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DEADLINE
Copy deadline for September
NT PC NEWS:
Thursday, August 10th

Meeting Dates:
August Meeting - 2nd Sat (12th)
September Meeting - 4th Sat (23rd)
October Meeting - 2nd Sat (14th)
(tentative)

*Thanks for the articles —
keep them coming!*

Submitting Articles for Publication in North Texas PC NEWS

Submit PC News articles to the newsletter exchange computer, or "Exchange" for short. (Note—This is not the NTPCUG BBS.) To anyone submitting an article, the Exchange looks much like a multi-user DOS machine.

1. Article Style. Type all copy flush left without justification. This includes headings, bylines, and the first line of each paragraph. Place a credit byline (author's name) between the title and first paragraph. For ASCII text files, leave one blank line between paragraphs. For WORD .DOC files do not insert this blank line. Don't use tabs in the text; Ventura ignores imbedded tabs in the format we use for the newsletter. The < and > symbols must be doubled (i.e., << & >>) if they appear in your text.

2. Filenames & Extensions. When assigning a name to your file, be sure to use the filename extension for your word processor. Use .TXT extension for ASCII files. The newsletter staff has standardized on Microsoft WORD as our word processor. If your article has formatting (i.e. bold, italics, underline, etc.) we prefer that you submit it as a WORD formatted (*.DOC) file. If it has no formatting, please send straight ASCII text (*.TXT).

3. Login Procedure. Call the Exchange at 214-830-6360. Set your modem hardware and terminal emulator software to N-8-1. When you connect to the computer a Greek-looking prompt will appear. Transmit a break (Alt-B on Procomm Plus or Alt-F7 on Procomm). login: should then appear. Type ntpcug (all lower case). Immediately you will see password: Type news (all lower case). You will get a welcome message. The NTPCUG> prompt will appear. You are logged in and running.

Please bear with us until we can get a new, simpler article-submission system finalized and in place. As alternate to the HP BBS system we've been using, send articles to our new editor, Douglas McQuaid, on the NTPCUG BBS.

4. Commands. Caution - All commands must be lower case only.
Familiar commands: dir, del, rename, copy, and type all work similar to the way they work in DOS. Other commands: mail, umodem, kernit, names, and submit are detailed elsewhere in this article. For help, type hints.
5. Submitting Articles. Log in to the Exchange and upload the file into the directory. Then move the file to the Editor's home directory simply by typing submit filename. (DO NOT submit articles to a mail address.) After "submitting" the file, it will no longer appear in NTPCUG> directory.

Thanks.

UPLOADING AND DOWNLOADING: Either the XMODEM (called umodem on Unix) or KERMIT protocols are available. For details type xhelp for umodem or khelp for KERMIT help. Examples of use are in each help file.
6. Mail. To send mail to assistant editors, you must know their login-name. Type names to see login-names of current staff members. To send mail type mail login-name. (Example: mail jgreen.) The cursor will be positioned on the next line. Type your mail message with <Enter> at the end of each line. When finished, type <Ctrl-d> to send the message. The NTPCUG> prompt will reappear.
7. Logoff. To log off the computer, type <Ctrl-d>. Do not disconnect from the computer without logging off; you will hang the modem. After typing <Ctrl-d> you will receive a logoff statement on the screen followed by the Greek-looking prompt. This is your signal logoff is complete and for you to hang up your modem. Note: Your telephone line will remain connected to the BBS number until you give the modem a command to hang up.

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August 12

Timothy Carmichael

Time: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

**Headland Technology Inc.
(Video-Seven Inc. + G-2 Inc.)**

Topic: PC Graphics Standards: VGA and Beyond
Speaker: Greg Reznick, VP Systems Mktg.
Details: What are the current PC graphics standards and what will the future bring? Come find out! Greg is the chairman of VESA, the Video Equipment Standards Association which is defining the future graphics standards for the computer industry.

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Word Perfect Corp.

Topic: WordPerfect Office and PlanPerfect V5.0
Speaker: Tom Crabb, Regional Marketing Manager
Details: Examine the totally integrated DOS shell environment provided by WP Office, and view the features of the PlanPerfect spreadsheet with Lotus 123 compatibility. Demonstrations, literature, and giveaways available.

Prez Sez...**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Kathryn Crawford and Ken Loafman who were married in July. We wish them the very best. Kathryn and Ken both work on the Disk of the Month committee. Stop by the Disk of the Month table to see the wedding pictures.

More drawings!

Flushed with our success at having a drawing after the business meeting for the BBS disk drives, we will continue the tradition at the August meeting. As I write this, there are two copies of ViewLink and a SuperCalc5 beach towel. ViewLink is from Traveling Software and claims to be "The first associative access manager for MS-DOS."

Adam Osborne!

As I write this, Adam Osborne is scheduled to appear at our September meeting. If you know anything about the man, I think you will agree that he deserves the exclamation point that I put after his name.

Cy Simmons!

I've included an article on WordPerfect by my friend Cy Simmons, from the San Diego PC SIG. Just a little bit of Cy's great personality comes through in his writing. To give you an idea of Cy's perceptive mind, let me tell you that last April we were standing on a street corner in Boston surrounded by Bostonians. In a very loud voice Cy informed me, "This town's not so great. I've been here two whole days and I haven't found one damn Taco stand!"

Frank Wolk!

Frank is a member of the NTPCUG and he wrote me a note when he renewed his membership last month. He pointed out that we made him fill out a new registration form each year.

Frank is right, that is a lot of extra work. What we'd like to do is to buy a fast printer so that we could print out the form using the data in the Paradox database. That way you could simply make any changes that applied and turn it back in when you registered.

We also need the printer to do the membership card printing after you renew. Right now it takes me about two hours of printing on my Panasonic 1524 printer to print the 100+ renewal letters each month. The thought of printing for four hours does not thrill me.

Maybe we can work the printer into this year's hardware budget. Thanks for the suggestion, Frank.

Stuart Yarus!

(What can I say?)

Computers needed!

We have two individuals and one organization that need donated computers. If you or your company would like to make a tax deductible donation to any or all of the people, please contact me.

Dumb Demo!

I finally got around to opening the Desqview package that came with my ill fated AST board. My first indication of trouble came when I noticed was that one

of the product features shown on the first page was listed twice. I not sure if this was due to careless documentation or a lack of features.

In the year since I acquired the AST board and Desqview package, I have upgraded my computer to a Compuadd 386/25. Since this particular version of Desqview was tailored to run with the AST EMS board and since nobody makes and Expanded Memory Board for 386 machines (386 users emulate Expanded Memory with software in Extended Memory), I really didn't expect to be able to run the Desqview program on my machine. What I had intended to do was to run the Demo that was included in the package. I figured that would help me decide if I wanted to buy Desqview 386.

To my surprise the Demo program checks for the AST board and refuses to run if it is not there. That's really dumb! I always thought that a Demo was provided to get you to buy the product by showing you how it worked. With Desqview the idea must be to show you how great the hardware and software you've already bought is going to be.

Another Dumb Demo!

Some of you may remember the Micrografx presentation (or lack thereof) at the March meeting. I really wanted to see what is supposed to be a great product so I got out their demo disk. Guess what, it only runs on a VGA!

The Demo floppy formatted out to 360k nicely.

(Micrografx Designer, the program, works with CGA through VGA and is a great program in spite of the demo.)

Jim Hoisington □

WordPerfect

By H. W. (Cy) Simmons

Reprinted from the San Diego PC SIG Newsletter, Sept/Oct 1988

Seems like this is my month to gripe about little things in programs that irk me. They are not anomalies, which is a 9 letter word used for a 4 letter word called bugs. Don't get the idea my love affair with WordPerfect is waning, it's just that I find 10's are really 9.99's. I find that doing a copy in WordPerfect 5.0 is bothersome. Alt F4, Tinkie Tinkie over to what you want to copy, Ctrl F4, 1 (MOVE ?) yep, 2 copy, Tinkie Tinkie over where you want to copy it, and press enter.

Now this isn't too bad for a one time shot ... but if you do it again, it's Ctrl F4, 4 Retrieve, 1 Block. Now this is tying up my two fingers too much. I have been using Alt F4, Tinkie Tinkie over what you want to copy, (Yeah, that's no different), but then I DELETE, yes it, then I press F1, 1 RESTORE, unless I'm moving it, then I Tinkie Tinkie over where I want to copy it, and press F1, 1 Restore. I find this super easy. BUT, there is a but to everything, don't delete something else or you will replace F1's buffer with a new delete item to remember and yours will be bye-bye.

You might want to read Eric Alderman's article on page 108 in the September issue of PC World. If you haven't upgraded, we have a resident psychiatrist ...



Our thanks, Jim Green, for a job well done as Editor of North Texas PC NEWS. Good luck in your new job in Washington D.C. ☆

Welcome to Douglas McQuaid, our new Editor. We hope you like the job... pay's not much, (nil) but the 'sperience will look good on your resume! *

Ever wondered where our newsletters go... ?

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Abilene TX | Benbrook TX | Carthage TX | Denison TX |
| Allen TX | Birmingham AL | Cedar Hill TX | Denton TX |
| Alliance OH | Bloomington IN | Charlotte NC | Des Moines IA |
| Anchorage AK | Boca Raton FL | Cincinnati OH | DeSoto TX |
| Argyle TX | Bonham TX | Cleburn TX | Double Oak TX |
| Arlington TX | Boston MA | Colleyville TX | Duncanville TX |
| Athens OH | Boulder CO | Colorado Springs CO | Edmond OK |
| Atlanta GA | Bowie TX | Columbus OH | Ennis TX |
| Austin TX | Bronx NY | Commerce TX | Eulless TX |
| Balch Springs TX | Brownwood TX | Coppell TX | Evergreen CO |
| Bedford TX | Buffalo NY | Corsicana TX | Farmer's Branch TX |
| Bellevue WA | Carrollton TX | Dallas TX | |

Continued elsewhere...

Introduction To SQL

Part 5 (The last Part!)

by Fred Williams

This is to be the final article in this series. Looking back, we have come a long way on our "test drive" of SQL. When I started the series, I had no idea it would end up to be such a long set of articles. One of the main reasons I am stopping here is that I feel that I'm occupying space that might be put to better use by others. Also, further discussions of SQL language features would begin to beg the question of "introduction".

As I said a long time back, if I have done my job, your interest will have been sparked enough that you have already started a serious study of SQL and have long ago exceeded the level of this series. I am finishing the series for those unlucky enough to not have "hands on" access to a relational database and an SQL driver, but wish to know the basics of the SQL environment.

The subject of this article is views and their use. This is the last major feature that is widely used and has an effect on the average database user. Most other SQL features are used by database administrators and system developers and are not normally available to the average database user.

Database users are allowed to design and store alternate ways of looking at data stored in database tables. These different ways of looking at data stored in base tables are referred to as VIEWS. Views can be used to simplify data access, provide data independence, and increase data security.

The easiest View concept to demonstrate is data access simplification. We can demonstrate this by creating our first View with the following CREATE VIEW example:

```
create view EMP10 as select empno, ename, job
from emp
where deptno = 10;
```

ORACLE responds with:

```
View created.
```

What we have done is create a VIEW named EMP10, using the embedded SELECT statement to control the content. The View contains employee number (EMPNO), employee name (ENAME), and employee job classification (JOB) for all employees (EMP) in department ten (DEPTNO).

So we may use the following SELECT statement to "view" all of the employees in department ten:

```
select
from emp10;

EMPNO ENAME JOB
-----
7782 CLARK MANAGER
7839 KING PRESIDENT
7834 MILLER CLERK
```

You will notice that the VIEW is used in the SELECT statement in exactly the same manner as a base table is used. This particular example shows how this View reduced the effort required to access selected employee information for those employees in department ten. It needs to be pointed out, that if data updates are made to the base table (EMP) they will be reflected also in this View, and any other View which uses data from the employee table. Views may also be used to update data in a base table using standard SQL UPDATE statements.

Although Views may be used to update base tables, there are some subtle differences between updating database base tables using Views and directly updating base tables. These differences between the operation of View updates and base table updates can significantly impact the update effectiveness and accuracy of base table data content. These differences between View update and base table update cause the use of Views for data update purposes to be beyond the scope of this article.

Although Views look like a table and, in most respects, act like a table, they are not physical tables. A View physically holds no data. The base table(s) associated with a View still contain the data you see in a View. Because Views contain no storage space, they are sometimes referred to as "virtual" tables.

Even though Views contain no data and use base table data, a View may contain data that is not contained in a base table. The base table data can be used by a View to develop data that is not directly available from the base table. As an example, we will create an employee pay view using data from the employee (EMP) table:

```
create view pay (NAME, MONTHLY_SAL,
ANNUAL_SAL, DEPARTMENT)as
select ename, sal, sal*12, deptno
from emp;
```

```
View created.
```

To see what we have done:

```
select
from pay
where department = 30

NAME MONTHLY_SAL ANNUAL_SAL DEPARTMENT
-----
ALLEN 1600 19200 30
WARD 1250 15000 30
MARTIN 1250 15000 30
BLAKE 2850 34200 30
TURNER 1500 18000 30
JAMES 9501 1400 30
CARTER 1000 12000 30
WILSON 1500 18000 30
```

Notice that the PAY View contains a data column named ANNUAL_SAL. By referring back to our CREATE VIEW statement, we can see that the ANNUAL_SAL column values are developed by multiplying the employees salary (SAL) by 12 (SAL * 12). Although the ANNUAL_SAL column does not exist in the employee (EMP) table, we have used data contained in the employee table (employee salary (SAL)) to develop this data column in our view.

We have seen how data that doesn't even exist in a table may be developed in a view. The view may also be used to extract data from more than one table. Using a view to JOIN tables reduced the effort of viewing a set of data contained in more than one table each time a look at the data set is desired.

We can create a view which will JOIN tables to provide a look at data from more than one table. In our next example, we will create a view that extracts data from two base tables to provide that data we wish to see:

```
create view      personnel as
select  ename, job, pname
from    emp, proj
where   emp.projno = proj.projno;
```

View created.

```
select * from personnel;
```

| ENAME | JOB | PNAME |
|--------|-----------|-------|
| MILLER | CLERK | BETA |
| KING | PRESIDENT | BETA |
| CLARK | MANAGER | BETA |
| SMITH | CLERK | ALPHA |
| JONES | MANAGER | ALPHA |
| SCOTT | ANALYST | ALPHA |
| FORD | ANALYST | ALPHA |
| ADAMS | CLERK | ALPHA |
| WARD | SALESMAN | ALPHA |
| JAMES | CLERK | BETA |
| ALLEN | SALESMAN | ALPHA |
| BLAKE | MANAGER | BETA |
| WILSON | | BETA |
| CARTER | CLERK | BETA |
| TURNER | SALESMAN | ALPHA |
| MARTIN | SALESMAN | ALPHA |

As you can see from the results of our SELECT, the new view contains the employee name (ENAME) and job classification (JOB) from the employee table (EMP) and the project name (PNAME) from the project table (PROJ).

Once the view has been created, we may use SELECT statements to query the view in the same manner as a base table is queried. For example, we will use the following SELECT statement to list the employee name and project name for all employees with the job classification of 'MANAGER':

```
select ename, pname
from personnel
where job = 'MANAGER';
```

| ENAME | PNAME |
|-------|-------|
| CLARK | BETA |

JONES ALPHA
BLAKE BETA

As you have seen, views allow the user to not have to concern himself with how or where the data in a view is actually stored. This insulation of the physical data storage from the user is referred to as "data independence". The use of views allows one more level of this data independence. Through the use of views' inherent data independence the impact of changes to the database structure may be greatly reduced. Once a view has been created, the users of the view need never know that the data they are using is actually not physically stored in the view as they see it.

In our example organization you will remember that management implemented project management to improve our working efficiency. We fixed the database to have many projects, and to allow an employee to be assigned to a project. This is known as a "many-to-one" relation in database jargon. You might say we "shot from the hip" when we did this because, much to our amazement, we have discovered that there is a need for assigning an employee to more than one project. This is known as a "many-to-many" in database jargon.

In order to allow us to assign an employee to more than one project, it is going to require the creation of a new table. This new table will be used to establish employee to project relationships. In order to do this, we will have an employee number (EMPNO) column, project number (PROJNO) column, and a work hours (WORKHRS) column which will be used to accumulate the number of hours worked on a project by the employee.

We will use the following CREATE VIEW statement to establish the new table, which we will call the project employee (PE) table:

```
create table pe (empno        number(4),
projno            number(3),
workhrs           number(4));
```

Table created.

Once the table has been created we will load some initial project/employee relationships in the table using SQL INSERT statements:

```
insert into pe values (7369,101,0);
insert into pe values (7369,102,0);
insert into pe values (7499,101,0);
insert into pe values (7521,101,0);
insert into pe values (7566,101,0);
insert into pe values (7654,101,0);
insert into pe values (7698,102,0);
insert into pe values (7782,102,0);
insert into pe values (7788,101,0);
insert into pe values (7839,102,0);
insert into pe values (7844,101,0);
insert into pe values (7876,101,0);
insert into pe values (7900,102,0);
insert into pe values (7902,101,0);
insert into pe values (7934,102,0);
```

Notice in the first two INSERT statements above that employee number 7369 is being assigned to both project number 101 and project number 102.

Now that we have created a new table to hold employee/project relations, we no longer need to have the project number (PROJNO) data stored in our employee (EMP) table. Therefore, we will use an SQL UPDATE statement to set the project number field (PROJNO) in the employee table (EMP) to NULL:

```
update emp
set projno = NULL;
```

16 records updated.

Our old personnel table (PERSONNEL) used the project number (PROJNO) column in the employee table (EMP) as a source for one of its columns. As we are no longer maintaining valid data in the project number column of the employee table we must DROP the current personnel view (PERSONNEL):

```
drop view personnel;
```

ORACLE responds with:

View dropped.

Now that we have dropped the old version of the personnel view, we may rebuild it using the new method of employee/project relation to provide the same basic information as our old view did. To do this we will use the following CREATE VIEW statement:

```
create view personnel as
select ename, job, pname
from emp, proj, pe
where emp.empno = pe.empno
and pe.projno = proj.projno;
```

View created.

Now programs and users which used the old personnel view may continue to work with the new data in much the same way as prior to our restructuring to allow for the many-to-many relationship.

By using the following SELECT statement, we can see that the information we receive from the personnel view is still the same as before with the addition that employee SMITH is shown as assigned to two projects:

```
select *
from personnel
order by ename;
```

| ENAME | JOB | PNAME |
|-------|-----------|-------|
| ADAMS | CLERK | ALPHA |
| ALLEN | SALESMAN | ALPHA |
| BLAKE | MANAGER | BETA |
| CLARK | MANAGER | BETA |
| FORD | ANALYST | ALPHA |
| JAMES | CLERK | BETA |
| JONES | MANAGER | ALPHA |
| KING | PRESIDENT | BETA |

| | | |
|--------|----------|-------|
| MARTIN | SALESMAN | ALPHA |
| MILLER | CLERK | BETA |
| SCOTT | ANALYST | ALPHA |
| SMITH | CLERK | ALPHA |
| SMITH | CLERK | BETA |
| TURNER | SALESMAN | ALPHA |
| WARD | SALESMAN | ALPHA |

This previous example has shown how, with the extra level of data independence supplied by the view feature of a relational database, it is relatively simple to modify the underlying database structure while causing a minimum impact on previously developed programs and stored SQL procedures.

There are many more features of SQL that we have not covered in this series of articles, but we have covered the major ones that are of the greatest interest to the average user. I would say that this is a good place to start from in your more serious study of relational databases and the SQL language.

The future of data storage will be greatly influenced by the relational database concepts. The near term future storage of data on all levels of systems will most surely be a relational database storage implementation of some form. There are already many vendor specific SQL language "extensions" to the ANSI standard which add an even richer and deeper source of power to the SQL language and relational databases, and many more proposed extensions are in the minds of many systems designers.

Think of the possibilities the integration of relational databases, local area networks, windowed user environments, and icon graphics are going to have on the future of computing.

Fred ■


(Fred Williams is a frequent contributor to North Texas PC NEWS. He is the owner of Systems Consultants, a data communications software development, networking design, and consulting firm.)

Where do our newsletters go... ?

| | | | |
|----------------|----|-------------|----|
| Farmersville | TX | Kalamazoo | MI |
| Flower Mound | TX | Kansas City | MO |
| Forney | TX | Keller | TX |
| Forreston | TX | Kemp | TX |
| Fort Worth | TX | Lancaster | TX |
| Garland | TX | Laughlin | NV |
| Grambling | LA | Lewisville | TX |
| Grand Prairie | TX | Lexington | KY |
| Grandbury | TX | Lombard | IL |
| Grapevine | TX | Longview | TX |
| Greenville | TX | Los Angeles | CA |
| Harper Woods | MI | Lucas | TX |
| Hicksville | NY | Mabank | TX |
| Highland Vill. | TX | Madison | OH |
| Hillsboro | TX | Mansfield | TX |
| Houston | TX | McDonald | TN |
| Huntsville | AL | McKinney | TX |
| Hurst | TX | Melissa | TX |
| Hutchins | TX | | |
| Irving | TX | | |


Continued elsewhere...

If you want better word processing, don't settle for Perfect.



REPORT TO THE FIELD

Sales per region



The following are the most recent sales numbers for the Arbor regional sales offices. All client and distributor inquiries should be directed to these numbers.

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Los Angeles | 88765 |
| Atlanta | 95788 |
| Chicago | 77628 |
| New York | 98657 |
| Miami | 95971 |
| Denver | 98875 |

Shoe enough

Arbor Footwear comings and goings: Jim Dearing becomes V.P. Design for Arbor Evening and Dress wear. Greg Vronatz moves from Peoria to marketing in Miami. Joan MacArthur and Lisa Doss become account supervisor and media planner, respectively. *Photo by [unreadable]*

Sales per region

Across the board it looks like the South once again led sales in FY '88. With the continuing pump craze these figures should maintain, if not improve. Importers not to let the other areas such as Northeast and Midwest fall.

| Region | Dress | Sport | Casual | Total |
|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Northwest | 1150-1350 | 680-1125 | 1120-1250 | 150-1150 |


Young professionals use Arbor Walker to commute.

Soon, young professional women will no longer be using Arbor shoes simply to climb the corporate ladder. They'll be using them to get there.

This fall we're introducing the Arbor Walker — a shoe that goes quite a few steps further than the now-accepted but unattractive tennis shoes women have been wearing to and from work.

Made of Italian leather with a rubber sole, the Arbor Walker is the perfect combination of style and durability.

Look for promotional materials and carrying cases in early September. Our sales point is: "Women don't have to sacrifice looks for comfort."



Arbor Walker designed by Pam Doss.

SALES FORECAST FOR 1989

Types of shoes: Summer/Fall/Holiday/Spring

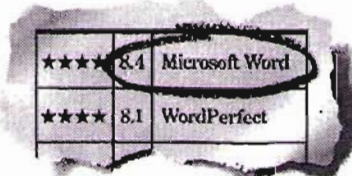
| | 1st quarter | 2nd quarter | 3rd quarter | 4th quarter |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Dress | 95,000 | 87,000 | 1,20,000 | 60,000 |
| Casual | 40,000 | 82,000 | 60,000 | 90,000 |
| Sport | 120,000 | 95,000 | 75,000 | 80,000 |
| TOTAL | 350,000 | 314,000 | 345,000 | 317,000 |

March 11, 9:27 PM, 4:32 PM
let's discuss forecast for media departments expansion
20th Feb. 7:15 PM
Figures for Northwest and Midwest should be calculated separately next month
let's catch them before they fall with promo.

Text, graphics, fonts, annotations. Faster, simpler, cleaner. Compliments of new Word 5.0.

| COMMON WORDPROCESSING TASKS | Microsoft Word 5.0 | WordPerfect 5.0 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Which requires fewer keystrokes? | | |
| Copy Block | 4 | 7 |
| Delete Line | 2 | 4 |
| Italicize Word | 2 | 5 |
| Change Font and Size | 6 | 9 |
| Add Footer | 1 | 7 |
| Box Paragraph | 5 | 12 |
| Total | 20 | 44 |

With new Word 5.0 you'll do about 50% less hunting and pecking than with WordPerfect.



Software Digest recently chose the best overall advanced word processor on the market. Who won? In a word, Word.

The trouble with WordPerfect® is, sometimes it isn't.

Not when you compare it to our new Microsoft® Word version 5.0. Not when you consider that with Word 5.0, you'll be able to pump out your day-to-day jobs quicker, easier, even smarter than you ever thought possible.

For example: With Word 5.0 you can choose commands by either using simple speed keys or just selecting from a menu.

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Does WordPerfect give you the freedom to make annotations? Nobody's perfect. Does WordPerfect feature Outline View? Another imperfection.

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For a thoroughly convincing demo, first call (800) 541-1261, Dept. J63. Then call WordPerfect for a demo. Then run both, our Word against theirs, and then ask yourself:

Which one brings your word processing closer to perfection?

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(New or unusual hardware/software/applications for IBM small computers and compatibles.)

OfficeVision Raises the Ante

Meanwhile, IBM presented OS/2 users with even more need for vast amounts of DRAM and hard-disk storage as *OfficeVision* was announced in May. IBM's new *OfficeVision*, described by some media analysts as "a marvel" may be the super OS/2 software that compels corporate buyers to switch away from DOS to OS/2 (IBM hopes).

The new software product will get lots of media attention and won't be described here. Impact on users will be substantial, particularly in terms of hardware needed to run *OfficeVision*.

According to the May 29 issue of *PC WEEK*, users better have plenty of DRAM — at least eight (8) M bytes just to run *OfficeVision* alone without any other concurrent applications. 30M of hard disk capacity, again just for the software, is also "suggested." That places power users in a position where 12 - 14M bytes DRAM and a 60 - 80M hard disk may be "bare minimums" for day-to-day use. And, the DRAM drain gets awfully close to the maximum expansion allowable for most current PCs.

PC World Attorneys in Feeding Frenzy

Patent/Copy Right Issues Boil

Latest entrant into the PC Licensing Wars, Xerox, finally did what many observers in the Apple vs Microsoft/Hewlett-Packard adventure began last year predicted. Xerox declared intention to license the graphical interface pioneered at its Palo Alto Research Center (PARC) in the late 1970's - early 1980's.

Earlier, in April, Quarterdeck Of-

ice Systems was awarded a patent on their technique for running two software programs simultaneously in separate windows on a PC. Quarterdeck applied for the patent in 1984 and stated in April that they "Would be studying other programs for possible infringements."

Ashton-Tate, meanwhile, appears to be suing everybody who ever wrote a data-base manager, or at least threatening to sue, on "look and feel" grounds. Lotus Development Corporation, equally litigious, made some PC history as they were subject of a protest by 150 picketers in May angry over Lotus' "look and feel" suit(s).

Tardy arrivals include Tandy Corporation (laptop screen hinges and cases) and Quantum Corporation (3.5" hard disk drive technology). Perhaps it's a corporate PR failing, but neither Tandy nor Quantum have garnered the publicity of the software suits.

(Does anyone remember what happened to the DuMont CRT patents?)

As Expected...

Intel Announces a 33MHz 80387DX

To nobody's surprise, Intel Corporation's Personal Computer Enhancement Operation (PCEO) announced the retail availability of the 33MHz, 80387DX chip May 15. Intel quoted a suggested retail price of the new chip at \$995.

Intel also stated the chip was made specifically for the 33MHz 80386, and is more than 30 percent faster than the 25MHz version.

Word Processor Spreading Like a Virus...

WordPerfect Delivers OS/2 Version

WordPerfect Corporation announced a version of *WordPerfect* for the OS/2 world. *WordPerfect*

for *Operating System/2* is described as retaining much of the "look and feel" of its parent, and remains character-based.

The Orem, UT, word-processing leader described the \$549 package as an interim product until the *Presentation Manager (PM)* version is released in the "fourth quarter" of 1989. The current release joins other *WordPerfect* versions running under a multitude of operating systems including DOS, several Unix versions, and other, non-PC operating systems.

While Others Edge Into AIX PS/2

DataFlex will be available for IBM's UNIX-variant, AIX PS/2, Data Access Corporation announced in April. Stating that the new port of *DataFlex* would be available April 28, Charles Casanave, III, Sales and Marketing VP described *DataFlex* as a highly transportable environment, fostering applications independent of particular computers or operating systems.

According to the announcement, *DataFlex 2.3b* will cost approximately "\$1500 for a 4-user development license and \$500 for a 4-user runtime only." It takes 1Mb of disk storage.

800-SOFTWARE's Newsline a Gem

First, this isn't an endorsement. 800-SOFTWARE is a mail-order software and hardware vendor.

What sets 800-SOFTWARE apart from the run-of-the-mill is their newsletter, *Newsline*, which tends to be a somewhat more professional and informative publication than would be expected from a sales group. There are pretty good advance descriptions of coming software releases, some comparisons between product features, and occasional user tips.

Edited by Lincoln Spector, *Newsline* also occasionally runs reprints from PC users groups newsletters of topical materials. Write to 800-SOFTWARE, 918 Parker Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

Summer's Dog Days Spell Danger for PC's "Turbo Cool" to the Rescue!

Home PC's and many business PC's tend to be placed in non-ideal locations that can get pretty hot in the Summer months. Excess heat is the mortal enemy of semiconductors that form the heart of the PC and is also a source of PC data errors and other malfunctions that are almost impossible to troubleshoot.

"Turbo-Cool" solves most of these problems. Replacement PC power supplies that drop PC internal temperatures up to 30 degrees, they are made by PC Power and Cooling, Inc., Bonsall, CA, who specialize in replacement PC power supplies to increase cooling, reduce noise or both. PC Power and Cooling produces supplies for PC/XT's, PC/AT's (and replacement supplies for the Houston, TX, clone-makers' compatible products) in models designed to meet maker specs (standard), increase cooling capacity (the "Turbo-Cool" line) or provide standard cooling at much lower noise levels (the "Silencer" line.)

Is it Vaporware if the Chips Aren't Shipping?

IBM Announces First 486 PC

IBM wasn't to be upstaged at PCEXPO. Big Blue came out swinging with announcement of the first "real" 80486-based PC product — a platform upgrade of the PS/2 Model 70-A21. Named the 486/25 Power Platform, the upgrade will replace the 80386 in the Model 70 with a 25 MHz 80486 CPU chip that "doubles or triples the effective speed" of the machine. Price of the modification kit was reported at \$3995.

A similar modification kit, the Fastboard 486/25, was announced in July by AST to replace the 80386 CPU's in their 25 and 33 MHz Premium series with 25 MHz 80486 CPU units. Cost for the AST

486/25 Fastboards was quoted at \$2995 and \$3695 for the 33 MHz and 25 MHz machines respectively.

Intel Won't Ship 486's Until 4th Qtr

Intel's announcement that production quantities of the 486 won't be available until the 4th Qtr of 1989 has caused many observers to accuse IBM of playing the "Vaporware" game and pre-announcing products long before they can be shipped. Big Blue fans counter with the fact that IBM showed the hardware and it was running very, very well at PCEXPO.

Meanwhile, Model 70's Are Getting a Reputation

IBM's PS/2 Model 70 is beginning to remind users of the early PC/AT's with reluctantly-reported disk drive problems in the 120 M equipped Model 70-121 which runs at 20 MHz and the Model 70-A21 which runs at 25 MHz. Other problems with the Model 70's have been rumored as well over the last several months. Most current rumor is that IBM has not been able to produce a 33 MHz Model 70 that could pass the FCC Class B certification standards.

Lotus Folks Breathe Easier These Days

1-2-3 Release 3.0 Ships

Lotus' long-delayed 1-2-3 Release 3.0 began shipping in June. According to Lotus officials, a massive debugging program was cause of the final delay, but users will appreciate the delivered product as a result. Lotus officials also reported that Release 2.2 for PC/XT users remains on schedule and should ship on or before Lotus' September 30 deadline.

1-2-3 Tests Compatibility Again...

Release of 1-2-3 Release 3.0 brought Lotus full-circle back to their early days when ability to run 1-2-3 was considered the de-facto test for true PC compatibility. This time, though, some clone users discovered their machines had been equipped with "pirated"

BIOS ROMs developed by Phoenix Technologies, Ltd. for Chips & Technologies, Inc., and never intended for production release.

There Might Have Been Standards

Apple Abandons Adobe

Apple Computer, Inc. announced in July it plans to dispose of its share of Adobe Systems, Inc., developer of *PostScript*. Holding approximately 16.4% of the printer and display software company, Apple stated corporate plans call for development of competing printer and display control systems.

Release of Apple's new Macintosh OS, System 7, includes Apple-developed screen display and printer control programs and is seen by industry watchers as a major step in Apple's entry into the field.

Smaller and Smaller and Smaller

Laptops Adopt 2.5" Drives

Grid Systems Corp. was showing a new Gridlight laptop in June that featured the PrairieTek 2.5" hard disk drives. Agilis Corp. announced a modular 20 M option for its machines that also features the PrairieTek drives. Shown briefly at Comdex, the drives feature low power consumption and fast, 28 ms, access times. Raises an interesting question — will users take their broken laptops to computer repairmen or to watchmakers if the trend continues?

I'm Not Sure I Understand All This, But...

Multi-Tech Announces 224E7

Multi-Tech Systems — the folks that forced a name-change on Acer — announced the Multi-Modem224E7, 2400 bps, external modem that supports CCITT V.42 error correction, V.25bis dialing and MNP (r) Class 7 data compression. According to Multi-Tech Systems, "the MultiModem 224E7 allows full use of MNP Level 7 data compression in a V.4.2 error correcting modem" even though the V.4.2bis compression standard hasn't been finalized and issued.

Multi-Tech is known for making excellent products — the Club uses

a MultiModem224E on one of the BBS lines – but the above is all a little bit much to absorb, especially when price wasn't quoted in the release.

Intel Introduces EISA And MCA Support For i486 Microprocessor

Intel recently introduced Extended Industry Standard Architecture (EISA) and Micro Channel Architecture (MCA) support products for the new 32 bit i486 microprocessor ...

Both the 82350 EISA and 82320 MCA chip sets are expected to be available in the latter half of 1989.

Touchstone: A Super Supercomputer

Intel Scientific Computers announced in April an agreement with the Defense Advanced Re-

search Projects Agency to develop a prototype of a massively parallel supercomputer that will ultimately contain up to 2000 processors...

The goal of the project, dubbed Touchstone, is to improve the performance of parallel computers ... We expect Touchstone to improve parallel computer performance levels 100 times over what they are today, as well as create the software to give these machines the look and feel of conventional computers...

The Touchstone prototype will use Intel's most advanced microprocessors, including the one million transistor i860 CPU, whose performance rivals that of a Cray-I supercomputer... Touchstone's peak performance should exceed 128 billion, 64-bit, floating point operations per second (FLOPS) while being 10 times more cost effective than conventional supercomputers... The contract calls for the

prototype to be demonstrated at the end of 1991.

Alliance With Prime Aims For ECL Implementation

Intel will begin working with Prime Computer Inc. to implement the 32 bit i486 microprocessor architecture in emitter coupled logic (ECL), the basic technology used in large mainframe computers...

The aim is to combine Intel's microprocessor technology and Prime's ECL design expertise to create an implementation of the Intel386 architecture that will surpass today's mainframes and set the direction for software product development in the 1990s. The ECL processor module will allow manufactures to build mainframe class systems exceeding 120 million instructions per second...

The processor modules are targeted for release by 1992...

■

Inside the NTPCUG Community

On Volunteering

Andy Oliver & Connie Andrews

What does it mean to volunteer? To some people, it is a reminder of their Army days "Don't ever volunteer for anything." was the motto. To others, it's "Let the person who doesn't have anything better to do, volunteer." Yet in the NTPCUG you find volunteers, who have worked at their full-time job for 40, 50, or 60 hours during the week, up at the crack-of-dawn on Super Saturday, pitching in to do whatever is asked of them.

You will find computer users at home during the month, organizing the next meeting, writing and editing for this newsletter, keeping up with the membership list, printing membership badges, reviewing new DOM disks, copying DOM disks for the next meeting, calling volunteers to help out for an hour during the next Saturday meeting, and a myriad of other jobs necessary to keep this volunteer organization together. Think about it, and ask yourself, "WHY". The only reason I can ever come up with is, "Because it is fun."

I tell others, just like in my "real" job, I will continue to do it as long as it remains fun. I think this sentiment is shared by most of the NTPCUG volunteers. Many people who reluctantly volunteer the first time, end up as permanent fixtures in group. They find that this type of volunteering isn't like fundraising, it is more like a museum guide or setting up a circus (there is more truth in the latter than you would believe).

This is a USER'S group, and as such it is computer user's helping other computer user's. Think about other volunteer organizations; how many of them get together just to help each other learn about something, not for the profit, not for the obligation, not for the promotion of a cause, but simply because they needed help once and maybe someone was there to help, but more than likely just because we have a blast doing it.

This group is held in place solely by volunteers who are unselfishly helping others to become better at their jobs, to teach their kids about the future, to keep pace with a constantly changing technology, and to have fun doing it. Have some fun.....volunteer.

■



Disk of the Month

by Kathryn Crawford and Howard Hamilton

Well, its been a while since we have provided information on the new disks that the DOM has published. Here is a summary of those since the last time.

Disk 365 is Buick Dimensions 1989, a Graphic Demo of the 89 Buick Cars in a 2 disk set from Buick Division of General Motors.

This program is one of the slickest graphics demonstration, as well as an excellent marketing tool for the 1989 Buick line. The program requires an IBM PC/XT/AT, PS/2, or compatible with at least 512K of RAM, a color or monochrome adapter, and DOS 2.0 or higher. Donated by Buick Motor Division of General Motors. Review prepared by Mark Gruner.

Disk 366 is the NTPCUG DOS SIG Disk #1 (4/89): Line feeds & RAM memory map.

These utility programs are provided by Jim Holsington, who is one of the DOS SIG leaders. These programs can help the user solve some common problems in:

(1) Importing and Exporting files. ADDLP and SUBLF are used on ASCII text files that are being imported into a spreadsheet, database or word processing package. ADDLP adds a line feed and SUBLF removes the line feed from the end of a line, so the ASCII text file can be converted from one format to another depending on what the software requires. ADDLP and SUBLF were written by Jim Holsington.

(2) RAM memory. Sometimes programs don't run the way they're supposed to because you have run out of RAM memory. In order to determine if this is the problem, you first need to know what is going on in the RAM memory. The program MCB prints out the contents of RAM memory to the screen. MCB comes from Dr. Dobb's Journal.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS - IBM-PC or clone, no minimum RAM memory requirement, no graphics required. Review prepared by Kathryn Crawford.

Disk 367. Directory Scanner 3.20 (7/88), DOS Shell/Hard Disk Manager by Nat Martino; Shareware fee = \$15.

Directory Scanner is a RAM resident program that will manage the files on your hard disk, as well as execute DOS commands. It is simple enough for the novice to use, but it also has power features for the expert user. The program currently handles up to 26 fixed/hard disk drives, 150 directories per drive, and 300 files per directory. The following DOS commands are supported: attribute, backup, copy, drive change, delete, list (type), mkdir and rmdir, print, rename, sort, and two types of execute (normal, and with I/O redirection).

DS also has unique commands. You can "tag" files with one keystroke, then use a DOS command on all the tagged files at one time. Tagged files can be moved, copied or deleted as a block. "Find-file" searches the entire drive for a lost file, and will accept * and ? wildcard searches. DS has "directory links" (change to 18 predefined directories with one keystroke) and macros (execute 27 predefined DOS commands with parameter substitution). During the installation process, the user can customize the program by selecting their preferred editor program and list program. Two programs that support mice with DS are included on the disk:

Microsoft Mouse Device Driver by Cyrus Phillips and Logitech Mouse Device Driver by Tom LaChe'.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS - MS/PC DOS 2.0+. Takes up approximately 83K during execution. Review prepared by Kathryn Crawford.

Disk 368 is QModem SST 4.0, 3/89, a 3 disk set providing a complete communication package, by John Friel of the Forbin project, Inc. Shareware fee is \$30.00.

QMODEM is an easy communication package that emulates terminal and host modes. There are a number of improvements in the Qmodem package such as on line help, and a phone directory. The most notable change in Qmodem is the ALT-N setup function which features eight top-level menus and over twenty lower-level menus. It also features host mode emulation, customized editor, and a powerful script language. The package has the ability to record sessions for automatic logon to different Bulletin Boards. All menus can be customized to your color selections.

Qmodem requires an IBM PC,XT,AT,PS/2 or IBM compatible computer with at least 384K RAM, a Color Graphics or Monochrome adapter and monitor, and a serial port and modem. The communication parameters are defaulted to support Hayes Smart-Modem 1200 or a fully compatible unit. The host assumes the set up for HST 9600 type modem. These setups are easily modified from the setup menu. Review prepared by B.K. Barton.

Disk 369 is Professional Master Key 2.1a (11/87), disk utilities by RPG Software Farm.

An excellent shareware utility that any PC user beyond the novice stage could use in his system. PMK has many functions similar to The Norton Advanced Utilities and XTPRO for a modest \$25.00 registration fee. PMK is an excellent intermediate and much less expensive first step that the two packages mentioned above.

PMK has a simple installation. Simply copy the diskette to a directory and run INSTALL. PMK's menu has excellent help features to do any of the following functions:

Alter Files, Change Disk, Disk Edit, Erase Files, File Edit, Information, Locate Files, Map Disk/Files, Rename Files, Undelete Files.

If you have a protected or read only file and need to change its attributes, this function gives you a friendly way of doing it. If you have need to Edit Sectors, this function accomplishes this task. To Erase files, select the function and erase files one at a time. To Edit files, select the function and a very friendly edit screen appears. Select the function and you can find a file anywhere on your disk or diskette. All in all, PMK is an excellent package for the \$25.00 registration fee and I would commend it to you. Review prepared by John J. Dyer.

Disk 370. The Dungeons of MORIA 4.873 (4/89) Single player dungeon simulation. (c) Robert Alan Koeneke MSDOS port by D.G. Kneller, Dec 5, 1988.

The game of MORIA is a single player dungeon simulation. A player creates a character from a menu and 'runs' that character over a period of days, weeks, even months, attempting to win the game by defeating the Balrog which lurks in the deeper levels.

The player will begin his adventure on the town level where he may acquire supplies, weapons, armor, and magical devices by bartering with various shop owners. After preparing for his adventure, the player can descend into the dungeons of MORIA where fantastic adventures await his coming!

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: 640K ram (really!), DOS 2.x or higher, 2 360K floppy disk drives or 1 high density drive or 1 hard drive, and a 24 (or 25) line by 80 column monitor. MORIA uses either BIOS calls or ANSI for video output so should work properly on most monitors. It won't work in 43-line mode of an EGA. Review prepared by Kenneth Loafman.



Disk 371. The Family Edge A.06 (9/88), Professional genealogy software by Carl J. York. Shareware fee is \$10.

THE FAMILY EDGE is a storage and retrieval system to keep track of your genealogical data. The author's aim was provide fast, flexible data entry and retrieval. You don't need to learn all of the features of the program to begin entering your family research information and creating printed forms. The data and forms produced by the program can be saved as a file to be used with your choice of word processor.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Requires a minimum hardware configuration of an IBM-PC/XT/AT or compatible with 256K RAM, two floppy drives, and DOS 2.0 through 3.2. Review prepared by Kathryn Crawford.

After this disk was issued, we got feedback from the users that one of the files wasn't unarchiving properly. In the process of checking it out we found the author had uploaded a newer version to CompuServe. See the entry for disks 393 A and B.

Disk 372. OPTIKS 2.05 (12/87), High resolution B&W graphics editing, by Keith P Graham.

The main thing OPTIKS is used for is to RETRIEVE files from a disk so that you can view them. The files are almost always pictures of some sort created by OPTIKS or by "paint" or "draw" programs. There are other routines which allow you to move pieces of the picture around, type in various fonts and do various things to change the picture. OPTIKS will even allow you to MERGE another picture into an existing picture. After you have used some of the OPTIKS features to alter the picture you can SAVE the picture in one of two dozen or more different file formats supported by OPTIKS for both read and write. This makes OPTIKS ideal as a file conversion utility. (THE VERSION WHICH WRITES OUT FILES IN A VARIETY OF FORMATS IS AVAILABLE TO PAID USER ONLY).

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS: OPTIKS runs on IBM PC's and compatibles with a graphics screen, DOS 2.0+ and more than 256K free memory. If you want to print with OPTIKS you will need a graphics printer.

OPTIKS makes an attempt to identify the graphics board attached to your system. OPTIKS will identify and use a MICROSOFT mouse driver. OPTIKS works with Laser printers and Dot matrix printers including IBM graphics printers, IBM Proprinters, Epson FX series printers, Toshiba 3x1 printers, Canon Laserbeam printers, Hewlett Packard Laserjet Printers and Ricoh Laser Printers. OPTIKS will scan images directly into the program with CANON IX-12 scanners and Princeton Graphics Scanners.

OKFREE, the Non-Commercial version of OPTIKS, is distributed free on Bulletin Boards and through User-Groups. The Commercial version, WHICH INCLUDES THE ABILITY TO SAVE IN ALL FORMATS, is available for \$79.95 plus \$10 for postage and handling. Review prepared by Richard Terreo.

Disk 373. MLabel 3.00 DEMO (1/89), Name/Address Mailing Label Program by NTPCUG member Roy Minut.

MLabel is a name and address mailing database program. This is a partial working demo of MLabel - the database of names and addresses is not saved to disk. To receive a fully functional version send \$25 to the author.

This is an easy to use program that has only a few steps to learn and the documentation is uncomplicated. Little effort is needed in order to master the program. To get the program up and running just type in the word MLabel and shortly you will see a menu on the screen with four options:

- F1 Add a new record
- F2 Edit an existing record
- F3 Delete a record
- F4 Print functions

All commands are self explanatory and simple to use. This demo does not save data, but everything else is fully serviceable. All you

have to do to enter a record is press F1; then fill in the blanks. By using the cursor keys you will be able to browse through the titles and the suffixes such as Mr. or Mrs. and "& Family". After you finish press F2 and you go to next one or press the escape and start fresh. The Print functions (F4) consist of Mailing labels, along with the capability of making a list by Record or by telephone number. A nice program for the \$25 registration fee at which time you will receive a working copy. For \$75 you can get the source code (Microsoft C).

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: This demo requires an IBM PC/XT/AT or compatible with at least 384K and CGA/EGA/VGA monitor. A hard drive is recommended but not required. Review prepared by Wade Mayfield.

Disk 374. Cogent Prolog DEMO (2/88), Prolog software environment by Cogent Software, Ltd.

The Cogent Prolog system is a complete implementation of a large subset of standard Prolog as specified by the book "Programming in Prolog", by Clocksin and Mellish (C&M) published by Springer Verlag.

The full Cogent Prolog system is available for \$200; it includes:

- Window Support
- Full Interpreter and Compiler
- Runtime window-based debugger
- Ability to produce EXE files and link to "C"
- Context sensitive user-programmable help system
- Optional "ProShell" user-friendly development environment

The price of this Prolog software is within the range of most people's pocketbook (from Programmers Connection, 1- 800-336-1166, for \$179). Review prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 375. The SD-Prolog Demonstration Disk (1/87), Prolog software environment Marketed by Systems Designers under license from QUINTEC SYSTEMS LIMITED. A single computer license for an IBM PC/XT/AT costs \$999. To use the SD-Prolog DEMO Disk you will require an IBM PC/XT/AT computer or compatible with at least 384 Kbytes of memory.

This demonstration package is impressive to say the least. While it is mostly text, there are a few actual usable things to do. The window manipulation of the text that is incorporated needs to be run on a color monitor to be appreciated. Systems Designers certainly did a most informative and eloquent presentation of their product. While the price tag for this product is outside the average individuals price range, it would be an excellent product for industry and software developers.

If you have a "C" background, learning to use this version of Prolog would not be traumatic at all. The speed of this Prolog fascinated me; most versions of Prolog and Lisp have a tendency to be somewhat slow; however, this moved right along on my 8MHz XT without a co-processor. Memory requirements are held to a minimum and virtual memory paging, using a disk drive, is possible. This virtual memory paging is under the control of the programmer. A "C" interface is included with the package and the demonstration includes a good example of how and why you may want to use it. Review prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 376. SCOUT 3.4 (4/89), Memory Resident Dos Shell by New-Ware. SHAREWARE FEE ranges from \$30 to \$40.

SCOUT is a memory-resident DOS shell and disk manager. It performs many disk management functions, including move, copy, and delete, file attributes, directory management, disk space information, viewing and printing files, and backing up files. Its DOS shell functions include system statistics, ascii table, calendar, screen dump, and user program execution. It is flexible and easily configured, including hot keys, user defined functions, and internal buffer sizes. It is designed to be able to pop up anytime within an application to do quick disk and system management with as few

keystrokes as possible. The documentation is thorough, with each command described in detail. Almost all the letters are assigned commands, so the documentation is needed often at first.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Scout requires DOS 2.1 or later on an XT or AT or true compatible. It works with mono, CGA, EGA, and VGA displays. Most of the code is in an overlay file, so the memory resident part only takes up about 70k. Review prepared by Michael P. Persons.

Disk 377. JADU (Just Another Directory Utility) 1.1 (2/89) Disk and File Utility by J.C. Ratjen. Shareware fee is \$25.

JADU is a file management utility that allows most file manipulation functions to be carried out from within a single program. JADU is similar in function to programs such as XTREE and the Still River Shell. JADU is unique in that it allows your favorite file utilities to be integrated into its menu structure. The JINSTALL program allows your favorite editor, file scanning program, file finder, print utility and archive programs (yes, it's an archive manager also) to be integrated. Note that although JADU has its own file finder, you must provide the other external utilities.

JADU's second claim to fame is its logical use of the PC keyboard. To delete a file or directory, it uses the delete key. Insert is used to add a new directory. Only minimal use is made of function keys and most commands (Move, Copy, Archive, Find, Rename, etc.) use the first letter of the command. JADU uses typical tagging methods for multi-file commands.

The normal startup defaults can be set for color, sorting order, mice etc. The program works with PS/2 Mod 80 and VGA and has been tested on many IBM and compatibles starting with the original PC. The program should work with anything beyond DOS 2.0, although you must have at least DOS 3.0 to rename a directory. Memory requirements are minimal (JADU.EXE is less than 74K), but you must also allow enough RAM for your editor, scanner, arc program, etc. Changes from Version 1.0 (Disk 290) include the use of print utilities other than DOS print, a data file to hold directory tree information, use of extensions other than ARC on archives, and optional use of an external file finder. Review prepared by Charles Carter.

Disk 378. Programming Technical Reference, 9/88; Information on PCMS DOS 1.0 through 3.3 c1988 by Dave Williams. Shareware fee is \$15.00.

The information contained within the documentation is a compilation of technical information gathered from many sources and combined into one document. It is complete and extensive, covering the ROM BIOS system, MSDOS, all of the services; also including information on OS/2 and LIM 3.2 and LIM 4.0. The only problem is that this particular documentation does not contain a cross reference or index, so you are on your own in finding what you want. However the information is logically organized; and once you get to the right chapter, what you need is there.

The files that are compressed on the diskette will require about 580,000 bytes when un-compressed. If you decide to print the text, be aware that this will take about 180 pages.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Requires a hard disk to contain the un-compressed data file, and some kind of a text editor that can perform context searches. Review prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 379. PKZIP/PKUNZIP/PKSFIX 0.92 (2/89), File Compression Utility By Phil Katz of PKware Inc.

PKZIP, PKUNZIP, PKSFIX (PK) and the related files are the latest file compression utilities from Phil Katz and PKware. System Enhancements Associates (SEA) sued PKware over earlier releases and won. But PKware may have won the war since many BBS are using ZIP. PK can be registered for \$25. For \$47, the user will receive the next release free when available.

PKZIP is the file that creates the ZIP files. There are numerous options available such as adding files to a ZIP file, using an alter-

nate location for a temporary file used in creating the ZIP (such as a RAM disk), ability to add comments to files within the ZIP, delete files from a ZIP, freshen files in a ZIP, encrypt files in a ZIP, limited backup of files, deleting original files after the ZIP has been created, storing path names with the files in the ZIP, update the ZIP file, and view the technical information of the files in the ZIP.

PKUNZIP is the file that extracts the files from the ZIP file. In all cases, the ZIP file will remain. There are also many options with the PKUNZIP file including the ability to extract files to the console with the MORE DOS command, extracting files with the path names, and decrypting files that have been encrypted.

Also included in the PK files is the ability to create self-extracting files so that the user does not need PK to extract the files, and the ability to fix a ZIP that may be in error or has been damaged. Also included on this disk are several utilities from other authors that convert ARC/PAK/MD/ZOO compressed files to the new ZIP format and other features. Review prepared by Mark Grumer.

Disk 380. ARC 6.00 (1/89), Two File Archive Utilities by System Enhancement Associates, Inc. Shareware fee is \$35.00.

ARC is used to compress files and maintain file archives, thus efficiently utilizing available storage space. When ARC is used to add a file to an archive, it analyzes the file to determine which of three storage methods can be used to maximize available disk space. These three methods are: 1) No compression 2) Repeated-character compression and 3) Dynamic Lempelziv compression.

Version 6.0 is a major upgrade for ARC. There is an improvement in the program speed. In addition, ARC now supports directories, allowing entire directory trees to be added or moved into an archive, and later extracted.

Although the program documentation mentions various other utilities, there are only two SEA utilities included with this package, ARCE and MKSARC. ARCE.COM by Vernon D. Bueg, is mainly used for extracting files from an ARC file. Run the ARCE by itself without arguments to see the options available. MKSARC program is another utility used to convert ARChive into a self unpacking program. Use /H option to display the help screen.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: DOS version 2.00 or higher and 65 KB of memory. Review prepared by K.B. Barton.

Disk 381. FILEMANAGER 4.50e (8/88), Hard Disk Utility / DOS shell by Timothy L. Stouse. Shareware fee is \$25.00.

FILEMANAGER 4.50 is a hard disk utility. Some of the features are: 1) display all files in any subdirectory on any disk drive, 2) copy files, 3) delete files, 4) print files, 5) move files, 6) edit files (in either ASCII or hexadecimal mode), 7) browse thru hidden files, 8) change a file byte by byte in ASCII, decimal, or hexadecimal mode, 8) help find strings of text in files, and 9) add and extract files into/from an archive file. It can be used as a DOS shell to call and run other programs. It can be taught to call up your favorite word processor or text editor to edit the highlighted file. FileManager can also be taught which Arcing and Unarcng programs to use when Arc functions are called. It also contains a built-in text editor which emulates many WordStar commands. FileManager is an easy-to-use tool for both novice and expert users.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS - Designed for hard disk IBM-PC's (and compatibles), XT, AT, and 386 based machines, with CGA, EGA, VGA, and Monochrome displays. Will also work with floppy based systems. Requires a minimum of 350k of free RAM. Can be used with less RAM, but some functions will be disabled. Review prepared by Mike Ashley.

Disk 382. The PC Magazine Utilities Disk - Volume II Collection of 37 utilities by Ziff Communications Company.

A collection of 37 utilities and programs for use on IBM and IBM-compatible computers, by the publishers of PC Magazine. Included are a wide assortment of utilities to help manage files, directories, and keyboards, set up different EGA displays, enhance computer

security, assist word processing and text handling, as well as two applications for music and drawing. Full documentation, which occupies about 55 pages, is on the disk.

The three desktop utilities provided are all ram-resident pop-ups, and include an appointment book (APPBK), an ASCII table (ASC), and a very fast calendar (POP-CAL) that shows on screen any month between the years 1583 to 9999. Word processing users will find PARSE a fast way to count words, syllables and sentences, and check the fog index on their letters and prose. TIMEKEY will insert the current date and/or time in a document.

File and directory utilities include programs for comparing pairs of directories (DIRCOMP and SCANDIR), a way to increase the type-ahead buffer for a keyboard (VISITYPE), and two programs to create/use Lotus-style menus (MAKEBAR and SLASHBAR). A very useful pop-up utility is XDIR, which will let you see a listing of the current or any other directory while you are inside another program. REPEATS will let you find all files on a disk that have duplicates of themselves elsewhere on the disk. Run it, and you will be surprised at how your files have somehow multiplied.

Another utility is DISKPREP, which will make a floppy disk self-booting even if DOS' system files were omitted, and programs now occupy their space. Fifteen of the programs deal with extending the use of EGA screens, with 12-line, 35-, 43- and 50-line screens, substituting colors, and using various video pages and modes. Some of this is geared toward the more technical user. In the security area, FRETZE will suspend your current program, blank the screen, and disable Ctrl-Alt-Del, until the correct password or phrase is keyed in, thus protecting unsaved data in memory. Two applications, DRAW and PLAY, allow creating music and drawings without having to be in BASIC. Review prepared by Parker Monroe.

Disk 383. MindReader 2.0 (3/88), Intelligent Text Editor with Address Book/Calculator from Brown Bag Software. Shareware fee is \$49.95 + \$5.00 shipping and handling.

MindReader is an AI application designed for the professional or manager who needs to do word processing but isn't really into typing. It is a text editor with address book, glossary and calculator. The idea is to minimize the number of key strokes required to produce a document. The user can create letter/memo, formats and store frequently used text. The more the program is used, the more it is tailored to the user's needs.

This program is an intelligent word processor in that it anticipates what you may be typing and provides suggestions for a word after you type in one or more characters. It also has a quick method of making a word plural, or changing a word to the past tense. These functions and others that the program is capable of performing is done in an excellent manner.

Overall the program performs as advertised; however I found the sound effects to be somewhat distracting. Also, in a negative vein, I found that the continuously popping up of the suggested word list was slowing my entry speed down considerably. I was always reading the list to see if the word I was in the process of entering was included therein.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: IBM PC, XT or AT with at least 256K of main memory and DOS 2.0 or later. Can use floppy or hard disk. Works with Monochrome, RGB, CGA, EGA, or VGA adapters and displays. Also works with LCD and Plasma displays. Review prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 384. TheDraw 3.10 (9/88), ASCII Screen Generator and Animator by TheSoft Programming Services and Ian E. Davis. Shareware fee is \$15.

TheDraw is a powerful screen image generator/editor for color and monochrome video users. What does that mean? Literally, TheDraw makes designing and figuring out a video screen display child's play. This makes it possible to design a professional looking introductory screen for a program or for a bulletin board. The basic premise is this: be easy to use. The most novice computer

user can make an ANSI text file screen with TheDraw in only minutes. From that point on, you can explore and use more of the horsepower available in TheDraw.

The biggest problem facing most people is we really do not know what will look good until we see it. Manually editing a screen can literally take hours. With TheDraw, you can free form until you really know what is perfect. With the picture in mind, you can quickly develop whatever is necessary or instruct TheDraw to create a data file which can be used. Instead of hours, making a screen takes minutes.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: TheDraw requires an IBM PC/XT/AT or close compatible running MSDOS 2.0 or higher. In addition, a Color Graphics or Monochrome adapter plus monitor is needed to run properly. In a minimum configuration, 150k of free memory is required. The maximum memory usage is 330k of memory. Review prepared by Kenneth Loafman.

JULY 1989 DISKS.

Disk 385. Idea Tree 010102, 3/89 - Brainstorming thought processor Mountain House Publishing, RR1, Box 205-8, Waitsfield, VT 05673-5000 Shareware Registration Fee: \$29.95 plus \$3.00 Shipping and Handling.

This program allows you to enter ideas as individual entries called IDEAS and then go back and tie them together in a logical fashion. This is done in a TREE fashion. After the initial entries or overview is put together each step can be expanded upon and/or new points added. A note of 1200 characters can be tied to any IDEA. The program might be described as a vertical, tree oriented outliner with insert, delete, copy and move commands for IDEAS and their notes.

The program is somewhat complex and will take a while to be able to use it to its fullest potential. Overall it appears to work as advertised. The demos are very helpful to get started if you follow them faithfully. One demo also serves as a "help" file.

HARDWARE/SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS. IBM or IBM-compatible, 256K RAM, two disk drives. CGA or monochrome monitor. Epson or compatible dot matrix printer, IBM ProPrinter or compatible, or any printer with an IBM "all-print" font. If your printer is other than one of these, see II.2.3., Creating A Printer File. DOS 2.1 or higher. The review was prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 386. Maxi-Read Ver 3.0, 6/88 - English grammar/readability analyzer (C) Copyright 1984-1988 RWS & Associates 132 Alpine Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94117. SHAREWARE FEE: \$30.00 to \$45.00, depending on options.

This is a grammar analyzer program. It does the same thing as commercial programs such as Grammatik III or Rite-Write. The analysis of the document is presented in a charted form with grade level and Flesch Index. The results are also presented on a scale with the document's rating indicated. The visual impact of the results are, in my opinion, are somewhat easier to interpret than the commercial programs I have used. The program is advertised to use ASCII or Wordstar documents, however I did use it successfully with Microsoft WORD documents. There are directions in the manual about using other word processors and things to avoid.

DISADVANTAGES: Although you can get a list of sesquipedalian, (polysyllable words) and "word wasters," relating this information back to the original document can only be done in a rough manner. You will probably need to use the search function of your word processor to find and change them.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: IBM PC/XT/AT or compatible with 256K of memory running DOS 2.1+ with either a color or monochrome monitor and a printer, if printed results are desired. Color gives the best visual impact. The review prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 387. PCB CAD 1.0, 3/89, Printed Circuit Board AutoRouting Program by Randy Nevin, 1731 211th Place NE, Redmond, WA 98053.

This is a CAD program to assist in the layout (routing) of the circuit paths on a printed circuit board. This package consists of three primary programs, all written in C (as pointed out in the README file they are for Microsoft C - but they will compile under Turbo C and probably under DSMET C). The programs are an autorouter (pcbroute.c), a board viewer (pcbview.c), and a board printer (pcbprint.c). Included on this disk are the source files for all support files and routines required to perform a complete double sided PCB layout.

The routing program does the actual trace routing using as input a board definition file you create using a standard text editor. The output of the routing program is used by the viewing program to allow you to "pre-view" the printed circuit board prior to printing. The print program uses the router program output to produce a printed trace layout of each side of the board. If you don't like the way something works, the "C" source code is included for all of the programs in the set. This raises the possibility that the package may be of interest to more than just those who wish to design circuit boards, as the routing algorithm used is an efficient application of global optimizing and AI techniques.

This set of programs has been released to the public domain by the author and no "shareware" fees are required. The documentation is thin and a little bit disorganized, but everything you need is there. The source code appears to be fairly well documented also.

The program set is not for the faint of heart or weak of personal computer prowess as incorrect input can cause things to crash and burn to the point where toggling the mighty red switch is required. What do you expect for FREE? Anyway, you will have the source code, so fix it yourself.

Also actual use of the program set is not for the shallow of pocket either. Minimum requirements are an EGA adapter, a laser printer, and full 640k of system memory for best results. Mention is also made of large work files. I work with a "hot rod" AT clone so your actual times will vary based on your box's clock. And every good PC user knows someone who has a laser printer. This review prepared by Fred Williams.

Disk 388. QEdit 2.07A, 3/89, fast multi-file, ASCII text file editor.

This is a bug fix release of a straight forward, multi-file, ASCII text file editor. This review is being written using the editor. QEdit is a "shareware" product and thus must be registered for legal use. I liked the program well enough to send in \$39.00 (now \$44+1.50 S&H), and feel it was money well spent.

QEdit will run on the IBM PS/2, PC/AT, PC/XT, PC, PC/Jr, and on IBM compatible computers including the Compaq, NCR, Tandy, and WYSE PC's. MINIMUM requirements are:

- 128 KB of memory (although QEdit can utilize up to 640 KB if available).
- PC-DOS 2.0, MS-DOS 2.0, or greater, and 60 KB of disk space.
- One diskette drive and a monitor with 80-column display.

I like the simple straightforward operation, pull down menus, and simple multi-window implementation. I have not used the "macro" language feature to any great extent, but it appears to be quite powerful and broad in scope. There are some word processing like features, word-wrap, right margin control, autoindent, and etc., but QEdit is not a full featured word processor. The only real weakness as a word processor, is there is no spelling checker, a feature I dearly need.

QEdit is highly tailorable to suit the needs and whims of the individual user. Many functions and appearances along with the complete user interface may be directly manipulated using the configuration program supplied with QEdit. I think the QEdit user interface can even be reconfigured to work "just like Word Scar". This is the true test of any good text editor, it seems. Also

there is some level of "Brief" emulation available through reconfiguration.

For someone looking for a multi-window program source editor with some real strength, simple operation, and rich features, QEdit just may be the answer, if you can't afford Brief or just don't want to spend a lot of bucks. The review was prepared by Fred Williams.

Disk 389. WORDS*WORDS 1.1, 3/89, Challenging Word Game, by Walter Blanchard, Blanchard Software, P.O. Box 1650, Norristown, PA 19401. Shareware registration is \$15.

This program could be best described as a word guessing game with a twist. The game does not ask for a letter and then tell you where it is in the word. Instead, you guess the word and the program will tell you how many letters of the word in your guess. Then you guess the 5 letter words by deduction.

Call it a game, a puzzle, or an exercise in logical thinking, this program is fun and moderately challenging for someone who likes to play with words and letters or frustrating to those who are not. Start by choosing any 5 letter word, and the program tells you how many letters match its secret word. Continue making guesses, to eliminate some letters and confirm others. Altogether you get 18 tries to get the correct word before being declared the loser. Find the right word and you are treated to a quotation in which the word appears. Strategy and logic is a key in the game. The manual discusses some of these issues. Function keys are used to help you keep track of the letters you have tried. For those who want to develop logic and a better vocabulary, this game should be well worth it, but you may be a bit frustrated in the beginning. The review was prepared by Virginia Salter.

Disk 390. WYND SHELL 1.1, 1/89, Hard disk menu system and file utility, by Thomas J. Mosbo, WYNDWARE, 101 E. Milwaukee St., Suite 423, Janesville, WI 53545, (608)755-1628. Shareware registration fee is \$30.00.

WYND SHELL is a menu program for organizing your hard disk. It is used to create menu choices to run all the programs contained on your computer. It features a Master Menu that can support up to 14 Titles of Submenus, each with a maximum of 14 options. Each option calls a specific software application on your hard disk, according to how you choose to define your menus.

The first WYND SHELL Master Menu option refers to another program: WYND-DOS. This is a utility program allowing you to perform functions such as formatting disks, copying and deleting files, and creating subdirectories - all from menu driven options without having to type commands at a DOS prompt.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: WYND SHELL requires a computer with at least 320K memory, operating with PC or MS DOS 3.0 or greater. If you have a mouse connected, WYND SHELL will detect it, and a full mouse interface will be available to you. The review was prepared by K. B. Barton.

Disk 391. The Xanadu Utilities 2.0, 4/87, Directory, screen, cursor, file find utility, (c) Copyright 1987 by Tony Overfield and Robert Woeger. All rights reserved. Registration Fee is \$20.

The Xanadu Utilities package, Version 2.0, consists of programs that are designed to make using your PC easier and more enjoyable.

HDIR - HotDIR is probably the most popular utility in the set. It produces an in color, sorted directory listing to the screen, printer, or disk file. You may sort by name, extension, date, or size, and the display may be in a 1, 2, 4, or 6 column format. You should see HotDIR on a color monitor. You can even change the name to H.COM to call up your directories with less effort. Then try H /h to see sort options (HDIR /h in the distributed form). QUICKCRT - QUICKCRT.COM is a RAM Resident (small) program that speeds up by a factor of 3 or 4, many of your programs when they write to the screen. Try the QUICKCRT /T option before and after load-

ing QUICKCRT as described in the manual to see the effect on your computer.

These two programs are worth the shareware fee, alone, but the set also includes PCSTAT.COM, a neater "CHKDSK" like program, and SFIND.COM, which even finds files in "ARC"ed files. Also included is a program to return your cursor back to original if left incorrectly when exiting some programs. Be sure to use CURSORC for color monitors and CURSORM for mono monitors, else unpredictable results may occur. Otherwise, once you try these UTILITIES, you'll make them a part of your path and never be without them again. The review prepared by Stephen Lanier.

Disk 392. ZIPKEY 1.0e, 3/89, City & State Zip Code Database, Program date 3/30/89, Database date 9/18/88, Eric Isaacson Software, 416 East University Ave, Bloomington, IN 47401-4739, 812-339-1811.

Zip key generates city/state names from zipcodes or zipcodes from city and state. Share registration fee: \$30.00, (\$31.50 in Indiana). For special registration for networks, refer to the manual.

This program will generate the City and State abbreviation from a given zipcode, or conversely find the zipcode for a given City and State. Be aware that some cities especially larger ones will have more than one zipcode, which may cause a problem. This program is memory resident and is activated with a "hotkey" which is user definable. This allows you from within a text editor to call this program enter a zipcode and have the program enter the entire City, ST Zipcode into your text, I found this to work satisfactory using Microsoft Word versions 3 and 5. It is also handy for finding a zipcode for a city and from the ones that I tried it worked extremely well.

The database provided with the demo version is about 6 months old, however your registration fee will bring you the latest database and provide you with notification of new database availability. Right now the program only provides for the 5 digit zipcode.

HARDWARE/SOFTWARE requirements: IBM PC/XT/AT or clones, with 256k of memory. MS-DOS version 2.0 or above. The review was prepared by Roy Minut.

Disk 393AB. Family Edge B.03, 5/89, Professional genealogy software, Carl J. York, 150 East 30th St #2E, New York City, NY 10016. Shareware fee is \$10.

The Family Edge is a storage and retrieval system to keep track of your genealogical data. This version is quite different from previous versions. However, all of the features of the previous versions are still there. This version has improved search, browse, and list options, new control features (such as dates, generations, and access), and new function key commands.

Version B.03 is designed to be used on a double floppy drive PC and work with an unlimited number of family files, each file with a maximum 500 person database. For users of previous versions, you need to run the Convert feature of the EDGEUTIL utility program. The commercial version, Family Edge 1.06, is designed to run on a hard disk or two 720K floppy drives. Version 1.06 will handle an unlimited number of family files, each file with a maximum size of 65,000 persons, and can merge multiple Shareware database files into one very large pool of information. The commercial version is sold by direct mail for \$99.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS -- Requires a minimum hardware configuration of an IBM-PC/XT/AT or compatible with 256K RAM, two floppy drives, and DOS 2.0 through 3.3. It has not been thoroughly tested using DOS 4.0. At least 32 files must be opened through the FILES=32 statement in the CONFIG.SYS file. The review was prepared by Mark Gruner.



Computer Council of Dallas
1950 Stemmons Freeway, Box 277, Dallas, TX 75207

Number 0 - August 1989. By: The Journal group.

ACCESS GRANTED!

This is prelude to a series of columns dealing mostly with the Computer Council of Dallas. It is written by folks in the CCD— specifically, the "Journal" wing of the CCD Publicity committee.

Our intention is to provide your group's newsletter with a monthly article. We've asked all the groups with newsletters to participate. We have several good reasons for making a monthly column contribution.

We have a need for communication within the CCD membership (that's you). Our aim is to get help from you that will improve Council operation.

Second, there seems to be enough interest to support a regular column on the Council and all the groups involved. We've begun to discover that our community of users is really interested in the CCD, from its past to its future plans. You want to hear why we do things certain ways, to know how it all works. This column will give you a chance to see. It should supplement any reporting you get from your regular council representatives.

The third reason is that we can clear up some misconceptions newcomers may have about the CCD, its relation to the groups, Infomart etc. While we're at it, our articles can tackle generally user-group related subjects.

Four, we think we can add in something Council affiliation has always promised: better inter-group communications. All of us meet in the same place on the same day. We want to promote a sense of unity of purpose among all users.

So now you know: we have high goals, and this column should help us to achieve them. Before the CCD can grow further, more people will be directly involved and aware of its activities.

The column is called "Access:" because you'll get to hear what the CCD truly is all about. If you want to know more about our projects, we invite you to ask us. We're happy to share information (that's our job). We want you to share in this communication resource.

So that's what this column is doing— we're making you a part of the inner process we've begun. "Access:" will explore and explain the who, what, and why Behind the CCD and its community of users.

Any feedback, comments or suggestions should be forwarded to:

CCD Publicity
1950 Stemmons Freeway, Box 277
Dallas TX 75207.

(c)1989 CCD Publicity Committee

Call for New Software.

We still need user group members to donate the software to be offered to the group by the Disk-of-the-Month. If you have just downloaded the latest version of your favorite program or utility, why not copy it onto a disk. Then put a label with the program name, version, date, and brief description (30-40 letters), plus your name and evening phone number at the bottom. Bring it to the DOM table and leave it for me. If the software is your own product, please include a documentation file on the disk. If your documentation file is longer than say, fifty lines, please provide an introductory file of approximately fifty-sixty lines that summarizes the program and tells the user how to get started using your product, i.e., how to print out the documentation

To encourage submission of software, the DOM committee will provide the person submitting software that is distributed with a token good for one free DOM disk, any disk in our library, and a WORN disk to replace the one used to submit your software. A WORN disk, in case you have forgotten, is Write Once, Read Never. They are created by our zealous efforts not to run out of the disks we prepare for our group members. If you have had your contributions used to distribute DOM disks lately, please see me for your token, WORN disk, and my personal thanks.

Call for Reviewers.

The disk submitted to the DOM committee do not get distributed to the user group until a second member selects that disk for review. The reviewer's responsibility is pretty clear. Use the software, to make sure it works, in the version on the disk. Here are the guidelines for reviewers, which have been recently updated:

=====

North Texas PC User's Group Disk-of-the-Month
 _____ EVALUATION COPY _____

Please USE the programs on this disk. Then write an introductory README file in 50 lines or less that lists (in ASCII-no JUSTIFY):

- (1) program title, version, date, and author, and a description--up to 34 characters,
- (2) the registration fee amount (if shareware)
- (3) what the programs do (and how well/poorly),
- (4) known hardware and software requirements, e.g., CGA/EGA, min memory, 1-2-3, etc.
- (5) how to install/get started using the program or what files provide that information,
- (6) an (annotated) directory of the files, and
- (7) the source of the disk (if known). Please put YOUR NAME and PHONE NUMBER at the end, so the area editor can contact you, if needed.

(please provide a meaningful name (not README))

Please keep the disk, but bring your readme file to the next NTPCUG meeting, or submit it to my NTPCUG bulletin board mailbox:

Select (S)end message, then (S)end file; you will be prompted for a Subject; send the file; then enter my name, Howard Hamilton.

_____ or mail it to me _____

Howard Hamilton, 1410 Forsythe Drive, Richardson, TX 75081 644-5721 (6:30-10:30) or 996-7139 (office)

=====

D-O-M Information on the Bulletin Board.

In the DOM conference on the bulletin board, I maintain several messages with "current" Disk of the Month information.

For potential reviewers, there is a list of software to be reviewed. I hope that reviewers will select the software that they want to review and send me a message on the BBS. It makes for a much more orderly distribution of the disks for review at the meeting when I have those disks already marked with the reviewers name. If you wait to pick a disk to review at the meeting, you only get the leftovers. I usually update this list within a few days after each monthly meeting, adding the new software contributed at the meeting and deleting the software distributed to new reviewers.

A few days before each meeting, I provide a message listing of the new disks to be published at the next meeting. This listing provides the information that we put on the disk labels: Program name, version, date, and a 34 character or less description of the program. I also provide the name of a file, in the user download area, that contains the README files for these new disks.

I also will maintain a current list of disks available at reduced prices, such as the "fire sale" and the "inventory reduction sale."

SHAREWARE

The disks that the D-O-M sells contains very little free software. Except for the DEMO disks, at least 95% of the disks that we sell contain software that is Shareware. If you try the software and want to continue using it, you are expected to register by sending the requested amount to the author or distributor of the software listed in the documentation on the disk that you have purchased.

Most authors of Shareware do not cripple their software or use programmatic means to prevent us from using their software beyond an evaluation period. Not many products allow you to try the actual product before you buy. Most Shareware is fully functional. If you do continue using Shareware, please register it with the author or publisher.

See you at the D-O-M tables.

....Howard

Editor Sez

by Jim Green

Thought you had heard the last of me, didn't you? No such Luck. As this newsletter is being put together about July 10, I will be here for several more weeks, so I thought another "last" column would be in order.

New Editor

We have a new sucker, Oops, I mean volunteer, to take over as editor of this publication. Doug McQuaid, who has been a hard-working assistant editor, has agreed to take over the job. Doug will be in school until next May and thus will have the time to devote to the job that I haven't. When school is over next summer he may need to step down, but we will cross that bridge when we come to it. Welcome Doug, and thanks for volunteering.

New Unix-Persons

As you know, the newsletter staff uses a HP Unix system for submitting and passing files around to the various assistant editors. The system has been very satisfactory except that occasionally someone will do something that doesn't change a file ownership properly, and then the new "owner" can't rename or delete the file. A Unix literate person is needed at this point to go in and set things right. I have been performing this function, but our new editor is not Unix literate, so we are putting together a group of Unix-persons who the staff can call for help. So far, Ken Loafman and J. R. Stallworth have volunteered to be Unix-helpers. I would like to find two or three more Unix-literate people for this group so that it will be likely that at least one will be available at most times. If you are Unix-literate at the shell level and would be willing to help fix a file permission occasionally, please call me, Doug McQuaid, or John Pribyl. Thanks.

Sane?

My comments on our use of a Unix system last month prompted several questions from members. Basically, why would any sane person (this assumes that I'm sane, of course) use Unix when DOS with its zillion user friendly applications is available? The answer is three-fold.

I develop image processing applications for a living. Twenty years ago a 128 x 128 pixel image was a BIG image. That is 16K pixels. Nowadays, with flat-bed document scanners, an image may be 5,000 x 8,000 pixels. That is 40M pixels. This dramatic increase in image size has two consequences. First, when experimenting with algorithms to massage this large image, execution times can be quite long. Its handy to be able to switch to

another window or virtual console and be editing, compiling, or setting up another run while the first simulation is running. You can't do this with DOS. Its built into Unix. On my 386 AT clone, Unix has four virtual console screens, so without putting anything into background execution, four jobs can be running. In practice, I seldom use more than two or three.

The second consequence is that our 40M pixel image, even if its packed eight pixels per byte, still occupies 5 MBytes. Data crunching programs tend to run MUCH faster if the data resides in RAM rather than in a file on the disk. Try fitting this 5 MByte image into DOS's 640K. (On this subject, also see Jim H's Complexity article this month; apparently I'm not the only one running out of address space.) With Unix if you want a 5 MByte image buffer, you just define it and Unix allocates it. No problem. No sweat with segment registers, 64K segment boundaries, etc. I have 8 MBytes RAM on my 386 AT. That will hold most jobs. Even if all your jobs exceed available physical RAM, Unix goes into virtual memory mode, swaps out unused blocks onto a special area on the disk call swap space, and continues. A few months ago I had a 12 MByte executable image running. Because Unix has an intelligent read/write cache built in, this program ran with only an occasional disk access and no noticeable decrease in execution speed. See why I like Unix?

However, there is one final and overwhelming reason I am migrating to Unix: it is becoming the OS standard for more-than-trivial applications. The federal government specifies Unix for all new systems (actually POSIX, a vendor non-specific Unix interface standard), as does the DOD and many large companies. Unix now owns the technical workstation market (the type of work I do), and is starting to penetrate the business community. System V Release 4 (nee Sun-OS), due from AT&T this fall, contains X-windows 11.3, the Open Look GUI, TCP/IP-NFS networking, DOS emulation, etc, etc, making Unix secure and "user friendly". Finally, non-Intel RISC chip Unix boxes with 12-20 MIPS are approaching the price of fully configured 3-5 MIPS 386 boxes, and the top DOS application vendors (Dbase, Wordperfect, Lotus 123, Autocad, etc) have announced native Unix versions for Release 4. A few years down the road you may still be using DOS on your PC for typing a memo or editing a small spreadsheet (again, see Jim H's Complexity article), but more than likely your company's main computer (network file server) will run Unix (probably on a SPARC or Motorola 88000 RISC chip), and the technical people and managers will all have networked Unix workstations. Go with the flow. Adios.

Jim

■



Inside the North Texas PC Users Group Community

Connie Andrews, Volunteer Coordinator
Andy Oliver, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator

Every month we eagerly await the arrival of our newsletter. It's a very visible lifeline to our user group - how we keep current on our activities through the Prez Sez column, learn about coming presentations at our meetings, enjoy articles written by our members, keep up with what the SIG's are doing, who's advertising the best thing in town, etc.

And every month since North Texas PC NEWS was born in the early 1980's, it has been "put to bed" by our Publisher, John Pribyl. It has grown with the group - from a small newsletter to a larger, bound publication. John is a dedicated professional and it shows in the quality of our newsletter every month.

Until last fall John did all the work himself. Since then, a staff of volunteers formed under new Editor Jim Green, have helped to ease the load. A special thank you, John Pribyl, for an excellent newsletter and for your many years of volunteering. And thank

you, Jim Green, and all the other newsletter volunteers listed on the masthead. Well done!

(Note: Jim Green will be leaving Dallas in early August. His replacement is Doug McQuaid.)

One of the benefits of NTPCUG membership is the drawings for members only at the monthly presentations in the auditorium. Club policy is that volunteers scheduled and on duty at the time of a drawing on meeting day are eligible to win even though not in the Auditorium.

In this issue we are acknowledging volunteers who served for the month of June. Our officers, directors, SIG coordinators and leaders, newsletter publisher, editor, staff and writers, and BBS staff are all volunteers; their names are listed in other sections of this newsletter.

INFOMART Liaison

Stuart Yarus
Robert Hilliard
Bob Russell
Archle Pinkney

Clinton Trammell

Anne Trickett
Larry Tucker (Anchor)
Ivy Urquhart
Jose Valenciano
Paul Williams (Anchor)

Howard Hamilton

Kenneth Loafman
Pete Testa, BBS Liaison
Ben Weatherall

BBS Steering Committee

Andrew Chalk
Kent Cobb
David McGehee
Pete Testa
Fred Williams

Presentation/Equipment Setup and Breakdown

Timothy Carmichael
Charles Kroboth
Tom Fowlston

Disk of the Month (DOM):

DOM Table

Joe Allen
Roy Bales
Stan Berlin
Gene Carlton
Timothy Carmichael*
Jay Chambliss
Pat Henley
Jo Johnston
Bob Karlback
Duane Martin
Bob Post
Bob Reynolds
Virginia Salter
Tom Scurlock
Jerry Stone
Claude Walston

DOM Review/Presentation

Mike Ashley
Mark Gruner
Steve Lanier
Ken Loafman (2)
Roy Minut (2)
Parker Monroe

Newsletter Exchange

Pehl Lee

Information/Registration Booth

Conley Andrews
Connie Andrews (Anchor)
Mike Ashley
K. B. Barton
Stan Berlin
Jim Caraway
Lonnie Cordell
Joe Daviner (Anchor)
Martha Eickman
John Ferguson (Anchor)
Frank Grant
Rick Griffith (Anchor)
Chris Guillon
Allan Harbaugh (Anchor)
Hank Holt
Pehl Lee
Andy Oliver (Anchor)
Raymond Reyes (Anchor)
Elaine Stephens
Connie Testa (Statistician)

DOM Central Committee

Preston Brashear
Charles Carter
Kathryn Loafman (nee Crawford)
Mark Gruner

Bulletin Board System (BBS):

BBS Sysops
Tom Prickett
Maggie Mooney

Public Relations Committee

Francis Bright
Annette Hyde
Pehl Lee
Elwood Lindell
Charles Lucas
Tony Noguera
Reagan Andrews

*Special thanks to Timothy Carmichael, Presentation Chairman, who happened to be in the right/wrong place to be kidnapped by DOM for inventory.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

- Via BBS:** (817) 461-0425 (metro) or (817) 461-0506 (metro). Look for details on the Volunteer Conference and reply to names listed. This is a fast and easy way for our volunteers to get your name and respond.
- Meeting day:** Sign up at the Information Booth or DOM Booth to work those areas in a coming month.
- By phone:**

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael 331-6303 (h)
661-4626 (w)

DOM Booth Activities

Bill Drissell 264-9680 (h)

DOM Software Review

Howard Hamilton 644-5721 (h)

General Information

Connie Andrews 828-0699 (h)

Information Booth

Andy Oliver 223-4044 (h)

ON COMPLEXITY

No. 30 in a Series

by Jim Hoisington

The 640K memory barrier has gotten to be a real problem lately. Everybody is trying to get around it. What we need is a DOS operating system that breaks the barrier and gives us access to more memory.

If you have an 8088 or 8086 based machine, your only hope lies in paged memory, called expanded memory in the PC community, and the existing DOS. There can be no hope that a new operating system will solve your problems.

But, if you have computer with an 80286 or 80386, you have the capability to run you microprocessor in "protected mode" which lets you address the memory above 640K called extended memory. What you need is an operating system that takes advantage of the technology that you have already paid for.

Lotus was brave enough to admit defeat and go to what is called a "DOS extender" to gain access to extra memory for release 3.0 of Lotus 1-2-3. These extender programs drop the computer temporarily into "protected mode" which allows the computer to address memory above the 640K boundary. Then, when the program has it's data, the extender switches the computer back to "real" mode, and the 640K boundary reappears. ("Real mode" is a really bad choice of words. A better name for it would be 8088 emulation mode. And, "protected mode" should be called "native mode.")

But the extenders are only a temporary solution. What is really needed is a replacement for DOS that keeps the DOS environment but runs the 80286 or 80386 in protected or native mode and doesn't require a graphics card.

It turns out that writing such an operating system is not very hard to do. If the operating system doesn't try to run more than one program at a time, then the problems of which program has control of the keyboard and which program has control of the screen go away. But, it leaves one big problem for the people who write the programs to run in protected mode. That problem is called segment arithmetic.

Segment arithmetic is a fancy way of saying the programmer has changed the values in the segment registers. In protected mode, this is a no-no. The

80286 chip retains the fixed 64K segment size from the 8088 processor, so a program that uses more than 64K would have to have all the code removed that changes the values in segment registers.

You might wonder why programmers want to change the segment registers in the first place. The reason becomes apparent when you try to write a program that is greater than 64K on an 8088 or 80286 based machine. Every so often, the program encounters a 64K boundary and it has to be careful not to run into it much the same way you want to avoid running into the wall of a dark room.

What most programmers discovered, was that if they got half way across the 64K room, they could add a value to the segment register and the wall would move farther away. By always keeping the wall at a distance, the program would never run into it.

This works fine on an 8088 and on an 80286 chip in "real" mode, but it is unacceptable on an 80286 machine when it is running in protected mode. The machine gives the program a table of segment register values which gives the program access to 64K segments of memory. Since the microprocessor also uses the segment register settings to calculate the actual location in memory of the 64K segment, if the programmer changes the value, the machine will not find the segment or worse yet, it will find the wrong segment. So, on a 80286 based computer, the code that changes the segment values has to be removed and other code has to be created that keeps the program from running into the 64K wall.

On a 80386 based system, the segment sizes are not fixed at 64K. The programmer can ask to have the program loaded into one big segment so there would be no walls to avoid. The code that changed the segment register values would still have to be eliminated but then the problem would be solved.

Microsoft has announced that the next release of Windows will be a protected mode operating system that helps us break the 640K barrier. But Windows has a graphics interface and it will load more than one program at a time. This means that it will take a lot of work to get existing programs up and running under Windows 3.0

DESQview from Quarterdeck Office Systems is also headed in that direction. Digital Research has Concurrent DOS which is close to what is needed. There are several other operating systems that run the 80386 chip in protected mode but they are much less DOS compatible.

The ideal operating system would only force applications developers to solve the segment arithmetic problem. It should however, provide screen and key-



board input / output routines which will allow application developers to begin to back off from direct control of the video display and the keyboard. A future release of the operating system could then use these routines to implement a multi-programming.

Microsoft is committed to the graphical, windowed interface. I don't think they will try to fill this need. However, I learned a long time ago that evolution, not revolution works best with software. The demand for a DOS compatible, protected mode operating system is there and growing. Given the right operating system, I think a lot of application developers would make the transition to a protected mode DOS. Time will tell.

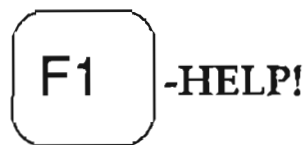
Jim a

**North Texas PC Users Group
Personal Users (Beginners) Special Interest Group**

"Fundamentals of Personal Computers"
16-Class Revolving Schedule

| InfoMart Saturday | class Number | Class Title/ Description |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| 8 Apr 89 & 12 Aug 89 Classes 1 thru 4 | 1.2 2.2 3.2 4.1 | Start Up Diskette Sizes & Formatting Each Copying & Backing up Files Personal Computer Hardware |
| 20 May 89 & 23 Sep 89 Classes 5 thru 8 | 5.1 6.0 7.1 8.2 | Fixed Disk Directories, Batches, & Paths DOS Menu Systems on Fixed Disks Fundamentals of Lotus 123 Fundamentals of "BASIC" Language |
| 10 Jun 89 & 14 Oct 89 Classes 9 thru 12 | 9.1 10.4 11.1 12.1 | Genesis & Overview of Computer Languages NTPCUG Disk of the Month Library PC Graphics Modes Bulletin Boards & Archive Programs |
| 8 Jul 89 & 11 Nov 89 Classes 13 thru 16 | 13.0 14.0 15.0 16.0 | Printer Setup Writing Lotus MACROS Major Categories of Software Available Today PCs to the End of the 20th & Into the 21st Century |

Classes are free and open to all beginners, novices, new PC owners, soon-to-be PC owners, and personal (vs. professional) users. COME JOIN US AS WE COVER THE FUNDAMENTALS!



Are you interested in learning more about different computer hardware and software? Do you know a lot about a particular software package? Are you willing to help people who desperately need your assistance learn more about computers they may already have but not know how to use? If so, you might want to check out the Volunteer SIG.

Many of the non-profit and charitable organizations in the North Texas area are learning that computers can greatly increase their productivity. A great many of these groups have already acquired computers, but they don't know how to use them. For example, the Volunteer Center of Dallas was sending out brochures and newsletters for typesetting - despite the fact that they already had in house Word Perfect 5.0, Bitstream soft fonts and a laser printer. I am in the process of setting up a system for them to create their own newsletters in house and training their staff on how to do it. I also set up a "batch file menu system" so their less experienced people don't have to worry about subdirectories and drives. My time investment has been about 2 hours a week at night in their office.

The Volunteer Center uses Word Perfect, dBase, Revelation and Lotus 1-2-3. Other groups would be happy to have someone come in and install public domain or shareware word processor, database or spreadsheet systems. Even just explaining what a subdirectory is could help out a lot of people. Best of all, you can spend time with different organizations, meet new people, find new challenges and help out those in need.

If you are interested in starting up a Volunteer SIG, meet Jay Shilstone at the bottom of the first floor escalators at the back of the InfoMart, August 12, 1989 at the next Super Saturday Computer Council meeting at 12:00. Let's see if we can get something going to help the community and ourselves.

Jay Shilstone
(H) (214) 827-5751 a

North Texas PC NEWS is sent... W H E R E ?

| | | | | | |
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| Menlo Park | CA | New Braunfels | TX | Quinlan | TX |
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| N. Amherst | MA | Portland | OR | | |
| Nacogdoches | TX | Princeton | TX | | |

Continued elsewhere...

Selected SIG Happenings

News and Meeting Notes on Special Interest Groups

(Material for this column should be sent to Zack Porterfield, SIG Coordination, before the 10th of each month.)

Cryptanalysis SIG

Our June meeting was sparsely attended because of the difficulty of getting word out on the meeting. To provide a break, there was a demonstration of my CRYPT program available from the DOM. Many thanks to Kent Cobb who lent his Corona luggage. It was touch and go getting the setup done on time before the meeting, but with Kent's help we made it. And many thanks to the NTPCUG for the loan of the PC Viewer.

I think the demo was a success. CRYPT is powerful enough to solve almost any simple substitution cipher in English with proper word divisions. The viewer was handy for the demo, since the screen is projected like a transparency. However, the PC Viewer does not show highlighting, so important CRYPT visual effects could not be seen.

I don't know about other SIG leaders but I'm finding it hard to get my SIG happenings out in time to do members much good. The lead time is so great that I'm either writing ancient history or science fiction. This happening is supposed to tell you what's up in August, and I'm still back in June!

July, we begin classroom analysis of the playfair cipher. We were supposed to begin in June, but the demo took the entire hour. We will continue classroom analysis of the Playfair in August.

The Playfair cipher was named after Baron Playfair but was invented by Playfair's close friend,

the Victorian scientist Charles Wheatstone. It was not a case of a stolen invention. Wheatstone had shown his invention, which he called a "rectangular" cipher, to Playfair, who immediately recognized its virtues. Playfair championed the cipher, and lobbied the British Government to adopt it. If you have ever tried to get a government to do something, you will appreciate Playfair's problems. The British Foreign Office was convinced that it had no need for it, and that the cipher was too difficult for the use of its officers. At one conference Playfair arranged, Wheatstone exploded that he could teach fourth graders how to use it in fifteen minutes. The Foreign Office undersecretary was not impressed. "That may be" he allowed, "But you will never be able to teach it to our attaches." Playfair became somewhat of a pest, and Government officials groaned "Oh no! Here comes Playfair and his damned cipher again!" It eventually became known entirely by accident as the Playfair cipher because of Playfair's unselfish promotion of it on his friend's behalf. It was eventually adopted by the British as a field cipher. According to Kahn, it first saw service in the Boer War, in which Churchill fought. It became THE British field cipher of World War I. It was in use even as late as World War II. Today of course its only use is in puzzle ciphers.

John K. Taber

Lotus SIG

The subject for the July meeting was getting Lotus 1-2-3 data into graphics packages. There were two graphics packages presented - Harvard Graphics and Graphwriter II. Vincent Gaines gave the presentation on Harvard Graphics and demonstrated the

ease of getting spreadsheet data into Harvard Graphics. He also demonstrated some of the special capabilities of Harvard Graphics. Mark gave the presentation on Graphwriter II which is from Lotus. Graphwriter II can bring in a named 1-2-3 graph or use named ranges to bring in data values. Further, Graphwriter II graphs can be set up to always bring in the most recent values from the spreadsheet. If the graphs in 1-2-3 are not quite what you are looking for, Graphwriter II and Harvard Graphics would be good choices.

Everybody should come by and see us in August because Roberta Robinson of Lotus Development will give a brief presentation on Magellan which is a hard disk manager and spend the remaining time on Lotus 1-2-3 Release 3.0 which recently shipped. Roberta works in the Las Colinas offices of Lotus Development and always gives excellent presentations. 1-2-3 Release 3.0 had been delayed twice before but shipped in June, 1989.

If you are interested in either Magellan or Release 3.0, the Lotus SIG in August is the place to be. Come on by and see Roberta Robinson present the two products.

The Lotus SIG always takes time to answer questions to that users have with Lotus products. If you have a question, come on by in August.

Mark Gruner
and Pat Henley

DOS SIG

August will return to the basics - configuring the PC via the AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files, with emphasis on eliminating hardware and software conflicts in operation of

the PC. Again, Jim Hoisington, NTPCUG President, will expand on the miracle of DOS 4.0x and its "undocumented features" for the unwary.

Consensus remains solidly in favor of DOS 3.2 or 3.3 in terms of general use, but Jim does like the SHELL found in 4.0x, and will share some of the rumors concerning potential marriage of DOS 4.xx and WINDOWS/3.0 to accommodate large applications.

Reagan


WORD SIG

Lessons Learned – July WORD SIG

- (1.) Never, never demonstrate software on a "strange" PC.
- (2.) Never, never demonstrate large-scale software on a floppy-based PC if you don't remember how to handle floppy-based operation.
- (3.) Repeat #1 and #2, and don't do either in a darkened room.

In spite of the above, August WORD SIG will continue its focus on WORD Style Sheets and MACROs – equipment permitting – and if a mask to hide the identity of the PC operator is available. Emphasis will be on creation and implementation of a "family" of Style Sheets to facilitate day-to-day operations as well as use of .GLY and .MAC to complement WORD Style Sheets.

Reagan



Ziff-Davis Publishing Company One Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016 (212) 503-3300

May 25, 1989

Editor Address
Ziff-Davis Publishing Company

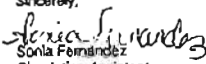
Dear User Group:

Ziff-Davis has always realized the importance of the user group, and for some time we have been offering members special discount subscriptions to our publications. Due to the overwhelming response, Ziff-Davis is happy to announce that they have established a new Toll-Free number for the sole use of user group members. This number will allow user group members to call in for their discount subscriptions and renewals, thus reducing the time it takes to process your subscriptions.

The following outlines how this number will function:

1. The number to call is 800-777-2547. (This number is only for subscription orders. Our customer service number is (303) 447-9330.)
2. Please have your user group membership number available for the operator. (NOTE: This is not a number assigned by Ziff-Davis. If your user group does not utilize membership numbers, please notify the operator.)
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This offer can be duplicated onto your user group's weekly/monthly newsletters, in order to ensure that all members are able to take advantage of the discount. Attached please find a description of the discounted publications and their premiums. If you have any questions regarding this offer, please call me at (212) 503-5372.

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| PC Computing | \$14.97 | DirRectory Magic ** |
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* Utility Disk V. 1&2: A collection of 78 powerful utilities from the editors of PC Magazine.

** DirRectory Magic: Program that will organize your hard disk and facilitate accessing and viewing files.

*** Hyperdisk: A collection of utilities that help with Hypercard scripting.

... and here too!

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A quick guide into QUICKC

by John Keohane

I think "C" is a great language, and having programmed in both Lattice C and Power C, decided to explore Microsoft, purchasing both the optimizing compiler and QuickC.

This author does not mean to especially recommend the Microsoft route. At a "C" group meeting of the NTPCUG at InfoMart, Borland's Turbo C seemed most highly recommended, but I was intent on Microsoft, so I was off to SoftWarehouse for Microsoft C.

In struggles with QuickC since then, I've sometimes recalled words of a U. S. Army marching song: "I don't know what I've been told. This old stuff gets mighty old. Am I right or wrong? You're right! Am I right or wrong? You're right!" I wondered if I'd been wrong in choosing Microsoft, and if I had not heard what I'd been told at that "C" SIG meeting.

Anyway, for better or for worse, here are some things you should know if QuickC is gathering dust on your shelf, for the Microsoft documentation makes other computer documentation seem as clear as the beginning readers we had in the first grade.

In installing, you best ask for medium sized COMBINED libraries. QuickC wants them.

After installing, and before using QuickC, you will probably want to execute the NEW-VARS.bat, if you haven't chosen to put this into another bat such as the autoexec.bat file which you would execute anyway. For one thing, executing the NEW-VARS.bat will set the defaults for the compiler to find your include files.

In using QuickC, you'll get a menu with FILE RUN etc. as the top words. USE alt+F to get into the FILE submenu, alt+R to get into the RUN submenu etc. Getting into QuickC you can say:

```
qc filename (or) qc
```

If you've taken the second approach, you'll need the alt+F to use the file sub-menu and open the file you need. Otherwise you can directly use the alt+R to get into the run sub-menu. A "C" (for compile) will show you a screen for compiling.

Now it's time for the most important stuff for which your QuickC book will miss the detail. It's time to make choices and select options.

Making choices is fairly easy. You'll make choices on two things. These are exclusive options on (a) level of errors, and (b) choice of compile output. By exclusive options, I mean you choose one and only one of many, four in each case.

The compile screen will show a choice. To change that choice get to the original choice, use up and down arrows to move to new selection, then hit tab to continue to next group of choices or on to options.

The how of selecting options was really a problem for me. The problem was not in choosing, but in the how of exercising that choice. I knew I wanted "Debug", but how to get it? Hitting return did no good, typing an "X" did no good, various potential toggle or assist switches (such as the alt key) were worthless. I could take an option off by hitting the space bar and then return, but what of putting one on? Especially what of putting one on when one wanted debug? Well, it turns out that to get debug on, one first gets the cursor to the box beside debug, then hits a "D". To put Pointer Check on, put pointer in the selection box and type "P", for Stack check, put pointer in selection box and type "S", etc.

Once I compiled with debug, debugging itself was pretty helpful and straight forward. Let's hope that those who read this article will not have so SLOW a start as I, into QuickC.

John n

SWAP  SHOP

Four lines free each month to members; 5th through 10th lines at 30 cents per word. Larger ads at commercial space rates. Send check to the Editor for words exceeding the four-line limit. Free ads are on a space-available basis.

FOR SALE - Paradox 3.0 Database Software. Brand new.
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

North Texas PC Users Group

The NTPCUG is a non-profit, independent organization of individuals learning to apply personal computers to practical problems. For additional information, call (214) 746-4699.

Member # _____ Circle one:
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Do you want access to the NTPCUG Electronic Bulletin Board? Y _____ N _____ Already Have _____
 Please initial here _____ if you do not wish to have your address included on member lists sold for the NTPCUG's benefit to advertisers of IBM compatible products.

The NTPCUG expects and encourages volunteer participation by members in assisting with monthly meetings at INFOMART and other activities during the month. This usually consists of a few hours of your time each year. If asked, would you consider working with one or more of the following activities:

- Working with NTPCUG Volunteer Committees? (Please check all that apply.)

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulletin Board (BBS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Information/Registration/Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disk of the Month (DOM) | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Setup/Breakdown | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations/Advertising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial/Bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Interest Group Coordination |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Microsoft WORD | | | |
- Being a volunteer, informal "consultant" in your area of expertise for NTPCUG members?
 If so, list area(s): _____

Detach below for receipt.

Applications should be mailed to: North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.
 P.O. Box 780066
 Dallas, TX 75378-0066

Received: \$ _____ Check No. _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____ By _____

Meetings & Times

Time: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Headland Technology Inc.
(Video-Seven Inc. + G-2 Inc.)
PC Graphics Standards: VGA and Beyond

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Word Perfect Corp.
WordPerfect Office and PlanPerfect V5.0



Special Interest Group Meetings

For possible time changes, check the Bulletin Board just before the meeting and the overhead display in the lobby at INFOMART.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>9:00 - 9:55</p> <p>Assembler DOS Hardware Solutions Personal Users</p> <p>10:00 - 10:55</p> <p>Astrometry Graphics Local Area Networks Personal Users</p> | <p>11:30 - 11:55</p> <p>Orientation</p> <p>12:00 - 12:55</p> <p>C Language Communications Personal Users RBase Stock Mkt Investing</p> | <p>1:00 - 1:55</p> <p>Business Applications LOTUS Personal Users Turbo Pascal WORD</p> <p>2:00 - 2:55</p> <p>Advanced Programmers Cryptanalysis DAC Easy Accounting Databases</p> |
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North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

P.O. Box 780066, Dallas, TX 75378-0066

Phone (214)746-4699 for recorded information about the User Group and meeting dates.

The North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., is a non-profit, independent group, not associated with IBM or any other Corporation. Membership is open to owners and others interested in exchanging ideas, information, hardware, predictions, and other items related to IBM Personal and compatible computers. To join the Group, complete the application blank printed elsewhere in this newsletter, and send it with \$24 membership dues to the Membership Director whose address is shown below. A subscription to the newsletter is included with each membership. The Group meets once each month, usually on the second Saturday. See cover for date, time and place of the next User Group meeting.

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Special Interest Groups

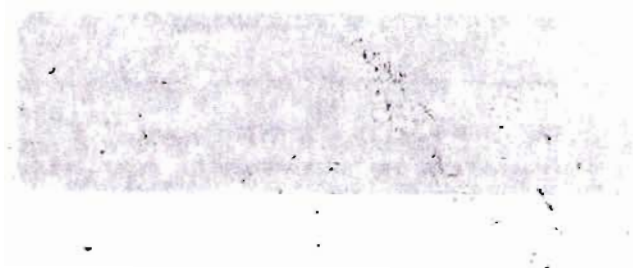
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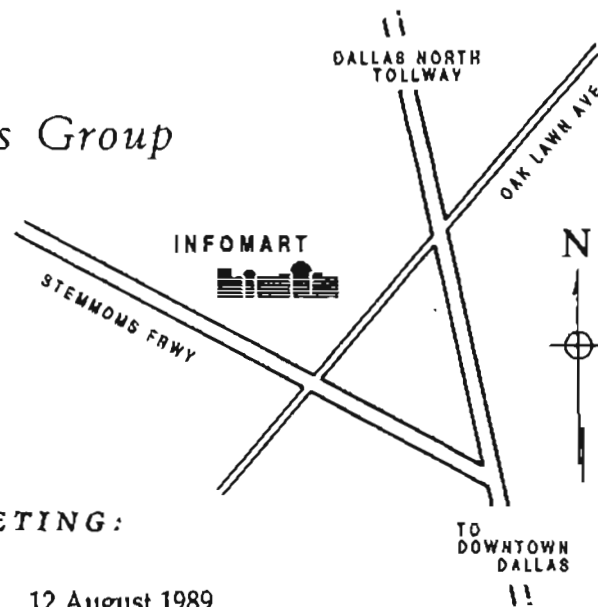
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NEXT MEETING:

12 August 1989