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to be received no later than **July 1, 1992**.
Notification of acceptance will take place before **September 15, 1992**.
The final version must be submitted before **October 15, 1992**.

AN "INTELLIGENCE" COMPUTER CHESS TOURNAMENT

Don Beal

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In August 1992, QMW will initiate a new style of annual computer chess tournaments, called "uniform platform" or "software intelligence" tournaments. Programs will run on identical machines, running at the same clock speed, and with the same operating system underlying the chess program. There will be two divisions: (1) the "PC" division for programs running under MSDOS on IBM-PC compatibles, and (2) the "C"-language division, for programs written in C that can run under UNIX.

Each game will be played without human operators or human intervention (unless a computer or network failure occurs). The two chess programs will run in separate computers, but both computers will be connected to a network, and will be able to communicate using communication software supplied by the organisers. A supervisor program in a third computer on the network (invisible to the competing programs) will monitor and record the game progress. The organisers will supply all the computers.

Existing programs need modification for automatic play. The modification is designed to be very simple for a chess programmer to make and no changes need to be made to existing program behaviour. The communication software is provided by the organisers and details of how to modify existing programs will be supplied to anyone who might be interested in participating. The automation of actual play means that attendance at the event is optional, thus potentially saving considerable time and money, and creating more flexibility for those who do attend.

All program submissions will be handled as confidential unless the programmer indicates that confidentiality is not important. Original discs will be returned, no copies will be made, and C compilations will be performed on a stand-alone machine with no human inspection of C code or copies made.

The tournaments will be swiss system, with one round for every 2 entrants. It is expected that 2 (possibly 3) rounds will be played each day. The provisional date for the event is 1-8 August 1992. Three titles will be awarded in each division: Overall Champion; Commercial Champion; and Amateur Champion.

To cover costs, there will be an entry fee for amateur programs of 40 pounds, and an entry fee for commercial entrants of 200 pounds. The fees will be reduced to 30 pounds and 150 pounds if the payment is made before 30 April 1992. Initial submission of the program (for confirmation of compatibility) has to be made by July 1, but a final version can be submitted up to July 20. Accommodation in University Halls is available for participants who wish to be present (if booked by 31 May) at 20 pounds per night, and hotel accommodation at a variety of prices can be arranged.

If you might be interested in participating, write for more details to: Don Beal, Department of Computer Science, Queen Mary and Westfield College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS, UK.