

# ~ En Passant ~

Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club, Lansdale, PA – Summer 2021, Part 2

E. Olin Mastin, Editor

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This issue features Joe Mucerino's Games from the June 2021 Philadelphia International.

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!

Joe wrote:

"From June 26 – 30 I played in the Philadelphia International. There were two sections: an Open (which is very strong because FIDE norms are possible) and an Expert Section, which is really for U2200 players. There were 7 prizes up for grabs, from \$2,000 down to \$200, and only 17 players entered. Compare that to the U2200 section of the World Open, where there were 10 prizes available, from \$12,000 down to \$400, but, at the time of this writing, a whopping 183 players entered that section! So, the odds of winning a prize were must better in the International, so I decided to play there. The tournament was extremely competitive, with all of the players losing at least one game."

Editor's note: Time control  
40/80,SD/30;+30

EF = \$275!

[US Chess MSA - Cross Table for 14TH PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL \(Event 202106303292\)](#)

## Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

### Round: 1

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

White: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)

Black: Christopher Tyau, HI (1976)

Date: 6/26/2021

\*(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.)

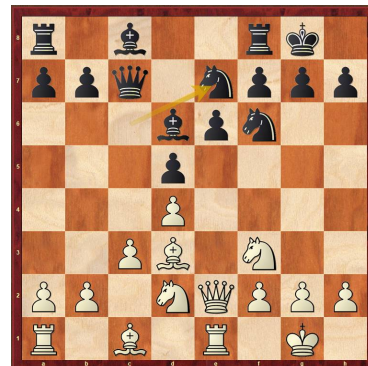
[D05: Colle System with ...e6] (Joe - According to my records, Tyau is only the third Hawaiian that I ever played against.) 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 e6 4.Nbd2 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Bd3 [D]



6...cxd4 7.exd4 Bd6 8.Qe2 Qc7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Ne7N [D] (Next col.)

(Text cont. next col.)

Position after 10...Ne7N (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) [10...b6 11.Nf1 Bb7 12.Ng3 Bf4 13.Ne5 Bxc1 14.Raxc1 Ne7 15.Qd2 Nc8 16.Qf4 Ne7, etc... Bruno,F (2461)-Vuelban,V (2411) Ancona 2009 1-0 (33); 10...a6 11.Nf1 b5 12.a3 Nd7 13.Ne3 Nf6 14.Nc2 Bb7 15.Ne5 Ne7, etc... Bricard,E (2365)-Gachon,L (2305) Montpellier 1988 1-0 (42)] 11.Ne5 Ng6 12.Ndf3 b6 [White is slightly better.] 13.Ng5 Bd7 [13...Ne7+ =] 14.f4?! [D]



(Joe - A bit slow. The computer prefers 14.Qe3 (Text cont. p.2)

August 2021 Announcement:  
NPCC tournaments have been concluded for July of 2021.  
Notifications will be sent out via email as to when tournaments are scheduled later in August 2021 and beyond.

(Cont. from p.1) followed by 14.Qh3.) [ White should play 14.Qe3+] **14...Rae8**  
**15.Rf1 Re7 16.Rf3 Rfe8** [Better is 16...Ba4] **17.Rh3** (Joe - Black is in trouble. White is attacking down the h-file, and Black's pieces cannot get over to defend.) **17...Nf8?** [D]



(Joe - It's difficult to find a good move for Black.) **17...Ba4+- 18.Ng4 Ne4** **18.Nxh7!** [White is clearly winning.] **18...N8xh7**  
**19.Bxh7+ Kf8** [D]



(Joe - Not 20...Nxh7?? 21.Qh5.) **20.Bd3** [Rh8+ would kill now.] **20...g6 21.Qf2 Ng8**  
**22.Rh8** [D]



(Joe - There is no way to stop White's Queen from entering the attack.) **1-0**  
 [Weighted Error Value: White=0.11/Black=0.34]  
 Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=tNEbV1MA1c8LG8uiqBjedTWybo7on5r61hIDaOANp2PV2WslsBP70DaAqq7/62>

## Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

### Round: 2

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

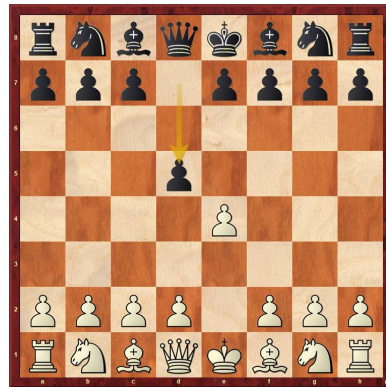
**White: Saif Shawkat, IL (2059)**

**Black: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)**

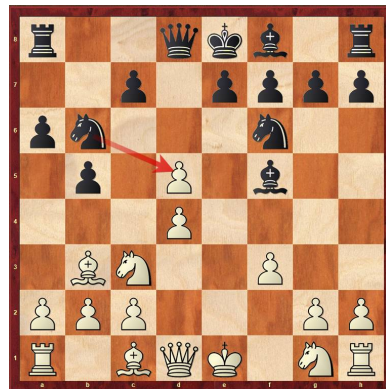
**Date: 6/26/2021**

\*(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.)

[B01: Scandinavian Defense] **1.e4 d5** [D]



**2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Bg4 4.Bb5+ Nbd7**  
**5.f3 Bf5 6.Nc3 a6 7.Ba4 b5 8.Bb3**  
**Nb6** [D]

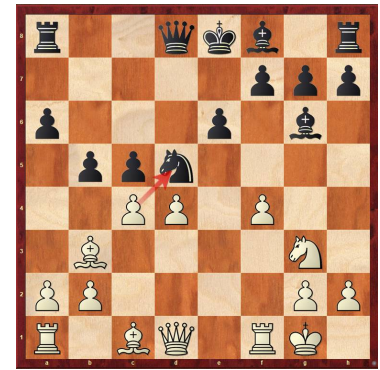


**9.Nge2 Nfxd5** [White is better.]  
**10.Nxd5 Nxd5 11.Ng3 Bg6?!** [D]



(Joe - It looks like it's better to re-route the Bishop with 11...Bc8-b7.) **12.f4** [Black must now prevent f5.] **12...e6 13.0-0 c5**  
**[13...f5+=]** **14.c4!+-** [D] (Next col.)  
 (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 14.c4!+- (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) [14.f5?! c4=] **14...Nb6 15.Be3?N** (Joe - This allows me to simplify out of danger with 15...cxd4 followed by 16...Nxc4. I had the same general idea, but went about it the wrong way.) [15.Qf3+- f5 is the strong threat. 15...Be7 16.f5 exf5 17.dxc5 (17.Nxf5 Bxf5 18.Qxf5 Qxd4+ 19.Kh1 0-0=) 17...Nxc4 18.Bxc4 (18.Nxf5 Bxc5+ 19.Be3 Bxe3+ 20.Nxe3 0-0+) 18...bxc4 19.Qc6+ (19.Nxf5 Bxf5 20.Qxf5 Qd4+ 21.Kh1 0-0=) 19...Kf8 20.Be3 (20.Nxf5 Bxf5 21.Rxf5 Qd4+ 22.Rf2 Rd8-+); 15.f5 exf5 16.Nxf5 Bxf5 17.Rxf5 Nxc4 (17...bxc4 18.Bg5 Qxd4+ 19.Qxd4 cxd4 20.Re1+ Kd7 21.Rxf7+ Kc6 22.Bd1 Bc5 23.a4 d3+ 24.Kf1 Rhf8, etc... Mallahi,A (2360)-Sanjay,N (2335) Jakarta 2011 1-0 (43)) 18.Bxc4 bxc4 19.Qf3 Be7 20.Qc6+ Kf8 21.Qf3 Rb8 22.Rxf7+ Kg8, etc... 23.d5 Bf6 24.Ra7 Qb6 25.Rd7 Rf8 26.Qe2 1-0 (26) Yap,K (2361)-Roque,M (2309) Bacolod 2017] **15...Rc8?** [15...cxd4= 16.Qxd4 Nxc4] **16.f5 exf5 17.dxc5** [White should play 17.Nxf5 Hoping for Qg4. 17...bxc4 18.Bc2] **17...Qxd1 18.Raxd1 Nxc4 19.Bxc4 bxc4** [D]



**20.Nxf5** [Better is 20.Rfe1 Be7 21.Bf4] **20...Bxf5?** (Joe - White's Rooks become too strong.) [Black should try 20...Rd8 21.Rxd8+ Kxd8] **21.Rxf5 Be7 22.Rc1 Bf6 23.Rxc4 Bxb2 24.Re4+ Kd8??** [D]  
 (Joe - Black is still on life support after 25...Kf8.) [24...Kf8 25.Rd5 h6] **25.Rd5+- Kc7 26.Re7+ Kb8 27.Rdd7** [D] (p.3)  
 (Text cont. p.3)

Position after 24...Kd8?? (From p2)



Position after 27.Rdd7 (From p2)



(Cont. from p.2) [Better is 27.Bf4+ Rc7 28.Bxc7+ Kc8 29.Rxf7 h5 30.Bf4 g5 31.Bxg5 Rg8 32.c6] **1-0** (Joe - Shawkat went on to win the tournament with a score of 7/9.)

[Weighted Error Value: White=0.12/Black=0.79]

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=Ga+rMwdPzRaCul-ZtvDqVjB+oTeD2mN1bpw2ib8qy3gBe+xtOLJGWUG7BZ1+ot/j7>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

#### Round: 3

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

**White: Alexander Shaffer, NC (1900)**

**Black: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)**

**Date: 6/26/2021**

\*(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.)

[D66: Queen's Gambit Declined: Classical: Main Line (7 Rc1 c6 8 Bd3)] **1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 c6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Rc1 0-0 8.Bd3 [D] (Next col.) 8...dxc4 9.Bxc4 h6 10.Bh4 Qa5?!N [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)**

Position after 8.Bd3 (From prev. col.)



Position after 10...Qa5?!N (From prev. col.)



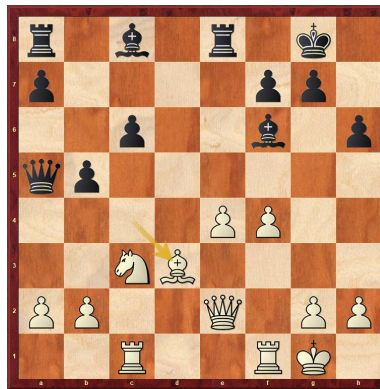
(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - The computer did not like this, preferring 10...b5. I was afraid that the c6 Pawn would become weak because it is on the same file as White's Rook.) [10...Ne8 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.0-0 Nd6 13.Bb3 e5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Qxe5 ½-½ (15) Jimenez Zerquera,E (2375)-Pinal,N (2315) Cienfuegos 1976; 10...b6 11.0-0 Bb7 12.Qe2 Nh5 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Rfd1 Rac8 15.a3 Nhf6 16.Ba6 Bxa6, etc... Finogold,B (2475)-Khomeiriki,N (2343) Philadelphia 2019 ½-½ (93)] **11.0-0 e5 12.Qe2 Re8 13.dxe5?! [D]**

(Joe - This simplification loses most of White's advantage.) [White should try 13.Bxf6+- Bxf6 14.Ne4] **13...Nxe5= [The position is equal.] 14.Nxe5 Qxe5 [D]**

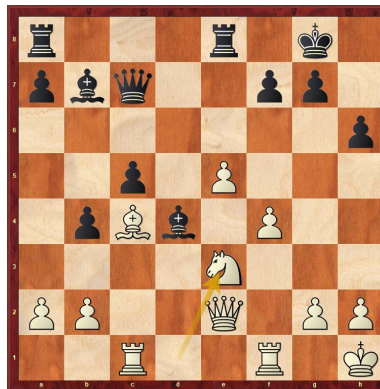


(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) **15.f4 Qa5 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.e4 b5 18.Bd3! [D]**



**18...b4 19.Nd1 Bd4+ [Much weaker is 19...Qxa2?! 20.e5+-] 20.Kh1! c5 21.e5 Bb7 22.Bc4 Qc7 23.Ne3 [D]**



[Hoping for Nf5.] **23...Bxe3 24.Qxe3 Qc6 [D]**



**25.Qg3** (Joe - I would have preferred 25.Rf3 and 26.Rg3.) [25.Qe2+= should be considered.] **25...Rad8 26.Rcd1 Qe4 27.Bb5?** (Joe - I was ready to accept a draw with 27.Bd3 Qc6 28.Bc4.) [27.Bd3= Qc6 28.b3] **27...Rxd1! [With Attack] [White needs to defend precisely.]**

**28.Rxd1 [D] (p.4) 28...Qc2! 29.Rf1?? [D] (p.4)** (Joe - White had to play 29.Qg4, protecting the Rook that is on the d-file. If 29...Bxg2, 30.Kg1.) [White has to play 29.Qg4!+= Bxg2+ 30.Kg1] **29...Rd8!+- 30.Rf2?** (Joe - It was time to make some luft with 30.h3.) [30.e6 fxe6 31.f5 exf5 32.h3] **30...Rd1+ (Text cont. p.4)**

Position after 28.Rxd1 (From p.3)



Position after 29.Rf1?? (From p.3)



(Cont. from p.3) (Joe - Even stronger is 30...c4, blocking out White's Bishop.) [Black is clearly winning.] 31.Bf1 [D]



31...Ba6! 32.Kg1 [D]



(Joe - Of course, White cannot capture Black's Queen.) [32.Qf3 Qxf2] 32...Oxb2! [Strongly threatening ...Qd4.] 33.Qf3 [33.h4 Qd4] 33...Qd4 [D] (Next col.) (Joe - White will lose his Bishop after this second pin.) 0-1 (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 33...Qd4 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.77/Black=0.14]

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=2h5SBzhz1eYd7CPrj+Nkg515ptdJTHAigBz4Uqdd1jJRmX3eS5OESVWE24US/u4m>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

#### Round: 4

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

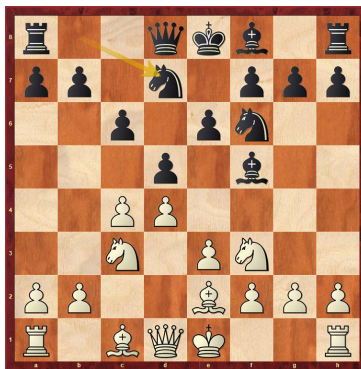
White: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)

Black: Spencer Chin, NY (2070) Age 12

Date: 6/27/2021

\*(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.) [D12: Slav Defence: 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 Bf5] (Joe - In 2017, Chin was the National 3rd Grade Co-Champion.) 1.d4

d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 c6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2 Nbd7 [D]



7.Nh4 Be4 8.Nxe4 [8.f3 feels hotter. 8...Bg6 9.0-0 Qc7 (9...Bd6 10.g3 0-0 11.a3 Bc7 12.Qb3 Rb8 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Qa2 Nb6 15.Rd1 e5 16.cxd5 Nbx d5 (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 17.dxe5 Bxe5, etc... Yakubboev,N (2569)-Korobov,A (2687) Moscow 2019 0-1 (72) 10.g3 Bb4 11.Qb3] 8...dxe4 9.g3 (Joe - Black was threatening 9...g5, trapping the Knight.) 9...Bb4+N [9...h5 10.Qb3 g5 11.Ng2 h4 12.gxh4 Qc7 13.Bd2 gxh4 14.0-0 h3 15.Nf4 Bd6 16.Qc2 0-0-0, etc...Salinas Herrera,P (2307)-Graf,F (2356) Caldas Novas 2011 1-0 (37); 9...Be7 10.f3 0-0 11.0-0 c5 12.fxe4 Nxe4 13.Nf3 Qc7 14.Qc2 Nef6 15.b3 Rad8 16.Bb2 cxd4, etc...Belichev,N (2370)-Tsepotan,A (2320) Kharkov 1998 ½-½ (51)] 10.Bd2 Qe7 11.Ng2 0-0 12.0-0 [D]



12...Bxd2 13.Qxd2 e5 14.Rfd1 exd4?! (Joe - This gives my Knight the e3 square.) [14...h6 might be stronger.] 15.exd4= Rad8 16.Qc3 Nb6 17.Ne3 [D]



17...Rd7 18.Rd2 Rfd8 19.Rad1 Na4 [19...h6+=] 20.Qa5+- Nb6 [D]



21.a3?! (Joe - I missed my chance. I had superficially (Text cont. p.5)

(Cont. from p.4) calculated that the Pawn on a7 was poisoned after 21.Qxa7 Qb4 and 22...Ra8. However, White can keep the Pawn after 21.Qxa7 Qb4 22.a3 Qb3 23.c5 Nbd5 24.Bc4 b5 25.Bxb3 Rxa5 26.Nf5 and 26.Nd6.) [21.Qxa7+- Nc8 22.Qa5] **21...Nc8+= 22.Bf1 b6 23.Qa4 c5** [Black should play 23...Rc7+=] **24.Bh3+- Rc7** [D]



[24...cxd4 keeps fighting. 25.Bxd7 dxe3 26.fxex3 Qc5] **25.d5??** (Joe - Although I established a passed Pawn, I realized the win would be difficult, because it can be blocked. Again, I lacked imagination in this game. Correct was 25.dxc5 ((this is why 23...c5 was a mistake. It made this capture possible)) 25...Rxd2 26.Rxd2 Rxc5 27.b4 Rc7 28.Qd1 ((threatening to win the Knight on c8 with 29.Rd8+)) 28...Ne8 29.Nd5.) [25.dxc5+- Rf8 26.c6] **25...Nd6=** [The position is equal.] **26.Re2 Qe5 27.Qc2 Qh5 28.Bg2 Qg6 29.Rde1 Nd7** [D]



$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  [Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/Black=0.27]  
Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=10AJxdYnWgzsnehbvF0ivlHoxURI8MboVCKZ8NERLeVmxPQNGQeQMpdUtr85sBp>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

**Round: 5**

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

(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.)

**White: Gordon Randall, HI (2053)**

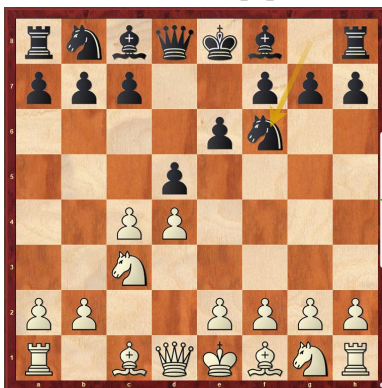
**Black: Joseph Mucerino, PA**

**(1211)**

**Date: 6/28/2021**

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

[D36: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation: Main line (5 Bg5 c6 6 Qc2)] (Joe - Randall is a Major in the Air Force, and has participated in the U.S. Armed Forces Chess Championship ten times between 2006 and 2020. He has also represented the Armed Forces in chess tournaments abroad.) **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6** [D]



**4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 Nbd7** [D]

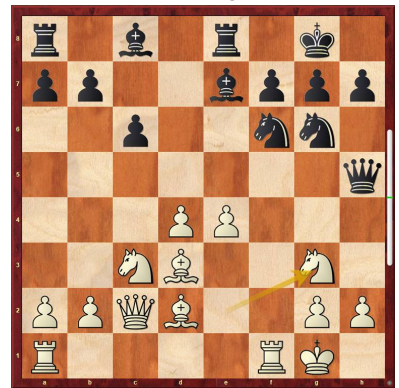


**8.Qc2 0-0 9.Nge2 Re8 10.f3 Nf8 11.0-0 Ng6 12.e4 dxe4 13.fxe4 Qa5?N** [D]



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - Heading towards the Kingside, but the computer says I'm just heading for trouble. Simply develop with 13...Be6.) [13...c5 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Nd5 (15.e5 Bg5 16.Bc4 Be6 17.Bxe6 Rxe6 18.Qf5 Be3+ 19.Kh1 Qf8, etc... Galliamova,A (2445)-Ilczuk,P (2305) Katowice 1993 1-0 (33)) 15...cxd4 16.Nxf6+ (16.Nc7 Be6 17.Nxa8 Qxa8 18.Rxf6 gxf6 19.Nxd4 Ne5, etc... Chytlek,R (2384)-Wirius,S (2281) Austria 2008 1-0 (63)) 16...gxf6 17.Nf4 Re5 18.Nd5 f5 19.Nc7 fxe4 20.Bxe4 Rxe4 21.Nxa8 Re7 22.Rac1 Bd7 23.Nc7 Bc6, etc... Haugli,P (2365)-Ahlander,B (2415) Aabybro 1989 0-1; 13...Bg4 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.e5 Bg5 16.Bc4 Be6 17.Ne4 Be7, etc... Neverov,V (2465)-Condie,M (2425) Poznan 1986 0-1 (39)] **14.Bd2 Qh5 15.Ng3** [D]



(Joe - 15.e5 is also good.) **15...Qh4** [White is better.] **16.Nce2** [Better is 16.Nf5 Bxf5 17.Rxf5 (17.g3 Qh3=)] **16...Ng4?!** [Better is 16...Bd8] **17.h3+- Nh6 18.Qc1 Be6 19.Nf5 Bxf5 20.exf5 Nf8 21.f6?** [D]



(Joe - Right idea, trying to undermine the Knight on f6, but 21.Rf4 first was better.) **21...Bxf6 22.Rf4 22.Bxh6+-** Threatens to win with Be3. 22...Bxd4+ 23.Kh1 Rxe2 24.Bxe2 Qxh6 25.Qxh6 gxf6 26.Bc4] **22...Qh5!+=** [D] (p.6) **23.Rxf6! gxf6** (Joe - White now realized that if 24.Bxh6 Rxe2 leads to equality.) **24.Nf4?** (Joe - White should have captured on h6 anyway.) [White should play 24.Bxh6= Rxe2 25.Bxe2 Qxe2 26.Qf4] (Text cont. p.6)

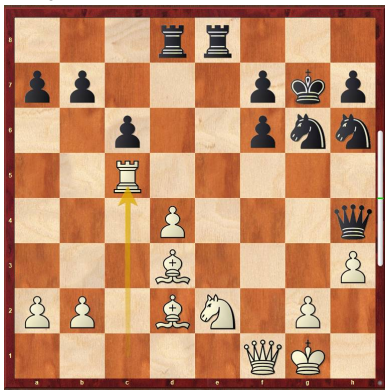
Position after 22...Qh5!+= (From p.5)



(Cont. from p.5) 24...Qh4+= [Hoping for ...Ng6.] 25.Qf1 [25.Qc3=+] 25...Ng6 26.Ne2 Kg7?! [D]



(Joe - The computer wanted 26...Rad8 right away.) 27.Rc1 Rad8 28.Rc5?? [D]

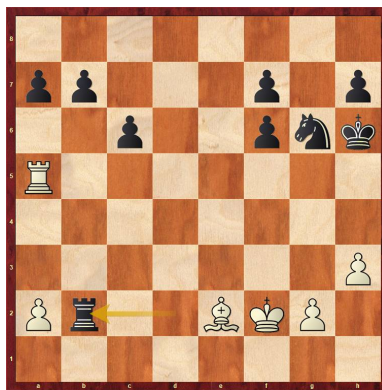


(Joe - That's what I was hoping for.) [28.g3+= was called for. 28...Qh5 29.g4]

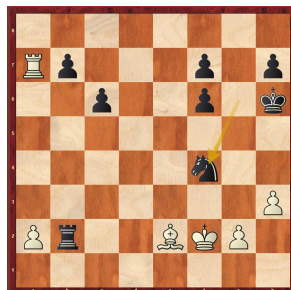
28...Rxe2!-+ 29.Bxh6+ (Joe - See, Stockfish, protecting the Knight with my King was a good idea after all!) 29...Kxh6 [Stockfish 10 64 BMI2: 29...Kxh6 30.Qc1+ Kg7 31.Bxe2 Qxd4+ 32.Kh2 Qd2 33.Bf1 Qxc1, etc...] 30.Bxe2 [Strongly threatening Rh5+. Black has a decisive advantage.] 30...Qxd4+ 31.Qf2 Qxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Rd2 33.Ra5 Rxb2 [D] (Next col.) (End of game.) 0-1 (Joe - If 34.Rxa7, 34...Nf4 wins a piece.) 34.Rxa7 Nf4 [D] (Next col.) [Stockfish 10 64 BMI2:] 35.Ke3 Nxe2 36.a4 c5 37.Kd3 Nd4 38.Ra5 b6 39.Ra7 Kg7, etc...]

[Weighted Error Value:  
White=0.44/Black=0.13]  
(Text cont. next col.)

Position after 33...Rxb2 (From prev. col.)



Position after 34...Nf4 (From prev. col.)



Analysis Diagram

(Cont. prev. col.)

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=x yKLAg6DapS5tl2GZGapYus06if8JAEPjt ggD2Axm3jtOkJcFW9FC8e62OQnt/t m>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

Round: 6

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

White: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)

Black: Kenneth Su, AZ (2160)

Date: 6/28/2021

\*(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.)

[A48: 1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6: Torre, London, and Colle Systems] (Joe - Su was the highest rated player in the tournament. He was in the lead the whole way until the end, when he lost two of his last three games.) 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 d6 5.e4 Nc6 6.c3 [D] (Next col.) 6... h6 7.Bh4 0-0 8.Be2 e5 [D] (Next col.) 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.0-0 a6 [10...Qe8 11.Qc2 Kh8 12.Nc4 Ng8 13.Nfd2 f5 14.f3 g5 15.Bf2 f4 (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 6.c3 (From prev. col.)



Position after 8...e5 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) 16.b4 h5, etc...

Zorko,J (2454)-Jankovic,A (2591) Tallinn 2016 0-1 (75)] 11.a4N [11.Qc2 Qe8 12.Rfe1 Nh5 13.Nc4 Nf4 14.Bf1 Be6 15.Nfd2 f6 16.a4 b6 17.Ne3 Qf7, etc... Chernin,A (2560)-Speelman,J (2625) Madrid 1988 1-0 (51)] 11...g5 12.Bg3 Nh5? [D]



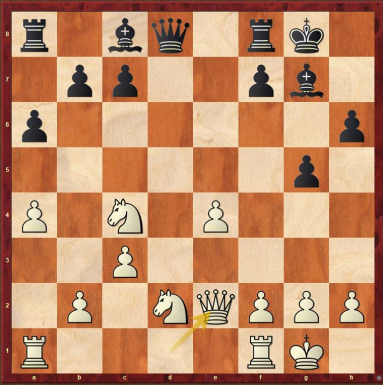
(Joe - This loses a Pawn. He should have played 12...Qe7 or 12...Be6.)

13.Bxe5! Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Nf4! [D]



(Text cont. p. 7)

(Cont. from p.6) 15.Nec4 Nxe2+  
16.Qxe2 [D]



16...Qe7 17.Ne3 c6 18.f3 f5 19.Rfe1  
f4 [D]



20.Nec4 Be6 21.a5 Rad8 [D]



22.Red1 [22.e5!+-] 22...Qf7 [D]



[22...Qc5+= remains equal. 23.Kh1 Qb5]  
(Joe - White has an extra Pawn, but there is  
not too much he can do with it, so...) ½-½  
[Weighted Error Value:  
White=0.13/Black=0.09]  
(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.)

Copy and paste the link below into  
your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=JrNmFzrBF9/Wz3UjQfsj7zNA94+zOaC9U54spyvcxNatOiulxeRlpdFcbxmZx42/>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

Round: 7

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

**White: Charles Won, CA (1985)**  
**Black: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)**  
**Date: 6/29/2021**

\*(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.)

[E01: Catalan: Early deviations] 1.d4 d5  
2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.g3 Nf6 5.Bg2 Bd6  
6.O-O Nbd7 7.Nc3 O-O [D]



8.Nd2 Re8 9.e4 dxe4 10.Ndxe4  
Nxe4 [10...Bc7 11.Re1 h6 12.f4 Nxe4  
13.Nxe4 Rb8 14.Be3 a5 15.Qc2 b6  
16.Rad1 Bb7 17.Bf3 Nf6, etc... Papaioan-  
nou,I (2609)-Lajthajm,B (2502) Budva  
2009 1-0 (66)] 11.Nxe4 [White is bet-  
ter.] 11...Bf8 12.Bf4 Nf6 [D]

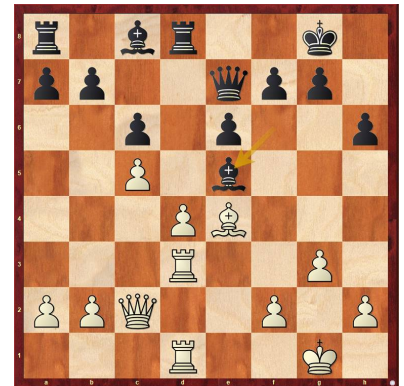


13.Nxf6+N [13.c5 h6 14.Re1 g5 15.Bc7  
Qe7 16.Bd6 Qd8 17.Bxf8 Rxf8 18.Nd6 Ne8  
19.Nc4 Bd7, etc... Ikeda,J (2396)-Lane,G  
(2364) Cammeray 2015 1-0 (43)]  
13...Qxf6 14.Be5 Qd8 15.c5?!  
[D](Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 15.c5?! (From prev.  
col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - White  
loses a lot of his advantage because he  
made his d-Pawn backward.) [White  
should play 15.Qh5+-] 15...Be7? (Joe -  
The computer really liked 15...f6 16.Bf4  
e5.) [15...f6= remains equal. 16.Bf4 e5  
17.dxe5 Qxd1 18.Rfxd1 (18.Raxd1 fxe5  
19.Be3 Be6=) 18...Bg4] 16.Be4+- Bf6  
17.Qc2 h6 18.Rfd1 Qe7 19.Rd3 Rd8  
20.Rad1 Bxe5? [D]

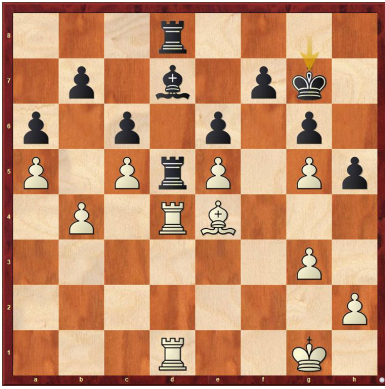


(Joe - I don't know what I was thinking,  
because White's d-Pawn will no longer be  
backward.) [20...Rd7+- 21.R3d2 Rd8]  
21.dxe5+- Rd5 (Joe - The best chance  
to draw. If White got a Rook to d6, it  
would be all over. Black may lose an ex-  
change, but that would free his Bishop.)  
22.b4 a6 23.f4 Bd7 24.a4 Qd8  
25.a5 Qe7 26.Rd4 Rd8 27.Qe2 g6  
[D]



28.Qg4 h5 29.Qg5 Qxg5  
(Text cont. p.8)

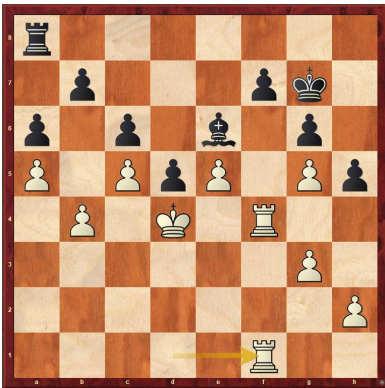
(Cont. from p.7) 30.fxg5 Kg7 [D]



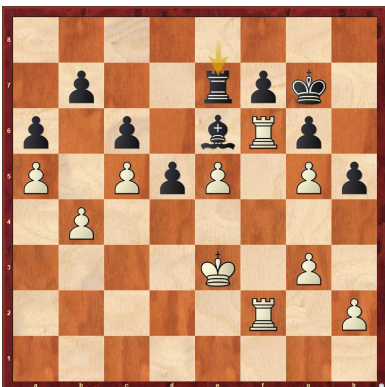
(Joe - I may be able to get away with 30...Rxd4 31.Rxd4 Kf8 32.Rd6 Ke7, but I wasn't taking any chances.)

[30...Rxd4+ 31.Rxd4 Kf8] 31.Bxd5 exd5 [Endgame KRR-KRB] (Joe - White tried hard to win, but my defenses held.)

32.Kf2 Be6 33.Ke3 Ra8 34.Rf4 Re8 35.Kd4 Ra8 36.Rdf1 [D]



36...Re8 37.Rh4 Rh8 38.Rf6 Re8 39.Rhf4 Re7 40.Rf2 Re8 41.Ke3 Re7 [D]



42.Kf4 Re8 43.Rd2 Rh8 44.Rf2 Re8! 45.Rf1 Rh8 46.Rg1 Re8 47.Rh1 Rh8 48.Rd1 Re8 [D] (Next col.) 49.Rd4 Re7 50.Rd2 Re8 51.Rg2 Rh8 52.h4 Re8 53.Rg1 Rh8 [D] (Next col.)

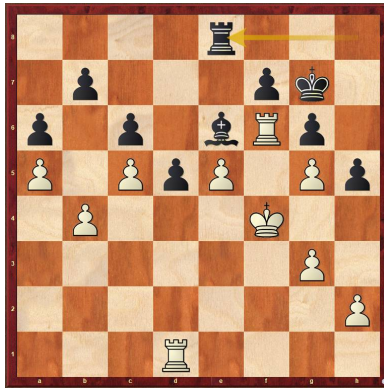
½-½

[Weighted Error Value:  
White=0.12/Black=0.11]

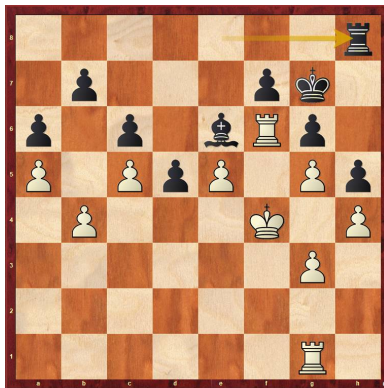
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(Text cont. next col.)

Position after 48...Re8 (From prev. col.)



Position after 53...Rh8 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.)

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=nS7IZyux-HgmmCA52Y/G+8zoHfjACF2EP07ZID+b3kXYiknQX/DQeFUizXxqOgwaC>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

#### Round: 8

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

**White:** Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)

**Black:** Charles Hua, NY (2108)

**Date:** 6/29/2021

\*(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.)

[A48: 1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6: Torre, London, and Colle Systems] 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 d6 5.e4 [D] (Next col.) 5...0-0 6.c3 Nbd7 7.Bc4 e5 [D] (Next col.) 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Qe2 a5 10.0-0 Qe7 11.a3 [The position is equal.] 11...c6 [D] (Next col.)

(Text cont. next col.)

Position after 5.e4 (From prev. col.)



Position after 7...e5 (From prev. col.)



Position after 11...c6 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) 12.a4 Kh8 13.Rfe1 Nc5 14.Qe3 b6 15.Red1 [D]



(Joe - Yes, I took a quick draw. At this point Su and Shawkat were tied for the lead. (Text cont. p.9)



(Cont. from p.8) I accepted the fact that they would tie for first place (actually, Su would be upset in the final round and tie for second with me)). They both won their games, which allowed me to extend my lead on their opponents by half a point. I was also a half point ahead of Hua, so I maintained that lead.) ½-½ [Weighted Error Value: White=0.09/Black=0.11]

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=t/mbrcfSXCbOwRKJDYfFqCwA02Dy-Awu+JfXejLi-toS/cB//mUENTD0oW5osGxuCo>

### Game from the 14th Annual Philadelphia International Tournament

#### Round: 9

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

**White: Joseph Mucerino, PA (2121)**

**Black: Kelsey Liu, MA (1984)**

**Date: 6/30/2021**

\*(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.)

[B17: Caro-Kann: Modern Line (4...Nd7)]

(Joe - There were no quick draws in this round.)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nbd2 d5**

**4.e3 Bd6 5.Bd3 Nbd7 6.0-0 c5 7.c3**

**0-0 [D]**



**8.e4 dxe4N [8...Re8 9.Re1 e5 10.exd5 cxd4 11.cxd4 Nxd5 12.Qb3 Nf4 13.Bc4 Qe7 14.Ne4 Bb4 15.Bxf4 Bxe1, etc... Rantanen,Y (2400)-Sorensen,B (2341) Reykjavik 2011 1-0] 9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Bxe4 h6 11.Be3 Nf6 12.Bc2 c4 [D] (Next col.)** (Joe - Liu is trying to prevent me from playing Qd3, but she's taking tension out of the center. She should try to develop with 12...b6.) **13.Qe2 [White has an edge.] (Text cont. next col.)**

#### Position after 12...c4 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) **13...Qc7 14.Bd2 b5 15.Ne5 Bb7 16.f4 Rfe8 17.Rae1 Nd7?** (Joe - This allows my Queen to go to where it wanted to go.) [17...Rad8+?] **18.Qh5!+- [D]**

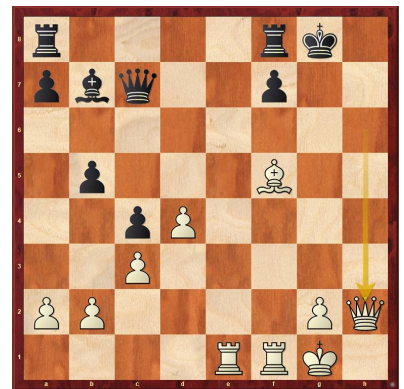


**18...Rf8 [18...Nf6+- was called for. 19.Qh4 Nh7] 19.Nxd7?! (Joe - Missing 19.Ng4 Rae8 20.Nxh6+ gxh6 21.Re3 Bxf4 22.Rxf4 Qxf4 23.Rg3+ Qxg3 24.hxg3.) [Better is 19.Ng4 Bd5 20.f5 Bxh2+ 21.Nxh2] 19...Qxd7+- 20.f5 exf5 [20...Qc6? 21.Be4+-] 21.Bxf5 [Reject 21.Qxf5?! Qxf5 22.Bxf5 (22.Rxf5 a6=) 22...a6=] 21...Qc7 22.Bxh6 [With attack] [D]**

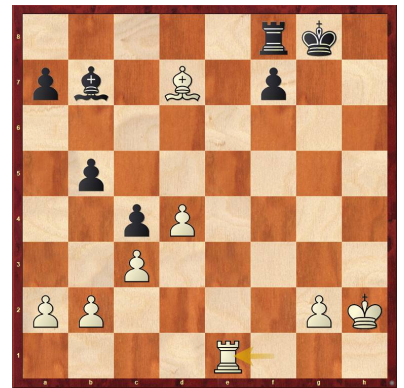


[White is out for blood.] **22...gxh6 (Joe - Black can save a Pawn by capturing on h2 now, and then capturing on h6 only after the trade of Queens.) [22...Bxh2+- 23.Kh1 (23.Qxh2 Qxh2+ 24.Kxh2 gxh6+-) 23...Qc6] 23.Qxh6 Bxh2+ 24.Qxh2?? [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)**

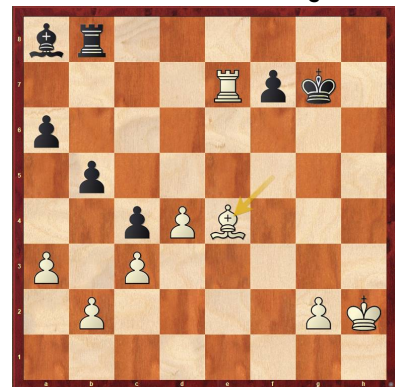
#### Position after 24.Qxh2?? (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - Here I had a colossal oversight! I thought I was getting mated after 24.Kh1 Bxg2+ 25.Kxg2 Qg3, but, of course, I have 26.Kh1. Nerves. I'm still better, but the game is no longer a slam dunk win. Converting the point was not too difficult, though.) [24.Kh1 mates 24...Bxg2+ 25.Kxg2 Qg3+ 26.Kh1 Qg7 27.Rg1! Bxg1 28.Rxg1 Qxg1+ 29.Kxg1] **24...Qxh2+- 25.Kxh2 Rae8 26.Bd7 Rxe1 27.Rxe1+- [D]**



[Endgame KRB-KRB] **27...a6 28.Re7 Ba8 29.Bf5 Rb8 30.a3 Kg7 31.Be4 [D]**

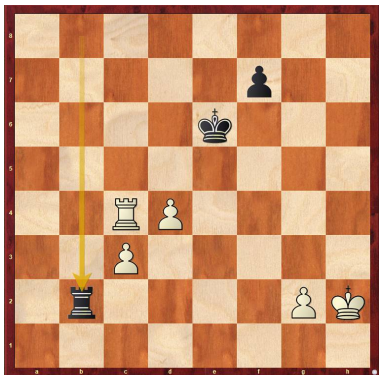


**[31.Ra7+-] 31...Kf6 32.Re5 Bxe4 33.Rxe4+- [KR-KR] 33...a5 [33...Kg5+- 34.Re7 f5] 34.Re5+- b4 [D] (p.10) 35.axb4 [Less strong is 35.Rxa5 bxc3 36.bxc3 Rb3+-] 35...axb4 36.Rc5 Ke6 37.Rxc4 bxc3 38.bxc3 Rb2? [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)**

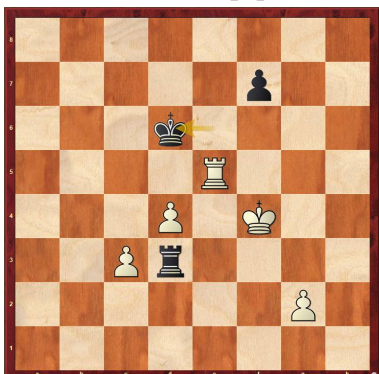
Position after 34....b4 (From p.9)



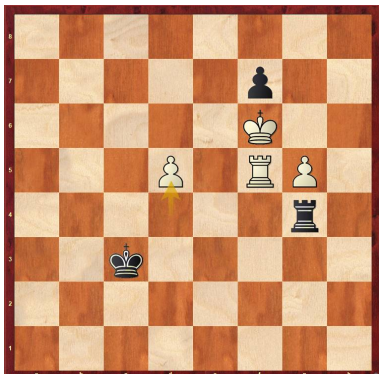
Position after 38...Rb2? (From p.9)



(Cont. from p.9) [38...Kd5 39.Rc5+ Ke4] 39.Rc5 Rd2 40.Kg3 Kd6 41.Kf3 Rd3+ 42.Kf4 Ke6 43.Re5+ Kd6 [D]



44.Re3! Rd2 45.g4 Rf2+ 46.Rf3 Rg2 47.Kf5 Kd5 48.g5 Kc4 49.Kf6 Rg4 50.Rf5 Kxc3 51.d5 [D]



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 51...Kd4 52.Kxf7 Ke4 53.Kf6 Rh4 54.d6 Rh8 55.Re5+ [D]



[Better is 55.Ra5 Ke3 56.d7 Kd4 57.g6 Kc4 58.Ke7 Kb4 59.Rg5 Kc4 60.d8Q] 55...Kd4 56.Ra5 [White mates.] 56...Rd8 57.Ke7 Rg8 58.d7 Rg7+ 59.Kd6 [D]



(Joe - Prizes were paid out a hundred percent. Shawkat won \$2,000, and I tied with Su, winning a personal record \$850 for a tie for second and third.) 1-0 [Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.64] Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=+t0+9y6Hx1+91V6PBCaUCO9xWnX67KqM8EMdHz5wj6e3M/W/fHtGfK8BEvG7XZdh>



Broxie Pace



Joe Mucerino



Joe Mucerino vs. Shawn Curtis



Joe Mucerino vs. Jonathan Xu

This concludes this issue. More games in next issue.