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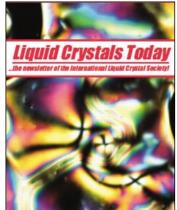
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germs from their nematic melt has gone into a new stage by application of a pressure or temperature oscillation and thereby 'regularizing' the sidebranching activity of growing dendrites (A. Buka). Also in Hele-Shaw growth the intrinsic anisotropy of LCs can stabilize dendrites. Evidence from isotropic polymers indicates that (effective) shear thinning may provide the relevant mechanism (P. Palffy-Muhoray).

In addition there were some presentations on patterns in other media (simple fluids, instabilities in chemical and biological systems, granular materials), which stressed the close ties with the general area of pattern formation. It is clear that through their specific material properties LCs by now play an important part in this larger setting. The workshop series will continue in 2001 in Beijing (organizers Lui Lam and Kunquan Lu).

4th INTERNATIONAL **MEETING ON LYOTROPIC** LIQUID CRYSTALS **LLC 2000**

25-28 September 2000 Ivanovo, Russia

Phis meeting will be the 4th in a series of triennial international conferences and keeps the traditions of the previous meetings on Lyotropic Liquid Crystals, which were held also in Ivanovo. The proceedings of these three meetings were published in Bull. Acad. Sci. of Russia. The main goal is to bring together scientists and students from colloid, inorganic, organic, metal-organic, polymer and physical chemistry as well as physics, medicine and biology to present and discuss their recent and advanced developments in the area of lyotropic liquid crystals and their practical applications.

Ivanovo is a large city 300 km north east of Moscow, and was the first scientific centre in the USSR where more than 30 years ago Professor Igor Chistyakov revived the investigations of liquid crystals. In memory of Professor I. G. Chistyakov, on the occasion of his 70th anniversary a special section 'Structure and Properties of Liquid Crystals' will be organized during this Meeting.

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PRODUC

(information from Stanford Resources Inc).

Apple Computer, Cupertino, California, is marketing a 22 inch diagonal digital flat panel display as a companion to the G4 computer. The Apple Cinema Display has a 1600 imes 1024 pixel format and can display a full 11 imes17 inch image.

Hewlett Packard Company, Palo Alto, California, have announced the HP Pavillion FX70, which has an XGA TFT-LCD with a 15 inch viewable area and 24 bit per pixel

colour. The system is compatible with all PCs with an analogue connection for graphics cards and compatibility for future digital interfaces.

Samsung Electronics has developed a 15.4 inch SXGA TFT-LCD and a 16.5 inch TFT-LCD with a format of 1400 × 1050 pixels for notebook PCs. The company has also developed a 24 inch TFT-LCD with pixel format of 1920 × 1200 for HDTVs.

Nokia Display Products Inc., Irving, Texas, is marketing the 800XA, an 18.1 inch active viewing area display which uses a Super Fine TFT-LCD technology. The display has a 170 degree viewing angle, both vertical and horizontal.