

Lincoln's team in Division 2 North were in action again in their title defense when they were the visitors to St. James School in Bargate, Grimsby when Grimsby 1875 were the hosts. Having won both of their opening matches Lincoln were in confident mood although last season Grimsby 1875 came runners up to Lincoln on points difference so a tight encounter was envisaged.

On board 1 James Irwin was paired as black for Lincoln against Behzad Parnian and we pick up the game after white has just played 12. f4 (see diagram). James saw an opportunity - can you see it?

James played 12. ...Ng4 looking at e3 13. Rf3 d4 14. e4 dxe3 (en passant) 15. Ne4 Rad8 16. h3 Bxe4 17. hxg4 (not 17. dxe4 Rxd1) Bxf3 18. Bxf3 and James has finished up the exchange and a pawn to the good 18. ...Qd7 19. Be2 Bf6 20. Bxf6 gxf6 21. Kg2 e5 22. f5 e4 23. dxe4 Qxd1 24. Bxd1 Rd2+ 25. Kf3 Rfd8 26. Be2 Rb2 27. Kxe3 Rdd2 28. Bf3 Rxa2 29. Rxa2 Rxa2 30. Bd1.

James now brought his king into play 30. ...Kf8 31. g5 Ke7 32. gxf6 Kxf6 33. Kf4 Rf2+ 34. Kg4 Ke5 35. Bf3 and James now played 35. ...h5+ and white loses the bishop with 36. Kxh5 Rxf3 and white resigned as couple of moves later.

Unfortunately, James' win was all that Lincoln could muster as Grimsby 1875 ran out 3-1 winner with a couple of their up and coming young players 16 year old Andy Pollock and 11 year old Arya Parnian (son of Behzad) stealing the show.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. [www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk)

