

## NEWS, INFORMATION, TOURNAMENTS AND REPORTS

### THE MEPHISTO BEST PUBLICATION AWARD

*The Board of ICCA*

The Mephisto Best Publication Award for the first time announced in the June/September 1988 issue of the *ICCA Journal* has been presented annually to authors of a publication, which, in the opinion of the jury, has made the biggest contribution to computer chess in the year in question. The first Award was for publications dated between April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1987 and March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1988 (and won by Thomas Anantharaman, Murray Campbell and Feng-hsiung Hsu for their paper: Singular Extensions: Adding Selectivity to Brute-Force Searching. *Proceedings of the AAAI Spring Symposium, Computer Game Playing*, March 1988), the second Award for publications dated between April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1988 and March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1989 (adjudged to the book *Advances in Computer Chess 5*, edited by Don Beal), and the third for publications dated between April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1989 and March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1990 (awarded to Feng-hsiung Hsu for his Ph.D. thesis, entitled *Large Scale Parallelization of Alpha-Beta Search: An Algorithmic and Architectural Study with Computer Chess*).

The fourth Mephisto Best Publication Award for publications between April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1990 and March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1991 is awarded to Tony and Linda Scherzer and Dean Tjaden for their article 'Learning in Bebe', published in *Computers, Chess, and Cognition* (eds. T.A. Marsland and J. Schaeffer), pp. 197-216. A condensed version of this article will be found on pages 183-191 of the current issue.



Photo by Jaap van den Herik

The jury consisted of Jaap van den Herik, David Levy, Tony Marsland, Jonathan Schaeffer and Ken Thompson.

The ICCA would once again like to thank Hegener + Glaser AG of Munich, for donating this award. The qualification dates for the 1991-1992 Award are April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1992, and this will include the June, September and December 1991 issues of the *ICCA Journal*, as well as the March 1992 issue. Once again, any publication on or related to computer chess may be considered, and the Award is not limited to papers presented in the *ICCA Journal*.

**MEPHISTO AWARD IN VERY GOOD HANDS.**

Linda Scherzer (l) with the Award, Tony Marsland (ICCA Vice-President) and Tony Scherzer explaining how Bebes learn. (Albuquerque NM, November 1991).