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## **Computer Chess NEWS SHEET 21**

mid-January 1989

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The purpose in publishing the "NEWS SHEET" is to provide a survey of the CHESS COMPUTER scene, with special emphasis on a careful and realistic assessment of the PLAYING STRENGTHS of the many machines. I also work for COMPETENCE LTD (one of the longest established Chess Computer retailers) and enjoy freedom to maintain personal opinions and preferences which I seek to share with readers. Final Games and Articles selection for each Issue is done independently by myself. The NEWS SHEET is financed solely by myself with help from readers whose voluntary contributions are always welcome (please!) but folk who make little attempt to 'pay their way' will not remain on the Mailing List for ever. Articles or Games sent in by readers (or others involved in Chess Computing) will always receive consideration for publication. It is often the lack of such material rather than any editorial bias which determines the final NS content!

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Greetings to you all and thanks to the many Readers who sent kind Christmas wishes for my wife and self. We had a most enjoyable time visiting our families as well as Church friends from our time in mid-Wales with whom we rejoiced as we remembered what CHRISTmas is REALLY all about. Now it's the New Year with RESOLUTIONS for what we plan to do in 1989 concerning our personal lives, our Christian commitments... and the Chess!

Concerning the Chess we make a bumper start with a really full Issue packed with, I believe, all sorts of goodies. However, before we really get going, let me also thank all of you who contributed with cash towards the NEWS SHEET following Issue 20. The response has been most encouraging and, as there are obviously many of you keen and happy to help keep NS on its feet, I am sure the next 12 months should run more smoothly. And now to the...

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I often wonder to myself which has been the best NEWS SHEET Issue. It was nice to know that many of you thought it was the last one. I vaguely remember those 'originals' done on the old Duplicator. Some have been quite good, some I read over again and wish I'd not quite said what I did. But I do like this one!

## RESULTS SECTION

From readers in New Zealand, a NOVAG 'Normal vs VSS' comparison.

Nov SUPER FORTE/6 normal  $14\frac{1}{2}$  vs Kasp STRATOS  $15\frac{1}{2}$

Nov SUPER FORTE/6 VSS 19 vs Kasp STRATOS 11

The same Openings were used in the 2nd Match as in the 1st.

Tony Leech has done more work on this as well; his latest scores are:-

Nov SUPER FORTE/6 normal 5 vs Meph MONDIAL DALLAS XL 7 (at 3 mins

Nov SUPER FORTE/6 VSS  $5\frac{1}{2}$  vs Meph MONDIAL DALLAS XL  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per move)

Nov SUPER FORTE/6 normal  $3\frac{1}{2}$  vs Meph MONDIAL DALLAS XL  $10\frac{1}{2}$  (at 1 min

Nov SUPER FORTE/6 VSS 5 vs Meph MONDIAL DALLAS XL 9 per move)

From Holland, 3 Tournaments

	50 games		18 games		24 games
1 Meph ROMA 16	$29\frac{1}{2}$	1 Meph MM4+HG440	14	1 SPHINX+TURBO	13
2= Meph MEGA 4	27	2 Meph ROMA 16	13	2 Fid MACH 3	$12\frac{1}{2}$
Fid MACH 2C	27	3= Fid MACH 2C	12	3 Meph ROMA 16	$10\frac{1}{2}$
4 Meph MM4	25	Nov SUPER EXP/5	12	4= Fid MACH 2C	9
5 Nov SUPER EXP/5	22	5 Meph SUPER MOND	$11\frac{1}{2}$	Meph MEGA 4	9
6 CXG SPHINX	$19\frac{1}{2}$	6 Meph MEGA 4	11	6 Nov SUPER EXP/5	6
		7 CXG SPHINX	$9\frac{1}{2}$		

All Tournaments were run at 40 moves in 2 hours

Various folk have have sent in scores for the Fid MACH 3 since the last Issue.

Keith Kitson: 6-11 v Meph ROMA 32, 12-11 v Meph MEGA 4, 3-0 v Meph MONTE CARLO  $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  v Nov SUPER FORTE/5. Gerald Murphy:  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$  v Meph ROMA 32.

Patrick Barnaby:  $14\frac{1}{2}$ - $5\frac{1}{2}$  v Nov SUPER FORTE/6

Robert Godwin: 3-0 v Nov SUPER EXPERT/5, 6-0 v SciSys TURBO KASPAROV

Tony Hawes: 6-3 v Meph AMSTERDAM. John Harradence: 8-2 v Fid EXCELLENCE/3

Graham White:  $13\frac{1}{2}$ - $6\frac{1}{2}$  v Fid MACH 2C, 20-13 v Meph DALLAS 16

Matthew Sadler:  $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$  v Fid MACH 2C. Matthew has written most helpfully to 'us' at Competence with programme comments on the MACH 3. Much of it is confidential discussing the Opening Book with various ideas and recommendations, but Matthew grades MACH 3 at around 190-195 BCF; MACH 2 about 10 behind. He has few real criticisms, viewing it as more dynamic than the MACH 2 and suggests it is important to obtain the initiative to get better results for yourself MACH 3 being both capable and fast at finding good plans whenever it has some scope!

Finally on the question of MATCH SCORES, our thanks are again due to the Swedish 'PLY' Magazine folk for their massive efforts at testing. Goran Grotting regularly sends me updates on their figures and these make a very valuable contribution towards the overall figures in the RATING LIST. As NS Readers know, the Swedish Rating Level is rather different to our own. However their latest List goes as follows:-

1 Meph MM4 + TURBO	2157	11 Nov EXPERT+TURBO	1949
2 Meph ROMA 32	2090	12 Meph MM4	1949
3 Fid MACH 3	2086	13 PSION Atari	1933
4 Meph DALLAS 32	2074	14 CXG SPHINX	1928
5 Meph ROMA 16	2036	15 Fid MACH 2A	1927
6 Meph DALLAS 16	2028	16 Fid CLUB B	1900
7 Fid MACH 2C	1982	17 Fid AVANT GARDE	1886
8 Meph AMSTERDAM	1972	18 Fid PAR EXCELLENCE	1872
9 KASP GALILEO + TURBO	1971	19 Nov SUPER FORTE/EXPERT/5	1870
10 Meph MEGA 4	1966	20 Nov FORTE B	1862

## The new HEPHISTO ALMERIA

First the match results which I have so far:-

### Involving both Machines (as provided by Larry Kaufman)

<u>30 mins per Game ACTION Chess</u>		<u>1 hr per Game</u>	
1	Meph ALMERIA 32 17/24	1	Meph MEGA 4 + TURBO 14/20
2	Meph ALMERIA 16 13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	2=	Meph ALMERIA 32 12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
3	Meph MONDIAL DALLAS XL 12		Meph ALMERIA 16 12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
4=	Fidelity MACH 3 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	Fidelity MACH 3 9
	Meph MEGA 4 + TURBO 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	5=	Meph MONDIAL DALLAS XL 6
6	Novag SUPER FORTE/9 EXP 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>		Novag SUPER FORTE/9 EXP 6

### HEPHISTO ALMERIA 32

From Keith Kitson, Meph ALMERIA 32 leads Fidelity MACH 3 by 10-2

From Gerald Murphy, Meph ALMERIA 32 leads Fid MACH 3 by 6-3

From Charles Palmer, Meph ALMERIA 32 leads Nov SUPER FORTE/6 by 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

My own so far, Meph ALMERIA 32 leads Fid MACH 2C by 2-0, Meph MEGA 4 by 10-6, Kasp SIMULTANO by 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, Fid MACH 3 by 4-2, Fid CLUB B by 5-1 and Novag SUPER EXPERT/6 by 5-1.

Against the MACH 3, Keith Kitson has a very one-sided result whereas Gerald Murphy and I have a 2-1 ratio, but with the ALMERIA 32 the stronger in some sharp and exciting games. Apart from 1 game where the ALMERIA 'shuffled pieces' a bit, Charles Palmer tells me his games with the SUPER FORTE/6 have been totally one-sided. The same applies to the ALMERIA vs Fid CLUB match, again apart from 1 game in which Mephisto made serious early errors and went down quickly. In my match vs SUPER EXPERT/6 I played 4 games at 1 hr per side and got 2-0=2. The drawn games were replayed at 2 mins per move and ALMERIA won comfortably. The MEGA 4 match was the closest; ALMERIA won at 1 min per move by only 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> but at 2 mins per move by 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> with MEGA holding its own in one or two Endgames as well as providing stiff opposition in the Middlegame on more than one occasion. In this match ALMERIA lost both the 1 and 2 min games when the Opening went 1 e4 c5 2 c3 with Almeria as White. It also only just drew at 1 min per move with this Opening against SIMULTANO and went a Pawn down with inferior position at 2 mins per move but downed its opponent in the later middle-game stages.

I conclude that, apart from one or two pretty isolated incidents, this is a very strong programme indeed. It has a much greater appreciation of attacks against its King than the Richard Lang pre-decessors and this should hold it in good stead against humans who have occasionally caught the Dallas/Roma programmes out with specialised King-side attacks on the g and h-files but will not be able to get the same plans to work against this one. I also think it is the most aggressive of Richard Lang's programmes, a feature which I welcome though Gerald Murphy still feels that the DALLAS was more 'dynamic'. Certainly the ALMERIA punishes errors with amazing speed. It is also very fast in the End-game where it is definitely strong.

### HEPHISTO ALMERIA 16

Only results so far are from Sweden, Meph ALMERIA 16 leads Kasp STRATOS by

15<sup>2</sup> 2-4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, Meph ACADEMY (a 'new Mega 4' not in Britain yet?) by 4-1, PSION Atari by 3-0 and Novag SUPER FORTE/5 by 9<sup>2</sup> 2-1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

Before giving one or two games I must mention the FEATURES of the new ALMERIA which are now brought into line with the PLAY and PRICE-TAG of this machine. In other words, they are good! Multiple game storage is possible as well as memory retention of the game in progress; the user can extend the Opening Book; the Keyboard is totally changed and simplified - at first I thought it was more complicated, but that was just while I got used to it. Once 'mastered' it's a real beauty and the variations of Info (user selected) via the Display, with different Info for when the Computer is thinking and when you're supposed to be thinking (!), is excellent. The best feature in my view is that the Computer actually 'thinks' whilst in Monitor mode! Select what you'd like to see in the Display and simply start playing over a game from Magazine/Book or whatever. When you reach any point you'd like the benefit of Computer opinion whilst you stop to consider it yourself, then it's provided and updated continuously by the Display. As soon as you've seen enough, just carry on playing! A valuable improvement for anyone using the Computer to play through games and analyse them.

Now a Games selection:-

White ALMERIA 32 Black SIMULTANO 1 min p/m

1 c4 c5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nc3 e6 4 d4 d5 5 cxd Nxd5 6 e4 Nxc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd Nc6 9 a3 f5? 10 exf Qa5+ 11 Bd2 Qxf5 12 Bc3 Bd6 13 Bd3 Qf6 14 Qc2 Qh6 15 Be4! Bd7 16 d5! Ndb7 17 dxe Qxe6? 18 0-0 Qe7 19 Bxh7 Kf8 20 Rfe1 Be6 21 Qg6 Qc7 22 Bc2 Qf7 23 Rad1 Bc5 24 h3 Qxg6 25 Bxg6 Bf7 26 Ne5 Be6 27 Nd7+ Bxd7 28 Rxd7 Nc6 29 Rf7+ Kg8 30 Rxg7+ Kf8 31 Re4 Bd6 32 Rf7+ Kg8 33 Rg4 Ne7 34 Bh5 - (Announcing N/7!) Ng6 35 Bxg6 - (Which is now N/5!) Rh6 36 Bh5+ etc. 1-0

White Meph MEGA 4 Black ALMERIA 32 1 min p/m

1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 g3 Bb4 5 Bg2 0-0 6 0-0 e4 7 Ne1 Bxc3 8 dxc3 h6 9 Nc2 Re8 10 Nd4 d6 11 Nxc6 bxc6 12 Bf4 Bg4 13 Qd2 c5 14 Rad1 Qd7 15 b4 Qc6 16 Qc2 Be6 17 b5 Qb7 18 Qb3 Rab8 19 Rfe1 a6! 20 a4! Nd7 21 a5 axb 22 Qxb5 Qxb5 23 cxb5 Rxb5 24 a6 f5 25 Rb1 Rxb1 26 Rxb1 Ra8 27 Rb7 Rxa6 (So ALMERIA has got on top after some interesting Middle-game play by both machines. Then the end comes suddenly..) 28 Rxc7? g5! 29 Be3 f4! 30 Bxf4 Ra1 announcing N/6! via 31 Bf1 Bh3 32 Rc8+ Kf7 33 Bc1 Rxc1 etc. 0-1

White MEGA 4 Black ALMERIA 32 2 mins p/m

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 cxd exd 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 Nc3 Nf6 6 Bf4 Bf5 7 e3 e6 8 Bb5 Nd7 9 Qa4 Qb6 10 Nh4 Be4 11 0-0-0 Rf8 12 f3 Bg6 13 Nxc6 hxc6 14 Kb1 Bb4 15 Rcl - (MEGA's Opening Book has lasted much longer giving him a good time advantage) a6 16 Bd3 0-0 17 h4! Nf6 18 a3 Ne5!? (Setting MEGA many problems.. but MEGA sorts them out!) 19 Bxe5! Bxc3 20 Rc2 Rc6 21 Ka1 Qa5 22 Qxa5 Bxa5 23 Rxc6 bxc6 24 Bxa6 Bd2 25 Bf4 Nh5 26 Rd1 Bb4 27 Bh2? Be7 28 g4! Ra8 29 Bb7 Ra7 30 Bxc6 Nf6 31 Ka2 Kf8 32 Bg3 Ne8 33 e4 dxe? 34 fxe g5 35 hxg Bxg5 36 b4 g6 37 Kb3 Ng7? 38 Bb8! Ra6 39 b5! - (Some fine MEGA play!) Rb6 40 Ba7 Bd8 41 d5 exd 42 exd f5 43 gxf Nxf5 44 d6 Kg7? 45 a4 Kh7 46 Kb4 Ne3 47 Rh1+ Kg7 48 a5 Rxc6 49 bxc6 Bxa5+ 50 Kb5 Nf5 51 Rd1 Nxd6+ 52 Rxd6 and 1-0

White MEGA 4 Black ALMERIA 32 2 mins p/m

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 d4 exd 6 0-0 Be7 7 a5 Ne4 8 Nxd4

0-0 9 Nf3 d5 10 Bxc6 bxc6 11 Nxe7 Qxe7 12 Re1 Re8 13 \*f3 Nd6 14 Bf4 \*Nf5  
 15 Nc3 Qb4 16 Qc1 Rb8 17 Rb1 Nd4! 18 Nxd5?! cxd5 19 c3 Nxf3+?! 20 gxf3 Qa5  
 21 b4 Qxa2 22 Ra1 Qc4 23 Qd2 Rb5 24 Rc1 a5! 25 bxa5 Rxa5 26 Ra1 Rxa1 27  
 Rxa1 Bh3 28 Bg3 h6 29 Rd1 c6 30 Qd3! Qa2 31 Rd2 Qa1+ 32 Rd1 Qb2 33 Rd2  
 Qb3 34 Qc2 Qa3 35 Rd4 Qc5 36 Kh1? Rb8 37 e6 Rb7 38 Ra4? fxe 39 Ra8+ Kf7  
 40 Bf2? Rb1+!! (Like it!!) 41 Qxb1 Qxf2 42 Rf8+ Kxf8 43 Qb8+ Kf7 44 Qf4+  
 Bf5 45 h4 Kg8 46 h5 Kh7 47 Qh2 Qxf3+ 48 Qg2 Qd1+ 49 Kh2 Be4 50 Qb2 Qh1+  
 (announcing M/5). 0-1

White FID MACH 3 Black ALMERIA 32 1 min p/m

1 e4 Nf6! 2 e5 Nd5 3 d4 d6 4 Nf3 Bg4 5 Be2 e6 6 0-0 Be7 7 c4 Nb6 8 h3  
 Bh5 9 Nc3 0-0 10 Be3 N8d7 11 \*b3 a5 12 exd \*cxd 13 Qc2 Bg6 14 Bd3 Qc7?  
 15 Bxg6 hxg6 16 Rae1 d5 17 c5 Nc8 18 Na4 b6 19 c6 Nb8! 20 Ne5 Na7 21 Rc1  
 Rfc8! 22 Bf4! Bd6 23 Qd3 N8xc6 24 Qg3 b5! 25 Nb2 Qb8 26 Qe3 Nxe5 27 dxe5  
 Ba3 28 Rxc8+ Nxc8 29 Qd2 Nb6 30 Qd4 Nd7 31 Nd3 Qc7 32 Bc1 Bc5 33 Qb2 Bb6  
 34 Qe2 Rc8 35 Bd2 Qb7 36 b4? Rc2 37 Rb1 a4 38 Rb2 Qc6 39 a3? Rc4! 40 Be3  
 Bxe3 41 fxe3? Rc3 42 Ra2 Qc4! 43 Nf2 Qxe2 44 Rxe2 Rxa3 45 e4 dxe 46 Nxe4  
 Rb3 47 Rd2 Nxe5 48 Rd8+ Kh7 49 Ng5+ Kh6 50 h4 Kh5 51 Rf8 a3 52 Nxf7 Nxf7  
 53 Ra8 Kxh4 54 Ra7 Ne5 54 Ra6 Nd3 55 Kh2 Nxb4 and 0-1

Obviously there are plenty more, but they'll have to wait until next time.  
 Readers should see the loss to the CLUB as well as a brilliant win against it.  
 A couple of the games vs NOVAG are worth seeing too, showing some really nice  
 positional judgement by Almeria. And 2 more exciting games v MACH 3, a win each

### The new KASPAROV SIMULTANO

First the SIMULTANO match results which I have so far:-

KASP SIMULTANO Rating 1910 +/- 69 vs humans 0 in 0

v FID PAR E/ELITE 2100	1.5	4.5	v NOV FORTE A	3.5	2.5
v MEPH MM4/5	3	3	v FID MACH 3	1	5
v MEPH ROMA 16	0	2	v NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/6	0.5	1.5
v FID MASTER MACH 2C+	3.5	2.5	v MEPH MEGA 4	0.5	5.5
v MEPH ALMERIA 32	0.5	5.5			

The playing programme in the SIMULTANO at initial launch is virtually the same  
 as that in the TURBO KING and STRATOS, though a later version is definitely on  
 its way. Indeed Nick Gibbons of SAITEK loaned me one recently for testing and  
 it will certainly improve the Gradings for the machine - though the TURBO KING,  
 STRATOS and SIMULTANO are pretty good programmes as they are! Indeed I find it  
 one of the best in those early Middle game stages just out of the Opening when  
 it has a nice sense of positional play and can create interesting difficulties  
 for its opponent. The SIMULTANO 'B' will provide better Tactics-awareness and  
 Endgame play making this a stronger all-round machine.

Of course it is its remarkable Features which are the really great attraction  
 of SIMULTANO (aligned to the very tempting £199 price?!). Like the STRATOS  
 before it there is a full range of Levels, a massive Opening Book (plus the  
 facility to add your own), additional storage room for up to 40 games of the  
 users choice, full Display feature with Evaluations and Forward Analysis, Clock  
 Times etc. The 'big EXTRA' is the second LCD Board which can be used in 2 ways,



(1) to hold the current position whilst the user moves pieces on the main Board but without 'pressing' them. The user can thus analyse easily and then get back to the root position which remains in Display. (2) is the ability to get the Board Display to show the progress and effect of the Computer's own Forward Analysis without changing anything on the actual Board itself. Thus one can get a view of how the play is expected to develop in the Computer's view. The final extra is the Simultaneous concept - you can get SIMULTANO to play up to 8 games against various Opponents... or just against yourself so you can get the feel of what it will be like when you're a Grand Master yourself and getting invitations from all over the place for special appearances! A value in this may well be in helping a player to practise seeing as 'much as he can' as 'quickly as he can' continually coming to a new game position requiring fast assessments. Very helpful for Blitz practice I would think.

Now to a couple of SIMULTANO games.

Nearly moments of glory! White **ALMERIA 32** Black **SIMULTANO** 1 min p/m.

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 Be2 Nc6 4 O-O Nf6 5 Nc3 Be7 6 \*d4 cxd 7 Nxd4 d6 8 Bb5 \*Bd7 9 Be3 O-O 10 Qe2 Nxd4 11 Bxd4 e5! 12 Be3 a6 13 Bxd7 Qxd7 14 Rad1 Rac8 15 f3 b5 16 Qd3? b4! 17 Nd5?! Nxd5 18 Qxd5 Rxc2 19 Qb3 - (The game went 19 Qxe5 Qg4 20 Qg3?! Qxg3 21 hxg3 Rxb2 22 Rf2 Rxf2 23 Kxf2 f5 24 Rd4 a5 25 Bf4 fxe 26 Rxe4 Kf7 27 Rc4 g5 28 Be3 Bd8 29 Rc1 Re8 30 Rd1 Re6 31 Rd5! h6 32 f4! gxf 33 gxf a4 34 Kf3 at 2 mins p/m and Almeria went on to win) - Re27! 20 Rf2 Rxf2 21 Bxf2 Rfb8 22 Be3 Qb5! 23 Rc1 a5 24 Rc7 a4 25 Qc4 Qxc4 26 Rxc4 a3 27 b3 Bd8 28 Rc6 Be7 29 Rc4 Bd8 30 Rc6 Be7 and Drawn.

White **SIMULTANO** Black **Nov FORTE A** 2 mins p/m

1 d4 d5 2 e4 e6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Nf3 c5 5 cxd Nxd5 6 e3 Nc6 7 Bc4 \*Nb6 8 \*Bb5 Bd7 9 e4 cxd 10 Nxd4 Be7 11 Nxc6 bxc6 12 Ba6 O-O 13 Bf4 Bc5 14 O-O Qf6 15 Bdb Bxd6 16 Bxd6 Rfd8 17 Rfd1 Be8 18 Qc7 Rd4? 19 Rxd4 - (+1.95) Qxd4 20 Rd1 Qc5 21 Bb7 Kf8 22 Bxa8 Nxa8 23 Qb7 Nb6 24 Qxa7 Qb4 25 Qb8 Nd5 26 Qxb4 Nxb4 27 a3 Nc2 28 Rd8 Ke7 29 Rb8 Nd4 30 Rb7+ Kd8 31 Na4 Nb5 32 e5 Nc7 33 Nc5 h6 34 Rb8+ Ke7 35 a4 f6 36 exf gxf 37 Rb7 Kd8 38 Rb8+ Ke7 39 a5! Kd6 40 b4 e5 41 a6 Nxa6 42 Nxa6 Ke7 43 Nc5 h5 44 Rc8 f5 45 Kf1 e4 46 Ke2 h4 47 Ke3 Kf7 48 Kf4 e3 49 fx3 and a win for SIMULTANO.

In the following game, SIMULTANO again gets the advantage in the early Middle-game. White **Meph KH4** Black **SIMULTANO** 1 min p/m

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd 4 Rxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 g3 Nc6 7 Bg2 \*d5 8 \*Bg5 Qb6 9 Bxf6 gxf6 10 Nxc6 Qxb2 11 Na4 Qb5 12 Bf3? Qxc6 13 Nb2? Qxc2 14 Qb3 Qxb3 15 axb3 Bb4+ and, understandably, SIMULTANO went on to win from here.

### NEARLY SQUEEZED OUT - One Fid MACH 3 win from CARDIFF

White **Fid MACH 3** Black **S J Hutchings (2280)** 2 mins p/m

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nd7 5 Bd3 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ne2 Qb6 8 Nf3 cxd4 9 cxd4 f6 10 exf6 Nxf6 11 O-O Bb6 12 Nc3 O-O 13 Be3 Bd7 14 a3 Kh8 15 Qc2 Rac8 16 Rac1 Bb8 17 Qb1 Qd8 18 Ne2 Qe8 19 Bg5 Ng4 20 Bxh7 Rxf3 21 gxf3 Qh5 22 h4 Nh2 23 Bg6 Nxf3+ 24 Kp2 Qp4+ 25 Ng3 Be8 26 Rh1 Nxd4 27 Bxe8 Rxe8 28 Rc3 Rf8 29 Qd1 Qxd1 30 Rxd1 e5? 31 Rc5 - (eval +2.17) Ne6 32 Rxd5 Nf4+ 33 Bxf4 exf4 34 Nf5 Be5 35 Ne7 Nxe7 36 Rxe5 Ng6 37 Rh5+ Kg8 38 Kf3 Rc8 39 Rd7 and Black resigned, 1-0. I'll get more in next time, a wider sample with an interesting draw and loss as well as a couple more wins.

## KASPAROV GALILEO scores a BIG WIN

GALILEO is the new and correct name for these Machines, replacing the name LEONARDO for Copyright reasons. The KASPAROV GALILEO + 18MHz Turbo was amongst 19 people playing 8 Grand Masters in a Simultaneous display towards the end of last year in Zurich where it obtained DRAWS against Jan Timman and Victor Korchnoi, and BEAT Lajos Portisch! None of the 8 games was easy - the GM's had Kasparov and Karpov on Boards 1 and 2! Here is THE BIG WIN with Notes by IM Malcolm Pein.

White PORTISCH, Black KASPAROV GALILEO+TURBO, Simultaneous Game.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 c5 4 d5 -

Portisch accepts the challenge and enters the sharp Modern Benoni. The game becomes tactical which suits the Galileo of course. Portisch could have played 4 e3 offering transposition into a Tarrasch defence with Black replying 4 - d5. The GM could then have steered the game along more positional lines where the computer would have felt less at home.

4 - exd 5 cxd d6 6 e4 g6 7 Bd3 Bg7 8 Nge2 -

A popular method of combating the Modern Benoni which achieved great popularity when former British Champion Penrose defeated the great Tal with it.

8 - 0-0 9 0-0 Qb6

The Galileo doesn't know the theory here. However it amazingly perceives that the idea of 8 Nge2 is to play the sharp thrust f4 so now it stops this directly with the idea of 10 - c4, discovered check, winning a piece. Portisch's next move is probably an error. There is no need to defend the b/Pawn at present; instead 10 Kh1 would renew the threat of f4 and leave the Queen at b6 looking slightly out of place.

10 Rb1 Bg4

This is a clever move as this piece rarely has a good square to go to in the Modern Benoni. Galileo correctly sees that Portisch cannot prevent its exchange because, if f3, then c4+ again.

11 h3 Bxe2 12 Qxe2 Nbd7 13 Be3 Ne5 14 Bc2 Qa5 15 f4 Nd7 16 a3 -

Portisch aims to blunt Black's Q-side majority by starting an attack on the Queen side of his own. In effect he is attempting to obtain the advantage on both wings, an extremely ambitious strategy.

16 - a6

Galileo evaluates that Portisch's idea would leave him with a tactical weakness on c3 and so carries on with its own plan to see if Portisch will indeed play b4.

17 b4 cxb 18 axb Qc7 19 Rb3? -

Failing to see the hidden weakness on g3 which Galileo exploits on the following move. A full scale retreat with 19 Nd1 would at least have left Portisch with his centre intact.

19 - Nh5!

The type of move Computers rarely miss. Black simultaneously threatens Bxc3 winning a piece and Ng3 winning the exchange. White is now unable to avoid material loss.

20 Rc1 Nxf4 21 Bxf4 Bxc3 22 Bd3 Bd4+ 23 Kh1 Qb6 24 R3b1 Rfc8

Correctly offering the exchange of pieces when material ahead.

25 Rf1 Ne5 26 Bxe5 Bxe5

After this move Galileo has a won position. Its Bishop on e5 is a tower of strength whereas White's on d3 plays almost no part in the game. Black has control of the c-file and even has the possibility of trying to exploit the weak Black squares around the White King later on. In addition to these

advantages he is also the clear Pawn up!

27 Qa2 Rc3 28 Be2 Qe3

Black is now threatening Qg3 forcing mate, so White has to shed another Pawn.

29 Rf3 Qxe4 30 Rxc3 Bxc3 31 Bf3 Qf4

White was unable to prevent the Queen and Bishop lining up against his King and has to resort to the immobilisation of his own Queen on g1 to prevent mate. Unfortunately for Portisch this is exactly the type of "won" position that good Computers always win!

32 Qf2 Be5 33 Qg1 b5 34 Rf1 Qxb4 35 Bg4 Bd4 36 Bh2 f5 37 Bb1 Qc4 38

Rf3 Re8 39 Qg3 Re5 40 Qh4 Bb6

Galileo does not hesitate to enter an endgame when it is material up - correct strategy when a Computer's endgame is up to it! Portisch might have thought that this would give him some hope as Computers are not thought to be as good in the endgame as they are in other parts of the game, but the machine makes no mistake.

41 Bxc4 bxc4 42 Ba4 Rxd3 43 g4 fxg4 44 hxg4 Rd2 45 Bd7 Kh8

Up until now all the moves could well have been played by an extremely strong human, but this move is characteristic of a Computer. It sees a tactical threat (i.e. Be6+) and avoids it by moving its King away. That is reasonable, but in the endgame it should be moving its King forward rather than away, so Kg7 was indicated.

46 g5 d5 47 Be6 -

Portisch enjoys threatening mate for one move, but Galileo now removes White's last chance of setting up any mating net with his Pawn on g5 by a precise tactical sequence.

47 - Rd1+ 48 Kg2 Rg1+ 49 Kh3 Rxg5 50 Rf8+ Kg7 51 Rf7+ Kh6 52 Rd7 c3 53 Bg8 Rg1 54 Kh4 g5+ 55 Kh3 g4+ 56 Kh2 and White resigns.

A classic example of the Computer's ability to exploit tactical errors by any opponent!

### **HITECH beats GM DENKER in Match!**

AGS Information Services - a large USA/Europe corporation - recently funded a 4 game Match in New York in what may well become an Annual Event. Elderly GM Arnold Denker was invited to face the mighty main-frame HiTech in a Challenge Match which attracted a lot of interest from both journalists and American tv as well as a daily influx of 100 spectators crammed into a school amphitheatre lecture room.

Whether HiTech won or Denker lost ("It wore me down" stated Denker after one game) is open to discussion perhaps, but HiTech triumphed in the key Game 2 after the first one had been Drawn and then went on to win the last 2 Games most convincingly. Game 3 was won due to an oversight by Denker, somewhat shattered by his defeat the previous day in a game he had nearly saved.

#### **White Denker, Black HiTech**

1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 d5 3 cxd5 Nxd5 4 g3 g6 5 Bg2 Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7 7 Rb1 Nd7 8 Nf3 Nb6 9 Qc2 Bd7 10 Bb2 Ba4 11 Qc1 Nc4 12 Ba1 Bh6 13 Rb4 b5 14 e3 c5 15 Rxa4 bxa4 16 d3?? -

A disastrous blunder. 16 Qc2 was vital.

16 - Qxd3 17 Bf1 Qe4 and White resigned.



With the Match already decided the fourth Game can hardly have been anticipated with much relish by either a shattered Denker or possible spectators. To his credit, though, Denker (who is not by any means new to Computer Chess so did not suffer from "inexperience" in this area) came out happily and keen to make the score "respectable". Indeed this was the most amazing Game of all with HiTech producing a near-brilliancy which could go into many of the 'Best Game' Anthologies.

### White HiTech, Black Denker

1 e4 c5 2 c3 d5 3 exd5 Qxd5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Nf3 cxd4 6 cxd4 g6?!

A Theoretical Novelty from Denker, though it obtained a rather mixed reception from the onlookers. HiTech goes into lengthy deliberations ("Quiet, it's thinking" quipped Denker!), but comes up with a good continuation.

7 Nc3 Qd8 8 Bc4 Bg7 9 Qa4+ Nbd7 10 Bxf7+! -

Denker's immediate reaction to this (which he had half expected and which one or two of the top Commercial machines also play) was that it was unsound. "I was wrong" he admitted afterwards, "as I had overlooked White's 13th move."

10 - Kxf7 11 Ng3+ Ke8 12 Ne6 Qb6 13 Qc4! Nf8

Denker plays on, knowing he is lost, but hoping for the highly unlikely!

14 Nxg7+ Kd8 15 O-O Bd7 16 Re1 Qd6 17 Bg5 Rc8 18 Qf7 Rc6 19 Nb5 Qb4 20 d5! Qxb5 21 dxc6 Qxg5 22 cxd7 N6xd7 23 Rac1 and Black resigned.

A very impressive result indeed - but NS regulars will know that HiTech's lead amongst the main-frame Computers has been taken from it during recent months by the remarkable DEEP THOUGHT, a programme which has been obtaining Grading Performances at around 2600 USCF on a fairly regular basis. 2495 in the American Open, 2632 in the US Class Champs and then a 4½/5 in the Hall of Fame Tournament in November including a win over IM Igor Ivanov (2618 USCF!). All this was completely eclipsed recently however!

### DEEP THOUGHT 1= with TONY MILES in MAJOR US Tournament

Yes, tied 1= with GM Tony Miles! A score of 6½/8 was achieved as follows:-

Round	Opponent	Grading	FIDE	Result
1	Lesiege	2334	2235	1
2	Glicksman	2388	2250	1 (Announced a Mate in 19!!)
3	GM Bent Larsen	2580	2560	1!
4	GM Walter Browne	2640	2515	0
5	IM McCambridge	2599	2570	½
6	IM Jerry Silman	2507	2395	1
7	FM Salgado	2337	2290	1
8	FM Fishbein	2572	2490	1

This comes down to a USCF Grade of 2695 and FIDE of 2601 and, all-in-all, an incredible effort. A pity DEEP THOUGHT didn't meet MILES himself in the Final Round to decide the Championship! Larry Kaufman tells me that they are actually now anticipating that the mid-1989 DEEP THOUGHT will be running 6 times faster than the current one! I'll leave you to draw your own conclusions from that!

(Also interesting to see a 100 USCF/FIDE gap - the figure currently used in NS for adjusting Computer Gradings between the two Countries).

Here are the moves from the Larsen game.

White Bent Larsen, Black Deep Thought

1 c4 e5 2 g3 Nf6 3 Bg2 c5 4 Nf3 e4 5 Nd4 d5 6 cxd Qxd5 7 Nc2 Qh5 8 h4  
Bf5 9 Ne3 Bc5 10 Qb3 b6 11 Qa4 O-O 12 Nc3 b5 13 Qc2 Bxe3 14 dxe Re8 15  
a4 b4 16 Nb1 Nbd7 17 Nd2 Re6 18 b3 Rd8 19 Bb2 Bg6 20 Nc4 Nd5 21 O-O-O  
N7f6 22 Bh3 Bf5 23 Bxf5 Qxf5 24 f3 h5 25 Bd4 Rd7 26 Kb2 Rc7 27 g4 hxg4  
28 Rhg1 c5 29 fxg Nxg4 30 Bxg7 Rg6 31 Qd2 Rd7 32 Rxxg4 Rxxg4 33 Ne5 Nxe3 34  
Qxd7 Nxd1+ 35 Qxd1 Rg3 36 Qd6 Kxg7 37 Nd7 Re3 38 Qh2 Kh7 39 Nf8+ Kh8 40  
h5 Qd5 41 Ng6+ fxg 42 hxg+ Kg7 43 Qh7+ Kf6 and Larsen resigned here.

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### 19th NORTH AMERICA COMPUTER CHAMPS

With DEEP THOUGHT obtaining regular 2600 USCF Gradings, HITECH creeping into the 2500's and CRAY BLITZ thought to be pulling its way back into the top flight after a year or two of taking a back seat, this Championship was a real focus of attention. Especially as MEPHISTO were taking the 68020 processor 20MHz new World Micro Champion ALMERIA and FIDELITY their 68030 20 MHz as had contested the World Micro in Spain. NOVAG was also entered with its latest SUPER FORTE/EXPERT version running at 9MHz.

Round 1 saw DEEP THOUGHT and FIDELITY matched immediately. I would love to know what FIDELITY's expectations were before both this Game and the Tournament as a whole; here is their first game.

White DEEP THOUGHT, Black FIDELITY NACH 4 68030

1 e4 c5 2 c3 e6 3 d4 d5 4 exd5 exd5 5 Nf3 Nc6 6 Be3 cxd4 7 Bxd4 Nxd4 8  
Qxd4 Nf6 9 Bb5+ Bd7 10 Bxd7+ Qxd7 11 O-O Be7 12 Nbd2 O-O 13 Ne5 Qf5 14  
Ndf3 Bd6 15 Rae1 Rfe8 16 c4 Ne4 17 Qxd5 Bxe5 18 Kh1 Rad8 19 Qxe4 Qxe4 20  
Rxe4 Bxb2 21 Rxe8+ Rxe8 22 Rd1 Ba3 23 Rd7 Re2 24 h4 h5 25 Rd8+ Kh7 26 Rd2  
Rxd2 27 Nxd2 Kg6 28 g3 Kf5 29 Nb3 Bb4 30 f3 f6 31 Kg2 g5 32 Nc1 Bd6 33  
Kh3 Ke5 34 Ne2 Bc5 35 f4+ Kf5 36 fxg5 fxg5 37 hxg5 Kxg5 38 Nc3 Bb4 39 Nd5  
Bd6 40 Kg2 Be5 41 Kf3 b6 42 a4 Bd6 43 Nc3 Bc7 44 c5 bxc5 45 Ne4+ Kg6 46  
Nxc6 Kf5 47 Nd3 Kg5 48 Nb4 e5 49 Nd5 Be5 50 Ne3 Bf6 and draw by agreement.  
I think it's the first time ANY Computer has taken a 1/2 off DEEP THOUGHT?

In other key games, HITECH beat WAYCOOL, CRAY BLITZ beat NOVAG and MEPHISTO beat A.I.CHESS.

In Round 2 HITECH won again, this time over BEBE, FIDELITY destroyed WAYCOOL in 34 moves announcing Mate in 6, MEPHISTO maintained the impressive start for the micros with a fine draw against CRAY BLITZ, DEEP THOUGHT beat PHOENIX fairly easily, and NOVAG drew with A.I.CHESS.

Round 3 saw the 'Big Match' between DEEP THOUGHT and HITECH.

White DEEP THOUGHT, Black HITECH

1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Nd5 3 d4 d6 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 c4 Nb6 6 e6 fxe6 7 Ng5 g6 8 Bd3  
Nxd4 9 Nxh7 Nf5 10 Nxf8 Kxf8 11 O-O c5 12 b3 d5 13 Nd2 Qd6 14 Nf3 Nd7 15  
Re1 d4 16 Ne5 Nxe5 17 Bf4 Rh7 18 Rxe5 Qb6 19 g4 Nh4 20 Bg3 Bd7 21 Rh5  
gxh5 22 Bxh7 e5 23 Bxh4 Bxg4 24 Qd3 Rc8 25 Re1 Qe6 26 f3 Bh3 27 Qg6 Qxg6  
28 Bxg6 Rc6 29 Bxh5 Re6 30 Bg3 Ra6 31 a4 d3 32 Rxe5 Rd6 33 Re1 Rb6 34 Bf4

a5 35 Be3 Rxb3 36 Bxc3 d2 37 Bxe7 Kg7 38 Rd1 Re3 39 Bh4 Ra3 40 Be6 Rf3  
41 Bg5 Rf8 42 Bb5 Kg6 43 Be3 Rf3 44 Bxd2 Rd3 45 c5 Rd5 46 c6 bxc6 47 Bxc6  
Rd6 48 Bf3 Rd4 49 Bxa5 Rxa4 50 Rd6+ Kf5 51 Bc3 Ra2 52 Rh6 Bg4 53 Bd5 Rc2  
54 Rc6 Re2 55 h4 Kf4 56 Rc4 Kg3 57 Ba5 and Black resigned (1-0).

And then the following!

White CRAY BLITZ, Black FIDELITY MACH 4 68030

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6 5 Bg3 Nf6 6 Nc3 Bg7 7 Bc4 Qa5 8  
0-0 0-0 9 Bb3 d6 10 h3 Bd7 11 Qf3 Ne8 12 Qe2 Rac8 13 Rad1 Qa6 14 Qxa6  
bxa6 15 f4 Nc4 16 Bxc4 Rxc4 17 e5 dxe5 18 fxe5 Nh5 19 Nf3 Bc6 20 Rd4 Rxd4  
21 Nxd4 Bb7 22 e6 Bxd4 23 Bxd4 fxe6 24 Rxf8 Kxf8 25 Ne2 g5 26 c3 Kf7 27  
Kf2 Kg6 28 Bxa7 Nf4 29 Nxf4+ gxf4 30 Bd4 Kf5 31 Bc5 Kf6 32 c4 e5 33 b4  
Bc6 34 Bb6 e4 35 Bd4+ e5 36 Bb2 e3+ 37 Kg1 Kf5 38 c5 e4 39 Bc1 Bb5 40  
Kh1 Ke6 41 Kg1 Kd5 42 a4 bxa4 43 g3 e2 44 Kf2 f3 45 Bd2 Kd4 46 g4 Bc6 47  
Bf4 Kd3 48 b5 axb5 49 Bh6 b4 and White resigned (0-1!)

To continue the Micro uprising, MEPHISTO now met SUN PHOENIX.

White SUN PHOENIX, Black MEPHISTO ALMERIA/20 32 bit

1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 cxd5 cxd5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Nf3 Nc6 6 Bf4 Bf5 7 e3 e6 8 Bb5  
Nd7 9 Qa4 Rc8 10 Bxc6 Rxc6 11 Qxa7 Qc8 12 Qa5 Ra6 13 Qc7 Qa8 14 Ne5 Nxe5  
15 Qxe5 f6 16 Qbb+ Qxb8 17 Bxb8 Kf7 18 Bg3 Bb4 19 0-0 Bxc3 20 bxc3 Rc8 21  
Rfc1 b5 22 Kf1 Rca8 23 Bf4 h5 24 h3 Bd3+ 25 Kg1 Rc6 26 Bh2 Ra3 27 g4 h4  
28 Bf4 g5 29 Bb8 Ke7 30 Kg2 Rc8 31 Bh2 Rca8 32 Kh1 Rba4 33 Bc7 Be4+ 34  
Kg1 Ra6 35 Kf1 Bd3+ 36 Kg2 Kd7 37 Bh2 Be4+ 38 Kf1 Ra8 39 Kg1 Rc8 40 Kf1  
Ke7 41 Kg1 Rc4 42 Bb8 Bd3 43 Kg3 Ra8 44 Bh2 Rac8 45 Kg1 b4 46 f3 Bg6 47  
Kf2 bxc3 48 a4 Rb4 49 Ke1 Rb2 50 Bg1 Bd3 51 Bf2 Rcb8 52 Rd1 c2 53 Rdc1  
Rb1 and White resigns (0-1!)

To complete the 3rd Round Micro v Main-Frame route, NOVAG then beat BEBE to leave the leaders with 1 Round to go:- 1= DEEP THOUGHT, FIDELITY and MEPHISTO all on 2½, 4 HITECH on 2, 5= BP 2000, CRAY BLITZ and NOVAG on 1½ each.

FIDELITY was to meet HITECH in the last Round and DEEP THOUGHT was to play MEPHISTO! I have the Results but not the moves of the 4th Round Games and, in the event, DEEP THOUGHT beat MEPHISTO after an even middle-game swung the Main-Frame's way with its powerful Endgame calculating speed. However the FIDELITY - HITECH did just the opposite. After the Machines reached a fairly even Endgame - despite FIDELITY having an extra Pawn the position was blocked and it looked like being a draw - HITECH faltered after a series of apparently ineffective manouvres by allowing his King to stray one square too far away from the centre. FIDELITY pounced and won in 54 moves. Despite a NOVAG loss to SUN PHOENIX the FINAL RESULTS TABLE reflects GREAT credit on the Micros which are on nothing like so fast or expensive processing equipment as the Main-Frames and depend much more on the quality of their programming:-

1= DEEP THOUGHT, Fidelity MACH 4 68030 ..... 3½  
3= Mephisto ALMERIA/20 32 bit, CRAY BLITZ ... 2½  
5= HITECH, SUN PHOENIX, BEBE..... 2  
8= Novag SUPER EXP/9, BP 2000, CYRUS 68K..... 1½  
11 A.I.CHESS..... 1  
12 WAYCOOL..... ½

## RESULTS vs HUMANS

Quite a range this Issue as various Computers have been busy here and there.

Let's start with 'here' and the FIDELITY MACH 3 Match against the Cardiff Chess Club. Many Readers will have seen the references to this Match on Oracle which Cardiff themselves arranged both to advertise the Event and announce the result which was a 22-11 win for the Computers! It has not been possible yet to give a definite Grading to this performance as neither the FIDE nor BCF figures for 2 of the players (who each drew 1-1) are known at this time. Also there were 2 Players under 1700 (both lost thankfully!), but the wins here do not help the Computer Performance Grading and so those results have to be excluded. In the end there are not enough Games involved to actually obtain an Official BCF figure as was done for FIDELITY's MACH 2 (189 BCF). However taking everything I can into account, the figure is not likely to exceed 2065/183 BCF. This comes as a slight disappointment after the Official 2265 USCF figure with Master Title but even 30 games is "small sample" and allows room for +/-80... at both the American end and ours!

Though a look at the figures suggests the MACH 3 didn't do as well in its test as the MACH 2 had done against the Berkshire Team, it was noticeable that Cardiff had really got themselves fully prepared for this Match. A couple of the MACH 2's had been used to prepare Openings and whilst some of the players were clearly opting for a quiet 'positional' style, others were making sure the Computer stayed on the defensive, giving it little opportunity as far as was possible to create complications. Even so, when all is said and done, it ended as a 22-11 for the MACH 3 and my view was that it was a great effort to get this score.

The FIDELITY MACH 3 has also been Tournament tested in France where it achieved a 2036 Grade from 52 games. This converts to a 190 BCF figure. I note that the MACH 2 in France got 1951 (only 9 games) last year, so the French "difference" tends to confirm the figures from USA as well as the many Computer vs Computer scores which show the MACH 3 as 75-100 stronger than its predecessor in all results (apart from 'our' Cardiff one!)

A compilation of various Gradings prepared in Holland produced some more info -

Meph ALMERIA 32 2138=202 BCF,  
 Novag SUPERS+TURBO 2078=195BCF,  
 Meph MEGA 4+TURBO 2038=190 BCF,  
 Kasp GALILEO+TURBO 2027=188 BCF,  
 Fid MACH 3 2016=187 BCF,  
 Meph MEGA 4 1998=185 BCF,  
 Novag SUPER FORTE/6 1988=184BCF,  
 Fid MACH 2 1982=183 BCF,  
 CX6 SPHINX 1956=180 BCF,

All of the above results, together with the following one, are included in the calculations of the RATING LISTS in this Issue of course. Readers will note that, once again, there has been a drop in the overall level of our List (about 30 points/4 BCF) and this is due to the fact that, whilst the Computers are CERTAINLY improving in real Chess terms by 50-75 Elo each year, that is not being translated into clear 'profit' in vs Human play. This is 'simply' due to the fact that, as more and more serious players own their own Computers and/or

have chance to prepare for games against them, the Computers will find it harder and harder to make their improvements show in grading terms. For example who would honestly expect that a SENSORY 9 might get an Official 1771 Grade in a Tournament today, or the old MEPHISTO 2 get figures also in the 1700's as it did some years ago!? Remember the NOV SUPER CONSTELLATION and its 2018! The Dutch figures above have the latest SUPER FORTE/6 actually 30 behind that and even the 18MHz Turbo-boosted machine not so much higher. Yet both are very definite improvements on the older SUPER CONNY. We should not be frightened of human players coming to terms with the machines - rather, I am encouraged that genuinely strong players ARE now having to work and prepare for their Computer encounters, and that they are using Computers themselves in so many cases to help with their general Chess studies. The challenge to the programmers thus remains and we can look forward to further advances continuing in the next few years as the manufacturers still have targets to achieve.

After all of that we come to the one disappointing Result which comes from recent Club Tournaments in Sweden. These matches in Sweden are getting a little bit like the notorious Porz Tournaments where good Grading figures also seem so very hard to come by. Here are the latest ones:-

Fidelity MACH 3	1932 (182 BCF) from 6 games
Mephisto ALMERIA 32	1836 (170 BCF) from 9 games
Conchess PLY VICTORIA	1738 (157 BCF) from 8 games

**Please Note:** The FID MACH 3 is 3 games short for the following reasons:-

- (1) One game, a win for MACH 3, was actually against PLY VICTORIA
  - (2) One Player refused to play against the MACH 3
  - (3) One Game was LOST against a Player for whom we have no Rating info as yet.
- Thus the Fidelity figure will certainly come down a little - probably ending up at around 1875 from 7 games.

My guess is (and I will try to find out if I'm right) that these bi-annual Club Tournaments in Sweden are involving a good number of the actual group of workers who are responsible for the massive testing which is done in Sweden. For example I was told after Novag's disappointing 1718 from 9 games in the late-1988 Tournament that many of its opponents had carefully exchanged into end-games to play there against this Computer where it is considered weaker. This implies machine-specific knowledge and contrasts sharply with other Novag results where it has achieved far better Gradings. Consider:-

Nov SUPER EXPERT in Sweden	1718	in USA	2164	
Fid MACH 3	in Sweden	1875 (est)	in USA	2265

It is hard to understand how the two Countries can produce Results that are around 400 points different, is it not? Also bear in mind that the USA results were obtained in Major Championships!

Finally Readers may have noticed a 'new Machine' hidden up there! The CONCHESS PLYMATE VICTORIA. I understand this is a version of the Y!88 programme which was entered in the 1988 WORLD MICRO where it came 3rd behind Mephisto and Fidelity in the SOFTWARE Section. And I understand that it is being made for CONCHESS and will be commercially available soon. Further news as soon as I have it.

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**Advert! - ATARI ST for sale!**

BRYAN WHITBY of CHESS COMPUTER WORLD, 16 Manse Field Rd, Kingsley, Warrington WA6 8BZ has an **ATARI ST** for Sale. It includes the following CHESS PROGRAMMES: (1) Psion Chess, (2) Chessmaster 2000, (3) Colossus X and (4) Deep Thought. Excellent condition, only a few months old. Tel 0928 88942 any night after 8. **PRICE ... £225**

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**Bits and Pieces!**

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**NOVAG** has a **SUPER V.I.P** coming out fairly soon. Price and details not known but the popular V.I.P will be even more welcome in a stronger version. I have always liked this very useful keyboard and genuine portable Computer with some excellent features and good battery life and it makes a fine companion for holidays, journeys, lunch-breaks etc.

**CONCHESS** will have a **PLYMATE VICTORIA** Module out any time now. The current **PLYMATE** is available running at 4, 5.5 and 8MHz but we can expect the new programme to be stronger again. I also hear it has a massive Opening Book.

**NEPHISTO** is bringing out the **ACADEMY** very soon. It will be a **MEGA 4** with further features and in the nicely-sized wood **MONTE CARLO** Board. One source has told me that the programme is an improvement on the **MEGA 4** with also a larger Opening Book, but I haven't seen that officially yet. I believe price will be around £399.

The **KASPAROV** range welcomes the **RENAISSANCE** next. Using the same Board as **GALILEO** (ex: **LEONARDO**) but with LEDs on every square and Kaplan's latest programme. All of the technology enabling PC connections, use of Chess Base, Print-outs of Games/Analysis via a PC etc are in the new machine. When **SIMULTANO** came out I suggested to Nick Gibbons at Saitek that it had every feature any Chess Computer could have and, if there were any others, then they hadn't been invented yet! However Nick assured me I'm wrong and that the **RENAISSANCE** will have something even more. Unfortunately I don't know what it is yet so I've joined the 'wait and see' brigade for this one!

**FIDELITY'S** **MACH 3** got 79 out of 90 in the latest "**Beat the Masters**" in the much improved **PERGAMON CHESS** - the best score achieved by any of the Computers so far. It would have earned 8th Prize in the Competition for its month! Next Issue is **SIMULTANO**, then the **ALMERIA 32** bit the work for which I'm about 1/2 way through as I write this.

**RATING LISTS.** As usual, my notes for newcomers.

**75** after a machine indicates its processor speed - these programmes are available with different processors, so this helps distinguish between them.

**+/-** shows the maximum rating deviation likely for that machine. It is 95% certain that its Rating will stay within its +/- range.

**Human Games** Column repeats Info. from the **vs HUMANS** List. These figures are used to adjust the **OVERALL LEVEL** of the **RATING LIST** as well as each **SPECIFIC** machines own Rating. Many people feel that the **vs HUMANS** List is more useful than my **MAIN** one which includes both the Computer v Human and Computer v Computer Results.

**\*** after a Machine in the **vs HUMANS** List indicates that is not generally available commercially in that form. If it comes onto the market, the '\*' will be removed.



RATING LIST mid-January 1989 <i>cont... from p.16.</i>						Human/Games	
BCF	Computer	Elo	+/-	Games	Pos		
146	NOV QUATRO	1769	19	585	59		
146	PSION QL	1764	56	70	60		
145	NOV PRIMO/VIP	1760	30	242	61		
145	CONCHESS/2	1759	16	825	62	1800	11
145	CHESMASTER 2000	1756	32	208	63		
145	NOV CONST/3.6	1756	16	795	64	1884	17
143	FID ELITE B	1743	63	54	65		
140	SARGON 4	1723	56	70	66		
140	SARGON 3	1721	69	46	67		
139	MEPH MONDIAL	1715	32	217	68		
138	COLOSSUS 4	1707	32	217	69	1620	2
138	FID ELITE OLD	1706	39	139	70	1866	5
136	NOV CONST/2	1690	13	1195	71	1745	37
135	SUPER ENT/ADV STAR	1681	17	773	72	1646	11
126	FID SENSORY 9	1611	16	869	73	1661	59
126	COLOSSUS 2	1604	79	35	74		
123	GGM + STEINITZ	1583	28	285	75		
123	CHES 2001	1582	52	80	76		
121	SUPERCHES 3.5	1564	64	52	77		
121	MEPH 3	1564	20	552	78		
120	SCI SUPERSTAR BAS	1562	30	242	79		
120	MEPH 2	1558	20	555	80	1736	25
120	KASP TURBO 16K	1556	45	106	81		
119	KASP TURBO 24K	1553	47	96	82		
119	GGM + MORPHY	1552	40	137	83	1559	19
117	CONCHESS A0	1534	56	68	84		
114	SCI C/C MARK 5	1508	37	160	85	1573	22
113	CYRUS 2	1504	56	70	86		
113	PHILIDOR/COUNT GAMBIT	1501	57	66	87		
112	SCI C/C MARK 6	1499	85	30	88		
110	CYRUS 1.5	1480	50	88	89	1566	2
108	WHITE KNIGHT 11	1467	67	48	90		
105	SUPERCHES 3.0	1438	62	57	91		
105	MORPHY ENCORE	1437	47	96	92		
98	SPECTRUM 2	1383	88	28	93		

## Top COMPUTER RATINGS vs HUMANS, mid-Jan 1989

BCF	Computer	Elo	Games				
202	FID MACH 4 32 bit*	2219	53	179	NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/9*	2035	24
190	MEPH MM4+TURBO*	2123	36	179	PSION ATARI/B	2033	24
190	FID MACH 3	2116	151	178	KASP GAL ANALYST/8	2026	98
189	MEPH MEGA 4+TURBO*	2113	78	177	KASP GALILEO+TURBO*	2015	40
189	NOVAG SUPERS+TURBO*	2111	27	176	MEPH DALLAS 16	2010	50
187	MEPH ALMERIA 32	2094	19	175	MEPH MM4/B*	2001	7
186	MEPH DALLAS 32	2090	197	175	KASP GAL MAESTRO/4	2000	6
185	MEPH ACADEMY+TURBO*	2082	52	175	MEPH SUPER MONDIAL	2000	6
185	MEPH ACADEMY	2080	20	174	NOV EXPERT/4	1994	43
185	MEPH MEGA 4	2079	96	174	MEPH BLITZ	1988	6
185	MEPH AMSTERDAM	2077	182	173	NOV FORTE B	1982	207
184	NOV EXPERT+TURBO*	2072	78	172	FID MASTER MACH 2B	1978	25
184	NOV EXPERT/5	2069	62	172	SCI TURBO KASP/4	1977	52
183	FID MASTER MACH 2C+	2065	118	172	NOV SUPER EXPERT ORIG	1973	22
182	MEPH MOND/DALLAS XL	2058	68	171	MEPH EXCL 9/12	1969	27
182	NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/6	2054	112	171	MEPH ROMA 16	1967	36
182	CONCHESS PLYMATE/4	2053	6	170	CONCHESS/4	1958	23
181	NOV EXPERT/6	2046	22	169	CONCH PLYMATE/5.5	1952	55
180	MEPH ROMA 32	2038	47	169	MEPH REBELL	1950	46
180	MEPH MM4/5	2036	78	168	NOV FORTE A	1945	124

## RATING LIST mid-January 1989

BCF	Computer	Elo	+/-	Games	Pos	Human/Games
• 207	MEPH ALMERIA 32	2256	40	135	1	2094 19
203	MEPH ALMERIA 16	2221	48	93	2	
197	MEPH ROMA 32	2175	18	647	3	2038 47
195	FID MACH 3	2159	16	796	4	2116 151
193	MEPH DALLAS 32	2147	15	966	5	2090 197
189	MEPH DALLAS 16	2111	13	1336	6	2010 50
188	MEPH ROMA 16	2102	13	1281	7	1967 36
187	MEPH MOND/DALLAS XL	2092	29	259	8	2058 68
184	FID MASTER MACH 2C+	2074	11	1649	9	2065 118
183	MEPH MEGA 4	2066	14	1042	10	2079 96
183	MEPH AMSTERDAM	2063	10	2131	11	2077 182
183	MEPH ACADEMY	2060	93	25	12	2080 20
181	FID MASTER MACH 2B	2046	27	287	13	1978 25
179	MEPH MM4/5	2033	12	1602	14	2036 78
• 177	NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/6	2019	20	535	15	2054 112
• 177	PSION ATARI/8	2012	15	988	16	2033 24
176	KASP GAL ANALYST/8	2005	30	247	17	2026 98
175	MEPH MONTE CARLO	2003	36	163	18	
173	FID MASTER MACH 2A	1986	26	330	19	1928 35
173	NOV SUP EXP-FORTE/5	1984	14	1039	20	1940 13
• 172	NOV EXPERT/5	1974	32	214	21	2069 62
172	FID 68000 CLUB B	1972	14	1164	22	1880 7
171	NOV EXPERT/6	1968	31	222	23	2046 22
169	CXG SPHINX	1954	23	412	24	1935 82
169	KASP STRATOS	1954	15	989	25	
169	FID AVANT GARDE/5	1951	12	1492	26	1875 77
169	NOV FORTE B	1948	11	1703	27	1982 207
168	FID PAR E/ELITE 2100	1947	10	2026	28	1937 209
168	MEPH REBELL	1944	13	1373	29	1950 46
167	NOV SUPER EXPERT ORIG	1934	25	338	30	1973 22
167	NOV FORTE A	1934	10	1983	31	1945 124
166	CONCH PLYMATE/5.5	1925	12	1401	32	1952 55
165	MEPH SUPER MONDIAL	1923	16	879	33	2000 6
165	KASP GAL MAESTRO/6	1923	15	934	34	1883 123
165	KASP GAL MAESTRO/4	1917	84	31	35	2000 6
• 164	KASP SIMULTANO	1910	69	46	36	
163	NOV EXPERT/4	1906	16	838	37	1994 43
163	KASP TURBO KING	1905	48	95	38	1929 30
163	FID EXCELLENCE/4	1905	13	1188	39	
163	CONCHESS/6	1900	47	98	40	2204 1
162	SCI TURBO KASP/4	1897	21	500	41	1977 52
162	CONCHESS PLYMATE/4	1896	24	362	42	2053 6
160	PSION 1/8	1878	54	75	43	
160	SCI TURBOSTAR 432	1878	13	1240	44	1909 61
160	FID EXCELLENCE/3	1877	13	1280	45	1887 41
160	FID ELEGANCE	1876	19	630	46	1882 40
160	MEPH MM2	1876	20	567	47	1712 7
158	FID ELITE C	1861	37	160	48	1881 11
156	CONCHESS/4	1846	21	504	49	1958 23
156	FID EXCEL DISPLAY/3	1844	41	131	50	
155	NOV SUPER CONST	1843	9	2847	51	1878 254
154	MEPH BLITZ	1828	29	262	52	1988 6
150	MEPH EUROPA	1797	43	119	53	
150	FID ELITE A	1796	41	131	54	1789 20
148	MEPH EXCL S/12	1784	32	212	55	1969 27
148	FID PRESTIGE	1780	18	695	56	1768 131
147	SCI SUPERSTAR 36K	1778	17	767	57	
147	FID SENSORY 12	1774	15	906	58	1820 7

cont... on p. 15.

As usual, my  
best wishes  
to all readers,

*Eric*