NOTES

EDITOR'S NOTE

In 'A Hypothesis concerning the Strength of Chess Programs' (ICCA Journal, Vol. 8, No. 4, pp. 209-218), a misunderstanding has caused straight lines to appear in Figs. 3 and 5, contrary to the author's intention as expressed in the *final* version submitted. The inclusion of these lines is regretted, the more so as unwarranted conclusions have been drawn from them by subsequent authors: see David Levy, this Journal, Vol. 9, No. 2, pp. 81-86, esp. p. 82, and Peter Frey, this issue, pp. 175-179, esp. p. 175.

Close reading of Professor Newborn's article will show that his conclusions do not exploit the linearity suggested, so that their validity stands unimpaired.

A NOTE ON KBBK

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By his publication in Computerschach und Spiele (1985, Vol.2, No.5, pp. 27-28) our attention has been drawn to Hans Zellner's efforts to compress databases into a Commodore C64. The matter became more acute after we noted a discrepancy between our own publication (ICCA Journal, Vol. 8, No. 3, pp. 141-149, esp. p. 145) and Ken Thompson's results as published in EG (1986, Vol.VI, No.83, p. 23).

The discrepancy seemed most serious at first blush: whereas we listed 16 KBBK positions with a 19-move maximin, Roycroft reporting Thompson listed no more than 15 of these. The dispute was soon resolved: the respective results were identical, except for the fact that we had chosen to distinguish between the positions WKa1, Be7, Bd3, BKd4 and WKa1, Bg5, Bc4, BKd4, whereas Ken Thompson, noticing their relation by symmetry due to reflection in the a1-h8 diagonal, had coalesced them. Hence, the discrepancy did not point to a difference, but merely indicated a different classification of positions by symmetry class. The material identity of our respective results was confirmed by Hans Zellner of Mallersdorf, FRG, who favoured us with a letter contained in the note to follow.

COMPRESSING DATABASES DOWN TO MICRO SIZE

Hans Zellner

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Over the past few years, I have attempted to build databases for various simple endgames so as to fit the rather limited memory of my Commodore C64. I have been successful for KRK (July, 1985), KQK (September, 1985) and KPK (November, 1985). Results are available on request and fully confirm extant publications; they have been expressed for WTM and refer to the full board. The latter frame of reference is not unimportant because what is stored in the database sensitively depends on the reflections used. As a