

MICROCHESS

MORE CHAMPIONSHIPS!

Kevin O'Connell examines the results of two recent major chess tournaments.

US championships

No sooner had the dust settled on the World Microcomputer Chess Championship at the PCW show than the results of the first US Microcomputer Chess Championship, played that same weekend, came through.

The North American tournament was played in San Jose, California, and co-sponsored by *Personal Computing*, the Mychess team, Applied Concepts and Motorola. Three of the competitors were also present in London at the same time — one of the advantages a micro has over a human.

The results achieved by Boris 2.5 and Chess Champion Super System III were particularly impressive — they have been commercially available for more than a year now. Of course, this is not to detract from the success of the Spracklens' new program in the Challenger hardware, but it will be interesting to see the new programs expected from Applied Concepts and SciSys.

World computer chess championship

After their own two special tournaments, the big guns of the micro world were trained on Linz in Austria, site of the third World Computer Chess Championship (25-29 September). Four 'micros' were among the 18 contestants. Advance 1.0 (UK) and Bebe (USA) were under microprocessor control but also availed themselves of some special chess hardware which, in each case, owed much to bit-slice technology. There were also two pure micros: Mychess (USA), running on a Cromemco, and the ubiquitous Champion Sensory Chal-

World CCC results

1. BELLE (USA) Ken Thompson; Joe Condon PDP 11/70 with chess hardware	W8	D6	W4	W3	3½
2. CHAOS (USA) Fred Swartz; Mike Alexander; Jack O'Keefe; Victor Berman Amdahl 470	W17	D4	W6	W7	3½
3. DUCHESS (USA) Tom Truscott; Bruce Wright; Eric Jensen Amdahl V/8	W18	W12	W7	L1	3
4. L'EXCENTRIQUE (Can) Claude Jarry Amdahl V/7	W5	D2	L1	W12	2½

GOTO page 135 for remaining results

lenger (USA), victor of both the US and the World Microcomputer Championships.

Advance 1.0, programmed by Mike Johnson and Dave Wilson, played in the World Micro Championship under the guise of Mike 3.0. In Linz only the name (and program!) had been changed. By defeating Sweden's Dark Horse, running on a Univac 1100/81 and programmed by Ulf Rathsmann — whose Princess had competed in the World Micro where it had lost to Mike 3.0 — this was the only microcomputer to win a game. We reproduce that game here:

WHITE: Advance 1.0
BLACK: Dark Horse 1.0

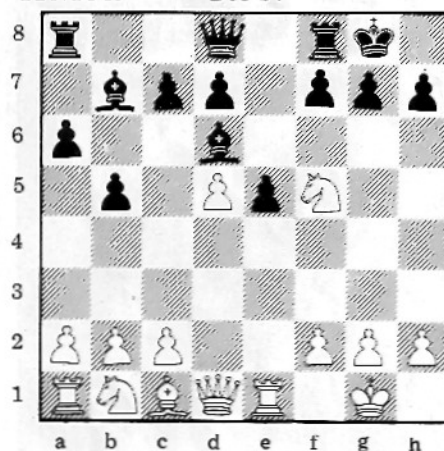
1 e2-e4 e7-e5
2 Ng1-f3 Nb8-c6
3 Bf1-b5 Ng8-f6
4 0-0 (Ke1-g1) Bf8-e7
5 Rf1-e1 Be7-d6??
All beginners know that it is bad to move a piece twice in the opening.
6 d2-d4 Nc6xd4

7 Nf3xd4 a7-a6
Why not? After all, if White has two pieces attacked then Black must be able to take one of them, so there is no rush to capture on d4.

8 Bb5-c4 b7-b5
White still has two pieces attacked.
9 Bc4-d5 Nf6xd5
10 e4xd5

Now Black wants, and needs, to take the knight on d4. That is what it was counting on, but White's last move cleared one more piece from the e-file and now e5xd4 is illegal. Oh well, back to the keyboard!

10... 0-0 (Ke8-g8)
11 Nd4-f5 Bc8-b7



12 Bc1-h6! g7xh6?
Black was lost, but this makes matters worse.

13 Qd1-g4+ Black resigned
The trouble with 13...Qd8-g5 would have been that after 14 Nf5xh6+, Black would be at something of a loss to counter the follow-up 15 Qg4xg5.

The overall performance of the micros in Linz was quite good — of 14 games played against programs running on mainframes the micros scored +1 = 7 - 6 (32%).

See the score table for the full results of the tournament.

US results

1 (1) CHAMPION SENSORY CHALLENGER (USA) Stand-alone device	W6	W5	W2	W4	4
2=(2) BORIS 2.5 (USA) Stand-alone device	W10	W7	L1	D5	2½
2=(3) BORIS EXPERIMENTAL (USA) Stand-alone device	W8	D4	L5	W9	2½
2=(4) CHESS CHAMPION SUPER SYSTEM III (HK) Stand-alone device	W7	D3	W8	L1	2½
2=(5) MYCHESS 'B' (USA) Cromemco	W9	L1	W3	D2	2½
6 (6) ATARI 4k 'A' (USA) TV Interface Unit	L1	W10	D7	D8	2
7=(7) MYCHESS 'A' (USA) Cromemco	L4	L2	D6	W10	1½
7=(8) SFINKS (USA) TRS-80	L3	W9	L4	D6	1½
9 (9) ATARI 4k 'B' (USA) TV Interface Unit	L5	L8	W10	L3	1
10(10) LANE'S TC'86 (USA) Stand-alone device	L2	L6	L9	L7	0

RRD		; get low nibble	ED 67
LD	(DE),A	; store ASCII	12
RLD		; restore packed byte	ED 6F
INC	HL	; bump packed byte pointer	23
INC	DE	; bump ASCII pointer	13
DJNZ	BFSR3	; decr B & continue if not 0	10 EF
RET		; return	C9

Microchess continued from page 69

5.	CHESSE 4.9 (USA) Lawrence Atkin; David Cahlander CDC Cyber 176	L4	D9	W11	W10	2 1/2
6.	NUCHESS (USA) David Slate; William Blanchard CDC Cyber 176	W16	D1	L2	D9	2
7.	KAISSA (USSR) V L Arlazarov; M V Donskoy IBM 370/168	W14	W13	L3	L2	2
8.	BCEP (UK) Don Beal PDP 11/70	L1	D10	D14	W15	2
9.	BEBE (USA) Tony Scherzer Bebe chess machine	D10	D5	D12	D6	2
10.	SCHACH 2.3 (BRD) Matthias Engelbach Burroughs 7800	D9	D8	W13	L5	2
	AWIT (Can) T A Marsland Amdahl 470 V/7	L13	W17	L5	W18	2
12.	MASTER (UK) Peter Kent; John Birmingham IBM 3033	W15	L3	D9	L4	1 1/2
13.	OSTRICH (Can) Monroe Newborn Data General Nova 4	W11	L7	L10	D14	1 1/2
14.	MYCHESS (USA) David Kittinger Cromemco	L7	D15	D8	D13	1 1/2
15.	PARWELL (BRD) Thomas Nitsche; Elmar Henne; Wolfram Wolff Siemens SMS 2 plus 128 8080s in parallel	L12	D14	W16	L8	1 1/2
16.	ADVANCE 1.0 (UK) Mike Johnson; Dave Wilson 6502 plus chess hardware	L6	D18	L15	W17	1 1/2
17.	DARK HORSE (SWE) Ulf Rathsman Univac 1100/81	L2	L11	W18	L16	1
18.	CSC (USA) Dan & Kathe Spracklen; Ron Nelson; Frank Duason; Ed English Champion Sensory Challenger	L3	D16	L17	L11	1/2

Little defeated Chaos in the play-off for the title

YCW program continued from page 116

```

480 REM
490 REM
500 FOR Y=1 TO 10 READ R(Y):NEXT
510 DATA 1,4,3,2,4,4,1,2,3,1
520 REM
530 W(1)=1:W(2)=4:W(3)=2:W(4)=3
540 REM
550 S(1)=50:S(2)=100:S(3)=150:S(4)=200:G0=59464
560 REM KEY CONVERSION TABLE
570 FOR Y=1 TO 9 READ KY(Y):NEXT
580 DATA 3,0,4,0,0,0,1,0,2
590 REM ENABLE SOUND 0/P
600 POKE59467,16:POKE59466,15
610 REM PRINT TITLE
620 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"
630 PRINT"  "
640 PRINT"  "
650 PRINT"  "
660 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"
670 PRINT"  "
680 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"
690 PRINT"  "
700 PRINT"  " WRITTEN BY JONATHAN J DICK"
710 PRINT"  " SOUND ON PINS "M" AND "N" ON USER PORT"
720 FORU=1TO3000:NEXT
730 REM CLEAR SCREEN IN QUARTERS
740 FORI=1TO4:POKE177,8:W(KI):POKE178,8:W(KI):POKE180,32:SV3826:FORU=1TO500
750 NEXT:I
760 FOR U=1 TO 500:NEXT:PRINT"  "
770 FORI=1TO2:POKE30,100:FORU=1TO500:NEXT:POKE30,0:FORU=1TO500:NEXT:NEXT
780 PRINT"DO YOU WANT INSTRUCTIONS?"
790 GETW:IFW="":THEN780
800 IFW="Y"THENPRINT"Y" GOT0830
810 IFW="N"THEN1140
820 GOT0780
830 REM INSTRUCTIONS

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