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MAHLON SMITH WINS CITY CHAMPIONSHIP

In the final round-robin of the eight that had qualified to play for the title, the winner was Mahlon Smith III who only gave up draws to former title holders, James Wright and John Hurt. Hurt was second and Flickinger third.

THE SEVENTH DIXIE OPEN played at Starkville, MS was won by Kalju Nekvasil of Washington, DDC

MICHAEL ROHDE WINS MARSHALL INVITATIONAL

Michael Rohde, the 19-year-old International Master from Yale University, scored a major success by winning the 2nd Marshall International Chess Tournament with an outstanding 8-2 score. Rohde went through the 10-round invitational Swiss in New York City without defeat. He was a force to contend with from the start, notching three straight victories over David Goodman, Orest Popovych, and William Adam, and then drawing with Grandmaster Leonid Shamkovich in round 4. At that point he was tied with Shamkovich and Boskovic of Yugoslavia. Rohde took the lead in round 5 when he defeated Jim Plaskett while Shamkovich was drawing with Boskovic. In round 6 the young United States master defeated Boskovic, increasing his lead to a full point. Rohde beat Mike Valvo in round 7 and then coasted home with draws against Peter Biyiasas, Predrag Ostejic, and Larry Kaufman.

Grandmaster Shamkovich, who emigrated from the Soviet Union to New York several years ago, finished a half-point back with an unbeaten 7½-2½ score. In most events of this sort, his performance would have been enough for first place. Rohde's performance was just that much better.

Third place was split between two national masters from the United States. Tournament Director Bill Goichberg reports that both Eugene Meyer and Larry Kaufman earned International Master norms with their 7-3 score. International Master Edward Formanek of Chicago was clear fifth at 6½-3½. Among the players tied at 6-4 were Mike Valvo and Bruce Rind. According to Mr. Goichberg, both scored International Master norms. Goichberg also notes that norms for the new FIDE Master title were earned by David Goodman, Jim Plaskett, Fabio LaRota, John Meyer, Orest Popovych, Sergey Kudrin, Robert Gruchacz, Walter Morris, Mike Shahade, Milorad Boskovic, and Slobodan Pavlovich.



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