

6. Eighteen-year-old Sheila Jackson is one of England's best prospects for the future. Already she has won the British Ladies' Championships in which she finished second equal this year behind Jana Hartston. She is also second board for the English women's team.

Jackson would like to see more all women internationals organised in England. At the moment she

plays in tournaments like the Guernsey Open where over 95 per cent of the participants were male.

Guernsey 1976.

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE

Miss Jackson P. Sobanski
(England) (Wales)

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| 1. e4 | e5 |
| 2. Nf3 | d6 |
| 3. d4 | e×d4 |
| 4. N×d4 | Bd7?! |

More usual is 4 . . . g6,
4 . . . Nf6 or 4 . . . d5.

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| 5. Bc4 | Nc6 |
| 6. O-O | N×d4? |

This gives White a clear advantage in space.

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| 7. Q×d4 | Qf6 |
| 8. Qd3 | O-O-O |

Perhaps Black had thought castling long would solve his problems. But Jackson uses her advantage to mount a direct assault on the black monarch, who is in for a rough time.

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| 9. Be3! | Kb8 |
| 10. Nc3 | Ne7 |
| 11. f4 | Be6 |
| 12. Bd4 | B×c4 |
| 13. Q×c4 | Qe6 |
| 14. B×a7 ch! | |

Planned several moves back, this is crushing. If the Welshman takes the bishop, Jackson planned to smoke the king out with a nice double piece sacrifice after 14 . . . K×a7 with 15. Nb5 ch! Kb6 (Or 15 . . . Ka8. 16. N×c7 ch wins the queen, and if 15 . . . Kb8 then 16. Q×c7 ch wins in all lines.) 16. Q×c7 ch! K×b5. 17. Q×b7 ch and 18. Rf3 must mate.

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| 14. . . . | Kc8 |
| 15. Nd5 | N×d5 |
| 16. e×d5 | Qf5 |
| 17. Rf3 | |

Closing in for the kill.

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| 17. . . . | g6 |
| 18. Bb6 | Rd7 |
| 19. Ra3 | Kd8 |

Nor was refuge to be sought on b8, as White can sacrifice a rook for tempo with 20. Ra8 ch K×a8. 21. Qa4 ch Kb8 (Back again; a rook up but tempo down!) 22. Qa7 ch Kc8. 23. Qa8 checkmate.

20. Ra8 ch Resigns.

After 20 . . . Ke7. 21. Re1 ch Kf6 a queen or bishop check on d4 wins at least a queen. All of White's pieces are involved as the undeveloped black kingside watches helplessly. A tidy miniature which helped give Jackson top women's prize in Guernsey.

Bobby Fischer once said he would give any woman in the world knight odds. When shown a game played by the women's world champion he speedily changed his mind!

MURRAY CHANDLER

Chess

Women to watch

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CHESS has always been a predominantly male sport, and even these days the number of women in British tournaments is rarely above three or four.

Several women players have given me a variety of reasons why women are not generally attracted to the

game: not enough time; the game is too aggressive; too few women play; waste of time(!).

Whatever the answer, the fact remains that very few women can compete at the top level with the men. (But amongst ordinary players there is no doubt that male pride takes a hammering!)

Perhaps the only woman to compete on equal terms with men in Grandmaster tourneys is world champion Nona Gaprindashvili of the USSR. But women's chess is on the upsurge, particularly in Eastern Europe. New Zealand has one all female club, based in the Auckland Chess Centre.