

Martin Keeps Los Angeles Title

Ray Martin retained the open championship of Los Angeles despite a first place tie with R. P. Smith. Each player had 8-2, but the tie-breaking rules proved that Martin had a qualitatively better score. Third place went to George E. Croy after his tie at 7-3 with Hyman Gordon had been broken. Other players with plus scores were: Robert Solana and Paul Quillen, 6-4; R. Newport and Morris Gordon, $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Martin, who is a G. I. student at U.C.L.A., lost in the first round, played strongly in the middle to capture the lead, then coasted in with two draws. Smith's showing was a surprise in this strong field, which included three former champions—Croy and the Gordon brothers—as well as the present Los Angeles County titlist, Paul Quillen.

The tournament was sponsored by the Los Angeles County Chess League. C. E. Kodil directed the play.