

~ En Passant ~

Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club, Lansdale, PA – Summer 2021, Part 5

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This issue features various games
from May to August 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 2021 Forsythia Park Tournament

Round: 1

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

White: Vincent Tang (1861)

Black: Joseph Mucerino (2104)

Date: 5/2/2021

*(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.)

[D36: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange
Variation: Main line (5 Bg5 c6 6 Qc2)] 1.d4
d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 [D]



4.cxd5

exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 0-0
8.Qc2 Nbd7 9.Nge2 Re8 10.0-0 Nf8
11.f3 Ng6 12.Rae1 [12.e4+=] 12...h6=
13.Bxh6 [D] (Next col.) (Joe - I didn't like
this move too much when Tang played it,
but the computer says it is fine, along with
13.Bxf6.) 13...gxh6 14.Bxg6 fxg6 [The
position is equal.] 15.Qxg6+ Kh8 16.e4
[16.Qxh6+= Nh7 17.Nf4] 16...Nh7=+
17.exd5?! [D] (Next col.) (Joe - I think
White should have created a protected
(Text cont. next col.)

Position after 13.Bxh6 (From prev.
col.)

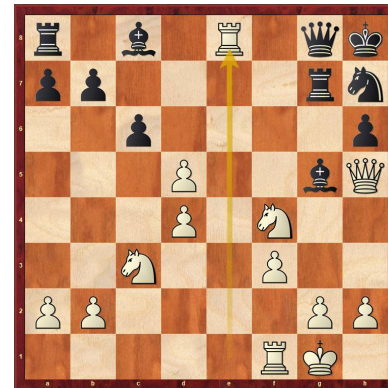


Position after 17.exd5?! [D] (From
prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) passed Pawn
with 17.e5 and then began pushing his f-
Pawn.) [17.Nf4 Bg5 18.exd5 Rg8 19.Qe4
Qd6 20.Nh5 Nf6 21.Nxf6 Bxf6 22.Kh1 Bd7
23.Qe3 Bg7 24.Ne4 Qg6, etc...Matamoros
Franco,C (2415)-Barua,D (2495) Moscow
1994 0-1 (31)] 17...Rg8?! (Joe - The com-
puter says 17...Bg5 instead.) 18.Qh5?
(Joe - There is no reason not to capture
the h-Pawn.) [18.Qxh6+= Bg5 19.Qh5]
18...Rg5+= (Joe - Again, the machine pre-
fers 18...Bg5.) 19.Qf7 [Not 19.Qxh6?
Bf8+=] 19...Rg7 [And not 19...cxd5
20.Nf4+=] 20.Qh5 Qg8 [Black should play
20...Bg5+= White must now prevent ...Nf6.
21.Ne4 Be3+ 22.Kh1 cxd5] 21.Nf4 [Better
is 21.Ng3+=] 21...Bg5! 22.Re8 [D]
(Next col.) [22.Ne6+= Nf6 23.Qh3 Nxd5
24.Nxd5 cxd5 25.f4] 22...Nf8?? [D]
(Next col.) [22...Nf6!+= 23.Rxg8+ Kxg8]
23.Nce2?? (Joe - On move 22, I missed
that 22...Nf6 traps White's Queen even if
he captures my Queen with check. And we
both missed that 23.Ne6 was winning for
White.) (Text cont. next col.)

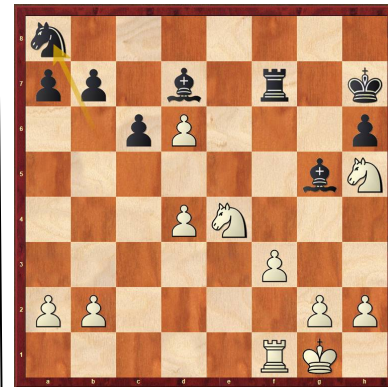
Position after 22.Re8 (From prev.
col.)



Position after 22...Nf8?? (From prev.
col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) [23.Ne6!+= Bxe6
24.Rxa8] 23...Qf7+= 24.Qxf7 Rxf7
25.Nh5? (Joe - Stockfish 7 says 25.d6 is
the best move.) 25...Kh7 26.d6 Nd7
27.Nc3 [27.f4= Bh4 28.f5] 27...Nb6+=
28.Ne4 [Threatening f4.] 28...Bd7
29.Rxa8 Nxa8 [D]

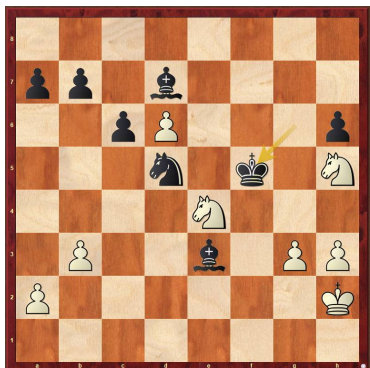


(Joe - Black should preserve his Bishop
with 29...Be3+ first.) [Better is 29...Be3+
30.Kh1 Nxa8 31.Nhf6+ Kg6 32.Nxd7 Rxd7]
30.f4 Bd8 31.Re1 [Better is 31.f5]
(Text cont. p.2)

(Cont. from p.1) **31...Nb6 32.h3 Nd5**
 [Better is 32...Bh4 33.Re2 Bf5] **33.Rf1**
 [33.Nc5+] **33...Bb6?** [D]



(Joe - White had to play 33.Nc5. Now his position crumbles.) [Black should try 33...Bf5+ 34.Nhg3 Bxe4 35.Nxe4 Nxf4] **34.Kh2** [34.Nc5+ was the only chance.] **34...Bxd4+** **35.b3 Be3** [Strongly threatening ...Kg6.] **36.g3?** [36.g4] **36...Kg6 37.f5+?** [37.g4 Nxf4 38.Rf3] **37...Rxf5 38.Rxf5 Kxf5** [D]



[Weighted Error Value:
 White=0.72/Black=0.34] **0-1**

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<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=agNXo/5UFAXC7Dpw1EPWBsmHCS6OXTQOaL/6mNeFqzAdhJCqfhc8LzKkpuZGyTbz>

Game from the NPCC 2021
July Octagonal Swiss
Tournament
Round: 1

Submitted by Terance with his comments (as edited) and selected Fritz/*Stockfish comments [shown thus].

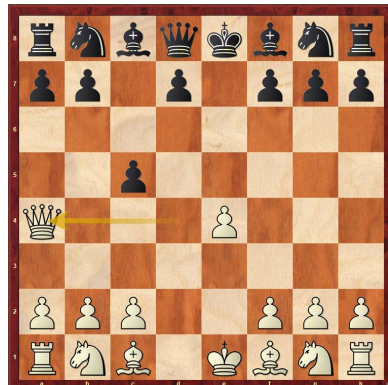
White: Stan Ward (1683)

Black: Terance Hall (1836)

Date: 7/16/2021

*(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.) [C22: Centre Game] **1.d4 e5** (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) (Terance: I never played this move in my life, but I did not want a boring Queen's Gambit and was in the mood of playing a fun no prepared game, pure chess!) **2.e4 exd4 3.Qxd4 c5** (Terance: I knew that Nc6 was the principle move here, but I tried this c5, which was not the best after I played it, seeing that Qe5 I might have to trade Queens, or possibly give up a Pawn.) **4.Qa4** [D]



[4.Qe3 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bd2 Be7 7.0-0-0 0-0 8.Bc4 Ne5 9.Be2 b6 10.f3 d6, etc. Velasquez, M (2260)-Ozdemir, O Szeged 1994 1-0 (73)] **4...Nc6 5.Nf3N** [5.Nc3 d6 6.Nd5 Bd7 7.Nf3 h6 8.Be3 Nd4 9.Qc4 Nxf3+ 10.gxf3 Ne7 11.h4 a6, etc... Malisic, M-Zoric, S (1900) Petrovac 2015 0-1 (84)] **5...d6 6.Bb5** [6.Nc3+]= **6...Bd7= 7.Qb3 Be6** [7...Nf6 keeps more tension. 8.0-0 Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Rd1 Bg4] **8.c4** [White is slightly better.] **8...Nf6 9.Bg5** [D]



[9.Ba4+= Rb8 10.0-0] **9...Be7! 10.Nc3** [Stockfish: 10.Qc2 h6 11.Bh4 0-0 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.0-0 g5, etc...] **10...0-0** (Terance: At this point my only weakness is my d6 Pawn and I can start attacking on the Queenside with White's e4, and c4 Pawns as targets.) **11.0-0** [D] (Next col.) [11.Qd1+=] **11...Na5!+- 12.Qc2 a6** [Of course not 12...Bxc4?! 13.Rfd1=] **13.Ba4 Bxc4** [13...Nxc4+ 14.Rad1 b5 (Stockfish: 14...h6 15.Bh4 Nb6 16.Bb3 c4 17.Ba4 Nxa4, etc...)] **14.Rfd1+=** [Strongly threatening e5.] **14...Qc7** (Terance: I played Qc7 knowing the dangers of e5 and the White Rook (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 11.0-0 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) going to d7 and figured it was playable. I wanted to play Qb8 but didn't like White's Knight going to e5, then d7 forking me after a few exchanges. I had ruled out Qc8 after Bxf6 and, if Bxf6 the d6 Pawn drops, but that was the engine's best line.) [Stockfish: 14...Qc8 15.Bb3 Bxb3 16.axb3 Nc6 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Rxd6 Qc7, etc...] **15.Bxf6** [15.e5!+= dxe5 16.Qf5 (Stockfish: 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Ne4 Bb5 18.Nxf6+ gxf6, etc...)] **15...Bxf6+-** [15...gxf6 16.Qd2+=] **16.Nd5?!** [D]



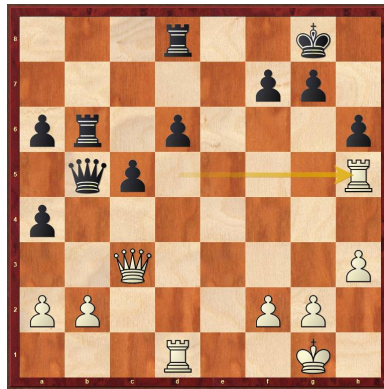
(Terance: Here I knew this was not the best move as it allows me to almost trap ((nice positional advantage)) the Bishop with b5 after Bxd5. Stockfish mentions that Black has a decisive advantage.) [16.e5+ is a better defense. 16...dxe5 (Stockfish: 16...Bxe5 17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.Rd7 Qb6 19.Nd5 Qh6, etc...)] **16...Bxd5+- 17.Rxd5 b5 18.e5!** (Terance: Stan does not panic and plays the best move!) **18...Bxe5** (Terance: Played reluctantly as I lost most of my advantage. I didn't like playing dxe5 lines, but the non-human chess engine sees that line as winning, LOL.) [Not 18...bxa4 19.exf6 Rfe8 20.Qxa4+- (20.fgx7 f6+-); 18...dxe5!+- has better winning chances. 19.Rxc5 Qb6 Stockfish: 20.b4 (20.Bb3 Rae8 21.Re1 e4, etc...)] **19.Nxe5+- bxa4** (Terance: Slightly (Text cont. p.3)

(Cont. from p.2) better than taking the Knight.) **20.Nf3** (Terance: Best move.) **20...h6** (Terance: Options, options, do I try and defend the d6 Pawn with Nb7, and lose the a4 Pawn? No, the Knight is too passive and blocks the open b-file. It is too dangerous to play Qc6 to try and hold the a4 Pawn. Ng5 gives White attacking chances. The d6 Pawn is more important than the weak Double-Pawn on a4. King safety is most important. Then comes bring my Knight back into play with Nc6 and I can pose a threat with Nb4 forking Rook and Queen. If I don't play h6, then I will have to defend my Kingside with g6 after Ng5 threatening Qh7# mate.) [Stockfish: 20...Nc6 21.Ng5 g6 22.Qxa4 Nd4 23.Re1 Rab8, etc...] **21.Rad1 [D]**

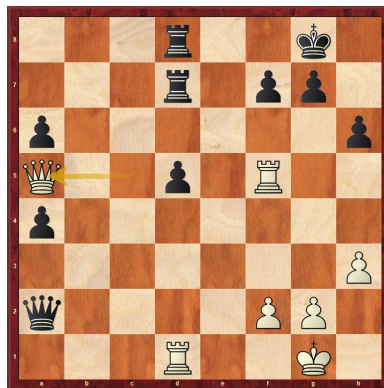


21...Rfd8 (Terance: it was here, after I played my move, that I could have played a3 giving up the Pawn and doubling White's Pawns.) [21...a3!+ 22.bxa3 Rad8] **22.Nd4** (Terance: I thought this was a mistake as it give up White's strong Knight after Black's Nc6. I thought playing Nh4 then to Nf5 was the strongest, but the Stockfish chess engine slightly prefers Nd4.) **22...Nc6** [Threatens to win with ...Nb4.] **23.Nxc6** [23.Nf5!= was the only way to keep the balance. Stockfish: 23...Ne7 (If 23...Nb4?! 24.Qc3 f6 25.R5d4 Rd7 26.Rg4 Kh8, etc...)] **23...Qxc6** (Terance: At this point I felt confident I should win this position, now that Black's position is consolidated.) **24.Qd2 [24.h4+] 24...Rab8+ 25.h3 Rb6** (Terance: I knew this was a passive move, but I made this move knowing it did not change my position but made White abandon any Rxd6 move to use more time on his clock, on which he was running very low.) [Black should play 25...Qb6+ 26.Rb1 Qb4] **26.Qc3 Qb5** [Stockfish: 26...Qe8 27.g3 Qe7 28.h4 Rdb8 29.Re1 Qc7, etc...] **27.Rh5? [D]** (Next col.) (Terance: I was hoping for Rxc5 giving up a Pawn to exchange pieces making it clearer to win the game.) [27.Rxc5+ is more resistant. 27...Qxb2 28.Rc8 Qxc3 29.Rxc3] **27...Qxb2** (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 27.Rh5? (From prev. col.)

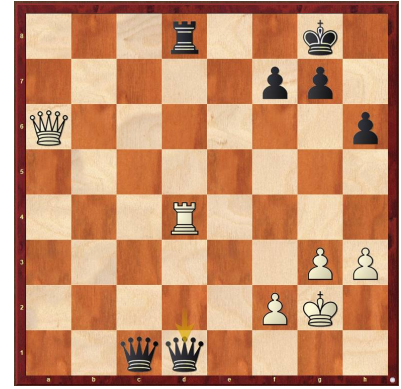


(Cont. from prev. col.) (Terance: Qe2 was the better move, but I saw some ghost with R1d5 for some reason.) [Stockfish: 27...Qe2 28.Qf3 Re8 29.Rhd5 Qxf3 30.gxf3 Rxb2, etc...] **28.Qg3** [28.Rxc5 is the only way for White. 28...Qxa2 29.Ra5] **28...d5** (Terance: I anticipated this position when I took on b2. Now I threaten Rg3, protect h6 and now I can push my d-Pawn down the file, unless White decides to trade down a piece, which I would welcome. Qe2 was much better.) **29.Qc7** (Terance: I knew this might be played but allows me to protect the d6 Pawn at the expense of the c-Pawn.) **29...Rbd6 30.Rf5** (Terance: Didn't expect this.) **30...R6d7** (Terance: The other moves like f6, and Qxa2, Qxf7+ ((or Rxf7)) Kh8 give White too much activity.) [Weaker is 30...Qxa2 31.Rxf7 Qb2 32.Re1=] **31.Qxc5** (Terance: d4 was stronger.) **31...Qxa2 32.Qa5? [D]**

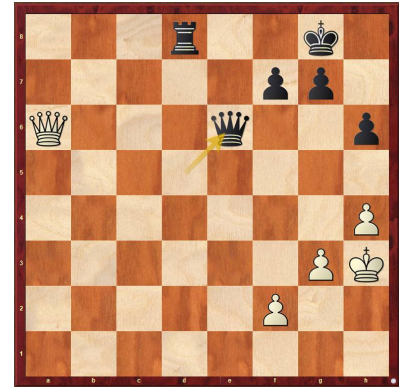


[32.Qd4] **32...Qc4** [Hoping for ...Qc2.] **33.g3? [33.Ra1] 33...Qb3 34.Ra1 Qc2** [Better is 34...d4 35.Rf4 d3 (Next col.) 36.Qxa4 Qc3] **35.Rf4 d4 36.Rxa4?** [36.Qxa6 Qb2 37.Qxa4] **36...Qc1+** [Black is clearly winning.] **37.Kg2 d3 38.Qxa6** [Better is 38.Rg4] **38...d2 39.Rfd4** [Better is 39.Rg4] **39...Rxd4** [Better is 39...d1Q 40.Rxd1 Rxd1] **40.Rxd4 d1Q [D]** (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 40...d1Q (From prev. col.)



41.Rxd1 Qxd1 42.h4 Qd5+ 43.Kh3 Qe6+ [D]



(Cont. from prev. col.) [Weighted Error Value: White=1.16/ Black=0.58] **0-1**
Copy and paste the link below into your browser:
<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=X2wj9gzwzZ+3zFJBePIDvn8dPSwco4ahhz1uP-fGZJRuOymcOnNpa9X3oU1SV+6rf>

Game from the NPCC 2021 July Octagonal Swiss Tournament

Round: 2

Submitted by Terance with his comments (as edited) and selected Fritz/*Stockfish comments [shown thus].

White: Terance Hall (1836)

Black: Preston Ladson (1808)

Date: 7/23/2021

*(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.)

[D11: Slav defense: 3 Nf3 sidelines and 3...Nf6 4 e3 Bg4] (Terance: This is a model Exchange Variation Slav for me. I will show how to play the opening with a definite plan and take advantage of any positional inaccuracies. I played this way, which is my style and tips I got (Text cont. p.4)

(Cont. from p.3) from a Grandmaster on this Slav line on YouTube. I will take you through my thought process best I can.) **1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6** (Terance: This is the 2nd time I played Preston ((result was a draw)) with White and he again plays the Slav.) **3.Nf3 Bf5 [D]**



(Terance:

This is the line Preston played before and can be tricky for White. White's plan in any of these Slav variations that have the Bishop on f5 is to plan to get rid of it by way of Nh4 or Bd3 and exchange it as it is Black's most active piece being on that diagonal. Now knowing that Black will try to tuck it away by playing h6 from the Kingside Knight. Sometimes Black will play the Bishop back to g6 and allow you to take it to open his Kingside Rook. Just be aware if you take it, that you play h3 at some point later in the game, watching out for sacs on your h-Pawn, so you hope Black castles on that side. The downside of having Black's Bishop of f5 for him is that it leaves his Queenside weak, especially his b-Pawn. This really becomes apparent in the Exchange Variation of the Slav, when Black plays e6 locking the Bishop out. Watch how I take advantage of that and then remove the strong Bishop.)

4.cxd5 (Terance: This time I decided to play the Exchange Variation.) **4...cxd5** (Terance: Now Black has two weak Pawns to target. That is why the normal line suggested is Qb3 as White's next move. I had this in mind, but I know that Qb6 is played, and I was not ready to play that line yet, so I waited to see what Black would play after Nc3.) **5.Nc3** [Stockfish: 5.Qb3 Nc6 6.e4 dxe4 7.Ne5 Nxe5, etc...] **5...e6** **6.Bf4** [Stockfish: 6.Qb3 Qb6 7.Qxb6 axb6 8.Nh4 Bg6, etc...] **6...Nc6 7.e3** [7.Rc1 Bd6 8.Bxd6 Qxd6 9.e3 a6 10.Nh4 Bg6 11.Nxg6 hxg6, etc... 1/2-1/2 (13) Taborska,V (2077)-Kubikova,A (2143) Luhacovice 2003] **7...a6** (Terance: This prevents Bb5 but weakens the b6 square ((keep that square in mind)).) **8.Qb3** (Terance: White is slightly better. Applying pressure on the b7 Pawn allowing Black to play a positional inaccuracy, I will have time to deal with the f5 Bishop later.) [8.Bd3 Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Bd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6 11.0-0 Nge7 12.Rfc1 0-0, etc... Nunes,A (1670)-Auriemo,D (1611) Sao Paulo 2014 1-0] **8...Qc8?!** (Terance: Not the best move in (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) which you will see why. Rb8 loses to Bxb8 but Ra7, as ugly as it may seem, is much better than Qc8.) [Black should play 8...Na5+ 9.Qa4+ Nc6] **9.Be2** (Terance: King safety first! Always finish your development before proceeding an attack.) **9...Nf6N** [9...Bb4 10.0-0 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nge7 12.Rac1 0-0 13.c4 Qd7 14.cxd5 Nxd5 15.Bg3 Rac8, etc... Klein,J-Buitre,C Paris 1998 1-0 (40)]

10.0-0 h6?! [D]



(Terance: Too slow a move as Black needs to develop and not worry too much about his Bishop.) [10...Nh5+ is a better defense.] **11.Rfc1+-** (Terance: This move shows why Qc8 was not such a good move along that it does not help contest my f4 Bishop. Now Black tries to get his King into safety.) **11...Be7?** (Terance: Black needs to do something to minimize the pressure on his Queenside. Be7 does none of that, allowing my next move that's considered winning.) [11...Nh5+ keeps fighting.] **12.Na4!** (Terance: According to the Stockfish chess engine White is winning with a five Pawn advantage. As a human I felt I had a nice advantage and was wondering how can Black stop Nb6!)

12...Nd7 [D]



[Stockfish: 12...Bd8 13.Ne5 g5 14.Nxc6 gxf4 15.Ne5 Qb8 16.exf4 Qa7, etc...] **13.Ne5!** (Terance: From doing daily chess tactics I saw this almost instantly. What's nice is that I did not have to worry about any counter play, as I am all developed, King is castled and safe, with no pieces in (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) danger.)

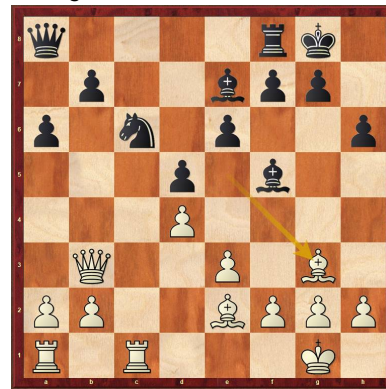
13...Ndx5 [Stockfish: 13...Ra7 14.Nb6 Nxb6 15.Qxb6 Qa8 16.Nxc6 bxc6, etc...]

14.Nb6 [Less strong is 14.Bxe5 Qd8+-]

14...Qd8 15.Nxa8 [Weaker is 15.dxe5 Ra7=] **15...Qxa8 16.Bxe5** (Terance:

Now that I won the Exchange, I felt that I was winning, as my position is much better than Black's. Black is behind in development.) [Not 16.dxe5 0-0+-] **16...0-0**

17.Bg3 [D]



(Terance: Best move in my opinion to consolidate my advantage. It made no sense to allow Black to take my Bishop doubling my Pawns which are restricting Black's position.) **17...b5** (Terance: Gaining space but leaves c6 weak now that Black has given up blocking the b-file.) **18.Qd1!** (Terance: Now to my second part of my plan, I removed my Queen from danger and at the same time prepare to exchange the active Bishop on f5.)

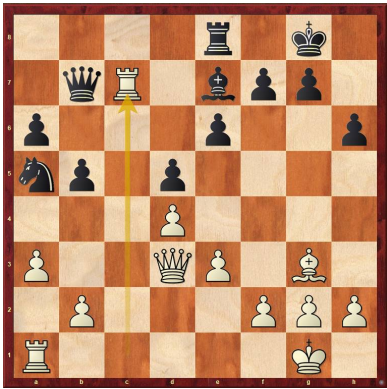
18...Qb7 19.Bd3 (Terance: Now to exchange my passive Bishop for his active one.) **19...Bxd3 20.Qxd3 Re8** (Terance: Black is trying to form a plan. The only viable plan I saw was Black getting his Knight to c4. Black does not want to trade pieces being down an Exchange, and if he tries to open the position it will be to White's favor.) **21.a3** (Terance: In hindsight, a4 was the best move to kill Black's plan to get the Knight to c4. What I played, a3, gave me a few tactical issues that ties down my Rook on a1.) [Stockfish:

21.a4 h5 22.axb5 axb5 23.h3 h4 24.Bh2 Rc8, etc...]

21...Na5 22.Rc7 [D] (p.5) (Terance: I spent some time on this move as the Rook can get trapped on c6, but I worked out the precise moves to prevent that from happening to my advantage.

The reason I played Rc7 was to displace Black's Queen from the c8 square, where it can't aid the Black Rook to go there. It also puts pressure on the e7 Bishop and it's on Black's second rank.) (Text cont. p.5)

Position after 22.Rc7 (From p.4)



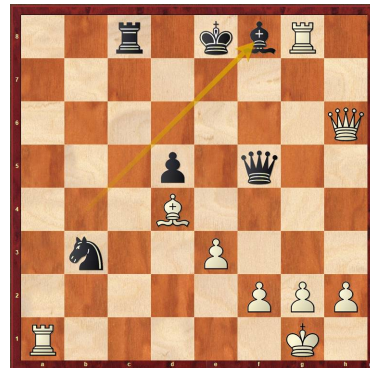
(Cont. from p.4) 22...Qb6 23.b3 (Terance: Next plan, kill any plans that Black must activate his pieces and maintain control over the c-file, the lifeline in the whole position.) 23...Bf8 24.Qc2 (Terance: The most correct move and is slightly better than Qc3. I was thinking that Qc2 would allow me to bring the Rook back to c3 if I need a flight square for the Rook.)

24...f6?! 25.Rd7 (Terance: I knew I could play Qg6. I was just not too sure about the follow up moves to keep Black from taking on b3. So, I played a safe waiting move with Rd7 just in case someone played e5.) [Stockfish: 25.Qg6!? Ra8 26.Qf7+ Kh8 27.Rb1 Qb8 28.b4 Nc4, etc...] 25...e5 26.dxe5 Qe6 27.Rc7 (Terance: No better move.) 27...fxe5 28.Qc3 (Terance: Now the only thing that I was worried about was my weak back rank. I was afraid that Black my play d4 and try to open the position up and play a back rank mate. So, I kept Black busy by attacking his bad Knight on the side of the board.) 28...Qb6 [28...b4 was worth a try. 29.axb4 d4] 29.Bxe5 [Strongly threatening Bd4. White is clearly winning.] 29...b4 [D]



[Better is 29...Nxb3 30.Rd1 Nc5] 30.axb4 Bxb4 31.Rxg7+ Kf8 32.Qb2 (Terance: Here my senses told me that I should be able to mate Black here in a few moves by swinging my Queen from d3 to h7, then to h8 with check, but I could not find the mate blow. So, I played a safe move trying to find another way to win. Later I realized that I missed

(Cont. from prev. col.) the move from Qh7 to Qg8+ ((not Qh8+ is what I calculated)) and mate in two moves.) [Better is 32.Qd3 Qf5+ would kill now. 32...Re7 33.Qf5+ Qf6 34.Qxf6+ Ke8 35.Rc1 Bc5, etc...] 32...Qe6 [Better is 32...Qxe3 33.Bd6+ Re7 34.Qf6+ Ke8 35.Rxe7+ Kd8 36.Qh8#] 33.Bd4 [Rxa5! is the strong threat.] 33...Rc8 34.Qe2 (Terance: Now I saw another way in toward the Black King.) 34...Qf5 [Better is 34...Nxb3 35.Qf3+ Ke8 36.Qh5+ Kf8] 35.Qxa6 [White threatens g4 and mate.] 35...Nxb3 36.Qxh6 (Terance: It was here that I calculated the possible winning sequence.) 36...Ke8 37.Rg8+ Bf8 [D]



38.Rxf8+! Qxf8 39.Qe6+ Kd8 40.Bb6+ [D]



(Terance: Black resigned seeing after Rc7 that Ra8 leads to mate#.)

[Weighted Error Value:

White=0.71/Black=0.68] 1-0

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=pO+F44eZAq5SAKzPrnJ2QKfDpBWF7Ube/rQ5u3ncDBW2NKT1vlC449j7kTEgW4LM>

Game from the 2021 Chaturanga Summer Swiss Tournament

Round: 2

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

(Cont. from prev. col.)

White: Joseph Mucerino (2121)

Black: Ronald Stokes (1809)

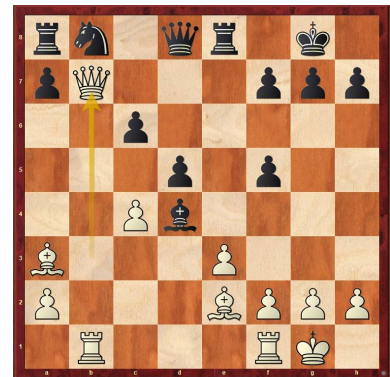
Date: 6/30/2021

*(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.)

[D12: Slav Defense: 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 Bf5] 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Bf5 3.e3 Nf6 4.c4 e6 5.Be2 c6 6.Nc3 Bb4 [D]



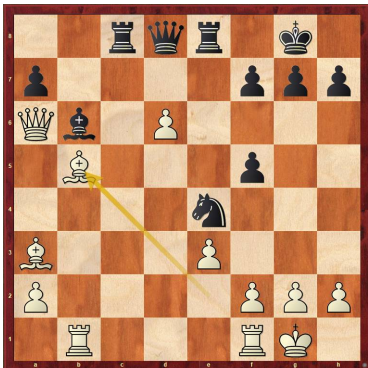
[6...a6 7.Ne5 h6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Nxd7 Nxd7 10.Bd3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Bd6, etc... 16.Rad1 ½-½ (16) Minko, V (2381)-Krishna Teja, N (2368) Novi Sad 2018] 7.0-0 [7.Qb3 Qe7 8.Bd2 0-0 9.0-0 Rc8 10.Rac1 Nbd7 11.Rfd1 dxc4, etc... Izsak, G (2365)-Jakab, A (2270) Budapest 1994 1-0] 7...0-0 8.Nh4 Ne4?! (Joe - 8...Bg6 seems more typical.) [8...Bxc3= remains equal. 9.Nxf5 Ba5] 9.Nxf5+- Nxc3 (Joe - White gains a large advantage after this. Black should have just recaptured on f5.) [9...exf5+- 10.Qb3 Bxc3] 10.bxc3+- Bxc3 11.Rb1 exf5 12.Ba3 Re8 13.Qb3 Bxd4 (Joe - Oops. 13.Rxb7 was better.) 14.Qxb7 [D]



[Worse is 14.exd4 Rxe2 15.cxd5 cxd5=]

14...Nd7 15.Qxc6 (Joe - The computer says that this was a mistake, preferring 15.cxd5.) [15.cxd5+- Rb8 16.Qa6 (16.Qxc6 Rc8+-) 16...Rxb1 17.Rxb1] 15...Nf6 16.cxd5 Rc8 17.Qa6 Bb6 [17...Nxd5+- 18.Rbd1 (18.exd4 Re6=) 18...Nc3] 18.d6 [With initiative] [White is in control.] 18...Ne4 [18...f4 was necessary.] 19.Bb5 [D] (p.6) (Text cont. p.6)

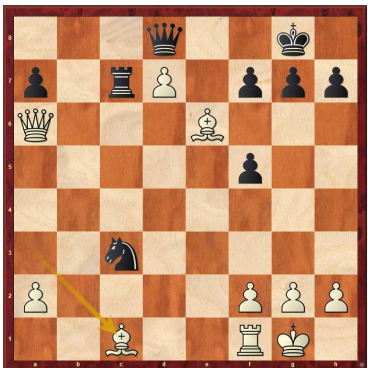
Position after 19.Bb5 (From p.5)



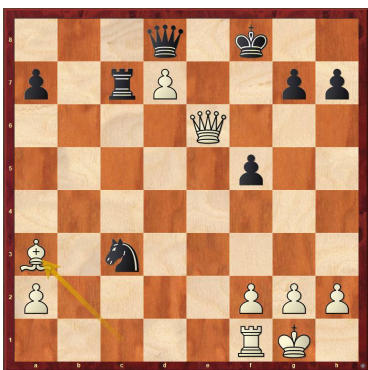
(Cont. from p.5) [Hoping for d7.] 19...Re6 20.d7 Rc7 21.Rbc1 [Strongly threatening Qc8.] 21...Nc3?? (Joe - This is the game losing move.) [Better is 21...Nc5 22.Bxc5 Bxc5] 22.Bc4 [D]



(Joe - Black probably overlooked this move.) 22...Bxe3 [Better is 22...Qxd7 23.Rxc3 Re8] 23.Bxe6 Bxc1 24.Bxc1 [D]



[And now Bg5! would win.] 24...fxe6? (Joe - Aw! I was hoping for something like 24...h6 25.Qc8!) 25.Qxe6+ Kf8 26.Ba3+ [D]



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.16/Black=0.92] 1-0

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=Y7FkdRayO2jxiquXv8j0KfS8pp5nLadaSi6gks+v12w7dwneGTA2LhCgH4MFwTJd>

Game from the NPCC 2021 June-July Swiss Tournament Round: 3

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (2137)

Black: Jonathan Xu (2061)

Date: 7/2/2021

*(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 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.Nbd2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 [D]



8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.e4 Qc7 10.h3N [D]



(Joe - Here I varied from previous games with Xu.) [10.Qc2 Bb6 (10...h6 11.h3 b6 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nb3 Be7 14.Qe2 Bb7 15.Re1 Rfd8, etc... Gasthofer,A (2437)-Klek,H (2326) Germany 2016 0-1 (66)) 11.b3 Bd7 12.Ba3 Rf8 13.exd5 exd5 14.Rae1 Qf4 15.Be7 Nxe7, etc... Hoi,C (2412)-Agrest,E (2607) Germany 2003 0-1 (31); 10.b4 Bb6 11.Bb2 Rd8 12.Qc2 h6 13.a3 Ng4 14.Rae1 Nce5, etc... Lomako,P (2385)-Kovalev,V (2453) Minsk 2012 0-1 (40)] (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 10...b6 (Joe - This is his normal response.) 11.Re1

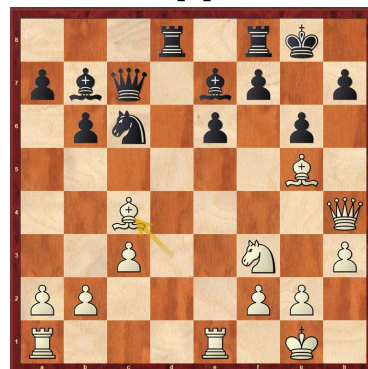
[With the idea e5.] 11...dxe4 12.Nxe4

[The position is equal.] 12...Be7

13.Qe2 Bb7 14.Bg5 [D]



[And now Nxf6+ would win.] 14...Nxe4 (Joe - This helps White get his Queen into the attack. 14...Nd5 would have been better.) 15.Qxe4 g6 16.Qh4 Rad8 17.Bc4 [D]

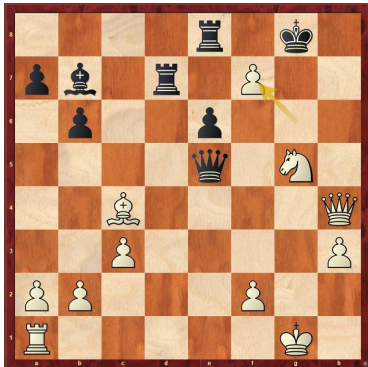


[17.Bc2 is interesting. 17...Rd5 18.Rad1] 17...Rfe8 18.Bxe7? [With attack] (Joe - The computer says White loses all of his advantage and prefers 18.Bf4 or 18.Re3.) [White attacks.] 18...Qxe7 19.Ng5 h5 20.g4 Qf6 [...Ne5 is the strong threat.] 21.gxh5 Ne5 [D]



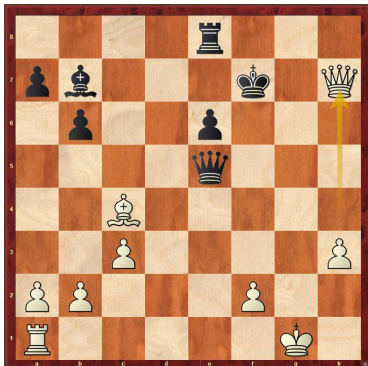
(Joe - Black has the right idea ((22...Qxg5+ 23.Qxg5 Nf3+)) but went about it the wrong way. He should have played 21...Nd4! 22.cxd4 Rxd4.) [21...Nd4!= and Black has nothing to worry. 22.cxd4 Rxd4] 22.Rxe5!+- (Joe - White is winning.) 22...Qxe5 23.hxg6 (Text cont. p. 7)

(Cont. from p.6) [White threatens Qh7+ and mate.] **23...Rd7 24.gxf7+ [D]**



(Joe - Just as

good is 24.Qh7+.) **24...Rxf7 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.Qh7+ [D]**



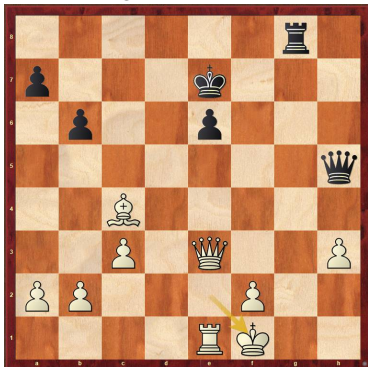
(Joe - Now

Black has a dilemma. Does he want to trade Queens and go into an ending two Pawns down, keep the Queens but give up the Bishop on b7? They both lose, although keeping the Bishop is the better option.) **26...Kf6? [26...Qg7+ 27.Qxg7+ Kxg7] 27.Qxb7 [White is clearly winning.] 27...Rg8+ 28.Kf1 Qh2 29.Qf3+ Ke7 30.Re1 [D]**



30...Qg1+

31.Ke2 Qg5 32.Qe3 Qh5+ 33.Kf1 [D]



[Weighted

Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.56] **1-0**
(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=yyacU-KZJ+GR3YZDOQrvmFm3nTJbc80sDZZZrIbS+O25NtROomZDn+HOGMvi6vAli>

Game from the NPCC 2021 August Swiss Tournament

Round: 1

Submitted by Terance with his comments (as edited) and selected Fritz/*Stockfish comments [shown thus].

White: Terance Hall (1848)

Black: E Olin Mastin (1500)

Date: 6/8/2021

[E91: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2, unusual replies including 6...c5 and 6...Bg4]

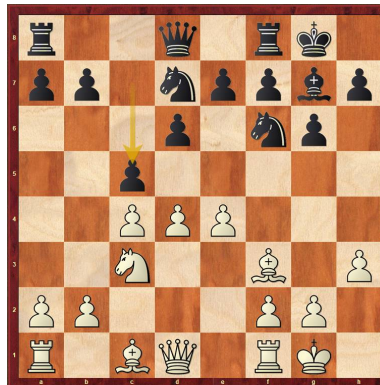
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.h3 [D]



[Stockfish: 7.Be3 Nbd7 8.0-0 e5 9.d5 a5 10.a3 Qe7 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Ne8, etc...]

7...Bxf3 8.Bxf3 [Aiming for e5.]

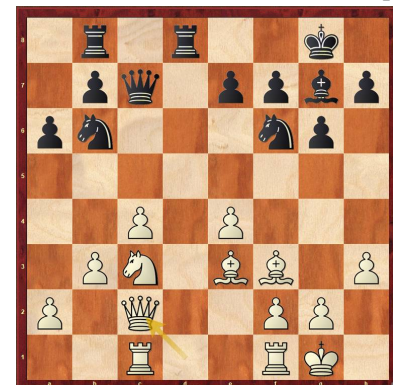
8...Nbd7 9.0-0 c5 [D]



(Terance: Olin preferred c6 here in hindsight. Stockfish preferred e5.) [9...c6 10.Be3 a6 11.a4 e5 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.a5 Re8 14.Na4 Qc7 15.Qb3 Nf8, etc...Logason, T-Sigurpalsson, R (2241) Reykjavik 2001 1-0; 9...e5!? 10.d5 a6 11.Be3 h6 12.Qd2 Kh7 13.b4 Ng8 14.g4 Ne7 15.Qc2 Rc8, etc... Grajales, R (2057)-Lopez Trujillo, A (1589) Risaralda 2015 0-1 (44)]

10.Be3 [10.d5+- Stockfish 050821: 10...Ne8 11.Bg5 Bxc3 12.bxc3 f6 13.Bh6 Ng7 14.Rb1 Rb8 (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) **15.Qe2 Ne5 16.Bg4 Qa5, etc...]** **10...Nb6?!N** [Black should play 10...cxd4+- 11.Bxd4 (11.Qxd4 Ng4=+) 11...Ne5;] [10...Rc8 11.Be2 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Nc5 13.Re1 a6 14.Bf1 Ne6 15.Be3 Nc5 16.Bd4 Ne6, etc...Papamichelakis, P-Mitrou, A (1642) Kallithea 2008 1/2-1/2 (65)] **11.b3 [11.dxc5?! Nxc4 12.Qe2 Nxe3=-; White should try 11.e5 Nfd7 12.e6 (12.Bxb7 Rb8=) 12...fxc6 (Stockfish: 12...Nxc4 13.exd7 Nxb2 14.Qe2 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Bxd4, etc...)] [13.Bg4 (13.Bxb7 Rb8=)]** **11...Rb8** (Terance: It was more important to protect or exchange the c6 Pawn with Nfd7 or cxd4.) [11...cxd4+- 12.Bxd4 Nbd7] **12.Rc1** (Terance: I thought about e5 (which was best)) but it was a lot of variations, so I stuck with something solid.) [12.dxc5 dxc5 13.Bf4 (13.Bxc5 Nfd7+-) 13...Ng4] **12...a6?** [12...Nfd7+-] **13.dxc5+-** (Terance: e5 was a serious candidate move here, but I went for the material than a positional advantage.) **13...dxc5 14.Bxc5 [Threatens to win with Qxd8.]** (Terance: Qxd8 was slightly better.) [Stockfish: 14.Qxd8 Rbx8 15.Bxc5 Nc8 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Bh6 18.Rc2 Rfe8 19.Re1 b6, etc...]



(Terance: In hindsight, Qe2 was better as I was planning to open that file.)

16...Nbd7 17.Nd5 Nxd5 18.exd5

[18.cxd5?! Qxc2 19.Rxc2 Be5+-]

18...Ne5 19.Be2 b5 (Terance: Nice move which gives Black counter play.)

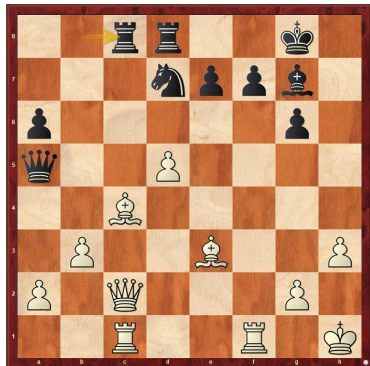
20.f4 (Terance: better was Rfd1 but I played f4 trying to force things to happen.) [Stockfish: 20.Rfd1 bxc4 21.Bxc4 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qe5 23.Qd3 Qf5 24.Qxf5 gxf5, etc...]

20...Nd7 21.f5 (Terance: Now was the time to back up the d-Pawn with Rfd1. I underestimated the bxc4 exchange forgetting that the b2 square needs to be protected, and that I can't take with the b-Pawn.)

21...Qa5

22.fxg6 (Text cont. p.8)

(Cont. from p. 7) (Terance: This move could have waited to move my King off of a checking square.) **22...hxg6 23.Kh1** (Terance: Best move. Most important to keep the King safe as we shall see.) **23...bxc4 24.Bxc4** (Terance: Only move to keep my advantage.) **24...Rbc8 [D]**

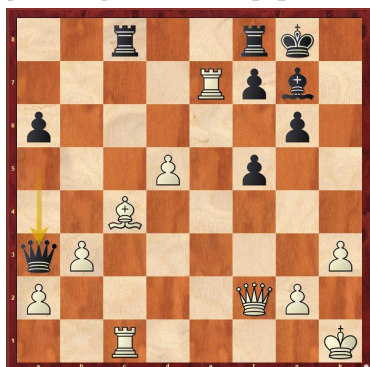


[Better is

24...Nf6 25.Qf2 Rd7] **25.Qf2 Rf8 26.Bg5** [Stockfish: 26.d6! e6 27.Bxe6 Rxc1 (If 27...fxe6 28.Rxc8 Qf5 29.Rxf8+ Qxf8 30.Qxf8+ Bxf8, etc...)] 28.Bxf7+ Kh7 29.Qh4+ Qh5 30.Qxh5+ gxh5 31.Bxc1 Be5 32.Ba3 h4, etc...]

26...Nf6 27.Bxf6 (Terance: Best was Qe1 offering a trade.) **27...exf6** [Better is 27...Bxf6 28.d6 Kg7] **28.Rfe1** (Terance: I reluctantly played this thinking that d6 was best. I could not think clearly how to proceed, and if I could protect the d-Pawn marching down.) [28.d6+- and White stays clearly on top]. [Stockfish: 28...Rcd8 29.Rfd1 Qg5 30.h4 Qh6 31.Rc2 Rd7, etc...]

28...f5?! [28...Qc7+- was worth a try.] 29.Re7? [29.d6+-] **29...Qa3= [D]**



(Terance:

Olin finds the best move to equalize!) **30.Rce1 Bc3 31.R1e2 Bb4 32.Rd7** [Counterplay] [White is not keeping still] **32...Qc1+ 33.Qg1** (Terance: I had to calculate all the checking possibilities not to get mated, that is why I put the Rook on d7 to somewhat protect d6 so the Bishop can't check on d6 alone.) **33...Qf4 34.g3** (Terance: To stop any perpetual checks.) [34.Bxa6? Rc1+-] **34...Qf3+ 35.Qg2 Qc3 36.d6** [36.Bxa6 Qa1+ 37.Kh2 Rc1+=] **36...Qd4 37.Ree7** (Terance: At this time, we both had just minutes on our clocks left so I had no time (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) to check everything. As an example, I felt Qd5 was best, but did not have time to calculate how opening the c-file would affect me after exchanges. In hindsight it was the best move.) [37.Qd5+- Qxd5+ 38.Bxd5] [Stockfish 050821: 38...Kg7 39.Bc4 a5 40.Ra7 Bxd6 41.Rxa5 Bxg3 42.Kg2 Bd6, etc...]

37...Qd1+ (Terance: Believe it or not I was afraid of the exchange sac Rxc4, which would have killed my active play. So, I was relieved to see Qd1+.) [37...Bxd6= and Black stays safe. 38.Rxf7 (38.Bxf7+ Rxf7 39.Rxf7 Rc1+ 40.Kh2 Bxg3+ 41.Kxg3 Qe5+ 42.Kh4 Qf4+ 43.Qg4 Qh6+ 44.Kg3 fxg4+-) 38...Rxf7 39.Bxf7+ Kh8; Stockfish: 37...Rxc4 38.bxc4 Qxc4 39.Qf3 Qxa2 40.h4 Bc5 41.Re2 Qa4 42.Rb7 Qd1+, etc...]

38.Kh2+- Bxd6 [D]



39.Qe2

(Terance: in this time scramble I have to work around tactics to stay alive.) [39.Bxf7+ Rxf7 40.Rxf7 Rc2=; White must play 39.Qf2!+-; Stockfish: 39.Qb2! Rxc4 40.bxc4 Qd3 41.Qe5 Qd2+ 42.Qe2 Qb4, etc...]

39...Qd4? [Better is 39...Qxe2+= 40.Rxe2 Rc6] **40.Rxf7?** (Terance: I missed the winning Bxf7 as I missed that the Black Bishop can't take my Rook on e7.) [40.Bxf7+- Rxf7 41.Rxf7 Stockfish: 41...a5 42.Rg7+ Qxg7 43.Qe6+ Kh8 44.Rxg7 Rc2+ 45.Kh1 Kxg7 46.Qd7+ Kh6 47.Qxd6 a4, c...]

40...Rxf7+= 41.Rxf7 [Black must now prevent Rc7+.] **41...Kh8 42.h4?** (Terance: Time scramble mistake.) [Avoid the trap 42.Bxa6? [D]

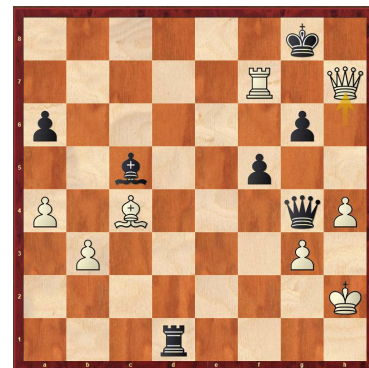


Analysis Diagram

42...Bxg3+! 43.Kxg3 Rc3+ 44.Kg2 (44.Kh2? Qf4+ 45.Kg1 Rg3+ 46.Kh2 Rxb3+ 47.Kg1 Rg3+ 48.Kh2 Re3+ 49.Kg1 Rxe2+-) 44...Qd5+ 45.Kg1 Qxf7+-; 42.Kg2+= stays ahead.] (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) **42...Bc5?** [42...Qxh4+!+- stays on course. 43.Kg1 Qxg3+ 44.Qg2 Qe3+ 45.Qf2 Qe4] **43.Qe1** [Worse is 43.Bxa6 Bd6=; 43.h5+- is more deadly. 43...Qg1+ 44.Kh3 Qh1+ 45.Qh2 Qxh2+ 46.Kxh2; Stockfish: 43.Kh3 Rf8 44.Rxf8+ Bxf8 45.Qe6 Qg7 46.Bxa6 Qg8, etc...]

43...Rd8+- 44.a4 [Of course not 44.Bxa6?! Bd6=; Better is 44.Kh3] **44...Qg4?** [44...a5+-] **45.Qc1?** [45.Qe5+ Kg8 46.Qg7#] **45...Rd1?** [45...Qh5 46.Qf4 Bd4] **46.Qh6+++ Kg8 47.Qh7# [D]**



[Weighted Error Value: White=0.80/Black=0.66] **1-0**

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=Q3Agg cGNeCOOhko7mZ+71BZ/KqWSJTvzLfx1m/ DctXkOM3jTB24TNafyan+Hlbom>

Other places to play chess:

The below are for friendly off hand non-rated games (clocks optional). Bring chess set.

Monday evenings:

About 6:00 to 9:00 PM, "Starbucks," 10 North Main Street, and / or "Nonno's Italian Coffee Parlor," 6 E. State St., Doylestown

Tuesday mornings :

9:30 AM to Noon at the Pennridge Community Senior Center in Silverdale. Located on route 113 near route 152

Friday Mornings:

10:00 AM up to 2:00 PM
Indian Valley Public Library, 100 E. Church Ave, Telford

Allentown Center City Chess Club

Offer (from Eric C. Johnson): "For any of our events -- If three or more Lansdale players carpool together -- the designated driver plays for free!"

<http://www.freewebs.com/allentowncentercitychessclub>

This concludes this issue. More games in next issue