

THE OPEN DUTCH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

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In Dieren, 20-30 July 1992, there were 62 participants in the main group of the Open Dutch Chess Championship. Fully 35 of these were willing to play the computers. The luck of the draw made computers play among themselves too.

Saitek Brute Force scored highest, Mephisto Vancouver had by far the best tournament rating achievement. The new program of Saitek Risc 2500 (Johan de Koning) played strongly at times, and more weakly at others. The results of Mephisto Risc were harmed by two hardware incidents, resulting in a loss of at least 1 point. In spite of the contradictory information about the speed of the Saitek Brute Force and about the length of its program, the total score, 5.5 points out of 9, and a 2176 rating achievement was adversely influenced by the occasionally very bad play of this computer's opponents. Still, the result is not without merit.

The Saitek Risc 2500 scored 5 points (out of 9) and achieved a rating of 2130. The program played capriciously, but was tactically very strong. Departing from the standard, it was equipped with a 30 MHz Risc processor and had the fastest hardware. The Vancouver 68030 at its standard 36 MHz played the best games among the computers and was the only one to play two Grandmasters and a Master, scoring 5 points for a rating performance of 2254. Due to hardware trouble the Mephisto Risc was stuck at 4.5 points, with a rating performance of 2072. It was dubbed EXP for being faster by 2 MHz (16 MHz) relative to the commercial version. Jeroen Noomen supplied it with a special tournament book for Dieren. It must be said that it, too, occasionally showed disappointing play.

The results were not brilliant but were overshadowed by the excellent promotion given to computer chess. The audience was large, also due to the 500 participating players. However irritating this mass interest may have been for the operators, it was clearly a very positive PR exercise for computer chess.

It is clear that the Dieren tournament was a high point in the history of computer chess in The Netherlands, not in the least because all computer games played have been included in the tournament bulletin. Manifestly the Royal Dutch Chess Society stimulates participation of computers in human tournaments, a fact which I hope suppliers will appreciate.

Selected Games

Saitek Brute Force - N. Schouten (NicKey KP 2.4.5)

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Bc4 Nf6 5. O-O Bc5 6. e5 d5 7. exf6 dxc4 8. Re1+ Be6 9. Ng5 Qd5 10. Nc3 Qf5 11. g4 Qg6 12. Nce4 Bb6 13. f4 O-O-O 14. f5 Bxf5 15. gxf5 Qxf5 16. Nxf7 Rhe8 17. Nxd8 Rxe4 18. Rxe4 Qxe4 19. Kf2 Nxd8 20. fxg7 d3+ 21. Kg3 Qe5+ 22. Kh3 Qxg7 23. cxd3 Qd7+ 24. Qg4 cxd3 25. Bh6 Qxg4+ 26. Kxg4 Bd4 27. Rd1 Bxb2 28. Rxd3 c5 29. Rh3 c4 30. a4 Ne6 31. Be3 c3 32. Rh6 Kd7 33. Rxh7+ Kc6 34. Kf5 Nc5 35. Bxc5 Kxc5 36. Ke4 Kc6 37. Kd3 a6 38. h4 b5 39. Rh6+ Kd5 40. Rxa6 bxa4 41. h5 Bc1 42. h6 c2 43. h7 Bb2 44. Kxc2 a3 45. Rxa3 1-0

Mephisto RISC 1 MB - D. de Vries (NicKey KF 5. 1. 31)

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. f4 c6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Be3 Qb6 7. Qd2 Bxf3 8. gxf3 Qa5 9. Rg1 Nd7 10. Rb1 Qc7 11. Bh3 O-O-O 12. d5 Kb8 13. dxc6 bxc6 14. Ne2 Ka8 15. c4 Ngf6 16. Rd1 Nb6 17. b3 e6 18. a4 Rhe8 19. a5 Nc8 20. Kf2 d5 21. cxd5 exd5 22. e5 Nd7 23. Rc1 Qb7 24. Nd4 Nb8 25. a6 Qxa6 26. Ra1 Qb7 27. Bxc8 Rxc8 28. Nf5 d4 29. Bxd4 c5 30. Nd6 Qe7 31. Nxc8 Rxc8 32. Be3 f6 33. Qd5+ Qb7 34. Bxc5 1-0

Mephisto Vancouver 68030 - Mephisto RISC 1 MB (NicKey SL 11.2.2)

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 e5 4. cxd5 cxd5 5. dxe5 d4 6. Nb1 Qa5+ 7. Bd2 Qxe5 8. Nf3 Qc5 9. Qa4+ Nc6 10. b4 b5 11. bxc5 bxa4 12. e3 Bxc5 13. Bb5 Bd7 14. O-O dxe3 15. Bxe3 Bxe3 16. Re1 O-O-O 17. Rxe3 Nge7 18. Nc3 Nf5 19. Re4 Rhe8 20. Rb1 Rxe4 21. Ba6+ Kc7 22. Rb7+ Kc8 23. Rxa7+ Kb8 24. Rb7+ Kc8 25. Nd5 Rf8 26. Rb4+ Kd8 27. Rxe4 Re8 28. Rxa4 Ne5 29. Re4 Nxf3+ 30. gxf3 Re6 31. Rxe6 Bxe6 32. Nc3 Nd4 33. f4 Kc7

34. Kg2 Kb6 35. Bd3 Kc5 36. a3 f5 37. Ne2 Nb3 38. Kg3 g6 39. Ng1 Nc1 40. Bc2 Bc4 41. Bd1 Kd4 42. Nf3+ Kc3 43. Kh4 Nd3 44. Be2 Nxf2 45. Bxc4 Kxc4 46. Ng5 Nd3 47. Nxb7 Nxf4 48. Kg5 1/2

B. Tsoekkerman - Mephisto RISC 1 MB (NicKey QP 6.1.1)

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. e3 e6 4. Bd3 c5 5. b3 Nc6 6. Bb2 Bd6 7. Ne5 cxd4 8. exd4 O-O 9. a3 Bd7 10. Nd2 Qc7 11. Qe2 Rac8 12. O-O Qb6 13. Ndf3 Rfe8 14. Rad1 h6 15. Kh1 a5 16. Rg1 Rc7 17. g4 Rec8 18. g5 hxg5 19. Nxb7 Nd8 20. Qf3 Be7 21. Nh7 Nxb7 22. Bxb7+ Kxb7 23. Qh5+ Kg8 24. Rxb7+ Kxb7 25. Rg1+ Bg5 26. Qxb7+ Kf8 27. a4 Qb4 28. Bc1 Qxd4 29. Ba3+ Qb4 30. Bxb4+ axb4 31. h4 Be8 32. h5 Rc3 33. h6 Rh3+ 34. Kg2 Rxh6 35. Qxh6+ 1-0

CALENDAR OF COMPUTER-CHESS EVENTS

For the benefit of readers wishing to enter programs in computer-chess competitions or to attend, we list future events. Organizers are invited to send full details to the Editor for inclusion in the calendar.

1992

November 23-27

The 7th World Computer-Chess Championship, to be held in Madrid, Spain.

Details: David Levy, 89, Constantine Road, London NW3 2LP, UK.

[See also pages 96-98 of the June 1992 issue and pages 170-172 of this issue.]

1993

May 5-7, 10-12

The 1993 AEGON Man-Computer Tournament, to be held in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Details: Cock de Gorter, Valkenboskade 607, 2563 JE The Hague, The Netherlands.

July 1-2

The Advances in Computer Chess 7 conference, to be held in Maastricht, The Netherlands.

Details: Jaap van den Herik, Department of Computer Science, University of Limburg, P.O. Box 616, 6200 MD Maastricht, The Netherlands.

[See also page 174 of this issue.]

August 2-6

Uniform Platform Computer-Chess Tournament, to be held in London, UK.

Details: Don Beal, Department of Computer Science, Queen Mary and Westfield College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS, UK.

[See also pages 173-174 of this issue.]

August 15-28

The 1st Mind Sports Olympiad, including the 5th Computer Olympiad. To be held in London, UK.

Details: David Levy, 89, Constantine Road, London NW3 2LP, UK.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE 7th WORLD COMPUTER-CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Madrid, November 23-27, 1992

David Levy

As previously announced, the 7th World Computer-Chess Championship will take place in the Spanish capital in late November. The idea for holding our most important tournament in Spain during the 500th anniversary year of the discovery of the New World was suggested as long ago as 1987 by Amador Cuesta. His idea was taken up with great enthusiasm by the leading Spanish chess journalist, Leontxo Garcia, who writes on chess news for *El Pais* and is responsible for many of the chess programmes which appear on Spanish television. Leontxo worked tirelessly for more than 2 years in order to find a way to have the championship sponsored in