

This week's game comes from the 2019 Eksraliga (literally Extra League) being the top or Premier league in Poland between Czech Grandmaster David Navara and Polish International Master Igor Janik played in the Polish city of Katowice.

Play began, with David as white, following the sharp Petrov's Defense developed by the Russian Master Alexander Petrov in the mid-19th century 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nxe5 d6 where black allows white to take the pawn on e5 4. Nf3 Nxe4 and returns the favour opening the e-file for both players 5. d4 d5 6. Bd3 Nc6 7. Nc3 Nxc3 8. bxc3 doubling up David's c-pawns but opening the b-file 9. ...Bg4 10. Rb1 Rb8 11. h3 Bh5 12. Bb5 Bd6 13. Qe2+ Kf8 and David forces black to move his king thus preventing him from castling 14. 0-0 Ne7.

Play continued 15. Bd3 f6 16. c4 dxc4 17. Bxc4 Qd7 18. Re1 Nc6 19. Be6 Qe8 and David forces black's queen to retreat and gains full control of the e-file 20. Bb2 Nd8 21. d5 Nxe6 (see diagram).

David replied with 22. dxe6 giving him a dangerous passed pawn but black has some counterplay with 22. ...Qa4 23. Qe3 Bxf3 but this comes to nought as David strengthened his grip on the e-file as he continued with 24. e7+ Ke8 25. Qxf3 h5 26. Bxf6 gxf6 27. Qxf6 and David sacrifices his bishop to allow his queen into the heart of black's defense 27. ...Rg8 28. Qe6 Rg7 29. Rxb7 Ra8 (not 29. ...Rxb7 30. Qc8+) 30. Re1 and black resigned as 31. Rb8+ follows.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Although we are yet to meet due to the lockdown www.lincolnchessclub.co.uk

