

# 600 Pupils Vie in Valley Chess Meet

VAN NUYS—Conn Arriola, administrative assistant to Mayor Yorty, conducted the opening ceremonies at the mammoth Christmas chess tournament, in which students from all over Los Angeles County participated.

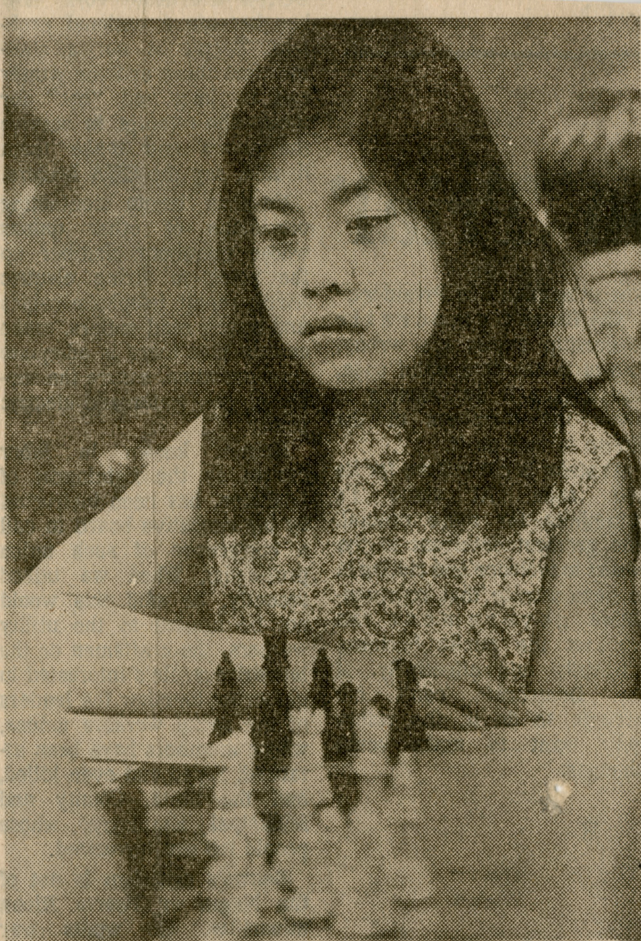
The event, sponsored by the Piatigorsky Foundation in association with Los Angeles City Schools, started Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. for the elementary school children division.

The junior and high school students' division opening, at which Arriola officiated, started today.

Designed to promote chess awareness among youth, the tournament is part of a creative and comprehensive chess program now being planned at the foundation headquarters, according to its president, Mrs. Gregor Piatigorsky, wife of the world-renowned cellist.

"Mass activity for children, in any sport or art-form, especially in these times, provides them with interests that will help them to channel their thoughts and actions creatively and constructively," said Mrs. Piatigorsky.

The mass chess tournament, with as many as 600 children participating, was held at Birmingham High School, at Victory and Balboa, in Van Nuys, and was directed by International Grandmaster Issac Kashdan.



**FIGHT IS ON**—Donna Kiriya, 11, Pasadena, advises her opponent that the next move is up to her in city schools chess tournament under sponsorship of Piatigorsky Foundation. Isaac Kashdan is directing play of the 600-odd participants in chess play.



**BOY MEETS GIRL**—Lisa Korst, 10, of Canoga Park is bearing down with concentration in an effort to defeat her opponent in the Los Angeles City Schools chess competition sponsored by the Piatigorsky Foundation, named for world-famed cellist. Tournament is being staged at Birmingham High School.