ICCA'S FUTURE

David Levy
ICCA President

Firstly I would like to say what an honour it is for me to be chosen to lead the ICCA for the next 3 years. Following in the illustrious footsteps of Ben Mittman and Monty Newborn will not be an easy task, but I shall do my best to ensure that the ICCA grows and flourishes.

There are a few specific areas where I hope to be able to achieve concrete progress. I would like to double the membership of the ICCA, from its present figure of around 600 to 1,200 or more. I would like to see official recognition of computer-chess achievements by national chess federations and by FIDE, in the form of the awarding of National Master and FIDE Master titles to the strongest programs. I would like to see much more written about computer chess in the chess magazines. And I want to help create more computer tournaments, so that chess enthusiasts in every country may be able to witness at first hand the progress that is being made in this field.

In order to achieve most of these aims I need your help. Can you talk to your chess friends and try to persuade them to join the ICCA? If you have contacts with your national chess federation or with potential tournament sponsors, try to create interest in holding a computer-chess tournament in your own country - we can help you and advise you on how to organize such an event. If you are connected with a chess magazine, ask them if they would like to have a computer-chess column, free of charge, every month - I will write such a column and all that I ask in return is a mention of the ICCA and information on how to join.

The recent successes of the new World Champion program, Cray Blitz, and runner-up Hitech clearly show that computer chess is on a steady upward path. The next few years will be very exciting, and I hope that you will all be able to contribute to the future of the ICCA.
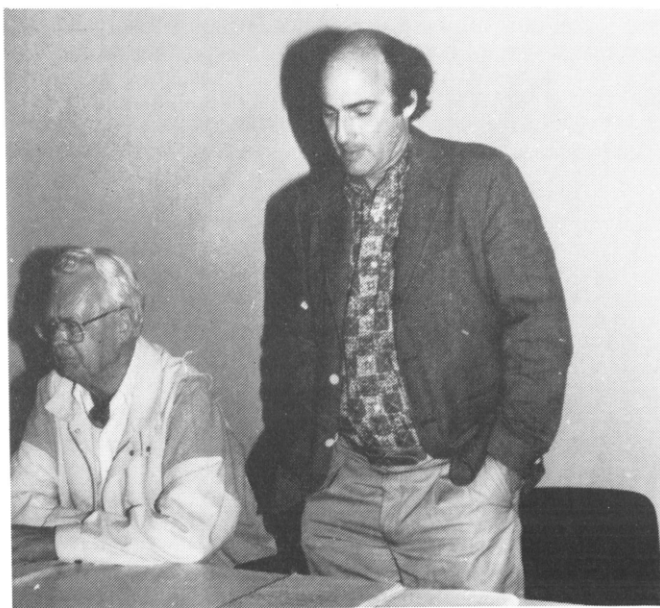
Photo by L. Lindner

Their fond farewell: Monty Newborn and Johan Enroth,
during the valedictory words of our Past President.