

MEPHISTO AMSTERDAM FIRST IN SWEDISH RATING LIST

ICCA Communication
by Göran Grotting

The new rating list, based on 4358 games played at tournament level, is very similar to the previous one (ICCA Journal, Vol. 9, No. 2, p.113). Two new computers have made their entrance : *Par Excellence* from Fidelity and *Constellation Quattro* from Novag (2nd and 13th place). *Mephisto Exclusive S* has been removed because of its obsolescence. Any still around will have been converted to *Mephisto Amsterdam*. In the list below the figures in parentheses indicate the number of games recorded.

1.	Mephisto Amsterdam 12 MHz	2026	(448)
2.	Avant Garde 5 MHz	1932	(382)
3.	Par Excellence 5 MHz	1932	(120)
4.	Excellence 4 MHz	1895	(310)
5.	Conchess Plymate 5.5 MHz	1891	(287)
6.	Expert 4 MHz	1871	(464)
7.	Conchess Plymate 4 MHz	1850	(323)
8.	Excellence 3 MHz	1839	(458)
9.	Turbostar 432 4 MHz	1837	(610)
10.	Elegance 3.6 MHz - Private Line	1824	(422)
11.	Mephisto MM 2 3.7 MHz	1809	(231)
12.	Super Constellation 4 MHz	1794	(1004)
13.	Conchess Glasgow 4 MHz	1776	(448)
14.	Constellation Quattro 4 MHz	1776	(68)
15.	Mephisto B&P 3.7 MHz	1772	(173)
16.	Superstar 36 K 2 MHz	1744	(345)
17.	Prestige 4 MHz	1724	(280)
18.	Conchess Glasgow 2 MHz	1717	(378)
19.	Elite A/S 3.2 MHz - Sensory 12	1702	(470)
20.	Constellation 3.6 MHz	1699	(522)
21.	Mephisto Mondial 1.8 MHz	1653	(159)
22.	Super Enterprise - Advanced Star Chess	1625	(213)
23.	Constellation 2 MHz	1623	(499)
24.	Turbo 16 K	1520	(102)

The new *Par Excellence* runs on a 5 MHz processor as does *Avant Garde*. It might seem more than a coincidence that the two machines have achieved exactly the same rating. Could it be that they contain the same program? This will prove when *Par Excellence* will have played more games. According to Novag the *Quattro* contains the *Super Constellation* program. However we doubt this; *Super Constellation* runs on 56 K, whereas the *Quattro* runs on 16 K. Our assumption is that the *Quattro* is a stripped *Super Constellation* program in which many of the special features (such as the KBNK endgame) have been removed.

Quattro's big brother, *Constellation Forte*, will appear on the list next time. Provided it contains the Expert program, its rating can be expected to be about 1890.

Computers vs. Human Rating List

The ratings of the above list were calibrated by the ratings of Swedish human players. The calibration is done by entering the computers in all kinds of tournaments and competitions in Sweden. So far thirteen of the computers on the above list have played 212 games against human players. The resulting ELO points are presented in the table below.

1.	Mephisto Amsterdam	1980	(25)
2.	Plymate 4 MHz	1953	(6)
3.	Plymate 5.5 MHz	1879	(12)
4.	Conchess Glasgow 4 MHz	1858	(23)
5.	Expert	1839	(6)
6.	Super Constellation	1807	(60)
7.	Par Excellence	1789	(8)
8.	Elegance	1785	(16)
9.	Constellation 3.6 MHz	1779	(15)
10.	Turbostar 432	1759	(17)
11.	Elite A/S	1720	(7)
12.	Conchess Glasgow 2 MHz	1700	(11)
13.	Constellation 2 MHz	1650	(6)

Due to the low number of games played between humans and computers the ratings above are not always reliable as can be seen from the apparent difference between *Plymate 4 MHz* and *Plymate 5.5 MHz*. They have played too few games to make the tabulation trustworthy. It may be assumed that *Plymate 5.5 MHz* is not weaker than *Plymate 4 MHz*. The result of *Par Excellence* lies 100 points lower than what we expect from inter-computer games.

The Fifth Conference on Advances in Computer Chess

Full details on this conference have been published in the ICCA Journal, Volume 9, No.2 (June 1986), page 116ff.

We remind you that in order to qualify for a reduced participation fee your application and payment must have been received by the undersigned before December 1, 1986. Closing date for all applications is February 1, 1987 and for submitting papers is January 15, 1987.

We can now announce that the conference will be the theme of a special issue of *Artificial Intelligence*, an International Journal, published by North-Holland, Amsterdam, under the Guest Editorship of Hans Berliner and Don Beal to contain a selection of papers presented. Also, full proceedings will appear in book form, edited by Don Beal and to be published by North-Holland.

J.J. van Oosterwijk Bruyn
 Hilversumseweg 6
 1251 EX Laren
 The Netherlands

[It is hoped to reproduce those parts of the conference's results that are of special interest to our readership in future issues of this Journal as well. - Ed.]