

# Minority league

AS IN the men's event, the Women's Olympiad in Lucerne was dominated by the team from the Soviet Union. Their all-Georgian squad of Chiburdanidze, Alexandria, Gaprindashvili and Ioseliani took the three-board, 14-round competition by a comfortable margin. Final leading scores were: 1, USSR 33 points; 2, Rumania 30; 3, Hungary 26; 4, Poland 25½; 5-6, West Germany and China 24½; 7, Sweden 24; 8-9, Holland and India 23½; 10-12, Spain, England and France 23...26, New Zealand 21 points...45 countries competed.

New Zealand's team of Winsome Stretch, Vivian Burndred, Lynn Martin and Jackie Sievey scored a respectable 50 per cent, boosted by a last-round clean sweep over Trinidad and Tobago. We were missing young Fenella Foster, who chose not to break her university studies, but this was partly compensated for by the promising performance of Olympiad newcomer Sievey. Winsome Stretch also performed reasonably, especially in view of her added duties as team captain.

Perhaps the most sensational occurrence of the Women's Olympiad was the defection of top Bulgarian Tatiana Lematchko shortly before the end. But if Lematchko is considering trying to make it as a professional player in the West, she may as well forget it. Women's chess still lags seriously behind men's; there are too few players, meagre sponsorship and only a handful of separate women's international tournaments.

New Zealand, with only about 20 active women tournament players, is no exception in this regard. Winsome Stretch, in an article written for the Olympiad bulletin, put forward her view that "...women will not have the incentive, resources or encouragement to participate in chess as actively as men until the status of women in society as a whole has been improved". Fortunately she also realises the value of separate women's tournaments at this stage of development. All tournaments (including the "men's" Olympiad and world championship) are already open to any women strong enough to qualify. This game gives the lie to claims that women lack aggression:

## SICILIAN DEFENCE

V. BURNDRED (New Zealand) S. LANDRY (Finland)

- 1. e4 c5
- 2. f4

An off-beat alternative to the main lines of the Sicilian beginning with 2.Nf3.

- 2. ... e6
- 3. Nf3 d5
- 4. e5 Qb6
- 5. d4 Nc6
- 6. a3?!

White chooses to sacrifice a pawn, but 6.c3 was objectively better, transposing to a French defence.

- 6. ... cxd4
- 7. Bd3 Bd7
- 8. 0-0 g6?

A gratuitous weakening of the king-side which Black later pays for. Instead 8...Nh6 was simple and strong.

- 9. Nbd2 a5
- 10. b3 Nh6
- 11. Re1 Be7?

And here 11...Bg7 was correct.

- 12. Nf1 0-0
- 13. h3 Bc5
- 14. g4!

From this point on Burndred conducts the assault with praiseworthy vigour. The immediate threat is 15.f5 with a discovered attack on Black's knight on h6.

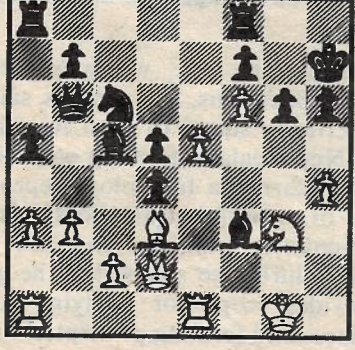
- 14. ... Kg7
- 15. f5 exf5
- 16. Bxh6 ch Kxh6
- 17. Qd2 ch Kg7
- 18. gxh6 h6

The threat was 19.f6 ch followed by Qh6.

- 19. f6 ch Kh7
- 20. h4 Bg4
- 21. Ng3!

Renewing the threat of h5. Black decides to accept the proffered piece.

- 21. ... Bxf3



- 22. Nf5! g5

If 22...gxh6 white mates with 23.Bxf5 ch Kg8 24.Qxh6.

- 23. Nxf6 dis ch Be4

Or 23...Kh8 (23...Kxh6 24.Qxg5 mate) 24.Qxg5 Rg8 25. Nxf7 mate!

- 24. Rxe4! Qc7
- 25. Rg4 dis ch Kh8
- 26. Qxg5 Resigns

MURRAY CHANDLER

New Zealand Women's team performance, Lucerne Olympiad, 1982

	Canada	Switzerland B	Egypt	Belgium	Mongolia	Norway	Finland	Bye	US Virgin Is	Japan	Wales	Zambia	Argentina	Trinidad	Played	Points	Percentage
W. STRETCH	0	½	1	-	½	½	-	-	1	0	½	1	0	1	11	6	55
V. BURNDRED	0	0	-	1	1	½	1	-	-	½	0	-	0	1	10	5	50
L. MARTIN	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	-	1	½	-	1	-	-	8	2½	31
J. SIEVEY	-	0	1	1	-	0	0	-	1	-	1	1	0	1	10	6	60
Team Total	0	½	2	2	1½	1	1	1½	3	1	1½	3	0	3	39	21	50