

## T H E P L A Y E R S

NICK E. DeFIRMIAN, 18, of Santa Barbara, California, became a Master last year. Nick was invited to the 1976 Masters-plus Tournament in Lone Pine, California where he finished with an even score of 3 1/2. He is a student at the University of California at Santa Barbara and is rated 2335.

MARK C. DIESEN, 18, of Potomac, Maryland, received his Master's rating at 15. Mark has played in three previous U.S. Junior Championships, placing second in 1973 and 1975 and tying for fourth in 1974. His most impressive victory was in 1974 when he won the Hastings (England) Challengers' Tournament. His current rating is 2350.

JOHN P. FEDOROWICZ, 17, of Piscataway, New Jersey, is rated 2351. His first place victories include the 1973 New Jersey Junior Championship, 1973 New York City Class A Championship, 1975 National High School Championship, 1975 Metro Chess Congress Master Section, 1975 Manhattan Open Championship, 1976 Virginia Open. John also played at the 1975 Scandinavian Open Championship in Sandefjord, Norway and the 1976 Masters-Plus Tournament at Lone Pine.

RONALD W. HENLEY, 19, of Houston, Texas, became a Master at age 17. He is the current Co-Champion of Texas and was a participant in the 1976 Masters-Plus Tournament at Lone Pine. He is rated 2353.

KENNETH W. REGAN, 16, of Paramus, New Jersey, received his Master's rating in 1973 at age 13 and at that time was the youngest Master since Bobby Fischer. Also in 1973, Ken won the Special Prize for American Composition in the CHESS LIFE & REVIEW International Contest for chess problems. He was 1973 New Jersey Junior Champion, tied for first place in the 1976 Manhattan Master's Open and has played first board on numerous first place teams. His current rating is 2300.

MICHAEL A. ROHDE, 16, of South Orange, New Jersey, became a Master at age 14. His major victories include the 1970 New York Under 13 Championship at age 11, 1973 U.S. Jr. High School Championship, 1973 New Jersey Championship, 1973 Manhattan Open Championship, 1974 Greater New York Open, 1974 U.S. High