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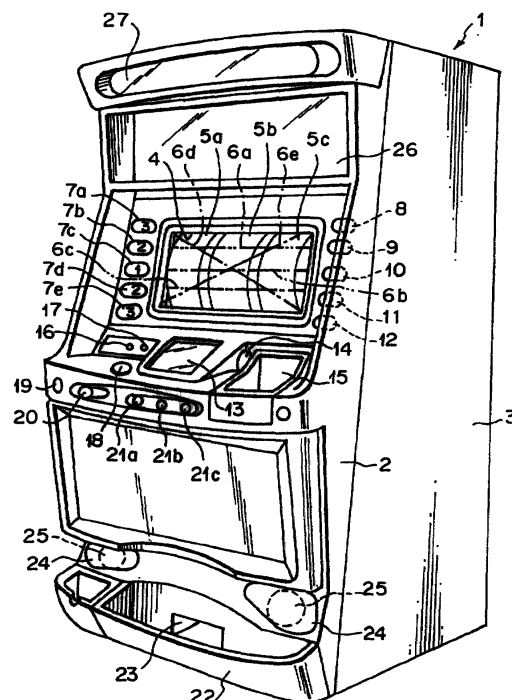
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(54) **Gaming machine**

(57) In a gaming machine (1) comprising a variable display device (5a to 5c) for variably displaying a plurality of kinds of symbols necessary for gaming, a starting device (20) for starting variable display of the symbols, and a stopping device (21), disposed so as to be operable by a player, for stopping the symbols being variably displayed, wherein, on condition that a combination of symbols displayed when the symbols are stopped constitutes a predetermined special winning mode, the player is allowed to start playing a special game which is more advantageous to the player than is a normal game; an image display section (13) for displaying special game information in the special game to the player is provided.

FIG. 1





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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 27 May 2002	Examiner Reule, D
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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