

~ En Passant ~

Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club, Lansdale, PA – Spring 2024, Part 1

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This issue features NPCC Games from the NPCC 2024 Jan-Feb Swiss Tournaments by J. Mucerino and T. Hall.

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 2024 January Swiss Tournament

Round: 1

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (2006)

Black: Nicholas DiGiuseppe (1494)

Date: 1/5/2024

*(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 e6 3.Nbd2 d5 4.e3 b6 5.c3 [D]**



[5.Bb5+ c6 6.Bd3 c5 7.b3 Bb7 8.Bb2 Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Ne5 Nc6 11.a3 Ne7 12.Qe2 Rc8 etc... Godart,F (2404)-Rodshtein,M (2698) Chartres 2017 0-1 (36): 5.b3 Bd6 6.Bb2 0-0 7.Bd3 Ba6 8.c4 Nbd7 9.0-0 Qe7, etc... Nestorovic,N (2455)-Andersen,M (2594) Germany 2019 ½-½ (41)] **5...Bd6** (Joe - Of course, not 5...Ba6, trying to trade off White's dangerous light squared Bishop, because 6.Bxa6 Nxa6 7.Qa4+ wins a piece.) **6.Bd3 Bb7 7.0-0N** [7.Qe2 Ne4 8.0-0 0-0 9.Ne1 Qh4 10.f4 f6 11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Bc4 Bd5 13.g3 Qh3 14.f5 Nc6, etc...]

(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) Meyer,C (2335)-

Putzbach,G (2310) Germany 1991 0-1

(52)] **7...Nbd7 8.c4 c5 9.b3 0-0**

10.Bb2 [The position is equal.]

10...cxd4 11.exd4 (Joe - 11.Nxd4 is also perfectly fine.) **11...Re8 12.Ne5 Qc7** [12...Ne4=] **13.f4+= Nf8 14.Rc1 [D]**



14...Qe7 15.Qe2 Rac8 16.Rce1 Rc7

17.Qf2 h6 [17...Ng6=] **18.Kh1 N6h7?**

(Joe - The computer preferred 18...Ba3.)

[18...Ba3+= 19.Bc3 Bb4 20.Bxb4 Qxb4]

19.f5 Bxe5 20.dxe5 [D]



(Joe - Here, Black resigned. Sure, White is better, but not winning, and Black can certainly play on.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.19 (very precise)] [White should try 20.Rxe5+- Qd8 21.Qg3 (21.fxe6 Rxe6 22.Nf3 Nf6+=)] **1-0**

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=DDPu cXkH0g0S37Sbi/gHR-vCfHQd0px3KjrRStFx9znzfHmvY7KpXnro8i sp3xSTVg>

Game from the NPCC January Swiss Tournament

Round: 2

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

White: Srihari Chakravarthi (1773)

Black: Joseph Mucerino (2006)

Date: 1/12/2024

*(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.)

[D08: Albin Counter Gambit] **1.d4 d5**

2.c4 e5 3.cxd5?! (Joe - The main line is

3.dxe5.) **3...Qxd5 4.Nf3 e4** [4...exd4

5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Qa4+ Nc6 7.Qxb4 Nxb4

8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd4 Ngf6 10.f3 a6,

etc... Vaissier,A (2509)-Zisman,P (2304) Je-

rusalem 2016 1-0 (47)] **5.Nc3 Bb4! [D]**



6.Ng1N [6.Qa4+ Nc6 7.Qxb4 Nxb4

8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Ng5 Ngf6 10.Bd2 a5

11.Rc1 a4, etc... Dietz,H (2305)-Niko-

laidis,I (2522) Thessaloniki 2005 0-1 (33)]

6...Nc6 7.e3 Nf6 8.Bd2 [The position

is equal.] **8...Bxc3 9.Bxc3?!** (Joe -

White should recapture with his pawn to

strengthen his center.) **9...0-0 10.Ne2**

Bg4 11.h3?? (Joe - Black needed to cap-

ture on e2.) **11...Bh5** [11...Be6= keeps

the balance.] **12.Qc2?** (Joe - White

would have gotten a good attack after

12.g4 Bg6 13.Nf4) [12.g4+- Hoping for

Nf4. 12...Bg6 13.Nf4] **12...Qd6 13.Ng3?**

(Joe - 13.Nf4 is a better square for the

knight.) [13.g4+= might be stronger.

13...Bg6 14.Nf4] **13...Bg6= 14.Bc4**

Nb4 15.Qd2? (Joe - White should have

capture on b4 because the knight is bet-

ter than the bishop.) **15...Nbd5 16.0-0**

Nh5? (Text cont. p.2)

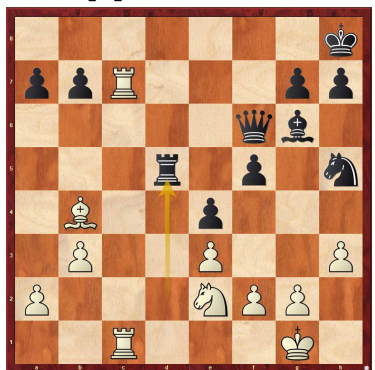
(Cont. from p. 1) (Joe - The computer did not like this. I wanted to play ...f5 eventually, but I don't think the machine liked opening the diagonal to my King. It preferred 16...c6 or 16...Rfe8.) [16...c6= feels stronger.] **17.Ne2 Kh8 [D]**



[17...Rfd8=] **18.Rac1?** (Joe - Again, the computer wanted 18.Bxd5 Qxd5 19.g4 Nf6 20.Nf4.) [18.a3+=] **18...f5 19.Bxd5 Qxd5 20.Bb4 Rf7 21.b3** [21.Rc5!? Qd8 22.Qc3+=] **21...Rd8?** (Joe - Black needed to play 21...b6 to keep white's rook out of the position.) [21...b6= is more appropriate.] **22.Rc5+ Qe6 23.Rfc1 c6 24.d5 Qf6??** (Joe - This probably should lose the game. Better was 24...Qe8.) [24...Qe8+-] **25.dxc6??** (Joe - The computer's way to victory is 25.Ba5 Rxd5 26.Rxd5 cxd5 27.Qxd5 h6 28.Rc8+ Kh7 29.Bc7 Rf8 30.Rxf8 Qxf8 31.Qxb7.) **25...Rxd2=** (Joe - The computer says this position is totally equal, 0.00.) **26.c7?? [D]**



[Inhibits Rd8. (Joe - White should simply capture the rook on d2.) **26...Rxc7!+-** (Joe - 26...Rf8 was more precise.) **27.Rxc7 Rd5?? [D]**



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) (Joe - And now white's winning again. Black should have played 27...Rd8.) [27...Rd8+ keeps the pressure on. White must now prevent ...Rg8. 28.Be7 Qa6 29.Bxd8 Qxe2] **28.Rc8+??** (Joe - Returning the favor. 28.Be7! was winning, 28...Qf7 29.Rc8+ Qg8 30.Rxg8+ Kxg8 31.Rc8+ Kf7 32.Bb4 a5 33.Bc5 and Black's Knight and Bishop are passively placed.) [28.Be7!+- Threatening mate with Rc8+. 28...Qf7 29.Rc8+ Qg8 30.Rxg8+ Kxg8 31.Rc8+ Kf7 32.Bb4] **28...Rd8 [D]**



[Weighted Error Value:
White=0.57/Black=0.41] **0-1**

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=m14IECQ2FTzXFfX+fzxnmQsDVBMI940o7MhYk-JRYG06EzS8ijPBNfVeJP12MitugE>

Game from the NPCC January Swiss Tournament

Round: 3

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

White: Joseph Mucerino (2006)

Black: Aimee Yang (1952) (Age 11)

Date: 1/26/2024

*(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.)

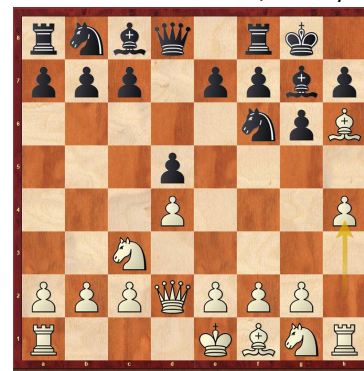
[D01: Veresov Opening] **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3**

(Joe - I tried the Jobava London the day before in a losing effort against Nicholas Christofides in West Chester. I decided to try it again.) **2...d5 3.Bf4 g6 4.Qd2 Bg7 5.Bh6 0-0 6.h4 [D]** (Next col.)

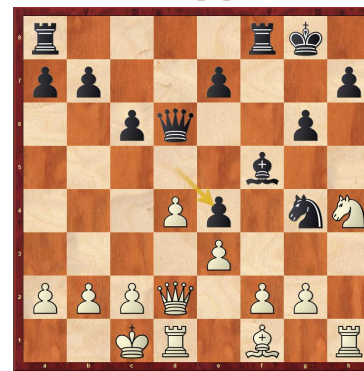
6...Bxh6 [6...c5 7.Bxg7 Kxg7 8.e3 cxd4 9.exd4 h5 10.Bd3 Nc6 11.Nge2 Nb4 12.Nf4 Qb6, etc... Naroditsky,D (2646)-Shankland,S (2674) chess.com INT 2017 ½-½ (48)]

7.Qxh6 Ng4N [7...c5 8.e3 Nc6 9.0-0-0 cxd4 10.exd4 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.h5 Neg4 13.Qf4 Qb6, etc...Naroditsky,D (2616)-Yoo,C (2388) chess.com INT 2019 0-1 (69)] (Text cont. next col.)

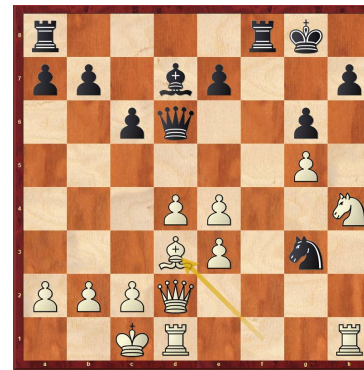
Position after 6.h4 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) **8.Qd2 Qd6 9.Nf3!** (Joe - The computer did not like this, preferring 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Qe6 11.f3 f5 12.Be2 fxe4 13.fxg4.) **9...Bf5** [Against e4] **10.e3 Nd7 11.h5 Ndf6 12.hxg6 fxg6** (Joe - The correct way to recapture.) **13.0-0-0?! c6?!** (Joe - The computer really liked 13...Ne4 here.) [13...Ne4!= 14.Nxe4 Bxe4] **14.Nh4** (Joe - 14.Ng5 is even stronger.) **14...Ne4! 15.Nxe4 dxe4 [D]**



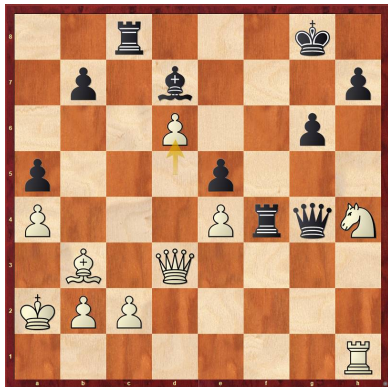
[15...Bxe4+= 16.f3 g5] **16.f3!+-** [16.Nxf5?! Rxf5 17.Bc4+ Kh8=] **16...Nh6** [16...Nf6+=] **17.g4** (Joe - Good but not the best. 17.Qe1 and 17.Nxf5 are both winning.) [17.Nxf5+- Nxf5 18.Bc4+ (18.fxe4 Ng3+-) 18...Kh8 19.fxe4] **17...Bd7 18.g5** [18.Bc4+?! Be6 19.Nxg6 hxg6=] **18...Nf5** [18...Nf7+- was worth a try.] **19.fxe4** [19.Bc4+- e6 20.Nxf5 (20.fxe4 Nxh4 21.Rxh4 Rf7+-) 20...Rxf5 21.f4 (21.fxe4 Rxg5 22.Rdf1 Qe7+-)] **19...Ng3 20.Bd3?? [D]**



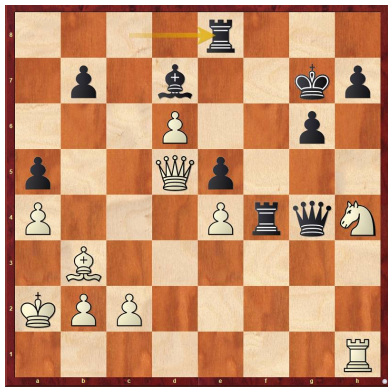
(Joe - Here, I panicked. (Text cont. p.3)

(Cont. from p.2) I saw 19...Ng3, but I overlooked the fact that it was hitting the Pawn on e4. In my panic, I missed the pretty simple 20.Bc4+ followed by 21.e5, and White would still have been better after that.)

[20.Bc4+- keeps the pressure on. 20...Be6 21.e5] **20...Nhx1+ 21.Rxh1 Qg3!** (Joe - A powerful move, basically paralyzing White. Now Black is winning.) **22.Bc4+** [22.Kb1+] **22...e6+** **23.d5** [Better is 23.Qc3 Qxg5 24.Qe1] **23...cxd5** [23...Qxg5? 24.dxe6 Be8 25.e7+ Bf7 26.exf8N+-] **24.exd5 e5** [And not 24...Qxg5 25.dxe6 Bb5 26.Nxg6 Bxc4 27.Nxf8 Rxf8 28.Qd7+] **25.Qd3 Qxg5** **26.Kb1** [Better is 26.Qe4] **26...Rf2 27.a3** [Better is 27.b3] **27...Rc8 28.Bb3 Qg3** **29.Ka2 a5** [Threatens to win with ...a4.] **30.a4** [Better is 30.Qe4 a4 31.Bxa4] **30...Qg4 31.e4 Rf4??** (Joe - This lets White back into the game.) [31...Kg7+- and Black stays clearly on top. aiming for ...Qe2. 32.d6 Rf6] **32.d6+-+ [D]**

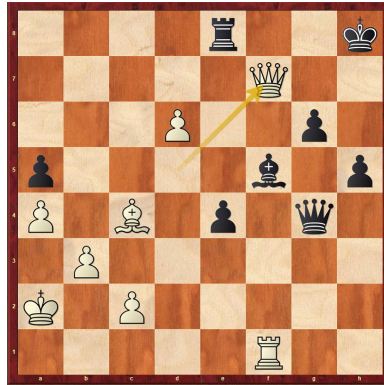


32...Kg7! [And now ...h5 would win.] [32...Kh8?! 33.Qd5 Re8 34.Qxb7=] **33.Qd5** (Joe - Black is still better, but now White has threats beginning with Nf5+.) **33...Re8?? [D]**

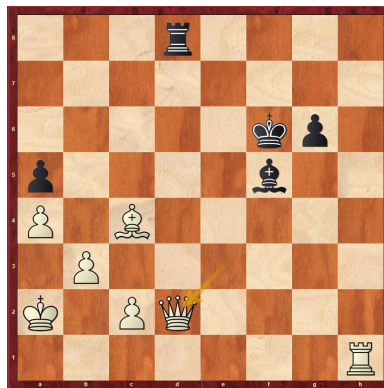


(Joe - 33...h5 was the best way to defend; 33...Rf6 was good too.) [33...h5=+ keeps the upper hand. 34.Ng2 Rf6] **34.Nf5!+-** (Joe - Now White is winning.) **34...Rxf5** **35.exf5 Qxf5 36.Qxb7** [Hoping for Rf1!] **36...Kh8** [Better is 36...Rd8 37.Qa7 h5 38.Qxa5 Qf6] **37.Bc4?** (Joe - The computer does not want to mess around and wanted (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) me to play 37.c4.) **37...h5 38.Rf1? Qg4?** (Joe - Black could have safely captured on c2.) [38...Qxc2 39.Bb3 Qc6] **39.Qd5 Bf5 40.b3** [Don't play 40.Qf7 Rb8 41.Bb3 Qb4 42.Rxf5 gxf5 43.Qxh5+ Kg7 44.Qg5+ (44.Qxf5 Qxd6 45.Bc4 Qf6+-) 44...Kh7 45.Qxf5+ Kg7 46.Qf7+ Kh8 47.Qf6+ Kh7] **40...e4** [Better is 40...Qe4 41.Qxa5 Qb7] **41.Qf7?? [D]**

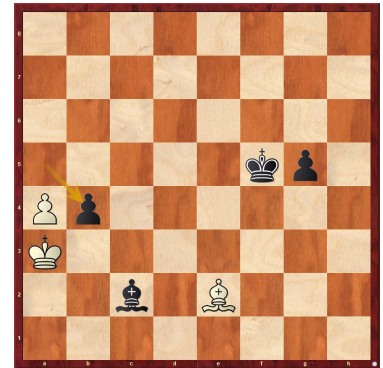


(Joe - Missing a slam dunk win after 41.d7. If 41...Rd8 42.Qe5+ or after 41...Bxd7 42.Rf7.) [Better is 41.d7 Bxd7 42.Rf7] **41...Rc8 42.Kb2 h4** [Better is 42...e3 43.Qf6+ Kh7] **43.Qe7** [Intending d7! and mate.] **43...e3 44.d7 Qd4+** (Joe - Time was getting a little short and I missed this check. I was still winning but I did not realize that.) **45.Ka2 Qxd7 46.Qxh4+??** (Joe - White win is much more difficult now. He needed to play 46.Qf6+ Kh7 47.Rf4.) [46.Qf6+- has better winning chances. 46...Kh7 47.Rf4] **46...Kg7+- 47.Rh1** [Bd3! is the strong threat.] **47...Rd8** [47...e2 was necessary. 48.Qh2 e1Q 49.Qh6+ (49.Rxe1 Rxc4 50.Qe5+ Kf7=) 49...Kf6 50.Rxe1 Rxc4 51.Qf8+ Kg5 52.bxc4 Qxa4+ 53.Qa3 Qxc4+ 54.Ka1 Be4] **48.Qh6+ Kf6 49.Qxe3??** [Strongly threatening Re1. (Joe - White goes from winning to just better. The computer line is 49.Qh4+ Kg7 50.Bd3 Bxd3 51.cxd3 e2 52.Rh2.)] **49...Qd2 50.Qxd2 [D]**

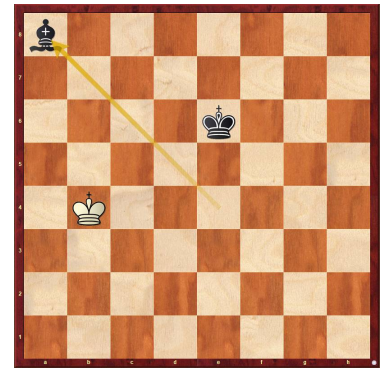


(Joe - And now the game is drawn. (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) White is still better after 50.Qb6+ Rd6 51.Qb7 Qxc2+ 52.Ka3 Rd1 53.Qf7+ Ke5 54.Qe7+ Kf4 55.Rh4+ Kf3 56.Be2+ Qxe2 57.Rf4+ Kxf4 58.Qxe2 Rd3. I certainly did not see of have the courage to play that in time pressure.) [50.Qb6+- Rd6 51.Qc7 Qxc2+ 52.Ka3] **50...Rxd2=** [The position is equal.] **51.Rc1 Rxc2+ 52.Rxc2 Bxc2** [Endgame KB-KB] **53.Be2 Kf5 54.Ka3 g5 55.b4 axb4+ [D]**



56.Kxb4 Be4 57.a5 g4 58.Bxg4+ Kxg4 59.a6 Kf5 60.a7 Ke6 61.a8Q Bxa8 [D]



[Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/Black=0.35] $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
Copy and paste the link below into your browser:
<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=Gl5Whx2Z12Aec+8oY0DE3/jpalCrQ1VPr63NWutGofPQPGN/L957QUT5Pfh6CiPP>

Game from the NPCC January Swiss Tournament Round: 4

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

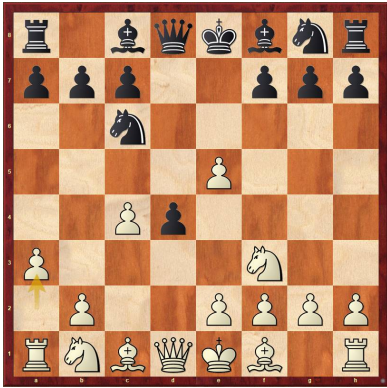
White: Terance Hall (1937)
Black: Joseph Mucerino (1996)
Date: 2/2/2024

*(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.)

(Text cont. p.4)

(Cont. from p.3)

[D08: Albin Counter Gambit] 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 d4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.a3 [D]



(Joe - Preventing a ...Bb4+ and possibly expanding on the queenside. I've had some difficulty against this variation.) 5...Bg4 (Joe - Threatening to capture the knight and then take on e5.) 6.Bf4 [6.Nbd2+=] 6...f6N (Joe - The computer prefers 6...Nge7 and 7...Ng6, which is another way to play the position.) [6...Nge7 7.Nbd2 Ng6 8.Bg3 Qe7 (8...Qd7 9.h3 Be6 10.e4 dxe3 11.fxe3 0-0-0 12.Qc2 Bc5 13.Qc3 Rhe8, etc... Charkhalashvili,I (2278)-Koneru,H (2387) Athens 2001 ½-½) 9.Qb3 (9.h3 Bh5 10.Qb3 0-0-0 11.0-0-0 Ngxe5 12.Bh2 Bg6 13.g4 d3 14.Nxe5 Nxe5, etc... Tenikashvili,G (2361)-Chizhikov,V (2304) Sochi 2018 0-1 (55)) 9...0-0-0 10.0-0-0 Ngxe5 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.h3 Bf5 13.Qb5 c5 14.Bxe5 Qxe5 15.g4 Bd7, etc... Vasilchenko,O (2455)-Biro,S (2335) Kecskemet 1991 ½-½ (46); 6...Qe7 7.Nbd2 0-0-0 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Nxf3 f6 10.e6 Qxe6 11.g4 h5 12.g5 Nge7 13.h4 f5, etc... Zhukova,N (2471)-Sagalchik,G (2487) playchess.com INT 2004 1-0 (77)] 7.Nbd2 Nge7 [D]

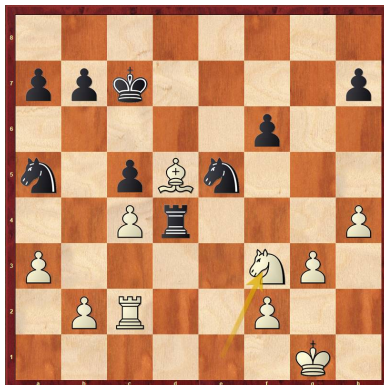


(Joe - The computer does not like this line because of the isolated Pawn that results. I like it because the Pawn supports a ...Ne5 and it also opens the g-file.) [7...Qe7+=] 8.exf6+- [8.Qb3 is more complex. 8...Ng6 9.Qxb7 Na5 10.Qa6] 8...gxf6 [White is better.] 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Nxf3 [10.exf3?! Ng6 11.Qe2+ Kf7+=] 10...Ng6 11.Bh2 11.Bd2+] 11...Bd6 [11...Qe7!+=] 12.Bxd6 (Text cont. next col.)

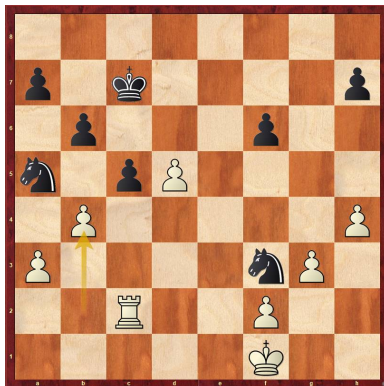
(Cont. from prev. col.) [Weaker is 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd6 Qxd6-; Better is 12.g3] 12...Qxd6 13.g3 0-0-0 14.Bg2 d3 [14...h5+=] 15.Qxd3 [D]



15...Qxd3 16.exd3 Rxd3 17.0-0 Na5 18.Rac1 Re8 19.h4 c5 20.Rc2 [Better is 20.b4 Nb3 21.Rfe1 Rxe1+ 22.Rxe1] 20...Kc7 21.Re1 [White should play 21.Rb1+] 21...Rxe1! = 22.Nxe1 Rd4 23.Bd5 [23.Bf1+] 23...Ne5+= 24.Nf3 [D]

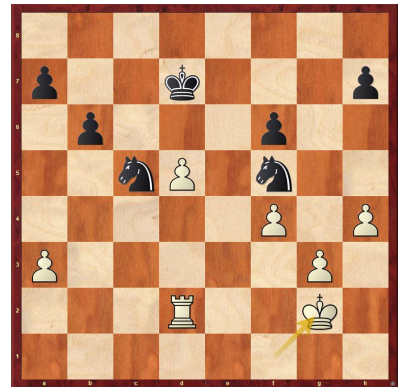


[24.f4+= Ng4 25.Be6] 24...Rxd5??+= (Joe - Now the game turns.) 25.cxd5 Nxf3+ 26.Kf1 (Joe - The problem is, 26.Kg2 is met by 26...Ne1+. If it weren't for that, White would still be much better.) 26...b6 [26...Kd6 feels stronger. 27.Re2 Ne5] 27.b4? [D]

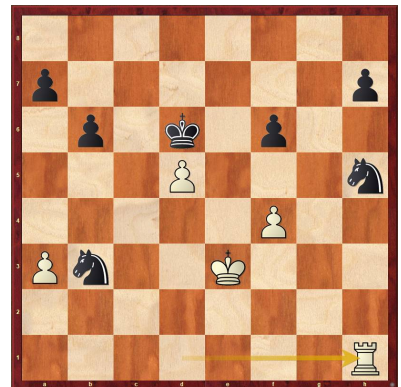


[27.Re2= Kd6 28.Re6+ Kxd5 29.Rxf6 Nh2+ 30.Kg2] 27...Nb7?? (Joe - Throwing away the advantage. Much better were 27...Nb3 or 27...Nc4 28.Re2 Ncd2+ 29.Kg2 c4.) (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) [27...Nd4!+- 28.Rc3 Nab3 29.bxc5 bxc5] 28.bxc5? (Joe - The way to go was 28.Re2 Kd7 29.Re6.) [28.Re2= was the only way to keep the balance.] 28...Nxc5+- 29.Rc3 Ne5 30.f4 [30.Re3+ was called for.] 30...Ng6? (Joe - Much better was 30...Ng4, keeping the rook out of e3.) [Black should try 30...Ng4!+- White must now prevent ...h5. 31.Rc1 f5] 31.Re3+= Kd7 [Prevents Re8.] 32.Re2 [Better is 32.d6!+=] 32...Ne7 33.Rd2 [33.Kf2+ keeps fighting.] 33...Kd6 34.Re2 Kd7 [Not 34...Nxd5 35.Re8+; Better is 34...f5 35.h5 Nxd5] 35.Rd2!+- Nf5 36.Kg2 [D]

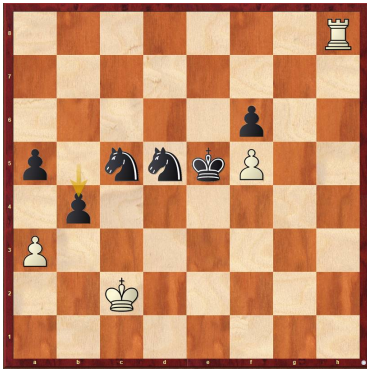


36...Nxc3! (Joe - The rest is pretty much cleanup.) 37.Kf3 [37.Kh3 h5] 37...Nf5 38.Kg4 Ng7 39.Kf3 [39.f5 was worth a try.] 39...Kd6 40.Rd1 Nf5 41.h5 Nb3 42.Ke4 Ng3+ 43.Ke3 Nxe5 44.Rh1 [D]

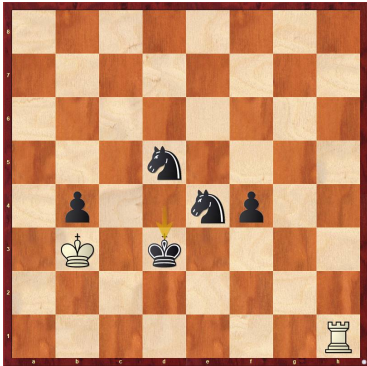


44...Ng7 45.Rxe7 Nf5+ 46.Ke4 [Better is 46.Ke2] 46...Ne7 47.Rf7 Nc5+ [Stronger than 47...Nxd5 48.Rxa7 Ne7 49.Kf3+] 48.Kd4 Nxd5 49.f5 a5 50.Rh7 Ne7 51.Rh5 [Better is 51.Kc4] 51...b5 52.Kc3 Ke5 53.Rh8 Nd5+ 54.Kc2 [Better is 54.Kd2] 54...b4 [D] (p. 5) 55.axb4 axb4 56.Rd8 Ne4 57.Rb8 Kxf5 58.Kb3 [Better is 58.Kd3] 58...Ke5 59.Rb5 Kd4 60.Rb8 f5 61.Rh8 f4 [(-> ...f3)] 62.Rh1 Kd3 [D] (p. 5) (Text cont. p.5)

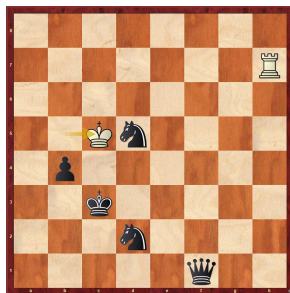
Position after 54...b4 (From p.4)



Position after 62...Kd3 (From p.4)

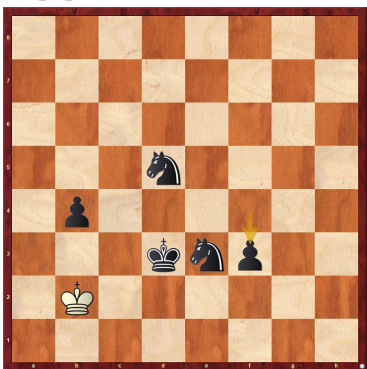


(Cont. from p. 4) [Better is 62...f3 63.Ka4 f2 64.Kb5 Nd2 65.Rh4+ Kc3 66.Rh7 f1Q+ 67.Kc5 [D]



Analysis Diagram

67...b3! 68.Rh5 Qc4+ 69.Kd6 Ne4+ 70.Ke5 Qd4+ 71.Ke6 Nc5+ 72.Kd6 Nb4+ 73.Ke7 Qg7+ 74.Ke8 Qd7+ 75.Kf8 Ne6+ 76.Kg8 Qg7#] **63.Rf1 Nd2+ 64.Kb2 Nxf1 65.Kc1 Nfe3** [Better is 65...f3 66.Kb2 Nd2 67.Kc1 f2 68.Kb2 f1Q 69.Ka2 Qb1#] **66.Kb2 f3 [D]**



(Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.69/Black=0.34] **0-1** Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=msOu7rDjHpvmHVyOLjmfGrbel3WgS-RRHwgcr91EZ-nawyXY2PsNqGwHk829ULt8Fk>

Game from the NPCC 2024 February Swiss Tournament

Round: 1

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

White: Joseph Mucerino, (1996)

Black: E. Olin Mastin, (1500)

Date: 2/9/2024

*(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 0-0 6.c3 Bg4 7.Qc2 [D]**



[7.Be2 h6 (7...Bxf3 8.Bxf3 c6 9.0-0 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Nc4 Qxd1 12.Rfxd1 Nbd7, etc... Juhasz,A (2375)-Sredojevic,I (2428) Novi Sad 2016 1-0 (36)] 8.Be3 Nfd7 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Nxf3 c5 11.d5 Na6 12.Qd2 Kh7 13.h4 Rc8, etc... Jussupow,A (2589)-Meissner,B (2401) Germany 2011 1-0] **7...Bxf3N** [7...Nbd7 8.Bc4 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Nxf3 Qe7 12.0-0 Nc5 13.Rfe1 a5. etc...Lie,K (2556)-Gunnarsson,J (2429) Reykjavik 2008 1-0 (52)] **8.Nxf3 Nc6?!** (Joe - Usually, Black plays ...c5 at some point to put pressure on the center.) **9.Bc4** [White is slightly better.] **9...Na5 10.Bd3 c5 11.dxc5 dxc5 12.Rd1** [Hoping for e5.] **12...Qc7 13.0-0 e6 [D]** (Next col.) (Joe - 13...c4 right away would have been better, because my Bishop would have to retreat to e2 (Text cont. next col.)

Position after 13...e6 (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.) and block a Rook that goes to e1.) **14.Rfe1 c4 15.Bf1** (Joe - This is why it was better for Black to play 13...c4. Now, the Bishop goes to f1 and is not in the way of the Rook on e1.) **15...b5 16.e5 [16.g3+=] 16...Nd7 17.Qe4 Nc6 18.Bf4 Rad8 19.Qe3 Rfe8 [D]**



(Joe - Better would have been 15...Nb6, heading for d5.) **20.Nd4** [Better is 20.Bg3] **20...Nxd4= 21.cxd4 Nb6 22.Bh6** [22.Bg5=] **22...Nd5++ 23.Qh3 Nb4? [D]**



(Joe - Black would have an advantage after 23...Bxh6 24.Qxh6 Ne7 25.Re4 Nf5. Black's King is safe, and the Knight also attacks the d4 Pawn.) [Black should play 23...Bxh6-+ 24.Qxh6 Ne7] **24.Re4= Rd5** [24...Nxa2? 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.Qa3+-] **25.Bxg7** [25.a4=] **25...Kxg7+= 26.Rh4 h5 27.g4 Rh8 [D]** (p.6) [And now ...hxg4 would win.] **28.gxh5 Qe7** [28...Qd8!= keeps the balance.] **29.h6+ [29.a3+- Na6 30.Qg3]** (Text cont. p.6)

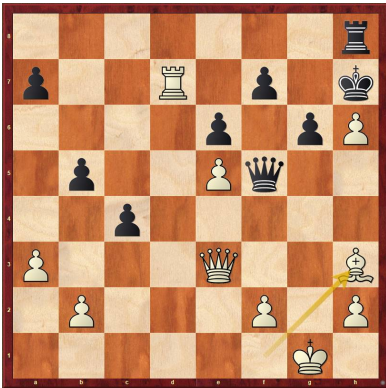
Position after 27...Rh8 (From p.5)



(Cont. from p.5) 29...Kh7+= 30.a3! Initiative [White has the initiative.] 30...Nc6 [30...Na6+=] 31.Bg2+- Rxd4? [D]



(Joe - Probably the losing move. The Rook on h8 is doing nothing, so why not play 31.Rhd8?) [31...Rhd8+-] 32.Rhxd4+- [But not 32.R added 4 Nxd4 33.R added 4 Rd8+-] 32...Nxd4 33.R added 4 Qg5 34.Qe3 Qf5 [34...Qxe3 35.fxe3 a5] 35.Rd7 [White threatens Bh3 and mate.] 35...Qb1+ 36.Bf1 Qf5 37.Bh3 [D]



[Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.33] 1-0

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chessbase.com/SharedGames/game/?p=Zangr0Fkgy1aKE6ySXZFyq8rZPK7lqzTbDvBkyxTScQekvCSsVtGl2V+RlpSAsOf>

Game from the NPCC 2024 February Swiss Tournament (Text cont. next col.)

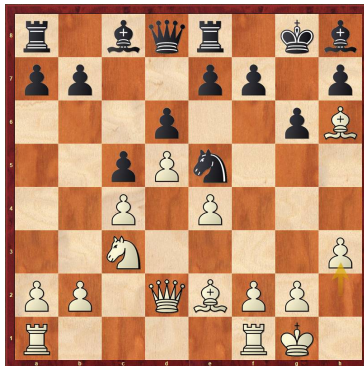
(Cont. from prev. col.) **Round: 4** Submitted by Joe with his comments and selected Fritz comments [shown thus]. **White: Joseph Mucerino, (1980)** **Black: Bernard Williams, (1755)** **Date: 3/1/2024**

*(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.)

[E61: King's Indian: Early deviations for White, including Smyslov System] 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.c4 Nbd7 4.Bf4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.e4 0-0 7.Be2 [D]



7...c5N [7...c6 8.h3 (8.Qd2 Qa5 9.0-0 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Bh6 Re8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.a3 Qc7, etc... Melendez,R (2381)-Ravelo Gil,E (2381) Barquisimeto 2012 0-1 (44)) 8...e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Be3 Qe7 11.Nd2 Nc5 12.b4 Ne6 13.c5 a5 14.a3 Nd4 15.Rc1 axb4 16.axb4 Rd8, etc... Kaidanov,G (2561)-McShane,L (2674) Las Vegas 2015 1-0 (48); 7...Nh5 8.Be3 e5 9.Qd2 c6 10.0-0 a6 11.Rfd1 b5 12.d5 b4 13.dxc6 bxc3 14.Qxd6 Nf4, etc... Jimenez Ruano,A (2332)-Uribe Arteaga,D (2316) Sabadell 2017 1-0 (32)] 8.d5 Ng4 9.0-0 Nge5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 [White is slightly better.] 11.Qd2 Re8 12.Bh6 Bh8 13.h3 [D]

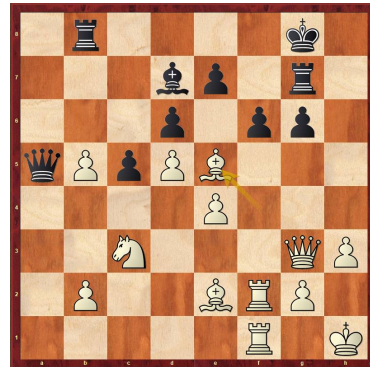


(Joe - White can play 13.f4 right away. I did not like 13...Ng4, but White can take the Knight and be fine.) 13...Qc7? (Joe - Black should strike first with 13...f5.) [13...f5+=] 14.f4+- Nd7 15.f5 Ne5 16.fxg6 hxg6 17.Kh1 [Better is 17.Rf2] 17...Bd7+= 18.Rf2 a6 (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 19.a4 [19.Raf1+=] 19...Rab8 20.Raf1 b5 [Black should play 20...Qc8+=] 21.axb5 axb5 22.cxb5 Qa5 [D]



[22...Qc8+- was worth a try.] 23.Qg5 [23.h4!+-] 23...Bf6? [23...Bg7+=] 24.Rxf6+- Rf8 (Joe - Obviously, the Rook cannot be taken.) 25.R6f2 (Joe - Much faster is 25.Bh5.) 25...f6 26.Qg3 (Joe - The computer's top choice was 26.Rxf6! I didn't see the need to take risks.) 26...Rf7 27.Bf4 Rg7 28.Bxe5 [D]

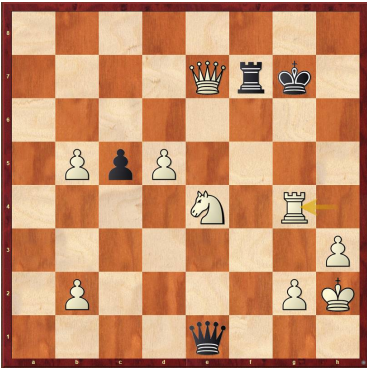


(Joe - Getting rid of that Knight makes things easier.) 28...dxe5 29.Bg4 f5 30.Qxe5 Rb6 31.exf5 Qa7 32.fxg6 Rbxg6 33.Rf8+ Kh7 34.Qh5+ [Better is 34.Bf3 Bg4 35.Be4 Bf3 36.gxf3 Kh6 37.Rh8+ Rh7 38.Qf4+ Kh5 39.Rxh7+ Rh6 40.Rxh6#] 34...Rh6 [D]



35.Rh8+!! Kxh8 36.Qxh6+ Kg8 37.Be6+ Bxe6 38.Qxe6+ Kh7 39.Rf4 Rg6 40.Rh4+ [Better is 40.Qf7+ Kh8 41.Rh4+ Rh6 42.Rxh6#] 40...Kg7 41.Qe5+ Rf6 42.Ne4 Qa1+ 43.Kh2 Qe1 44.Qxe7+ Rf7 45.Rg4+ [D] (p.7) (Text cont. p.7)

Position after 45.Rg4+ (From p.6)
(From p.6)



(Cont. from p.6) (Joe - I missed some faster mates in there.) [Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/Black=0.73] 1-0

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=FMHach2Er8mvROPZMz09Dn9GNYe0j65Y70fOzGfxtUGurA+ffzu4hvsWoPcYIR>

Game from the NPCC 2023 Oct-Nov Swiss Tournament

Round: 3

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

White: Karl Dehmelt, (2200)

Black: Terance Hall, (1882)

Date: 11/10/2023

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

[B01: Scandinavian Defence] 1.e4 d5
2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4 Nf6
5.Bf4 a6 [5...c6 6.Be2 Bf5 7.Nf3 e6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Re1 Nbd7 10.Nh4 Bg6 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.Qd3 Qa5, etc... Socko,B (2475)-Vukovic,Z (2425) Senec 1998 1-0] 6.Nf3 [6.Bc4 Nc6 7.Nge2 g6 8.Qd2 Bg7 9.0-0-0 b5 10.Bd3 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 0-0 12.Nf3 c5, etc... Rogasch,M (1570) -Wittoch,H (1754) Mecklenburg VP 2009 1-0] 6...Bg4 [6...Nc6+]=
7.Be2 [7.h3+- Bxf3 8.Qxf3] 7...e6+= [D]

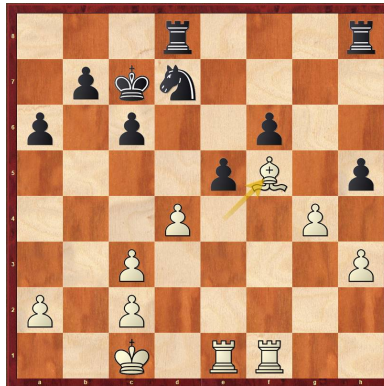


(Text cont. next col.)

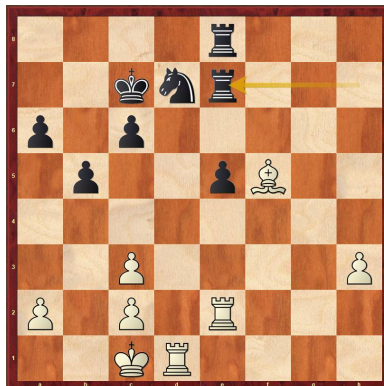
(Cont. from prev. col.) [Stockfish: 7...Nc6 8.h3 Bf5 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6, etc...]. 8.h3N [White is slightly better.] [8.0-0 Bb4 9.Na4 Bd6 10.Be3 0-0 11.Nc3 c6 12.a3 Qc7 13.g3 Rd8, etc...Silfang,D-Axmann,S Klinge/Seckach 1996 1-0 (35)] 8...Bxf3 9.Bxf3 c6! 10.Qd3 Bd6 11.Bg5 Nbd7 12.g4 [12.0-0-0+= Stockfish: 0.58/12 12...Qc7 13.Kb1 h6 14.Be3 Bf4 15.Rhe1 Bxe3, etc...]. 12...Qc7 13.0-0-0 Bf4+ 14.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 15.Qe3 [D]



15...Qxe3+ 16.fxe3 Nd5 [16...h6 feels stronger] 17.e4 [17.Nxd5+= exd5 18.Rhf1] 17...Nxc3= 18.bxc3 0-0-0 [18...b5 was preferable.; Stockfish: 18...e5 19.Be2 Nf6 20.Bc4 Ke7 21.Rhf1 Rhf8 22.Bb3 Nd7, etc...]. 19.e5 f6 20.exf6 gxf6 21.Rde1 e5 22.Be4 Kc7 23.Rhf1 h5 24.Bf5 [D]

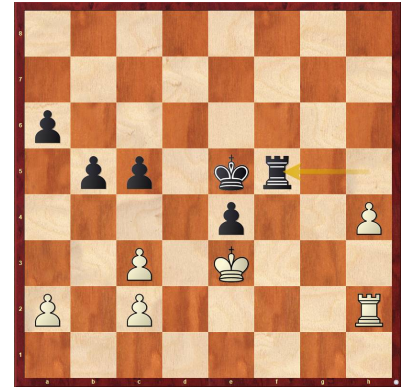


24...hxg4 25.Bxg4 Rh7 26.Re2 Kb6 27.Kb2 Kc7 28.Kc1 b5 29.dxe5 fxe5 30.Rd1 Re8 31.Bf5 Rhe7 [D]



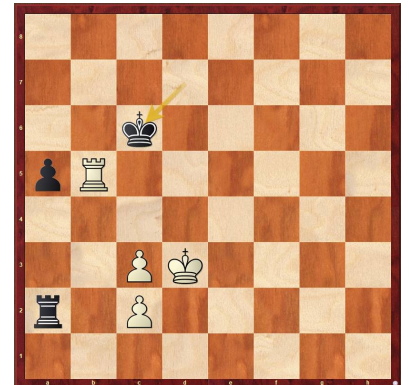
32.Bxd7 Rxd7 [Endgame KRR-KRR] (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 33.Rd3 e4 34.Rxd7+ Kxd7 [KR-KR] 35.Kd2 Kd6 36.Rh2 Rh8 [Threatens to win with ...Rh4.] 37.h4! Rh5 38.Ke3 Ke5 39.Rh1 [39.c4!?] 39...c5 40.Rh2 Rf5? [D]

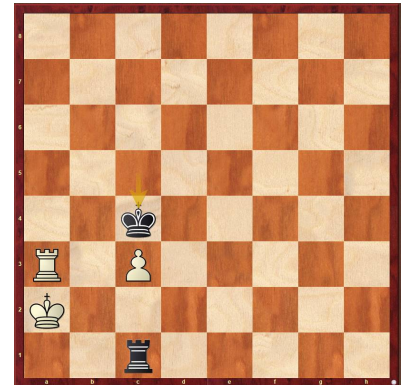


[40...Kd5= 41.Rh3 (If 41.Kf4 Stockfish: 41...Kc4 42.Kg4 Rh8 43.Rh3 Rg8+ 44.Kf5 Rg2, etc...)] 41.Rf2

[41.h5!+- Stockfish:...Rf3+ 42.Kd2 Rf7 43.h6 Rh7 44.Ke3 c4, etc...]. 41...Rh5!+= 42.Rf4 Kd5 43.Rxe4 a5 44.Rg4 [44.c4+- 0.76/15 bxc4 45.Rg4 Re5+ 46.Kd2 c3+ 47.Kd3 (47.Kxc3 Re3+ 48.Kb2 Rh3+-)] 44...Ke6 45.Rg6+ Kd7 46.Rg5 [46.Rg4+=] 46...Rxh4= 47.Rxc5 Ra4 48.Rxb5 Rxa2 49.Kd3 Kc6 [D]

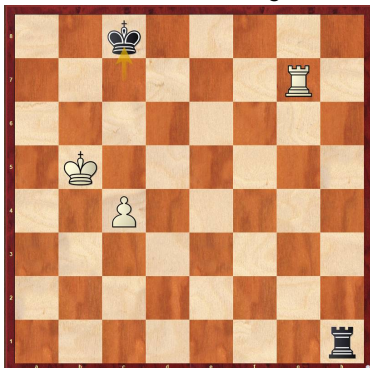


50.c4 Ra3+ 51.Kd2 a4 52.c3 Ra2+ 53.Kd3 a3 54.Ra5 Ra1 55.Kc2 Kb6 56.Ra4 Kc5 57.Kb3 Rb1+ 58.Ka2 Rc1 59.Rxa3 Kxc4= [D]

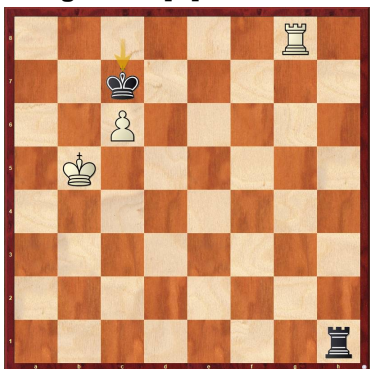


60.Kb2 Rh1 61.Ra4+ Kc5 62.Rg4 Rh3 (Text cont. p.8)

(Cont. from p.7) 63.Kb3 Rf3 64.Rg5+ Kc6 65.Kb4 Rf4+ 66.c4 Rh4 67.Rg6+ Kc7 68.Kb5 Rh1 69.Rg7+ Kc8 [D]



70.c5 Rh6 71.Ra7 Rf6 72.Ra8+ Kc7 73.Rg8 Rh6 74.Rg7+ Kc8 75.c6 Rh1 76.Rg8+ Kc7[D]



[Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) / Black=0.12 (very precise) . An unexpected result.] ½-½

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=W5Tfyw+2dk/HCyru+KDVyeZc/7TP7LMuoeU4UzbbalU b1Z48v80GI3Qh5AfIO4q3>

Game from the NPCC 2023 December G45 Two- Night Tournament

Round: 1

White: Terance Hall, (1925)

Black: Nicholas DiGiuseppe, (1495)

Date: 12/8/2023

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

[E39: Nimzo-Indian: Classical: 4...c5 5 dxc5 0-0]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 0-0 6.Nf3 b6N [6...Na6= is more appropriate.; 6...Qa5 7.Bd2 Qxc5 8.e3 d5 (8...Qb6 9.Be2 Nc6 10.0-0 Be7 11.e4 Qc7 12.Rfd1 Ng4 13.Be1 a6 14.Rac1 Bc5, etc... Karpman, V (2480)-Vyzmanavin, A (2550) Moscow 1989 1/ 2-1/2 (42))] 7.cxb6+ axb6 8.a3 Bb7 [White is slightly better.] (Text cont. next col.)

(Cont. from prev. col.) 9.Bd2 d5 10.e3 Nbd7 [D]



11.cxd5 Nxd5 [Black should play 11...Bxc3+= 0.43/15 12.Bxc3 Nxd5] 12.Be2 [12.Nxd5+- Bxd2+ 13.Qxd2 Bxd5 14.Be2] 12...N7f6 13.Rd1 [Better is 13.Nxd5+- Nxd5 14.Bxb4 Nxb4 15.Qb3] 13...Be7 14.0-0 Rc8 15.Qb3 Bd6 16.h3 Nxc3 17.Bxc3 Bd5 18.Qa4 Ne4 [D]



19.Be5 Bxe5 20.Nxe5 Qg5 [20...Qc7+- is a better defense. 21.Qd4 Nc5] 21.Nf3+- [D]

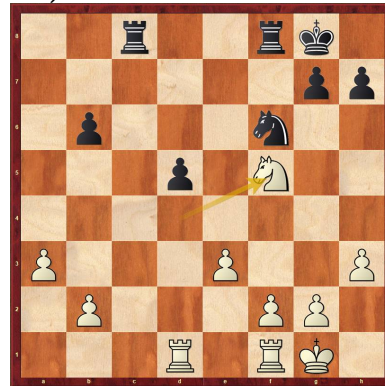


21...Qf6 22.Qd4 22...Qxd4? [22...Rc2= and Black is okay. 23.Bd3 Qxd4 24.Nxd4 Rxb2] 23.Nxd4 f5 [Better is 23...g6 24.Ba6 Ra8] 24.Bf3 Nf6? [D] (Next col.) [24...g5 is tougher. 25.Rfe1 Kg7 26.Bxe4 fxe4] 25.Bxd5 [White is clearly winning.] 25...exd5 26.Nxf5 [D] (Next col.) [Rc1 is the strong threat.] 26...Rc2 27.Ne7+ [D] (Next col.) (Text cont. next col.)

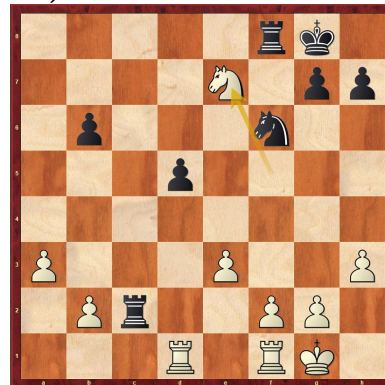
Position after 24...Nf6? (From prev. col.)



Position after 26.Nxf5 (From prev. col.)



Position after 27.Ne7+ (From prev. col.)



(Cont. from prev. col.)

[Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.58] 1-0

Copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://share.chess-base.com/SharedGames/game/?p=ypROTN tkM1YqJivILsjy9f1T+Yhg92yy1JbbG9ID9uPx POh3BzpNWdP7uYBywStd>

This concludes this issue. More games in next issue