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Another Shell-sponsored engine ^[3]

Shess,

a chess program by [Ard van Bergen](#) written in [Fortran](#) and successor of [PK 83](#), running at various events on a [VAX-11](#), [VAX 8800](#), [MicroVax II](#) and since [DOCCC 1989](#) on a [Convex C220](#) mainframe, hosted by [Royal Dutch Shell](#). Its [evaluation](#) contains the full [databases](#) for three piece [endgames](#) (KQK, KRK, KPK) ^[1], allowing an exact evaluation for any line ending in such an endgame. While [pondering](#), Shess does not prepare a reply to some expected move, but always analyzes the current position and by updating its transposition table it effectively prepares a reply to any move of its opponent ^[2].

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Tournaments

Shess played the [WCCC 1986](#) in [Cologne](#) on a [MicroVax II](#), and the [WCCC 1989](#) in [Edmonton](#) (400 [nodes per second](#) on a [VAX 8800](#)), and eight [Dutch Computer Chess Championships](#), from [1986](#) until the [1993](#), best result was a third place at [DOCCC 1987](#).

Games

Cologne 1986

[WCCC 1986](#), round 4, [Shess](#) ^[4] - [Nona](#) ^[5]

```
[Event "WCCC 1986"]
[Site "Cologne, Germany"]
[Date "1986.06.14"]
[Round "4"]
[White "Shess"]
[Black "Nona"]
[Result "0-1"]
```

```
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. d4 exd4 4. e5 Ne4 5. Qxd4 d5 6. exd6 Nxd6 7. Nc
3 Nc6
8. Qf4 Bf5 9. Bd3 Bxd3 10. cxd3 Be7 11. O-O O-
O 12. Be3 Bf6 13. h4 Ne7 14. h5
Nef5 15. g4 Bxc3 16. bxc3 Nxe3 17. fxe3 Nb5 18. c4 Nc3 19. Qf5 g6 20.
Qe5 Qxd3
21. c5 Rae8 22. Qxc7 Qxe3+ 23. Kg2 Qe6 24. Kg3 Ne4+ 25. Kh4 Nf2 26. Rx
f2 Qf6+
27. Kg3 Qxa1 28. Qxb7 Qc3 29. Qxa7 Ra8 30. Qe7 Rfe8 31. Qd6 Rad8 32. R
e2 Rf8
33. Qe5 Rd3 34. Qe4 f5 35. Qe6+ Kh8 0-1
```

Leiden 1987

Nona again

[DOCCC 1987](#), [Nona](#) - [Shess](#)

```
[Event "DCCC 1987"]
```

```
[Site "Leiden NED"]
[Date "1987.10.??"]
[Round "?"]
[White "Nona"]
[Black "Shess"]
[Result "1-0"]
```

```
1.c4 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 O-O 7.Bd3 Bd7
8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.O-O g5 11.Bg3 g4 12.Nd2 Nb4 13.Be2 h5
14.Rc1 Rc8 15.a3 Nc6 16.Qb3 Bg5 17.Qxd5 Bxe3 18.fxe3 Qe7 19.Ne4 Nb4
20.axb4 Bc6 21.Qg5+ 1-0
```

Kallisto

[DOCCC 1987](#), [Kallisto](#) - [Shess](#)

```
[Event "DCCC 1987"]
[Site "Leiden NED"]
[Date "1987.10.??"]
[Round "?"]
[White "Kallisto"]
[Black "Shess"]
[Result "0-1"]
```

```
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Bd6 7.Nf3 O-O
8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Bd3 Bg4 10.O-O Nd7 11.e4 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Qxd4 13.Rad1 Ne5
14.Qh3 h5 15.exd5 Qg4 16.Be2 Qxh3 17.gxh3 Rad8 18.Bxh5 g6 19.Bg4 f5
20.Be2 f4 21.dxc6 bxc6 22.Ne4 f3 23.Ba6 Be7 24.Rxd8 Rxd8 25.Rc1 Kf7
26.b3 Rd4 27.Re1 Ke6 28.Kf1 Bb4 29.Bc8+ Ke7 30.Nd2 Rxd2 31.Rxe5+ Kd8 0
-1
```

External Links

- [Shess' ICGA Tournaments](#)
- [Computerschaak pagina 3](#) (Dutch)

References

1. [^] [Ard van Bergen](#) (1985). *An Ulti-Mate Look at the KPK Data Base*. [ICCA Journal](#), Vol. 8, No. 4
2. [^] [Kings Move - Welcome to the 1989 AGT World Computer Chess Championship](#). Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Courtesy of [Peter Jennings](#), from [The Computer History Museum](#), [pdf](#)
3. [^] A [Shell](#)-sponsored [Ferrari F60 Formula One](#) racing car, [Kimi Räikkönen](#) 2009 Pre-Season testing

in [Bahrain International Circuit](#), Source: [F1- Ferrari-Shell](#), Photo by [Jerome Pagunsan](#), February 13, 2009, [CC BY 2.0](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#)

4. [^ MicroVax II](#) instead of [VAX 8800](#), [Computerschaak pagina 3](#) (Dutch)

5. [^ Cologne 1986 - Chess - Round 4 - Game 9 \(ICGA Tournaments\)](#)

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DOCCC 1991	Aug 15, 2015
DOCCC 1992	Dec 12, 2016
DOCCC 1993	Dec 12, 2016
Don Dailey	Dec 7, 2016
Engines	Mar 10, 2018
Explorer	Dec 8, 2016
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Rex	Jan 7, 2016
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