxe5 54.Bc6] 53...Kf2 54.Bh1 Kg3 55.Kd3 Kxh4 56.Bf3 Kg5 57.Ke3 [57.Bd1 Be5 58.Kc2] 57...b3 58.Bd1 b2 59.Bc2 Kg4 60.Kf2 h4 61.Kg2 h3+ 62.Kf2 Bd4+ [D]



(Joe - After 62.Kf1 Kg3, the h-Pawn promotes.) 0-1

Game from the NPCC 2021 Apr-May Swiss Tournament Round: 2

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (2137)
Black: Preston Ladson (1824)
Date: 4/16/2021

* (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.)

[D06: Queen's Gambit: Symmetrical and Baltic Defenses] 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Bf5 3.e3 e6 4.c4 c6 [D]



[4...Nc6 5.a3 Nf6 6.Be2 dxc4 7.Bxc4 Bd6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5, etc... Zou,C (2397)-Grischuk,A (2772) China 2019 ½-½ (33)] 5.Be2N [5.Qb3 Qb6 6.Nc3 Nd7 7.Be2 Ngf6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Re1 0-0 10.Nh4 Be4, etc... Lazic,M (2430)-Kourkounakis,I (2400) Chania 1992 0-1 (31); 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 Nd7 7.0-0 f5 8.cxd5 cxd5 9.Qb5 Rb8 10.Ne5 Ngf6, etc... (Text cont. p.4)

(Cont. from p.3) Konopka,M (2380)-Keitlinghaus,L (2455) Stribrna Skalice 1993 ½-½ (74)
5...Bxb1?! (Joe - Black trades off a strong Bishop for a Knight that has not moved in order to win a Rook Pawn. But the Rook Pawn is poisoned!) 6.Rxb1 Qa5+ 7.Bd2 Qxa2 [D]



[Black should try 7...Bb4+]=] **8.c5 [White is winning.] 8...b5 9.Ra1 Qxb2 10.Ne5 Nf6 [With the idea ...Ne4.] 11.Nd3 (Joe - Now the Queen gets trapped.) 11...Qxa1?? (Joe - The game finished: 12.Qxa1 [D]**



[Hoping for Qa5.] **12...Ne4 [Better is 12...a5 13.Bxa5 Be7] 13.Ba5 Be7 14.0-0 0-0 15.Bc7 Rc8 [Better is 15...a5 16.Nb4 Rc8 17.Bxb8 Raxb8 18.Qxa5 Ra8] 16.Bxb8+- Rcxb8 [D]**



17.Ne5 Rc8 18.Qa6 Nc3 19.Bd3 Rc7 20.Nxc6 Bf8 21.Rc1 Rac8 22.Nb4 Ne4 23.Bxe4 dxe4 24.Qxb5 e5 25.Na6 [D] (Next col.) 25...Rc6 26.d5 Rg6 27.g3 h5 28.c6 h4 29.Kg2 Rf6 30.Qb7 Re8 31.c7 h3+ 32.Kf1 g6 [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)

Position after Position after 25.Na6 (From prev. col.)



Position after Position after 32...g6 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) **33.c8Q [White mates.] 33...Rxc8 34.Qxc8 Rb6 35.Nc5 [D]**



[Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.88] **1-0**
 Copy and paste the link below into your browser:
<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=YnS Qx/T1u9I6XWYxr3OPnX65osRq9WLTlm1 GnHLMi84uFaFrewql/crZiTjb27LH>

Game from the NPCC 2021 Apr-May Swiss Tournament Round: 3

Submitted by Joe with his comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thus].
 (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.)

**White: Kevin Li (1986)
 Black: Joseph Mucerino (2137)
 Date: 4/823/2021**

* (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.)

[B01: Scandinavian Defense] **1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Bg4 4.f3 Bf5 5.g4 Bg6 6.c4 e6 (Joe - In our previous game, I played 6...c6 and drew.) 7.Nc3 [D]**



7...exd5 [7...Be7 8.h4 h6 9.h5 Bh7 10.dxe6 Nc6 11.Be3 0-0 12.Bd3 fxe6 13.Nge2 Nb4, etc... Dabo Peranic,R (2322)-Krstic,U (2354) Mali Losinj 2019 1-0] 8.g5 [White is slightly better.] 8...Nfd7! [8...Nh5 9.f4 Nc6 10.Be2 dxc4 11.Bxh5 Bxh5 12.Qxh5 Nxd4 13.Kf2 g6, etc... Popov,I (2622)-Laylo,D (2500) Quezon City 2014 1-0 (32)] 9.Nxd5 Nc6! 10.h4N [10.Ne2 Nb4 (10...Nb6 11.Nef4 Be7 12.h4 0-0 13.Kf2 Re8 14.Nxe7+ Rxe7 15.d5 Qd6 16.Bh3 Qc5+ 17.Kg3 Nd4, etc... Enchanter (2559)-WindPower (2465) playchess.com INT 2008 1-0 (33)] 11.Nxb4 Bxb4+ 12.Kf2 0-0 13.h4 Bf5 14.Ng3 Be6 15.Bd3 Re8 16.Qc2 Nf8, etc... Handoko,E (2465)-Eid,F (2290) Genting Highlands 1998 1-0] 10...Bb4+?? (Joe - According to the computer, this is a blunder. I will lose a piece and putting the Bishop on this square is the first step in getting it trapped.) [10...Nb6+=] 11.Kf2!+- [D] (p.5)(Joe - The best move.) 11...0-0 [11...Nb6+- was called for.] 12.h5+- Bf5 [D] (p.5)13.Ne2! Nb6 14.Ne3 Qxg5 [14...Be6 might work better.] 15.c5?! [a3 is the strong threat.] (Joe - Stronger is 15.a3! Black cannot play 15...Be7 because of 16.Nd5.) 15...Nd7 16.Ng3?! (Joe - Looks good, but it didn't really work out. (Text cont. next col.)

Position after Position after 11.Kf2!+-
(From p.4)



Position after Position after 12...Bf5
(From p.4)



(Cont. from p.4) Better is either 16.h6 or
16.Nxf5 Qxf5 17.Bh3 Qd5 18.a3.) **16...Be6**
17.a3 [17.h6+- Rfd8 18.hxg7 Nxc5 19.Nc2
(19.Nef5 Qg6+=)] 19...Qxg7 20.Rh5]
17...Bxc5+- [D]



[17...Ba5? 18.b4+-] **18.Ne4** [Resist
18.dxc5 Nxc5 19.Nef5 Qf6+-] **18...Qe7**
19.dxc5? (Joe - The computer much preferred
taking with the Knight.) [19.Nxc5+-
Nxc5 20.dxc5] **19...Nxc5** [19...Rad8+=]
20.Nxc5+- [D] (Next col.) **20...Qxc5?**
(Joe - And the computer said the position
was equal after 20...Rad8.) **21.Qc2 Qb6**
(Joe - I wanted to avoid the exchange of
Queens and keep the Knight pinned.)
[21...Qe5 was necessary. 22.Qc3 Rad8]
22.Bd2 (Joe - The computer preferred
22.b4 and 23.Bb2, but this should be fine.)
22...Rad8 [next ...f5 is good for Black.]
(Text cont. next col.)

Position after Position after
20.Nxc5+- (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) **23.Bc3**
Bb3?? [D]



(Joe - I thought that this was a good
move at the time, but it forces the
Queen to menace my King.) [Better is
23...f5] **24.Qf5** [Strongly threatening
Bd3.] **24...Rfe8?** [24...Nd4 25.Qg4
Qf6] **25.Re1?!** (Joe - The computer
preferred 25.Qg5 with a mate threat.)
25...Nd4 [D]



26.Qg4 f5 (Joe - Activity was the only
thing that was going to save me.)
27.Qg5 [Black must now prevent Rg1.]
27...h6 **28.Qg6?? [D]** (Next col.)
(Joe - White is no longer winning after
this move. He had to try 28.Qf4, block-
ading the Pawn.) [28.Qf4+- Ne6
29.Qb4] **28...Re6+-** **29.Qg3** [Threat-
ens to win with Rh4.] **29...f4** **30.Qxf4**
[Hoping for Rh3.] **30...Rf6** **31.Bxd4**
[D] (Next col.) [Better is 31.Qg4]
31...Rxd4 **32.Qg3?** (Joe - White has
completely lost his advantage.) (Text
cont. next col.)

Position after Position after 28.Qg6??
(From prev. col.)



Position after Position after 31.Bxd4
(From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) [Only move:
32.Qe5+-] **32...Rdf4?!** (Joe - Black could
have obtained a slight advantage with
32...Bd5! One computer line is 33.Bg2
(not 33.Nxd5?? Rd2 mate!) Rd2+ 34.Kf1
Rxc7 35.Kxc7 Qxb2 36.Kh3 Rxf3 37. Nxd5
Rxc7 38.Kxc7 Qb3 39.Ne3 Qxa3 with a very
unclear position.) [32...Bd5= 33.Bg2
(33.Kg1? Rxf3 34.Qg6 Be6+-) 33...Rd2+
34.Kf1 [D]



(Analysis Diagram)

34...Rxc7! 35.Kxc7 (35.Qxc7? perishes.
35...Bxf3 36.Qh2 Bxh1+ 37.Kg1 Bf3+-)
35...Qxb2+ 36.Kh3 Rxf3 37.Nxd5 Rxc7+
38.Kxc7 Qb3+ 39.Ne3 Qxa3] **33.Be2 [D]**
[33.Bg2+-] (Editor: White offered a
draw which Black readily accepted!)
½-½ [Weighted Error Value:
White=0.30/Black=0.31]
Copy and paste the link below into your
browser: <https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=WXpsOk7AemVT59zm8R+kkTsCvW3krAO/+UHH+kDj8IJEpATPbk2RkXbUSnv7D9QJ>

Game from the NPCC April - May Swiss Tournament

Round: 4

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (2137)

Black: Gregory Nolan (2125)

Date: 4/30/2021

*(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.)

[D05: Colle System with ...e6] **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 e6 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Nbd2 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 [D]**



8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.e4 Qc7 10.Qe2 Bb6N [D]

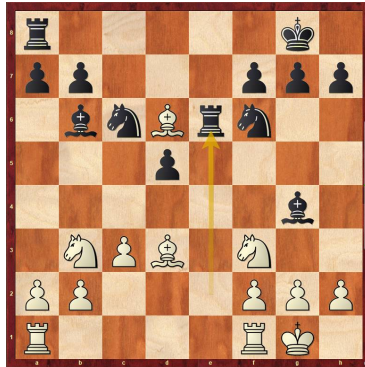


(Joe - For some reason, I thought Nolan had varied from our previous encounter, but he did not!) [10...g6 11.Nb3 ½-½ (11) Hoi,C (2445)-Inkiow,V (2510) Gausdal 1990; 10...Bd7 11.Bc2 Bb6 12.h3 Nh5 13.Rd1 Nf4 14.Qf1 Rad8 15.exd5 exd5 16.Nb3 Rfe8, etc... Gausel,E (2480)-Kiriakov,P (2546) Skelleftea 2001 ½-½ (35); 10...b6 11.exd5 (11.e5 Ng4 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qxg4 Qxe5 15.Ndf3 Qf6 16.Qh5 Qh6, etc... Parameswaran,T (2390)-Zarnicki,P (2540) Yerevan 1996 0-1) 11...Nxd5 12.Nb3 Be7 13.Nbd4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Bb7 15.Re1 Nf4 16.Bxf4 Qxf4, etc... Dragic,S (2439)-Sebenik,M (2507) Petrovac 2015 ½-½ (50)] **11.exd5?** (Joe - In the previous encounter, I played the correct move 11.e5 and drew. Now Black gains an advantage.) [11.a4=] (Text cont. next col.)

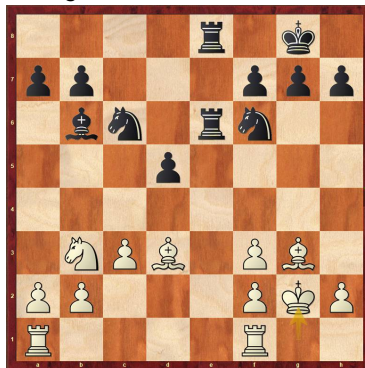
(Cont. from prev. col.) **11...exd5=+ 12.Nb3 Bg4 [Black is slightly better.] 13.Bg5 Qd6 14.Bh4 Rfe8 15.Bg3 [D]**



15...Rxe2 16.Bxd6 Re6 [D]

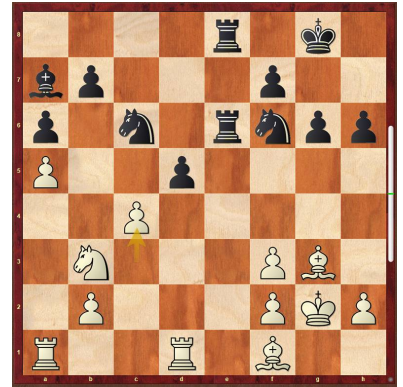


[Threatens to win with ...Bxf3.] **17.Bg3! Bxf3 18.gxf3 Rae8** (Joe - It's difficult to criticize this move, but I think 18...Ne5 was a bit more accurate.) **19.Kg2 [D]**

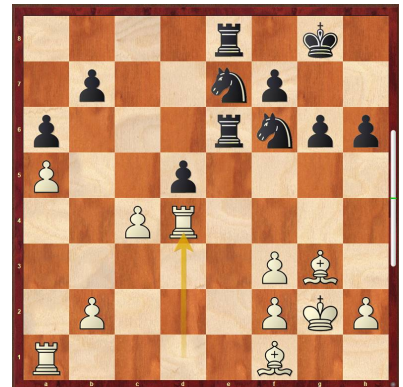


(Joe - Protecting the Pawn on f3 so after 19...Ne5 my Bishop can go anywhere instead of being forced to go to e2 to protect f3.) **19...g6 20.Rfd1 Ne5 21.Bb5 Nc6** [21...Rc8=] **22.a4?!** (Joe - Better is 22.c4! trying to open up the position, which I would play in a few moves.) [22.c4± dxc4 23.Bxc4] **22...a6= 23.Bf1 h6 24.a5 Ba7 25.c4** [with initiative] [D] (Next col.) [Black is under pressure.] **25...Ne7** (Joe - Black should have captured the Pawn instead.) [25...dxc4= 26.Bxc4 R6e7] **26.Nd4?!** (Joe - And the computer says I should have also captured the Pawn!) [White should try 26.cxd5+- Nexd5 27.Bc4] **26...Bxd4 27.Rxd4 [D]** (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)

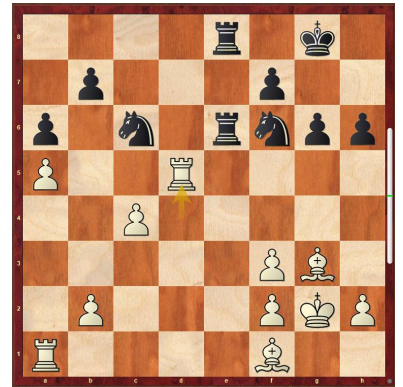
(Position after 25.c4 (From prev. col.)



(Position after 27.Rxd4 (From prev. col.)



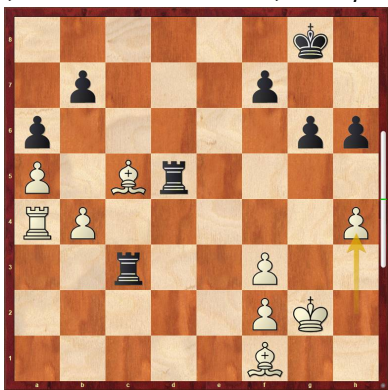
(Cont. from prev. col.) [Black must now prevent cxd5.] **27...Nc6?** (Joe - This was the last chance to capture the Pawn.) [27...Nf5= 28.cxd5 Nxd4 29.dxe6 Nxe6] **28.Rxd5!+- [D]**



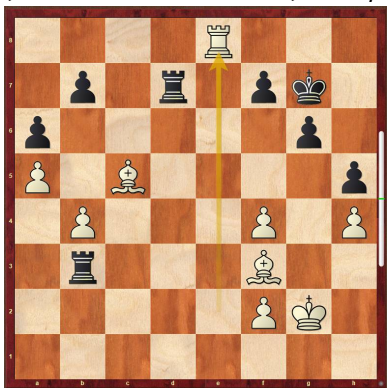
(Joe - Now White gains a significant advantage.) **28...Nxd5??** (Joe - Compounding the previous error. Now White is winning.) [28...Re1+- 29.Rxe1 Rxe1] **29.cxd5+- Rf6 30.dxc6 Rxc6 31.Ra4 Rc5 32.b4 Rc3 33.Bd6 Rd8 34.Bc5 Rd5** [...Rg5+ is the strong threat.] **35.h4 [D]** (p. 7) **35...Rf5** [Better is 35...Rd1 36.Be3 Rb3] **36.Be3 Kh7 37.f4 Rd5 38.Be2 Rd7 39.Ra2 Rb3 40.Bc5 Kg7 41.Bg4 Rd8 42.Re2 h5 43.Bf3 Rd7 44.Re8 [D]** (p. 7)

(Text cont. p. 7)

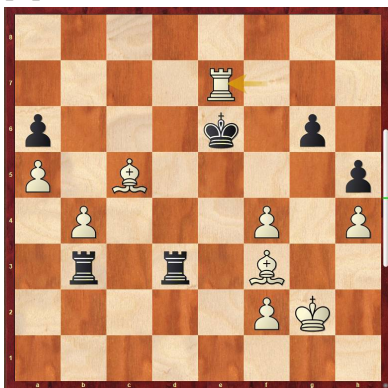
(Position after 35.h4 (From p.6)



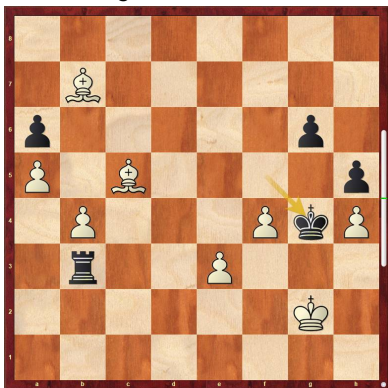
(Position after 44.Re8 (From p.6)



(Cont. from p.6) 44...Kf6 45.Rb8 Kf5 46.Rxb7 Rdd3 47.Rxf7+ Ke6 48.Re7+ [D]

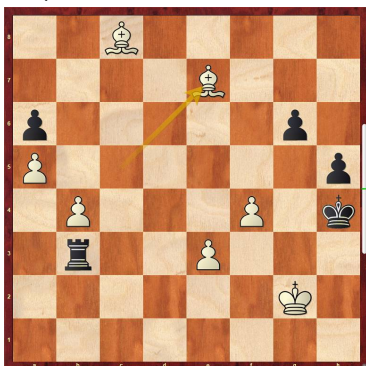


48...Kf6 49.Re3 Rxe3 50.fxe3 Kf5 51.Bb7 Kg4? [D]



(Joe - This hastens the end, but Black was lost anyway.) 52.Bc8+ Kxh4 53.Be7+ [D] (Next col.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.14/Black=0.65.] 0-1 (Text cont. next col.)

(Position after 53.Be7+ (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.)

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=O4aT-fZVOQtLghRWxS0j3rALM0IEF/zWNTIf4Kl-ladSaL5F9LzOj9I9/e3XzLJarH>

Game from the NPCC 2021 March Swiss Octagonal Tournament

Round: 3

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (2131)

Black: Willard Moyer (1631)

Date: 3/26/2021

*(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.)

[D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4] 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 a6?! (Joe - I don't know what this is for.) 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.Nbd2 c5 [5...Nbd7 6.0-0 Bd6 7.e4 dxe4 8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Bxe4 Nf6 10.Bd3 0-0, etc...

Nguyen,H (1726)-Weishaetel,M (1850) Durban 2014 ½-½ (33)] 6.c3 [D]



6...cxd4N (Joe - Taking tension out of the center for no good reason.) [6...Bd7 7.0-0 Bb5 8.Bxb5+ axb5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Nb3 Be7 11.Nbd4 Qb6 12.Qb3 b4, etc... Baudot,D-Bolduc,S Kiljava 1984 ½-½ (85); 6...Be7 (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 7.0-0 0-0 (7...Nc6 8.Re1 0-0 9.e4 cxd4 10.cxd4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxd4 12.Ne5 Nxe4, etc... Maliszewski,J (1747)-Buraczewski,R (1803) Rewal 2013 0-1) 8.Qe2 Nbd7 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 cxd4 11.cxd4 b5 12.Ne5 1-0 (12) Cuartas,C (2302)-Molina,J Cali 2001] 7.exd4 (Joe - White captures back this way so he can easily develop his Bishop on c1.) [Much worse is 7.Nxd4 e5=+] 7...Bd6 8.Ne5 (Joe - In the Colle, White wants to control the e5 square.) [White is slightly better.] 8...Nbd7 9.f4 h6?! (Joe - Again, I don't know what this is for. White is not attacking anything, and Black weakened the c1-h7 diagonal for no reason.) 10.0-0 g5? [D]



(Joe - Ah, that's the point! But this just loosens Black's position.) [Black should try 10...Qc7=+] 11.Ndf3 [11.Qe2+-] 11...Ne4 [11...g4+-] 12.Qe2?! (Joe - Not the best response. White can win a Pawn after 12.Bxe4 dxe4 13.Nd2. 13...f5 is impossible because of 14.Qh5+, and after 13...Nf6, White has 14.Qe2.) [White should play 12.Bxe4+- dxe4 13.Nd2 (13.fxg5 hxg5 14.Bxg5 f6+-)] 12...f6? [D]



(Joe - Black needed to play 12...f5.) [12...f5=+] 13.Nxd7?! (Joe - 13.Bxe4 first was still stronger. After 13.dxe4 Nd2, the diagonal is again opened for White's Queen to go to h5.) [13.Bxe4+- and White stays clearly on top. Threatens to win with Bg6+. 13...dxe4 14.Nd2 fxe5 15.Qh5+ (15.Nxe4 Qb6+-) 15...Ke7 (Text cont. p.8)

(Cont. from p. 7) 16.fxe5 Bxe5 17.dxe5 Qb6+ 18.Kh1] 13...Bxd7 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Qxe4 f5 16.Qxb7 (Joe - This let's Black into the game after 16...Rb8 17.Qxa6 Bb5. I was happy to give up the exchange to gain all of the passed pawns, but White is still not completely developed, so it was not a good idea.) [16.Qe2+-] 16...gxf4?? [D]



(Joe - Now White is winning again.) [16...Rb8!= and Black stays safe. 17.Qxa6 Bb5] 17.Ne5 Bxe5 18.dxe5 Bb5 [18...Qc8 was worth a try. 19.Qf3 Qc5+ 20.Rf2 0-0-0] 19.Qg7?! (Joe - A clever move is 19.c4! because of 19...Bxc4 20.Qc6+.) [Less strong is 19.Bxf4 Bxf1 20.Rxf1 Qd5+=; 19.c4+- Bd7 20.Bxf4] 19...Qb6++= 20.Rf2 0-0-0 [D]

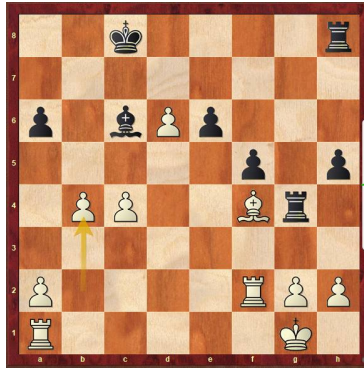


21.Bxf4 Rdg8 [21...Bc6+- 22.Qe7 Bb7] 22.Qe7 Rg4 [D]

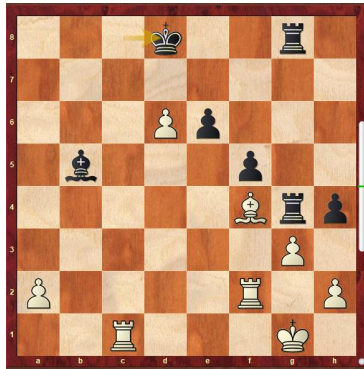


[White must now prevent ...Rxf4.] 23.Qd6! Qxd6 24.exd6 h5 25.c4 Bc6 26.b4 [D] (Next col.) [Better is 26.h3+- Rg6 27.Rd1] (Text cont. next col.)

(Position after 26.b4 (From prev. col.)



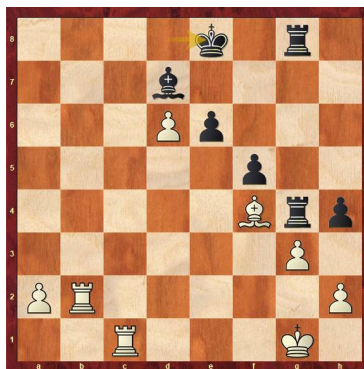
(Cont. from prev. col.) 26...Rhg8 (Joe - We both missed the simple 26...Bxg2 27.Rxg2 Rxf4.) 27.g3 h4 28.b5 axb5 [28...Ba8 might work better. 29.bxa6 Kd7] 29.cxb5+- Bxb5 30.Rc1+ Kd8 [D]



31.Rfc2! [White threatens Rc8+ and mate.] 31...Bd7 [D]



[31...Rxf4 32.Rc8+ Kd7 33.Rxg8 hxg3 34.hxg3 Rd4 35.Rc7+ Kxd6] 32.Rb2! [Rb8+ would kill now.] 32...Ke8 [D]



(Text cont. next col.)

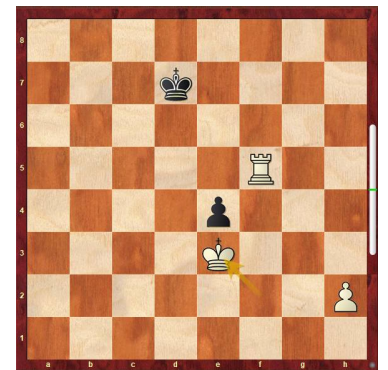
(Cont. from prev. col.) 33.Rc7! Rxf4 [33...Kf7 34.Be5] 34.Rb8+ Kf7 35.Rxd7+ Kf6 36.Rxg8 hxg3 37.Rxg3 [Endgame] 37...Ra4 38.Rd3 Rxa2 39.Rc7 [D]



(Joe - Why here? Because it's farther away from Black's King, and after d7, White's pawn will protect the Rook when it moves to c8.) 39...Ra8 40.d7 Rd8 41.Rc8 Ke7 42.Rxd8 Kxd8 43.Kf2 [D]



[White mates.] 43...e5 44.Rd5 e4 45.Rxf5 Kxd7 46.Ke3 [D]



[Weighted Error Value:

White=0.51/Black=0.75] 1-0

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=eG/WMFs8UNd4PZs4GDboVtQD6PH3JQ3ye bSwthCFoL2els1bC8dldaotMtfuxKBb>

This concludes this issue. More games in next issue.