

THE SWEDISH RATING LIST

ICCA Communication

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Continuing our policy, this issue contains the latest version of the Swedish Rating List. We welcome five newcomers in this list, viz. three Mephisto machines (the two Portorosos and the Polgar), the Novag Super Expert B 6502 and the Maestro D 6502. Of these the 32-bit Portoroze is most noteworthy, 76 points ahead of Fidelity Mach IV and even 89 points above the best Mephisto machine so far, the 32-bit Almeria (Richard Lang had expected this to be 150 points instead of 89). It is remarkable that the 16-bit versions of these machines have a reversed order of playing strength (the Portoroze 22 points *below* the Almeria). Finally, according to Goran Grotting, the high-rated Polgar machine is presently probably *overrated* in this list and is expected to drop at least a hundred of points.

All games were played at 40 moves in two hours by members of the Swedish Chess Computer Association (SSDF). As usual, '+ -' denotes the half-width of a 95% confidence interval on the rating, 'games' stands for the number of games on which the rating is based and 'against' stands for the average rating of opponents. By elementary methods wider (> 95%) or narrower (< 95%) confidence intervals may be derived by referring to Gaussian statistics.

#	Name	rating	+ -	games	win %	against
1	Meph Portoroze 68020 12 MHz	2159	64	74	79	1931
2	Fid Mach IV 68020 20 MHz	2083	29	370	71	1925
3	Meph Almeria 68020 12 MHz	2070	37	227	75	1880
4	Meph Polgar 6502 5 MHz	2057	57	94	70	1907
5	Meph Roma 68020 14 MHz	2001	22	646	68	1872
6	Meph Almeria 68000 12 MHz	1996	26	450	72	1831
7	Meph Dallas 68020 14 MHz	1994	25	489	72	1830
8	Fid Mach III 68000 16 MHz	1986	18	968	68	1856
9	Meph Portoroze 68000 12 MHz	1974	64	74	66	1856
10	Meph Dallas 68000 12 MHz	1952	19	874	69	1814
11	Meph Roma 68000 12 MHz	1947	18	961	66	1834
12	Fid Excel Mach IIc 68000 12 MHz	1897	21	677	59	1833
12	Meph Amsterdam 68000 12 MHz	1897	18	931	62	1813
14	Meph Academy 6502 4 9 MHz	1891	24	528	56	1849
15	Meph Mega IV 6502 4 9 MHz	1889	20	777	59	1822
16	Novag Super Expert B 6502 6 MHz	1887	48	132	61	1811
17	Maestro D 6502 10 MHz	1881	42	176	61	1804
18	Meph MM4 6502 5 MHz	1875	19	854	57	1825
19	CXG Sphinx Galaxy 6502 4 MHz	1861	25	499	52	1845
20	Psiion Atari 68000 8 MHz	1850	19	842	54	1825
21	Fid Excel Club 68000 12 MHz	1825	19	889	52	1810
22	Meph Mega IV Brute Force	1819	48	136	53	1798
23	Fid Avant Garde 6502 5 MHz	1807	17	1118	47	1826
24	Fid Par Excellence 6502 5 MHz	1794	19	825	51	1786
25	Novag Super Expert/Forte 6502 5 MHz	1793	20	734	46	1823
26	Novag Forte B 6502 5 MHz	1784	19	835	44	1828
27	Meph Rebell 6502 5 MHz	1779	20	776	45	1816
28	Saitek Stratos/Analys 6502 6 MHz	1778	20	791	41	1845
29	Novag Forte A 6502 5 MHz	1775	18	939	49	1783
30	Conchess Plymate 6502 5 5 MHz	1774	15	1372	46	1802
30	Saitek Leo Maestro A 6502 6 MHz	1774	25	511	46	1802
32	Meph Super Mondial 6502 4 MHz	1772	20	773	42	1830
33	Fid Excellence 6502 4 MHz	1758	16	1187	45	1797
33	Novag Expert 6502 4 MHz	1758	22	652	47	1781
35	Saitek Simultano 6502 5 MHz	1753	27	434	38	1840
36	Meph MM2 6502 3 7 MHz	1735	38	208	52	1718
37	Saitek Turbostar 432 6502 4 MHz	1729	18	995	45	1764
38	Fid Excellence 6502 3 MHz	1721	19	875	42	1777
39	Novag Super Constellation 6502 4 MHz	1693	15	1301	37	1786
40	Saitek Superstar 36K 6502 2 MHz	1645	19	852	33	1770
41	Meph Europa	1644	51	117	52	1632
42	Fid Elite A/S 6502 3 2 MHz	1635	20	738	32	1765
43	Novag Quattro 6502 4 MHz	1625	23	560	33	1753
44	Chessmaster 2000 Atari 68000 8 MHz	1618	42	176	33	1745
45	Conchess Glasgow 6502 2 MHz	1616	21	692	34	1736
46	Novag Constellation 6502 3 6 MHz	1604	26	472	41	1668
47	Novag Constellation Primo	1592	47	141	43	1645
48	CXG Super Enterprise	1512	30	331	27	1686
49	Saitek Turbo S 24K 3 MHz	1429	66	71	23	1643

A few words about the ratings are in order. Comparing this list with previously published lists it may be noted that the overall level is some 70 points lower than before. We recall that the Swedish rating list is a relative list, based on computer results against human beings in Swedish tournaments. However, in recent tournaments it has turned out that it is harder for computers to reach comparable results against human beings than some years ago. Closer investigation has led to the conclusion that we are faced with a "time-effect": chess-players are now much more used to play against computers than before. Therefore it is decided to calibrate the performances with games played during the two last years only.

We repeat the announcement by Mr. Göran Grotting of his up-to-date service, the Swedish Rating Service, offering Swedish Rating Lists (8 issues per year) for 120 SEK or alternate issues for 60 SEK. The equivalent in bank notes is also acceptable. If you go through Bank or Giro, please add 40 SEK to the amount stated, this being the equivalent of banking fees, so effectively rendering the payment net to the recipient. The lists will include all results and now cover 6 pages per issue, to be expanded soon. Dues are payable to SSDF, Swedish postal giro no 41 87 72 - 0, accessible through any bank. The information is based on about 300 tournament games each month. All other information may be obtained by writing to Göran Grotting, Diabasvägen 3, S 437 00 Lindome / Sweden.

THE CONFERENCE ADVANCES IN COMPUTER CHESS 6

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The sixth conference in the *Advances in Computer Chess* series will be held in London on August 23-24, 1990. As with the previous conferences, held at three year intervals since 1975, there will be distinguished speakers from the field of computer chess, and the latest research results.

For the 1990 conference, it is hoped to arrange a human v. machine event involving the then-strongest chess computers against grandmasters, to take place alongside the conference. Also, David Levy's Second Computer Games Olympiad is scheduled to take place in London in the days prior to the chess conference (August 15-21, 1990).

Contributions are invited from authors who have new results or ongoing work to report on any aspect of computer chess or related theory.

All papers accepted for the conference will be published. Submissions should be sent to:

Don Beal
Department of Computer Science
Queen Mary & Westfield College
Mile End Road
London E1 4NS
UK

to arrive not later than **May 15, 1990**. Papers should be in machine-readable form if at all possible – MsWord is the preferred word processor. Authors will be notified of acceptance during July 1990.