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SONJA GRAF, GISELA GRESSER CO-CHAMPIONS

Sonja Graf Stevenson of Palm Springs and Gisela Gresser of New York tied for the U.S. Women's Championship with $9\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ scores at the tournament held in Hollywood, November 3-16. Graf won nine games, lost to Mona May Karff, and drew with Gresser. Gresser was the only undefeated player in the tournament, giving up draws to Graf, Eva Aronson, and Kathryn Slater, and winning the rest.

Since the tournament was also the FIDE Women's Zonal, the co-champions are eligible to take part in the candidates' tournament for the World's Championship, to be played in 1958.

There were twelve contestants from such varied points as New York, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The tournament was directed by grandmaster Isaac Kashdan and was staged at the Herman Steiner Chess Club.

U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP, Hollywood, November 3-16, 1957

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Score
1) Gisela Gresser	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$9\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
2) S. Stevenson	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$9\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
3. Mona M. Karff	0	1	X	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	7-4
4) Eva Aronson	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	0	0	1	1	$6\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}$
5) Kathryn Slater	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	$6\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}$
6) Lena Grumette	0	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	6-5
7) Nancy McLeod	0	0	0	0	1	1	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	6-5
8) Lucille Kellner	0	0	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	1	1	1	5-6
9) Mary Selensky	0	0	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	X	1	1	1	5-6
10. Olga Higgins	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	1	$2\frac{1}{2}-8\frac{1}{2}$
11. M. Morrel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	X	1	2-9
12. Lenore Simon	0	0	0	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}-10\frac{1}{2}$

For Gisela Gresser, this was her second tie for the national championship - her last being in New York, 1955, when she and the late Nancy Roos of Los Angeles became co-champions.

Sonja Graf made a strong bid for the title. She led the field by a full point after nine rounds, but lost in the tenth round to former champion Karff. Sonja is the current U.S. Open Champion, having had the best score among the women players at Cleveland in August, and the reigning California Champion.

Mona May Karff of New York was a close third over Eva Aronson of Chicago and Kathryn Slater of New York, who were tied for fourth and fifth. Lena Grumette of Los Angeles and Nancy McLeod of San Bruno tied for sixth and seventh. Lena defeated Mona Karff brilliantly in the last round, and Nancy made a fine showing in her first competition.

There followed: Lucille Kellner, Detroit, and Mary Selensky, Philadelphia, both 5-6; Olga Higgins, Santa Barbara, $2\frac{1}{2}-8\frac{1}{2}$; Mildred Morrel, Haddonfield, N.J., 2-9; Lenore Simon, Los Angeles, $\frac{1}{2}-10\frac{1}{2}$.

Director Kashdan was assisted by Harry Borochoy, Larry Evans, Jack Moscowitz and Paul Wrangell, referees, and a committee with Jacqueline Piatigorsky, chairman, George Goehler, Lena Grumette, Irving Rivise and Edythe Langden.



President Jerry Spann of the U.S. Chess Federation
makes the first move for Sonja Graf.



Co-Champion Gisela Gresser.

CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP, Hollywood, 1957

James B. Cross of Los Angeles won the State Championship in an abbreviated tournament held in Hollywood in November. Four players from Los Angeles played off before the San Franciscans came south the day before Thanksgiving, and Jim scored 3-0. His lead stood up during the Thanksgiving week end, although he lost to last year's champion, Gil Ramirez.

Only two northerners showed up - Gil Ramirez and Henry Gross - although six had qualified; but they took second and third prizes. Only Gene Rubin stood between the San Franciscans and victory; Rubin beat Gross and drew with Ramirez, while Gross had already beaten Ramirez.

In spite of Rubin's fine showing against the northerners, Bobby Cross finished fourth with a 2-3 score. Rubin was fifth, $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$, and Saul Yarmak was sixth, 1-4.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
1. Jim Cross, L.A.	X	0	1	1	1	1	4-1
2. Gil Ramirez, S.F.	1	X	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
3. Henry Gross, S.F.	0	1	X	1	0	1	3-2
4. Bobby Cross, L.A.	0	0	0	X	1	1	2-3
5. Gene Rubin, L.A.	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	X	0	$1\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$
6. Saul Yarmak, L.A.	0	0	0	0	1	X	1-4

It was a disappointment that the following were unable to play: Jim Schmitt, 1957 Open Champion, Bill Addison, Northern California Champion, Earl Pruner and Charles Bagby, second and third in Northern California, and Don Foley of San Jose, qualifier from Central California. It has already been suggested that the conditions are at fault and the failure of the North to travel south with its best players six years ago has been cited. But the counter-suggestion is obvious: Maybe only a few northern players are at fault, instead of the system. After all, the southern players have always come to San Francisco 100%!

SAN FRANCISCO CITY-NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP, 1957

William G. Addison is again champion of these two important northern California events, winning the two simultaneously instead of in two separate tournaments as in 1956. The City Championship, held during the summer in 1955 and 1956, was consolidated with the "Northern" because of other summer events conflicting in dates. The tournament was run in sections, and two entry fees were available: \$5 for State Championship qualifying and \$3 for City Championship titles (the first including the second).

The finalists were selected from the following seeded sections:

SECTION 1

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. Sief Poulsen, Berkeley	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Charles Sedlack, Oakland	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	3-1
3. Frank Olvera, Pittsburg	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	2-2
4. LeRoy W. Turner, Concord	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$
5. Gabriel Garcia, Pittsburg	0	0	0	0	X	0-4

(Distribution to finals: Poulsen, Masters; Sedlack, Experts; Olvera, Class A; Turner, Class B; Garcia, withdrew.)

SECTION 2

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. W.G. Addison, S.F.	X	1	1	1	1	4-0
2. Dave Nieder, S.F.	0	X	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. Herbert Rosenbaum, S.F.	0	0	X	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$
4) Richard Plock, Livermore	0	0	0	X	1	1-3
5) Robert Barringer, S.F.	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	X	1-3

(Finals: Addison, M; Nieder, E; Rosenbaum, A; Plock, B; Barringer, C.)

SECTION 3

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. Charles Bagby, S.F.	X	1	1	1		3-0
2) S.H. Van Gelder, S.F.	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
3) Jules Kalisch, S.F.	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1f		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
4. Russell Freeman, Oakland	0	0	0	f	X	0-3
5. Mervin D. Field, Tiburon	withdrew				X	

(Finals: Bagby, M; VanGelder, E; Kalisch, A; Freeman, withdrew.)

SECTION 4

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
1) Henry Gross, S.F.	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1f	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
2) Eugene Krestini, S.F.	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	1	1	1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
3) Dr. Ben Gross, S.F.	0	0	X	1	0	1	2-3
4) Godfrey Lutz, S.F.	0	0	0	X	1	1	2-3
5) Carl Huneke, S.F.	0	0	1	0	X	1	2-3
6. Ben Wong, S.F.	0f	0	0	0	0	X	0-5

(Finals: H. Gross, Krestini, M; B. Gross, E; Lutz, A; Huneke, B; Wong, C.)

SECTION 5

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. Jack Hursch, Berkeley	X	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Ray Cuneo, Oakland	0	X	1	1	1	3-1
3. Edwin Simanis, Oakland	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	X	1	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
4. William Rebold, Berkeley	0	0	0	X	1	1-3
5. B. Thurston, Oakland	0	0	0	0	X	0-4

(Finals: Hursch, M; Cuneo, E; Simanis, A; Rebold, B; Thurston, C.)

SECTION 6

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. Wade A. Hendricks, So. S.F.	X	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Daniel M. Belmont, S.F.	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. Dan McLeod, San Bruno	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	0	1	2-2
4) Nancy McLeod, San Bruno	0	0	1	X	0	1-3
5) James B. Reynolds, S.F.	0	0	0	1	X	1-3

(Finals: Hendricks, M; Belmont, E; D. McLeod, A; Nancy McLeod, B; Reynolds, C.)

SECTION 7

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. Earl Pruner, S.F.	X	1	1	1	1	4-0
2. Ernst Wrany, S.F.	0	X	1	1	1	3-1
3. Curtis R. Wilson, Berkeley	0	0	X	1	1	2-2
4. Norman L. Nielsen, S.F.	0	0	0	X	1	1-3
5. Fred T. Dong, S.F.	0	0	0	0	X	0-4

(Finals: Pruner, M; Wrany, E; Wilson, A; Nielsen, B; Dong, C.)

In the finals, Section 2 covered itself with glory. The first four won trophies, and the fifth was second in his class!

The Master group title and the Peter V. Prokoodin memorial trophy was won by Bill Addison by a half point over Earl Pruner. However, Addison had the title clinched before the last round, in

Richard Plock rang up a perfect 5-0 score to take the Class B trophy, two points ahead of the next player. Bill Rebold and LeRoy Turner tied for second, 3-2.

CLASS B

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
1. Richard Plock	X	1	1	1	1	1	5-0
2) William Rebold	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	3-2
3) LeRoy Turner	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	3-2
4. Nancy McLeod	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	2-3
5. Norman Nielsen	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$
6. Carl Huneke	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$ -4 $\frac{1}{2}$

James B. Reynolds also won his first trophy when he scored a perfect 4-0 to take Class C honors. Robert Barringer was second, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$, and B. Thurston third, 2-2.

CLASS C

	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1. Jim Reynolds	X	1	1	1	1	4-0
2. Robert Barringer	0	X	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. B. Thurston	0	0	X	1	1	2-2
4. Fred Dong	0	0	0	X	1	1-3
5. Ben Wong	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA QUALIFYING, Oakdale, Oct. 26, 1957

Don Foley of San Jose won the tournament to qualify for the State Championship for the second straight time, in a small tournament held at centrally-located Oakdale. The other three contenders, Ostap Bender, Capt. E. B. Edmondson and M. K. Saca, were all from Sacramento.

Unfortunately, Foley was subsequently unable to go to Los Angeles because of the illness of his wife.

	1	2	3	Score
1. D. J. Foley	W4	W2	W3	3-0
2. O. Bender	W3	L1	W4	2-1
3) E. B. Edmondson	L2	D4	L1	$\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$
4) M. K. Saca	L1	D3	L2	$\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP, 1957 - by Ralph K. Hagedorn

The tournament was played from August 25 to November 3. The four top players qualify for the State Championship Tournament. Of 44 entrants, only four dropped out.

Some familiar names were not on this year's roster: Larry Remlinger, Ralph Syvertson, Mrs. Piatigorsky. Robert Lorber entered, but was unable to complete the schedule.

New strong contenders made their appearance: Louis Rojas, former Puerto Rico champion; Leslie Simon, who did well in the California Open; Peter Kelemen, a young player from Hungary; and L. N. Enequist, an enterprising player new to this area, who was plagued by bad luck and misunderstandings.

The flu in its various forms caused some unfortunate forfeits, notably Bob Cross to Jim Cross. On the whole, though, the tight schedule of the tournament was satisfactorily kept.

Jim Cross, the winner, maintained his lead from the outset. His draw against Bob Hammon in the sixth round reduced his lead to a half point. Bob Cross and Irving Rivise, his nearest opponents, failed to close the gap in the ensuing rounds. Jim won with the fine score of $9\frac{1}{2}$. The only top player he did not meet was Louis Rojas.

Bob Cross was held to a draw by Hammon and Rojas, and lost one game to the flu. Gene Rubin lost to Rivise and drew with Hammon and Soules.

Saul Yarmak's enterprising style of play allowed no draws, but netted him three losses: Tom Fries and the Crosses.

Louis Rojas, a newcomer to this area, had the misfortune to win one game on a forfeit, which reduced his score in the tie-breaking system. He drew with Bob Cross, lost to Hammon and Szafir.

Bob Hammon, with five draws, was a tempering influence. By holding each of the top players to a draw, he kept the outcome uncertain until the second last round. He lost only to Yarmak.

Irving Rivise was a strong contender, but lost to both Crosses and Rojas, and drew against Hammon.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP - 1957

	Game																Score	Median
	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	Rd7	Rd8	Rd9	Rd10	Rd11	Rd12	Rd13	Rd14	Rd15	Rd16		
1. James Cross	W39	W8	W19	W2f	W7	D6	W10	W4	W3	W13	9½	38½						
2. Robert Cross	W36	W14	W21	L1f	W8	W4	D6	W7	D5	W12	8	38						
3) Gene Rubin	W40	D20	W34	W15	D6	L7	W16	W19	L1	W17	7	33						
4) Saul Yarmak	W38	L23	W26	W21	W14	L2	W22	L1	W11	W6	7	32(57)						
5) Louis Rojas	D28	W41f	L6	L10	W33	W34	W17	W15	D2	W7	7	32(50½)						
6) Robert Hamman	D32	W17	W5	W23	D3	D1	D2	W14	D7	L4	6½	36½						
7) Irving Rivise	W44	W24	W23	W20	L1	W3	W19	L2	D6	L5	6½	35½						
8) S Sholomson	W12	L1	W37	W24	L2	L14	W26	D20	W27	W15	6½	31½						
9) Sam Celler	L20	W43f	L16	L37	W38	W30	W36	D11	W26	W29	6½	24½						
10) I Szafir	D16	W32	L20	W5	W28	W15	L1	L22	D11	W19	6	32						
11) Jerry Wiener	W31	L21	W36	W13	W20	L19	L14	D9	D10	W22	6	31½						
12) N Robinson	L8	D33	W29	W31	L15	W23	D21	W16	W14	L2	6	31						
13) Daniel Alneus	L14	W42f	W27	L11	W24	L17	W37	W21	W22	L1	6	30½						
14) Leslie Simon	W13	L2	W35	W34	L4	W8	W11	L6	L12	D16	5½	36½						
15) S Weinbaum	W35	D34	W28	L3	W12	L10	W18	L5	W20	L8	5½	33½						
16) Hyman Gordon	D10	D22	W9	L19	W35	W36	L3	L12	W24	D14	5½	32½(52½)						
17) Sven Almgren	W27	L6	W41f	L22	D18	W13	L5	W29	W23	L3	5½	32½(51½)						
18) Morris Gordon	L34	L26	W42f	W30	D17	L20	L15	W31	W28	W27	5½	26½						
19) Raymond Martin	W26	W37	L1	W16	W22	W11	L7	L3	L4	L10	5	36(60)						
20) George Soules	W9	D3	W10	L7	L11	W18	D27	D8	L15	D23	5	38(39)						
21) C J Gibbs	W43	W11	L2	L4	D23	W28	D12	L13	D25	D26	5	32½(52)						
22) Cordon Barrett	D41	D16	W30	W17	L19	W27	L4	W10	L13	L11	5	32½(50)						
23) Tom Fries	W30	W4	L7	L6	D21	L12	W34	W37	L17	D20	5	32						
24) F Hufnagel	W25	L7	W40	L8	L13	L26	W35	W30	L16	W33	5	29						
25) M Kerllenevich	L24	L30	W43f	L27	D31	L29	W38	W32	D21	W35	5	24½						
26) Ralph Clark	L19	W18	L4	W29	L27	W24	L8	W36	L9	D21	4½	31½						
27) Joe Mego	L17	W44f	L13	W25	W26	L22	D20	W34	L8	L18	4½	30½						
28) Peter Kelemen	D5	W29	L15	W33	L10	L21	L30	W40	L18	W34f	4½	28½						
29) Tom Golden	D42	L28	L12	L26	W39	W25	W32	L17	W37	L9	4½	26½						
30) Richard Seltzer	L23	W25	L22	L18	W40	L9	W28	L24	D35	D31f	4	28½						
31) Mrs L Grumette	L11	L35	W44f	L12	D25	L32	W40	L18	W38	D30f	4	25						
32) G Castleberry	D6	L10	L33	W39	L34	W31	L29	L25	W40	D38f	4	24						
33) Donald Young	L37	D12	W32	L28	L5	L38f	W39	D38	W36	L24	4	23						

FRESNO CHESS CLUB

Emil H. Suhr was elected president of the Fresno club in the annual dinner meeting at Hart's Restaurant on December 16. Robert Baker, last year's president, was elected vice-president, tournament director, and team captain. Del Bevill was named secretary and Mark Phetteplace treasurer. Phil Smith gave a simultaneous exhibition, winning 13 and losing 2 - to Otto Maschke and Ernest Cook.

CASTLE CHESS CLUB

Dr. Ralph Hultgren was elected president at the annual meeting at Jack's Restaurant in San Francisco on November 22. Frank Adelman was elected secretary-treasurer and Guthrie McClain tournament director and team captain.

STOCKTON CHESS CLUB

At its annual December business meeting the Stockton Chess Club elected officers for 1958: Al Radinsky, president; L. Isaac, treasurer; M. Sanders, league representative; H. Keibler, recorder; R. Leigh, secretary; A. Lutz, team captain; A. C. Saxon, tournament director. The club will hold its annual tournament in January.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHESS LEAGUE

After two rounds, the champion San Jose club is in a three-way tie with Sacramento and Pittsburg. So far, it is anybody's race!

Round 2, Nov. 10, 1957

San Jose 8, Oakdale 2

1	E H Mueller	1	M Mattingly	0
2	D Foley	0	C J Smith	1
3	J Kalnins	1	W Smith	0
4	F Crofut	1	R Ewing	0
5	O'Shaughnessy	1	S Stlosed	0
6	R Fournier	0	F Kimball	1
7	J Blackstone	1	Sutherland	0
8	V Mitchell	1	V Smith	0
9	J Iwashita	1	H Mortensen	0
10	J Adams	1	C Christiansen	0

34)	L N Enequist	W18 D15 L3	L14 W32 L5	L23 L27 W39fL28f	3½	30½
35)	W Melworm	L15 W31 L14	W40 L16 L37	L24 W59 D50 L25	3½	26½
36)	K Forrest	L2 W39 L11	W38 W37 L16 L9	L26 L53 D40f	3½	26
37)	C Henderson	W33 L19 L8	W9 L36 W35 L13	L23 L29 L39f	3	28
38)	Mrs L Simon	L4 L40fW39	L36 L9 W33fL25	D33 L31 D36f	3	24
39.	N Vatsos	L1 L36 L38 L32	L29 W40 L33 L35	L34fW37f	2	21
40.	V G Proctor	L3 W38fL24	L35 L30 L39 L31	L28 L32 D36f	1½	23
41)	R Lorber	D22 L5f L17f			1	
42)	Sam Boris	D29 L13fL18f			1	
43)	Mrs L Henderson	L21 L9f L25f			0	
44)	Ben Shaeffer	L7 L27fL31f			0	

<u>Sacramento 5½, Stockton ½</u>			<u>Pittsburg 5½, Modesto ½</u>		
1 A Janushkowsky	1 R Leigh	0	1 L Talcott	1 E Jeffers	0
2 M K Saca	½ F Di Paula	½	2 S Poulsen	1 L Davis	0
3 O Bender	1 H Minchaca	0	3 R Guzman	1 A Vecherok	0
4 W Haines	1 A Lutz	0	4 C Garcia	½ L Krogness	½
5 J Cella	1 M Sanders	0	5 F Olvera	1 E J Jones	0
6 N Austin	1 Forfeit	0	6 L Turner	1 E M Hobbs	0

Round 3, Dec. 1, 1957

<u>San Jose 3½, Stockton 2½</u>			<u>Fresno 5, Modesto 1</u>		
1 W Adams	1 R Leigh	0	1 R Baker	0 L Davis	1
2 E H Mueller	0 H Minchaca	1	2 E Suhr	1 L Krogness	0
3 D Foley	0 A Lutz	1	3 D Bevill	1 E Hobbs	0
4 O'Shaughnessy	½ M Sanders	½	4 J O'Brien	1 B Nickerson	0
5 J Iwashita	1 A Radinsky	0	5 M Phetteplace	1 L Gregorich	0
6 V L Mitchell	1 Forfeit	0	6 O Maschke	1 S Hobbs	0
<u>Pittsburg 6, Oakdale 1</u>			4 R Turner	½ S Slosted	½
1 L Talcott	1 H Mortensen	0	5 F Olvera	1 R Ewing	0
2 R Guzman	1 C J Smith	0	6 G Garcia	1 W Smith	0
3 F Weinberg	1 C Christiansen	0	7 M Rivera	½ V Smith	½

GAME OF THE MONTH

The United States Women's Championship was held in California for the first time in 1957. Twelve of the best lady players in the nation competed, and when it was over two of them were graduated into the World Championship Candidates Tournament to be played somewhere in Europe next year.

The two winners, Sonja Graf of Palm Springs and Gisela Gresser of New York, took the honors, but the prizes for the best-played game and the most brilliant game were won by Mona May Karff of New York and Mary Selensky of Philadelphia. Miss Karff won the best-played-game prize of \$25, donated by Mrs. Max Pavey, by defeating Sonja Graf; and Mrs. Selensky won the brilliancy prize of \$25 donated by Harry Borochow in the following pretty win over Eva Aronson of Chicago.

U.S. WOMEN'S CHP., HOLLYWOOD, 1957Game No. 403 - Blumenfeld Counter

<u>Gambit</u>	
White	Black
Eva Aronson	Mary Selensky
1. P-Q4	Kt-KB3
2. P-QB4	P-K3
3. Kt-QB3	P-B4

The Blumenfeld is a two-sided defense; it concedes White the white

squares Q5 and K4, and sets up a backward Pawn on Black's Q3; but Black either splits up the center or gets a Q-side pull.

- | | |
|---------|--------|
| 4. P-Q5 | PxP |
| 5. PxP | P-Q3 |
| 6. P-K4 | P-KKt3 |

This is obviously the best way to develop the KB; and as the course of the game shows, White has to be very respectful of this B.

- | |
|-----------|
| 7. P-KKt3 |
|-----------|

Questionable strategy. With pawns on the central squares K4 and Q5, the development of this piece on the diagonal KR1-QR8 is apt to be passive.

- 7. ... B-Kt2
- 8. B-Kt2 O-O
- 9. Kkt-K2 Kt-R3

Aiming for QB2, so as to support the advance of the QKtP.

- 10. O-O R-K1
- 11. P-KR3

A routine move, to block Black's QB. But is it necessary to keep this B from playing to Kkt5? For example, ...B-Kt5; P-KR3 and now: Does the B exchange for the KtK2 or does it retreat?

- 11. ... Kt-B2
- 12. P-QR4 B-Q2
- 13. B-K3

At this stage in White's development, B-K3 is primarily a move in the opening, so as to develop the Rooks. It would take considerable foresight to anticipate the trouble the King-file might bring to White, but B-Kt5 seems better than the text.

- 13. ... R-Kt1
- 14. Q-Q2 P-QR3

This allows an isolation of the Q-side pawns. Time permitting, the correct order of moves is P-Kt3, P-R3, and then P-Kt4.

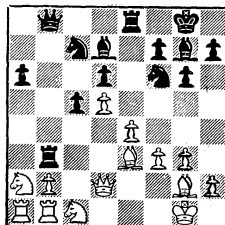
- 15. P-R5 P-QKt4
- 16. PxP e.p. RxKtP
- 17. KR-Ktl

The wrong rook! White tries to patrol the QR-file with the QR, but Black's QRP is no threat at the moment, and the diagonal QR1-KR8 is controlled by Black's fianchettoed KB.

- 17. ... Q-Kt1
- 18. P-B3?

White does not realize the significance of Q4 and Black's KB. The KtK2 should go to KB4.

- 18. ... R-Kt5
- 19. Kt-R2 R-Kt6
- 20. Kkt-B1



- 20. ... KtxKP!
- 21. PxKt RxB
- 22. QxR

22. K-R2 would afford more resistance. Black's last has been a bit of a shock, but W is only a pawn down, and 22. K-R2, B-Q5; 23. Kt-K2, Kt-Kt4; 24. QKt-B3.

- 22. ... B-Q5
- 23. QxB PxB
- 24. P-QKt4 B-Kt4
- 25. Kt-Kt3 Q-Kt3
- 26. K-R2 P-B4
- 27. PxB R-K7
- 28. PxB PxB
- 29. R-K1 P-Q6
- 30. Kt-B3 RxR
- 31. RxR B-B5
- 32. Kt-R5 QxP
- 33. R-K4 QxKt/B
- 34. KtxB P-Q7
- 35. KtxP/2 QxKt
- 36. R-K7 KtxP

Resigns.

DRAGON CHESS -- A Name and a Game - by George W. Flynn

At some time or other, every chess player improves the game. Falling prey to this amiable vice, I invented Dragon Chess. Briefly, I added two files to the board, making it ten squares wide. The eight ranks remained the same, totalling 80 squares.

I added two new pieces: the King's Dragon (a combination Bishop plus Knight) and a Queen's Dragon (a combination Rook plus Knight). The King's Dragon File is next to the King's Rook file; and the Queen's Dragon File is next to the Queen's Rook file. Each Dragon has its pawn in front of it. Therefore, we have 10 pieces plus 10 pawns on each side.

The rules were those of chess, except for castling. Somehow I found, in actual play, that it was too slow to castle King around Rook as in actual chess. Instead, in Dragon Chess, King can castle around any two unmoved pieces on the rear rank, either King's side, or Queen's side. This speeded up castling and seemed to be satisfactory.

To my pleasure, the game proved playable. The Dragon pieces added great strength and surprising combinations, particularly at the end of the game, although they were often traded off in the middle.

Generally speaking, however, chess players showed either indifference or hostility towards the game, which is surprising and perhaps worth thinking about. Frankly, I rather expected players to have fun with my new toy -- not to quarrel about it. But facts are facts, and even downright anger seems to rise up in the thoughts of a chessplayer who feels his game threatened.

An example of this anger I found in print. In Davidson's A Short History of Chess, I located a chapter entitled, "Counterfeits of Chess." The very work "counterfeit" gives away Davidson's attitude toward any so-called "tampering" with the Royal Game. A more prejudiced approach towards new ideas would be difficult to imagine. Davidson is about as flexible as a block of concrete, yet the chapter is an interesting one.

The 8x10 board (which I invented) had been invented, oh so many times before. The Queen's Dragon turned out to be the same combination of Rook and Knight which was most frequently advanced as a suggestion for a new piece. The King's Dragon was the same combination of Bishop and Knight, which stood second on the popularity list for new pieces.

Alas, "all my ideas were stolen by the ancients," and even my quotation is a piece of non-originality. But, still, what is wrong with inventing the electric light for the second time?

I found several of the other suggested new pieces of considerable merit, and only wish I had known their inventors. For instance, the Centurion, which moved like a Knight, but also one square in any direction. Consider the Arabic invention of a piece called the Camel, which moved two squares diagonally. I was particularly charmed by the Giraffe, which moved three squares straight (horizontal or vertical) and one oblique; somehow the move of this piece suggests just the long neck of the Giraffe, and I could see this piece as a pleasing variation of the original double pawn move (and capture on the oblique).

Among the list of pieces (which has a poetry of its own) we find suggested the Centurion, the Decurion, the Guard, the Equerry, the Champion, the Chancellor, the Griffon, the Unicorn, the Vizier, the Rhinoceros, the Gazelle, the Cannon, the Concubine, the Crowned Rook, the Jester, the Counsellor, the Courier, the Scout, the Adjutant, the Marshall, and even the General.

The General, by the way, is probably the most powerful creation, combining the powers of the Queen and the Knight.

What more can the human imagination do? And is this such a small thing to have done? To answer the second question first, I think not.

As to what more can be done, I think some of these pieces could be put to use. Large chess clubs might have an extraordinary table, with, say, a 20x20 board, and all of these pieces, appropriately labelled, and when two players of imagination got together, they could choose up even forces, set the board up pretty much as they pleased, and just play for the sheer animal pleasure of it. That, my friends, would be a game, a game of "Wild Man Chess," and I think the youngsters, especially, would love it.

As to the possibility of other pieces, let us set no limits to that. The castling move of the rook to the King, and the King around the rook, suggests the idea of specific pieces with specific powers in relation only to other pieces. In other words, a King's Guard might leap three squares toward his King, but only two squares under ordinary circumstances, when moving away from the King. Other special limiting (or freeing) restrictions might be placed on pieces. Also, of course, we have the possibility of fourth dimensional chess, and boards above boards in tiers, etc., etc.

And in those last, "etc., etc.," there lies a world of fun for some of us. For most, of course, chess remains as it is, and more than we can handle at that. But I would plead for tolerance for the inventors of chess. Really, they can't harm a thing.

Do these inventions do any good? Well, in my own case, I enjoyed developing the new board and the actual making of the new set.

by glueing together bishops and knights, etc. And I think I am a little wiser by the very frustration of trying to interest chess-players in changes which they do not wish to see made.

Also, I feel that in the field of problem chess there is a bad term used to describe new pieces, and novel boards, and all variations from the game - and that term is Fairy Chess. Now, if only I could change that poor title to Dragon Chess, wouldn't that be valuable?

Fairy Chess has a notable lack of virility as a name, especially in the United States, and surely will drive many players away from exploring this field as a legitimate area of chess. I suggest, strongly, if anyone is still listening, that Dragon Chess is a much better name.

In other words, with respect to Dragon Chess, if I can't have the game, I'll settle for the name.

(NOTE: As George Flynn states, his idea is not original. Capablanca once proposed enlarging the board (because the game was "too easy") and the late San Francisco lighthouse keeper Hugo Legler had a set of "Neo-Chess" men at the Mechanics' Institute for years. Legler sponsored a tournament in which we played (coming in second, behind Les Boyette of Minneapolis) and we remember that there were some devastating opening gambits, in which the two new pieces plus the Queen were terrifically strong. Neo-Chess was played on a standard board, replacing the King's Knight and King's Bishop. - Ed.)

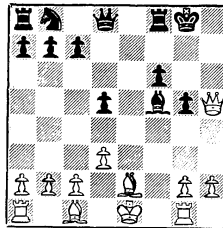
CALIFORNIA OPEN, MONTEREY, 1957

Game No. 404 - Vienna

White Black
S. Yarmak A.P. Coles III

(Notes by Neil E. Falconer)

- | | | |
|-----|--------|--------|
| 1. | P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 2. | Kt-QB3 | Kt-KB3 |
| 3. | B-B4 | B-B4 |
| 4. | P-B4 | BxKt |
| 5. | RxB | KtxP |
| 6. | Q-R5 | O-O |
| 7. | KtxKt | P-Q4 |
| 8. | Kt-Kt5 | P-KR3 |
| 9. | B-K2 | PxKt |
| 10. | PxKP | B-B4 |
| 11. | P-Q3 | P-KB3 |
| 12. | PxP | PxP |



- | | | |
|-----|-------|-------|
| 13. | P-KR4 | Kt-B3 |
|-----|-------|-------|

Black cannot save the P nor prevent his K-side being ripped up. He decides to play for development against White's K which is still in the center.

- | | | |
|-----|-----|------|
| 14. | PxP | Q-K1 |
|-----|-----|------|

15. PxP Kt-Q5
Neither side exchanges Qs - to do so would only develop the other side and time is critical.

16. Q-Kt5ch Q-Kt3

17. B-R5

Bold play. 17. QxQ, BxQ; 18. K-Q1, RxB will give White a P plus, but with Bs of opposite color (after ...KtXB) this may well only draw.

17. ... QxQ

18. BxQ KtxPch

19. K-Q2 KtxR

20. RxKt B-K3

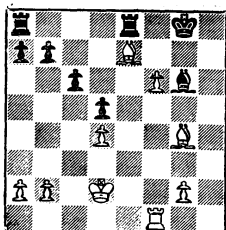
21. R-KB1 B-B2

22. B-Kt4 KR-K1

23. B-B4 P-B3

24. B-Q6 B-Kt3

25. B-K7



25. ... K-B2?

Black cannot afford 26. B-Q7, either regaining the exchange with two passed Ps on the K-side or forcing KR-QKt1 (as in the game) after which Black in effect plays two Rs down. Black therefore (presumably) prepares to give up the KR for B and P. The move made, however, is a fatal error of timing. The time was already now or never to play 25...RxB; 26. PxR, R-K1; 27. R-K1, K-B2; 28. B-K6ch, K-B3 and Black wins the KP. White's passed KtP,

however, should win for him (after the exchange of rooks) if he can exchange the Bs and possibly even without such exchange.

26. R-K1

Threatening B-K6 mate! If now 26...RxB; 27. RxBch and 28. RxKtP offers a new way to win, or either the QBP or QRP should also fall.

26. ... K-Kt1

27. B-Q7 KR-Kt1

28. R-K3

Without his two Rs, Black cannot defend against the assault with R, two Bs and P on Black's K.

28. ... K-B2

This loses at once. Black has no defence, however:

White threatens

29. B-K6ch. If 29...K-R1 or R2; 30. R-R3ch, and if 29...B-B2; 30. R-Kt3ch wins the B.

If 28...B-B2; 29. R-Kt3ch, K-R1; 30. R-Kt7, B-R4; 31. B-K6 and 32. R-Kt3 wins.

29. B-K6ch K-K1

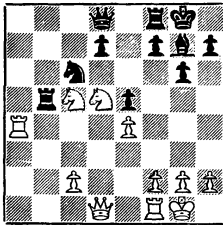
30. R-R3 Resigns.

Game No. 405 - Sicilian

White Black
Dr. P. Lapiken E. Bersbach

- | | | |
|-----|-----------|--------|
| 1. | P-K4 | P-QB4 |
| 2. | Kt-KB3 | Kt-QB3 |
| 3. | P-Q4 | PxP |
| 4. | KtxP | Kt-KB3 |
| 5. | Kt-QB3 | P-K3 |
| 6. | Kt/4-Kt5 | B-QKt5 |
| 7. | B-KB4 | P-K4 |
| 8. | B-Kt5 | O-O |
| 9. | P-QR3 | B-K2 |
| 10. | BxKt | BxB |
| 11. | Kt-Q5 | P-QR3 |
| 12. | Kt/Kt5-B7 | R-QKt1 |

- 13. B-Q3 P-QKt4
- 14. O-O P-KKt3
- 15. P-QR4 PxP
- 16. BxP BxB
- 17. KtxB RxP
- 18. RxP B-Kt2
- 19. Kt-B5 R-Kt4



- 20. KtxP! Kt-Q5
- 21. KtxR BxKt
- 22. P-QB3 Kt-K3
- 23. Q-RL K-Kt2
- 24. P-QB4 R-Kt6
- 25. QxPch K-R3
- 26. Kt-B6 P-Kt4
- 27. Q-B5 K-Kt2
- 28. P-K5 B-B4
- 29. QxRPch K-B1
- 30. R-R8 Resigns.

Given by Fine as the strongest here. 6. QxBP, P-QR3; 7. Q-B2 (Alekhine's move to nullify ...P-QKt4), R-QKt1 or 6. Kt-QB3, P-QR3 give Black equality.

- 6. ... P-B4
- 7. KKt-B3

Permitting Black to obtain his freeing maneuver ...P-QKt4 too easily. Better would be 7. KtxP, BPxP; 8. B-B4, B-K2; 9. Kt-Q6ch, K-B1; 10. Kt-B3, Q-Kt3 with interesting possibilities.

- 7. ... P-QR3
- 8. QxBP P-QKt4
- 9. Q-Q3 B-Kt2
- 10. O-O PxP
- 11. QxP B-B4

Worthy of consideration is 11... Kt-B4 so as to hinder White's development after 12. QxQch, RxQ. I decided on the text in order to gain a developing tempo and to keep the white Queen in the middle of the board.

- 12. Q-KR4 QR-B1
- 13. Kt-Kt3 B-K2
- 14. Kt/Kt3-Q4 Kt-K5?

The obvious and correct move is 14...O-O after which Black has a fine game.

SOUTHERN CALIF. CHAMPIONSHIP, 1957

Game No. 406 - Catalan

White Black
J. Cross I. Rivise

(Notes by Irving Rivise)

- 1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3
- 2. P-QB4 P-K3
- 3. P-KKt3 P-Q4
- 4. B-Kt2 PxP
- 5. Q-R4ch QKt-Q2

A good alternative is 5...B-Q2;
6. QxBP, B-B3.
6. Kt-Q2

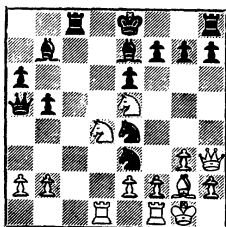
- 15. Q-R3 Kt/2-B3
- 16. B-K3 Kt-Q4

16...O-O is still correct. Black in flaunting the principles of development adds but one more game to the roster of examples of what can happen by not developing and castling quickly.

- 17. QR-Q1 Q-R4
- 18. Kt-K5

White now has an overwhelming position. The position of Black's King in the center permits all sorts of sacrificial possibilities.

18. ... KtxB



19. KtxKP!

The type of sacrifice which cannot be calculated to its conclusion but which intuition and experience (the same thing?) leads the player of the White pieces into believing the "win" must be there. The alignment of the four knights is certainly unusual — small solace to Black.

19. ... KtxB

After spending considerable time analyzing the consequences after 19. ...KtxR; 20. KtxPch, K-B1; 21. Q-R5, B-Q4; 22. ExKt, I decided the text offered better chances. I am, as yet, not sure whether this was the correct decision.

20. KtxPch K-B1

21. Q-R6 B-KB3

At this juncture with my time getting short I made what perhaps was the poorest of my possible defensive moves, allowing White to force a neat mate. The reader can amuse himself by looking at these defensive possibilities which I examined and discarded — perhaps there is a saving feature — the analysis after the game didn't find one, i.e.: 1) QxRP to defend KB2 against mating possibilities. 2) P-Kt5 to gain time by attacking the white Kt. 3) K-Kt1 in order to play 22... B-B1. 4) Kt-B3. 5) Kt-Q3. 6) Kt-B4. 7) Kt-R5 to play 22...Kt-Kt4 threatening mate.

22. Kt-R5 dis. ch. K-K2

23. R-Q7ch K-K3

24. Kt-Kt7ch KxKt
25. P-B4ch Resigns.

INGLEWOOD OPEN, 1957

Game #407 - Dutch Defense	
White	Black
N. J. Goldberg	E. Bersbach
1. Kt-KB3	P-Q4
2. P-KKt3	P-KB4
3. B-Kt2	Kt-KB3
4. P-B4	P-K3
5. P-Kt3	B-Q3
6. B-Kt2	QKt-Q2
7. Kt-B3	P-B3
8. Q-B2	Kt-K5
9. O-O	O-O
10. QR-B1	Q-K1
11. P-Q3	KtxKt
12. QxKt	Kt-B3
13. Kt-K5	Q-K2
14. R-Kt1	B-Q2
15. B-QR1	P-QR4
16. R/KB-QB1	B-K1
17. R-B2	P-KKt4
18. P-B5	B-B2
19. P-QKt4	PxP
20. QxP	R-Kt1
21. Q-Q2	Q-Kt2
22. B-Q4	P-KR3
23. R/B-Kt2	B-Q1
24. P-QR4	Q-QB2
25. Q-B3	B-KR4
26. Kt-B3	Kt-Q2
27. Kt-K5	B-B3
28. KtxKt	BxB
29. QxB	QxKt
30. P-R5	Q-QB2
31. R-Kt6	R-B2
32. Q-Kt2	P-B5
33. P-R6	BPxP
34. RPxP	R/Kt-KB1
35. RxBKtP	Q-R4
36. P-R7	QxEP
37. RxB	BxB
38. Q-Kt8	Q-R4
39. QxRch	KxQ
40. R-Kt8ch	K-Kt2
41. P-R8=Q	Q-K8ch
42. B-B1	Resigns.

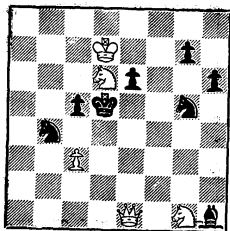
REPORTER TASKS: We continue with our attempt to break the tie for top place in the solving ladder. Task No. 123 is worth 10 points, and No. 124, eight points. Both are prize-winners. The first is a famous 4-mover by a famous composer, of much more recent vintage.

Standings through No. 122:

168 points: Sven Almgren, Los Angeles; Karl Bopp, San Francisco;
E. C. Jonas, San Francisco; Dr. Horace C. Pitkin, San Francisco.
153 points: R. J. Gardner, San Diego.
149 points: D. J. Foley, San Jose.
118 points: Jerry Slavich, Salinas.
117 points: Prof. L. H. Daugherty, San Jose.
76 points: Phil Foley, San Jose.
62 points: George Goehler, Los Angeles.
48 points: O. Bender, Sacramento.
32 points: Leonard Frankenstein, Los Angeles.
25 points: Jerry R. Havill, Palo Alto.
9 points: David Krause, Palo Alto.
2 points: Lorin L. Wilkinson, Hawthorne.

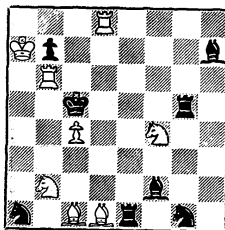
TASK No. 123

White Mates in Four



TASK No. 124

White Mates in Three



ANSWERS: No. 121 (A. V. Nemiov): 1. Q-R7.
No. 122 (A. Ludanyi): 1. P-Q3.

Solutions should be sent to: Dr. H. J. Ralston
184 Edgewood Avenue
San Francisco 17, Calif.