

Klingenberg Computer Chess Tournament

8 April - 10 April 2022

Since 2004 we have been continuously visiting the German computer chess tournaments in Kaufbeuren and Klingenberg from the Netherlands. We can safely say that we belong to the 'diehards'. Why do we feel the need to visit these tournaments again and again? It is simply a total picture. Each event is incomparable with a previous edition because each time you see new participants with different chess computers! A journey by car to Kaufbeuren or Klingenberg is an experience in itself. Sometimes you can drive more than 200 km per hour, but you can also end up in a traffic jam or worse, have a breakdown. That is why, in recent years, we have always driven with two cars in order to be able to deal with any problems en route together.

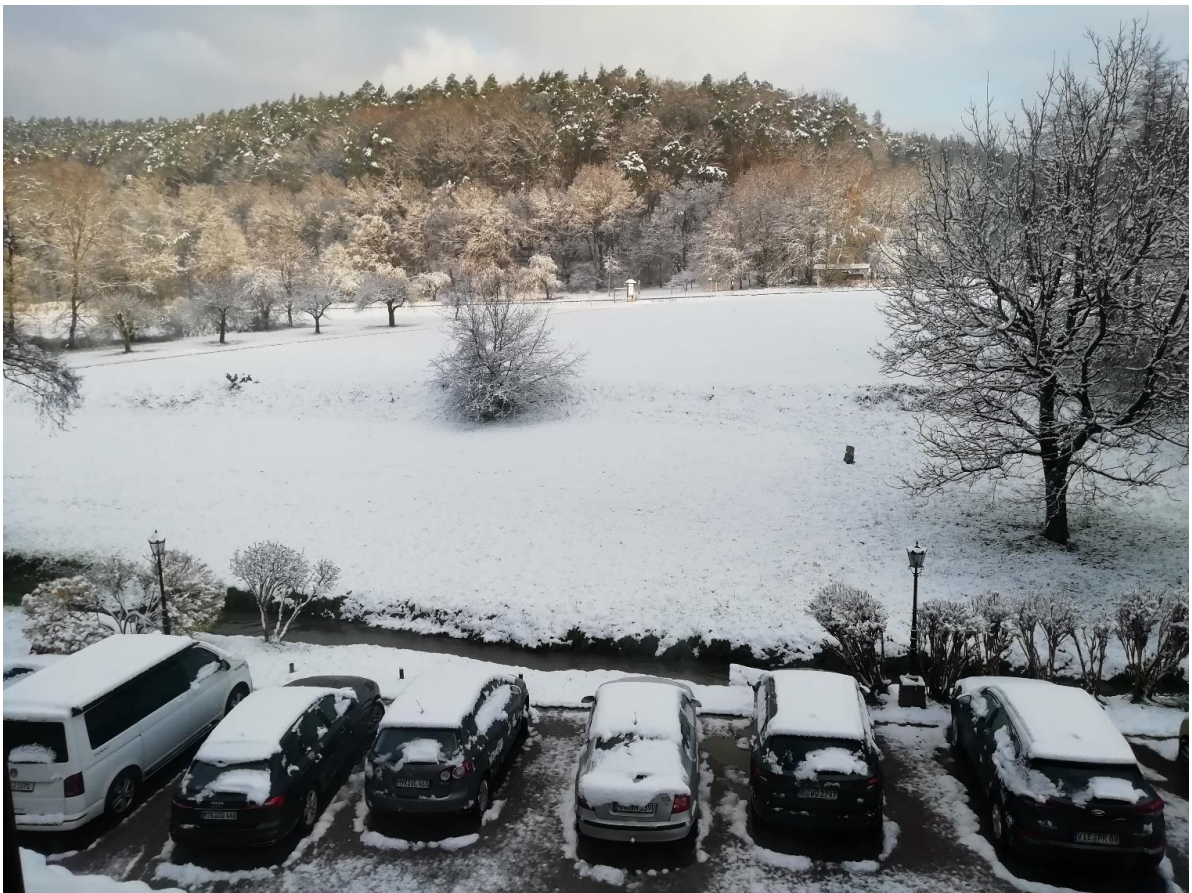


Actually it is unlikely to see so much snow in April! It seemed as if the gods had asked it to descend exactly on Klingenberg. Even the German teletext paid attention to it, and that says enough for such a small village as Klingenberg am Main...

I don't think anyone expected that there would be a lot of snow this weekend in Klingenberg! So we looked outside on Saturday morning in disbelief to see this with our own eyes in April. Jokes like "you do have winter tyres?" were heard. That morning I really wanted to go to Aschaffenburg together with Ruud Martin to shop there for the first time. Ruud didn't dare because of the many reports that roads around Klingenberg were closed and that his car might not make it in the snow. After some deliberation and with some conviction we left with my car with four-wheel drive towards Aschaffenburg. On the way, the roads turned out to be quite passable. In fact, the sun came out more often and the road to Aschaffenburg was no problem at all. That afternoon we walked together through the town centre and enjoyed the spring sunshine. Ruud bought some knick-knacks here and there and back in Klingenberg the tournament went on as usual, of course. Meanwhile we made plans to go to a Greek restaurant in the evening. At the last moment there was no place left in Klingenberg, so Ruud booked a restaurant in Miltenberg, a village nearby. At my invitation Michael Carstens from Papenburg went out to dinner with us. Papenburg is close to the border with the Netherlands and Michael and I immediately had a 'click' with each other! Maybe we will see him in the Netherlands one day on one of the CSVN tournaments? The rest of this weekend I like to tell in the next photo report...



It was quite busy in Klingenberg this weekend. Not only the chess tournament, but also a group of about 40 guests who were celebrating another party. Yet there was enough space to park.



In the background, a few months ago, I took a walk on the hills of Klingenberg. That was during the meeting about the new upcoming chess computer of Millennium. Sometimes I got tired of listening to those endless discussions...



This is how we like to see it! Enjoyment comes first and participating is more important than winning. Udo Helscher and Paul Wiselius like a good beer.



**Even for me, the sight of the Novag 'Super System' is new!
How cool this all looks. This is from the collection of Volker Lehnert.**



**Alwin Gruber (standing) also came to Klingenberg once again.
This time not as a participant but as a spectator.**



I do have some admiration for Markus Pillen (left), because just imagine playing a tournament with a travel chess computer for a whole weekend! Constantly moving those super-small chess pieces on a small sensor pressure field, and with those big hands!



Left: Horst Wandersleben, centre Volker Lehnert and right Hans van Mierlo.

Hein Veldhuis: I don't really know you as a computer player. Please tell me more about your hobby. Do you collect chess computers and when did you start? How many do you have and do you have a preference for certain models or playing strengths? What else would you like to tell us?

Horst Wandersleben: I am positively surprised by your quick message. I like it when people are committed to a cause. I myself have encountered resistance and rejection from time to time in my enthusiasm, but hopefully I have remained spiritually young in the process. I studied mathematics and physics from 1967 to 1972, and part of my final thesis was a computer programme on a Zuse(!) computer that was in the computer centre at our university. When the Novag Chess Champion MK I appeared in the shops in 1978-79, I was fascinated by it, but as a young father of two children I had no money to spare. My parents gave me the Fidelity Chess Challenger 7 as my first gift.

Mephisto I, Mephisto II, SciSys Mark V, Conchess Ambassador and other devices I was able to buy myself, but only one a year, usually just before Christmas, because then I could sell the previous device cheaply by advertising in the local newspaper. At that time, they were selling like hot cakes! I was also able to beat Mephisto III, Mark V and Conchess with good concentration, but unfortunately I'm not a better chess player. At some point the Atari ST and Richard Lang's Psion programme came along and the chess computers became uninteresting.

Around the year 2000, I started collecting all the old machines from back then on eBay, but really mainly the historical machines from the early days, not the high-quality ones. I have attached an almost up-to-date list of around 75 devices. My favourite computers are the Mark V because of the almost classic Bauhaus style of the housing (in my opinion, the device belongs in a museum of technical design) and the Conchess Ambassador, which is unfortunately a piece of junk in the technical part, but is dedicated to minimalism for a wooden board.

**Best regards,
Horst Wandersleben**



Hans van Mierlo and Heiko Berger. They are two great collectors of chess computers. Hans likes to have the strongest machines in his collection and Heiko likes to collect the rarest machines.



Left: Wolfgang Mueller is involved as a tester in the new Millennium chess computer that is to be released on the market this year. Rüdiger Patommel is a bit of an all-rounder. Collecting chess computers. Acting as a tournament leader and making videos of the various chess computer tournaments.

**See for example the Klingenberg tournament from 2013:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjCoUopQ1Gg>**



Here is an interaction between Paul Wiselius and Volker Lehnert. Ruud Martin (right) was only present as a spectator.



Heiko Berger (left) told me again to come and see his collection of chess computers with some Dutch friends. We will certainly do that one day Heiko!



Two veterans of the first hour with Erwin Biri on the left and Gerhard Vetter on the right.



**Yes, this is how a chess computer tournament should look like!
And if you look through the windows you can see the winter scene as well.**



Mephisto MM II by Ulf Rathsman and operated by Wolfgang Mueller.



Left: Horst Wandersleben with his Mephisto Roma II and Hans van Mierlo with his Mephisto Amsterdam. Both chess computers have been programmed by Richard Lang. Horst has a nice collection of about 75 chess computers. Among them 2x a SciSys Chess Champion MK V in an English and German version.



In the centre of the photo, the cheerful Michael Carstens with his Mephisto MM IV + HG 440. He finally managed to secure third place in the tournament!



Then, of course, the old hand Gerhard Vetter with his insanely beautiful Fidelity Elite Privat with the always quirky Glasgow programme. His chess computer was in my opinion the finest at this tournament. And then that little printer connected to it, you could hear the moves being printed out continuously. I am a silent admirer of Gerhard...



**Here in the foreground: Udo Helscher is always up for a joke.
Does his brain always analyze with 6 MHz? 😊**

What about our brains?

<https://www.scienceabc.com/humans/the-human-brain-vs-supercomputers-which-one-wins.html>



Thomas Jaeger (left) has been showing off in Klingenberg and Kaufbeuren for many years. See for example: <https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/5>. Oldie Turnier 2009

Michael Carstens is from Papenburg, close to the Dutch border. He is a new participant and had a great time. He wrote the following on a forum: "As a newcomer I would like to thank you for the great inclusion in this illustrious circle of chess computer friends. I really enjoyed the weekend. Everything was just right. Great atmosphere, conversations, and sociability. Super nice chess friends and also many thanks to the Dutch part of this year's event (Hein, Ruud, Hans and Paul). Always an enrichment with her uncomplicated and friendly manner, and I look forward to next time."



From left to right: Markus Pillen, Wolfgang Mueller and Manfred Wolff.



**Yes gentlemen, get yourselves ready for the photo...
It looks as if it is already late in the day, because in the background the dividing door
has been closed in order not to disturb the guests in the rooms as much as possible.**



It doesn't matter to us, because we just go on in the late hours...



Here again, two gentlemen enjoying the late hours of the night.



Yes, and what do you do then? Simply enjoy being together.



Relax, play chess and have fun...



**Here are two spectators who also want to make their own brains crackle.
Ruud Martin (left) here in action against the sometimes inimitable Manfred Wolff.**



**The atmosphere is always unsurpassed and the 1980s will never come back,
but in Klingenberg we can enjoy all those wonderful chess computers
that came onto the market back then, year after year...**



Mephisto Modena with a programme by Frans Morsch.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php?title=Mephisto_Modena



Saitek Galileo Analyst D++ 6 MHz by Julio Kaplan.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php?title=Saitek_D%2B%2B



Sargon ARB 4.0 24 MHz by Dan & Kathe Spracklen.

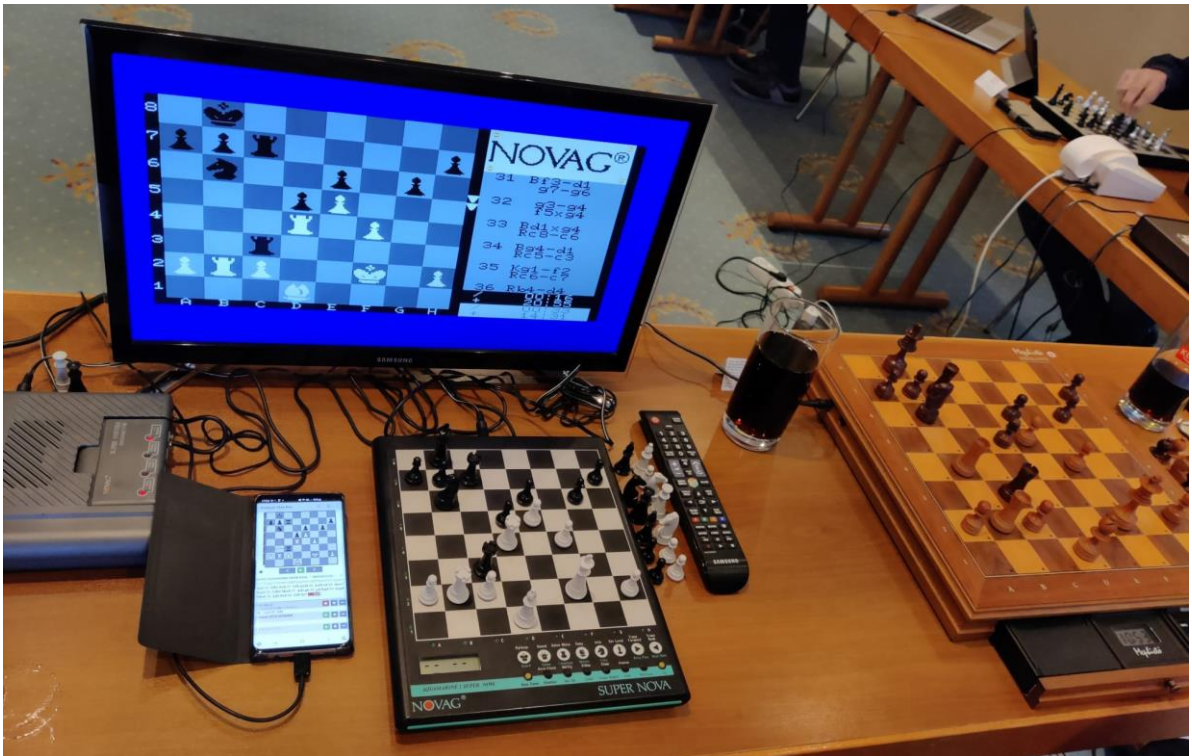
<https://www.schachcomputer-online-museum.de/projektarbeit-traumcomputer/chafitz-arb-4-0-50-s-16-mhz/>

https://www.schaakcomputers.nl/hein_veldhuis/database/files/06-1984%20%5bE-0201%5d%20Applied%20Concepts%20-%20Grandmaster%20Series%20Sargon%204.0.pdf



Mephisto Amsterdam by Richard Lang.

https://www.chessprogramming.org/Mephisto_Amsterdam



Novag Aquamarine Super Nova by David Kittinger.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/Novag_Super_System

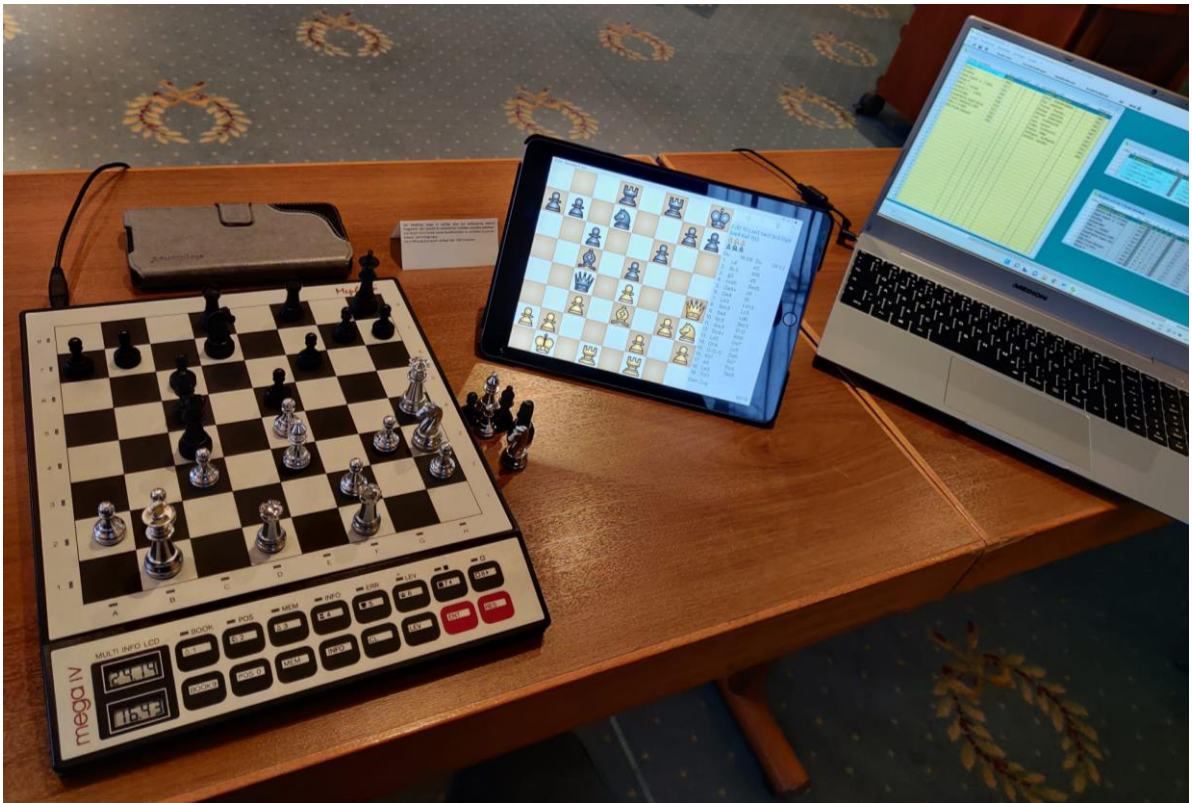
http://www.chesscomputeruk.com/html/novag_super_vip_-_sensory_board.html

https://www.schaakcomputers.nl/hein_veldhuis/database/files/11-1990%20%5bL-0401%5d%20Novag%20-%20Super%20System%20Distributor.pdf



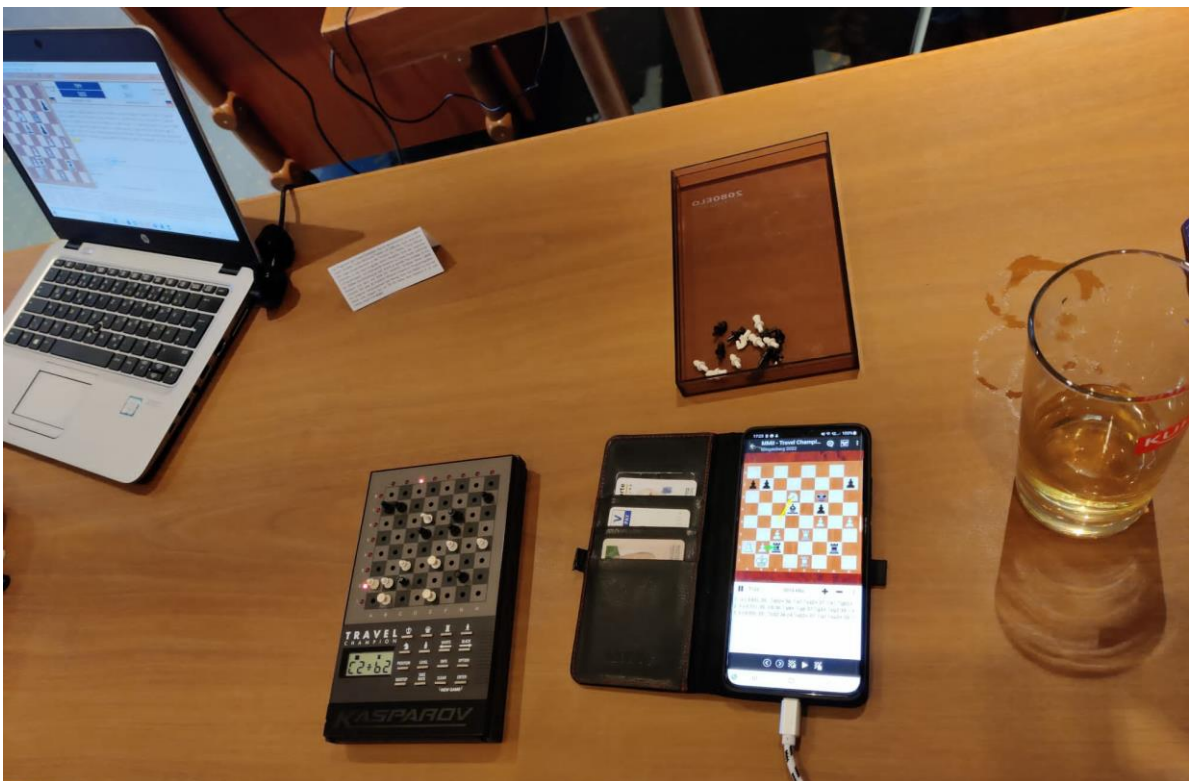
Fidelity Elite Privat by Dan & Kathe Spracklen.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/Fidelity_Elite_Privat



Mephisto Mega IV by Ed Schröder.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/Mephisto_Mega_IV



Saitek Travel Champion 2080 by Frans Morsch.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/Saitek_Travel_Champion_2080



Mephisto MM IV by Ed Schröder.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/Mephisto_MM_IV



Novag Super Expert A 5 MHz by David Kittinger.

[https://www.schaakcomputers.nl/hein_veldhuis/database/files/11-1987%20%5bM-1401%5d%20Novag%20-%20Constellation%20Super%20Expert%20\(A\)%20\(5%20MHz%20edition\).pdf](https://www.schaakcomputers.nl/hein_veldhuis/database/files/11-1987%20%5bM-1401%5d%20Novag%20-%20Constellation%20Super%20Expert%20(A)%20(5%20MHz%20edition).pdf)



Mephisto Modena by Frans Morsch.

https://www.schach-computer.info/wiki/index.php/Mephisto_Modena



This Phoenix Revelation II Black Edition could only be admired in the hotel room of Ruud Martin. For more information see: <https://phoenixcs.nl/>.



Here are two chess-hooligans who are always very much present...



And with our Wild West chess, you often get the strangest positions on the board. Do you see that triple pawn? It makes no sense at all, but we always have a lot of fun!



Not only chess, but also eating and drinking together is part of such an event.



**Sometimes we do that in the hotel, but we also go out to eat in a Greek restaurant.
From left to right: Michael Carstens, Volker Lehnert, Ruud Martin,
Paul Wiselius, Hans van Mierlo and Hein Veldhuis.**



**From left to right: Rüdiger Patommel, Erwin Biri and Gerhard Vetter.
Due to Rüdiger's busy work as tournament leader,
Erwin Biri operated the Mephisto Mega IV in some games.**



Gentlemen, the chess event is over. Now let's hear the results.



As we were told, Udo Helscher came first with his Saitek Galileo Analyst D++ 6 MHz.



And Markus Pillen came in second with his Saitek Travel Champion 2080.



**The results according to tournament leader Rüdiger Patommel:
Klingenberg 2022
U 1960**

Rangliste: Stand nach der 7. Runde

Rang	TNr	Verein/Ort	Teilnehmer	ELO	G	S	R	V	Punkte	Buchh
1.	7.	Udo - mickihamster	Analyst D++ 6 MHz	1946	7	4	2	1	5.0	23.5
2.	10.	Markus - Mapi	Travel Champion 2080	1922	7	5	0	2	5.0	23.0
3.	6.	Michael - MikeChess	MM IV + HG440	1947	7	4	1	2	4.5	23.5
4.	1.	Heiko - messeturm	Sargon ARB 4.0 24 MHz	1970	7	4	0	3	4.0	24.0
5.	4.	Thomas - Thomas J	Super Expert A - 5 MHz	1950	7	3	1	3	3.5	29.0
6.	8.	Hans - Sargon	Amsterdam	1934	7	3	1	3	3.5	27.0
7.	3.	Paul - paulwise3	Modena	1957	7	3	1	3	3.5	26.5
8.	2.	Horst - Wandersleben	Roma II	1960	7	3	1	3	3.5	24.0
9.	5.	Rüdiger - pato4sen	Mega IV	1949	7	3	1	3	3.5	20.5
10.	9.	Volker - ProteusArts	Aquamarine Super Nova	1922	7	2	2	3	3.0	23.5
11.	11.	Wolfgang - Wolfgang2	MM II 7,4 MHz	1892	7	1	1	5	1.5	26.0
12.	12.	Gerhard - kgvetter	Elite Privat Glasgow	1842	7	0	3	4	1.5	23.5

**It was another very successful weekend and we look forward to Kaufbeuren again!
The tournament in Kaufbeuren will this time take place
in the weekend from 7 to 9 October 2022.**

**Who wants to join the Dutch chess computer tournament
can contact Luuk Hofman at his e-mail address: info@schaakcomputers.nl.**

**The User Tournament will be held this time in Gouda
on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 May 2022.**

For more information see: <https://www.csvn.nl/index.php>.