The highest single-move Scrabble scores have utilized the word BENZOXYCAMPHORS, and it seems unlikely much improvement will be made without a new base-word. In the February 1974 Word Ways there appears a 2037-point solution devised by Josefa Heifetz, which uses the term SESQUIOXIDIZING. Unfortunately this word does not appear in any dictionary, and no one has been able to find a substantive citation in another reference. However, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) lists 'sesquioxidized' as a past participle, which surely implies the existence of a verb 'sesquioxidize'.

I wonder if SESQUIOXIDIZING is really any less plausible than BENZOXYCAMPHORS, which seems to be only an inferred plural of 'benzoxy­camphor' in Webster's Second Edition (Web 2). Almost as logical is the higher-scoring BENZOXYCAMPHORY (compare 'camphory'), defined as 'of the nature of benzoxy­camphor'. Someday perhaps supportive quotations will be found for these words.

The game below features a 2064-point single move based on the elusive SESQUIOXIDIZING. Starred letters represent blank tiles.

```
 J E W T V A C A B O N* A
 A A E N F E O S
 M V E E R T F S T
 B E T E W H E E P A R R
 O R R 0*0 D U O O
 K E U P R O N
 I N D U N H I T A N O M
 G Y L I G I C
 L I T E L L Y
```


In the August 1974 Scrabble game playing contest on the fortunate opponent for the game, the word GOX (in

Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 66
wound (15), xanthophyllite (96), daffed (14), zoosporangia (34), gas-
tronomically (69) + 50-point bonus = 2064 points. QAWERED is the
past tense of 'quaver', an early form of the verb 'quaver' in the OED;
VEERT and VACABON are early OED spellings of 'vert' and 'vacab-
ond'; and UI (an isthmus) appears in the English Dialect Dictionary
(EDD).

Some years ago it was reported that an English chemist, Dr. William
Tush, had synthesized a colourless, crystalline solid called 5-benzyl-8-
hydroxyquinoline. It was said to be insoluble in water, but soluble in
hydrochloric acid and in sodium hydroxide solution. By analogy with
benzhydrol and diiodohydroxyquin, Dr. Tush decided to give this sub-
stance the 'trivial' name BENZHYDROXYQUIN.

Tragically, no one has been able to confirm this momentous discov-
ery; in fact the very existence of the mysterious chemist has been ques-
tioned. Severe doubts were raised when a Scrabble contest was entered
by a certain Lewis Shilbut, who managed to score 2278 points for a sin-
gle move, using the word BENZHYDROXYQUIN. A scientific paper by
Dr. Tush was cited as proof of the word's legitimacy. However, when
it was found that Bill Tush and L. Shilbut have rather a suspicious mu-
tual anagram an inquiry was instigated, which led to the disqualification
of this entry. For readers' interest the Shilbut solution is shown below.
The letters played in the final move are B, Z, H, R, X, Q, N, and all
words, apart from BENZHYDROXYQUIN, can be found in major English
dictionaries.

In October 1979 edition of Word Ways I presented a theoretical
Scrabble game in which the participants score 4207 points. In the follow-
ing contest one player amasses a staggering 4054 points, while his unfor-
tunate opponent manages only 308, giving a combined total of 4362 points
for the game. If the last tile (G) is played, it may be used to form the
word GOX (in the EDD) for a further 11 points. The moves are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Words Formed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>AEINRTT</td>
<td>tertain (bonus)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The final board position is given in the diagram below.

```
J A C K P U D D I N G H O O D
F A I R M A I D*
 E
O F
V A
E V
W R O
S E S Q U I T E R T I A N A L
I T U R E A N
L
B R E E
O
Y E L D
W
E I L
I
I T
N
T E U T O N I S E
G
B E N Z O X Y C A M P H O R S
```

ITUREAN and TEUTONISE (variant of 'teutonize' in Chambers 20th Century Dict.) are usually capitalized according to Webster's Third Edition (Web 3), which implies that on occasions they are not. PREFAVOURED is the British form of 'prefavored', inferred from the verb 'prefavor' in Web 2 (compare refavoured, unfavoured), and FAIRMAID appears in solid form in an 1883 OED quotation. STREITEN is an early spelling of 'straiten' in the OED, AMP is found in Web 3, and EV is a dialectic form of 'of' in the EDD.

All words not already defined in this article can be easily located in either Web 2 or the OED, or inferred from words therein.