

# Moves for women

WITH THE gradual increase in popularity of women's chess, the question arises, "Why should we have separate men's and women's events at all?"

Ideally, as chess is a game of mind, there should be no distinction at all, with both sexes competing equally on all levels.

But unfortunately, and on a practical level — taking into account the low percentage of women players in competitive chess — it is apparent

that women's chess has been traditionally unsupported and needs all the encouragement it can get. And one way of creating general interest is through women's olympiads, tournaments and championships, which are in fact catching on worldwide.

New Zealand set an encouraging example at the national congress at Wellington 1977/78: the first-ever New Zealand Ladies' Championships attracted a record number of entrants. The

snowball at last began to roll, and not only did a four-woman team fly off to Argentina for the Olympiad but we had a zonal representative in Singapore too.

Of course on a local level I agree that women should compete with men — or vice versa — and the quickest way to improve is to play in the strongest tourneys around. One woman who doesn't need any encouragement, though, is former world ladies' champion Nona Gaprindishvili, who regularly bashes men in international events. She has reached men's Grandmaster status, and although her most recent result was a last place in the 41st

annual Hoogoven's tourney in Holland, it was behind a powerful all-male line-up of Soviet and Western GMs.

As a consolation she produced a tremendous piece of tactical attacking chess which so impressed Leonard Barden that in the *Guardian* he called it "the finest game ever played by a woman".

### CARO KANN DEFENCE

<b>N. Gaprindishvili</b> (USSR)	<b>S. Nikolac</b> (Yugoslavia)
1. e4	c6
2. d4	d5
3. Nd2	dxe4
4. Nxe4	Bf5
5. Ng3	Bg6
6. h4	h6
7. h5	Bh7
8. Nf3	Nd7
9. Bd3	Bxd3
10. Qxd3	e6!?

Normal is 10...Qc7 to prevent White's following bishop move, although the text has been seen on occasion.

11. Bf4 Qa5 ch

Now almost exclusively White has transposed back into the main theoretical variation with 12.Bd2 Qc7 13.0-0-0, which gives a slight edge. Gaprindishvili's move looks quite simple, but, in one of those little puzzles of chess theory and practice, I cannot recall any previous example.

12. c3!?

A possible disadvantage of the move is that at a later stage White's advanced h-pawn could be vulnerable; the advantage is that it leaves White's bishop aggressively posted on f4.

12. ...	Ngf6
13. e4	c5
14. 0-0	Rc8!?

If 14...cxd4, 15.b4! is very strong.

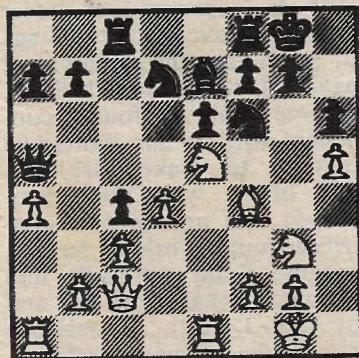
15. Rfe1	c4
16. Qc2	Be7?!

Better is 16...Nd5 first.

Black's plan is to pressure the advanced h-pawn, but she cannot take it immediately with 16...Nxh5?! because of 17.Nxh5 (the exchange 17.Rxe6!? fxe6 18.Qg6 ch Kd8 19.Nxh5 Qf5 20.Nh4 is not so clear) Qxh5 18.Qe4! with serious threats.

17. Ne5 0-0

Now Gaprindishvili begins an instructive exploitation of her space advantage — involving that very same "vulnerable" h-pawn!



18. Nf5!

The first of a series of devastating moves in an all-out assault on Black's king. If 18...exf5, then 19.Nxd7 Nxh7 20.Rxe7.

18. ...	Rfe8
19. Nxg7!!	Kxg7

20. Bxh6 chl Kxh6

The Black king is unwillingly drawn out; if 20...Kg8, 21.Re3 is murderous.

21. Nx17 ch Kxh5

Objectively the best chance was 21...Kg7 22.Qg6 ch Kf8 23.Ng5! Qxg5 with three minor pieces for the Queen, but Black's ruined kingside combined with White's advanced h-pawn would ultimately seal his fate.

22. g4 chl Kh4

Or (a) 22...Nxg4 23.Qh7 ch, or (b) 22...Kxg4 23.Qg6

ch Kh4 24.Kg2! Qd5 ch 25.f3 with 26.Rh1 mate to follow.

23. f3 Nxg4  
24. Re4 Resigns

Mate with 25.Qh2 or 25.Rxg4 ch is inevitable.

Conclusion: Black's idea of 14...Rc8 and 15...c4 closing the centre is interesting but costs time. Therefore it is imperative to defend with 16...Nd5 17.Bd2 Be7 when White no longer has Nf5 after Black castles.

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