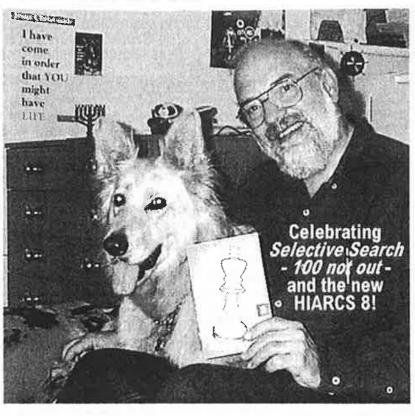
SELECTIVE SEARCH 100! THE COMPUTER CHESS MAGAZINE

Est. 1985 Jun-Jul 2002 Editor: Eric Hallsworth £3.75



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■ SELECTIVE SEARCH is produced by ERIC HALLSWORTH

CORRESPONDENCE and SUBSCRIPTIONS to Eric Hallsworth at The Red House, 46 High St., Wilburton, Cambs CB6 3RA. Or E-MAIL: eric@elhchess.demon.co.uk

- ■All COMPUTER CHESS PRODUCTS are available from COUNTRYWIDE COMPUTERS LTD, Victoria House, 1 High Street, Wilburton, Cambs CB6 3RB.

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- ■FREE CATALOGUE.
- ■Readers can ring *ERIC* at *COUNTRYWIDE*, Mon-Fri, 10.30am-5pm

COMPUTER & PC Programs ... The Best Buys!

RATINGS for all these computers and programs are on pages 31-32. This is not a complete product listing - they are what I consider to be current BEST BUYS bearing in mind price, playing strength, features + quality.

Further info/photos can be seen in **Countrywide's** CATALOGUE - if you want one, ring or write to the

address/phone no. on the front page.

Note the software prices! - some retailer prices seem cheaper, but there's a post & packing charge at the end!... our insured delivery p&p is FREE to SS folk. Adaptors are £9 extra. Subscribers Offer: buy from Countrywide and deduct 5% off dedicated computer prices shown here.... mention 'SS' when you order.

PORTABLE COMPUTERS = [por]

Kasparov

BRAVO - new £49, Barracuda program!

COSMOS £99 - great value, 4½"x4½" plug-in board, strong Morsch '2100' program. Multiple levels + info display and coach system

Novag

OPAL PLUS £54 - good hobby computer
Excalibur

TOUCH CHESS £49 - play on screen using touch pen. Includes carry pouch.

■ TABLE-TOP PRESS SENSORY ■ [ps]

Kasparov

BLADE £49 - includesTalking coach system
BARRACUDA £79 - The Morsch '2000' prog.
Compact board, display etc. This is great value!
CENTURION £79 - Barracuda '2000' program in slightly larger board, and value-for-money buy
COUGAR £99! - the Cosmos '2100' program + features in 16"x11" board; good info display.

Novag
AGATE PLUS/QUARTZ £72 - Opal Plus
progam, good hobby computer + teaching

Mephisto

MILANO PRO £249 - Morsch at RISC speed, big book, strong, good features and display ATLANTA £379 - the fast hash-table version of Milano Pro=even greater strength. 64 led board

■ WOOD AUTO SENSORY ■ [as]

Mephisto

EXCLUSIVE all wood board, felted pieces with MM6 - Morsch's 2100 program £449 with MAGELLAN - Atlanta program £749

All Win & run INDEPENDENTLY + analyse within C87/8. Great graphics, big databases+opening books, printing, max features.

FRITZ 7 £39.95 - by Franz Morsch. Extra chess knowledge for top Strength - a beautiful program! Plus superb new Interface, terrific Graphics, excellent in both analysis and play, plus good hobby levels and teaching features.

DEEP FRITZ £79 - for dual & quad processors, giving GM strength on top multi-processor Pentium3+AMD machines

HIARCS 8 £39.95 - by Mark Uniacke. Simply outstanding and running faster+stronger than ever! Superb latest Interface, terrific Graphics.

TIGER14 £39 - by Christophe Theron. Features for play, analysis, printing etc. as Fritz6.

Tiger14.0 is very strong and reliable in all aspects of the game, while Gambit2.0 plays some amazing, attacking chess - possibly the new

no.1! A great chess CD!

SHREDDER 632 £39.95 - Stefan Meyer-Kahlen's program in latest ChessBase Interface. Feature-packed format - knowledge-based playing stylish chess. Good for quality analysis.

JUNIOR 7 £39.95 - top Features, latest Chess-Base Interface etc. Strong, good positional chess but aggressive with fast tactics!

DEEP JUNIOR 7 £79 - the multi-processor World Champion version of Junior 7!

The YOUNG TALENTS CD £46 has 6 new programs, of which SOS and GOLIATH are clearly pretty strong

POWERBOOKS 2002 £39 - turn your Chess-Base playing engine into an openings expert! 7.6 million opening positions + 630,000 games!!

ENDGAME TURBO CD's £39 - turn your ChessBase playing engine into an endgame expert with this 4CD Nalimov tablebase set!

■ Other PC PROGRAMS on CD ■

REBEL CENTURY 4 with GANDALF 5 £46. CD contains the new Century4.0 (DOS & Win) by Ed Schroder, as well as Suurballe's latest Gandalf Win version. Wonderful chess - Century4 is crammed with chess knowledge, about as human-like as you can get, new king safety awareness, and running faster than ever. The CD is packed with some unique analytical features, openings books, big games database etc.

HIARCS7 - for PC and MAC! - £49

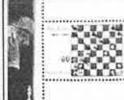
■ PC DATABASES on CD ■

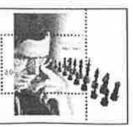
CHESSBASE 8.0 for Windows £99 !!
The most popular and complete Games Database system, with the very best features. 1.6 million games, players encyclopedia, multimedia presentations, search trees, statistics, superb printing facilities and much more, incl. 3 recent ChessBase magazines on CD! The business!
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NEWS & RESULTS - KEEPING YOU RIGHT UP-TO-date in the COMPUTER CHESS world!

Well, 17 years ago when I wrote my first, somewhat Computer casual, Chess NEWS SHEET, I would never have believed it!

100 issues of the News Sheet, re-named a few years later and best known as SE-LECTIVE SEARCH, the Computer Chess Magazine.

It really started out as a (slightly cross) reaction to over-the-top advertising and 'claimed ratings' of the day, and I wrote two articles for Mike Basman's magazine POPULAR CHESS.

In those I attempted to apply the official BCF rating system to the computers, and showed that the real ratings were generally at least 10-15 BCF (100 Elo) lower than the various manufacturer's advertised figures.

In a way it's amusing, as the rating figures which I produced in those early efforts have also all proved still to be too high in the end.

Of course part of that is because people eventually got used to playing against them!

I know the computers scored plenty of points at first as opponent's made mistakes through the sheer novelty and disbelief of playing against them. We also tended to try out our range of cute openings or little tactical traps ('I wonder if it knows this...') only to find that we were playing in the one area the machines were quite good at, even in those early days.

I have in front of me the Rat-

Note below, from NEWS SHEET 1, that advertisers of the Super Enterprise claimed it to be 2100 Elo. I half-swallowed it and said 1940! Then compare the 1987 figure, just 2 years later, with a reasonable Elo-calc system running. Finally, look at the current 2002 rating!

ERIC HALLSWOHTH FLAT I, DOL HENDHE FFOHOD DYFED TYMYN, GWYNEDD LL36 OST SEPTEMBER 1985

CHESS COMPUTENS - NEWS SHEET I



EMS SHEET to all SUPPLIERS, METAILERS and PENSONAL CONTACTS with whom I have or another concerning CHESS COMPUTERS sold or owned by them. All of the received from you has been very much appreciated and proved most helpful; and subcomes of this NEWS SHEET will be continuing incoming supplies of Information

NEW MACHINES from what I hear.

SUPER ENTERPRISE. Mnfetre. claim 2100; other Hetailer says 1900+. Few Hesults in so fer, I am giving it a very tentative 1940 for now.

FIDELITY EXCELLENCE also has vary erratio information. One Ketailer has it close to 2100; two others have it at 1850+ and 1880. A Purchaser estimates around 2040 and the Games scores I have thus far auggest sround 2020; perhaps a little more. We shall see!

This was my first A5-sized publication - previous to that it had been on cheaply duplicated A4 sheets.

By this time my rating method - done on an old Sharp computer - had been carefully tuned and re-tuned until I for one was convinced it was surely close to the truth. Eventually it would get onto a real Personal Computer with proper database facilities, and some further refinements and improvements could take place.

But just look at the 1987 ratings, which are a selection of those in issue 13, and compare them with the figures I have shown alongside them today, in 2002!

Even allowing for the fact that humans must have iming List from the Spring proved in their awareness and 1987 edition, News Sheet 13! strength of play against computers and programs - by, I'd say, at least 100 Elo - it does seem that 'even I!' was guilty of exaggerating their abilities in those early days!

1987 cp. 2002 TABLE	1987	2002
Meph Dallas 68020	2265	2057
Meph Dallas 68000	2188	2002
Meph Amsterdam	2133	1970
Meph Rebell	2024	1857
Novag Forte	2020	1848
Fidelity Par Excellence	2018	1862
Novag Expert 5MHz	2008	1870
Conchess Plymate/6MHz	1997	1833
SciSys Turbo Kasparov	1964	1822
Mephisto MM2	1955	1793
Psion1 on AtoriST 8MHz	1948	1802
Fidelity Excellence	1938	1788
SciSys Turbostar 432	1934	1793
Fidelity Elegance	1928	1799
Novag SuperConstellation	1920	1760
Conchess 4MHz	1905	1770
Conchess 2MHz	1836	1689
Novag Constellation 3.6	1830	1680
Super Enterprise	1758	1618
Novag Constellation 2	1748	1626
Fidelity Sensory 9	1700	1557
Mephisto 2	1676	1500
Mephisto 3	1651	1509
Conchess A0	1643	1456

How can one actually be so far wrong, even when you're sure you're nearly right?!.. ooops. must be careful, that sounds like a cue for one of my sermons on the Ten Commandments, which we're mostly sure we nearly keep! but really don't in truth.

And what could one say of the manufacturers - who, as I've said, were at least another 100 Elo higher than me at that time. In some cases they still persist in this today with their current machines!

In celebrating production of my 100th. Edition (!) I am aware that I have many, many readers who knew nothing of this work in its early days.

So I thought some would be interested in that **Table**, to see what the ratings looked like... 15 years ago, and not a PC in sight! But note there the very first-wave warning sign: a decent Richard Lang Psion program for AtariST!

So here we are: Selective Search 100! To be honest I never really thought there would ever be this many! But once I'd got to 80, I began to hope I might just make it, and now I've given myself a 'well done' pat on the back!

NEWS and RESULTS Chessmaster 8000

I know that many people - though perhaps not such a high percentage of SelSearch readers - get hold hold of the various Chessmaster versions, easily available from adverts in PC Gamer-type software magazines, or through some High St. 'megastores', Virgin Games and the like.

We don't sell Chessmaster

at Countrywide, and that's not particularly because we don't like it - after all, it is a Johan de Koning program! - but mainly because we just wouldn't sell enough to get a marketing margin on them.

The prices they are available at to such as ourselves mean that, by the time we've dealt with VAT and paid the postage in-and-out, we'd be lucky to make a couple of pounds on a sale. Given that each new version seems so far to have been launched with its own range of teething troubles, necessitating a webonly available 'upgrade' (for 'upgrade' read 'bug removal kit'!), I can easily imagine the wide range of customer complaints we would enjoy for the first few months :-)

We already have folk who, having purchased elsewhere (!), ring us because no-one else can help them. The only solution is, as we don't have it there's not much we can do.

Nevertheless, because of de Koning's reputation from producing many top-class dedicated and PC chess programs over the years, there are serious users who like to buy and test it against the (please forgive me) serious programs. Harald Faber is one such, and here's his results for Chessmaster 8000.

CM8000	ChessTiger 14	5-5
CM8000	GambitTiger 2	2-8
CM8000	GTiger 2 aggr	3.7
CM8000	Gandalf 5.1	51/2-41/2
CM8000	Hiarcs 732	4-6
CM8000	Junior 6	6-4
CM8000	Junior 7	31/2-61/2
CM8000	Shredder 6 CB	51/2-41/2
CM8000	Shredder 6 Cla	2-8
CM8000	Fritz 6	4-6
CM8000	Fritz 7	41/2-51/2

Naturally from a series of results like that, we can work out a rating for Chessmaster 8000... which is 2558 Elo from the 110 games.

A bit disappointing?! Folk have assured me that CM8000 is definitely different from the engine-twins Chessmaster 6000 and 7000, but the rating comes out almost exactly the same, which would put it only around 20th on our Rating List!?

An effort on the web in **rgcc** recently to promote Chessmaster's virtues was quickly put in its place. But, as we're having a non-mumbling & grumbling issue, I'll content myself with showing the features which someone listed as being in the various Chess-Base programs, but not in CM8000:

■ Fritz & Co. have a lot of features you won't see in Chessmaster: Friend mode, sparring mode, blunder check, full analysis, kibitz mode, hashtable sizes, coaching mode, database manager with multiple sorting options based on opening, themes, tactics, strategy and endgame techniques... and you don't need to have the CD in every time you want to use it!

To be honest at this point in time, and apart only from Rebel that I can see, you'd have to say that 'ChessBase rules, o.k!' with Fritz, Shredder, Hiarcs, Tiger, Junior & Nimzo all on board.

Although still a DOS program, I class Rebel as a true competitor for the club or professional user, because it is strong and humanlike, with genuinely useful analytical functions. There are strong rumours that a Windows version will be out quite soon!

Gandalf 5 scores

Apart from the results from Harald Faber and Sweden's SSDF testing, scores have been slow coming in for Gandalf5.

It's a Windows program and is on the latest **Rebel Century4** CD... the latter has shown itself to be a well-worthwhile improvement in Ed Schroeder's series of programs where the aim is probably as much for human-likeness as for strength. Century4 is an advance in both departments, but the Gandalf program hasn't received so much attention.

However Paul Walsh wrote recently to say how much he liked it: 'I must say I'm particularly impressed with Gandalf5's style of play; it's aggressive but well rounded"... and he enclosed some scores.

These are a little better than those included in the SelSearch99 Rating List, where Gandalf5 was 19th. on 2558 Elo (only 3 Elo above Gandalf4), and should move it up a little, depending obviously what other new scores I receive.

The PCs are P3/800 and the time control is 40/90 then 30secs per move.

- Gandalf5 GTiger 4½-2½ !!
- Gandalf5 CS-Tal 3-0
- Gandalf5 Hiarcs732 51/2-71/2!
- Gandalf5 Shredder532 4½-2½
- Gandalf5 Junior5 2-0
- Gandalf5 Fritz532 2-0
- Gandalf5 Cmaster8000 11/2-11/2

For good measure here's a score with Rebel Century as well:

■ RebCentury4 - Hiarcs732 1½-½

Advert

Subscriber Nick Wilson is wanting to add to his chess computer collection. Here's a LIST of most of the ones in which he's particularly interested.

- Novag Super Constellation
- Sorgon 2.5
- Mephisto Polgar (in wood board)
- Mephisto RISC (in wood board)
- Fidelity Elite Avant Garde
- Fidelity Voice Chess Challenger
- Fidelity Sensory Voice Chess Challenger

Older and Second-hand Chess Computers WANTED by Sel. Search Collector Nick Wilson

Other interesting machines considered - but must be working and complete. Contact me by e-mail or telephone:

- e-mail: staplegrovemanor@btopenworld.com
- m phone: NICK WILSON on 07977 044191

Gerhard Sonnabend

We seem to be able to update Gerhard's Tournament Table in each successive issue, as he extends it to include yet one more program!

Nimzo8 is the new addition, so here's the latest, updated Table.

Gerhard Sonnabend: Dual P3/800MHz PC. Time 40/40

		F7	CT14	J7	56	GT2	H732	NB	/120
1	Fritz7	х	11	131/2	12	11	111/2	141/2	731/2
2	Chess Tiger14	9	х	10	10	10	101/2	13	621/2
3	Junior7	61/2	10	х	121/2	10	10	121/2	611/2
4	Shredder6	8	10	71/2	х	91/2	121/2	131/2	61
5	Gam Tiger2	9	10	10	101/2	х	11½	91/2	601/2
6	Hiarcs732	81/2	91/2	10	71/2	81/2	х	91/2	531/2
7	Nimzo8	51/2	7	71/2	61/2	101/2	101/2	х	471/2

Internet Chess Club CCT4 tournament

This event somehow managed to get itself missed out of our last issue - not sure how, perhaps lack of space, or else the papers with the results got buried on my desk. Probably the latter.

The tournament actually took place in Jan/Feb of this year, and involved no less than 46 programs in an 11 round event.

Deep Junior7, Deep Shredder6 and Fritz7 came out right at the top, whilst many of the programs were Winboard and/or Amateur programs, which marks the CCT4 as a quite special occasion for them, mixing it with the commercial 'big boys'.

But it was also of interest because of the appearance of a rogue beta-version of Hiarcs8. Mark Uniacke and I were positively astounded when we saw that Hiarcs8X

was shown in 13= place with 6/11. Of course there are beta-versions used by ourselves for testing, but they are only very rarely shared with a few trusted co-workers, and then only when we believe we have made some sort of useful improvement that we think might be worth their while testing.

And even then they have an expiry date stamp built-in, so that the program will only run for a couple of months. This is part of the security which *ChessBase* rightly insist on (and which caused such embarrassment in **Shredder6**, which went out to the public with an expiry date still in it!).

So what was this Hiarcs8X?!?

After a few enquiries, we found that it seemed to have reached the hands of quite a few people - in fact during the Gulko and Smirin games on the Internet, some folk were even sharing what 'Hiarcs8's evaluation and proposed move' was!!

Fortunately one or two Selective Search readers had also come by it, and that worked out well, as one of them kindly sent Mark and me the 'dll' file which enabled Mark to work out when it was issued.

The answer to the 'when' is August 1999, so it isn't actually that up-to-date. But some computer buff had changed the internal version number which Mark and I would use in testing and comparison work, and converted it to read Hiarcs8X... and they'd 'fixed' the expiry date so it would also keep running!

All we need to work out

now is who our 'trusted' cotester is!!

Of course we all know what happens, it's often the same with software piracy.

Well, I hope you're finding my 100th. issue interesting with all these little insights!

Now I'd better give you the leading scores from the Tournament!

Deep Junior started with an outstanding 4/4 before drawing Fritz7 (3½/4) in round 5.

This allowed **Deep Shredder** to move into 2= place, also on 4/5, and when this beat **DJunior** in round 6, it moved into joint 1st place with **Fritz7** on 5/6, with **DJunior** now 3rd on 4½.

At this time an amateur program (with a growing reputation), called **Quark** and by Thomas Mayer, was quietly just above half-way on 4/6, but at this point it embarked on an extraordinary winning seuquence of 4 straight games, including victories over **Diep** (4/6) in round 7, **DShredder** (6½/8) in round 9, and then **Fritz7** (7½/9) in round 10!

Until this defeat Fritz's 7½/9 had enabled it to hang on to 1st place, but as a result

of Quark's win, DJunior and Quark started the last round both on 8/10 in top spot, a ½-point ahead of DShredder and Fritz7.

Not only were Deep Junior and Quark the joint-leaders, but they were also scheduled to play each other in the last round, with Quark as White. You couldn't ask for a more exciting way to finish a tournament and, though playing Black, **Deep Junior** won and took the title!

Deep Shredder beat Insomniac so leap-frogged into outright 2nd. place, whilst Fritz7 was held to a draw by Diep, so found itself 3= with Quark.

CCT4 Tournament

	Program	ICC	/11
1	Deep Junior 7	2701	9
2	Deep Shredder 6	2731	81/2
3≔	Fritz 7.06 Quark X	2764 2375	8
5=	Diep Searcher X Yace Bringer	2526 2575 2546 2489	7
9=	Zarkov 4.5 Insomniac Comet X Post Modernist	2570 2552 2471 2504	61/2
13=	Gandalf 5 Chester X Monsoon Ferret Tao 5 Hiarcs 8X Pharaon 2.61 King of Kings 2.022 Goliath-Blitz Warp X	2598 2602 2511 2478 2525 2812 2556 2421 2628 2144	6

There were 24 other entrants. Those on 5½/11 included Isi-Chess and Crafty 18.13, but most of the others were new names to me.

The ratings are come from games played on the Internet Chess Club by each of the programs.

From these it seems that **Quark** has not done so well against human opposition, whilst it appears the (1999) **Hiarcs8X** has done ex-

tremely well.

It is only 2-3 years ago that **Ferret**'s excellent performances in the Harvard Cup and on the 'net had people saying that it was one of the top 3 programs. However its current rating with ICC and its score here suggest that progress might have slowed somewhat.

Comet did well again, however, confirming the good result at Paderborn and indicating that the B40 version and onwards are becoming quite competitive and closing in on the the top programs.

Yace is another program with a growing reputation, and that also did well.

Trojan Horse attack

I'm taking you back a couple of months or so, to issue 98 and a discussion on king attacks and safety, when we had a look at the following game.

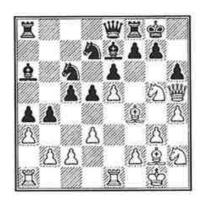
Paul Bailey - Crafty 18.12 Trojan Horse positions [A08]

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.ወd2 ወf6 4.ወgf3 c5 5.g3 ወc6 6.ቜg2 ይe7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e5 ወd7 9.፰e1 b5 10.ወf1 a5 11.h4 b4 12.ይf4 ይa6 13.ወ1h2 a4 14.ወg5 쌀e8 15.a3 h6

Here we had an almost typical Trojan Horse posi tion, as seen in many anti computer games in the past. In fact going all the way back to the well-known 'George Morris attack' games of some 14 or 15 years ago, when no computer could resist taking his Ng5 sacrifice and subsequently quickly succumbing to the killing attack along the h-file.

The big difference is that George, playing White, would never castle while he waited for h6 to be played!

16. ₩h5?!



Imagine this position with White uncastled and his \(\frac{\mathbb{H}}{2}\) still on h!! Clearly 16...hxg5 17.hxg5 is then terminal for Black! But... is it so bad in the current game position, in which White will need a few moves to get a rook behind the queen on the h-file?

So the question was, must Black play 16... 2d4?!, and if so who is winning?

Or can he risk 16...hxg5 in this position? If he does can White still drum up a big attack? I reckoned it was the issue of White having castled which greatly reduced or even removed his chances in the above game.

We left the question unanswered, and no-one as yet has submitted an opinion.

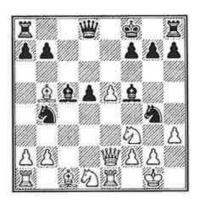
But I was particularly

interested very recently when it came to my notice that the 19th, game in the 1937 World Championship match had a similar situation!!

In this the attacker offering the Trojan Horse was Black - and he hadn't castled. White (Euwe) refused the bait, but could he have taken it?

Euwe,M - Alekhine,A 17th World Championship Game 19 (20 Nov 1937)

1.d4 包f6 2.c4 e6 3.包c3 息b4 4.包f3 包e4 5.營c2 d5 6.e3 c5 7.皇d3 包f6 8.cxd5 exd5 9.dxc5 皇xc5 10.0-0 包c6 11.e4 皇e7 12.e5 包g4 13.置e1? 包b4 14.皇b5+ 查f8 15.營e2 皇c5 16.包d1 皇f5 17.h3



17...h5 18.鼻g5!

Was 18.hxg4?! hxg4
19.句g5 okay — can Black
find a winning response? In
fairness 18.皇g5! here is
better, leaving the capture of
the knight to next move
18..習b6 19.句h4

Okay, so here we go again: what about 19.hxg4!? hxg4 20. \Dh4. Can anyone show a winning line for Black against best play?

It is interesting that once again **Crafty** will have nothing to do with taking the Trojan Horse! **Bob Hyatt**

volunteered some more infor-

mation:

"This is all an artifact of the Trojan Horse evaluation code which I have in Crafty. The 'Trojan Horse' attack is based on the idea of Black playing Ng4 (or White playing Ng5) and the computer attacks it with a pawn, as in 17.h3. If the computer has castled and the opponent has not, the opponent will then play h5 (as Black) so that on hxg4 hxg4, White is a knight up, but the rook file is open with a Black rook already on it. If Black's queen is also able to reach the h-file quickly, the attack is generally terminal for White.

Crafty recognises this and wont take the knight and open up the file. But once it is gone the special evaluation term is no longer relevant, and it will (for a while) conclude that White is a knight ahead and is winning. But White might still be getting mated outside the search horizon."

I hope readers are like me, and find this sort of thing quite fascinating.

So come on - in the 2 games we're looking at, can readers (especially folk like our own anti- computer stars, David Wiekrykas and Rafael Vasquez) show a winning route after the knight sacrifice... or does the Trojan Horse attack need other factors to be in place to work?

Out of interest play in the Euwe-Alekhine encounter continued (from 19.2h4): 19... 2e4 20.hxg4 包c2 21.包c3 包d4 22. 2ff hxg4! 23. 2a4 型c7 24. 三xe4? dxe4

25.營c4 邕c8? 26.邕c1 b6 27.②xc5 bxc5 28.遑a6? [28.e6! Alekhine] 28...營xe5! 29.逸xc8 營xg5 30.營xc5+ 營xc5 31.邕xc5 邕xh4

and the game was drawn in 48 moves ½-½

New RULES for CHESS

(printed with the permission of its author Stewart Reuben, and Sam Sloan who first quoted it on the Internet)

Britain's **Stewart Reuben** is a member of the FIDE Rules Commission, the highest authority on chess, and also a distinguished and widely publisher authority on the Rules of Chess.

He has recently proposed a greatly improved Rule of Chess which will be a great improvement over various other suggestions trying to change or enliven the game, and also end centuries of injustice!

Mr. Reuben's improvement is addressed to the fact that many chess figures are the victims of long-standing invidious discrimination.

This new rule will end that unfair discrimination.

The change concerns the En Passant Rule, which is outrageously unfair to rooks, bishops, knights and queens, not to mention kings.

Under the En Passant Rule, if White has a pawn on d5 and Black plays pawn e7-e5, then White can, if he wishes and on his next move only, capture the pawn by playing d5xe6 e.p. and remove the pawn on e5.

Similarly, if Black has a pawn on f4, and White plays pawn g2-g4, Black can capture the pawn on g4 by playing f4xg3 e.p.

But what about knights, bishops, rooks and queens? Why have not they been given equal rights as pawns?

To end this very obviously unfair situation, International Arbiter Stewart Reuben says that knights and other pieces should be given the same rights as pawns.

So: under the NEW RULE, if White has a knight on d4 and Black plays pawn e7-e5, then White can capture the pawn by playing Nd4xe6 e.p. and removing the Black pawn on e5.

Similarly, if Black has a bishop on c7, and White moves g2-g4, then Black can capture the pawn, on the next move only, by playing Bc7xg3 e.p. and removing the pawn on g4.

This elegant solution to a long standing problem has such obvious merit in these days of Equal Rights, that we believe it should be adopted immediately into the Rules of Chess!

Bill REID's

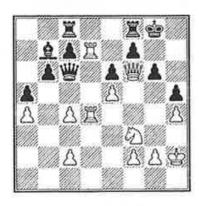
Let's Finish with some CHESS!

How did our readers and their computers get on with the problem Bill set us in **SelSearch99**?

From the small number of responses received, not too well it might seem, but in fact some programs did very well! Here it is again.

White to move looks better. But how is the win to be clinched? It seems whether you are a computer or a human, you either see it or you don't (Nigel Short would!), so 5 mins for everybody.

Bill Reid- 7. White to move



I dropped the Nigel Short hint (which Bill hadn't included), as for once I managed to solve it myself quite quickly, and remembered then where I had seen it.

Here's what Bill said in his **Comments** on the Position:

As Eric recognised, this is from auite well-known Short-Timman game, played at Tilburg in 1991. I was reminded of it when I picked up Jonathan Rowson's recent book 'The Seven Deadly Chess Sins' (Gambit, 2000). Not sin in the real sense, but what Rowson calls 'a good sense of humour', for he explains, 'if you are not susceptible to the funny side of a variation then you will probably miss lots of those vital subtleties and paradoxes that you need to play chess well'.

So, does your program have a sense of humour? It seems it could, as Eric refers to a couple of programs finding Short's move.

How should White improve his threatening position? Moves of queen, rooks or knight don't achieve anything, but Short spotted something he thought highly amusing: 1.Kg3!! Now the other pieces can just watch while the king advances to h6 and delivers mate. A little bit like my SS98 position really, though I expect that the programs did better with this one, as the mate is a lot closer!

As far as I can see from my mailbox, only Peter Grayson and Frank Holt responded on this one, but between them they tested so many machines that we end up with a good overview of what the programs manage.

I've converted their successful timings as nearly as I can to the level of a P3/1000.

BHiarcs	Kg3	0m07
Fritz 532	Kg3	0m10
Nimzo 8	Kg3	0m20
Genius 6/6.5	Kg3	0m25
Comet B27	Kg3	0m30
Nimzo 732	Kg3	0m37
Hiarcs 732	Kg3	1m20
Fritz 6	Kg3	1m32
Ikarus 0.18	Kg3	2m55
Fritz 7	Kg3	4m02
Failures:		
S.O.S. Crafty 18 Chess Tiger 14.		

Back to Bill for his special puzzle for this issue!

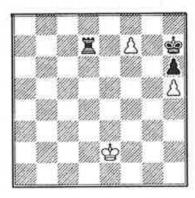
7. Shredder 4. Shredder 6

Well now it's Eric's turn for congratulations, on the Centenary of Selective Search, You have done an outstanding job of presenting the intricacies and excitements of computer chess to your readers. We are all grateful to you for the hard work you put in.

So how to celebrate? Something really out of the way and exotic!?

No, I shall go for utter simplicity. One of the pleasures of chess is to find out how apparently straightforward positions can turn out to have hidden depths. Not so hidden sometimes to our modern computer programs. So how will they far with this one?

Only 6 pieces on the board and White to move really has no choice. It has to be f8. So the programs should have it wrapped up in nanoseconds. But f8=what?



Even humans shouldn't need long to figure that out!

The SMIRIN games

Many (internet connected) readers will know that even as the Computers v Gulko match came to its end, with 2601 rated Gulko going down 5-3, a follow up with Ilya Smirin (2702 Elo no less! and aiming to exact revenge for the GM's) was already being organised.

Incidentally for both the organising, and then operating the computers, we all owe serious thanks to Shay Bushinsky who, with Amir Ban, is Junior's programmer. His willingness to do his very best for all the programs he operated does him great credit!

In fact the Smirin match has already been played.

Again over 8 games, and with the same time control, though **Tiger** came on as a substitute for Fritz, but lost $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$, as did **Shredder**. Hiarcs and Junior both drew 1-1, so **Smirin** won **5-3**.

the GULKO Whatever, games are exciting and I've prepared copious notes for them. To do an exact repeat for the SMIRIN games in this same issue would be analytical overkill and, I think, render the magazine slightly indigestible through lack of variety! Therefore next time!

THE GULKO GAMES! - 2601 GM plays FRITZ, JUNIOR, SHREDDER AND HIARCS

In late Feb/early March a major **Human-Computer** confrontation took place over the Internet.

The USA's ex-Champion and strong GM Boris Gulko took on 4 of the world's top PC programs in an 8 game Match playing each program twice.

Time control G/60m+10secs

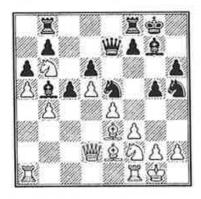
Hardware: Deep Fritz,
 Deep Junior and Deep
 Shredder: Dual 1000;
 Hiarcs: P4/2000

The GULKO credentials!

Boris Gulko is one of the few players in the world with a +1 score from all games played against Gary Kasparov!

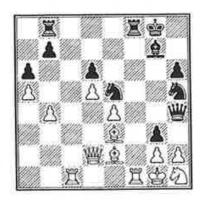
Gulko,B (2565) -Kasparov,G (2630)

URS-ch49 Frunzc, 1981. <u>ECO: A65</u> 1.d4 包f6 2.c4 e6 3.包c3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f3 皇g7 8.皇g5 a6 9.a4 ②bd7 10.包h3 h6 11.皇e3 ②e5 12.包f2 皇d7 13.皇e2 g5 14.營d2 營e7 15.a5 鼍b8 16.包a4 包h5 17.包b6 皇b5 18.0-0 0-0 19.b4



19...c4?! This looks too risky, pushing the pawn just too far

beyond its own pawn protection. Better therefore 19... \(\Delta d7\), and if 20. \(\Delta xd7\) 盥xd7 21. 2xb5 習xb5 White might sacrifice the exchange leaving Black the interesting but perhaps not enviable task of working out how to stop Gulko's central pawns from marching to victory. 20.国ac1! f5!? Kasparov will need to make this all-out kingside attack work before Gulko's extra pawn starts to tell. 21. 2xc4 &xc4 22. &xc4 g4! 23.fxg4 fxg4 24.4h1 24. 奧e2 looks a good alternative. 24...\\hat{\mathbb{H}}\hat{\mathbb{h}}4?! 26. 国xc4 閏f7 27. 閏e2 內h7 leaves the kingside attack smouldering in a position which should enable to Black to defend against the central pawns as well, so this might have been better than trying to pursue the kingside attack with such commitment 25.鼻e2 g3



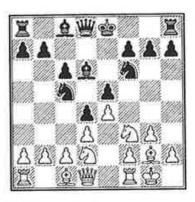
Gulko can now simplify the position. 26.2xg3 2xg3 27.hxg3 曾xe4 28.\(\frac{1}{2}\)xs4 \(\frac{1}{2}\)xs5 \(\frac{1}{2}\)xs6 \(\

with 32... 對xc2 33. 萬xc2 h4. Otherwise 32... 萬f6 could have been tried, though 33. 對xg6 公xg6 34. 皇d2 萬f7 35. 萬xf7 空xf7 36. 皇xh5 should win for White. 33. 對e4 h4 34.gxh4 對d8 35. 萬xb7 This could also have been played very effectively at move 33 or 34! 35... 對c8 36. 萬e7 對d8 37. 皇g5 1-0

Here is one of **Gulko**'s best known performances against a computer, the then greatly feared Deep Thought!

Gulko - Deep Thought

Harvard Cup. 1989. ECO: A07 1.2f3 d5 2.g3 2f6 3.2g2 c6 4.d3 2bd7 5.0-0 e5 6.2c3 d4 7.2b1 2d6 8.e4 2c5 9.2bd2



9...b5? It is hard to believe Deep Thought could have missed the obvious tactic this gives Gulko (i.e. by weakening c6 and opening up the g2-a8 diagonal for the coming push e4-e5 by White)... but who knows?! 9...0-0 10.立c4 罩e8 was right 10.立xd4 exd4 11.e5 兔b7 12.exd6 營xd6 13.罩e1+ 包e6 14.a4 a6 15.包e4 ②xe4 16.兔xe4 0-0 17.營h5 g6 18.營h4 營b4 19.兔h6



19...置fb8?? Unbelievably bad by DT. From this and the inferior move 9...b5 I'd guess there was some bad coding in the area of piece x-rays. There is litle doubt that today's Fritz, Tiger, Junior, Hiarcs and the rest would beat Deep Thought easily enough, even if the argument still rages on in the attempts to compare the PC programs on top hardware against Deep/er Blue! 19...\fe\fe\fe\faire 20.臭g2 包g7 offered Black survival chances even though his position is somewhat disorganised. 20.2xg6 fxg6 probably won even more quickly. 21....置f8 22. 皇xf8 宣xf8 23. 對xe6+ 由g7 24. 曾e7+ 曾xe7 25. 日xe7+ 日f7 26. ae1 bxa4 27. a1e4 c5 28.閏4e5 c4 29.dxc4 1-0

Now to the games from the 2002 Internet Match!

Gulko, B - Deep Junior 7

Game 1. ECO: A29

Gulko: In this game White creates pressure using the b-file. DJ could have defended itself if it had prevented the maneuver Nf3-d2-c4, but it 'didn't understand this'. I really could have won by playing, for example, 36. ₹a6, but trying to avoid time shortage I played 36. ₹b1 very

quickly, and after Black's reply the position became unclear and a draw was agreed a few moves later. 1.c4 e5 2.\(\Delta\) c3 \(\Delta\) f6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 @xd5 5.\(\hat{Q}\)g2 @b6 6.ᡚf3 ᡚc6 7.0-0 ₾e6 8.d3 **≜e7 9.a3 0-0 10.b4 f6 11.宮b1** 11.**息**b2 is the main move here, but Gulko said that he thinks this is better, as White's plan should be to get the knight to c5 and open the b-file. 11...a5 12.b5 **②d4** 13.2 e1 c6 14.bxc6 5 xc6 D.J. was still in its book to here. 15. ge3 ad5 16. axd5 gxd5



17.\mathrew a4 *Maintaining the* pressure and stopping Black from playing the freeing a4 and Bb3 when he is okay. 17... \$\delta h8?! An unusual move from a computer, was the general view here, but DJ is trying to avoid a queen exchange. Programmer and operator Shay Bushinsky says that it had 17... 罩c8 in view until the very last moment! 18.包f3 營d7 19.里b2 罩fc8 20.罩fb1 罩c7 21.罩b5 鼻a2! Gulko must now weaken his back rank with \(\mathbb{B}b2 \), or take the rook off the b-file. 22.盟a1?! DJ expected 邑c1 and Gulko concluded afterwards that this would have been stronger. 22... 2e6 23.里ab1 皇g4 24.皇b6 里cc8 25. e3 图ab8 26. 图b3 e66 27. 凹a4





36.對b1 *36.* **罩***a6 should win*. though there are still some technical difficulties on the way to the full point. DJ **幽c7 38. 罩a8+ 臭c8 39. 幽a4** 罩c1+ 40.臭f1 閏d8 41.e3 and White, 2 pawns ahead. should complete the win. 36...a4 37.閨b8 息b3 38.置xc8+ 營xc8 39.查f1 h6 40. **b2 c5** White just can't make any progress now, since the queen must defend the a3-pawn instead of

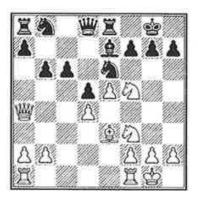
supporting the desired e2-e3 break. 41.h4 \(\Delta\)g8 42.\(\Delta\)e4

This was certainly an interesting start to the match: though White won the strategical battle, Black obtained positional compensation and earned the draw after a mistake by the GM \(\frac{1}{2}\)-\(\frac{1}{2}\)

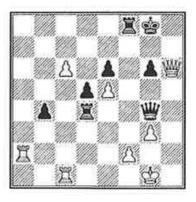
Deep Fritz 7 - Gulko, B

Game 2. ECO: C03

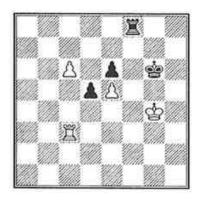
Gulko: 'This was a lively tactical duel. My opponent was very creative, though I lost in a clearly drawn position, due to a time shortage. For example I could have played 51... 里a8 52. 由f4 ₫f7 as is shown in the game notes, and White wouldn't have accomplished anything'. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 The French defence is a great weapon against computers, because it allows humans to achieve closed positions in which they can demonstrate their superior strategic understanding. The electronic opponent is unable to use its incredible tactical skills. 3. 2d2 b6 Gulko is not playing this line for the first time. 4.2gf3 2f6 5.e5 2fd7 **6.c4!** It is good for the computer to open the position, especially as Gulko has played successfully at GM level against the popular alternative 6. \$\d3. 6...\$\d2. 2 7.cxd5 \(\hat{\pm}\x\)xd5 8.\(\hat{\pm}\)c4 \(\hat{\pm}\)e7 9.鼻xd5 Sokolov heat Gulko with 9.0-0 c6 10. ₩e2 0-0 11. De4 a5 12. 臭f4 in a 1983 game in Moscow, 9...exd5 10.₺f1! Gulko considered this a nice innovation by Fritz 10... 2f8 11. 2e3 2e6 14.包f5 罩e8 15.臭e3



White is probably ahead at the present: Black has problems with the undeveloped queenside 🖺 and and his c6-pawn is weak. 15.... 16. Eacl a5 17.\mathbb{I}fd1 \mathbb{I}a7 18.\mathbb{I}d2 h6 **19.**營**d1?!** 19.營b3!? would have maintained pressure against Gulko's queenside weakness. 19... Id7 20. Yb3?! Changing his mind! Having got the queen (rightly or wrongly) back on d1. DF could have continued with 20.h4 straight away. 20...曾h7 21.營d3 g6 22.包g3 c5! 23.包h5 c4 24.智b1 息e7 25.2 f4 2 a6 26.2 xe6 fxe6 **27.h4!?** A pawn sacrifice! and 'a brilliant decision' said Gulko. 27... \(\hat{2}\) xh4 28.b3 b5 29.a4 bxa4 30.bxc4 \(\frac{1}{2} \) b4 31.c5 a3 32.曾b3 a2 33.闰b2 置f7 33... 罝f8! 34. 臭d2 罝xf3 35. \subseteq xf3 \(\frac{1}{2}\)g5 'would keep my a2-pawn' said Gulko: 36. 閏a1 臭xd2 37. 閏xd2 閏h4 'but unfortunately I found it too late'. 34. Qd2 罩ef8 36.gxf3 閏g5+ 37.由h2 氢xf2! (37... 皆xc1-+) 38. 豈xf2 国f4-+. 35.... 空g8! 36. ①xh4 Not 36. 图xh6?? 鱼xf2+! 37. \(\text{\tike}}}}} \eximintimes \text{\tike}}}}} \eximintimes \text{\tike}}}}}} \eximintimes \text{\texi}\text{\text{\texi}\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\te\ 38. 曾xg6+ 宮g7 39. 智xe6+ 国用7-+. 36...曾xh4 37.鱼xb4 axb4 38.罩xa2 罩f4 39.g3 豐g4 40.c6 罩xd4 41.營xh6



41...b3?! This loses a tempo which might be important in the endgame. Best was 41... 営d1+ 42. 営xd1 營xd1+ 43. 查h2 營h5+ 44. 營xh5 gxh5. **42.**罩**b2** 罩**d1**+ Someone on the Internet using the pirated Hiarcs8X reckoned that 42... 罩d3 would draw for Black, and Gulko later shared the thought in his game notes suggesting 43.c7 **Zc8** with 'an unclear position'. 43.罩xd1 置xd1+ 44. 由 2 增 h 5 + 45. 增 x h 5 g x h 5 'The resulting endgame is not easy to calculate when you are in time trouble,' said Gulko, 'but it might be easier for me now that I have the will need to play very carefully from here! 46...\$27 47. 置xb3 置xf2 48. 置c3 置f8



The critical moment of the game. Here we believe Gulko still had two ways in which to get the draw! 51...\(\mathbb{E}\)c8?!

51...d4 is probably the strongest recommendation, when 52.閏f3 閏d8! looks drawn. 51... \(\mathbb{Z}\)a8 was Gulko's idea, and he expected 52. \(\Delta f4 \) 查f7 53. 查e3 查e7 which seems to be a draw. However we think that 52. \ f3! might have been a better continuation for White. **52. 含f4 罩d8 53. 罩c1!** *53.c7?* would throw the win away: 53...罩c8 54.卤e3 卤f7= 53...里a8 54.里g1+ 空f7 55.曾e3 罩a6 55... 罩c8 56.罩c1 still wins, even though Black has saved a tempo. 56.\mathbb{Z}c1 置a8 57. 型d4 / don't think Black has any way to save it from here. The final moves were: 57... 查e7 58. 查c5 罩a2 59.買g1 罩c2+ 60.查b6 罩b2+ 61.堂c7 d4 62.罩g7+ 蛰f8 **65.**♯**d4**. A great game, and very exciting. Pawn c6-c7-c8 is inevitable 1-0

Gulko, B - Hiarcs 8

Game 3. ECO: A22

Gulko: 'This turned into a

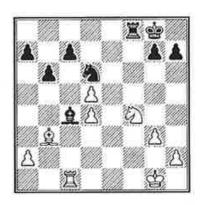
positional game in which my opponent simply didn't make any mistakes' 1.c4 e5 2.2c3 2f6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 2xd5 5.2g2 2xc3 6.bxc3 2e7 7.2f3 2c6 Eric: Mark and I were using only our own book which was not backed up with the usual GM database book creation, which would normally run in the background as in the commercial releases. So annoyingly Hiarcs went out of book with here! After finding correct theory Hiarcs did come briefly back into book after 9.d4, but Gulko caught us again with his 10. ©d1 when we expected either 2d2 or 2e5. **8.0-0**

Qe6 9.d4 e4 10. De1 f5 11.f3 exf3 12. Qxf3! This frees the g2 square for the maneuver De1-g2-f4. 12...0-0 13. Dg2 Da5

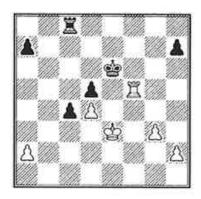


14.d5!? A brave move, which suprised almost everybody. *Hiarcs expected 14.* Ω *f4 here,* and then 14...\$c4 which is interesting but, as Gulko pointed out, does give Black some play which he wanted to avoid (of course!). Gulko says he would have played 15.d5 and after Hiarcs' 15...c6 he 'saw no good 17.②xe3 幽e7 17...f4?! looks threatening, but simply White is better. **18. \begin{aligned} d4** Both sides are fighting for dark squares! 18... \(\mathbb{A} \) ae8 19. \(\Omega \) g2 **b6 20. Bae1** 20. **6** 14 was an alternative, and Gulko said after the game that he had considered it. His analysis went 20... ₩e3+ 21. Φh1 g5 24.dxe6 c6 25.d5 and probably White is better here. However Hiarcs would have played 20...g5!, ignoring the chance of checking with the queen, and the game would become much more tactical and could well have favoured Hiarcs (at least in our view! *Mark* + *Eric!*) **20...2b7** 21.e4 fxe4 22.営xe4 幽c5 **23.14** Another interesting

positional decision. Gulko allows his pawns to be doubled, but gets counterplay along the c-file. 23... $\exists xe4$ **\$b5!** 25...g5 was an important alternative -'favours Black' said Gulko initially – and others thought it would give Black an advantage. But analysis from Hiarcs showed that it was far from clear: 26. 包e6 罩xf1+ 27. 含xf1 包d6 and now it was agreed by all that it isn't clear at all! 26.骂c1 包d6 27.皇c2 皇c4 28.皇b3



28...b5! A perfect decision, keeping the c-file closed. 29.夕e6 罩c8 30.单xc4 Afterwards Gulko decided that 30. \Delta f2! was an improvement. He expected 30...a5 31. 臭xc4 匂xc4 32.a4 **⑤***b2 33*. 罩*b1* and felt he had overlooked a possibility. However Hiarcs would have played 30... \$\delta f7! which looks better than a5, and very likely would just transpose to the actual game. 30...bxc4 Now it was suggested Hiarcs had 'missed' its best chance by not playing 30... \(\Delta xc4 31.a4 \) a6 32.axb5 (32.\2c5 also seems to draw) 32...axb5 33.閏b1 勾d6 34.閏c1 b4 35. 閏b1 閏b8 36. 匂xc7 b3 37. 包a6 閏b5 38. 包c5 b2 39. 🖸 d3 🕏 c4 which was said to be 'bad for White'. But apart from the fact that



37.\mathbb{Z}e5+ As Gulko pointed out 37.g4? h5! 38.\(\mathbb{Z}\xh5??\) c3 would have been funny, or not funny, depending on your point of view! But now the White \(\mathbb{Z} \) will be lost as it cannot get to c1 before the pawn. You have to play 38.h3, but 38...hxg4 39.hxg4 initiative with Black. 37.... 查d6 38. 查d2 c3+ 39. 中c2 宮c4 40. 宮h5 宮xd4 43. 異xh7 a5 44.h4 異xa2 45.g4 閏a3+ 46.空c2 閏g3 47.g5 a4 48.\(\mathbb{G}\)a7 \(\mathbb{G}\)g2+ A very interesting game with some interesting positional challenges throughout the game for the computer program, which it solved extremely well 1/2-1/2

Deep Shredder6 - Gulko, B

Game 4. ECO: C03

Gulko: My opponent played in the style of young Kupreichik. I blundered two moves in a row in a chaotic position, and was beautifully mated!

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.2 d2 b6 Risking the same rarish variation as he played against Deep Fritz. Most prefer 3...c5. 4.2gf3 2f6 **5. \$d3** So far we have followed the Deep Fritz-Gulko game, but here DF played 5.e5. 5...c5 Trying to get a closed centre. If 5...dxe4 as he played in his draw with Balashov in 1982. there follows 6. ②xe4 \$b7 position is wide open for the computer to enjoy! 6.0-0?! "Normal" is 6.c3 as in a Colle, so that if Black plays c4 the bishop can go to c2. So instead he'd play 6...cxd4 (or 6... &e7 7.0-0 0-0) 7.cxd4 dxe4 8. ∅xe4 �b7 9. ∅xf6+ gxf6 6...c4 7.\(\mathbb{e}\)e2



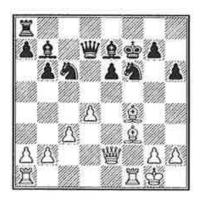
7...dxe4? Gulko, having obtained the chance of a blocked position (isn't that what he was after?), accepts the challenge to open it up... a decision for which he will pay a high price. After 7... **\$e7** the position remains closed and surely Gulko, not Shredder, would be in his (9. ②xc4 閏d5 10. 奧f4 ②c6 Black looks good.) 9... \alpha xd1 10. 以 ab7 Black could be a pawn up (Gulko). 9.2xc4

当xd6±; Gulko says he avoided 9...h6 10. ②xf7!?
②xf7 because he was afraid of 11. ②h5+. But the computer would not have played 10. ③xf7 because 11... ②xh5 12. ③xh5+ ⑤g8 would look look unacceptable materially. 10. ②e5 0-0
11. ②c4! 11. ②c4 — with the threat 12. ⑤exf7 ⑤xf7 13. ②xe6+— 11... ②d5 12. ②e2 h6?



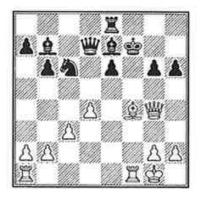
Presumably missing Shredder's reply, or simply not belieiving it could be played?! One wonders what might have happened after 12... **\$b7**, when the position must still be equal. 13. ②gxf7! Perhaps Shredder's reputation for having a defensive character might have persuaded Gulko that it wouldn't play this? But he didn't in fact miss it, as he commented afterwards: 'This was a very unexpected move for me, because I always thought that two knights should be worth more than a rook + pawn. It seems that Shredder calculates this in a different way to me!' 13...買xf7 14.包xf7 查xf7 **15.**臭**f4** White has a slight material disadvantage but great play on the kingside. 15....**奧b7** Gulko: 15.... **夕**bd7 'seems to be correct, but I wanted the knight to go to c6. If 15... \$d6! 16. \$e5 營c7 is

maybe not bad for Black. 16... \$xe5 17.dxe5 分fd7 18.c4 \$b7 19. \$\mathbb{B}d6 \mathbb{B}e7\$ is not bad either. So there were many ways to reach a decent game'. 16.c3 ②c6?! Gulko: 'this, after all, looks like a mistake, the knight should go to d7.' 16... \$\deltag8\$ also seems to be better. 17.f3 exf3 18.\$\deltaxf3\$ \$\mathbb{B}d7 19.\$\mathbb{B}e2\$



19...営e8? *Gulko: 'Up to here* we have small inaccuracies. but this is the losing mistake. I saw the problem immediately after I made it, but it was too late. I also overlooked that with 19... 罩f8 20.單ae1 @d8 21.夐g4 夐d6 22. **2e5 I am okay! 20.2h5+!** Forces further weakening of the kingside. Black cannot control the position any longer. 20...g6 Probably best, though Gulko afterwards said 22. 2xh6 2f8 would leave a playable position... rather him than me! 21.\(\mathbb{Q}\)g4 \(\Omega\) xg4? In Selective Search we have *OFTEN* referred to examples of humans compounding one mistake with another immediately afterwards. It even happens to GM's!! 21...h5 was a fighting chance that proves 20...g6 to have been best. After h5 would follow 22. 臭h3 增d5 23. 罩ae1 and White has the advantage in a position suited to a computer, but Gulko has

some hope. 22. ₩xg4



22... **g**7? Another mistake! Gulko: 'Now it's over. The computer was playing very quickly and I tried to measure-up to his speed. Perhaps that's why I overlooked 22... \\ g8 was necessary 23. Qxh6+ ₾e8 though 24. \ ael is unpleasant for me. 23. axh6+!! A deadly combination, the machines are very impressive at moments like these! 23... 查xh6 24. 營h3+ 查g7 **25.**営**f**7+! with mate unnouncement: 25.... \stacktete xf7 26. 曾h7+ 宫f6 27. 閏f1+ 內g5 28.h4+ \(\text{\text{d}}\) g4 29.\(\text{\text{\text{W}}}\) xg6+ 曾xh4 30. 曾f4# 1-0

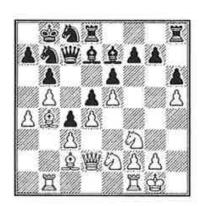
So the **Computers** reach the half-way stage with a 3-1 lead, due to wins with White from **Fritz** and **Shredder**.

Deep Junior 7 - Gulko, B

Game 5. ECO: C05

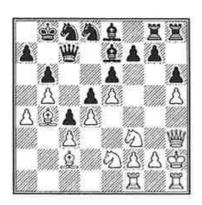
Gulko: I used correct anti-computer strategy properly for the first time in the match. We created a closed position without big tactical opportunities. It played perfectly throughout the first part of the game, improving even on Stein's play in his historic game against Bagirov. I was deprived of any active moves, but in the middle

game it had to prepare f2-f4-f5, and such a long plan was above its mental capabilities. Its moves became purposeless and by the end of the game it was I who had the advantage 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.\(\text{\D}\) d2 \(\text{\D}\) f6 4.e5 **ପg8** 5.**\$**d3 c5 6.c3 **ପ**c6 7.②e2 鼻d7 8.0-0 豐c7 9.②f3 **c4!** The first part of the plan accomplished, as Gulko locks the pawns. 10.2c2 h6 11.b3! An attempt to open the position, which is totally correct for Junior, especially as Black is behind in development. Stein played 11.閏e1 in the game mentioned earlier. 11...2a5 12.b4?! \@c6 13.b5 \@a5 14.罩b1 0-0-0 15.h4 含b8 16.h5?! 외e7 17.皇a3 외c8 **18.\$b4 b6** Not of course 20. 罩xb5! 19. 增d2 勾b7 20.a4 奠e7



It is at this point where
Junior should start trying to
prepare an advance with the
f-pawn. 21.罩fd1? It was best
where it was! 21...罩df8
22.罩e1?! 罩hg8 23.罩e3 罩h8
24.夕h2 Optimistic! 24...臭e8
25.罩g3 罩fg8 Not the other
rook: 25...罩hg8?? 26.兔h7
罩h8 27.灃xg7. 26.勺f3?! 中a8
27.虫h2 營d8 28.罩h1 營c7
29.罩a1 中b8 30.罩ae1 It is
clear that White doesn't know
what to do, and Gulko is
happy to wait and see if the

computer goes totally astray 30... 查a8 31. 營h3 包d8 32. 邑b1 查b8 33. 邑a1 包b7 34. 營g3 查a8 35. 邑ab1 查b8 36. 邑bf1 包d8 37. 營h3



37...g5!? A brave decision as Gulko decides to take the initiative. 38. axe7 包xe7 39. 23 包f5 40. 24 臭d7 41.2g3 2e7 42.a5? What is this? Now Gulko gets his chance! 42...bxa5 43.\(\mathbb{Z}\)a1 置f8 44. 置hf1 包b7?! 44...f5!? was VERY interesting, but Gulko decided not to risk it. After 45.exf6 e5 46.fxe7 \$xg4 I reckon Gulko would have had the advantage in this interesting position. 45. 2g1 2 c8 46.2 h1?! 2 b6



47.閏fel Not bothered about the b-pawn! 47... 魚xb5
48.閏ebl a6 49.閏h3 空a7
50.②h2 a4 51.②g3 ②a5
52.②g4! A share of the! belongs to all of the last few moves, as DJ now gets its own kingside initiative and it is Black who lacks a decent

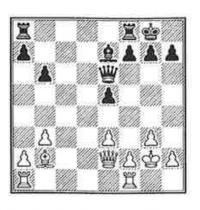
plan. 52...包b3 53.罩a2 包d7 54.9f1 &c6 55.Ee1 9b6 **56.**營f3 *Gulko was beginning* to look tired, and Junior's GM-adviser, Boris Alterman, wanted DJ to exert the pressure here with 56.f4!? Then 56...gxf4 57.閏f3 乞d7 58.閏xf4 f5! 59. \$12 \$16! the e5-pawn is pinned against its queen 60. ②g3 &e8 and Black should be winning. 56... 2d7 57.包fe3 包d2 58.豐h3 包b3 The players have no more to offer and moves are repeated quickly before the draw is agreed. 59.曾f3 包d2 60.曾d1 名b3 61.曾f3 %-%

Gulko, B - Deep Fritz 7

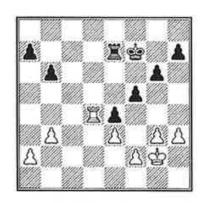
Game 6. ECO: A14

Gulko: After mutual mistakes in the opening I reached an advantage in the endgame, but it managed to escape! 1.213 Gulko had started with 1.c4 in the preceding games, a trend which Smirin would continue in his Match against the computers! 1...d5 2.c4 e6 3.b3 2 f6 4.g3 \(\) e7 5.\(\) g2 0-0 6.0-0 c5 7.e3 \(\Delta\) c6 8.\(\Delta\) b6 9.包c3 **\$b7?!** The top F7 book move but, according to Gulko, 'this is a known error!' The game should be interesting! 'Much hetter' is 9...dxc4, '10.exd5 2xd5 11.包xd5 置xd5 12.包e5?! Gulko: 'I had forgotten the theory here: 12.d4 and black has a difficult position.' This appears to be correct as I checked the d4 move with my ChessBase Opening Report and found that 12... \mathbb{\mathbb{Z}} ad8 and only then 13. De5. Here White scores 66% after Black's 13... 對d6. 12... 對d6 Gulko's error means that DF is now out of its book, but

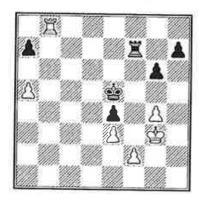
better off! 13.d4 cxd4
14.包xc6 &xc6 15.&xd4
&xg2 16.色xg2 e5?! A small inaccuracy which gives White some chances. Simpler was 16... 图d5+ would be exactly level. 17.&b2 图e6 18.图e2



A battle for the open files now begins! 18... 置ad8 19.\(\mathbb{Z}\) ac1 \(\mathbb{L}\) c5 20.\(\mathbb{Z}\) fd1 e4 21.罩d2 罩xd2 22.罾xd2 罩e8 23.\mathbb{\mathbb{G}}\dd 1\) Gulko thought for a long time before playing this. *His control of the d−file* probably gives him a small advantage. 23...f6 24. 曾d7 **增xd7 25.里xd7 罩e7 26.罩d8**+ draw written all over it. **26...№f**7 **27.&d**4 *Gulko: This* is necessary, the bishop doesn't have any potential at all. 27.g4 was my other idea and quite possible, but I was afraid the Black rook would penetrate, 27... \ 2c7 28. \ 2g3 **2e7 (28...** ⊈e6!?) and 29. \mathbb{I}d2 doesn't promise me anything. 27... 皇xd4 28. 置xd4 f5 29.h3 g6



The GM's technique will have | to be something special to win this! 30.g4 &f6 Gulko: I hoped here that Fritz would try to gain some play on the c−file with 30... $\exists c$ 7. Now 31.gxf5 gxf5 32. 国d6 would give me a significant adavantage - which I, Eric, confess I cannot really see, at least not 'significant'. E.g. 32... 罩c2 33. 罩d7+ 凼e6 34.\(\mathbb{Z}\)xa7 f4! 35.exf4 e3. Now 36. \(\mathbb{A}\) a8 seems forced to get onto the e-file, and after 36... 宣xf2+ 37. 由g3 由d5 I think it's going to be drawn. 31. 空g3 空e5 Black threatens to win the rook with 32...f4. 32. **営**d8 **営**c7 33. **営**e8+ **含**f6 34. 2a8 2d7 35.b4 fxg4 36.hxg4 查e5 37.a4 查d5 38. Ec8 Stopping White's king from venturing further into 39. Ed8+ 含e6 40.a5 bxa5 41.bxa5 含e5 42.胃b8



42...a6 After 42... 空d5?! says Gulko, Black could have problems: 43.a6 量f6 44. 量b5+ 空c4 45. 量b7 置xa6 46. 置xh7 空d5 47. 空f4 置f6+ 48. 空g5 置xf2 49. 置xa7 and White has to win. Again us mere patzers really need a Gulko or an endgame expert to show the 'must' win bit on the end of this. To me 49... 置f3 50. 罩a3 空c4 51. 空xg6 空b4 52. 罩a2 空b3 still looks drawn. However I do agree that 42... a6 looks

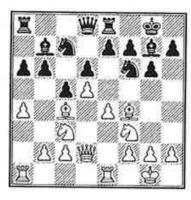
even more certain to draw! 43. \mathbb{A} a8 \mathbb{A} f6 Gulko: This was good defence! I hoped for: 43...宣f3+?! 44. 色h4 罩xf2 45. 萬xa6 曾d5 46. 閏a8 would give me some (very slight!) chances. 44.g5 閏f3+ 45.如g4 After the game 45. 含g2 was suggested as being better, but 45... 閏f5 46. 閏xa6 閏xg5+ 47. 由f1 由d5 48. 閏b6 由c4 49.a6 \abble a5! still has to be a draw. 45... \(\text{Zxf2} \) 46.\(\text{Zxa6} \) 置g2+ 47.由h4 置h2+ 48.由g4 置a2 49.置a8 置g2+ 50.含h3 置a2! Not 50... 罩e2? 51.a6 罩xe3+ 52. 含g4! 罩a3 53.a7 e3 54.罩e8+! 由d4 55.u8哟 **選xa8 56. 選xa8 e2 57. 選e8** 空d3 58.空f3 1-0. 51.空g4 置g2+ 52.由h3 Gulko's last try for a trick! 52... Ba2! 52... 選xg5?? 53.a6 罩g1 54. Be8+ \$65 55.a7 1-0. 53. g4 1/2-1/2

Hiarcs 8 - Gulko, B

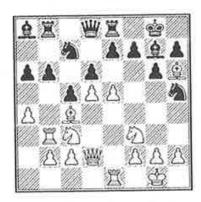
Game 7. ECO: A43

Gulko: This was the best game by a computer in the competition. I again allowed a tactical battle. It was precise in the opening and consistent throughout the middle game 1.e4 d6 2.d4 2f6 3.2c3 g6 4.包f3 皇g7 5.皇e2 0-0 6.0-0 c5?! Slightly unusual, c6 is the Pirc's main line here. The character of this game is interesting! Gulko says he 'allowed a tactical battle', but most people viewed this rather as a positional achievement by Hiarcs! Even from its book it now chooses for Karpov's line, which blocks the centre and should in theory suit the knowledgeable GM! 7.d5!? 包a6 8.Ee1 විc7 9. இf4 b6 Korchnoi played 9... \$\Quad h 5 against

Karpov, which may be better. Gulko: Compared to our first game, the computer looks very well prepared for this opening. Even though it does now go out of its book, it continues to play good moves in keeping with the demands of the position. 10. ■d2 Ee8 This wasn't necessary. 11.a4! Exactly what Karpov played at move 10 against Korchnoi. 11... ♣b7 12. ♠c4 a6

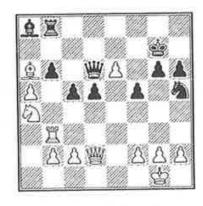


13.\maxbb{\maxbb{\max}}a3! 'A very strong plan', said Gulko afterwards. It is both a unique and a flexible idea. When the commentating GMs and IMs had thought about it for a few moments. the main argument was whether it deserved a! or a!! Not only can the rook go immediately to b3, but clearly there may be chances of its going to g3 or h3 later, with obvious complications. **13...**罩**b8?!** *Gulko: 'Maybe* here I also had to play 13...e6 14.dxe6 @xe6 15. \\x\d6 @d4 16. ②g5 閏xd6 17. 臭xd6 ②xc2 with an unclear position. But this kind of playing I tried to avoid with the computer, because you never know if it might find something else!' In fact Hiarcs would probably have played 14.\Bb3 making the line suggested by Gulko inapplicable! 14. 图b3 皇a8 15.e5 2h5 One of the watching GMs suggested



16...f5 Gulko: 'This is a usual reaction in this type of position, but here it is bad. Therefore 16...dxe5 17. 2xe5 ₩d6 was better.' But now Hiarcs comes up with 18. ②xf7! ७xf7 19. △e4 ≝d7 20.d6 + 4 d5 21.2 xd5 + 2 xd522. 營xd5+ and Hiarcs is all over its opponent. 17.2xg7 查xg7 18.包g5 Gulko: Now I don't see a good way for Black to play, maybe here Black is already losing. 18...h6 19.exd6! exd6 20. 图xe8! Gulko: This was very strong. I had hoped for 20. De6+?! Dxe6 21.dxe6 ₱16 22. \(\) xa6 d5 with good compensation. 20... wxe8 21.包e6+ 包xe6 22.dxe6 閏d8 Gulko spent over 4 minutes on this move, and concluded afterwards that it was as good as anything. The alternative he looked at, and which Hiarcs actually expected, was 22... 增e7!? and, says Gulko, White wins. 23. 2xa6 d5 24.a5! Gulko: This is very strong, now I AM LOSING! 24... ad Gulko: If I try 24...d4 25. 2 a4 and I don't see a good move. Okay: 25... 曾d5 but 26. 臭f1 b5 27. 分b6 曾xe6 28. 罩xb5! is

going to be 1-0. 25. 2a4



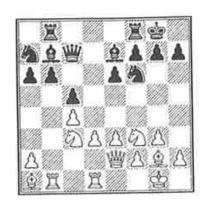
25...包f6 Not 25... 對xe6? 26. 公xc5 bxc5 27. 国xb8 閏xa6 28. 營c3+ 1-0 already. 26. 異xb6 異xb6 27. 夕xb6 營xe6 28.營e2 Hiarcs cleverly sees that the endgame is won, so liquidates to remove any lingering hopes Black might have been harbouring. 'Now it's over', said Gulko, 'I should have resigned here." 28... 營xe2 29. 夏xe2 夏c6 30.\$f3 Gulko: I'm losing a 2nd pawn and can't stop the a-pawn without sacrificing 31.c4 \(\mathbb{2}\)a6 Well, at least the a-pawn IS blocked. Unfortunately White soon has an even stronger one! 32. \(\text{\text} \) \(\text{ 34. 2a8 Gulko: Hiarcs played very strong today. It found some strong positional ideas, together with many punishing tactical moves 1-0

Gulko,B - Deep Shredder 6

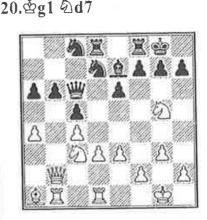
Game 8. ECO: A14

The final game is 'an essential study for learning how to play against computers'. <u>Gulko</u>: This was my only victory. I obtained exactly what is necessary against a computer – a strategic struggle without queens. My intuition overcame its calculation

1.分f3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.b3 包f6 4.g3 兔e7 5.兔g2 0-0 6.0-0 b6 7.兔b2 兔b7 8.e3 c5 9.包c3 dxc4 10.bxc4 包c6 11.營e2 營c7 12.d3 a6 13.鼍ab1 鼍ab8 14.兔a1 包a7 15.鼍fd1

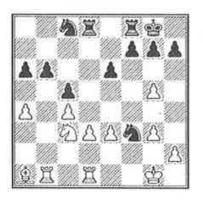


The position is known from the Korchnoi-Spassky many vears ago, and a similar position occured in Spassky-Portisch 1983, when Black had played the less accurate 14... \(\mathbb{I}\)fd8. Black has to prepare b5, but the computer was out of its openings book and starts to calculate. 15... \Bbd8 Gulko: This is not logical at all, it (the book!) just took the 🖺 from d8 to b8, which is where it should be, to prepare b5! Obviously Black doesn't understand the position. 16.曾b2 包c8 17.a4 总c6 18.夕g5 皇xg2 19.查xg2 豐c6+



21.f4! Played after an 8 minute think! Gulko: It's not clear if White is all that much better, but I feel good about

my chances. Black almost provoked me to play 21. \@d5?! f6 22. \@xe7+ ②xe7, but my &a1 would become completely unemployed. 21... \$\(\pi\)xg5 22.fxg5 營f3 Shredder finds the best move, Gulko: After 22... \(\Delta e 5 ? 23. \(\Delta e 4 \) my attack is very dangerous. Also 22...f6?! 23.gxf6 ⟨∆xf6 and again 24. De4 gives White a strong initiative. 23. \mathbb{m}e2 Gulko: Unclear was 23. 2d5 f6 24.閏f1 閏g4 25.句c7 閏xg5 26. ₩e2 \(\Delta f7 \) 27.a5, with the attack, but I really wanted to play less complicated.

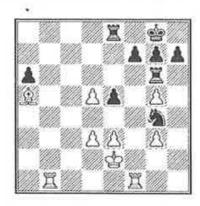


25.\Delta f2!! *A quite brilliant* pawn sacrifice, though it has to be said that most kibitzers on the Internet, having seen Gulko's struggle against Hiarcs, thought he had just thrown the game away! But in reality it is a sac' almost especially designed for a computer program, as they will (all!) be convinced that the knight is still a fully operating piece and evaluate themselves as being virtually a pawn up. 25... 2xh2 26.a5 Gulko: Now Black wins my a-pawn but loses his pawn-c5, and I believe White is better. I saw this move while I calculated between 23. \mege2 and 23. 2d5. **26... 2g4**+ It might look to be escaping, but

where can it go to next? Nowhere! 27. 全 bxa5 28. 2a4 Gulko: Now I do like my position! 28... 2e7 29. 2xc5 置c8



If the reader has a program running through this, what is its evaluation at this moment, and what does it think White's next move is?! **30.△a4** *Not this I'm sure!!* 30...e5 31.包b6 置cd8 32.置f1! Excellent, making life very difficult for Black on the *f*-file where he really wants to play f6 to protect e5. 32... \mathbb{E} fe8?! It is hard to know what was best here. Maybe this, or perhaps. Gulko felt Black had to try 32...f6 33.gxf6 \(\mathbb{Z}\)xf6 34.\(\mathbb{Z}\)xf6 gxf6. Another possibility was 34. Qxa5 国g6 35. 全d5 White's advantage is huge, whatever computer evals may be on ours screens! 35... axd5 Or 35... 句c6 36. 臭c3 罩xg5 37. 閏b7! 36.cxd5



36...e4! Vacating e5 to get a

square for his poor knight! *Not of course 36...* $\exists xg5??$ 37.d6! and only a sacrifice stops the pawn queening. 37.dxe4 置xg5 Now the d5-pawn can't advance as it is pinned to the \(\mathbb{L}a5\) 38.\(\mathbb{L}c7!\) 置h5 39. 查d3 f6 40. 置b7 置h2 The computer programs are still hopeful for a draw! 41.閏f4 包e5+?! 41...h5 was the other try, though it fails to: 42.閏xg4! hxg4 43.d6 閏h1 Ze8 44.e5! fxe5 45.Zff7 e4+ 46. 中c4 国d8 47. 国xg7+ 中h8 48.罩ge7 空g8 49.罩g7+ 空h8 50.罩gd7 罩xd7 51.罩xd7 空g8 52.**含d5** 含**f8** The tablebases would be whirring away and telling Black to resign here. 53.閏a7 a5 54.閏a8+ 查f7 55.d7 罩d2+ 56.含c6 Super technique was displayed by Gulko in this endgame. A mistake against enemy tablebases could have ruined all the excellent positional and middlegame play, which he demonstrated from the brilliant pawn sac' at move 25 onwards. 1-0

Final MATCH TABLE

	Boris Gulko
Deep Junior 7	1-1
Deep Friz	1 1/2-1/2
Hiarcs 8	1 1/2-1/2
Deep Shredder 6	1-1
Computers win	5-3

In his remarks afterwards **Gulko** admitted: 'My experiences from the mid-1990's turned out to be completely irrelevant today! Even a method of playing against one program may not work against another. I lost the 1st. round 1-3, then drew the 2nd. 2-2, and if there was a 3rd. I think that I would win'.

TACTICAL TEST by Graham White

Graham White has been involved in computer chess for probably as long as I have, and has also been an encourager in Selective Search and its continuance, as well as a valued author of various articles over the years.

Some of his in-depth game analysis has been of particular value for judging the character of different computer programs, but this time we are having an initial look at a MARATHON TACTICAL TEST set which he has compiled!

I have been testing some ChessBase engines using the Fritz analysis tool called 'processing test set'.

Initially 49 positions were selected to test on my Athlon 1.4g., and each was given a maximum of 5 minutes to solve each position. Some interesting - and in some cases surprising - statistics arose:

Positions not able to be solved:

Program	Unsolved
Junior 6	2
Fritz 5	4
Fritz 7	4
Gambit Tiger 2	4
Chess Tiger 14	5
Shredder 6	5
Hiarcs 7	6
Crafty 18.11	6

We see that Junior6 solved the most number of positions (48/50) by a relatively clear margin.

However, if we look at the average number of seconds per test, we see Junior was amongst the slowest!

Shredder performed the slowest overall, and was actually the quickest in only one of the positions:

Solution Speed!

Program	Average Time
Gambit Tiger 2	45 secs
Fritz 5	49
Fritz 7	57
Chess Tiger 14	58
Hiarcs 7	62
Junior 6	70
Crafty 18.11	71
Shredder 6	77

The fastest was Gambit Tiger, which, to my surprise, appreciably outperformed Chess Tiger in this test.

Next fastest was Fritz 5 which also slightly outperformed the latest Fritz!

I had always thought that the main difference between the two Tigers was in small adjustments in evaluation but this resulted in several positions (11) in which the Gambit version had much less difficulty than the normal one or vice versa.

For instance, this is my **Position 21**.



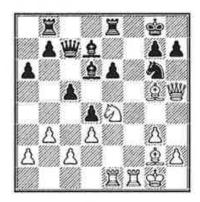
White to play, and the solution is 1.Rxe6!

Chess Tiger solved this in 9 seconds but Gambit Ti-



ger not at all. Crafty and both Fritzes also could not solve this one but Hiarcs had it right in just one second!

On the other hand, however, this is my **Position** 7, White to move and the solution is 1.Bd8.



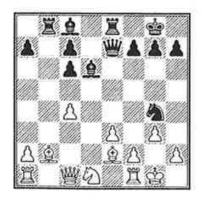
Here Gambit Tiger excels, finding the solution in only 1 sec. whereas Chess Tiger 14 needs 51 secs.

It's also one of the examples of where Fritz5 (1 sec) is faster than Fritz7 (22 secs). So occasionally we are finding a loss of tactical speed in Fritz7, which is the price it pays for having substantially more chess knowledge.

No doubt a Positional Test would see Fritz7 regularly outperforming Fritz5 and 6!

Junior6 was also very fast, needing just 2secs.

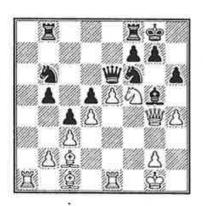
Position 27, Black to play, the key move is 1...Nxh2!



This is another example of Fritz5 completely outperforming Fritz7. Indeed Fritz5 is the quickest of all to find 1...Nh2! (an extremely impressive 3 seconds!) whereas Fritz 7 cannot actually find it at all! Strange.

Here we also have another (quite big) difference between the Tiger versions: Gambit Tiger2 equalled Fritz5 with a 3 secs performance, whilst Chess Tiger14 took 53secs, .

Junior6 did at 32secs, Hiarcs7 only just squeezed inside the 3mins and Crafty joined F7 in failing to beat the time limit altogether.



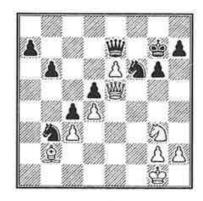
Here's my Position 29, White to play and find 1.exf6!

This time it is Fritz7 which is fastest, needing just 1sec while Fritz5 takes 11secs.

In fact all the programs except one find this move within 15secs... the odd one

out being Shredder6 which doesn't find exf6 at all within the 5 minute limit!

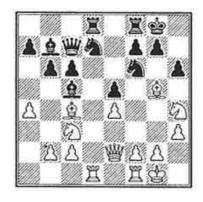
Now we come to **Position 50**, the one in which Shredder did excel. It is of course from the famous Botvinnik – Capablanca game, Avro 1938. White to find 1.Ba3.



Shredder and Junior play 1.Ba3! in 1 second... that's fast!

Fritz7 however needs just over 3mins and this is one of the few from my series which Fritz5 failed altogether

Now **Position 49** with White to play and find 1.Rxd7



This was one of the most difficult!

Shredder 6 failed, as did Crafty.

Even Gambit Tiger took just over 2mins, whilst Chess Tiger and Junior6 needed just over 3mins

And yet somehow three programs did it in double-

quick time, around 10secs: Fritz5 (8secs), Fritz7 (9secs) and Hiarcs7 (10secs).

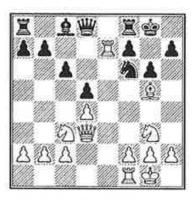
Maybe the analysis to go with this might be appreciated!

1.Exd7+- ②xd7 2.營h5 b5 2... Qc8 3. ①f5 ②f6 4. Qxf6 Qxf5 5.exf5 gxf6 6. 營g6+ 空h8 7.營xh6+ 空g8 8. 營g6+ 空h8 9.營xf6+ 空g8 10. 營g5+ 空h8 11.f6 3.Qxh6 ②f6 4.營g5 ②e8 5.Qxg7

I finish with what proved to be the most difficult position of all, my **Position 32**.

Only Chess Tiger, Shredder (just) and Fritz 5 could solve this one. Again Fritz 5 was the quickest with a time of 44 seconds.

Please have a go at it! (Solution at the bottom of the page, but only if you MUST!)



Note from Exic: Of course I had to find out, so tested **Hiarcs8** on my P3/1000. It scored **48/50** in positions solved, so would be 1= with Junior, failing only on 16 and 32.

And its average solving time, as recorded by the Fritz7 processing method, was **50secs**! It could well go under 40secs on Graham's Athlon 1400. Not bad for a knowledge program in a Tactical Test!

HIARCS 8! - 3 years of hard work WELL WORTHWHILE, says its programmer, Mark UNIACKE

We've all been waiting (somewhat impatiently!), for a new HIARCS.... it seems for a rather long time!

The delay is not because the work has ever stopped, nor due to a lack of progress or determination.

But its programmer Mark Uniacke, (like your editor, who is chief encourager, tester and opening book worker), has a full-time job, a family and Church involvements which, even when reluctantly, must take priority. Probably the program could have been released about 12 months ago, at which time we already believed we had at least 40 Elo over HIARCS 7.

As it happens the delay has been good for us - thanks to some new ideas during the past 3 months especially, we think that we now have a real humdinger! ('humdinger' is English slang I suppose, for something rather special which is likely to cause a bit of a stir!)

Mark was asked by Chess-Base if he would write some notes, outlining its development for its launch, and they are reprinted here for our **Selective Search** readers.

Hello Mark,

Good luck tonight!

The e-mail was sent a few hours before Hiarcs played its 2nd. game against Gulko. So it was written just before the (can I call it) sensational positional win which the program was about to achieve.

We have a deadline for ChessBase Magazine tomorrow, is there a chance that you could give us some food for a Hiarcs8 article in the course of today?

Kind regards... Matthias

Hi Matthias (and Eric!)

Here is some info about Hiarcs 8 (I hope I am not giving too much away...)

Hiarcs 8 is the result of 3 years spare time development using Hiarcs 7.32 as the basis.

The work for Hiarcs 8 focused on two main areas:



1. Search issues.

The Hiarcs 7.32 search was prone to exploding in the middle game at depths beyond 9/10 plies. The tree just became too big, which resulted in a search that didn't take good advantage of today's ever-faster machines.

For Hiarcs 8, I significantly changed the shape and depth of the search tree by being more selective about the variations explored and the search extensions used.

It then became clear that deeper searching had changed the balance between tactics and positional play. The overall program had to be adapted to this which led to a search now capable of reaching between 1-3 iterations deeper than Hiarcs 7.32 in the same time.

It is worth pointing out that this was achieved through a smarter search rather than faster nodes per second rate.

Although the path to reach this search paradigm has been difficult, with many experimental versions having weaknesses in the tactics or positional play - and sometimes these were difficult for us to detect or diagnose! - the final result in Hiarcs 8 is a very solid program with a beneficial mix of strong tactics and good positional play.

1a. A Speed-up used to improve the Search!

Some raw speed improvements were made totalling about 15%, but most of this has been ploughed back into the evaluation functions and search intelligence, which needed enhancing to cope

with the narrower search tree. Although some tactics do occasionally require a ply more to find, this is rare, and the overall tactical play is significantly improved.

The maximum search depth also had to be extended to 62 plies, as now the search and extensions can regularly exceed the old limit of 30 even at blitz time controls.

The deeper search has resulted in improved positional understanding and play, as the program is now better able to determine between 2 'almost equal' moves. This leads us straight into a discussion of the second major improvement I have made.

2. Knowledge

For Hiarcs 8 I completely rewrote the pawn evaluation code, and although I am not completely satisfied with it (I may never be!), it understands much more about when pawns are weak. This includes potential future weaknesses as well as how the square control and pieces influence pawn structures and visa-versa.

I also re-wrote much of the passed pawn code, which has been rewarded with a much improved understanding of passed pawns.

Almost all the pawn and piece evaluations have been checked and updated between Hiarcs732->8. This took a long time... and a lot of testing of every individual adjustment, however small!

Various new positional concepts were discovered and converted into heuristics, and again these sometimes give Hiarcs 8 another dimension to its positional play.

Needless to say I am still not totally happy with it, but as co-developer

you will see from the games against GM Boris Gulko, Hiarcs 8 has a very strong positional "feel" and can play some natural and impressive, even exciting positional chess.

3. New User Options

There are new options for the users pleasure like:

- Combinations: which when checked enables Hiarcs to search in a more combinative way, which can enable it to find deep combinations (default=Off)
- Threat depth: an option which allows the depth of threat investigation in the quiescence search to be changed (default=3, means pursue threats 4 plies into the quiescent search)
- Smart search: allows the smart search to be switched off or on (default=On)
- Hash table retention: Can be switch off or on (default=On)
- Tablebase depth: modifiable depth access to tablebases
- Hyper-modern: a selectable style to play in a more hyper-modern fashion - used in the Gulko match (default=Off)

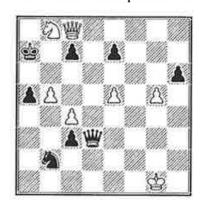
4. Conclusion

Hiarcs 8 has taken what seems like ages to develop, and has created a larger "to-do" list than I started with after Hiarcs 7.32!

But in the process I think I have created a stronger, more positional program than before. I have had great fun - as well as a lot of ups and downs - developing Hiarcs 8 and now I am looking forward to starting all over again for Hiarcs 9! I hope you will enjoy the refreshing style and play of the program.

Before finishing, I would like to give particular thanks to Eric Hallsworth, who is my co-developer in all but coding. He continually inspires me with accurate testing, challenging thoughts and suggestions; and not forgetting the excellent opening book preparations. Of course Hiarcs 8 will be available with the very latest opening book from Eric.

Here is an example showing what Hiarcs8 is capable of:



Hiarcs8 on my P3/750 laptop takes 24 secs to find b6+!! (and with a plus evaluation!). It scores it at +4.05 after 29 secs and +9.15 after 48 secs.

The main Variation which Hiarcs shows <u>after just 29</u> secs is stunning:

We love the 6.g6 queen sac – it's amazing to realise Hiarcs8 sees the whole thing in 29secs at move 1!

I tested Fritz7, Junior7, Chess Tiger 14 and Shredder5.32 (I haven't got Shredder6) and none found the move in 3 minutes. Hiarcs 7.32 used to take ages, just over 9 minutes on my machine!

In our final test against Hiarcs 732 the new Hiarcs 8 won by 20½-9½... it's all looking to be very good!

CHESS ROBOTS ARE STILL AROUND! by Rob VAN SON

Over the past few months Rob van Son has become a most welcome contributor to our magazine Selective Search.

His main interest is in dedicated computers and we have already had some particularly interesting articles from him, including one about the esteemed (and emotional!) Novag Robot.

Rob promised me something special for our 100th edition, and here it is! Now he's found a real 21st Century Robot with a real arm to grab the pieces and move them around. And it talks interactively with its opponent whilst playing 2000 Elo standard chess... as well learn from Rob's interview with the highly talented Hans Lammers.

Yes, Eric's right, we still have an original Robochess!

Long ago, in 1770, the Hungarian baron and engineer Kempelen Wolfgang von built the first chess machine!

This machine looked like a big trunk with a chessboard on top and behind that an Arabic looking mechanical man wearing a turban. Because of the appearance of this man, the machine soon was nicknamed the Turk.

During the many presentations the machine was shown to the public, and they could see the Turk perform.

Before demonstrating a Von Kempelen game, showed the interior of the machine to the public. By opening the doors of the trunk, he convinced the spectators that there really was no one inside. What they actually saw was a complicated mechanical robot consisting of many wheels and levers.

The whole thing was a deception, because the machine was constructed in such a way that a chess-master could be hidden in it. When, during a performance, the doors were opened, he could move in such a way that the public could not see him.

Man was in the machine and operated the Turk.

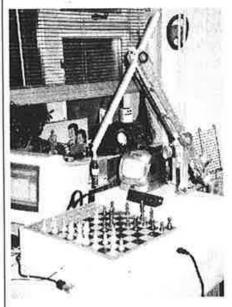
The building of a chessrobot has fascinated man throughout all the ages. Even now, in the 21st century, the fascination for a 'living machine' has not disappeared.

Robochess new chessrobot of this century. The name of the machine - as you can see - is a joining of Robot and chess.

Robochess the creation of the 46-year old Hans Lammers from Heemstede, a town about 20 kilomeoutside Amsterdam.

machine can, as a real robot | chess with her!

should, carry out its own moves, but Robochess can also talk. In fact the machine turns out to be a woman! The woman in the robot is not just any woman, but the inventor's wife Lucia! So the robot is a 'she' and not a 'he' and should be addressed as such. Robochess is 70 cm long and 50 cm wide (that's about 28" x 20" for our good British friends!).



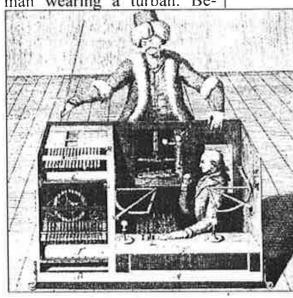
With her underarm in resting position she is 1.10 meters high (3'6"). She weighs 30 kilo (just under 5 stones).

The wooden trunk of the robot is too small for a human, but even so I refrained from asking Hans to open her belly to see what is inside!

Hans, who has two children - a son and a daughter a few years ago absolutely never would have dared to dream that he would have another female in the house!

When I walked into Hans's living room I felt a great fascination at seeing brainchild.

I even was allowed to play



Naturally I wanted to know more about her.

Time for an interview with the father of Robochess!

Hans, how long have you been playing chess and have you ever played with a club?

I hardly ever play chess. I play one or two games a year at the most, so I am not a chess-club member.

Can you tell me how the idea to make a chess-robot came up?

First, I wanted to make a robot that could vacuum-clean. But the problem with that is that you can't use a cord because the thing moves all over the room. So you'll have to work with batteries. Also, I heard that they were going to make one in Japan.

A couple of years ago I was with my son attending a special day of the Pharos association in Zeist, a club for highly intelligent people. My son is actually highly intelligent.

They had made a miniature traffic situation where everything was operated by a computer, like traffic lights, speed bumps, etc. I found it very interesting to see how the traffic, by means of the parallel port of the computer, was regulated.

From this I got the idea to make a robot-arm. I wanted to let the computer express something creative, something you can see and from that it is only a very small step to chess.

Chess and computers have really always been connected. Chess is a game that asks for a certain amount of intelligence and it takes place in a



limited area. So it is perfectly suited for a robot-arm!

Are you, like your son, highly intelligent?

I can't say that for sure about myself, but I think I do have a more than average creative talent.

Before I started on Robochess, I was active in the field of music, while I was never taught how to read music.

I wrote 11 Rhythm & Blues compositions and offered them to a music publisher. They thought my work was very good, but it was never made into a CD because the titles did not suit the genre they were releasing at the time.

I also assembled a guitar myself. But the highlight for me was the making of a chess-robot!

Do you actually have a technical background that helps you realise your ideas more easily?

No, I only finished secondary modern school and just obtained a typing-diploma.

I have always had a big interest in technique though. I

used to be a maintenance mechanic with a firm that imported clocks from Germany and sold them to retailers in Holland. Together with a couple of colleagues I repaired broken clocks and alarm clocks.

Where did you get the know-how to make a chess-robot?

I was not knowledgeable about goniometry and you do need that to calculate the positions of the arm.

You are actually dealing with combined movements that are performed by three motors. These movements, also known as steps, have to be calculated mathematically. I only ever did secondary school math, years ago, so I just couldn't do it. I had to learn a lot about the technique (digital electronics) to let the steps-motors of the robot-arm communicate with the PC.

In addition, you have to be able to write a program that, together with the chess program and with the help of digital electronics, enables the whole thing to communicate hardware-wise.

The robot-arm can then correctly execute the moves of the chess-program and subsequently pass on the moves of the opponent in the correct way to the chess-program.

So you need knowledge of math (goniometry), electronics, programming, and wood-constructions.

Therefore I borrowed several books from the library and consulted them about goniometry and digital electronics. I also bought a book about the programming-language Visual Basic.

Of course I only read the

things that were important for the construction of the robot, otherwise I still would not have finished it!

How long did you work on it?

I worked 2½ years on it and now it is finished, apart from some minor growing pains.

Meanwhile, the control program I wrote in Visual Basic has reached a length of 70 pages A4.

Can you tell me exactly what is in the wooden trunk of Robochess?

In the trunk are two PC-motherboards, each equipped with a 80486-processor and containing 20 and 8 Megabytes of RAM respectively.

It is no problem to replace them later by two Pentium-

motherboards.

The most complicated job actually was to let them communicate hardware-wise. You need a lot of knowledge of digital electronics for that. You have quite a few zeros and ones coming into the picture!

Why two motherboards?

The first motherboard is used for the chess-program, which is the Psion2 (1985) by Richard Lang. Of course, any other chess-program can be used as well.

The second motherboard is used for the Visual Basic program that I wrote myself and that takes care of the communication between Psion and the motors of the robot-arm.

At first I used one motherboard for both programs. With the help of multitasking they were each separately assigned processortime.

This did not work so good | that the electromagnet, that is

however, because subsequently the robot-arm moved less fluently or even faltered. The reason for this was that the one program would for instance be active too long, on account of which the other would perform less than well.

With two motherboards there is no interference and both programs function well.

This has the additional advantage that two monitors can be connected to them. At the moment I use for the Psion a former portable TV that takes up little room, and for the Visual Basic program an ordinary PC- monitor.

What kind of material is Robochess made of?

The robot-arm is made of aluminium corner-pieces that are normally used under cupboard-doors.

Furthermore it has chains attached to it. Originally I even used the lavatory pull-chain, but that creaked and hooked too much, so I used another one for that.

I bought the steps-motors, and many other parts, at an army and electronics dumpstore in IJmuiden.

The fun part of that is that you can re-use stuff that was actually ready to be thrown out and save a lot of money at the same time.

At first, the motors I bought there were much too weak, so that the arm could barely lift the chess-pieces. Then I started again with much stronger motors that did in fact have the ability to give the arm sufficient strength.

The robot-arm moves the pieces by means of an electromagnet, a former car-relay.

I drilled holes in the upper side of the chess-pieces and put in small metal bolts, so that the electromagnet, that is



located in the end of the arm, can lift them. In the bottom of the pieces I also drilled holes and put in magnets that relay the moves of the opponent, via the read-contacts-board, to the chess-program.

Then the chess-program, via my Visual Basic program, passes the countermove on to the steps-motors of the robotarm, which let the arm carry out the move.

I made the wooden trunk out of very fine chipboard. The trunk contains, as I already mentioned, two PC mother-boards which communicate through cables with the stepsmotors of the actual robot-arm.

During the game I played with her, I noticed a row of led-lamps blinking. What is the meaning of that?

The lamps go on one by one during the thinking time of the opponent.

How fast they go on, depends on the time you set per move. When all lights are on, the Robochess assumes that

the thinking time is over and no further moves are allowed.

So, if the opponent is still in deep thought, then the lamps will just start blinking again.

However, if he does belatedly try to make his move, the lamps of Robochess all go on next, then - the same as with roulette - "Rien ne va plus!" is in order... game over!

This is important for the detection-time of the robot.

For Robochess needs to know for sure that the opponent has made a move, and next needs to detect this move by means of a ticking mechanism. During that time nothing is to be carried out on the board.

The voice in the robot is that of your wife Lucia. Can you tell me a little more about this?

First, I write a number of texts on a sheet of paper.

These texts are read and recorded by Lucia, with the help of a PC, microphone and sound-recording software.

The computer converts these short texts WAV-files.

Next, I integrate these soundfiles in my Visual Basic control-program, which sees to it that the robot completely randomly chooses a text.

It works the same as a dice. Suppose there are six alternative ways of saying how a move should be carried out. With alternative 3 the robot says for example 'I move' and with alternative 5 she says 'I do' and with alternative 2 something else again. This way even I never know exactly what she is going to say.



soundcard and two small boxes Robochess can speak the text. Naturally, it is also possible to build in two small speakers.

We add to her vocabulary daily, so she gets continually more talkative!

It is important to know that Robochess is interactive. When you turn her on with a simple switch, she asks you: "What is your name?"

Through a microphone you tell her that your name is

She will then ask you: "At what level do you want to play, Rob?"

You answer for example that you would like to play at level 3.

She will then say: "Ok, Rob, we will now play at level

Your voice is actually being recognized by a speech-chip that subsequently sends a code to the Visual Basic control-program. This program then knows what text goes with that code and next speaks the text.

In addition, she can give you hints, and if you need to go to the bathroom, you can say to her: "I want to take a break."

She will answer: "Ok, see Finally with the help of a you in a minute." She then

temporarily stops the game until you, by pushing a button, indicate that you want to continue.

Do you have any commercial plans with Robochess in the near future?

I haven't investigated this yet, although it is certainly not unimportant.

You could for example sell the robot to certain institutions. Perhaps a home for the elderly would be interested in buying her, possibly with municipal subsidy. They put her in recreation-room, so that the chess-lovers in the home can enjoy her.

This would create a whole new social element, because the elderly can join forces to play against Robochess.

At the present time the production of Robochess is much too expensive and therefore not attractive to a manufacturer. Besides the price tag for the consumer will be too high. How do you think you can solve this problem?

If necessary I will make the robot myself - made to order for a customer.

It is hard to say for how much money I would sell Robochess, but a rich eccentric who is really interested certainly might want to pay a substantial amount of money for it.

Another idea is that I make her in the form of an assembly kit and have a number of these kits assembled.

Recently I have joined the Dutch Order of Inventors (NOVU) and I should be able to pick up a lot of ideas there.

... with congratulations on issue 100

Rob van Son, Spring 2002

COMPUTER V HUMAN MATCH SPANISH CHESS Comp. Association & BASILIO and PUZOL CHESS Clubs ANNUAL MATCH

Computer-Human match Puzol/Basilio 2001 by Alvaro BENLLOCH

As almost every year since 1990, some computer chess fans celebrate a human-computer match in Valencia.

The match was organized by **ANACA** (Spanish Chess Computer Association) and the **Basilio** and **Puzol** Chess Clubs members.

It is the first time that Puzol Chess Club has cooperated in this event, and probably they will continue in future matches. As a result of this cooperation it was possible to celebrate the match in a public building and local TV presence!

The human team was composed by a mix of both chess clubs.

The playing time control was **Game in one hour**.

The first human player took white and the rest alternated the colour. There was a last minute gap left in the human team that had to be substituted by Maria Pilar Lopez at the last moment.

She was weaker than her opponent but she fought and lost with great dignity. Many thanks for her efforts to allow the whole computer team to play. Her opponent was the Playmatic S, a legend from 1982, the Sensory 9 program at 3,2MHz in a wooden auto sensory board. I wonder how

many of the Selective Search readers have ever seen one of those?!

The human team was:

- Víctor Penades (Basilio), 2100
- Leonardo Soliño (Basilio), 2000
- Vicente Adsuara (Basilio), 2000
- Luis Barona (Basilio), 2052
- Manuel Contreras (Basilio), 1900
- Alberto Avinent (Puzol), 1800
- Andrés Benito (Puzol), 1800
- María Pilar López (Basilio), 1600

The **computer team** was composed once we knew the human opposition.

The idea was to prepare a balanced match to increase the event interest. Our past matches were all clearly won by the computer team, so this time we wanted to give the match a chance of being close to create a little bit more emotion and excitement.

We had also prepared the computer team looking for a variety of program authors, trying to avoid many repetitions.

This meant there was a variety of playing styles, and the computer's creation date and their endgame knowledge also varied - which are very important aspects, especially when playing against 1900 Elo rated players.

But despite all this help, it

was not enough and the computer team still managed to win the match!

The computer team was:

- Mephisto Exclusive Risc 2 ARM2/14MHz 1024Kb, 2277
- Mephisto Exclusive Almeria 68020/12MHz 1024Kb, 2125
- Novag Scorpio 68000/16MHz 96Kb, 2028
- Mephisto Dallas 68020/14MHz, 2000
- CXG Sphinx Galaxy 6502/4MHz, 1893
- Mephisto Exclusive MM-II HG240 6502/3.7MHz, 1787
- Scisys Turbostar 432 6502/4MHz, 1788
- Fidelity Playmatic "S" 6502/3.6MHz, 1700

The GAMES

The <u>first</u> computer player was **Mephisto Risc 2**. A very strong positional player that won the WMCCC in 1991 and 1992. The human player **Penades** was 150 Elo points down but he played a very aggressive Petrov variant, the Cochrane Gambit.

The second computer player was Mephisto Almeria 68020 at 12 MHz, the WMCCC champion in 1988. Almeria is a strong tactic and good endgame player. The human Solino played a direct king attack and won a very beautiful game.

Novag Scorpio played in third place followed at fourth by the 1986 WMCC champion, the Mephisto Dallas 68020.

As representatives of the medium strength computers, the Sphinx Galaxy, MM-II and Turbostar 432 played in fifth-seventh positions.

Galaxy has an aggressive playing style but with poor positional knowledge, as with many Morsch programs on the dedicated computers and the early Fritz days.

MM-II is a good tactical program, especially good at fast time controls. It played with the help of the opening module HG240.

Turbostar 432 always needed long 40/2 type time controls to play at its best. It used an early form of selective searching, but on the old, slow processors at faster time controls was often found tactically wanting.

The 8th. and last computer was the biggest attraction for many of us, the **Fidelity** Playmatic "S". The symbol of a past (computer) age, the very early 80's, a brute force program by Kathe and Dan Spracklen. It has a solid playing style with an acceptable tactical strength.

For this issue we are showing the 2 games won by Club players (computers' turn next time). In both the king safety problems of the 1980/90's machines are in full view!

Benito, A (1900) -Turbostar 432 6502/4 (1788)

1.e4 c5 2.2 f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4. 2 xd4 2 c6 5. 2 e3 2 f6 6. ② c3 **\$b4** 7.f3 **\$xc3+** 8.bxc3 曾a5 9.曾d3 包e5 10.營d2 0-0 11.臭e2 d5 12. **\$25** dxe4 13. **\$2**xf6 gxf6 Benito is about to make a mistake, giving the computer a (temporary) advantage



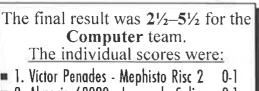
14.0-0? 14.fxe4 = 14...exf315.2xf3 2xf3+?? 15... 2g6 keeps Black ahead 16.\(\mathbb{Z}\xf3\) 豐b6+ 17.空h1 豐b2?? The computer fails completely to see the dangerous threats to its king! 18. Zaf1 4h8 19.營h6 m/5 19...買g8 20. 對xf6+ 置g7 21. 置g3 對xc3 22.營d8+ 国g8 23.營xg8# 1-0

Almeria 68020/12 -Solino, L (2000)

1.e4 e5 2.包f3 包c6 3.臭b5 a6 4. **Qa4 Qf6** 5. **Qxc6** dxc6 6. d3 এd6 7.幻bd2 豐e7 8.0-0 g5 9.4xg5 \(\mathbb{Z}\)g8 10.4c4 +0.54 10...h6 11.包f3 皇h3 12.包e1 0-0-0 13. 2xh6 2g4



14.臭d2?? *14*.**臭***e3* was necessary, to protect f2 14...**增h4** 15.**包xd6**+ Almeria thinks it's still winning with +1.33?! **15...**罩xd6 16.包f3 now +1.63! 16... ₩h5 17. 2g5 ooops, it's -1.84! 17...\$xg2 18.查xg2 營xh2+ 19.查f3 国h6+22. 營h5 国xh5+ 23.蛰xh5 罩h8+ 24.匂h7 置xh7+ 25. \$\\$h6 \\$\\$g6+ 26. \$\\$h4 置xh6# 0-1



1. Víctor Penades - Mephisto Risc 2 2. Almeria 68020 - Leonardo Solino 0-1 3. Vicente Adsuara - Novaa Scorpio 0-1 4. Dallas 68020 - Luis Barona 1/2-1/2 5. Manuel Contreras - Galaxy 0-1 6. MM-II - Alberto Avinent 1-0 💻 7. Andres Benito - Turbostar 432

💻 8. Playmatic "S" - Maria Pilar Lopez 1-0

and Penades is against the RISC2 Below from Left to Right: Maria Lopez v Playmatic, Benito v Turbostar, and Avinent v MM2

1-0

The Photos:

plays the

Almeria,



Kramnik v Fritz - Oct. 2002

A major article, and an interview, conducted on April 7, 2002, appeared recently on the **Chess-Base, Hamburg** website.

Permission there is given for these to be reproduced in whole or in part, so for **Selective Search** I have extracted all of the information relating to either the forthcoming match, or to questions concerning computer chess.

I think **Kramnik**'s views are of particular interest.

By Matthias Wullenweber, ChessBase, Hamburg.

A serious match against the human World Champion is the highest possible achievement in computer chess.

The match against Vladimir Kramnik in Bahrain is not only the peak of Fritz's eleven year chess career but also the longest and strongest fight ever between a man and a machine, a worthy chance of revenge for humanity after Kasparov against Deep Blue five years ago.

Today Kramnik is the toughest opponent for chess programs. His flexible positional chess style, his self control and psychological strength are perfect weapons in the battle against computers.

He has proven this in previous encounters against earlier versions of the programs **Fritz** and **Junior**, where the silicon opponents suffered short, sharp shock treatments on both occasions.

However software and hardware have made good progress since then. Fritz7 leads the world computer ranking list by a clear margin, and its pair of authors Frans

Morsch and Mathias Feist have already made many new advances, leaving the version 7 far behind in development.

So while deep in our tribal genes we all wish Kramnik success, it will be a breathtaking fight. Relying on human intuition and creativity he must avoid positions where the calculating power of the machine prevails and every false step can lead to a loss.

It is important that the match rules establish optimal playing conditions to ensure maximum strength for both human and computer.

The match is not about exploiting human weaknesses to pull a short-lived marketing stunt. Nor is the match about tiring the human player, putting him under psychological pressure, making him feel uncomfortable or insecure. This match is about playing good chess under fair conditions for both sides.

Vladimir Kramnik will get the program a month in advance to get accustomed to its individual style.

Human beings have the ability to learn and to draw This ability conclusions. should be a factor where men compete with machines, so a careful preparation is in the spirit of this event for Kramnik... and the Fritz team. There are enough small random factors like hash table size in modern chess software which can elude move-bymove preparation in specific positions.

The status of the Bahrain



match is underlined by its considerable prize fund.

In the event of a win, Fritz would receive \$400,000, whilst a draw still yields \$200,000.

The creators of Fritz, Frans Morsch and ChessBase, have decided to put any prize money the program wins into an independent foundation to promote Junior chess! Such a foundation would organize summer training camps, tournaments, and encourage chess in schools. Its goal will be to make chess a cool sport for intelligent young people.

So whatever the outcome in Bahrain - the humans win in the end.

Vladimir Kramnik on Man vs Machine

Intro: In July we are going to see a big qualification tournament for the right to challenge world champion Vladimir Kramnik, who wrested the title from Garry Kasparov in December 2000.

Then, in October there will be a spectacular Man vs Machine battle in Bahrain, when Kramnik is scheduled to play the strongest chess program currently available in a spectacular event.

Now the man at the center of these exciting events has speaks out and discusses computers, Fritz, Deep Blue, the classical world championship and FIDE.

This interview was conducted on Sunday, April 7th.

Subject: Interest in Computer Chess

- ChessBase: Man versus Machine matches in chess get extraordinary public attention. What do you think is the reason for this?
- Vladimir Kramnik: Our brains have the power to stand up to the machines. It is a good story when the two fight for supremacy in a highly intellectual area. The player and the computer are both obeying the same rules. So you can compare the results. The chess grandmaster is fighting against the best software on a brutally fast machine. He stands there alone in a fight against the most unbelievable technical development in history, It is also the battle between creativity and monstrous calculating power. The public finds this fascinating, and so do I.
- ChessBase: Kramnik vs Fritz in Bahrain is seen as the revenge match of Kasparov vs Deep Blue. Are you avenging the defeat of Kasparov in 1997?
- Kramnik: Naturally the match has the character of a revenge. After all the world champion is facing the strongest chess

program. If I too should lose then the people will believe that chess computers are really superior to human beings. Top players are very ambitious, it is also a matter of honour. Believe me, to lose to a computer is twice as painful as losing to a colleague.

- ChessBase: How does the playing strength of Fritz7 today compare with that of Deep Blue in 1997?
- Kramnik: I spent some time last summer studying Fritz because the match was originally supposed to take place in October 2001 and had to be postponed because of September 11. I was testing Fritz on a Notebook with a 600 MHz processor. I let Fritz replay the games of Deep Blue in 1997. It was a great shock! In almost every position Fritz was suggesting objectively better variations. The program is clearly stronger than Deep Blue, whatever the hardware...The developers have done some excellent work in the past years. The special version that will run on eight processors in Bahrain I think will definitely be over 2800 in its Elo performance. Everybody can imagine what a difficult job it will be for me. In order to have chances to win I have to be mentally and physically in top shape.

Subject: Kasparov vs Deep Blue, New York 1997

ChessBase: Kasparov has criticized the playing conditions and circumstances surrounding the match of 1997. Did you take his

- experiences into account for Bahrain?
- *Kramnik*: The result in that match was a great shock! but I do not know enough about what exactly happened in New York to give you a precise answer. Definitely it was a mistake to play without any specific preparation against an opponent you know nothing about. That is why it is important that the player is able to spend some time getting used to the playing style of the program. The computer team is also preparing for the human opponent. As I said Deep Blue did not impress me that much. The fact that even a weaker program managed to beat Garry Kasparov tells us that the match in Bahrain will be a hard challenge for

Subject: "Fritz plays somehow like... a human"

- ChessBase: Can you feel different styles in different chess programs and if yes, how would you describe the style of Fritz?
- Kramnik: Yes, I can, and even if it sounds ridiculous I have to say, Fritz plays in many ways, how should I say it, like a human. At least when I compare it to other programs. Your program is the first on the computer rating lists. Okay, these lists compare the playing strengths of the programs among each other. But I think that Fritz will perform better than other programs against human beings, because of this "human" quality. This is what makes Fritz especially dangerous for me

in Bahrain. A game like my game against Junior in Dortmund will not be possible against Fritz, I think.

- ChessBase: Chess programs have clear defects in long-term strategic planning. This lead to the development of anti-computer chess, which can be quite successful with simple attacking plans. However, Robert Hnbner said after his match against Fritz in Dortmund that it is not necessary to betray one's style when facing the machine. Also Boris Gulko recently reached promising positions against top programs with his own repertoire. What is your opinion on this?
- Kramnik: You cannot compare Fritz 6 with Fritz 7 at all, there is a big difference, a clear advance. And the Bahrain version will be even stronger and it will understand the strategic aspects even better. That is why I can clarify my strategic plan only after getting the last version of the program. But one thing is already completely clear: There are not many grandmasters left who would have a chance in such a match.

Subject: the Contribution of Computers to the game of Chess

- ChessBase: What do you think is the greatest contribution of computers to the world of chess?
- Kramnik: Clever question, which I have to answer positively. Okay, computers have surely helped to make chess more popular. Many people have found their way

to chess through the computer. I know many people who are quite attached to their favourite program.

- ChessBase: The path to achieve super grandmaster strength is long and tough and only the most talented players succeed in getting there. Top grandmasters enjoy social prestige, not only in the chess scene. Does it have any impact on human esteem that machines now compete on this level?
- Kramnik: I really don't think so. Maybe in the subjective view of an active grandmaster there is such a feeling. It is really painful to lose to a computer, as I said already. But the players do not lose social prestige, in fact the opposite is true. It is a battle on a completely different level, and the public understand this.
- ChessBase: Do you think that chess might be promoted by the ability to play against people on the Internet?
- Kramnik: There is only one answer to this question: chess profits more than any other activity from the Internet. I am convinced that many children and young people are finding their way to chess like this. Many schools all over the world are becoming active on the Internet and recognise the important role of chess in learning and education. Even business is recognising this. I can feel that chess is becoming more popular, and we will all profit from this. But I must advise every player to also



go to a chess tournament or to a chess club. The Internet can never replace a game face-to-face between two people. And also not the atmosphere of a wellpresented chess event.

Subject: Chess is much more than a Sport!

- ChessBase: You have found a new partner in the Einstein Group in London.
- Kramnik: Yes, it is a very professional multi-media company and I have made long-term commitments to them. They have all the parts which are very important for international sporting events. Event management, marketing, the Internet. And they have their own TV channel with international distribution. Einstein wants to use chess to promote learning and education for children and youth. I think this is very important, it is very close to my feelings...I had other offers, but Einstein is an ideal partner for chess. That was the main reason for my decision.

MATE in, ERRR.... 270 !? But CAN IT BE PROVED? Asks Eric Hallsworth

A long, long time ago (1990!) a customer of ours at Countrywide sent us a mate in 270 problem which had appeared in his local newspaper.

It's been sat peacefully in our files for the years since, but was unearthed recently when I was having a go at updating and improving our filing system (i.e. trying to chuck a few things out!).

How can you prove such a thing? 12 years ago I would have thought it would have been quite impossible, but the composer of the problem, by the name of **Petrovic** in 1969, claimed at that time that it held the record for the longest legal mate.

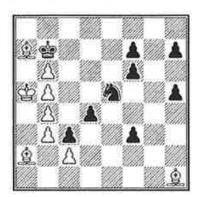
I don't know if the record (i.e. mate in 270) still stands, but I thought that maybe the computers could do a bit of the checking for me - I mean in 1990 a 68020 at 12MHz with no hash tables was about the strongest chess computer you could find. It's Elo rating would be 2300 and an all-night search depth would reach around 10 ply on full search and maybe 22 ply with extensions.

Of course today's PC programs aren't going to get through to 539 ply (!) but I wondered if they might at least help a little!

LONG-RANGE PROBLEM

was the article heading couldn't disagree with that!

A form of disctionary definition was given: "one in which mate is to be given in a large number of moves. Usually White repeats many times a lengthy manouvre that loses the move". Here we go! White to play and mate in 270!



1.臭b1 h4 2.垫a4 垫a8

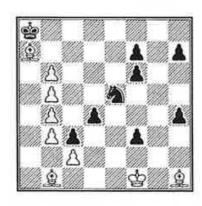
Black's king oscillates to and from b7 except when a Black pawn has to be moved

3.堂a3 啟b7 4.堂a2 堂a8 5.堂a1 堂b7 6.奠a2 堂a8 7.堂b1 堂b7 8.堂c1 堂a8 9.堂d1 堂b7 10.堂e1 堂a8 11.奠b1 堂b7 12.堂f1

White begins triangulation in order to LOSE THE MOVE.

Up to here the program's hadn't really understood White's moves (which is what I expected), but they couldn't find anything better for Black to throw a spanner in the works, so in that sense I felt they had at least confirmed the plan.

12...⊈a8

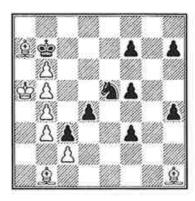


Now it's time for the king to triangulate and start on its long way back!

The PC programs now began to understand and approved this idea!

13. 查f2 查b7 14. 查e1 查a8 15. 查d1 查b7 16. 查c1 查a8 17. **\$a2 \$b7** 18. **\$b1 \$D\$ a8** 19. **\$D\$ a1 \$D\$ b7** 20. **\$B\$ b1 \$D\$ a8** 21. **\$D\$ a2 \$D\$ b7** 22. **\$D\$ a3 \$D\$ a8** 23. **\$D\$ a4 \$D\$ b7** 24. **\$D\$ a5** f5

Here Black has moved a pawn because he cannot permit the White king to be moved to a6.



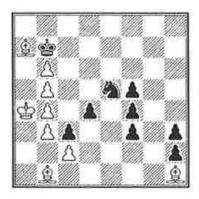
White will need to make 9 more triangulations, each time it will force Black to move a pawn.

At move 47 it will be f5-f4, move 70 f7-f6, move 93 f6-f5, move 116 h4-h3, move 139 h3-h2, move 162 h7-h6, move 185 h6-h5, move 208 h5-h4, move 231 h4-h3.

Again the programs can't really understand what White is doing – sometimes they choose the move and you think – 'ahaa, they've begun to get the idea', but then they start to move the king back towards and up the a-file before trinagulation's happened, so you

realise the don't really get it! But they still can't improve for Black or find a way out, therefore...

If we can agree 'so far, so good' this is the position we've reached, with **White** to play, and it's move 254.



This time (most of) the programs choose the correct move AND have big evaluations, so they've 'got it' at last for sure!

254. da5!

Hiarcs8 and Tiger14 go > 1000 very quickly, whilst Shredder6 and Junior7 are nearly as high.

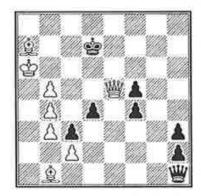
However Fritz7 rather disgraces itself by wanting to play 254. \(\Delta a3\)? even after 2mins on my P3/1000

254...\$c8 255.\$a6 f2 256.b7+

Mate in 9 here announces Junior7 – if so the game ends at move 265 and not move 270. Fritz7 – which understood 254.Ka5 once it had been shown it – says m/10 = end at move 266

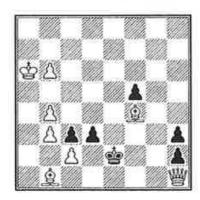
For the next few moves we are going to follow the official solution of mate in 270. But I'll print diagrams for readers to go back to, as the

programs have indicated the 270 figure can definitely be reduced.



259. 曾 97+

The line given in the original 270 move article



266.cxd3

The line in the original 270 move article

266...查f2 267..ac2 267. **a**xh2+ same result

Now go back to the diagram immediately above, where 266.cxd3 was played, and try this:

266.b7! dxc2 267.\$xc2 查f2

268. **Qd3 c2 269. 增f1**#

mate accomplished a move earlier!

Finally go back to the diagram near the top of the centre column, where 259.Qg7+ was played. Here's what the PC programs produced there:

259.營xf5+! 查e8 260.營g6+ 查d8

If 260... 查e7? 261. 違c5+ 查d8 262. 對g8+ 查c7 263. 對f7+ 查c8 264. 對e8+ 查c7 265.b6#. So 260... 查d8 is correct.

261. **2**b6+ **空**e7 262. **2**c5+ **空**d8 263. **凹**f6+ **空**c8 264. **凹**e6+ **空**b8 265. **2**d6+ **空**a8 266. **凹**c8#

Therefore I conclude that, with best play on both sides, the **Problem** is a **mate in 266**. But can this be proven?

I'd be pleased to hear from anyone who feels like going through all of this, either to verify or correct it. Also I'd be glad to hear if anyone knows of a Problem claiming to take even more moves... not that I'm exactly offering to test another like this, but you never know!!

SPECIAL VALUE Software!

I have the following available:

 2 copies of M Chess Pro 7 on CD... £10 + £2.50 p/p each.

- 2 copies Complete Chess System on CD, 1st. version... £5 + £2.50 p/p each. Note no manuals with these.
- 1 copy **Rebel 9** on CD... £6 + £2.50 p/p.
- 1 copy Rebel Century 1 on CD...
 £10 + £2.50 p/p.

Cheques payable to Countrywide Computers please, or ring Eric with credit card details on 01353 740323.

RATING LISTS AND NOTES

A brief guide to the purpose of each of the HEADINGS should be helpful for everybody.

BCF. These are British Chess Federation ratings. They can be calculated from Elo figures by (Elo - 600) /8, or from USCF figures by (USCF - 720) /8.

Elo. This is the Rating figure which is in popular use Worldwide. The BCF and Elo figures shown in SE-LECTIVE SEARCH are calculated by combining each Computer's results v computers with its results v humans. I believe this makes the SS Rating List the most accurate available for Computers and Programs anywhere in the world.

+/-. The maximum likely future rating movement, up or down, for that

ing movement, up or down, for that particular machine. The figure is determined by the number of games played and calculated on standard deviation principles.

Games. The total number of

Games. The total number of Games on which the computer's or program's rating is based.

Human/Games. The Rating obtained and total no. of Games in Tournament play v rated humans.

A guide to PC Gradings:

386-PC represents a program running on an 80386 at approx. 33MHz with 4MB RAM.

486-PC represents a program running on an 80486 at between 50-66MHz with 4-8MB RAM.

Pent-PC represents a program on a Pent1/Pent2/MMX/K6 at approx. **150**MHz, with 8-16MB RAM.

P3-PC represents a program on a Pentium3/K7 at approx. 450MHz, with 32-64MB RAM.

Users will get slightly more (or less!) if their PC speed is significantly different. A <u>doubling</u> in MHz speed = approx. 40 Elo; a <u>doubling</u> in MB RAM = approx. 3-4 Elo.

Comp-v-Comp guide, if Pentium 3/450 = 0

Quad Pent3/500	80	Dual Pent3/500	50
Pentium3-K7/1000	50	Pentium3-K7/450	0
Pent Pro2K6-Celrn/300	-30	Pent Pro2-MMX-K6/233	-50
Pent/150	-80	Pent/100	-120
486DX4/100	-160	PentDX2/66	-180
486DX-SX/33	-250	386DX/33	-300

DATING LICE (a) Frie Hallowarth	חר חחתרנ	Calcarat	100	Jun 2002	
BCF Computer	Elo	t/- Game	1 100 k	11	
260 FRITZ7 P3-PC	2684	15 903	1	1	
258 HIARCS8 P3-PC	2664	21 470	2	2671	4
25/ GAMBII IIGEKZ.U P3-PC	2657 2654	11 15/2	. 3 . 4	1 2665	13
256 DEED ERITTO P3-PC	2654	13 1277	5	2618	16
255 SHREDDER6/632 P3-PC	2644	17 674	0	2471	4
254 JUNIOR7 P3-PC	2633	16 832	, 7	2571	4
252 FKIIZ6A P3-PU 252 CAMBIT TICEDI A D2-DC	2623 2621	10 2077 21 490	9	2567	35
251 REBEL CENTURY4 P3-PC	2612	24 367	ío	2634	4
250 REBEL TIGER12 P3-PC	2605	15 912	11	3	222
250 JUNIOR6A P3-PC	2603	10 19/8	12	2581 2653	22 11
249 SMKEUUEKS/332 P3-PC 248 HTARCS732 P3-PC	2577 2587	9 2347	13	2427	19
246 HIARCS7.1 P3-PC	2574	12 1442	15	1 5.5	35.0
246 NIMZO8 P3-PC	2573	13 1261	. 16	1	
246 GANDALF5 P3-PC	2573	21 448	17	2560	15
246 SMKEDUEKA P3-PC 245 NIM70732 P3-PC	2566	13 1228	19	5200	13
245 FRITZ532 P3-PC	2560	12 1469	20	1	
244 CHESSMASTER 6/7000 P3-PC	2556	24 348	21	2554	22
244 FRITZ516 P3-PC	2555 2553	12 1281	22	2473	6
243 REBEL CENTURY3 P3-PC	2550	23 380	24	2615	6
243 NIMZ098 P3-PC	2548	12 1307	25	2435	10
242 JUNIOR5 P3-PC	2542	11 1531	26	ì	
241 505 P3-PC 241 COLIATH LIGHT D3-DC	2534 2532	15 874	28	1	
241 HIARCS6 P3-PC	2530	13 1205	5 29	2552	24
241 REBEL CENTURY1.2 P3-PC	2528	21 458	30	2552	43
240 NIMZ099A P3-PC	2526	25 220) 31	2558	17
240 REREL 9 P3-PC	2520	14 1059	33	2637	14
239 REBEL8 P3-PC	2516	19 548	34	1	
238 MCHESS PRO6 P3-PC	2509	17 699	35	2504	12
238 MUHESS PRU/ P3-PC	2508 2506	13 1198	36	2560 2419	2
237 MCHESS PROB P3-PC	2500	14 1026	38	1	
237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC	2499	34 177	39	2671	2
237 SHREDDER2 P3-PC	2496	15 8/5	40	2178	٤
231 HIARCSA PENT-PC	2479	11 1688	5 42	2540	2
231 JUNIOR4.6 P3-PC	2455	43 115	43		1.4
231 HIARCSS PENT-PC	2453	19 585	44	i	
231 KALLISTUZ P3-PC 230 FRTT7 516 DENT-DC	2448	35 170	45 41.	Į.	
230 REBEL8 PENT-PC	2446	10 2116	5 47	1	
230 REBEL9 PENT-PC	2440	16 805	48	1	
RATING LIST (c) Eric Hallsworth. BCF Computer 260 FRITZ7 P3-PC 258 HIARCS8 P3-PC 257 GAMBIT TIGER2.0 P3-PC 256 CHESS TIGER14 P3-PC 255 DEEP FRITZ6 P3-PC 255 SHREDDER6/632 P3-PC 254 JUNIOR7 P3-PC 252 GAMBIT TIGER1.0 P3-PC 252 GAMBIT TIGER1.0 P3-PC 253 REBEL CENTURY4 P3-PC 250 REBEL TIGER12 P3-PC 250 JUNIOR6A P3-PC 250 JUNIOR6A P3-PC 248 HIARCS7.1 P3-PC 246 SHREDDER5/532 P3-PC 246 NIMZ08 P3-PC 246 SHREDDER4 P3-PC 246 SHREDDER4 P3-PC 245 FRITZ532 P3-PC 245 FRITZ532 P3-PC 244 CHESSMASTER 6/7000 P3-PC 245 FRITZ516 P3-PC 244 GANDALF5 P3-PC 244 GANDALF4 P3-PC 243 REBEL CENTURY3 P3-PC 244 GANDALF4 P3-PC 244 GOLIATH LIGHT P3-PC 241 SOS P3-PC 241 SOS P3-PC 241 FEBEL CENTURY1.2 P3-PC 240 NIMZ099A P3-PC 241 REBEL CENTURY1.2 P3-PC 240 REBEL9 P3-PC 230 MCHESS PRO6 P3-PC 238 MCHESS PRO6 P3-PC 238 MCHESS PRO6 P3-PC 238 MCHESS PRO6 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER2 P3-PC 238 HCHESS PRO6 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER2 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER2 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER3 P3-PC 237 SHREDDER2 P3-PC 231 HIARCS6 PENT-PC 231 HIARCS6 PENT-PC 231 HIARCS5 PENT-PC 231 REBEL8 PENT-PC 230 REBEL8 PENT-PC 231 REBEL8 PENT-PC 230 REBEL8 PENT-PC 231 REBEL8 PENT-PC 231 REBEL8 PENT-PC 232 CHESS GENIUSS PENT-PC 233 REBEL8 PENT-PC 234 REBEL PENT-PC 235 REBEL8 PENT-PC 236 REBEL8 PENT-PC 237 REBEL8 PENT-PC 238 CHESS GENIUSS PENT-PC 239 REBEL8 PENT-PC 230 REBEL8 PENT-PC 230 REBEL8 PENT-PC 231 REBEL8 PENT-PC 232 CHESS GENIUSS PENT-PC 233 REBEL8 PENT-PC 234 CHESS GENIUSS PENT-PC 235 CHESS GENIUSS PENT-PC	2430 2428	11 1573	3 49 3 50	2658	10

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[e-mail]: eric@elhchess.demon.co.uk
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