

bxc4+ 27. Kc1 Nd3+ 28. Rxd3 cxd3 29. Nf6+ Bxf6 30. gxf6 Qa3+ 31. Kd2 Qa5+ 32. c3 Rb2+ 33. Kxd3 Ba6+ 34. Ke4 e5 35. Nc6 Bb7 36. f7+ Kf8 37. Kd3 Qa6+ 38. Ke3 Qb6+ 39. Kd3 Ba6+ 40. c4 Bxc4+ 41 Kxc4 Qb5+ 42. Kc3 Qb3# 0-1

This information was provided by Bob Hyatt and Lonnie Cook on the internet in the newsgroups rec.games.chess.analysis and rec.games.chess.computer. A complete set of game scores can be obtained from lonnie.cook@ricconnect.com.

THE 1995-96 NOVAG AWARD

T A Marsland¹

ICCA President

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

For many years the ICCA's premier annual award has been for the best contribution to computer chess. From 1988 to 1993 this award has been sponsored by the manufacturer of the Mephisto chess machines. Since 1994 it is entitled the Novag Award, after the donor of the Prize, Novag Corporated manufacturers of WCHES. The award has a long history and has honoured some noteworthy individuals or groups.

In December 1988 the group consisting of Anantharaman, Campbell and Hsu won the founding prize for their paper "Singular Extensions: Adding Selectivity to Brute-Force Searching" Each year thereafter the ICCA executives or its designates have selected the best (published) contribution during the previous year Past winners are:

Period	Winner(s)	Publication
1987-1988	Thomas Anantharaman, Murray Campbell and Feng-hsiung Hsu	Singular Extensions Adding Selectivity to Brute-Force Searching <i>Proceedings of the AAAI Spring Symposium Computer Game Playing</i> , March 1988
1988-1989	Don Beal (for his Editorship)	<i>Advances in Computer Chess 5</i> North-Holland, Amsterdam
1989-1990	Feng-hsiung Hsu	<i>Large Scale Parallelization of Alpha-Beta Search An Algorithmic and Architectural Study with Computer Chess</i> Ph D thesis Carnegie-Mellon University
1990-1991	Tony Scherzer, Linda Scherzer and Dean Tjaden	Learning in Bebe <i>Computers, Chess and Cognition</i> (eds T A Marsland and J Schaeffer), pp 197-216 Springer-Verlag, New York
1991-1992	Thomas Anantharaman jointly with Jos Uiterwijk	Extension Heuristics <i>ICCA Journal</i> , Vol 14, No 2, pp 47-63 The Countermove Heuristic <i>ICCA Journal</i> , Vol 15, No 1, pp 8-15
1992-1993	Ken Thompson	<i>Chess Endgames Vol 3</i> , CD-ROM AT&T Bell Laboratories, New Jersey
1993-1994	Rainer Feldmann	<i>Game Tree Search with Massively Parallel Systems</i> Ph D thesis University of Paderborn
1994-1995	Aske Plaat, Jonathan Schaeffer, Wim Pijls and Arie de Bruin	<i>A New Paradigm for Minimax Search</i> Technical report TR-CS-94-18 University of Alberta, Canada

The 1996 winner

The aim of the Novag Award nominators is to identify the author(s) whose work makes the biggest contribution to computer chess in the previous year For the period April 1995 through March 1996 the selection committee unanimously cited Bob Hyatt for his July 1995 release of the source code for the CRAFTY chess program, and for his steady responses to questions about computer chess on an Internet newsgroup. By responding fully to every question Bob has stimulated interest in computer chess and has done much to raise the awareness of the techniques used in chess programs.

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done much to raise the awareness of the techniques used in chess programs.

In the words of one judge "by making CRAFTY available to anyone who wants it Bob has saved all would-be chess programmers months or years of effort, and allows enthusiasts to start from a point several leagues ahead of where most chess programmers used to begin".

THE 1996 ICCA JOURNAL AWARD

The Board of ICCA

The Board of ICCA is happy to announce the winner of the 1996 ICCA Journal Award for the best paper in this Journal by a first-time author. For the period April 1995 to March 1996, covering the issues Vol. 18, No. 2 up to and including Vol. 19, No. 1, this award has, on the recommendation of the ICCA Journal Board members, been granted to Michael Buro for his article: Probcut: An Effective Selective Extension of the α - β Algorithm, *ICCA Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 2, pp. 71-76. Michael Buro is entitled to three Volumes of his choice of the Journal's back issues. A brief scientific biography of the winner will be published in Vol. 20, No. 1.

THE IBM CHESS CHALLENGE REMATCH DEEP BLUE - KASPAROV

**May 3-10, 1997
New York, USA**

IBM's DEEP BLUE and World Chess Champion Gary Kasparov enter the ring for a second time.

The two super-giants will go head-to-chip at the Millenium on Broadway in New York City from May 3 to 10, 1997 at "The IBM Chess Challenge Rematch". At stake is a \$700,000 prize purse to the winner and \$400,000 to the loser.

The 1997 May rematch will be open to the public. Ticket sales will be announced early next year. For new announcements on the rematch and the location of the DEEP BLUE II site (available by September 1, 1996), stay tuned to www.ibm.com.

ICCA JOURNAL REFEREES IN 1996

The Editorial Board

The Editor-in-Chief and The Editorial Board would like to acknowledge the expert assistance of the following persons in refereeing submissions to the Journal during 1996. We hope to meet an equal willingness among the referees for the years to come.

L.V. Allis
I. Althöfer
M. Campbell
S. Edwards
R. Feldmann
R. Casser
F. Gobet

R. Hyatt
H. Kaindl
R. Korf
T.A. Marsland
J. Nunn
L. Rasmussen
J. Roycroft

J. Schaeffer
D. Slate
R. Staudte
K. Thompson
J. Uiterwijk
A. Walker