LITERATURE RECEIVED

Sakkprogramozásról Mindenkinek

P.A. Kovács
Novotrade RT 1987
Budapest, Hungary

We acknowledge having received an all-Hungarian book on Computer Chess for micros which even to the uninitiated in Magyar might be of interest because of the 32 pages of photographs it contains. As we expect from any volume of which Dr. L. Lindner is the Series Editor, it is obviously well-documented and up to date. The price is roughly one Forint per page. For those with very venturesome booksellers we give its ISBN: 963 92 4691.

Searching for Chess

T.A. Marsland
Technical Report TR 87-6
May 1987, Revised
Department of Computing Science
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

We provide an abbreviated abstract:

"Chess programs have three major components: move generation, search and evaluation. All components are important, although evaluation with its quiescence analysis is the part which makes each program's play unique. The speed of a chess program is a function of its move generation cost, the complexity of the position under study and the brevity of its evaluation. More important, however, is the quality of the mechanisms used to discontinue (prune) search of unprofitable continuations. (...) [Time] limits are extended in certain low mobility endgames through the use of transposition tables to record drawing cycles. However, absence of a planning capability makes other equally constrained endgames unsolvable. Examples of both situations are provided."

It remains only to be wished that this Technical Report will be expanded into a monograph in the not too distant future, greatly to the benifit of the ICCA community.
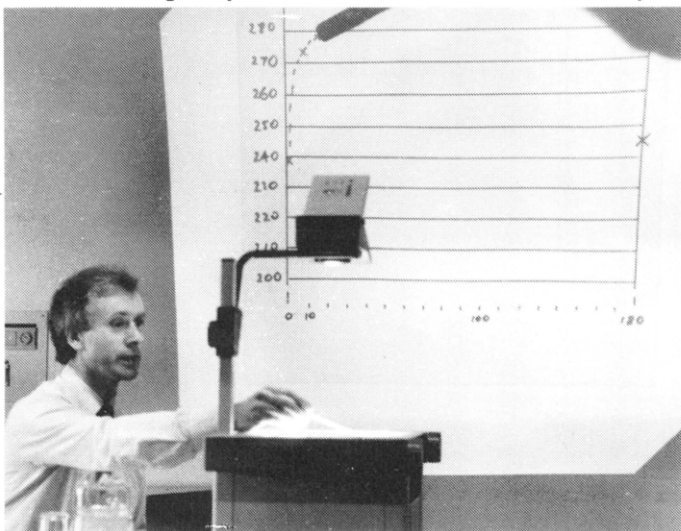

Photo by L. Lindner

DON BEAL LECTURING ON

THE NULL MOVE,

NOORDWIJKERHOUT, 1987.

The null move shows the worst you dread.
Yet using it, you stay ahead.