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Greetings again ("at last" did I hear you all say?). That's fair enough because this Issue really is rather late and I do apologise to you all.

IN THIS ISSUE

- * *Big transfer news (no?)*
- * *Brilliant Tournament coverage by Jack Orchison*
- * *News from the Manufacturers*
- * *Latest Results and Rating List*
- * *The most amazing Chess Computer game yet!.. plus other Games as space allows.*

Of course the new address above will tell you most of the reason for the late appearance of NS/17, and many of you will immediately realise from same that I have moved from EUREKA to COMPETENCE! A surprise!? Perhaps to some, but Terry Knight and I have remained good friends whilst I have worked at Eureka even though I have always tried to make sure my work at Eureka has been 100% on their behalf. For any who might think that there could now be some Sunday-paper type revelations with inside info from my year in Brighton, let me also add that Paul Cohen and I have parted on good terms!

Nevertheless, I am glad to be at Wallingford with Terry and the Competence "family". It is a happy and bright office to work in and I must say that I am excited by the potential of the machines we sell here. Not that Competence is only a 'Fidelity' place as sometimes one may think - we are happy to sell machines though we hope to be forgiven for 'doing our job' in trying to recommend to customers the machines we think could be best for them! I also find that there are excellent Bridge and Scrabble computers which is an added interest I had not expected. NEWS SHEET readers are just as welcome to ring me at work now as they were when I was at Eureka, so I shall look forward to continued friendships with you all.

Many of you will know that Chris (wifey) and I are committed Christians and our involvement here is working out well also. (It has been interesting that I did get one letter some while ago complaining about occasional brief references to my faith, but I got 2 after the last Issue commenting that they had missed my usual remarks!). Anyway we shall miss much the friends left behind in Peacehaven but have received a terrific welcome at the Pentecostal Church here where they are short of a regular preacher being small in number at the moment. So I find myself fully 'employed' in this as well which is also very pleasing. Even the dog (Kimbo) seems to like it all - we are renting a house just 5 minutes walk from the office so Chris and Kimbo can 'pop' in twice a week for a cup of coffee (and to fold papers, stick envelopes or stamp them etc!). Readers who are new to our 'bi-monthly' may be disappointed by this apparent waste of space on non-Chess matters; but News Sheet has also become something of a family-type thing, friendly and informal, as well as (hopefully) informative.

CHESS AT LAST

I think I should say something about the NEWS SHEET and my 'independence'. Probably one can't be totally independent when Chess Computers is also my business. One can be honest, which has always been a definite intention, and one

must be allowed to be an individual with personal opinions. The trouble is that, if your personal opinion happens to favour a machine specifically promoted by your firm it can be interpreted as bias! - and if it's a rival firm's machine it can mean trouble! (i.e. for me!). Terry has told me that I must say what I feel is right - and if I clearly find, from testing machines and reports coming in to me from elsewhere, that there is a particular 'best buy' in any popular price range that Competence doesn't stock, then we will make sure we get stock in of that machine so that prospective purchasers will have the best machines available to them. A particular example of this seems to me to exist at the £150 price range where, as far as I can see at this time, there are 2 machines that stand out for quality, strength and value... viz Saitek's KASPAROV STRATOS and Fidelity's EXCEL DISPLAY. I have been wondering for some while how I was going to deal with these, and it would certainly have been a shame (and a dis-service) to pretend they don't exist. Both of these are referred to in my 'NEWS FROM THE MANUFACTURERS'.

Equally I think it remains fair that I will occasionally give fuller coverage on any specific machine that I find myself enthusing about. I have done this in the past regarding the Mephisto AMSTERDAM (a big step-forward when it first came out), Fidelity AVANT GARDE (a beautiful-quality strong machine), Novag FORTE and then FORTE B (a fine programme and upgrade), Mephisto REBELL/MMA (an interesting innovation of potential) and currently I feel particularly impressed by the STRATOS and EXCEL DISPLAY as mentioned above, and the leaping progress of Fidelity's 68000 MASTER/MACH 2. Please let me say that I do not choose the MACH 2 because I have arrived at Competence, but conversely feel rather fortunate to have arrived at Competence just as the MACH 2C upgrade has become available! I can promise readers that I will continue to do my best to keep them informed of all the important developments in the world of Chess Computers, concentrating on progress, the positive and encouraging things, and marking out as far as I can the machines that I have found to be particularly worth looking at, whoever they are!

NEWS FROM THE MANUFACTURERS

CONCHESS has a new PLYMATE ROMA now available. A difficulty in rating PLYMATE programmes for some while has been that small updates occur every 3 months or so without the Computer name being altered. Thus more recent purchasers probably get a machine a little better than the NS Rating might indicate as the older results inevitably hold down the improved performances of the newer versions. So it is good to have a sufficient improvement to warrant a new name. The results from Sweden for this are more up-to-date than mine as I haven't got their individual figures completely yet, only the finished top Ratings. Thus its position is almost certainly more accurate in their List (see elsewhere in NS) than on my figures. The PLY-ROMA/6 Module (actually 5.5MHz) costs £169.99 and there is an 8MHz also costing £374.99.

NOVAG now has its SUPER EXPERT and SUPER FORTE out. The programme is not exactly the same in both machines, though I expect corrective chips for the SUPER EXPERT will come out in time. Larry Kaufman told me that the 6MHz SUPER EXPERT entered in the LA/American Open had had an endgame bug corrected just prior to the event, but that it still remained in the commercial 5MHz. As far as I can tell from results and info coming in, the bug has also been corrected in the SUPER FORTE which also has a VSS (Very Selective Search) option. This is definitely not on the SUPER EXPERT which I have. The presence of some bug on the SUPER EXPERT is borne out by the Swedish Rating List shown elsewhere as they currently have the new machine rated below the original FORTE A. Results for the SUPER FORTE coming in suggest that a correct Rating is much closer to the Mephisto MMA (computer v computer), but how we are to treat 2 machines for Rating when Novag insists they are the same, and how we shall be able to distinguish between their ordinary selective search results and those using VSS

remains to be worked out.

Perhaps there wont be too much difference between them in the end? In the American Open the first 30 games were played on VSS by the 6MHz version - but this only achieved a USCF figure of 2012! Permission was given to turn off the VSS and use the machine normally for the last 18 games with the result that the Rating rose to 2130 due to a massive improvement by the normal programme. However ALL the computers produced marked improvements over the last 3 or 4 rounds as the human opposition tended to tire suggesting that the improvement may not have been to do with Selective/Very Selective Search so much as human weariness. Novag subsequently entered the 6MHz on Normal Search in a New York event over the New Year to end there with 2050 USCF - not so much different from the VSS in the end. Time will tell.

Whilst on the subject of the American Open the Ratings for the other machines were:- Fidelity 68020 MACH 2 got 2191 USCF and Mephisto MONDIAL/DALLAS XL got 2153 USCF. I put the figures here to save readers flitting through the NS to do their comparisons!

Finally regarding Novag, Larry Kaufman writes to say that work is going on to produce commercially the 6MHz, then an 8MHz version of the new programme, and eventually (perhaps sometime next year) an 11MHz version. Whether owners can upgrade speeds as well as programmes, or whether a programme upgrade within the speed of the machine already owned is what will apply I don't yet know. Certainly Novag may scrap the turbo-boost idea as few will want to spend close on £1,000 to boost a machine from 11MHz to 16 or 18.

FIDELITY continues to produce further improvements with its MASTER or MACH 2 programme. Already there is confusion between the different versions as well as the use of a 68020 processor in the American Open compared with the 68000 which contains the current commercial version. It WILL be available on the 68020 in both press-sensory and auto-sensory (Elite Board) versions in due time and I am trying to distinguish for readers the results of the A (original), B (corrected, as Club A and B) and the C (which is the same programme as entered in the LA American Open and is called the Mach 2 LA version by Fidelity themselves).

The main improvement between the B and C is in the use of the 128K of DRAM (Dynamic Random Access Memory). In the B, whilst it is doing its Search, the DRAM is used to store all the positions and their evaluations and this is being continually updated as the Search proceeds. (Dynamic RAM can be updated continuously, Static RAM can only be updated by a total replacement). Thus after any Depth of Search and re-ordering of the moves in candidate order, instead of going back to Ply level 1 to start the new depth (which occurs with all other machines - the 6502 processor has insufficient space to enable anything else, and Mephisto is not using the system on their 68000's), the MASTER/MACH 2B is able to CONTINUE the work and make full use of all its previous labours on that move. In the C, however, this use of the DRAM has been extended for use BETWEEN moves - i.e. as it moves, it retains the data relating to its choice of move so that the MASTER/MACH 2C is able to continue its thinking in the opponents' time from the exact place already reached in its analysis. This has double-value in that there is not only a valuable time saving in thinking on opponents' time (and very valuable help if you do overnight analysis... e.g. you come down in the morning to find your machine on 11 Ply after 10 hours search. You enter the chosen move and reply... and the 'normal' Computer is now back at Ply 1.. 2.. 3 etc, whereas MASTER C is immediately on 9!), but it does encourage the machine to stick closer to a plan in that it continues to think about its next move using as a base the work done in determining the move just made.

I have said enough about the MASTER/MACH 2 to make me feel I should limit space for the EXCEL DISPLAY simply to say that this and the EXCELLENCE/3 (£149 and

[99 respectively) now contain an improved PAR E programme at the 3MHz and so surpassing the original and well-known Excellence/3. As its name implies, the DISPLAY has just that with times, evaluations, search depth info available during both the Computer's thinking time and yours if required! (Hope they might put this onto the CLUB and MASTER eventually, nudge, nudge).

SAITEK (ex SciSys) - has brought out the KASPAROV STRATOS, also a £150 buy. This is a larger Board with wide, solid wood surround, nice press-sensory playing surface (though you need to press a bit hard) and good playing programme with superb features. Display can be used to obtain nearly anything if you are willing to do a bit of 'button-pressing', or you can set it early in the game to obtain the particular info at each move that you want. Up to 40 games can be stored which is a massive possibility (but note that if you have to RESET the Computer, which happened to me last week due to a brief Electricity failure in the area which jammed the machine, you LOSE everything you've stored... in my case over 20 games played by the Stratos and company intended for possible MS printing... I also lost games stored in my SUPER EXPERT through have to reset it after it locked-up, so I have concluded that the best way remains to write out the games as you play them if you want to be sure you can get back to them). Notwithstanding this (and you could use the STRATOS solely on its batteries if you preferred) it is a fine-value machine. Using selective search but definitely better than Turbostar and Turbo Kasparov; it has a strong and full Opening Book, runs at 6MHz, and plays a much more positive middle-game than the Turbostar series making it a much more challenging opponent. It is occasionally a little naive when its King is under attack and, whilst its endgame is also superior to Turbostars', it is still occasionally suspect (in the way selective search programmes tend to be), especially against a passed Pawn or in failing to use its own to best advantage. This means that it is not quite up to the strength of the other new machines, but for those who want to keep their spending down a little it is fine value-for-money.

Nick Gibbons also sent me a pocket plug-in called KASPAROV PLUS to look at - an ideal first-machine for anyone. With a set of positions held in memory for you to test yourself on and various helps for the learner including a warning if you have a piece under attack! In appearance just like the Express (though a weaker general programme) and if I remember rightly Nick told me it was just £29 which can't be bad.

NEPHISTO last but not least. There is still disagreement amongst users about the amount of improvement between DALLAS and ROMA, but most seem to feel that it is a useful step and some lists have the Roma 16 bit above the Dallas 32 bit! (mine included! - but Roma 32 is also barely above the Roma 16, so I expect a general 'settling down' and maybe a 25-30 Elo difference to emerge in the end).

The MONDIAL/DALLAS XL is referred to elsewhere from the LA American Open - this is the Dallas programme, 16 bit version, in the Mondial Board and running at about 20% faster than the Dallas 16 bit. However it is ONLY available in the USA so there is little point in giving fuller coverage here.

Finally the MM4! The '!' simply because of the varied press this too has generated! Ken Gorman of Daska after a 6 game test has advertised it as worse than the Rebel - Larry Kaufman in the 1987/88 COMPUTER CHESS REPORTS (another good Issue, Larry - well done) states that it is "the most improved program of the year" and "almost surely the strongest 8 bit program" - the valuable Swedish workers and myself, after over 500 MM4 games, both have a gap of close to 100 Elo in favour of MM4. These favourable comments should be balanced with the fact that it has a very shallow Opening Book and Larry also comments that "he is very sceptical about it vs humans from its play against me and various friends". Any owners got views to share on this one?

INDEPENDENT CHESS COMPUTER MEGA-TOURNAMENT held
Sept-Nov 1987 by JACK ORCHISON in SWANSEA.

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FINAL CROSSTABLE

	CLUB	PAR E	REBL	CONCH	CON2	ADVST
FID CLUB A	XXXX	0 ¹ 2 ⁰ 1	1101	111 ¹ / ₂	1 ¹ 2 ¹ 1	111 ¹ / ₂ = 15
FID PAR E/5	1 ¹ 2 ¹ 0	XXXX	1 ¹ / ₂ 0 ¹ 2	1001	1111	1111 = 14 ¹ / ₂
MEPH REBELL	0010	0 ¹ 2 ¹ 1 ¹ / ₂	XXXX	1 ¹ 2 ¹ 1	¹ / ₂ ¹ / ₂ 10	1111 = 12 ¹ / ₂
CONCHESS/6	000 ¹ / ₂	0110	0 ¹ / ₂ 00	XXXX	1 ¹ 2 ¹ 2 ¹ / ₂	111 ¹ / ₂ = 9
NOV CONST/2	0 ¹ 2 ¹ 0	0000	¹ / ₂ ¹ / ₂ 01	0 ¹ 2 ¹ 2 ¹ / ₂	XXXX	10 ¹ / ₂ ¹ / ₂ = 6
ADV STAR CHESS	000 ¹ / ₂	0000	0000	000 ¹ / ₂	01 ¹ 2 ¹ / ₂	XXXX = 3

All games were at the rate of 40 moves in 2 hours with the Computers in their strongest modes. The Conchess was the Glasgow programme (i.e. not the later Plymate version).

TOURNAMENT REPORT

The Tournament was a very close-run thing between the two Fidelity machines. There were many exciting games and here I have made a selection of those that I thought were the best ones, taking the computers in reverse order.

ADVANCED STAR CHESS

The hapless CXG portable was generally outclassed and came last with 3/20. I expected it to do better than this, with perhaps 4 or 4¹/₂. It was white-washed by Par Excellence and Rebell - but all was not doom and gloom. It scored its habitual 2-2 draw with Constellation/2 with which it is very evenly matched. The game where it impressed most was its draw with Black against the Club.

White: CLUB A, Black: ADVANCED STAR CHESS. Grunfeld Defence

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Nf3 Bg7 5 Qb3 dxc4 6 Qxc4 0-0 7 e4 Na6 8 Bf4 (All instant so far; now Black starts thinking) - Nh5?! (Black should play 8 - c5. E.g: 9 Rd1 cxd4 10 Rxd4 Qb6 11 e5 Be6 12 Qb5 Nh5 13 Be3 Qxb5 14 Bxb5 f6 15 Ra4+/- as in Portisch-Timman, Mijk aan Zee 1972) 9 Be5 Bxe5 10 Nxe5 (The Club considered its position to be +0.20) - Nf4 11 g3 Ne6 12 Rd1 c5! 13 dxc5 Qc7 14 f4 Nexc5 15 Nd5! Qd6 16 b4! Nd7 17 Nxd7 (The Club has been piling on the pressure and now evaluated its game at +0.72) - Bxd7 18 Nc7! (This wins a Pawn) - Be6 19 Rxd6 Bxc4 20 Nxa8 exd6 21 Bxc4 Nxb4! 22 Kd2!! (Not 22 Nc7? Rcb) - Rxa8 23 Rd1 Na6 24 Rxb7 (At long last here is the booty) - Nc5 25 Rxf7

Kh8 26 Bd5 Rb8 27 Rxa7?! (Although the Club was indicating +2.22, I thought it was being optimistic as it is leaving itself with an extra Rook's Pawn which will be very hard to convert, as we shall see. 27 Kc3 was better) - Rb2+ 28 Ke3 Rxb2 29 Ra8+ Kg7 30 a4 Rc2 31 Ra7+ Kh8 32 g4 (+2.13) - Rc3+! 33 Kd4:Rf3 34 f5?! (The Advanced Star has been putting up a grimly determined defence, but its efforts should not have been rewarded. Here the Club missed a forced win with 34 g5 h5 (Not 34 - Rxf4?? 35 Ra8+ Kg7 36 Rg8 mate) 35 f5! gxf5 36 g6! Rd3+ 37 Kc4 Rxd5 (38 Rh7 mate was the threat) 38 exd5 with an easy win) 34 gxf5 35 gxf5? (Faltering again. This endgame is an excellent 'one in the eye' for those people who think endgames are boring: 35 exf5! Rf4+ 36 Ke3 Rxb4 37 f6! Rxa4 38 Re7! and Black has no defence despite being a Pawn up) - h5! 36 a5 h4 37 a6 Rd3+ 38 Kc4 Ra3 39 Ra8+ Kh7 40 a7 Nd7 (The tiny portable is putting up a brilliant defence and is threatening 41 - Nb6. The Club was indicating +2.70. Both computers had made it to the time control but whereas the Advanced Star used its time very well, the Club was a whole 1/2 hour inside the time limit!) 41 Kb4 Ra1 42 Bc6 h3! (Now Black would get a new Queen if White went 43 Bxd7??) 43 Re8 h2! 44 Re7+ Kh8 45 e5 Rxa7 46 Re8+ Kg7 47 exd6 Ra6 48 Re7+ (The Club realises that it has messed it up as it now gave the position equal) - Kh8 49 Bh1 Rxd6 50 Re2 Kg7 51 Rxb2 Rd4+ 52 Kc3 Rf4 53 Bd5 Rxf5 I declared the game DRAWN here. Note that 54 Be6 Rf3+ 55 Kd4 Nf6 is still level.

NOVAG CONSTELLATION/2MHz

The old Novag machine did better than expected, playing very solidly for its 6 points. Although it was whitewashed by Par Excellence, it did well against Conchess and its best result was the dramatic 2-2 draw with the Rebel! But more of that in a while. Its most exciting game was its win with Black in the following:-

White: ADVANCED STAR CHESS, Black NOVAG CONST/2. King's Gambit

1 e4 e5 2 f4 exf4 3 Nf3 Be7!? 4 Nc3 (As so often happens, computers are programmed with unusual Openings - in this case the Cunningham Gambit - and yet find themselves left with a quite insufficient 'book' to follow it up. Constellation has to start thinking here!) - Nc6?! (The books give only 4 - Bh4+ or 4 - Nf6) 5 d4 g5 6 d5 Nb8 7 Qd4 (This looks impressive, but White might have tried 7 h4) - Bf6 8 e5 Bg7 (Black's position looks horrible already, but it turns out that White needed to be very careful lest his proud centre be undermined by - g4 and - d6) 9 Nb5? a6 10 Na7 (White's plan to get the two Bishops involves excessive time-wasting) 10 - d6! 11 Nxc8 dxe5 12 Nxe5 Qxc8 (Not 12 - Qf6? 13 Qa4+!) 13 Qa4+ Nd7 (Again, not 13 - b5? 14 Bxb5+!) 14 Nf3 Ngf6! (The first of several excellent moves by Black, developing rapidly without too much regard for material) 15 Nxc5 Q-O! 16 c4 Re8+ 17 Kd1 (With 17 Be2 White would subject himself to a nasty pin) - b5! (Brilliant again. This completely knocks the stuffing out of White's game) 18 Qb3 bxc4 19 Bxc4 Nb6 (White was threatening 20 d6!) 20 Nf3 (Not 20 Bxf4?? Qg4+) - Qd8 21 Re1

Rxe1+ 22 Kxe1 Nxc4 23 Qxc4 Nxd5 (Black is now a Pawn up, but he must keep playing actively because his Pawns are very bad) 24 Qe2 Qe8 25 a3 Qxe2+ 26 Kxe2 c5 (Playing actively on the Black squares) 27 Ra2 c4! 28 Kf1 Re8! (Now White is completely tied up) 29 Ne1 Ne3+ 30 Kg1 Rd8! 31 Kf2 Rd1 32 Bxe3 fxe3+ 33 Ke2 Rd2+ 34 Kxe3 c3! 35 Ra1 cxb2 36 Rb1 Bh6+ (Again we are seeing a prolonged attack in the endgame) 37 Ke4 f6 38 a4 Kf7 39 Kf3 Ke6 40 Ke4 (White reaches the time control. Can he hang on a Pawn down?) - Rd1!? (There is to be no let up in the attack as the Constellation batters its way through to get a new Queen. However there was a simpler win to be had: 40 - f5+! 41 Kf3 Kd5! 42 Kg3 43 Nf3 Rc2 44 Ne1 Rc3+ and the Black King arrives with deadly effect on b3) 41 Rxd1 Bc1 42 Nd3 f5+?! (This just drives the enemy King to a better square; the immediate promotion was better) 43 Kd4 b1=Q 44 Rxc1 Qb6+ 45 Nc5+ Kf6 46 g3 Qb2+ 47 Rc3 Qd2+ 48 Rd3 Qxh2 49 Nxab Qf2+ 50 Kc3 Qa7 51 Rd6+ Ke5 52 Rc6 Qd4+ 53 Kb3 Qd5+ 54 Rc4 h5 55 Nb4! (As we saw in the previous game, Advanced Star is not easily counted out. Now it threatens to advance its passed Pawn, while Constellation seems to proceed aimlessly) - Qg8 56 a5 Qxg3+ 57 Ka4! (All White's pieces are up with the Pawn) - Qg8 58 Rc5+ Ke4 59 a6! (The game is reaching its climax - can Black defend?) - Qf7 60 Ra5 Qd7+ 61 Ka3 Qc7 62 Ka4 Qd8?? (Black should have paid dearly for this. I thought 62 - Qd7+ or 62 - Qa7 were necessary) 63 a7 Qa8 64 Nd5! h4 65 Kb4?? (Constellation is given a second chance! 65 Nb6! Qc6+ 66 Rb5 Qc2+ 67 Ka5 Qa2+ 68 Na4 Qd2+ 69 Ka6 Qd6+ 70 Nb6 Qa3+ 71 Ra5 Qd3+ 72 Kb7 and wins!) - h3! 66 Nf6+?? (Another tragic blunder after which the game is lost. 66 Nb6 puts up more resistance) - Kd3 67 Ra3+ Kd4 68 Rxh3 Qb7+ 69 Ka3 Qxa7+ 70 Kb2 Qb6+ 71 Kc2 Qxf6 72 Rd3+ Kc4 73 Ra3 f4 74 Ra4+ Kb5 75 Ra3 f3 and White resigns (0-1). Such excitement from the back-markers!

This section would not be complete without showing you CONSTELLATION's win against the REBELL. After two solid draws and a game where Rebell nated him in only 22 moves, the fourth game was a dour struggle. After mass exchanges the machines arrived at the following position with Constellation as White.

- - - - -	51 Kg4! (Go, boy, go! Earlier on Constellation had
- - - - p - -	been trying to penetrate down the middle, but to
- - - - p - -	no avail. The text move is the only winning try)
- p - k P - -	51 - Ke4 52 Kg5 Kf3 53 f5 Kg3?? (The Rebell
p - p - - P - p	evaluated its position as +0.34 but the move played
P - P - - K - P	is a gross error. 53 - exf5 was necessary because
- P - - - - -	when both sides get new Queens, White's King will be
- - - - -	on the f-file. Now it winds up on the d-file where it
	is (a) more sheltered and (b) two files nearer the
	enemy Pawns) 54 fxe6 fxe6 55 Kf6 Kxh3 56 Kxe6 Kg3 57 Kd6! h3 58 e6 h2 59 e7
	h1=Q 60 e8=Q Qd1+ 61 Kc5 Qc2 (A good defensive try) 62 Qxb5 Qe2 63 Qb8+ Kg4
	(This is the start of a long sequence where Constellation tries to exchange
	Queens. Rebell was indicating -1.48) 64 Qb4 Kf5 65 Qb5 Kf6 66 Qc6+ Kf5 67 Qd7+
	Kg5 68 Qd5+ Kf6 69 Qd6+ Kg5 70 Qd8+ Kh5 71 Qd5+ Kg6 72 Qc6+ Kf5 73 Qd5+ Kf6 74

Qd4+ Kg5 (White is not succeeding in swapping Queens and soon has to abandon the idea to avoid repetition) 75 Qg7+ Kh5 76 Qb7 Kh4 77 Qb4 Kg5 78 Qb5 Kf6 79 Qb6+ Kf5 80 Qa5! Qxb2 81 Kxc4+ Kf6 82 Qxa4 (Yum yum. The win is still very difficult for a Computer, though) 82 - Qe2+ 83 Kb4 Qe7+ 84 Kb3 Qb7+ 85 Qb4 Qd5+ 86 Qc4 Qb7+ 87 Ka4 (White has completed the little jig with his King and Queen) 87 - Qb1 88 Qc6+ Ke7 89 Qc5+ Ke6 90 Ka5! (Both Pawns can advance now!) 90 - Qc2 91 a4 Qd3 92 c4 Qd7 (Not 92 - Qd8+? 93 Qb6+) 93 Qe3+ Kf7 94 Qf4+ Kg8 95 Qf6 Qa7+ (-2.15) 96 Kb4 Qb8+ 97 Kc5 Qa7+ 98 Kb5 Qb8+ 99 Ka5 Qa7+ 100 Qa6 Qd4 101 Qe6+ Kg7 102 Qe7+ Kg6 103 Qe6+ Kg7 104 Ka6 Kf8 105 Qc8+ Kf7 106 Qb7+ Ke8 107 Qb8+ Ke7 108 Qa7+! Qd7 109 a5 Qxa7 110 Kxa7 and Black resigned (1-0). Good stuff!

CONCHESS (Princess) 6MHz

The Conchess was very disappointing, scoring only 9/20. I expected it to get 11 or 11½. It had its biggest problems in the endgame where it often faltered, especially against the Club and Rebel.

Its 2-2 draw with Par Excellence was impressive however; it won 2 games. One was with White, where it won material after some fine play on the Queenside; the other win was with Black where it ripped the Par Excellence to bits with the best combination in the whole Tournament.....

White: PAR EXCELLENCE, Black: CONCHESS. Irregular BP game

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 c6!? (The Conchess does not oblige with 2 - Nf6 when 3 Bg5 reaches the Torre Attack. Par E is very well booked up on that!) 3 Nc3 (Out of Book!) - Nf6 4 Bf4 Ne4! 5 Nxe4 dxe4 6 Ng5 Bf5 7 f3 exf3 8 exf3 Qb6 9 g4!? Bg6 10 Bc1?! (10 Rb1 seems better) - e6 11 h4!? (Par Excellence is getting too excited. I thought that developing with 11 c3 and 12 Bd3 might have been better) 11 - Bd6! 12 Rh3 (It's not often you see this kind of position! 12 h5? Bg3+ 13 Ke2 Qb5+ 14 c4 (King moves allow 14 - Qxg5 and Black wins at least a Pawn) 14 - Qxc4+ 15 Ke3 Qd5+ and White's position would have been a wreck) 12 - h5 13 c3 0-0 14 gxh5 Bxh5 15 Bd3! e5! (Just as the Par E gets the right idea, Conchess opens up the centre) 16 Ne4 Bc7 17 Ng3! Bg6 18 Bxg6 fxg6 19 dxe5 Bxe5 20 Ne2 Re8 21 Qd3 (The Par E is doing his best to untangle himself, but now Black demonstrates the hopelessness of White's game. See if you can spot the combination?!) 21 - Bxc3+!! 22 Qxc3?! (Of course not 22 Kd1 Rd8 winning the Queen. However there was one better defence to be had in 22 bxc3! Qg1+ 23 Kd2 Qg2 24 Rg3 Rxe2+ 25 Qxe2 Qxg3 26 Qe8+ Kh7 when the Black pieces are hemmed in. This is only temporary however since 27 Qc8 fails to - Qf2+ 28 Kd1 Qxf3+ 29 Kc2 c5! followed by - b6., a5 and Na6. Likewise 27 Ra3 fails to - Qxf3, and Queen retreats allow Black to develop. Another defence is 22 Kf1, but this loses to - Rd8 23 Qc2 (Back rank mates follow upon other moves) 23 - Bf6 followed by Na6.. Rd5 and Rad8 winning easily) 22 - Qg1+ 23 Kd2 Rd8+ 24 Kc2 Qd1+ 25 Kb1 Qxe2 26 Rg3 Qe6 27 Qc2 Rd6 28 Bf4 Qe1+ 29 Qc1 (Or 29 Bc1 Qxg3) - Rd1 30 Rxg6 Rxc1+ (It's all over, but the Conchess finishes in an exciting way) 31 Bxc1 Qxh4 32

Rg2 Qh3 33 Rf2 Qh5+ 34 Rc2 Qxf3 35 a3 Nd7 36 Rc3 Qf5+ 37 Ka2 a5 38 Be3 Qd5+ 39
b3 a4! 40 Rb1 b5 41 Kb2 Ne5! 42 Kc1 b4! 43 axb4 axb3 44 Rcxb3 Ra2! 45 R3b2 Nd3+
46 Kc2 Qc4+ 47 Kd2 Nxb2 48 Ke1 Nd3+ 49 Kf1 Ne1+! 50 Kg1 Nf3+ 51 Kh1 Qh4 mate.
 0-1

MEPHISTO REBELL 5MHZ

Had it not been for the machine's blunders against Constellation, the Rebell would have been up there in a close finish with the Fidelity machines. It's quite an erratic programme at times, scoring some excellent wins but also making some real howlers; I think this has something to do with its undeniably strong selective search starting off with the wrong move occasionally. It won an extraordinary endgame against the Club (more of which below), but its best game was its win with Black against the Par Excellence. Perhaps you think I'm being unfair to the Par Excellence by giving another of its losses, but it is a very hard machine to beat and it is this which makes the performance of the 'enemy' computers all the more impressive!

White: PAR EXCELLENCE, Black: REBELL. Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Bg5 (the Leningrad Variation) - h6 5 Bh4 c5 6 d5
Bxc3+ 7 bxc3 e5 8 Nf3? (White's first move out of Book. Correct is 8 d6, a suggestion of Vladimir Zak which can continue - Nc6 9 e3 g5 10 Bg3 Ne4 11 Bxe5 Nxe5 12 Qd5 Qf6 13 Qxe4 0-0 14 Rd1 when, although White is a Pawn up, his advantage is not very big since his Pawns are horrible and Black can extricate himself with - Rb8.. b6.. and Bb7) 8 - d6 9 Qa4+ (The Queen doesn't achieve much here and it might be better off on c2 where it supports e4) 9 - Nbd7 10 Nd2 0-0 11 Ne4? (White is wasting too much time; 11 e4 seems better) - g5 (Here comes the Rebell. It gave an evaluation of +0.35 here; in fact it considered itself superior throughout) 12 Nxf6+ Nxf6 13 Bg3 Ne4! (The threat of - f5.. f4 causes White to concede more defects in his position) 14 f3 Nxe5 15 hxg3 Qf6 16 e4 g4 17 Kf2? (This walks into a crunching attack. Better was 17 Be2 followed by 0-0-0 at some point) 17 - Qg5 18 Rd1 f5! 19 Bd3 f4 20 gxf4 Qxf4 (+0.83) 21 Be2 (There is little that White can do now apart from sit and wait. The Rebell conducts an excellent attack based on the pin - this is something it obviously knows about very well. Note how the White Queen is in a completely irrelevant position) 21 - gxf3 22 gxf3 Qxe4 23 Rxe6 Bg4 (Bringing up the reserves! Black has to be careful because of the draughty position of his King, but everything is in hand, e.g. 24 Rg1? Rxf3+! and White is mated if he takes the Rook; or 24 Rdh1 Rxf3+! 25 Ke1 Rh3!! and wins) 24 Rd3 Qf4 25 Rh4 Bg5 26 Rh1 e4 (+1.52) 27 Re3 exf3 28 Bf1 Rad8 29 Qa3 Rde8 30 Rxe8 Rxe8 31 Qb2 Qe3+ (Now for the kill) 32 Kg3 Re4 33 Rb8+ (the coming Mate seen by the Par E first, so anything to delay the issue) - Kxh8 34 Kh2 Bf5 35 Kh1 f2 36 Qxf2 Qxf2 37 Rh3 Re1+ 38 Bf1 Rxf1 mate (0-1).

Although the Rebell lost 3-1 to the Club A, its one win was very amusing. The

Club had been on top for the whole game and the machine arrived at the following position:-

White: REBELL King e2, Knight d5, Pawns a4, b3, c4, e3, h5

Black: CLUB King e6, Bishop a1, Pawns a7, b6, c5, e4, g5

50 a5!? (With best play this position should be drawn, I think, but Rebell finds a way to stir up trouble. The Club's earlier advantage has largely disappeared because it allowed exchanges) 50 - bxa5 51 Nc7+ (-0.27) - Kd7 52 Nd5 Be5 53 h6 Ke6 54 h7!? (Very odd. Doesn't it just lose a Pawn?) - g4 (Blocking out the White King) 55 Kf2 g3+ (Letting the King in again. 55 - Kf7!) 56 Kg2 (+0.47!) - Kf7 57 Nc7! Ke7 58 Nb5 a6 (Or 58 - Bb8 59 Nc3!) 59 Nc7 Kd7 60 Nd5 Ke6 61 Nf4+! Kf7 62 Nh5!! (The embarrassing situation of Black's Pawns is clearly not lost on the Rebell) - Kg6 63 Nxf3 Kxh7 (63 - Bxf3 leads to a loss: 64 h8=Q) 64 Nxe4 Bc7 65 Nxc5 Bb6 66 Nxa6 Bxe3 67 c5 (+3.14) - Bf4 68 Kf3 Bh2 69 c6 Kg6 70 Ke4 Kf5 71 Kd5 Kf5 72 c7 Bxc7 73 Nxc7 and White won on move 96. The Knight deserves a medal for this game!

FIDELITY PAR EXCELLENCE

This is a very polished programme for a 6502 processor and its consistency brought it within a whisker of winning the Tournament. It was efficient and ruthless, whitewashing the weakest machines, drawing with Rebell and Conchess and actually defeating the Club 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$. While it is difficult to find any wildly exciting games by it, our example has to come from one of its wins with Black against the Club.

White: CLUB A, Black: PAR EXCELLENCE. Torre Attack

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bg5 e6 4 e3 c5 5 Nbd2 Be7 6 c3 Nbd7 7 Rd3 b6 8 0-0 Bb7 (So far, all Book. This is where the Club's problems start because the Par E opening book is narrow but deep whilst the Club's is broader but therefore sometimes shallower. This gives the Club the first chance to err which it unfortunately does on this occasion) 9 Bxf6 (9 Qc2 is the right move which the Par E knows! The text move, which lamely concedes the Bishop pair, is a typical fault of the Club A) 9 - Bxf6 10 Qc2 h5!? 11 dxc5 bxc5 12 Qa4?! (White should be trying for the e4 advance, either immediately or after 12 Rfe1) 12 - c4? (This can hardly suit the Black QB. 12 0-0 was better) 13 Bc2? (But this is horrible. 13 Bb1 was good, followed by 14 Qc2! Now White's Queen gets into a tangle) 13 - 0-0 14 e4 Nc5! 15 Qb4 Qc7 16 exd5 (-0.19) - exd5 17 Rfe1 a5 18 Qa3 Be7 19 b3 Ne4 20 Qb2 Nxd2 21 Nxd2 Bd6 22 g3?! (22 h3 was better, with the idea of 23 Nf3 followed by ND4) 22 - Rab8 23 Nf3 Bc6 24 Ng5 Be7 25 Nf3 Bf6 26 Rad1 Ba4! (The Black pieces are taking up aggressive positions) 27 Re3 Qd6 (Defending the d-Pawn which was immune last go; if 27 Rxd5? cxb3! 28 Bxb3 Bxb3 29 axb3 Qxc3 30 Qxc3 Bxc3 31 Rb1 a4! and Black gets an advanced passed Pawn) 28 Qb1 Rfe8 29 Rxe8+ Bxe8 30 Nd4 g6 31 Kg2 (+0.05) - Bg7 (The Par E seems to have let

the Club off the hook, and the Club certainly agrees. However typical manoeuvring and Bishop play by Par E gradually wear down the Club, like a hunter stalking its prey) 32 Re1 Bd7 33 Rd1 (White had no penetration squares down the e-file) - Qc7 34 Qb2 cxb3 35 axb3 Re8! 36 Rd3 Bh6 37 f3?! (Black square weaknesses!) - Bg7 38 Bd1 Qd6 39 Qf2 Qe7! 40 h3 Bc8! (The Par Excellence is gradually pulling White's position apart. Having siezed the e-file, Black now redeploys his QB to embarrass White down the f1-a6 diagonal. The Club, which was a whole 20 mins inside the time control, strangely still thought it was winning at +0.19) 41 Bc2 Qd7! 42 g4 Qe7 43 Rd2 hxg4 44 fxg4 (44 hxg4 looked better) - Ba6 45 Bd3 Bxd3 46 Rxd3 Qc7! 47 g5 Re4! 48 Qd2 Qe7 49 Kg1 Qd7 50 Kg2 Qe8 51 Qd1 Qe7 52 Rg3 (Now the Club spots trouble.. evaluation ~0.42) - Re3! 53 Qg4 (-1.11) - Rxg3+ 54 Qxg3 Bxd4 55 cxd4 Qe4+ 56 Kf2 Qxe4+ (The well-deserved reward for some cracking positional play) 57 Qe3! (A final cheapo for which some might fall. If 57 - Qxe3+? 58 Kxe3 and White mops up the Black d-Pawn with a winning Pawn ending) 57 - Qb2+! 58 Kf3 d4 59 Qe8+ Kg7 60 Qe5+ Kh7 61 Ke4 Qxb3 62 Kxd4 Qb2+ 63 Ke4 Qxe5+ 64 Kxe5 Kg7 (64 - a4 also wins). The ending is an easy win for Black and the game finished at move 86. (0-1)

FIDELITY EXCEL CLUB A

This was plainly a strong programme, but it was also erratic and had a few problems as we have seen. It was very unkind to the weaker machines, inflicting several embarrassing defeats on them and, although its $\frac{1}{2}$ -point margin of victory in the Tournament was not utterly convincing (in fact it was not clear that it was better than the Par Excellence) we should remember that this was the original and faulty Club A. As it was the difference in the performance of the two Fidelity machines against Conchess 6MHz that was the decisive factor in the final Tournament Table order, here is a Club win against that machine in the wildest game of all!

White: CONCHESS, Black CLUB A. King's Gambit

1 e4 e5 2 f4 exf 3 Qf3!? (The rare Breyer Variation - what a pity Conchess was insufficiently booked up after his choice of this line!) - Qh4+ 4 Kd1!? (Conchess had to calculate this one! The Book reply is 4 g3 fxg3 5 hxg3 Qf6 6 Nc3 Qxf3 7 Nxf3 Be7 8 Nd5 Bd8 9 b3 and now - Ne7! 10 Bb2 0-0 when White has the initiative, though it is not easy to see how he might regain the material. Conchess goes down an uncharted route, but to a reasonable game) 4 - Nf6 5 d3 Bb4 (and +0.86 with Club threatening 6 - Qe1 mate!) 6 Nc3 Ng4 7 Nh3! (Hitting Black's extra Pawn and preventing 7 - Nf2+ which would win for Black) 7 - g5 8 g3! Qh5! (Good stuff and Black says +0.44 with 9 - Nf2+ the threat again) 9 Bg2 Nc6! 10 Nb5 Ba5 11 gxf4 gxf4 12 Rf1!? (I thought that 12 Bxf4 might be better, but the text move develops another piece and piles on some pressure) 12 - d6! (Now Black threatens 13 - Qxb5. What can White do?) 13 Nxc7!?!? (An absolutely amazing computer move. Conchess sacrifices a piece - which it later regains - but this valiant attempt to force the game doesn't quite work.

Perhaps an alternative sacrifice, 13 b4!? activating the QB, deserves attention?) 13 - Bxc7 14 Nxf4 Qc5 15 Nd5 Nce5! 16 Qf4 Ba5 17 c3! (With the nasty threat of 18 d4) - Qb5 (Back to just +0.44, so Club thinks Conchess almost has compensation) 18 h3? (Too much of a hurry to regain its piece. 18 c4 was necessary. Now White is mown down by Club's counterplay) 18 - Qxd3 19 Bd2 Rg8! 20 hxg4 BdB! (Stopping 21 Nf6+'s power) 21 Nf6+ Bxf6 22 Qxf6 Bxg4+ 23 Kc1 Qe2! (+1.57) 24 Qxd5 (The Conchess keeps trying and restores material equality. But Black has all the position and threats) - Nc4! 25 Qd5 Be6 26 Qb5+ Bd7 27 Qd5 Qxd2+! (This wins a piece) 28 Qxd2 Nxd2 29 Rd1 (Or 29 Kxd2 Rxd2+) - Rxd2 30 Rxd2 Rg4 and Black won comfortably on move 65. 0-1.

POSTSCRIPT

Now that you've seen the sort of excitement (not to mention high standards) produced by the computers... what did I make of them? Here are a few points:-

- (1) The two Fidelity machines had the strongest endgame, which seems to be where Fidelity has led the field in the past.
- (2) The *Rebell* was my favourite machine as it had the most informative display.
- (3) The *Conchess* slipped up too often in the ending after getting good or tenable positions. It's pricey too and could do with a display and clocks.
- (4) *Constellation* and *Advanced Star Chess* were outclassed; we see that computer chess has come a long way in the last 3-4 years.
- (5) All the machines are excellent sparring partners, especially with regard to the tactical middle-game. The competing machines covered the range suitable for players graded BCF 125 to 190!
- (6) Using the gradings from NEWS SHEET 16 and assuming an Elo K-factor of 15, the performance ratings of the machines in this Tournament were as follows:-

CLUB A	2023
PAR EXCELLENCE	2014
REBELL	1991
CONCHESS 6MHz	1909
CONSTELLATION 2MHz	1753
ADVANCED STAR CHESS	1707

Jack Archison.

ADVERT — ELITE 2100

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RESULTS

Reduced in number due to space shortage - my full list of COMPLETE RESULTS up-to-date is available on request for £2 incl p/p.

First the leading Machines on the Swedish List as at February 1988

1 Meph ROMA 16 bit	2104		
2 Meph DALLAS 32 bit	2099	Others outside the top 8 are:-	
3 Meph DALLAS 16 bit	2038		
4 Meph MM4/5MHz	1997	Nov FORTE B	1886
5 Meph AMSTERDAM	1995	Nov FORTE A	1872
6 Fid MACH 2B	1988	Nov SUPER EXPERT/5MHz	1865
7 Conch PLY-ROMA/6MHz	1944		
8 Fid CLUB B	1938		

TOURNAMENT, 1 min per move.

1/3 Mephisto EUROPA	10 /16
Novag PRIMO/VIP	10
CXG SUPER ENTERPRISE	10
4 Saitek ASTRAL	6
5 Saitek TURBO 16K	4

TOURNAMENT (De Gorter Vierkamp)!!?

	M2B	Dal	MM4	NFB	
1 Fid MACH 2B	*	3 ¹ / ₂	4 ¹ / ₂	3	= 11
2 Meph DALLAS 16 bit	2 ¹ / ₂	*	2 ¹ / ₂	4 ¹ / ₂	= 9 ¹ / ₂
3 Mephisto MM4	1 ¹ / ₂	3 ¹ / ₂	*	4	= 9
4 Novag FORTE B	3	1 ¹ / ₂	2	*	= 6 ¹ / ₂

TOURNAMENT (Zeskamp Topcomputers)!!?

	M2B	Dal	MM4	NFB	FPE	CLB	
1 Fid MACH 2B	*	3	2	2 ¹ / ₂	3	5	= 15 ¹ / ₂
Meph DALLAS 16 bit	2	*	2 ¹ / ₂	2 ¹ / ₂	4	4 ¹ / ₂	= 15 ¹ / ₂
3 Mephisto MM4	3	2 ¹ / ₂	*	3	2 ¹ / ₂	3	= 14
4 Novag FORTE B	2 ¹ / ₂	2 ¹ / ₂	2	*	2	3	= 12
5 Fid PAR EXCELLENCE	2	1	2 ¹ / ₂	3	*	2	= 10 ¹ / ₂
6 Fid Excel CLUB	0	1 ¹ / ₂	2	2	3	*	= 7 ¹ / ₂

TOURNAMENT (Tussenstand Testtoernooi Topcomputers)!!? 3 mins per move

1 Meph ROMA 16 bit	9 ¹ / ₂ /16	
2 Meph MM4/8MHz	9	(Reproduced exactly as it appeared in a foreign chess computer mag.
Saitek STRATOS/6	9	
4 Meph MONTE CARLO/4	8 ¹ / ₂	
Saitek LEON ANALYST/6	8 ¹ / ₂	The astute NS reader will note that the total points add up to 1 too many, so someone's been given a little bonus along the way!!
6 Saitek TURBO KING/5	8	
Meph MM4/5MHz	8	
9 Novag FORTE B/6	6 ¹ / ₂	
9 Fid Excel CLUB	6	

TOURNAMENT (From Schach & Spiele, 12/1987)

1 Mephisto MM4	17/30
2 Psion ATARI ST	16
3 Fid Excel CLUB	14
4 Kasp LEON MAESTRO/6	13

TOURNAMENT (From Schach & Spiele, 12/1987)

1 Mephisto MM4/8MHz	15 ¹ / ₂ / ₂₄
2 Mephisto DALLAS 16 bit	14 ¹ / ₂
3 Mephisto MMA/5MHz	13 ¹ / ₂
4 Kasp LEON ANALYST/?	11 ¹ / ₂
5 Fid Excel CLUB	10
6 Fid PAR EXCELLENCE	9 ¹ / ₂
Novag FORTE B	9 ¹ / ₂

TOURNAMENT

1 Mephisto REBELL	4 ¹ / ₂ / ₁₆
2 Nov FORTE A	3 ¹ / ₂
Meph MM2 + HG240	3 ¹ / ₂
4 Superchess 3.5	1 ¹ / ₂

I have many other Results from Sweden, Germany, Larry Kaufman as well as NS Readers - sorry not to have room for them all but please keep them coming in - they are put into my RATING PROGRAMME so are very valuable to us all in keeping the NS RATING LIST the most complete available anywhere.

The MOST AMAZING CHESS COMPUTER GAME YET SEEN!/?!

White Meph MM4, Black Fid MASTER/MACH 20

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 d4 exd 5 0-0 Bc5 6 e5 d5 7 exf6 dxc4 8 Re1 Be6 9 Ng5 Qd5 10 Nc3 Qf5 11 Ne4 0-0? (Is it ne? Or has he just Castled on the wrong side? Whatever, the MACH 20 now gets into the most dreadful mess!) 12 fxg Re8 13 g4 (+0.91 and more to come!) - Qe5 (-0.96 and worse to come!) 14 Nxf7 Kxg7? (I could hardly believe this - how did Black miss the MM4's killer reply? and yet he evaluated just -0.35 and expected Hhf6. Surely 14 - Kxh7 was needed to hang on though still in arrears?) 15 Ne6! Qxf6 (If 15 - Qd6 16 Qd2!) 16 Nxf6 Kxf6 17 Qd2 (+4.18) - Rg8 (-5.12 and a lost cause?!) 18 Qf4+ Ke7 19 Qxc7+ Kf6 20 g5+ Kg6 21 Qxb7 Rac8 22 f4 Rh8 23 a4 Bb6 24 Rxe6?! fxe6 25 Qd7 d3+ 26 Kg2 Nd4 27 Qe7 Kh5? 28 Qf7+ (+6.52. White hasn't made too much progress since move 17, but it still looks cut and dried. There are no annotations for the remaining moves apart from evaluation notes... I'll let you work out what happened for yourselves!) 28 - Kg4 29 c3 Rcf8 30 h3+ Rxf3 (=!) 31 Qxf8 (+2.81) - Nf3 32 Be3 Rh2+ (Announcing mate in 4!!) 33 Kf1 (=/!/?!) - Bxe3 34 Qf5+ (Got it! -9.99) - Kxf5 35 b3 Rf2 mate! 0-1! Hard to believe.

White Nov FORTE B, Black Fid MASTER C

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 0-0 5 Nf3 d5 6 Bd3 c5 7 0-0 Nc6 8 a3 Bxc3 9 bxc3 10 Bc4 Qc7 11 Bd3 e5 12 Qc2 Re8 13 Hxe5 Nxe5 14 dxe5 Rxe5 15 Rd1 c4 16 Be2 a6 17 Rd4 Bf5 18 Qa2 b5 19 f4 Be4 20 axb axb 21 Ba3 R5e8 22 f3 Bc6 23 e4 Ra6 24 Qb1 Ra8 25 Bb2 Rxa1 26 Bxa1 Nh5 27 g3 Qe7 28 Bf1 Nf6 29 Bg2 Nd7 (At this stage and for the next half-dozen moves both machines consider themselves to be about 0.50 ahead; presumably on positional opinions) 30 h3 h5 31 Qb2 h4 32 g4 Ne5 33 Rd1 Nd3 34 Qd2 Ra3! (34 - Qc5 till the very last moment) 35 Qe3 Ra2 36 Qb6 Qd6! 37 Rb1 Nf4! 38 Bb2 Nxe2 39 Qf2 Nf4 40 Qh2 Qd3 41 Rf1 Ne2 42 Kg2 Ng3 43 Rf2 Rxb2! 44 Qxg3 hxg3 45 Rxb2 Qxc3 46 Re2 Qe5 47 Kf1 c3 48 Kg2 Qd6 and White resigned.

Well, that has to be it re Games for this Issue. I have just received some of both Super Forte normal and Super Forte vss mode so will try to get a couple of those in together with some new (!) ones of Stratos, Master Mach 20, maybe a Leonardo Maestro or Analyst + Turbo on its way to me from Saitek and others from my abundant back-log unless new and better ones come in. This NS will finish with some Result Lists and the Rating List. Till next time! ERIC

Eric

MEPH ROMA 68000 -v- Humans 1925 Final Rating 2196 Games 213

-v- NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/5	3.5	2.5	-v- NOV FORTE B	15.5	3.5
-v- MEPH REBELL	2	0	-v- FID PAR E/5	1	1
-v- NOV FORTE A	14	2	-v- CONCHESS PLYMATE/6	9	4
-v- KASP LEON MAESTRO/6	17.5	2.5	-v- AVANT GARDE/5	19.5	6.5
-v- FID EXCELLENCE/4	5	1	-v- PSION ATARI/B	18.5	5.5
-v- KASP STRATOS	1	1	-v- MEPH MM4/5	7	5
-v- FID 68000 CLUB B	13.5	3.5	-v- FID MASTER MACH 2B	10.5	9.5
-v- KASP LEON ANALYST/B	1	1	-v- MEPH MOND/DALLAS XL	2	2
-v- MEPH MM4/B*	1	1	-v- MEPH MONTE CARLO	1	1
-v- KASP TURBO KING	4	2	-v- FID MASTER MACH 2C	4	4

FID MASTER MACH 2C -v- Humans 2025 Final Rating 2141 Games 46

-v- NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/5	3	1	-v- NOV FORTE B	5.5	2.5
-v- FID PAR E/5	2	0	-v- KASP STRATOS	5.5	2.5
-v- MEPH MM4/5	4.5	5.5	-v- FID 68000 CLUB B	1	1
-v- MEPH ROMA 68000	4	4			

NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/5 -v- Humans 2080.1 Final Rating 2028 Games 196

-v- MEPH DALLAS 68020	2.5	1.5	-v- MEPH DALLAS 68000	1.5	2.5
-v- MEPH AMSTERDAM	1.5	4.5	-v- NOV FORTE B	7	3
-v- FID PAR E/5	1	0	-v- FID 68000 CLUB A	5	1
-v- CONCHESS PLYMATE/6	8	12	-v- AVANT GARDE/5	7.5	4.5
-v- FID EXCELLENCE/4	3	1	-v- MEPH SUPER MONDIAL	7.5	10.5
-v- PSION ATARI/B	1.5	0.5	-v- KASP STRATOS	4	6
-v- MEPH MM4/5	4	10	-v- FID 68000 CLUB B	23.5	16.5
-v- FID MASTER MACH 2B	4	5	-v- MEPH ROMA 68020	1	3
-v- MEPH ROMA 68000	2.5	3.5	-v- MEPH MOND/DALLAS XL	0.5	5.5
-v- KASP TURBO KING	2.5	1.5	-v- FID MASTER MACH 2C	1	3

KASP STRATOS -v- Humans 0 Final Rating 2005 Games 102

-v- NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/5	6	4	-v- NOV FORTE B	5.5	6.5
-v- MEPH REBELL	7	7	-v- NOV FORTE A	4	4
-v- NOV SUPER CONST	5.5	4.5	-v- MEPH MM4/5	7	7
-v- FID 68000 CLUB B	5.5	6.5	-v- FID MASTER MACH 2B	0	3
-v- FID EXCEL DISPLAY/3	0.5	0.5	-v- MEPH ROMA 68000	1	1
-v- KASP LEON ANALYST/B	1	1	-v- MEPH MM4/B*	1	1
-v- MEPH MONTE CARLO	1	1	-v- KASP TURBO KING	1	1
-v- FID MASTER MACH 2C	2.5	5.5			

CONCHESS PLY-ROMA/6 -v- Humans 0 Final Rating 2002 Games 31

-v- MEPH DALLAS 68000	8	12	-v- MEPH MM4/5	2.5	8.5
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As per "NEWS FROM MNFCTRS", this Rating figure is likely to be around 40-50 higher than this when I have a fuller list of results in.

For NEWER readers, in the RATING LIST on the Next Page:-

+/- shows likely variation from Standard Deviation probability calcs.

E.g. a Rating 2100 +/- 50 means Average 2100, max 2150, min 2050 for that machine. The more Results we have for a machine, the more reliable its Average figure becomes and so its +/- drops.

/5 Refers to a computers Operating Speed. /5 is 5MHz, /6 is 6MHz, i.e. 1.20* faster. It can be likened to comparing a 1250cc car with a 1450cc car.

Human/Games lists the various Computer performances in human Tournaments (and occasionally from private Matches involving ultra-reliable sources).

RATING LIST 6th Feb 1988 (40 games req'd)						
BCF	Computer	Elo	+/-	Games	Pos	Human/Games
201	MEPH MM4+TURBO	2209	63	55	1	2075 13
200	MEPH ROMA 68000	2196	32	213	2	1925 4
199	MEPH DALLAS 68020	2190	16	850	3	2130 145
194	MEPH MOND/DALLAS XL	2154	54	75	4	2079 48
194	MEPH DALLAS 68000	2149	15	949	5	2104 27
193	FID MASTER MACH 2C	2141	69	46	6	2025 4
191	NOV EXPERT+TURBO	2126	26	318	7	2119 60
189	FID 68020 MASTER/LA	2113	61	58	8	2113 58
188	MEPH AMSTERDAM	2104	11	1905	9	2125 151
188	FID MASTER MACH 2B	2102	27	295	10	2020 11
187	MEPH MM4/5	2097	19	604	11	2054 30
186	NOV SUPER EXPERT/6*	2086	64	52	12	2087 52
182	PSION ATARI/8	2056	22	447	13	2153 6
179	NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/5	2028	33	196	14	2080 12
178	FID 68000 CLUB R	2020	19	581	15	1900 7
176	NOV EXPERT/6	2007	32	206	16	2091 16
176	NOV FORTE B	2006	15	1012	17	2087 101
176	KASP STRATOS	2005	46	102	18	
174	FID MASTER MACH 2A	1995	53	78	19	1940 24
174	NOV EXPERT/5	1994	34	192	20	2078 40
174	AVANT GARDE/5	1989	13	1205	21	1806 58
174	FID PAR E/5	1988	11	1671	22	1953 186
173	MEPH REBELL	1986	14	1111	23	1971 35
172	FID PAR E/8	1979	38	153	24	1964 55
172	NOV FORTE A	1977	11	1810	25	1963 106
171	CONCHESS PLYMATE/6	1967	14	1049	26	1969 50
171	FID 68000 CLUB A	1965	31	224	27	1824 4
171	KASP LEON MAESTRO/6	1965	18	692	28	1885 75
170	MEPH SUPER MONDIAL	1960	19	619	29	2020 6
169	NOV EXPERT/4	1949	18	703	30	2067 34
168	FID EXCELLENCE/4	1947	15	1005	31	
167	SCI TURBO KASP/6	1939	37	162	32	1951 12
167	SCI TURBO KASP/4	1936	23	422	33	1981 52
167	CONCHESS PLYMATE/4	1935	24	362	34	2078 6
165	CONCHESS/6	1921	50	88	35	2224 1
165	SCI TURBOSTAR 432	1917	14	1146	36	1907 140
164	FID ELEGANCE	1915	19	599	37	1940 22
164	PSION 1/8	1913	54	75	38	
164	FID EXCELLENCE/3	1913	15	1001	39	1911 41
164	MEPH MM2	1912	21	494	40	1737 7
162	FID ELITE C	1899	37	160	41	1906 11
161	CONCHESS/4	1884	21	504	42	1983 23
160	NOV SUPER CONST	1881	9	2476	43	1921 167
158	MEPH BLITZ	1861	29	258	44	
154	FID ELITE A	1833	44	111	45	
153	FID EXCEL DISPLAY/3	1825	64	52	46	
152	FID PRESTIGE	1819	19	607	47	1805 43
152	MEPH EXCL S/12	1813	33	203	48	1997 18
152	NOV QUATTRO	1813	23	415	49	1912 6
152	SCI SUPERSTAR 36K	1813	21	502	50	
151	FID SENSORY 12	1809	17	709	51	1845 7
151	NOV PRIMO/VIP	1805	38	149	52	
150	CONCHESS/2	1803	18	667	53	1825 11
149	NOV CONST/3.6	1793	17	785	54	1909 17
148	PSION QL	1787	66	50	55	
147	FID ELITE B	1779	63	54	56	