

Lincoln's team in Division 2 North continued their campaign when Scunthorpe A were the visitors to South Park. Lying joint leaders in the division on 6 points this may well prove to be a key point in this season's campaign. Having won their opening 3 matches Lincoln had a slight advantage as Scunthorpe A with 2 wins and 2 draws had played 1 match more.

On board 3 Lincoln's Dave Bull was paired as white against Scunthorpe's Bill Egan and we pick up the game after the sequence 24. Qg3 g5 (trapping Dave's bishop) 25. f4 Nh5 (see diagram). Dave responded with 26. Qg4 Nxf4 27. Bxg5. Had black's response been 27. ...hxc5 28. Qxc5 then a draw may well have resulted but instead black played 27. ...Nxc3+ 28. Qxc3 hxc5 which gave him a pawn advantage but Dave found a continuation turn the tables - can you see it?

Dave played 29. Rxe6 Rxe6 30. Qxe6+ restoring parity 30. ...Qf7 31. Qe5 Nc4 32. Qxc5+ winning the pawn 32. ...Kf8 33. Bxc4 dxc4 34. Qc5+ Kg8 35. Qxa7 Qf4 and Dave won a second pawn but black is looking to gain a draw by perpetual check 36. Qa8+ Kg7 37. Qxb7+ winning a third pawn 37. ...Kg8 38. Qd5+ Kg7 39. Qd4+ and black resigned.

A win also for Charles Moss and a draw for Geoff Collyer allowed Lincoln to scrape home by 2½ to 1½.

Meanwhile the Lincolnshire County Championships are to take place at the Lindum Group HQ in North Hykeham on July 20 & 21. Entry forms are available from me on peter.sherlock4@ntlworld.com

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk

