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U I'D LIKE TO **TEACH MY MAC TO** SING ... **By Dennis Brothers** ... in perfect harmony

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EDITORIAL A MESSAGE FROM MAGGIE



Are you a new Macintosh owner and worried about the lack of software and hardware peripherals? If so, put your fears to rest. New and innovative products are now available, and more are in the making.

Getting working products for the Mac out the door has been much more difficult than third-party vendors anticipated. To prepare the product chart that ran in our June issue, we asked third-party developers when their products would be available. Unfortunately, very few met their own projected release dates, and we received several letters from readers asking us how we had arrived at the dates we printed. I can now tell you with pleasure, that through perseverence-and with help from Apple-software and hardware vendors are shipping all sorts of interesting products. I saw some of these products in July at the National Computer Conference in Las Vegas, where Apple featured a virtual parade of new products each day in its booth.

One of the most impressive offerings, a filing system called Filevision, is from a company called Telos, in Santa Monica, California. Using Filevision with the Macintosh's tremendous graphics and object-oriented drawing abilities, you can make visual representations of your data. Since not many of us are artists, Filevision provides several templates (a map of the U.S., for example), and more are in development. According to Telos, Filevision will be available by the time you read this.

In addition, an array of familiar hits has made the transition to the Macintosh screen. These include Microsoft BASIC and Multiplan, Stoneware's DB Master, MegaFiler from Megahaus, Tax Planner from Aardvark/ McGraw-Hill, Software Publishing's popular PFS:File and PFS:Report, Dollars and Sense from Monogram, and ThinkTank from Living Videotext.

Whole new genres of software for the Macintosh are emerging. Two distinct ones are graphics diskettes (sometimes referred to as clip art) and desk accessories, both of which take advantage of the Mac's "user interface."

Graphics diskettes are ready-made art and other images, such as maps, arrows, borders, cartoons, and a diagram of a typical home. Mac the Knife from Miles Computing and CLIP 1 from Frazier, Peper & Associates are two examples of graphics diskettes. (See "Leave the Drawing to Us" in this issue.)

By pulling down the Mac's Accessory menu, you can select desk accessories such as an alarm clock, a calculator, and a puzzle. Videx, recognizing the power and convenience of these desk accessories, has developed Desktop Calendar. Because it runs as part of the desk accessories in the background, Desktop Calendar does not interfere with application programs. Thus, by pulling down the Accessory menu, you can look at your calendar without having to load in a program. Megahaus offers a collection of three desk accessories in a package called Mega-Desk.

The Mac elicits creativity by the very nature of its design, and nowhere is this ability to inspire more apparent than in Koala Technologies' MacVision, an image digitizer. Bill Atkinson, author of MacPaint, wrote the MacVision software, which augurs well for its quality.

Two other products illustrated the spirit of the Macintosh-Oberon International's Omni-Reader, a hand-held optical character reader, and the Mac-Phone from Intermatrix (the Artsci folks), a telemanagement system. Omni-Reader reads text into your computer, bypassing the data-entry stage. Applications include inputting typewritten pages into the Mac, transferring text between incompatible computers, inputting tables of data, storing and editing documents for electronic filing, and so on.

MacPhone finally brings together the phone and the computer. Mac-Phone dials your phone for you; logs in phone calls you receive, with name, date, and duration; and provides a

The Mac elicits creativity by the very nature of its design.

built-in calendar with three-month display, including appointment book and notepad, a memo writer—which is MacWrite-compatible—and a billing feature.

As you can see, plenty of interesting and useful products to use with your Macintosh are on the scene. By the time you read this, even more will have materialized. With more than 500 companies currently working on Macintosh products, we'll soon have an abundant wealth of Mac software and hardware. Meanwhile, don't forget to write to us with tips for using the Macintosh.

Maggie

A+ MAGAZINE/OCTOBER 1984 >9

What's the catch?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

• WHERE THE ANSWERS ARE Dear A +,

First let me say that I think A + isone of the finest magazines for information regarding the Apple line of computers. I enjoy all of your articles and look foward each month to new and exciting tips, helpful programming advice, and information on new hardware and software products.

I have learned a great deal about my Apple IIe from reading articles in A +and other computer magazines. I have found out that once you purchase your system, the salespeople in some of the computer stores seem to lose interest in you.

It seems they are too busy or don't know the answer to questions I have. So, I turn to A + for answers, and many times A + has the answer to the question I had regarding software or a modem or almost any new product.

So keep up the good work so people like myself, a beginner when it comes to computers, will have somewhere to turn to for some answers.

> Michael R. Iacono Medford, MA

• ALUMINUM TRANSPORT Dear A +,

Your article on traveling with an Apple computer omitted what I considered to be an obvious choice. For several years, I have been transporting my Apple II Plus in a pair of Zero-Halliburton aluminum cases. These cases were designed for transporting photographic equipment and contain foam rubber that can be cut to allow insertion of the gear to be moved. Once the case is closed, my computer equipment is fully cushioned by a minimum of one inch of high-density foam on each side.

I use two cases. One contains the Apple plus numeric keypad; the other holds two disk drives, a Silentype printer, and assorted cables and cords and a tool kit. The monitor is handled separately. I've seen what some computer cases have looked like after being manhandled (conveyor-handled?) and have relied on the Halliburton cases for transporting delicate equipment for some time. They are available through photographic-supply houses.

> Bruce Appelbaum White Plains, NY

APPLE WRITER AID Dear A +,

The Gila Valley Apple Growers Association maintains an AWIIe voice help line for Apple Writer IIe users at (602) 428-4073.

There is no cost for this service, except for the usual phone charges. Best calling times are 8–5 weekdays, Mountain Standard Time.

The group also has an AWIIe toolkit package consisting of eight crammed-full diskette sides. Included are such goodies as patches for NULL, "shortline," and IIc detrashing; answers to hundreds of most-asked helpline questions; microjustify and proportional space, camera-ready secrets; a complete disassembly script; source-code-capturing information; self-prompting glossary secrets; and bunches more.

Individual NULL, "shortline," and "IIc De-Trashing" patches are available free on written or phone help-line request. The association's mailing address is Box 809, Thatcher AZ, 85552.

Don Lancaster Thatcher, AZ

WHAT PRICE MAC SOFTWARE?

Dear A +,

There are many graphics packages for the Apple II family of computers, such as high-resolution character generators, shape editors, drawing and painting utilities that create and manipulate images. Some of these programs are enhanced by supplementary disks such as a disk of fonts. Fontpak from Data Transforms, Typefaces from Beagle Bros., and Additional Typesets from Penguin Graphics are a few examples. These supplementary data disks are priced, on the average, at about \$20.

The Macintosh is different from the Apple II line of computers. It contains all the routines you need for generating graphics. MacPaint and MacWrite provide the programs for using these routines. Some software for the Mac, such as the recent crop of clip-art packages, contain no programs—you can't use them unless you have MacPaint.

So what are we being asked to pay \$49.95 for? What is an appropriate price for software that requires no programming efforts, no routines, and no innovation?

I recently looked at another new program for the Macintosh, an electronic telephone directory. Instead of using your fingers, you can let your mouse do the walking—for \$200.

Currently, the great demand for Macintosh software is sure to send us scurrying to the stores for any new applications for our Macs. Will we get more selective when supply exceeds demand?

> Roberta Schwartz Brooklyn, NY

CORRECTIONS

Typing-Instruction Program Name

In our June and August issues (pages 139 and 96, respectively), we listed a typing-instruction program from Roger Wagner Publishing as Typing Tutor. Typing Tutor is actually a trademark of Kriya Systems, Inc., and Roger Wagner Publishing's typing-instruction program was not yet named at press time.

Computer Politics

The telephone number for Aristotle Industries on page 13 of our August 1984 issue (under "Computers in Politics") is incorrect. The correct number is (203) 854-5463.

Don't buy a spreadsheet

A lot of electronic spreadsheets can't cover your needs. They just don't go far enough.

They can't adapt to the way you think. They speak in hieroglyphics (/GF\$, /R, /S#S), instead of English.

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Multiplan not only uses English commands, it allows you to create formulas in English. Instead of typing mysterious coordinates like H54-L73=BK154, you can simply name worksheet areas: Sales-Costs=Profit.

Multiplan can link data in different spreadsheets. Make a change on one, and every related one is changed.

that spreads too thin.

And if you have been working with VisiCalc," Multiplan can read its data files and teach it new tricks. Like how to set up variable column widths and sort data.

The wish list.

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CLEANING THE CEREAL PORT

Isn't it always the little things that trip you and your computer up? The cat hairs in the disk drive, the cable you stumble over at night on your way back from the bathroom, the incomprehensible and inksmeared labels on your diskettes?

Or maybe you're the picture of efficiency and a veritable model of cleanliness, but your favorite hacker leaves overturned bowls of cereal in the computer room for weeks?

Keeping in mind that Christmas isn't too far away, you may want to dig your way out of your office and buy yourself a computer cleanup kit. It all comes in one package called Computer C.A.R.E., which is billed as "a maintenance and management system for micro and personal computers."

Translation: this kit contains a lot of the tiny accessories you need to clean your computer and keep your files straight.

A Computer C.A.R.E. kit costs \$49.95 and includes a head-cleaning kit, a disk-storage system, diskette-index cards, an aerosol air blower, the Basic Quality Bus Buffer (a packaged eraser), diskette labels, diskette write-protect labels, cable ties, self-adhesive cable mounts, a Diskwriter felt-tipped pen, a users' guide and maintenance record, a no-smoking sign, keyboard cleaner and swabs, a CRT cleaner, disposable lint-free wipes, and a computer dictionary. You could assemble

these items more cheaply yourself—but it would take time, work, and money you might want to apply to chipping the encrusted Kix from the top of your hard disk. Computer C.A.R.E. is available from Basic Quality Computer Products, 10315 West Jefferson Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230; telephone (213) 837-1881.

If you don't want to get down on your fingertips and knuckles to clean your machine, there's yet another option: Mini-Vac, a miniature hand-held vacuum cleaner that inhales the dust and debris that is clogging your computer's contacts. This version of preventive medicine is available by mail order from Pine-Cone, Inc., P.O. Box 1378, Gilroy, CA 95021. Remember, a clean disk is a happy disk.



THOSE DARNED COMPUTERS

Computers. You can't live with 'em, and you can't live without 'em. But maybe you'd still like to lean over and give your Apple a good, swift kick. In that case, you might want to investigate two publications that aren't afraid to view computer/ human relations with a jaundiced eye.

Computer Cursers of America publishes the bimonthly @*& !! % # Computers! (pronounced Expletive Computers), reprinting horror stories of computer woes sent in by members. Club founder Patrick Leonard says that computer addicts "put so much time into the thing that they tend to slip up sometimes . . . They need an outlet for frustration, and that's where we come in." Contact Leonard at P.O. Box 553, Mount Freedom, NJ 07970.



For the truly disaffected, we recommend *Processed World*, "the magazine with a bad attitude." With biting wit, collages of computer ads, cartoons, and scathing articles on the disappointments of the computer age, it's perfect evening reading after a terrible day at the office. Contact its perpetrators at 55 Sutter Street, #829, San Francisco, CA 94104.

I RAISE TWO BITS

The most unusual participant in the Fifteenth Annual World Series of Poker held last summer at Binion's Horseshoe Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas was an Apple II Plus computer programmed by Mike "The Mad Genius of Poker" Caro.

The World's First Computer Poker Challenge was two winner-take-all freezeout matches of no-limit Texas hold 'em poker, the same game that annually determines the world's champion poker player.

The computer held its own for 43 minutes against Tom "Grand Rapids" McEvoy, a young former accountant who last year parlayed \$100 into the world championship and \$540,00 cash. The Apple went broke after it started a hand with the best two cards but lost when McEvoy's hand improved more than the computer's did.

The contestants used real cards in the challenges, the computer's cards being read by an optical scanner similar to those found at many supermarket checkout stands.

The second challenger was two-time world champion Doyle "Texas Dolly" Brunson, who bet all his chips on the first hand. The computer called and lost, and that match was over in less than one minute. Brunson offered a rematch, and he and the computer traded bets for 50 minutes, at which point they called it a draw, with the computer ahead by 58 chips.

Although the computer lost twice, once in a "bad beat," at least it didn't have any hard-luck stories to tell afterwards.

THE ULTIMATE SPELLING CHECKER

In late-night literary bull sessions when questions come up about a word's spelling or meaning, the final authority is usually the Oxford English Dictionary—if you have access to its 13 volumes of specialized terms, word etymology, and quotations.

Now, in an attempt to bring the dictionary into the modern age, the Oxford University Press plans to turn the OED into a computerized database.

David Attwooll, the executive editor for reference books at Oxford University Press in New York, says that with the computer version of the OED, the dictionary can become not only a lexicon of British English, but "the international dictionary of the English language," with input from the United States, Australia, Canada, and other Englishspeaking nations from around the world.

The project has already begun, with donations of funds from the British government, funds and a mainframe computer from IBM, and a staff of 120 to complete entering the massive





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amounts of data into the data banks.

First on the list, says Attwooll, will be an integrated version of existing *OED* volumes and their four supplements. Within four to five years, we'll be able to read a new version of the dictionary, on paper rather than disk.

Once the data is entered and organized, however, the electronic applications for it are endless, says Attwooll. "A shrewd guess is that it will be on some combination of on-line and optical/ laser disk," he said, though no firm plans for distribution have yet been made. Specialized dictionaries and horizontal compilations of word etymologies could also spin off from the project.

Attwooll emphasized that care will be taken to design access to the OED so that it won't be machinespecific. Within the next ten years, Apple users will be able to win arguments by showing that Oxford erat demonstrandum—OED.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A SOFTWARE WRITER . . . ?

If you plan to get into the software- or computerbook-publishing industry (and more people think they have a good idea for a computer book than there are broken hearts on Broadway), then psst... come over here. I've got a conference I want to tell you about. Keep this data encrypted, though, because there's not much space and it might already be too late.

It's a conference on Computers and Publishing, sponsored by the University of California at San Diego York literary agency. Acquisitions editors will abound; conference attendees may submit ten pages of manuscript



Extension. Judy Parzen, director of liberal arts and sciences at the UCSD Extension, says she started it after hearing from some New York editors that "you care what we do, but we don't care what you do" (you meaning West Coast writers, editors, and publishers). She vowed she'd make them eat their words.

This conference is scheduled for November 1-4 at the La Jolla Village Inn in San Diego, and Parzen says she's bringing in computerpublishing professionals, writers, editors, and agents to explain every aspect of the computer-book and software business.

Among those attending will be Tom Bell, vice president of marketing for Micromedia; Richard Gollner, agent and packager; Robyn Hartman, senior editor at Prentice-Hall, Inc.; Nahum Stiskin, president of Microsoft Publishing Group; and Barbara Lowenstein, founder of a major New or software design for review prior to the program.

So, if you want to get an inside look at the business—and only a couple of hundred spaces were open, even at \$395 a pop—check it out with Jean Forsythe at (619) 452-3422. Don't tell them I sent you—I'll just see you there.

TALKING TECH

Hearing-impaired computer professionals now have a chance to communicate more clearly with their coworkers, using a new standardized sign language of data-processing terminology.

Steven Jamison, a personnel consultant at IBM's Santa Teresa laboratory, began compiling a dictionary of American Sign Language computer terms back in 1981. During the past ten years he's organized annual summer work programs for deaf college students and has realized the confusion surrounding computerese for the deaf when he noticed three or four different signs for the word *computer* alone.

Jamison's 600-term glossary, entitled Signs for Computing Terminology, was recently published by the National Association for the Deaf in Silver Spring, Maryland. Although hearing-impaired students and computer workers will no doubt find the manual handy, Jamison thinks data-processing managers and others who want better communication with the deaf may benefit the most.

The ability to hear is not as critical in technically ori-



ented jobs such as programming as it is elsewhere, Jamison said. Nevertheless, the glossary eliminates the need for laboriously fingerspelling many technical terms.

All publishing rights and proceeds from the book have been turned over to the National Association for the Deaf. The book reportedly sold more than 2000 copies during its first month of publication. For more information, contact the National Association for the Deaf, 814 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

OLD PET ROCK

God help us all, you can start looking for the computer world's answer to the Pet Rock on the shelves of your local stores this summer—CHIP, Your Personal Home Computer.

The manufacturer, Young Enterprises, calls CHIP "user-intimate" and "user-compassionate." With a truly personal-size footprint of only $5 \times 6^{3}/4$ inches, CHIP travels anywhere with you without raising a single eyebrow at the FCC. CHIP buyers receive their very own reproduction of a keyboard and monitor and a genuine integrated circuit for a CPU the heart of CHIP.

To compute, simply flip your CHIP into the air wherever there's a flat surface for landing—excuse me, I meant an appropriate computing environment. If CHIP lands standing up, your answer is Yes; if CHIP lands with legs up in resting position, your answer is No.

Don't worry about software compatibility with CHIP. The so-called operating manual defines programs as instructions that tell a computer what to do



The puns and word play in CHIP's operating manual bring a new meaning to the term gag gift. Will it help to mention that CHIP is descended from the CHIPanzee and CHIPped Beef (Black CHIP of the family)? I thought not.

Compounding horror upon horror, Young Enterprises, based in Danville, California, plans a Friend-CHIP Club that requires the CHIPpocratic Oath, CHIP T-shirts, and perhaps even formal adoption papers for your CHIP.

It's never too early to start stuffing those Christmas stockings. Meanwhile, this reporter will write about something more, um, chipper.

FLY YOUR FRIENDLY APPLE

One person's business requires her to fly out of state every week; another person flies home to visit relatives only once a year. Both fliers share a common goal, however—*cherchez le* cut-rate airfare.

If you still play telephone tag with your travel agent, you may not know that computer users can now get the inside track on ticket prices via data-bank services such as The Official Airline Guides Electronic Edition.

Many travel agencies use computer services that reportedly are programmed to bring up scheduled flights for particular airlines first, said an OAG spokesperson. OAG, a subsidiary of Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, says its independent service can save users between 20 and 50%.

This on-line service entails a \$50 one-time installation fee. Thereafter, users are charged 10 cents per minute, 20 cents per schedule screened, and 30 cents per fare. OAG says the average business client spends seven minutes looking up fares.

This service may not come as news to those of you who subscribe to services such as Dialcom, Dow Jones News Retrieval, The Source, or CompuServe. On these and other services, the OAG Electronic Edition is available for an initial premium and billing on an hourly basis. A spokesperson for OAG says that the system is now also available through retail computer stores.

However you use the service, it's one good way to let your fingers do the walking while you do the flying.

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CONFIGURATION DISKETTE

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If you have an Apple II, Apple II Plus, or Apple IIe, we have good news for you. Now there are two inexpensive software programs that can turn your Apple into a much more valuable tool.

Softerm 1 connects you with information services.

Softerm 1 lets you retrieve information from services such as *The Source*, sm *Compu-Serve*[®], and *Dow Jones News/Retrieval*[®]. Plus, gives you the ability to access bulletin boards and send or receive electronic mail. Other features include user-defined keyboard macros, built-in phone book for automatic dialing, terminal mode line capture simultaneously to print or disk, copy screen to print or disk, and terminal status display.

Softerm 2 connects you with your company's computer.

This expanded version of Softerm lets you gain access to the information stored in your company's main computer from your home or office. With either version of Softerm, you can down load information into your Apple and capture it on your own disk in any format you choose — DOS, CP/M[®], or Pascal. Also included with Softerm is a source program for your host computer to ensure compatibility with Softerm's file transfer capabilities.

Makes your Apple work exactly like any major terminal.

Softerm 2 provides complete emulation of these terminals: ADDS Regent 20, 25, 40, 60; ADDS Viewpoint; Data General D200; Datapoint 3601; DEC VT102, VT52; Hazeltine 1400, 1410, 1500, 1520; Hewlett-Packard 2622A; Honeywell VIP7205; VIP7801, VIP7803; IBM 3101 Model 10 and 20; Lear Siegler ADM-3A, ADM-5 and TeleVideo 910, 925, 950. And the list is growing all the time. We'll send you a User's Guide, handy reference card, and a telephone number to call if you need more assistance.

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THOUGHTWARE **BY STEVE ROSENTHAL**

Can personal-computer users and data-processing departments see eve to eve?



The social connection between personal-computer users and mainframe dataprocessing staffs needs more attention, it seems, than the technology of hooking Apples to mainframes. While the requisite hardware and software connections are already in place or in the wings, many computer systems are just beginning to examine the social and organizational issues.

Bringing Apples and other personal computers into large organizations with big computer systems can cause friction between existing data-processing (DP) departments and personal-computer users. These strains are not merely the inevitable clash of new ways replacing the old. Real issues are involved, and there's right on both sides. Both Apples and big computers promise to be around for many years, however, so both sides need to find ways to work constructively together.

Furthermore, as network technology and personal computers continue to advance, an increasing amount of computer use in organizations with mainframe computers will take place locally. "Distributed processing" and other forms of sharing information be-

Bringing Apples and other personal computers into large organizations with big computer systems can cause friction.

tween mainframe and personal computers promise to give computer users spread throughout an organization better access to information and faster response. The challenge is to keep the flexibility and responsiveness of desktop computers without interfering with the comprehensiveness and accuracy of the information in the mainframes. What Users Want

On the Apple users' side, people want easy access to mainframe data. Personal-computer users who develop an expertise and a set of programs on their own find they need data already collected and available on mainframes. In a corporation, for example, departmental users may want to use financial figures from corporate databases as data in their spreadsheet models. At home, investors want financial information from information utilities. Researchers want statistical data from government databases.

Personal-computer users also want Personal-computer users also want to move data back from their computer their own departmental budget on a



personal computer want to be able to send that information directly into the mainframe for use in their company's overall plan, without the expense and the risk of errors in typing it in on a terminal. Salespeople who download information about prospects want to send in the resulting orders directly from their computers.

Data-processing staffs, on the other hand, worry most about corruption-

Allowing personal-computer users access to a mainframe means a greater chance that someone will stumble upon a serious system bug.

that a personal-computer user will accidentally or purposely damage important information in a corporate or organizational database. Fighting this kind of corruption is one of the primary goals of a well-run computer department in any large organization. Organizations that have invested huge sums to develop and collect data are understandably protective toward it.

Besides worrying about corruption, DP management must also be concerned about availability, efficiency, and the use of resources. When a personal-computer system crashes, only the user or a few users are directly inconvenienced. When a large organizational system goes down, on the other hand, the direct result is often the idling of dozens or hundreds of users. Software for large computers, especially programs meant for use only by skilled staff members, is not always as goof-resistant as it should be. Allowing personal-computer users access to a mainframe means a greater chance that someone will stumble upon a serious system bug.

Using personal computers to access mainframe systems also ties up ports on the system that might otherwise accommodate dedicated terminals. Although an Apple may be more powerful than most minicomputer or mainframe terminals, it wasn't engineered specifically for an optimum relationship with large systems.

Apples are less expensive than many dedicated terminals—but equipment cost is one of the ways that data-processing departments have limited the number of users who tried to access a system. A proliferation of personal computers emulating terminals can quickly overload the capacity of even a large mainframe system.

Demands by a multitude of personal-computer users can also reduce the efficiency of large computer systems. Big computers are designed for big jobs at big organizations, and that's what they generally do best. Time-sharing systems and transaction processing, seemingly tailored to many small jobs, are really optimized for repetitive cases or fast user interaction. Even in these cases, the system usually does the bulk of its work in the background mode or at night when few users need attention.

In contrast, personal-computer users, almost by definition, want more interaction than they can get at a terminal. Rather than making use of a big system's ability to run through existing routines at lightning speed, personal-computer users want the system to respond to individual requests at a human pace.

Personal-computer users, especially those accustomed to easy-to-program machines such as the Apple, often expect the same individual response from the DP department and its machine as they receive from their small systems. Many Apple users, faced with a need that their existing software or equipment doesn't seem to meet, think nothing of buying a new program or even writing their own. The time you need to make a major system change is usually measured in hours or days.

Big machines don't provide that kind

A proliferation of personal computers emulating terminals can quickly overload the capacity of even a large mainframe system.

of flexibility. Making even the smallest change in the software for a corporate mainframe may require a preliminary study, a project budget, international cooperation, and the cooptation of one or more full-time staff members. Even when the various applications and databases on big machines are not inextricably intertwined, the close linkage between the programs and a necessarily complex operating system can prevent

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all but full-time experts from making significant changes.

Setting a Standard

Despite these problems, most DP departments and personal-computer users eventually see the logic of working together. Rather than ignoring personal computers completely, most mainframe administrators are now looking for ways to accommodate the burgeoning number of personal-computer users.

As an immediate solution, some "big iron shops" (as the DP departments for large systems are termed) have decided that the best way to treat personal computers is as if they were a special class of terminals. You'll find that most information utilities (such as The Source or CompuServe), for example, rarely provide ways to use a personal computer as more than a terminal. Many private systems act the same way.

Because big systems do best by repeating large numbers of similar transactions, many mainframe and even minicomputer systems have tried to promulgate a single standard for personal-computer use within an organization and then to adapt the mainframe to provide a clearly defined class of service. Over the past year or two, it seemed possible that the IBM Personal Computer would be the sole system to win the DP department imprimatur at most corporations, but the increasing interest in the Macintosh and the counterattack from other goliaths such as AT&T may yet hold off that hegemony.

In the long term, however, most experts predict that some form of network will provide a better matching of the

Most DP departments and personalcomputer users eventually see the logic of working together.

strengths of personal computers and large central systems.

One approach is to distribute databases across a network. Some firms already sell software to let big machines accept data from VisiCalc and similar spreadsheet models. A corporate mainframe can thus keep the overall organizational budget, while individual departments hold on to the details that affect only their own area.

Distributed-database technology is still relatively new, so various proposals abound on how to make sure that information at one end of the network reflects any changes made at the other, who takes responsibility for entering what information, and how to make sure only the proper people have reading access or the right to change selected information.

Distributed control, which lets networked systems actually forward requests and instructions to other connected computers, presents even thornier issues. Again, the field is relatively new, so many of the issues are somewhat in flux. Generally, the challenge will be to allow users of Apples or other computers to get services from the mainframe that big machines can do more efficiently while keeping unauthorized users from seizing too much control of resources or accidentally interfering with other users.

What Is Possible Today

Until organizational redefinition and system evolution to distributed processing take place, Apple users can still connect to mainframes in more traditional ways. Using various combinations of hardware and software, you can make an Apple or other personal computer look to a mainframe like one of its own. For example, Apple offers termi-



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nal-emulation software for most of its computers that turn an Apple machine into a DEC VT100 terminal look-alike for connection to minicomputers and dial-up networks. With this software, mainframe programs that expect to communicate with this kind of terminal can use cursor-positioning commands and screen editing to build complex text screens rapidly. In contrast, simple communications packages often support nothing more than TTY (short for Teletype) connections, where the terminal is assumed to know only how to display characters and move down to the next line.

For hooking up to big IBM computers, Apple and others will sell you a protocol converter or even a complete cluster controller (see page 57 in this issue). The IBM mainframe world uses different cables, connection methods, and even character codes, so this additional hardware is vital for making an Apple fit in.

Adapting to mainframe hardware and communications protocols is as far as the Apple or other personal computers can go, however. With the right software, an Apple can send prewritten text to a mainframe or capture the data that comes back down the line. To download and upload nontextual files from the mainframe to the Apple or to add errorchecking during transmission, some changes are necessary at the mainframe end. In particular, the mainframe needs software that tells it how to exchange files with personal computers. First Concept Technologies is a company that provides this type of mainframe software. On page 39 of this issue we take a look at that firm's Continuum series of mainframe software. which allows Apples to interact with mainframes in a distributed-processing network.

The coming months should also see important announcements from Apple about its Applebus network and from IBM about how it expects to network personal computers and big machines. With these reference points, software developers should begin to turn out a wide variety of packages for Apple-tomainframe links.

Given the proven adaptability of Apples and other personal computers, it's clear that the personal computers can make the changes necessary to work with big mainframes. Now, and in the future, the real innovations must come from computer designers and users. After all, interfacing is far too important to be left to machines. +

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View picture before printing Print any portion of picture Select a portion of a picture using a graphic "window"	×××	=	× ×	
Print ¹ / ₂ to 6x normal size Print horizontally or vertically Print anywhere on page	×××	x	××	





APPLEWORDS **BY STEVE ROSENTHAL**

A short glossary

COAX, OR COAXIAL CABLE

A type of communications cable used in networks and for connecting terminals to mainframe computers. When an Apple is hooked up to a mainframe through a protocol converter, the converter hooks up to the controller with coax cable. Coax is more expensive than the telephone-style cable often used for hooking up personal computers, but it can carry data at higher rates and is more resistant to electrical interference. Physically, coax is round, with a center conductor surrounded by an outer braid or foil.

CORRUPT

To damage the data in a database, intentionally or accidentally. One of the main reasons that data-processing managers responsible for large computers want to limit access by personalcomputer users is that they are afraid that users will corrupt vital databases.

DOWNLOAD

To send a file from a large or remote computer to a small or local one. Downloading requires some way to synchronize the sending of the file by one system with the receiving and storing of the data by the other. Although you can often send text files with simple software, exchanging programs and numeric data requires more complex errorchecking methods. Currently, software is available for all models of Apple computers to download data from bulletin boards and other personal computers. Software that allows Apples connected to IBM mainframes to download mainframe data, using protocol converters, should become available in the coming months.

EBCDIC

An acronym (pronounced ipsa-dik) for extended binarycoded decimal interchange code. It is the code that IBM uses for representing characters and control values on its large computers. The EBCDIC uses the 256 possible 8-bit patterns to represent a selection of graphic (printing) and nongraphic (control) codes.

Although the code values are different, both ASCII and EBCDIC have mostly the same graphic (printing) characters, so it is relatively easy to translate from one to the other for simple text. Many of the control codes are different, however.

EMULATION

One computer acting like another computer or terminal.

HOT KEY

On an Apple computer set up to connect to a mainframe computer, a key that lets you switch between the Apple's

function as a local terminal of the large computer and its role as a personal computer. Some, but not all. mainframe communications packages provide this capability, usually as a software-command sequence.

LOCAL

In reference to connections between large computers and their terminals and controllers, this term means connected directly by wire rather than via a communications link and modem. This mode is also called Channel-Attached. MAINFRAME

A large computer of the type used by businesses, governments, and other large organizations. These computers actually may be less costly per unit of work done than personal computers, but mainframes also are less flexible and require a whole supporting bureaucracy.

PROTOCOL

A set of rules governing the way information is exchanged over a computer network. Personal-computer data networks generally use simple protocols meant originally for teletypewriters, a public-domain protocol called XMODEM, or various protocols included in proprietary software packages.

Large computers use more complex protocols, the best known of which are IBM's BSC and SDLC.

Although they are directly incompatible with mainframes, personal computers can be hooked up to large computers with protocol-converter units.

PROTOCOL CONVERTER

A box that connects between an Apple computer and a mainframe computer that expects to communicate with an IBM 3270-series terminal. The Apple runs software that makes it emulate a terminal (such as MacTerminal or Access 3270), and the protocol converter translates between the emulated terminal and the special requirements of the 3270 series.

The converter matches the asynchronous protocol the Apple uses with the BSC or SDLC protocol the 3270 uses. It also translates between the EBCDIC character code used by the mainframe and the ASCII code used by the Apple, buffers between the mainframe's polled page-ata-time method and the Apple's asynchronous character-by-character method, converts the cursorpositioning commands for the mainframe terminal to the form understood by the Apple communications program, and translates sequences of keys.

REMOTE

In reference to controllers for data-communications networks, one that connects to its host mainframe via a

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modem or other data link (as opposed to local controllers, which are wired directly to the mainframe).

SDLC

An abbreviation for Synchronous Data Link Control, a communications protocol used by large IBM computers, especially in networks based on their SNA (Systems Network Architecture) arrangement. Apples can link up to these networks through protocol converters or the Apple cluster controller. These units communicate with the normal Apple asynchronous method on the Apple side and the SDLC method on the mainframe side

SNA

The abbreviation for Systems Network Architecture, an IBM system of data communication for large computers. When an Apple computer is connected to a mainframe by a protocol converter or Apple's cluster controller, the converter or controller follows the SNA scheme, using the SDLC protocol (or the older BSC protocol for some models) for communication. Systems Network Architecture is a complex layered set of rules that govern error checking, addressing, synchronization, and many other communications chores.

UPLOAD

To send a file from a smaller computer or local one to a larger or remote computer. Uploading depends on both the computer at the sending end knowing what to send and how to format the material and the system at the receiving end knowing how to receive and store away the data. So far, popular file-transfer software for the Apple family lets you upload data to bulletin boards or other personal computers. Only a few programs for use with Appleline or similar methods for connecting Apples to IBM mainframes currently allow uploading from the Apple to the mainframe, but more programs in the next round of software products should add this capability.

VT-100

A trademark of Digital Equipment Corporation for one of its terminals. This model is one of the most popular of all terminals for asynchronous connections, and consequently it is the terminal that most communications packages for the Apple simulate to allow the Apple to connect to larger computers and communications networks. Appleline and other Apple products for connecting Apples to IBM mainframes that expect the Apple to run terminal-emulation software assume VT-100 emulation at the Apple end (as do the products of most independent vendors).



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DOIT ONE LINKING APPLES TO MAINFRAMES BY W. CHARLES DOHERTY

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What can a mainframe do that an Apple can't? Equipped with two standard floppy-disk drives, an Apple II-series computer provides approximately 280K of on-line storage; a single-drive Macintosh gives you about 400K. Although this amount of storage may be fine for many applications, it can sometimes be a severe limitation. One way to get around the problem of insufficient storage is to hook your Apple up to a mainframe computer.

According to Paul Sanroma, a software-engineering consultant in Bristol, Rhode Island, even the smallest mainframes offer storage capacity and computing power far beyond the range of the most exotic micros. Says Sanroma, "It's not uncommon for a modern mainframe system to have from 1 to 5 megabytes of memory in the CPU alone, with 200 to 400 megabytes of online disk storage. Many of the larger systems even go into the gigabyte [billions of bytes] range."

In addition to providing ample storage space, mainframes have very fast processors that allow access to programs with processing power that no micro can match.

On the other side of the coin, an Apple computer can perform some tasks more efficiently than a larger system can. When it comes to throwing together a quick letter, a microcomputer can't be beat. Mainframes also lack the personal touch that popular microcomputer spreadsheet programs provide. An Apple devotes all of its attention to a single user. "If you have ever operated some of the system programming facilities on mainframes, you certainly won't want to do it again," asserts Rick Geiger, manager of Advanced Developments at Apple Computer, Inc., and a specialist in the field of mainframe-to-micro communications. "Those mainframes can be very difficult to use at times, especially when you are competing with many other people for the processor's attention," he adds.

During periods of heavy activity, hundreds of users may be connected to one mainframe computer. This situation often results in delays as long as 15 or 20 seconds before the machine responds to your commands. In a business setting, this extra time quickly adds up and results in poor productivity.

A more serious situation arises if a mainframe goes down completely—not an uncommon occurrence. Every user of that system is left out in the cold, unable to do the simplest task. Again, productivity suffers, sometimes with devastating results to a business that depends on computing. Relying solely on a mainframe can be like putting all your eggs in one basket.

A personal computer, on the other hand, devotes all of its computing power to you, and can respond almost instantaneously. In fact, mainframes spend a great deal of their time doing tasks that personal computers can do more efficiently. Freeing a mainframe from this burden results not only in faster response but also in a much more economical approach in the long run. Data-processing managers envision an expanding role for microcomputers alongside mainframes, both as standalone processors and as data-entry terminals.

Aside from the significant disparity in the hardware costs of mainframes and personal computers (many fullblown mainframe systems cost well over a million dollars), operational time alone can be prohibitively expensive on a mainframe. Most systems bill their users according to the amount of actual processing time-often called CPU time-required of the mainframe. Although many tasks take little of the processor's attention-sometimes less than a second-the cost is still significant. In some larger systems, processor time can be as costly as \$300 to \$400 per minute.

To operate any data-processing system efficiently, you first have to take a careful survey of your needs. The needs analysis will help you understand what tasks need to be done and how much computer power is necessary for each task. In some cases, microcomputers can do much of the work currently assigned to mainframes. By delegating certain tasks to smaller machines, a system operator can keep the "heavy artillery" free for the work it does best. A Happy Medium

Fortunately, you can have the best of both worlds: the high speed and mass storage of a mainframe, along with the convenience and economy of an Apple. Recent developments in hardware and software enable Apples to link with


Even if your business does not have an in-house mainframe, you can still use one of these large computers. Most metropolitan areas have several dataprocessing facilities that make their equipment available to outside users. Charges vary from system to system and are based on the amount of storage you use, the length of time you are connected to the system, and the actual CPU time.

Anyone who stores or requires access to large amounts of data will appreciate an arrangement of this type. For example, if you use an Apple to handle the records of your retail store, you may find that the system lacks the mass storage you need to deal with a 50,000name mailing list. Renting space and time on a mainframe gives you a convenient, secure place to store this data, as well as an easy way to add or delete names.

What's more, most mainframe systems include high-speed printing facilities. Printing 50,000 mailing labels may be quite an ordeal for a micro-size printer, but larger machines can do the job easily. Many data-processing facilities will do the printing for you, for an additional fee, and deliver the results.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

Connecting to a large system also gives you access to huge pools of information in various specialized fields. The computer system of a large insurance company, for example, may store statistical data on thousands of clients—data that an agent in the field



may need in order to design a customized policy. By linking a personal computer with the firm's larger system, the agent can access the necessary information. Just as easily, the agent can send data, such as a daily or weekly report, *to* the company's machine.

Rather than placing an extra burden on a mainframe, using a microcomputer actually lessens that system's work load and results in better performance all around by distributing some of the processing work load to the microcomputer. Also, adding a micro is not much more expensive than adding an additional terminal, and the investment often pays for itself with the reduction in operating expenses.

Making the Connection

Until recently, mainframes and micros have lived in two separate worlds. The data-transfer techniques most large systems use are completely alien to those microcomputers employ. What's more, mainframes move data at a rate far faster than what most microcomputers will ever be able to read. In order to transfer information successfully, you need both hardware and software.

Apple Computer produces a series of products designed for this purpose. The Apple Protocol Converter and Appleline are hardware devices that let you use Apple products with several popular mainframes. Both convert the mainframes' data-transfer protocol into a form that the smaller machines can understand, letting data flow easily between the two. Apple has also introduced the required software: Access, for the Apple II and III series, and Lisa/MacTerminal, for the company's 32-bit machines.

If a mainframe is located in the same building as your Apple and you can reach it with direct wiring, connecting the equipment is easy. Add the proper protocol converter, run the cables, and you are ready to go. This method of "local operation" is popular among executives who use personal computers in their offices and have a mainframe nearby.

If the two machines are too far apart for local operation, you transfer data back and forth over telephone lines. In addition to the protocol converter and software, this method also requires two modems, one at the micro and the other at the mainframe.

Recently, a third technique has gained popularity. In this system, data is sent to the mainframe on a storage medium, namely magnetic tape. Most Several hardware manufacturers have promised micro-to-mainframe technology, but Apple is one of the few that has actually delivered.

mainframe computers use nine-inch, half-track tape for data storage and retrieval. Hardware devices are now available that allow a microcomputer or a group of microcomputers to store data directly on such tape. When the job is ready, you load the tape onto the mainframe, which reads in the data and processes it. Data-transfer speed from magnetic tape is hundreds of times faster than the speed of telephone-line transmission.

You don't need a modem or protocol converter, and the storage capacity of the tapes is so great (20 megabytes or more per tape) that a week's worth of work often fits on a single reel.

Operation Modes

Mainframes and microcomputers can interact in several different ways. One popular approach is to use the microcomputer as a "dumb" terminal. With this arrangement, the micro does little actual processing; its main function is to emulate one of the terminals the host computer uses. This type of mainframe/micro link subjects you to many of the drawbacks of larger systems, long response time and high cost being the most serious. An advantage of this arrangement is that a microcomputer, unlike a terminal, has a disk drive for storing data.

A more efficient method is to use a technique called distributed processing. The micro serves as a complete, standalone computer—sometimes called a front-end processor—with all of its power available to the operator. You enter and process data on the smaller unit until you're ready to "upload" it to the mainframe.

The reverse is also true: You can download data from the mainframe and process it on the micro. This strategy is particularly helpful when it comes to analyzing or updating small sections of a file—a job that a microcomputer can handle with ease. By doing a large share of the processing on the micro, you have to use the mainframe only for brief periods. Most work takes place while the two systems are disconnected. This approach insulates you from the mainframe's long response time and wastes less of that system's premium-priced CPU- and connect-time.

Distributed processing also makes life easier for other mainframe users. Since you are not vying for such a large share of the processor's time, you won't have as detrimental an effect on other people's operations. More users can operate from the same mainframe than would be able to, otherwise. A machine that would be taxed to its limits with 200 standard users can, with the help of distributed processing, often operate efficiently with many times that number.

Using microcomputers in a localarea network and transferring data via magnetic tape is the most cost-effective way of using mainframe facilities. Being passive from the mainframe's perspective, the micros are available for use at any time, regardless of the mainframe's current work load. The technique allows finished data to run through the mainframe in a "batch" mode, a less expensive approach than doing the job interactively. What's more, tapes can be batch-processed when the mainframe is the least active, often late at night, resulting in further savings.

Tape transfer does have its limitations. Since you have to move data from computer to computer physically, you can't interact with the mainframe in "real time." Rush jobs must wait until someone can transfer and load the tape. This system is best suited to tasks such as high-volume data entry, for which time is of less importance.

Both distributed-processing and tape-transfer systems can operate independently of the mainframe. Even if the larger system goes down altogether, you can still work on your microcomputer.

Several hardware manufacturers have promised micro-to-mainframe technology, but Apple is one of the few that has actually delivered. For this reason, many management-information-systems (MIS) managers have already adopted Apple computers in distributed-processing networks and as remote data-entry terminals. They have found that, in many cases, microcomputers are a logical choice over traditional mainframe-access methods. The final result is a system that is more powerful than the sum of its parts. +

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ohm/electronics 746 Vermont-Palatine IL 60067 1-800-323-2727 In Illinois: 1-312-359-6040 New Texas stocking location: 1-214-620-2230 CIRCLE 173 ON READER SERVICE CARD ► LINKING APPLES TO MAINFRAMES BY FREDERIC E. DAVIS AND RUTH RAMBERG

Mainframe Software for Distributed Data Processing:



First Concept, of Rochester, New York, an innovative mainframe-software company, is developing a series of mainframe-software products called Continuum. The Continuum series allows most major mainframes to share distributed data processing with Apples and other microcomputers.

First Concept has already released three products in the Continuum series that permit Apples to make extensive use of mainframe resources: Interchange/1, Library/1, and Courier/1. With Interchange/1, the most significant of these software packages, Applebased application programs can access and update records contained in virtually any mainframe database. The ability of this product to work with almost any database or DBMS (databasemanagement system) is one of its most impressive features. Because Interchange/1 is designed to be totally "transparent" to the Apple, users receive the impression that the mainframe database is resident in the Apple.

Library/1, a utility program for use in conjunction with Interchange/1, provides file-management services on the mainframe for Apple users.

Courier/1 is an electronic-mail program for Apples and other microcomputers and terminals that are using the mainframe.

Interchange/1

Interchange/1 provides Apple users with record-level access to mainframe data and affords database integrity by strictly controlling the Apple's interaction with the mainframe. Various levels of password protection insure data security. The product also includes excellent facilities for uploading and downloading information. Without any specific knowledge of the mainframe DBMS in use, and without utilizing any microcomputer disk storage, you can program any Apple to treat mainframe data as if it were resident on the microcomputer.

Interchange/1 automatically accepts data-manipulation commands the Apple issues and dynamically translates them into the appropriate mainframe DBMS function, based on the DBMS in use. From a single application program, users can issue calls to an unlimited number of mainframe databases resident on any number of database-management systems. A single application program on the Apple, for example, could be simultaneously accessing two TOTAL files, an IDMS file, two ADABAS files, and a VSAM file. The database commands the Apple uses-Get, Insert, Update, Delete, and so on-remain the same, even though different database-management systems are being used.

Uploading Information

The Interchange/1 Upload utility allows users to transfer data from Apple files into the mainframe database or use the keyboard for direct input. To insure database integrity, the mainframe checks data to validate the fields the Apple is transferring, prior to uploading each record into the DBMS, whenever the database administrator (the person in charge of the database, who is usually located in the computer center that houses the mainframe) has specified particular access criteria for a field. Data checking occurs only when access criteria are specified. Errors and other data exceptions will cause the mainframe to bypass the update record and send a corresponding error message to the Apple.

Upload enables users uploading records from the Apple to establish search criteria for their validation and selection. Interchange/1 uploads only records that meet these search criteria, allowing partial upload of microcomputer files. As a result, Upload serves as a simple data-entry utility, with data validation by range, type, and so on.

Downloading Information

You can transfer data from a mainframe database directly to an Apple file, the screen, and/or a printer using the Interchange/1 Download utility. Here, too, users can specify search criteria to select records to be downloaded, and Interchange/1 will download only those records that meet the search criteria, allowing partial download of mainframe DBMS files.

Download can also serve as a simple query/report utility, with user-defined record selection and user-defined display and printer formats. Users select the records to be downloaded, indicate the destination (screen, printer, and/or file), and choose the download format (the layout for the screen or printer and the file type and record layout for the file).

Full mainframe security prevails,

because only the fields the database administrator has defined are downloadable to the Apple. If the database administrator has specified Boolean access criteria for a field, only those records that meet the search criteria are transferred.

BASIC and Pascal Support

First Concept has designed Interchange/1 for use in conjunction with various application programs and programming languages. For off-the-shelf application software, it supports the DIF (data-interchange format) filetransfer option. Many popular Apple software products offer the DIF filetransfer option.

For users who wish to develop their own custom Apple software, Interchange/1 supports both BASIC and Pascal. It allows your custom programs to use simple commands such as Get, Insert, Update, or Delete to access the mainframe database. Interchange/1 places the information retrieved from the mainframe into user-declared template fields that vary according to the programming language you are using. The support for both BASIC and Pascal is impressive. To each of the languages, Interchange/1 adds about a dozen new commands that allow the Apple to make extensive use of mainframe databases.

Mainframe Security

Hooking Apples or other micros up to mainframes raises the serious problem of keeping the mainframe database from becoming damaged. Interchange/ 1 provides complete mainframe security by allowing the database administrator at the central computer center to specify which fields in any record an Apple can access and the passwords for each type of access.

The database administrator can specify a template for each file to be accessed by microcomputer users. Using the Interactive Template Utility program that Interchange/1 provides for this purpose, the database administrator defines the files and fields that the microcomputers are to access. (Although the database administrator can create one or more templates for each file to be accessed, each template can include fields from only one DBMS file.) Apple users, specifying only the name of one template, can simultaneously access multiple templates that the database administrator has linked to the original template. The database administrator uses a system-maintenance password to enter the Interactive Template Utility. This password preFirst Concept's Continuum series is one of the most powerful ways to use Apples with mainframes in a distributeddata-processing network.

vents unauthorized personnel from accessing the utility.

During the next step in the setup procedure, the database administrator specifies the name of the file to be accessed. The utility then asks for the field names of each field that the Apples are allowed to access. If the database administrator has not specified a particular field, the Apples cannot access it. The database administrator gives a descriptive name to each field he selects. The Apples then use this name in their programs when referring to that field. When the database administrator has specified all fields, the utility asks for the type of file access permitted the Apples. At this point, the database administrator supplies a specific password for each level of access. Interchange/1 subsequently uses the passwords that users give to determine what level of access they are allowed.

When the database administrator has completed the template definition, Interchange/1 stores it in the mainframe database. Subsequent changes do not require the creation of a new template; users can add or delete fields, change passwords, and upgrade or downgrade file access by simply modifying the existing template.

Mainframe Environments

Interchange/1 is very versatile and can run on virtually any mainframe that supports asynchronous or synchronous communication. The mainframe can be an IBM mainframe, a plug-compatible, or a mainframe or minicomputer made by other manufacturers. Contact First Concept to determine whether your mainframe can support Interchange/1.

Any file system supported by the mainframe can constitute a DBMS, providing it is accessible to a mainframe computer program capable of telecommunications.

Library/1

Library/1 is a utility program that provides complete mainframe librarymanagement services for Apple users. It facilitates the creation of mainframebased public or private libraries and makes them accessible by a password to all users of a remote network. Apple users can store files, programs, and documents in their library, thus freeing local storage on the Apple and making the library entries available to any other user on the distributed system.

Library/1 supports document and program transfer, as well as document and file browsing. Apple users, even if they lack mainframe-programming knowledge, can transfer files in any format into a remote library for distribution or retrieval. The Apples using the system have available full directory capabilities for their private libraries and for those public libraries to which they have access. Users can assign additional passwords and access levels at the document/file level. Data-center allocation and assignment of libraries maintain mainframe security. To guarantee private-library security, users assign passwords and access levels when they create the library entry.

Courier/1

Through Courier/1, complete electronic message facilities are available to users of Apples and other microcomputers or terminals in a distributed-processing mainframe network. Users without any special knowledge of the system can log on from their Apple or any other supported device and transmit and receive mail.

When you ask to transmit a message, Courier/1 automatically prompts for distribution information, and, if you are uncertain about whom you want the message distributed to, Courier/1 will supply you with a complete list of all of its users. You can then select a group of individuals for distribution or optionally enter the names of users you want to send the message to. If you enter the name of an individual who is not currently logged on, Courier/1 automatically stores the message for later forwarding and retrieval.

As a user of Courier/1, you can browse through your messages, respond to some, store others for later review, delete upon reading, bypass, and even delete without reading.

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Education

Recognizing the complexity of the tasks involved in setting up a powerful distributed-data-processing network, First Concept offers a variety of training courses, which are held either at your company or at First Concept's Technical Support Center in Rochester, New York. These training courses include:

- The Interchange/1 System—a halfday overview of the Interchange/1 System and its effective use by Apples and other microcomputers. Emphasis is on the design of generic programs using mainframe data and the requirements for use of the Interchange/1 product in the design of application systems.
- Interchange/1 for the Sophisticated User—a one-day course that emphasizes the use of special commands and the direct manipulation of the mainframe database by microcomputer programs using Interchange/1.
- Database Concepts—a half-day seminar on the concepts of mainframe database-management systems.
- Mainframe Database Management Systems for Microcomputer Users—a one-day course to acquaint users of Apples and other microcomputers with the general concepts of databasemanagement systems. First Concept tailors this course to the databasemanagement system(s) in use at your company and designs it primarily for users of Interchange/1.
- Database Design—a one-day seminar in generic database-design concepts. When given at your company, it focuses on the DBMS in use there.

• Telecommunications Concepts—a half-day seminar that provides you with an introduction to telecommunications networks, techniques, and the methodology of modems, multiplexers, and other communications devices. The course emphasizes real-world problems and the reduction of telecommunications costs through effective network design.

Power and Flexibility

First Concept's Continuum series is one of the most powerful ways to use Apples with mainframes in a distributed-data-processing network. The system allows for the greatest flexibility of any software product we have seen. Not only does one mainframe handle multiple databases from different vendors, but the network can also encompass more than one mainframe. The Continuum series combines well-thought-out products with an excellent level of support and training.

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LINKING APPLES TO MAINFRAMES

part three

BY ROBERT COWART AND STEVE ROSENTHAL

David Talks to Goliath through a Variety of

Hardware alone isn't enough to connect Apples and mainframe computers. Once all the wiring and plugging in are finished, the machines on both sides of your connection still need the right software. At the Apple end, the software must take care of both the communications link and the particular way you have your hardware configured. Since some mainframes are able to communicate only with specific terminals, the software may also have to disguise an Apple to look like something it is not.

None of this adaptation is easy, especially for the mainframe half of the marriage. Why? Because many of these larger machines were designed without microcomputers in mind. They are set in many of their ways and use software that is expensive and complex, at least compared to programs for the Apple.

Luckily, personal computers are more flexible. With a little help from software and hardware, your Apple can be accommodating to a mainframe. Unless you're responsible for a mainframe that must send and receive detailed file or database information from many personal-computer users, it's much wiser (and easier) to do a little remodeling on the Apple side of the fence, where software is considerably cheaper, the necessary effort is smaller (you can usually install the programs yourself), and the total investment in time is significantly lower.

Software for Apples comes in two basic classes, mirroring the two very different communications modes the bigger machines employ.

Speaking in Tongues

The first class of software matches a communications protocol, favored by mainframes, that is familiar to many microcomputer users—the asynchronous communications protocol. It is the same method that interfaces terminals, serial printers, and modems to microcomputers as well as minicomputers. When you hook up an Apple with a serial card to a printer or through a modem to another computer or a bulletin board, you're using asynchronous communications.

To use async communications, the main thing you need is software. Any Apple with a serial port (or a serial card for the II family) already has the basic hardware. If you're hooking up to another system by telephone, you'll need a modem as well.

If you have been using CompuServe or The Source, for example, you are already familiar with the use of a typical asynchronous-software package that involves serial connection and a modem. These packages are relatively inexpensive (\$50-\$300) and range from bare bones to opulent capabilities.

At the very least, an async-communications program allows you to log on to a distant computer system and interact as though you were using a local terminal instead of your Apple. Data appears on the screen as you receive it from the distant computer and as you type it on the keyboard.

In the basic terminal mode (sometimes called the "dumb terminal" mode), these communications packages make your Apple act like a video equivalent of a simple Teletype terminal. The only characters the program has to respond to and be able to display on screen are the printable numbers and letters, carriage returns, line feeds, and backspaces. The characters are all sent and received in the same ASCII character code that all Apples and other personal computers use.

Even a bare-bones package must include an installation program, though, to customize the communications package to your specific hardware setup. This task is not trivial, considering the number of modems, serial boards, printers, operating systems, and screendisplay options around.

For the Apple II family of computers, some of the popular programs that provide this basic TTY emulation include Access II from Apple, Acculink,

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This is the worlds finest daisy wheel printer Fantastic Letter Quality, up to 20 CPS bidirectional, will handle 14.4" forms width! Has a 256 character print buffer. special print enhancements, built in tractor-feed (Centronics Parallel and RS232C Interface) List \$699 SALE \$399.



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Microsoft[®] Premium SoftCard[™]IIe is the high-performance CP/M[®] board that really juices the Apple[®] IIe.

Hard facts on SoftCard.

It has a high speed (6MHz) Z-80 that runs CP/M up to three times faster than lesser boards. Plus 64K memory and 80-column display that fits the IIe auxiliary slot and acts like Apple's own Extended 80-column Card. So it works with CP/M, Apple DOS and ProDOS programs, too.

Microsoft BASIC is built-in, so it's compatible with more Apple CP/M software than any other board on the market: Thousands of the juiciest business programs including dBase II," WordStar[®] and sophisticated Microsoft languages like FORTRAN-80, COBOL and BASIC Compiler.

It also has a new low price. Juicing up the performance of computers is nothing new for us. We invented the SoftCard and make versions for the entire Apple family. We wrote Applesoft for the Apple II. MICROSOFT. In fact, our The High Performance Software BASIC is the language spoken by nine out of ten microcomputers worldwide.

Get the Apple juicer from Washington. Call 800-426-9400 (in Washington State call 206-828-8088) for the name of your nearest Microsoft dealer.



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ASCII Express, BLAST, Data Capture, MITE, Modem Magic, Term-Exec, The Connection, Transend, VisiTerm, and Z-Term. On the Macintosh, along with Apple's MacTerminal and Dennis Brothers' MacTEP (listed in the July issue of A + on page 96 and 97), you can also choose from MacAck, MacModem, and a growing number of other terminal-emulation programs. The Lisa can use many of the Macintosh programs, along with Apple's Lisa-Terminal.

Most of these packages can do more than just imitate a simple Teletype. Many communications programs also allow uploading and downloading of files from a mainframe to an Apple. At the Apple end, you can, in most cases, store and retrieve files from disk and tuck them away in memory.

Uploading a file or downloading one for later analysis can save you a great deal of time and money when you're using information services that charge by the minute. You can create a message or document off-line, connect to the mainframe, and send the file off to the receiving computer within minutes.

Some examples of programs that support file uploading and downloading are Apple's Access II, MacTerminal, and LisaTerminal. From independent vendors, typical programs include Acculink, ASCII Express, BLAST, ERA 2, MITE, and Transend, among others.

Many communications programs for the Apple offer even more advanced features, some of which may seem needlessly complex at first, but which you may later regard as valuable conveniences. For example, some programs

ou must have software and hardware that 'disguise' your system.

let you store "scripts" or "macros" that set up communications links automatically. Once set up, a script can typically dial a phone number, log on to an information service, type in your password and I.D. number, and issue the necessary commands to move into the data area that you use most often. Among the programs offering this feature are Apple's Access II, ASCII Express, Softerm 2, and Transend.

Terminal Emulation

Most any of the popular programs will suffice for connecting you to public networks such as CompuServe. Tying into a private, in-house, corporate mainframe isn't as easy, though. Even after you've successfully surmounted the hardware impediments of hooking up (see "The Apple Connection," on page 57 of this issue), another problem remains. Most private systems are designed for use with only one or two specific types of terminals. To connect your Apple to the mainframe, you must have software and hardware that "disguise" your system as an appropriate kind of terminal.

For use with mainframes, the most popular terminals are the IBM 3278 series. In the minicomputer world, either the DEC VT-52 or VT-100 predominate. You must have the right terminal or make your microcomputer look like the right terminal by using a "terminal emulator." A terminal emulator can consist of a combination software/ hardware package, or just software alone. In any case, terminal emulation is not a simple trick. The package must be able to handle data input and output (preferably at relatively high rates of speed) while, at the same time, manag-



stocks. Bonds. And of course, all your investments, and put them into Finance Manager. Nothing's easier to handle, or keeps track of your financial situation better. Not even Home Accountant or Dollars & Sense Finance Manager is by far the most efficient and understand able home finance program available. It helps you record your income, expenses, and transactions. Budget your money, make financial plans, organize your tax records, and help you evaluate investments and payment plans. And it has everything you need to keep your bottom line in the black. So go ahead and spring for a Finance Manager. It could be the best investment that you'll ever make. FINANCE MA

B

For all IBM PC and Apple II Computers

SIMPLIFIED SPREADSHEET ASSEMBLY

RISING SPREADSHEET (A) KNOCKS MEXICAN JUMPING BEANS(B) INTO MEXICAN JUMPING BEANS(B) INTO MOUTH OF NEUROTIC MAN(C) WHO IS SO DISCOMBOBULATED THAT HIS HAIR STANDS ON END, DISCOPGING HAT(D) WHICH OPENS CAGE (E) AND RELEASES EPICUREAN MOUSE (F).

MOUSE, INSPIRED BY SCENT OF PERFECTLY AGED CAMEMBERT CHEESE, GNAWS THROUGH SPREAD-SHEET, ONLY TO DISCOVER HE HAS BEEN FOOLED BYAROMA OF OVER-RIPE GORGONZOLA (6).

IN A FITOF PIQUE HE SPILLS VINTAGE WINE (H) INTO WATER-WHEEL (I) WHICH TURNS PULLEY THAT CAUSES GLOVE (J) TO GRASP SPREADSHEET AND MOVE IT TO TAPING AREA.

SHEET IS TAPED SECURELY IN PLACE BY TRAINED ADHESIVE TAPE WORM (K). -----

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SIER AL ALTERSTON

abbla

100,000 100,0000 100,000 100,000 100,000 100,000 100,000 100,000 10

SALA.

10,500 10



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You can go Sideways today with your Apple® II and a wide variety of dot matrix printers, including Epson® Okidata, Apple DMP, and Imagewriter. Ask for Sideways at leading computer stores. Or mail a \$60 check to Funk Software, P.O. Box 1290, Cambridge, MA 02238. (617) 497-6339. MC/Visa accepted. Send no Mexican jumping beans, please.



CIRCLE 154 ON READER SERVICE CARD

ing display of data on the screen, and possibly handling the disk drives as well—not losing any data all the while.

In addition, most mainframe terminals have special keys and lights that you won't find on your Apple, and the terminal emulator must handle control codes associated with these capabilities.

Emulating most popular asynchronous terminals is primarily a software task. Once you find out what terminal your mainframe expects, you just have to match up the terminal with a software package that includes that particular terminal model in its repertoire. A few programs, such as Disco-Tech's Talisman, Softronics' Softerm 2, and Communications Research Group's BLAST, imitate dozens of terminals, but most software packages for the Apple specialize in one or two. Other terminal emulators for the Apple family include ASCII Express Professional, MacTerminal, and LisaTerminal.

For working with big machines from IBM and other mainframe manufacturers, you may also need an asynchronous-terminal-emulator program, even though the actual communication with the mainframe may involve the IBM bisynchronous-communications (also known as bisync or BSC) standards. Many of the hardware boxes that interface Apples to these systems connect to the Apple as if the boxes were asynchronous computers communicating with VT-100 terminals. The Apple, then, needs a terminal-emulator package to look like a VT-100.

You can use any of the communications programs that emulate the VT-

Emulating most popular asynchronous terminals is primarily a software task.

100 terminal, but a few of the programs have been customized to work with protocol converters. For example, with Apple's MacTerminal, which simulates a VT-100, you can use the extra keys that an IBM 3278 terminal has but a Macintosh does not by clicking on key images on a pull-down menu. Apple also offers Access 3270 for the Apple III and LisaTerminal for the Lisa set up to work with the Appleline protocol-converter box from Apple. For the Apple II, Apple sells a protocol converter built into a standard plugin card. With it, you don't need terminal-emulator software. Rather, you require one of two custom programs available specifically for this card. One program sets the card to imitate an IBM 3278 terminal attached to a 3274 Controller; the other turns the Apple into a look-alike of the IBM 2780 and 3780 Remote Job Entry systems.

All the programs we've discussed work with a mainframe that is operating normally, making the Apple jump through hoops to talk with it. With the ever-increasing popularity and visibility of micros in the business environment, however, more mainframe software is becoming available. Programs to transfer and use files created by VisiCalc (DIF format), Multiplan files (SYLK format), and dBASE II (.DBF) files are now available for some machines. For a look at an innovative and comprehensive mainframe-software product for using Apples in a distributed-processing network, see "Continuum," on page 39 of this issue.

For more information on the products discussed in this article, see page 52.



CIRCLE 109 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Hayes Compatible
More Features
Only \$495

The best price/performance ratio of any 212A modem on the market today for under \$500! That puts ProModem 1200 on top of the stack. Compare the 26 features. You'll see why. Only ProModem offers all 26. 15 are exclusive.

They're important features. The Real Time Clock/Calendar for example. Used with Applications Programs, or the OPTIONS PROCESSOR, gives you pre-set timed operation of the modem. Also, time and duration records of all calls. The convenient HELP command makes ProModem easy to use. It promptly displays the In-structions Menu whenever there's a question about what to do next. With Call Progress Detection, you can "tell" ProModem to do things like automatically "Redial When Puccy" When Busy."

It's the only modem that lets you expand into a full telecommunications center with add-ons. The OPTIONS PROCESSOR gives you Data Store and Time Base Continuity with battery backup, Personal/Business Tele-phone Directory, and Automatic Receipt/Transfer Buffer, expandable to 64K. The OPTIONS PROCESSOR also enables ProModem to operate unattended, with or without your computer.

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212A Modem Comparison Chart*

CONNECT

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STANDARD FEATURES

300/1200 Baud (212A)

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Tone and Pulse Dialing

Hayes Command Compatible (Works with Smartcom[®]) Additional telephone jack with exclusion switching

Analog loop back self test

Self Test at Power Up

Call Progress Detection (Busy, Dial Tones, Trunk Busy, etc.)

Speaker and External Volume Control

Full Complement of Status Lights

8 Switch Selectable power-up defaults

Adaptive Dialing

Auto Redial on Busy

Ergonomically designed easy to read front display panel

Internal Stand-Alone Power Supply

Built in Real Time Clock/Calendar

Help Command

300 baud connect while maintaining 1200 baud RS-232 link

EXPANDABLE OPTIONS

Automatic Receiver Buffer

Automatic Transmit Buffer

On-board Personal/Business Directory

Buffer, Expandable to 64K

Auto Logon Macros

Auto message transmission to groups of numbers

Records call duration

12-character Alphanumeric Display

HAYES STACK	STACK	-	~	-			~		~	-	-	~
ARTCAT+	-			-	-	-	-		-	-	1	-
					AN	CHO	ANCHOR 1200	000	-	-	-	-
			SN	ROI	BOT	ICS	US ROBOTICS PASSWORD	SW0	BD	-	-	-

[151

PRO

*Comparison made by Prometheus on the basis of the best information available to Prometheus at time of printing.

NOVATION SN



PRODUCT INFORMATION

Acculink

IE Systems 112 Main Street Newmarket, NH 03857 (603) 659-5891

List Price: \$245 for the Apple; \$2445, \$995, and \$1475 for the DEC 10/20, DDB 11, and \$147

PDP 11, and VAX, respectively **Requires:** Apple II, II Plus, or He **Notes:** Two products—one for the Apple and one for the larger computer. Acculink for Apple is a general-purpose async-communications program. Buying the Acculink program for the DEC 10/20, PDP 11, or VAX allows binary-file transfer with error checking from the Apple II. These are softwareonly products.

CIRCLE 550 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Apple Access 3270 and 3780/2780

Apple Computer, Inc. 20525 Mariani Avenue Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 996-1010

List Price: \$300 each for software packages

Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or Apple III with Appleline

Notes: Two separate programs—they allow the Apple to emulate an IBM

3274 Cluster Controller attached to a 3278 Display or 2780/3780 Remote Job Entry Terminal. CIRCLE 551 ON READER SERVICE CARD

ASCII Express—The Professional United Software 1880 Century Park East Suite 311 Los Angeles, CA 90067 (213) 556-2211 List Price: \$129.95 Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; ProDOS

Notes: Works with 48K and 64K systems. Lowercase generator optional. Supports many printer and modem interfaces and either 40- or 80-column screen. Also supports phone-number library and macro definitions. The TTY for the Deaf (Baudot mode) is available if you use an Apple-CAT modem. Builtin text editor.

CIRCLE 552 ON READER SERVICE CARD

BLAST

Communications Research Group, Inc.

8939 Jefferson Highway Baton Rouge, LA 70808 (504) 923-0888 List Price: \$250

Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or IIe with DOS 3.3, or Macintosh

Notes: Available for 70 different micros, minis, and mainframes. If you have BLAST on one machine only, you can send and receive ASCII text only, without error checking. With BLAST on both ends, however, you can send and receive binary data as well as ASCII text, with error checking.

CIRCLE 553 ON READER SERVICE CARD

DataTalker II, DataTalker/Mac Winterhalter & Associates 3853 Research Park Drive P.O. Box 2180 Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (313) 662-2002 or (800) 321-7785

- List Price: \$1095 for the Mac; \$995 for the II family (software/hardware package)
- Requires: Mac or Apple II, II Plus, or IIe. Z80 card and CP/M required on Apple II.

Notes: The Mac program allows 3270series bisync emulation. The II program does 3270/3780 bisync.

CIRCLE 554 ON READER SERVICE CARD

(Continued on page 54)

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Calmpute is an effective biofeedback program that accurately monitors your level of stress, while suggesting proper exercises to help you reduce tension.

Or increase it, if need be. Through revealing dialogue, deep relaxation exercises, and a challenging car game, called CalmPrix, you will learn stress control. Calmpute is the only medical award winning program that uses a Galvanic Skin

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PRODUCT INFORMATION

ERAII	Suite 10	TD-830 Emulator Package
MicroCom	Memphis, TN 38118	Core Technologies
1400A Providence Highway	(901) 683-6850	7201 West Saginaw
Norwood, MA 02062	List Price: \$195	Lansing, MI 48917
(617) 762-9310	Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or IIe	(517) 321-4659
List Price: \$499	Notes: Provides emulation of these ter-	List Price: \$695 for the emulator pack-
Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc,	minals: ADDS Regent 20, 25, 40, 60;	age
or Macintosh with Macmodem	ADDS Viewpoint; Data General D200,	Requires: Apple II Plus with 80-column
Notes: Includes 1200-bps modem.	Datapoint 3601; DEC VT102, VT52;	card, Apple IIe, or Apple III; 64K
Macmodem will support 2400 bps after	Hazeltine 1400, 1410, 1500, 1520;	RAM
December 1984. Utilizes icons and	Hewlett-Packard 2622A; Honeywell	Notes: A hardware/software package
mouse.	VIP7205, VIP7801, VIP7803; IBM	that works with all Burroughs comput-
CIRCLE 555 ON READER SERVICE CARD	3101 Model 10 and 20; Lear Siegler	ers. Also available for \$1500 is a series
MITE	ADM-3A, ADM-5; and TeleVideo 910,	of programs to allow file uploading and
Mycroft Labs	925, 950.	downloading between Burroughs and
P.O. Box 6045	CIRCLE 557 ON READER SERVICE CARD	Apple. Includes programs for both the
Tallahassee, FL 32314		Apple and the Burroughs.
(904) 385-1141	Talisman Terminal Emulator	CIRCLE 559 ON READER SERVICE CARD
List Price: \$150	Disco-Tech	
Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or IIe;	Morton Technologies	Terminus
CP/M; 48K RAM; 80-column	Box 1659	Quark, Inc.
board	Santa Rosa, CA 95402	2525 West Evans, Suite 220
Notes: Supports various protocols, ser-	(707) 527-8500	Denver, CO 80219
ial cards, and auto-answer/auto-dial	List Price: \$125	(303) 934-2211
modems.	Requires: Apple II with CP/M, Z80	List Price: \$89
CIRCLE 556 ON READER SERVICE CARD	card, and 80-column card, or Apple III with CP/M	Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc with ProDOS, or Apple III
Softerm 2	Notes: Emulates DEC VT-100, IBM	Notes: Optional Word Juggler interface
Softronics	3101, and 50 other terminals.	allows editing during transmission.
3639 New Getwell Road	CIRCLE 558 ON READER SERVICE CARD	CIRCLE 560 ON READER SERVICE CARD

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Can be used with 80 column text, so both color graphics and text are displayed on one RGB monitor. Text can be displayed in anyone of 8 colors, software selectable. A text mode enhancement circuit improves resolution and readibility. Board plugs into slot 7 and comes with 4' cable for signal output. Optional monitor connector, wired to cable is available (specify RGB monitor make and model).

For the Apple 11 or 11+, the optional VSS-80 softswitch or VSP-80 switchplate can be used to interface Videx Videoterm or Ultraterm or other similar boards. For Franklin

computers, the VSP-80 is available to implement this feature.

For further information contact your computer dealer/ distributor or:

TELEMAX. INC. **Computer and Video Products** P.O. Box 339 Warrington, PA 18976 (215) 343-3000

The Kaleidoscope VCB-24

Has the same specs. as the COLOR MASTER, with the following added features:

Each text line of 24 lines of text can be independently set to any one of 8 colors, on any one of 8 colors of background. Software provided.

Signal output: RED, GREEN, BLUE, Sync., both composite and H&V. Levels are TTL, both + and -; other outputs: ± 5VDC, +12 VDC. Signals are American Standard. European version is available. Universal RGB monitor compatibility.

ORDERING INFORMATION: (board model nos)

UNDENNIG IN	UninAlion. (De	Jara moder nos.)			
APPLE	11, 11+	11e	Price		
ColorMaster	VCB-8+	VCB-8e	\$139.00		
Softswitch	VSS-80	don't need	45.00		
SwitchPlate	VSP-80	don't need	30.00		
Kaleidoscope	VCB-24+	VCB-24E	199.00		
FRANKLIN	Ace 1000.	*Monochrome	Price		
	1200 (rev. B)	Ace 1000.100			
ColorMaster	VCB8-EF		\$169.00		
ColorMaster		VCB-8F	139.00		
Kaleidoscope	VCB-24EF	VCB-24F	219.00		
SwitchPlate	VSP-80	VSP-80	30.00		
(*earlier models that did not have color)					
Monitor connector, wired to cable: \$20.00					

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TELEMAX IO, Input/Output Card Gives user access to the following: 1) Four 8 bit input or output ports (total 32 lines of I/O) 2) Two handshake lines for each port (total 8 lines) 3) Four powerful 16 bit timers, real time or stopwatch. 4) Two shift registers 5) Card may be used in any slot from 1 to 7 6) Suitable for robotics or other control of external equipment. TIO-8 \$169.00 TELEMAX Rom/Ram Card Provides up to 32K of either ROM or RAM storage: user can install CMOS RAM for data or program storage; data can be maintained for 2 years with on-board battery backup. Programs stored in RAM or ROM can be used with other programs. Has 8 bit I/O port for accessing external circuitry. TRR-32 \$199.00 Barcode Reader Standalone system, with wand, ASCII RS232 output, built-in CPU; may be used with any micro or mainframe. Reads LOGMARS. (3 of 9 and others) \$595.00 Barcode Printer Software for Apple 11e and Epson Printers. Prices & specifications \$299.00 are subject to change without notice.

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Shape Libra

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that's fast, smooth, and

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Create motion

picture

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\$59.95 Requires 64K

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Picture Editor creates hi-res pictures using mixed text and graphics, circles, lines, colorfill, and shape tables.

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Optional Shape Libraries greatly reduce the time required to generate computer art. Each library contains a wide variety of artist drawn shapes for specific areas of interest.

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Smartcom I also provides you with a directory of the files stored on your disk. And will answer calls to your system, without your even being there. Your Apple's telephone goes any-

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The Apple Connection Takes the Right

Getting information back and forth between an Apple personal computer and a big mainframe takes more than clever programming. To make the connection, you'll also need the right hardware. Existing mainframe computer's were not designed to speak with Apples, nor is changing their ways an easy task. If you want your Apple to connect with a big machine, the Apple will have to do the adapting.

Mainframes, as a rule, expect to communicate with terminals. Thus, the easiest way to connect an Apple and a mainframe is to configure the Apple to electronically imitate the appropriate terminal. Generally, the Apple must act like a simple remote terminal (such as the Digital Equipment Corporation VT-100 or Lear Siegler ADM 3A) or like a member of the more complex IBM 3270 series (see figure 1).

Terminal Emulation

Emulation of simple remote terminals is by far the easier method. These terminals communicate in ASCII (the same character-coding method Apples use), using ordinary asynchronous RS-232 serial communications (the Apples' communications method). The Macintosh, Lisa, and IIc all have built-in serial ports, and you can add serial cards to the rest of the Apple family. To a mainframe, an Apple communicating through the serial port looks electrically just like a terminal.

You also need the right "terminal emulation" software package so your Apple will know to send and receive data with the serial port, and you must instruct the software how to imitate the selected terminal's response to formatting commands that accomplish such functions as clearing the screen or positioning the cursor.

Technical and organizational policies, especially in a corporate environment, usually prevent you from simply running a standard serial cable from your Apple and plugging it into the back of a mainframe. You're likely to get remote-terminal access to the mainframe only by telephone, so you'll need a modem at the Apple end.

If the mainframe configuration expects ordinary terminals linked to it through modems, an Applemodem or other similar product will do fine. As with any other modem link, you'll have to make sure your modem is compatible and that you've set the right transmission (bps) rate, start bits and stop bits, parity, word length, and so on. You can obtain the proper settings from the company operating the mainframe you want to communicate with.

Talking 3270

Unfortunately, not all mainframes have telephone dial-up ports or other ways of attaching ordinary terminals. Especially as the mainframe size gets larger, it gets to be too much of a chore to support slow-speed terminals that each require a separate line. Instead, most larger systems connect many terminals to a mainframe via a single line and use an entirely different method to regulate the conversation.

The most common, by far, of these terminal families designed for mainframe use is the IBM 3270 series. To emulate a member of the 3270 family, personal computers such as the Apple need some outside help. The 3270 series uses a different character set, a different communications protocol, and even a different type of wiring than ordinary Apple telecommunications equipment does (see box on page 59).

The little box that links these two disparate worlds is called a protocol converter. Apple itself is now marketing a protocol converter called Appleline that is customized for the Apple. So far, it works only with the Macintosh, the Lisa, and the Apple III. Other firms, such as Avatar Technologies and Winterhalter & Associates, have developed instructions for using their standard personal-computer protocol converters with specific Apple computers.

In fact, if you want to put together your own combination, you can pick from protocol converters from Apple or another company and any Apple computer, including the Apple II. You'll also have to use VT-100 terminal-emulation software from an independent company (under Apple DOS, ProDOS, or CP/M). Most of the converter boxes work in similar ways and cost in the neighborhood of \$1000. The emulation software should run you between \$50 and \$350.

On the Apple's end, the protocol box electronically emulates a mainframe hooked up to communicate with a standard asynchronous terminal (both Apple and Avatar products emulate Digital Equipment Corporation's VT-100). You connect the converter as if it were a modem, but you need a reversing cable or modem eliminator since the serial-interface pinouts on the protocol converter are in the right order for a computer, instead of the order a modem needs. In fact, if you want to connect an Apple to a remote 3270-series controller, you can hook the Apple to a modem, connect that pair by phone to another modem hooked up to a converter, and hook the converter to the controller (see figure 3, page 60).

On the other end, the converter emulates an IBM 3278 Model 2 Display Station, which hooks up with coaxial cable to a cluster controller. You can unplug a 3278-2 terminal and replace it with the Apple/converter combination or run a new coaxial cable from the controller.

To connect up to seven Apples to a mainframe through a single connection, Apple also sells the Apple Cluster Controller. This box looks like a standard IBM 3274 or 3276 cluster controller for the IBM network, but provides ports for the more than half-dozen Apples. As with Appleline, the computers can hook directly to the cluster controller or link up via a modem.

For the Apple II family, you can choose a more customized solution. The Apple Communications Protocol Card drops into a II, II Plus, or IIe, and emulates an IBM 3274 Cluster Controller connected to a 3278 Display. With the right software (see "David Talks to Goliath" on page 45), it can also let your Apple II act like a 2780/3780 Remote Job Entry Terminal from IBM.

Lost in the Translation

Although the converter forms an excellent electronic bridge from the Ap-



COAX CABLE

ple's serial port to the 3270 controller, you still notice some differences from normal Apple use. The most serious problem is screen size: Apples normally show a maximum of 24 lines of text, whereas terminals such as the 3278 show 25 lines, in addition to a set of status lights. Most mainframe terminals also have larger keyboards, so you have to simulate the operation of their extra keys with keystroke combinations or mouse selections.

So far, converters for the Apple do not offer a solution to the problem of screen size. Some companies are workabilities to show all 25 lines, and these products should start appearing in about six months. For now, you'll have to do without the extra line or reprogram your mainframe applications to work within the top 23 or 24 lines. On the Macintosh and Lisa, software now in development will use the Graphics mode of these machines to display more lines per screen.

The keystroke problem is not as severe. You can pick from a pull-down video keyboard on the Macintosh and Lisa for the extra keys. If you're using an Avatar PA 1000E, Winterhalter DataTalker, or Appleline with the Apple III and Access 3270, you invoke the operations with short sequences of keys.

Although the converters do an excellent job of simulating terminals in the interactive mode, current models do not provide a particularly good method for file transfer. Typically, the converter puts a screen's worth of data into a buffer (because the 3278 sends and receives an occasional block of data at

THE 3270 SPEAKS A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE

The IBM 3270 series includes a wide range of communications controllers, terminals, and remote printing stations. The terminals generally are grouped in clusters attached to a communications controller, with the controller, in turn, attached to the mainframe (see figure 2). Ordinary asynchronous terminals send data out whenever you enter a keystroke, but 3270-series terminals save their data and wait for a request directed specifically to a particular terminal to dump one or more screens of data out to the controller. This method of transmission, called polling, allows several terminals to share the same connecting line.

The 3270 products also regulate

FIGURE 2: Examples of connecting Apples to mainframes using local and remote cluster controllers their communication differently than ordinary dial-up ports do. Rather than using the asynchronous method (in which each character is sent with a synchronizing start bit and stop bit but nothing is done to maintain timing between characters), 3270-series products link up by using IBM's Bisynchronous or Synchronous Data Link Control (referred to as bisync or BSC and SDLC respectively). These communications protocols also provide a more complex error-checking method and addressing capability than do the simpler methods used in the personal-computer world.

Protocol differences may seem a bit arcane if you're not a communications expert, but the differences in character sets are visible. The character code that the mainframe sends out for each letter produces a different character symbol on the Apple screen. The IBM mainframe world uses the character code EBCDIC; Apples; other personal computers, terminals, and minicomputers use ASCII. The code that a mainframe sends out for the letter Z, for example, corresponds to an inverse-video closingparenthesis symbol on the Apple. EBC-DIC uses 256 code combinations rather than ASCII's 128, so you can't get a one-to-one translation between codes. Along with symbols that ASCII lacks, such as the ¢ sign, EBCDIC has a richer set of communications- and terminal-control characters.



high speed—the Apple, on the other hand, sends and receives data character by character). If you have to save larger data files from the mainframe, the Apple computer must do the saving.

Unfortunately, Macterm and Lisaterm, for example, do not yet have a method for saving screens of data that don't scroll—most 3278 programs erase and repaint the screen instead of scrolling. You can save single screens of data with the Copy to Clipboard or Scrapbook functions, but this method is not viable for capturing long files.

Mainframe-to-Apple communications, however, is still in its infancy. Both Apple and independent vendors are continuously improving their interconnection software and hardware, with ease of use apparently a priority. As they gain more experience in speaking mainframe, Apples will begin to sound more like natives.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Avatar PA 1000E protocol converter Avatar Technologies 99 South Street Hopkinton, MA 01748 (617) 435-6872 List Price: \$1095 CIRCLE 516 ON READER SERVICE CARD

DataTalker protocol converter Winterhalter & Associates 3853 Research Park Drive Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (800) 321-7785 In MI (313) 662-2002 List Price: \$1095 CIRCLE 517 ON READER SERVICE CARD

TD-1012/APP-II or III tape drive TD-1054/APP-II or III high-speed tape drive Innovative Data Technology 4060 Morena Blvd. San Diego, CA 92117 (619) 270-3990 List Price: TD-1012, \$4995; TD-1054, \$6995. CIRCLE 518 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Apple Communications Protocol Card Appleline protocol converter Apple Cluster Controller Apple Computer, Inc.

20525 Mariani Blvd. Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 996-1010

List Price: protocol card, \$700; protocol converter, \$1295; three-port version of the cluster controller, \$4500; and seven-port version, \$7000 CIRCLE 519 ON READER SERVICE CARD

SEND IT BY TAPE

If you need to exchange large volumes of data between Apples and mainframes but don't need immediate interaction with the mainframe programs, you may be best off hooking your Apple to an off-line tape drive. Virtually all mainframe systems can read from and write to open-reel 1/2-inch magnetic tape ("mag tape") quickly and efficiently. Tying up a mainframe communications port can be costly and time-consuming. Instead, you can hook the Apple to a suitable tape drive, type in all your data, and then mount the tape on the mainframe. This approach is a low-cost, high-speed method of transferring data. For example, it takes several weeks to upload about 5 megabytes of data from an Apple to an IBM 3083 mainframe if you use a modem and a phone hook-up. In contrast, you can upload the same amount of data to the mainframe in one afternoon with a tape drive. Also, each tape can store 20 megabytes or more.

Finding Apple-to-mag-tape hardware is the easiest part. Companies such as Innovative Data Technology in San Diego, California, sell a variety of tape drives, complete with interfaces for all of the Apple computers.

The core set of device-driver routines comes built into the interface, so you won't have to teach your Apple how to start and stop the transport mechanism or what to do with input data. You will have to write some software on your own to arrange your data in a suitable format for the type of mainframe you plan to use, however.

If you go this route, expect to pay between \$3000 and \$10,000 for your tape drive and interface, and additional money for custom software.



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For more than 400 years, the battleship Mary Rose lay entombed in muddy seawater, a rare snapshot from an era that left few relics. Questions still linger about the ship's demise. What's known for certain, though, is that she sank within minutes after entering into battle with the French, as England's King Henry VIII stood on shore watching the catastrophe unfold. Of the 700 men on board, only about 30 survived.

In the centuries that followed, attempts to locate the ship were unsuccessful. Then, in 1975, a group of British divers sighted their prize. Ironically, the centuries-old buildup of silt that obscured the

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vessel had preserved the objects within in a remarkably pristine state.

The continued preservation of these artifacts—some 17,000 in total—has proved to be a mammoth task, however. According to Howard Murray, one of

five conservators on the project. the quantity of articles recovered from the Mary Rose far exceeds that of previous similar finds. To help streamline the tedious and sometimes imprecise preservation effort, Murray has called on VisiCalc, running on an Apple II Plus, to predict

how various objects can best be saved. Preserving the artifacts is crucial to historians and archaeologists because they provide clues to a relatively undocumented era in naval history. The objects include not only military implements-wrought-iron guns, longbows, and arrows-but also relics of the seamen's daily routine-a backgammon game; pocket sundial; bone manicure set; and the barber-surgeon's chest, complete with drug flasks, razors, and pewter bowl for bloodletting. Peas still in their pods testify to the extraordinary conditions in which this storehouse of goods reposed for so many years.

Freeze-Dried Preservation

Within their mud cocoons, these objects are 80 to 90% water. They will disintegrate if, to clean them, they're immersed in a tub of water. Lay them out to dry, and they'll collapse, without mud and silt to support them. The conservators' mission, therefore, is to safely dry each object without sacrificing its original shape.

The recovered objects are first treated with wax. Next they are frozen and placed in the freeze-dryer, an $8 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ foot vacuum chamber, where heat is applied. Freezing turns the water inside the objects to ice; heating causes the ice to escape in the form of water vapor. Before the advent of freeze-drying, it took years—three, four, even five—to dry water-logged objects.

The primary drawback of this approach is that it's not automated. The time each object spends in the freezedryer (anywhere from two weeks to two months), the optimum temperature and pressure inside the chamber, and the quantity of stabilizing chemicals (wax and a sugar alcohol), vary according to what the object is made of, its dimensions, and the amount of water it contains. The conservators' current strategy is to rely on intuition and experience to determine each object's

> freeze-drying regime, but their plan is to use an Apple II Plus to inject more precision into the process.

Apples Join the Preservation Team

Specifically, the Mary Rose Trust in Portsmouth, England, has contracted with a local software developer to assist with a VisiCalc

YOU CAN ALWAYS

DISPOSE OF A

BATCH OF

DEFECTIVE FREEZE-

DRIED COFFEE-

NOT SO

WITH A STEERING

COMPASS

FROM THE TUDOR

PERIOD.

model that utilizes data obtained from objects that already have been preserved, in order to predict the freezedrying requirements of objects not yet dried. Based on an object's dimensions, composition, and level of saturation, the program computes the amount of time the object should be dried, the temperature and pressure at which it should be dried, its weight after drying, and the quantity of chemicals required.

Because there have been few freezedrying operations of this magnitude in the past, and because it is impossible to simulate the effects

of four centuries under water, Murray did not have a lot of past data to go on. Only after conservators had gathered data on some 2000 articles could work on the model begin. Now in the final stages of development, the model will run on a 64K Apple II Plus with a Pascal language card, two disk drives, and an MX-100 Epson printer.

Perhaps the most significant benefit of the VisiCalc model is that it will take much of the guesswork out of freezedrying. Now the subtleties surrounding how a certain type of wood behaves, or the most effective way to dry a particular shape, are buried in the conservators' personal stash of knowledge.

Once the model is complete, almost anyone can learn the requisite techniques. In addition, the software will cut expenses by enabling conservators to predict more accurately the quantities of chemicals needed during the process. Eventually, Murray plans to make the program available to other conservation teams.

Freeze-drying on a commercial basis has been around for a long time, but that process requires far less precision than freeze-drying one-of-a-kind artifacts. You can always dispose of a batch of defective freeze-dried coffee not so with a steering compass from the Tudor period.

The current system, even using the modeling program, is not foolproof; occasionally objects melt. The cause, according to Murray, is that the temperature cannot be varied within the freeze-drying chamber. Since it takes a lot more heat to dry a large object than a small one, small objects can easily get overheated.

In order to solve the problem, conservators are developing a system that uses the Apple II Plus to control equipment within the freeze-dryer—specifically, infrared lamps to regulate temperature and baffles to obstruct the release of water vapor. The equipment is in place. The final step is building the interface.

In addition to its important role in the conservation lab, the Apple has been put to work in the Mary Rose

Trust's accounting department. The financial staff there keeps track of the organization's finances with Jarman, an accounting package which was created in Great Britain, and uses Multiplan to assist in creating fundraising strategies.

The Apple is certainly not the only high-tech participant in the Mary Rose salvaging effort: The sonar that

helped locate the ship, the light-amplification cameras that made it possible to photograph the underwater wreck, and the sophisticated lifting gear that raised the hull, all played a role.

Obviously, in the future, technology will play a larger and larger role in unraveling enigmas of the past. As one Mary Rose official put it, "Without the use of high technology, it never would have happened."





APPLE LOGO II

A new version of Logo provides help for beginners and additional features for advanced users.

If you haven't used Logo, you'll find Apple Logo II an easy-to-learn version of this programming language, replete with all the turtle graphics and list-processing commands that make Logo both fun and powerful.

If you've been using Apple Logo—or any other Logo designed for an Apple with 64K RAM—you'll find Apple Logo II a pleasant surprise, with more than twice the user memory space, many new commands (in Logo, these are known as primitives), and the ability to create data files on disk. (You'll need an Apple IIe with 128K RAM or an Apple IIc to use it, though.)

The new versions of Logo that have come out in the past year for the IBM PC



What Is Logo?

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This programming language stands with one foot in the educational philosophy of Jean Piaget and the other in LISP, the language of choice for most artificialintelligence research. During the past two decades it has emerged from these two traditions, migrating from huge mainframes to minis and, in the past few years, to microcomputers. It is best known for its turtle graphics, but Logo also includes list-processing capabilities that make possible the creation of sophisticated programs such as database managers, word processors, and even expert systems.

Educators have used Logo with preschoolers, beginning engineering students, and senior citizens. Their motives are mixed—to introduce computer programming, to teach creative thinking, to familiarize students with geometry. Families find exploring Logo an activity everyone can participate in, regardless of age or computer knowledge. For more information on Logo programming, see "Follow the Turtle to Logo," by Steve Rosenthal in A+, Volume 1, Issue 2. The Logo educational philosophy is covered in detail in A. Richard Immel's interview with Seymour Papert, (known as the "father of Logo"), in A+, Volume 1, Issue 1.

The Language

As with other computer languages, Logo includes a vocabulary of primitive commands and various structural conventions. You can learn the fundamentals of the language while using turtle graphics, a portion of Logo that allows users to draw simple and complex designs on a screen with surprisingly few commands. The Logo "turtle" is nothing more than a small triangle that folyou lows commands. If type FORWARD 50, for example, the turtle moves forward 50 steps (about two inches), leaving a line of this length on the screen.

In Logo, such commands are grouped together to form "procedures." For example, you can build a procedure called Square out of several commands, telling the turtle first to move forward 50 steps, then turn right 90 degrees, then move forward 50, and so on. If we have defined a procedure called Square and another procedure called Square and another procedure called Triangle, we can place the two together in a program called House. (That is, if we have been clever enough to make sure that in the drawing the triangle lands on top of the square so it looks like a roof!)

A Helping Hand

As the beginner moves into more complex tasks, Logo's real power emerges, although at the price of greater difficulty.

Logo is known as an easy language to learn, and Apple Logo II has made it even easier with several new aids. These aids include a tutorial disk, two Help screens, and debugging primitives. (Users also receive a 325-page reference manual and a 177-page book, *An Introduction to Programming.*)

The tutorial disk leads you through the basics of turtle graphics, variables, and a few word-oriented commands. It's a well-executed interactive program that makes use of two on-screen personalities, an anonymous instructor, and a zealous gadfly called Leo Logolover. Having two instructors with different personalities adds zest to the instructional activity.

The first Help screen gives basic graphic commands, as well as some other essential information such as how to start a program or get into the Logo text editor. The second Help screen appears if you ask for help while editing text and gives information about texteditor keystrokes.

Finally, typing HELP—followed by the name of any Logo primitive serves as a memory jogger, displaying the inputs required by that primitive. (Programmers can also create their own Help screens within Logo.) **Step and Trace**

These two Logo primitives help debug a program. Step causes a program

HE IMPROVED APPLE LOGO IS A TRUE VALUE AS AN INITIAL PURCHASE OR AS AN UPGRADE.

to execute one line at a time, showing both the program line and the result (action) caused by the line. Trace prints tracing information when you execute a program, showing, for example, the depth of a recursion or the order in which various subprocedures are called. The usefulness of such features becomes evident as Logo programming skills increase.

You can add features such as Step and Trace to other versions of the language by writing procedures that carry out these activities. That's part of Logo's charm—the language is limited only by your ability. You can give each new procedure that you write a oneword name and use it in other procedures, just as if it were a primitive. **Good News**

Apple Lor

Apple Logo users who are familiar with those frustrating "out of space" messages will welcome Apple Logo II. Apple Logo doesn't take advantage of an Apple IIe with 128K RAM, but Apple Logo II does. Instead of about 2819 nodes of user memory, you'll find 7179. Perhaps more important, Apple Logo II lets users create data files on disk. In Apple Logo, one Save command saves the entire Logo "workspace." It doesn't matter that all you want saved are the scores of a race, or perhaps the subtotals and total in a checkbook program. Type SAVE, and everything—the entire program and all associated variables—goes onto the disk.

This is a cumbersome way to do business. With Apple Logo II, you can have your program open a file, write to that file, and close it. Later, you can read the file and use the information in another program, or in another portion of the same program. Features such as this take Logo beyond the classroom and make it a serious programming tool for whatever task you have in mind. **Highlights**

In all, about 200 primitives comprise the vocabulary of Apple Logo II, and, of these, more than 50 are additions that can't be found in Apple Logo. It's impossible to cover all of them, but here are some highlights:

CALL calls a specified machine-language subroutine.

DRIBBLE sends to the disk or printer a copy of everything that appears on the screen. Logo encourages an exploratory programming style, and this command is a great way to keep track of where you've been and where you're going.

FILL is a significant improvement to turtle graphics. Place the turtle inside a closed area, type FILL, and the area fills with the turtle's current pen color. (If the turtle isn't enclosed, the background is filled.)

LOADPIC enables you to save to disk—and quickly recall—the pictures you create with turtle graphics. Thus, you can include graphic images in a program without going through the painstakingly slow process of having the turtle redraw the picture.

LOWERCASE changes a word to alllowercase letters. Yes, there's an UP-PERCASE primitive, too.

PRINTPIC is a screen dump to the printer. Although instructions warn that results are unpredictable with printers other than the Apple Imagewriter, I found it worked fine with Apple's new Scribe printer.

READWORD is similar to READ-LIST, but it outputs the material read as a Logo word rather than as a list. The entire family of read commands

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has been enhanced by allowing them to read from a file as well as from the keyboard.

SAVEL is similar to SAVE, except that it allows users to list specific procedures and variables to be saved. (With SAVE, the entire workspace is saved.)

TOOT generates a tone of a specified frequency for a specified duration. For example, if you wanted a middle C to last one second, you would type TOOT 262 60.

Wish List

All Logo users have their own "wish list" of special features. Some things I would have liked to have found in Apple Logo II, but didn't, are:

1. An editor that gives users the choice of using special keys-such as the openapple and cursor-movement keys-or the old control-key sequences. Some of us are used to the control keys. In other instances, schools may have both Apple II Plus and IIe computers; and it would be easier if children learned just one editor to use on both machines, even if that editor were the more difficult. older version with control codes.

2. More colors. Logo II still uses black, white, green, violet, orange, and blue. As other programs have demonstrated, there are ways to simulate more colors on the Apple II.

3. More list-processing primitives. DR Logo (developed by Digital Research) provides primitives for shuffling and sorting lists, for example.

Value and Versatility

Admittedly, these quibbles aren't entirely fair. Logo Computer Systems, Inc., which developed the original Apple Logo-as well as IBM's Logo-has delivered to Apple a language that is amazingly versatile and still leaves users plenty of work space.

At its list price of \$99.95, the improved Apple Logo II is a true value as an initial purchase or as an upgrade from Apple Logo.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Apple Logo II

Apple Computer, Inc. 20525 Mariani Avenue Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 996-1010 List Price: \$99.95 Requires: Apple IIc or IIe with extended 80-column card; one disk drive **CIRCLE 500 ON READER SERVICE CARD** FOR APPLE II+ and I/e

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YOU CAN ORCHESTRATE A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN YOUR APPLE AND A VARIETY OF HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, WITH HARMONIOUS RESULTS.

Computers and music have a special affinity, because they speak different dialects of the same language, mathematics. (In fact, music *is* math, of a special sort, a mathematics made up of the relationships of pitches and units of time.) As personal computers become common in everyday life, it is inevitable that the two will come together in a big way.

You can find more hardware and software of a musical nature for the Apple II series of computers including systems for making music, transcribing it, analyzing it, and marketing it—than you can for any other personal computer on the market today. Most of it is good. Some of it is extraordinary.

HE LEFE OF BOUG FULTON

So open up the grab bag and dig in. Your ears will thank you for it.

The Apple as Orchestra

The simplest way to make music with your Apple is to use its built-in speaker. Several programs are available that allow you to write simple scores (either in musical notation or as strings of numbers) and play them back without external amplification. Unfortunately, the Apple's speaker was designed with games, rather than music, in mind, and it sounds like it. Even programs such as Paul Lutus' Electric Duet, which manages to trick the



speaker into creating twonote chords, can't make it sound like more than a toy.

To do that, you've got to upgrade your system by installing one of several oscillator cards: the Mockingboard, the ALF, the Super Music Synthesizer, the MX-5, or the MusicSystem. All of these products plug into some form of outside amplifier, such as the receiver in your home stereo, which allows their sounds to emanate from much better speakers.

The Mockingboard oscillator card, from Sweet Micro Systems, makes its best music in tandem with a program from Electronic Arts called Music Construction Set. Together they can generate chords of up to six notes. The program itself gives you a visual representation of a grand staff, on which you can write and rearrange music, using a joystick, a KoalaPad, or the computer keyboard itself. It's an excellent teaching tool and a lot of fun. Making music becomes a game.

Much the same holds for the ALF digital-oscillator card, manufactured by ALF Products; the Super Music Synthesizer from Applied Engineering; and the Mountain Computer MusicSystem. Though they have more "voices" than the Mockingboard (16 as opposed to 6, allowing them to play more simultaneous notes) and more control over the timbre (tone color) of the sounds they create, their individual software packages allow you to enter notes only from the computer keyboard or a gametype peripheral controller. This process can be both laborious and frustrating. If you're serious about your music and not a masochist, these packages will wear you out. You would do well to take one more step on the upgrade ladder and turn your Apple into a true musical instrument, with

either the Syntauri or the Soundchaser digital-synthesizer package. The Big Two

Both the Syntauri, from the Syntauri Corporation, and the Soundchaser, from Passport Designs, started out several years ago as attempts to crack the professional musical-instrument marketplace. The idea was to take an existing package-the Apple equipped with the two peripheral cards that make up the Mountain Computer MusicSystem-and provide a new operating system based on more powerful software and an actual piano-like keyboard. For the first time, the Apple became a true instrument, something that people could play in real time.

The two products are superficially similar. Each can play up to eight notes at a time (a limit that results from the fact that each note comprises two oscillator "voices," which makes the sound thicker and more interesting). Each comes with your choice of a four- or a five-octave keyboard, and each has a wide range of software, running the gamut from educational packages to multitrack-recording emulators. There are differences between the two systems, however, and you should choose the one you prefer based on careful thought about whether or not it will meet your needs.

For example, the standard versions of both systems take up three peripheral slots-two for the MusicSystem cards, and one for a keyboard interface. Not everyone has that many slots available, however. You may prefer to go with the new Soundchaser MX-5 card, which takes up only one slot and has everything on it, including a keyboard-control interface. (The drawback here is that the card draws a great deal of power through its one slot, reportedly enough that it can stress your system and cause other applications in your Apple to malfunction. I encountered no such problem while testing-but evervone's computer slightly different, so I recommend caution.)

Another difference is in the programs that both companies offer for analyzing what you play on the keyboard and then printing out that music, in standard musical notation, on a dotmatrix printer. Syntauri's Composer's Assistant is ambitious but has some glitches and other drawbacks. Passport's equivalent, Polywriter, is less glamorous in intent but far more functional.

ages are called Simply Music and Musicland. The first is more than it appears to be. On the surface it is a teaching tool, with drills that teach you correct finger placement by having you play notes that match those of prerecorded pieces. The notes to be played are shown on both the keyboard and on the musical staff, using the Apple's high-resolution graphics. Go a little deeper and you find that it is actually an advanced multitrack emulator with which you can record a line of music, play it back, record over it again during playback, play both lines back while recording another line, and so on.

Musicland is ostensibly for kids, but the strongest



For the first time, the Apple became a true instrument. something that people could play in real time.

If you want your compositions in sheet-music form. then the Soundchaser is your better choice. On the other hand, if you are interested in creating exotic sounds and recording music with your Apple, then you may well prefer the Syntauri, because it offers more flexibility of timbral control and a wider range of operating systems.

reaction I've seen to it has been from adults. Developed by Dr. Martin Lamb at the University of Toronto, Musicland is finger painting for the ears. Really. You don't use the keyboard for this one. Instead vou use a KoalaPad or a joystick to doodle shapes and colors across a musical staff, letting the computer translate them into music. isn't standard-but It that's OK, because what this package is about is learning to approach the basic components of music, such as melody and timbre, from a whole new angle. Perhaps that's why kids enjoy it but adults go wild; the kids don't get the added pleasure and gleeful freedom that comes from Syntauri's latest pack- throwing years of Serious Training to the wind.

One distinct advantage that the Syntauri has over the Soundchaser is the existence of two users' groups, one on each coast, dedicated to upgrading and improving the instrumentwith or without the manufacturer's help. Both groups have generated an abundance of new software, new sounds, and new applications.

Recent meetings on the East Coast, for example, have included demonstrations of the following innovations: a machine-language program that converts MusicSystem note files into a form that the Syntauri alphaPlus and Metatrak software can handle, allowing you to combine the timing precision of the one with the arranging and timbral possibilities of the other; a set of rack-mounted signal-processing components that can improve the instrument's dynamic range and clarity so that it can hold its own in a recording studio against synthesizers worth five times its price; a program that simulates FM (frequency modulation) synthesis, something usually considered impossible on the MusicSystem cards; and a whole range of alpha-Plus and Metatrak modifications and improvements by Russ Streifert, cochairman of the group. In addition, the East Coast group is establishing a monthly diskette-based magazine called SynDisk, which will allow Syntauri users who live in other parts of the country to join in the fun and reap the benefits.

The Apple as Microphone

Another development of general interest to Apple owners (and of specific interest to Syntauri and Soundchaser players) is the DX-1 card, from Decillionix. The DX-1 does digital sampling.

Sampling? Well, sam-

pling means recording, using a computer's memory instead of magnetic tape.

Here's how it works in practice: Place the DX-1 card in one of the peripheral slots in your Apple. Hook its output to your stereo or amp, plug a microphone into the card's minijack input (a converter jack comes with the card, since most microphones use quarterinch plugs), set the software to the correct option, and then say something. Within the limitations of your chosen sampling rate (the higher the rate, the shorter the sample), the sound of what you said will be recorded into the computer and available for immediate playback or, for that matter, alteration. Now that your voice is just raw data, the computer can do a lot with it, such as transpose its pitch up or down over a five-octave musical range or play it backwards or cut it up into little pieces of sound and rearrange them. It's really up to you, vour imagination, and the DX-1 Effects II software.

The system offers several other unusual features. You can play it live from the computer keyboard (or the piano-style keyboards that come with the Soundchaser and Syntauri systems). DX-1 can also create alternative scales (such as pentatonic or just intonation) and use them instead of the standard Western musical scale. It can program and save to disk sound sequences or rhythms, giving you complete control over the duration, pitch, direction, and volume of the sequences. Sounds are stored in "soundbases" of 24K of RAM. The Effects II software comes with three sound sequences (one of which is a standard drum kit) and 12 preprogrammed rhythms.

Other packages from Decillionix for its card in-

clude five different disks of sounds; Splash, which is a set of six hi-res displays that are driven by the sampled sounds in real time; and Echo, which allows you to take a sampled sound and "loop" it in memory in different ways, resulting in a variety of echo, reverberation, and feedback effects.

Here's another note of interest for Syntauri owners: Paul Lehrman, an independent software writer, has married the DX-1 and the MusicSystem in an interesting program called Metawave. It lets you take DX-1 samples and use them as the basis for building the waveforms generated by the MusicSystem oscillator cards, so you can create a new range of snare, multiple tom-toms, cymbals, cowbell, tambourine—they're all here, ready to be programmed into patterns or played automatically in one of the 100 rhythm patterns or 26 sounds built into the system. The Drum-Key package is quite impressive overall and includes multitrack and real-time recording, programmable pattern length (up to 32 measures),

You use a KoalaPad or a joystick to doodle shapes and colors across a musical staff.



unique but playable sounds on that instrument. **The Apple as Rhythm Section**

It's one thing to sit and play notes, but what about the beat? The DX-1 card comes with some preprogrammed rhythms, and you can create more, but only as an incidental feature to exploring another concept. Where are the different drummers we might march our Apples to?

Coming up fast, I'm pleased to say.

Easiest to start with is the Drum-Key, from PVI (Peripheral Visions Incorporated). It's an interface board and software package that has digitally sampled recordings of 28 different drum and percussion sounds. Kick bass, 28 possible time signatures, 128 possible tempos, rhythm control that allows you to vary the beat, a programmable audio/video metronome, and sync outputs that let you hook Drum-Key into external synthesizers or drum machines.

It's a nifty and elegant package—just what you'd expect from its writer, Bill Mauchly (the musician/engineer son of father-of-thecomputer John Mauchly).

If a wider range of control is what you're after, you'll find that the E-Mu Systems GRC (Graphic Rhythm Controller) fits the bill. This product isn't a digital drum set like DX-1 and Drum-Key; it has no sampled sounds. Instead, it is a control package that allows you to directly drive one of the most common professional-quality drum machines on the market, the E-Mu Systems Drumulator. Each half of the system concentrates on doing one thing well, and the net result is exciting. You create parts by writing in standard drum notation, with a few twists. Stem height, for example, lets you set the volume of a note on a hi-res "time grid," using a joystick for data entry. You start by writing measures (of up to 200 notes!), which you can combine into segments and link into songs. At any step of the process, you can store your data, which allows you to create a library of riffs and patterns that you can call up as your musical needs dictate.

The GRC offers tremendous control to its users. Properly programmed, this unit can create such subtle changes in volume and rhythm that it creates the illusion of a live drummer. It's an invaluable tool for small studios, nondrumming composers, bands that can't find a decent drummer to work with, or drummers who want to explore a new way to craft creative rhythms.

The Apple as Conductor

If you want to start a conversation at a NAMM show, say the acronym *MIDI*.

NAMM stands for National Association of Music Merchants. Twice a year at NAMM shows, people who make musical instruments trot out their newest and best for dealers and musicians who flock in from around the country. MIDI, in turn, stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface, a cute acronym for a concept that has turned the field on its head in only a year.

MIDI is a communications standard (sort of) for any instruments or musical gear that contain a microSPEED UP YOUR APPLE

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System

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processor. We're talking about a lot of devices.

Every synthesizer, every drum machine, most signalprocessing gear, all multitrack tape machines, many recording consoles-they are all computerized, and linking them through a network of MIDI connections can bring about a quantum leap in musical control. Furthermore, you can take something with a MIDI on it and link it to a home computer, much as you hook up the GRC and the Drumulator interface. The possibilities are enormous.

Both Syntauri and Passport Designs have introduced MIDI products recently. Syntauri offers the Proxima MIDI/16 and Proxima MIDI/16x; Passport Designs has brought out the MIDI/4.

MIDI/4 is an Applebased digital recording studio. The 4 in the package's title refers to the number of synthesizers that it can directly and independently control (you can pack in even more by running them as "slave" units to a MIDIcontrolled instrument, but they can play only whatever the MIDI-machine plays). It also has a drum sync, so that an external drum machine can provide a control pulse for the system, keeping everything tied to a beat.

MIDI/4 can record not only notes played on the MIDI instruments, but also performance nuances such as key velocity, pitch bend, modulation, and so forth. The system has been licensed for distribution by several major manufacturers in the synthesizer field, including Yamaha.

Polywriter for MIDI is much the same product as Polywriter for the Soundchaser. It takes what you play on a keyboard, converts it to musical notation, and then prints it out on paper. You can edit the score while it is still inside the computer's memory and insert lyrics and performance directions for tempo, volume, and playing style.

Syntauri offers the Proxima MIDI series of products, which includes the Proxima MIDI-1 interface card and the Proxima MIDI/16 and MIDI/16x software packages. The two software packages offer full 16-track recording and the ability to control up to 16



A single Apple may soon serve as the heart of a unified network.

MIDI-compatible instruments, such as Yamaha synthesizers, and Roland synthesizers and drum machines. The MIDI/16x software utilizes the Synetix flashcard's 288K RAM card to increase recording capabilities to a whopping 20,000 notes.

MIDI's future should be bright, especially as software development accelerates. Every major manufacturer in the field is creating MIDI-based software for a variety of instruments and computers, and the companies that aren't engaged actively in development are trying to license the work of "garage guys," musical hackers such as Kevin Laubach and the folks in the Hybrid Arts company.

A single Apple may soon serve as the heart of a unified network of musical tools that reaches from drums, guitars, and keyboards, through recording, mixing, and signal processing. Such is the potential power of MIDI, once it is fully tapped.

Listen for it.

+

The Mockingboard (digital oscillator/ speech-generator card) Sweet Micro Systems Cranston, RI 02920 (401) 461-0530 List Price: \$125 CIRCLE 480 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Music Construction Set By Will Harvey Electronic Arts 2755 Campus Drive San Mateo, CA 94403 (415) 571-7171 List Price: \$40 CIRCLE 481 ON READER SERVICE CARD

The Super Music Synthesizer (card and software) Applied Engineering P.O. Box 798 Carrollton, TX 75006 (214) 492-2027 List Price: \$159 CIRCLE 482 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Mountain Computer MusicSystem (digital oscillator cards and software) Mountain Computer 300 El Pueblo Road Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (408) 438-6650 List Price: \$395 CIRCLE 483 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Syntauri

Syntauri Corporation 1670 South Amphlett Boulevard Suite 116 San Mateo, CA 94402 (415) 574-3045

List Price: Hardware/software packages include the Syntauri Computer Music System, \$1495; the Simply Music Five System, \$1295; the Simply Music Four System, \$995; and the Musicland Games System (without keyboard), \$495. Software includes Musicland, \$149; Simply Music, \$179.95; Composer's Assistant, \$179; Metatrak II, \$179; alphaPlus sound-definition system, \$150; Musicmaster, \$75; and Dolphin Dialog, \$39. CIRCLE 484 ON READER SERVICE CARD

East Coast Syntauri User's Group

For information about the group and its floppy-disk magazine, *SynDisk*, contact David Wilson at 218-04 40th Avenue, Bayside, NY 11361. Annual membership is \$35; programs generated by User's Group members include alphaPlus Enhancers, from Streifert Software, 48-11 59th Street, Woodside, NY 11377 (\$39.95) and; a MusicSystem-to-Syntauri Conversion package from David Schiminovich, 80 Chester Place, Englewood, NJ 07631 (\$30). CIRCLE 485 ON READER SERVICE CARD

West Coast Syntauri User's Group For information, contact Joe West at Computers and Music, 1989 Junipero Serra, Daly City, CA 94014. **CIRCLE 486 ON READER SERVICE CARD** Soundchaser MX-5 System Passport Designs 625 Miramontes Street Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 (415) 726-0280 List Price: \$1495 without Polywriter software, \$1790 with. Polywriter software only, \$299 **CIRCLE 487 ON READER SERVICE CARD DX-1 digital sampling card** Decillionix P.O. Box 70985 Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (408) 732-7758 List Price: \$349 with Effects II software. Other software is available. **CIRCLE 488 ON READER SERVICE CARD** Metawave Paul Lehrman 31 Maple Avenue, #1 Cambridge, MA 02139 (617) 497-7522 CIRCLE 489 ON READER SERVICE CARD Drum-Key (hardware and software) Peripheral Visions, Inc. Great Valley Parkway Malvern, PA 19355 (215) 647-3930 List Price: \$139 **CIRCLE 490 ON READER SERVICE CARD GRC** (Graphic Rhythm Controller) (for the Drumulator digital drum) E-Mu Systems 2815 Chanticleer Santa Cruz, CA 95062 (408) 476-4424 List Price: \$130 **CIRCLE 491 ON READER SERVICE CARD** Apple IIe MIDI Interface, MIDI/4, and Polywriter **Passport Designs** See Soundchaser, above List Price: \$195, \$99, and \$299, respectively **CIRCLE 492 ON READER SERVICE CARD** Proxima MIDI-1 interface, Proxima MIDI/16, Proxima MIDI 16x, and Meta-Expander Syntauri Corporation (above)

List Price: \$195, \$250, \$250, and \$200, respectively CIRCLE 493 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Synetix flashcard Synetix, Inc. 10635 N.E. 38th Place Kirkland, WA 98033 (800) 426-7412

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The Magazine Index contains a subset, Magazine ASAP, that contains the entire text of all articles in 58 selected publications. Coverage begins in January 1983 and is updated monthly. You can view articles on the screen, print them out on your printer, or have Dialog Information Services mail you a printout of the articles.

National Newspaper Index

The National Newspaper Index contains abstracts on international and national news and current events. It is updated monthly and contains cover-tocover indexing of the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Christian Science Monitor starting from January 1979; the Washington Post from September 1982; and the Los Angeles Times from October 1982. IAC also provides an index to business af-

You type in a word or phrase, and the IAC computer finds all abstracts and articles containing those words or phrases.

fairs, which covers contracts, mergers, new products, and company tracking. **Trade and Industry Index**

The Trade and Industry Index provides abstracts from more than 330 journals covering all major industries, as well as selective coverage from more than 1000 general magazines and law journals. It is updated monthly and contains entries dating back to January 1981. Publications covered include Advertising Age, Forbes, Electronic News, Business America, Government Product News, and Industry Week.

Like the Magazine Index, Trade and Industry Index contains a subset with the entire text of all articles in 87 publications. Trade and Industry ASAP contains articles dating back to January 1983.

Management Contents

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Two New Services on CompuServe

We gave an overview of Compu-Serve in the first issue of A+, November 1983, and that information is still fairly accurate. CompuServe is steadily adding new services, however, and two are especially noteworthy.

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The other new service, the Creative Computing Special Interest Group (CCSIG), is a place to find new uses for your Apple. *Creative Computing*, a sister publication of A+, covers the entire computer industry, including Apple Computer, Inc., and provides in-depth reviews of products, peripherals, and software for your Apple.

Once on the CCSIG, you can read the monthly Apple column, upload and download programs, and find out what is going on in the computer world. One of the best reasons to visit the CCSIG is to talk not only to Apple enthusiasts, but to Atarians, Commodoreans, and IBMers too.

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The Daisy Chain

Letter-quality printing with the Macintosh

hen Apple announced the Macintosh last January, the computer was compatible with only one printer, the Apple Imagewriter. Those of us who already owned a printer and were interested in a Mac, as well as those of us who wanted to use a letter-quality printer, didn't have to spend much time wondering if we should buy a Macintosh. It simply wouldn't do what we wanted it to do. Now the situation is different. Several products that permit the Macintosh to communicate with printers other than the Imagewriter are available. Although some of these printers are designed for a specific printer, two are generalists; that is, they work with a variety of different printers.

What these products do is take the

Macintosh codes that produce dots on the Imagewriter and translate them into information that a letter-quality printer can understand. The process requires both software and hardware. The software handles the code translations, and the hardware (in the simplest case, a cable) carries the information to your printer. **Simple or Sophisticated**

Both the Mac Daisywheel Connection from Assimilation Process and the Printer Optimizer from Applied Creative Technology, Inc., can get the job done. These two products are quite different from each other, however. The Mac Daisywheel Connection is essentially a diskette that performs the code translations. Created by the team that designed MacWrite, it works in the usual Macintosh style—simply and straightforwardly. You insert the diskette, click on a few answers in dialog boxes, and you're off and printing.

The Printer Optimizer, on the other hand, was designed before the Mac came out and was intended to do many more things than speak Macintosh. That you can use it to print from MacWrite to a letter-quality printer is just one feature of this sophisticated product. The Optimizer serves as a buffer to free up your Mac while you're printing out documents, lets you connect up to three printers (both serial and parallel), provides alternate storage areas that are useful for merging documents, and lets you program a variety of commands and control codes.

his kind of versatility means a complex product and a higher price. If your main objective is to print from a Macintosh to a letterquality printer, you'll probably be more interested in the Mac Daisywheel Connection. If you are doing a lot of work with your Macintosh, however, and don't want to have to wait around during the printing process, or if you'd like to be able to connect several different printers to your Mac, the Printer Optimizer may be the better choice.

Mac Daisywheel Connection

When you open the box containing the Mac Daisywheel Connection, you'll see two diskettes (a master and a backup), a cable, and a 39-page manual. To get started, you plug the cable into your printer and your Mac. This product works only with serial printers.

If you have a serial printer that does not have a DB-25 connector, you may have to purchase a special adapter—several types are available from Assimilation Process. Next, you insert the disk and open the application icon. The manual provides specific instructions for printing both If your main objective is to print from a Macintosh to a letter-quality printer, you'll probably be interested in the Mac Daisywheel Connection.

MacWrite and Multiplan documents; it states that the Mac Daisywheel Connection "will be compatible with any Macintosh software program which can normally print via the standard Imagewriter driver."

To print with MacWrite, you start by opening the Mac Daisywheel Connection icon. The first dialog box shows current settings; by clicking on New Settings, you'll get another dialog box, which allows you to choose the type of printer you want to use, the transmission rate, and whether you want output from the printer or the modem port. You then set specifications for page length, pitch, paper feed, and line spacing. At this point, you're ready to print.

After ejecting the Daisywheel Connection disk and inserting your own, you'll get a list box of your files. Clicking on a filename and Open causes printing to begin. The system includes a pause feature, and you can cancel printing if you wish. That's all there is to it. I accomplished the entire process in less than ten minutes.

Printing from Multiplan or other Macintosh software is slightly different but equally easy. You have to modify the Imagewriter driver on your disk so that letter-quality printing replaces the Draft mode. This modification involves copying the Set Printer file to your Multiplan disk, opening it, and following the instructions on the screen.

Once you've completed this procedure, you use the usual Print commands in Multiplan. When you choose Page Setup, the dialog box will be the standard Multiplan version, with one exception: the choice for A4 paper has been replaced with a choice for wide-carriage printing. This option formats your daisy-wheel printer for up to 14 inches of printing. Once you've organized things onto the proper disk, you simply print out the information on it.

Of course, the actual size and style of your type will depend on the print wheel you're using, but if your printer supports them, the Mac Daisywheel Connection will let you print bold and underlined print, as well as subscripts and superscripts.

The Mac Daisywheel Connection package includes information about updates for future Macintosh applications. Efforts are under way to sell the product as part of a bundle with the Qume LetterPro 20. This combination should save you about \$100, compared to purchasing each product separately.

Printer Optimizer

When you open the Printer Optimizer package, you find a metal $10 \times 7 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch box with a digital display and a keypad on the front, a small plastic envelope of jumper wires, and a three-ring binder with more than 100 pages of text. An additional 15-page manual and a diskette specifically for use with the Macintosh are also part of the package.

Setting up the system involves several steps. You have to remove the cover of your computer and set several sets of DIP switches to match up the output of your computer and the input of your printer. The manual provides several "recipes" for accomplishing this task, but if you happen to have a printer that is not described in the Optimizer manual, you'll have to do some sleuthing in your printer manual, or perhaps with your dealer, in order to discover the correct settings.

ecause the Printer Optimizer is designed for use with virtually any computer and printer (both serial and parallel), a cable is not included with the product. As the manual explains, "You, or someone you hire, must determine what kind of connector should be installed on each end of both cables, plus the wiring layout inside the connectors, and the length of each cable." I chose not to hire someone, and I did it myself.

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e, Inc. CIRCLE 255 ON READER SERVICE CARD 830 Fourth Avenue • P.O. Box 311 • Geneva, IL 60134 • (312) 232-1984 for use with the Imagewriter is easy; it comes with all the instructions you need for cable selection, DIP switch setting, and jumper-wire attachment.

You may be wondering why you'd want to set a Macintosh up with an Imagewriter in the first place. After all, your Macintosh already works with an Imagewriter. The Optimizer, however, lets you dump your Mac-Write documents into the buffer, and once you've done so, you can continue to use your Macintosh while the Optimizer handles your printing job. Once I started using this feature, I found myself immediately attached to it. Earlier printing efforts had always left me looking for coffee and other distractions during printing time; with the Optimizer, on the other hand, I could continue working on the Macintosh.

onnecting a letterquality printer to your Macintosh takes more time and energy than connecting an Imagewriter, especially if your printer is not one of those in the Optimizer's preconfigured setups. Like all setup procedures, however, once it's done, it's done, and you won't have to worry about it again, until the time comes to add an additional printer or plotter.

Then we have the matter of translation codes. In general, the Printer Optimizer leaves making a translation table for the codes up to you; the manual explains translation equations in great detail. For use with MacWrite, however, it includes complete instructions, and you can get the code (at an extra charge) on diskette. By using the keypad, your Macintosh, and the Opti-Auto-Program diskette, you can easily install the codes that you need to translate your MacWrite program into a format that a letterquality printer can utilize. Once the translation is finished, the printing process is reasonably straightforward.

Again, the type of print you'll get depends on your print wheel and the capabilities of your printer. When you create text with MacWrite, the Printer Optimizer restricts you to the 12point Monaco, Plain typeface. Since capabilities such as boldfacing and The longer your documents, the more time you'll save with the buffering capabilities of the Printer Optimizer.

underlining vary across printers, you may have to do some extra work to accomplish these tasks.

Buffering and Switching

These procedures may seem formidable, especially compared to the simplicity of the Mac Daisywheel Connection, but the Printer Optimizer is really designed to provide other, more sophisticated benefits. In computer parlance, the Printer Optimizer is known as a buffer and a switch box. As for buffering, the basic unit comes with 64K of memory on one Optimem memory board, and you can add up to three more Optimems for a total memory capacity of 256K. (The 64K of memory will give you about 16 pages of dot-matrix print.)

Letter-quality printers require much more code information (especially if you're using features such as right-justification or proportional spacing), so 64K of memory can accommodate only six pages or so of letter-quality text. Adding an additional board to bring memory capacity up to 128K should allow you to dump most of your MacWrite documents for a letter-quality printer directly into the Optimizer. The longer your documents, the more time you'll save with the buffering capabilities of the Printer Optimizer.

The Optimizer's switching capabilities involve changing either from one printer to another or from one job to another. If you have two printers attached to your Macintosh, you can dump in a job for each printer, enter some code to tell which job should go where, and leave the work to your Optimizer. You don't have to print jobs in the order in which you created them or entered them into the Optimizer.

The system gives you alternate storage areas, so you can store different jobs and switch back and forth between them with control codes. An example is working with mailing lists. You can have your names and addresses in one storage area and the text of your letter in another. You then program the Optimizer to switch back and forth between the two areas and print out your letters, including the names and inside addresses. You can also use storage areas to print multiple copies of any document whenever you want originals instead of photocopies.

The Printer Optimizer is a modular system, so you can purchase the parts you need for your current system and expand to meet future needs. If you want to start by connecting your Macintosh to your current printer, you'll need the basic unit and, if you have a serial printer, the Opticom board. You may want to expand memory capacity, especially if a hard disk is in your future.

Which One?

Both of these products will get your Macintosh working with a letterquality printer. If that is your only goal, the Mac Daisywheel Connection will do the job. On the other hand, if you want a more powerful product that enables you, among other things, to drop your document into a buffer and continue using your Mac, make use of switching capabilities, expand your Macintosh into a larger system, or use the product with other computers, the Printer Optimizer is certainly worth considering.

PRODUCT INFORMATION Mac Daisywheel Connection

Assimilation Process 20833 Stevens Creek Blvd. Cupertino, CA 95041 (408) 446-0797 List Price: \$99

Printer Optimizer

Applied Creative Technology, Inc. 2156 West Northwest Highway Suite 303 Dallas, TX 75220 (800) 433-5373 In Texas: (214) 556-2916 **List Price:** Basic Optimizer unit for parallel devices (64K), \$499; Opticom board for one serial input and one serial output, \$499; Opticom + for two serial outputs, \$149; additional memory board (64K), \$139; Opti-Auto-Program diskette, \$25.95

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Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only MEMORY CHIPS All chips guaranteed for life	40.50* (1	.00)
Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All chips guaranteed for lift 64K Memory Upgrade Kik (9 Chips) 64K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each)	40.50* (1	1
Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All chips guaranteed for life 54K Memory Upgrade Kitk (§ Chips) 54K Dynamic Ram Chips (Esch) MODEMS	40.50* (1 4.50* (1	.00) .00)
Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All chips guaranteed for lift 64K Demory Upgrade Kite (9 Chips) 64K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) Ancher Volksmodem Ancher Volksmodem	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2	.00) .00)
Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All Chips guaranteed for life 64K Memory Upgrade Kits (9 Chips) 64K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) Anchor Vaiksmodem Anchor Mark XII LOWEST PRICE 12008PS	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2 230.00* (5	.00) .00)
Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All chips guaranteed for lift 64K Memory Upgrade Kik (9 Chips) 64K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) MODEMS Anchor Volksmodem Anchor Mark XIILOWEST PRICE 1200BPS HAYES COMPATABLE EXTERNAL MOD	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2 230.00* (5 EM!	.00) .00) 2.50) 5.00)
Tesc FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All Chips guaranteed for life 64K Memory Upgrade Kits (9 Chips) 64K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) Anchor Vark XIILOWEST PRICE 1200BPS HAYES COMPATABLE EXTERNAL MOD Hayes Micromodem // av/Smartcom	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2 230.00* (5 EM! 200.00* (2	2.00) 2.00) 2.50) 2.50)
Tesc FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only MEMORY CHIPS All Chips guaranteed for lifk S4K Hemory Upgrade Xite (9 Chips) 54K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) MODELMS Anchor Mark XII OWEST PRICE 1200BPS HAYES COMPATABLE EXTERNAL MOD Hases Smartmadium 30' Smartcom	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2 230.00* (5 EM! 200.00* (3	2.00) 2.00) 2.50) 2.50) 2.50) 2.50)
Tesc FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only MEMORY CHIPS All Chips guaranteed for lifk S4K Hemory Upgrade Xite (9 Chips) 54K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) MODELMS Anchor Mark XII OWEST PRICE 1200BPS HAYES COMPATABLE EXTERNAL MOD Hases Smartmadium 30' Smartcom	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2 230.00* (5 <i>EMI</i> 200.00* (2 180.00* (3	2.00) 2.00) 2.50) 2.50)
Teac FD55-B Hall Height DSDD Drive Only All chips guaranteed for life 64K Demory Upgrade Kits (9 Chips) 64K Dynamic Ram Chips (Each) MODEMS Anchor Volksmodem Anchor Mark XIILOWEST PRICE 1200BPS HAYES COMPATABLE EXTERNAL MOD Hayes Micromodem 1/9 w/Smartcom Hayes Smartmodem 300 Hayes Smartmodem 100B with Smartcom II	40.50* (1 4.50* (1 47.00* (2 230.00* (5 <i>EM!</i> 200.00* (2 180.00* (3 366.90* (2	2.50) 2.50) 2.50) 2.50) 2.50) 2.50)
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GRAPHICS BY ROBERTA SCHWARTZ

Leave the Drawing to Us

Electronic clip art

You are a businessperson issuing a sales report, or you're a teacher preparing a class handout, or the members of your organization are waiting for the latest newsletter, or you are designing invitations to a party, or perhaps you just love to doodle.

You bought a Macintosh because of its graphics abilities, but you don't have the artistic skill, or you just don't have the time. You need clip art.

What Is Clip Art?

Clip art is "ready-to-use" art. It consists of stylized "spot" drawings, old engravings, symbols, cartoons, signs, borders—any image that is in the public domain or has its copyright held by a publisher who offers the work, copyright-free, for the use of the purchasers of the book that contains the drawings. Clip art is used as is, or edited, for such diverse applications as decoupage, advertising, newsletters, and business and school publications.

The Macintosh computer, with its crisp black-and-white, high-resolution display, coupled with the Imagewriter's excellent merged text and graphics output, is sure to establish a demand for electronic clip art. Not surprisingly, four of the newest software packages for the Mac anticipate this demand.



None of the four packages is copyprotected, and you need MacPaint and MacWrite to take full advantage of them.

CLICKART

ClickArt comes in a blue plastic, $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch disk case. A folded 12×14 -inch sheet of paper fits within the confines of the box. One side of this paper is a poster with images from ClickArt, and the other side contains documentation on how to use the software.

The instructions are easy to follow, but you may find the tightly packed copy difficult to read. I caution you against following the direction to throw your scrapbook file into the trash so that you can put the ClickArt scrapbook onto your disk. Instead, rename your scrapbook file and store



it outside the system folder until you are sure you will not need the pictures it contains. In the world of computers, when in doubt, don't throw it out!

The ClickArt documentation urges you to use the program's drawings as they are or to use them as a starting point for your own creativity. Unfortunately, however, it does not give you any hints on *how* to use the drawings creatively.

Returning your registration card enrolls you in the ClickArt Users' Group, which entitles you to receive the *ClickArt Newsletter*. It contains examples and tips on ClickArt applications. Users who submit ideas that are published in the newsletter will receive the next ClickArt portfolio free.



The Software

When I opened ClickArt, six folders, a MacWrite document, and a scrapbook icon spilled onto my desktop. Assuming that the MacWrite document contained pertinent information, such as a list of pictures and/ or hints on how to use them, I ejected the ClickArt disk, inserted MacWrite, and opened the document. The object of my curiosity was nothing more than a copyright notice. I returned to my desktop, opened MacPaint, and looked at the 25 MacPaint docu-



ments. I discovered the following: 1. Titles often have nothing to do with the contents of a document. "Good Guys" offers three paper clips, four stars, a fountain pen, a pointing finger, RSVP, ASAP, and a border design. Good guys?

2. The images within a document seldom relate to each other in theme. "More Little Guys" offers an inflated frog, a rolled-up panda, an elephant, a large screw, two portraits of singers, and a vase.

3. The choice of subject and the quality of the art leave much to be desired.

How useful are a ³/₄-page rendering of an egret or portraits of Hart, Mondale, Jackson, and Boy George? I printed the document "Al and Jimmy" and asked three different people to identify the pictures. Everyone rec-



ognized Albert Einstein, but no one knew who "Jimmy" was. Jimmy who? Cagney? Walker? I don't know. If it is either one, why with Einstein? Indeed, why at all?

With a few exceptions, ClickArt's rough sketches and overworked portraits do not qualify as professional clip art.

Summing Up

ClickArt may be adequate if you want pictures to "play" with. T/ Maker's press release states that the company wanted its first collection of



images to be entertaining as well as useful. "... admit it. Part of the reason you bought your Macintosh was to have fun with it... So, take your Macintosh on a cruise through Click-Art, and enjoy. Aren't you glad you didn't buy a boring computer?"

I am glad that I bought a Macintosh, and I do have fun with it. I look forward to buying software that will add to the fun and usefulness of this exciting computer, but, from my point of view, as an artist, ClickArt has little to offer.

MCPIC

McPic comes boxed with an excellent 28-page manual that includes instructions on how to use the program, a list of categories and pictures within each category, and a section of ideas. In "Ideas" you'll find 29 fully



illustrated, step-by-step examples of how to alter and use the images on the disk. The suggestions should inspire experienced artists as well as novices. A section that is entitled "OOOPS!" lists some of the things that can go wrong and how to remedy them.

The Software

When you open McPic, an open folder of scrapbook icons, arranged alphabetically, appears on the desktop. Unlike the other packages in this review, which supply their images on MacPaint documents, McPic uses scrapbooks, an approach that enables you to use these images with any Macintosh program that supports the Mac's standard Cut and Paste functions. You must copy one or more of the scrapbook files from the McPic





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- many illustrations
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• SWORDPLAY

a page from the CLIP I manual

5.5 Juggling With Your Mac

There is a SWORD in CLIP 1 in your THINGS folder. It was duplicated four times here, using the Option-D keys. Then the four swords were flipped horizontally or vertically and <u>Rotated</u>, using the <u>Edit</u> menu to prepare the makings of the four different designs.







P 4

CLIP manuals are especially designed to stimulate your creativity and help you get the most from your MAC



ANNOUNCEMENT

CLIP 2 with almost 200 more, new and unique images and manual of the fine CLIP 1 quality will be ready for shipment no later than November 1, 1984.

\$29.95 for the complete CLIP 1 package including image disk and binder with manual. Add \$2.00 in U.S. for shipping/handling. CA residents please add 6½% tax.

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Completely redesigned, PFS:File and PFS:Report now work with the Macintosh and its mouse, pull-down menus, and cut-and-paste procedures. Users of these informationmanagement programs can reduce data-entry time by using the Macintosh's clipboard to store and recall commonly used phrases, and they can save PFS data in ASCII format to send via modem.

PFS:File allows users to store, find, sort, and print large amounts of information—including mailing labels and use PFS:Report to produce presentation-quality reports, table totals, averages, and column counts. You can store up to 2900 records per diskette using PFS:File on the Macintosh and up to 32,000 records on a hard disk. (*List Price: \$125 each*) Software Publishing Corporation 1901 Landings Drive Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 962-8910 <u>CIRCLE 923 ON READER SERVICE CARD</u>

Softmaker II for the Macintosh

New from Rio Grande Software, Softmaker II, a database-oriented program generator for Microsoft BASIC, provides a program generator, Softrep report program, and Softsort sort/ merge program. With Softmaker II, programs are error-resistant, well designed, and faster to produce. (*List Price:* \$150) Rio Grande Software, Inc. 1107 Upas McAllen, TX 78501 (512) 630-6979

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MacModem

MacModem is a communications package for the Macintosh that includes a 1200 bps modem, communications software, cables, and a subscription to the Dow Jones News/ Retrieval Service with one free hour of use.

The Bell 212A-compatible, directconnect modem offers auto-dial and auto-answer capability, tone and

Filevision

With Filevision—a combination filing system and object-oriented drawing system for the Macintosh—you can call up information about an object on the screen by pointing at it with the mouse. For closer study, you can select groups of objects that share common characteristics. You can also select information to appear in reports or drawings to print with certain items highlighted. The ready-made pallette contains 20 symbols, and additional symbols can be created. (*List Price*: \$195)

Telos Software Products 3420 Ocean Park Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405 (213) 450-2424 <u>CIRCLE 913 ON READER SERVICE CARD</u>



Filevision, from Telos Software

MacManager

A realistic, competitive managementsimulation program for the Macintosh, MacManager gives you complete management control of a hypothetical company. By making business decisions based on financial data, players try to maximize the profits earned by their company. (List Price: \$49.95) Harvard Associates, Inc. 260 Beacon Street Somerville, MA 02143 (617) 492-0660 CIRCLE 914 ON READER SERVICE CARD

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lows protected disks to be duplicated rapidly for commercial production purposes. (*List Price:* \$495, *licensing only*)

Double-Gold Software, Inc. 3900 Moorpark Avenue, Suite 29 San Jose, CA 95117 (408) 554-9133 CIRCLE 910 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Paint Mover

Paint Mover is a utility that allows you to convert a MacPaint file into a data file compatible with Microsoft BASIC. The converted file can be loaded directly into an array through BASIC programming and displayed on the screen with the Put command.

With Paint Mover, beginning and experienced programmers alike can use MacPaint to create detailed objects for use in games and other application programs, sophisticated menus, or forms. (*List Price:* \$29.95) MacinSoft Box 27583 San Diego, CA 92128 (619) 745-6084 CIRCLE 911 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Macintosh Software Diskette

The Macintosh Software Diskette cleans the Macintosh's disk-drive heads, thus helping to prevent errors or data loss due to smoke, dirt, and oxide buildup on the heads. The program guides you through the headcleaning process with simple instructions that appear on the computer screen. The 3½-inch cleaning diskettes are disposable, and the diskette jacket is reusable.

The Macintosh Software Diskette comes packaged as part of the Nortronics Diskette Head Cleaning Kit. The kit includes—in addition to the software—two cleaning diskettes, a reusable diskette jacket, and headcleaning spray. (List Price: Nortronics Head Cleaning Kit, \$39.95; The Macintosh Software Diskette, \$29.95) Nortronics Company, Inc. 8101 Tenth Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55427 (612) 540-8674 CIRCLE 912 ON READER SERVICE CARD

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around the board.

In addition, Sargon III enables you to change the board size, change the colors of the squares, save the game in progress, or print it out in high-quality Macintosh graphics. (*List Price:* \$49.95) Hayden Software Company 600 Suffolk Street Lowell, MA 01853 (617) 937-0200 CIRCLE 905 ON READER SERVICE CARD

1stBASE

A relational-database system for the Macintosh, 1stBASE offers multiplefile capability, user-defined file formats, automatic generation of dataentry screens, use of all Macintosh editing features, and nested sorts of up to ten keys. You can use lstBASE to create personnel files, prospect lists, columnar reports, mailing labels, and other applications. (*List Price:* \$195) Desktop Software Corporation 228 Alexander Street Princeton, NJ 08540 (609) 924-7111 CIRCLE 906 ON READER SERVICE CARD

MegaMerge

A mail-merging program for the Macintosh, MegaMerge turns MacWrite into a powerful home and business word-processing system. Using MegaMerge, you can produce form letters and mailing lists and merge large blocks of text into your documents. MegaMerge can also be used in conjunction with MegaFiler, MegaForm, and MegaDesk.

MegaFiler is a simple file-management system that you can use to design your own forms, find a form based on any criteria, sort any field, and print reports. The form size is limited to what is visible on the screen, but an unlimited number of windows give you immediate access to other forms.

MegaForm allows you to design a form that is an exact replica of almost any document. You can then enter information directly into the form and specify mathematical relationships among the sections containing this in-



Mac BarCode, from Computer Identics

formation. A MegaForm report or form can also accept information from files created with MegaFiler.

MegaDesk consists of three desktop-accessory programs—a calendar, a card file, and reference cards. The calendar allows you to find MegaFiler forms that have been referenced by date and to enter appointment information onto them. The card file allows you to quickly survey MegaFiler files that are on a disk, and the reference-card program provides a basic list database. (List Price: MegaMerge, \$125; MegaFiler, \$195; MegaForm or MegaDesk, less than \$195) Megahaus Corporation 5703 Oberlin Drive San Diego, CA 92121 (619) 450-1230 CIRCLE 907 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Mac BarCode

With this program, Macintosh users can generate bar-code labels that meet the requirements of the automotive, health-care, and food-processing and packaging industries, as well as those of the U.S. Department of Defense's LOGMARS programs.

Mac BarCode makes use of the Macintosh's mouse, icons, and pulldown menus. Users enter bar-code data through the keyboard or through networking. (*List Price:* \$395) Computer Identics Corporation 5 Shawmut Road Canton, MA 02021 (617) 821-0830

CIRCLE 908 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Desktop Calendar

A combination notepad and appointment book for the Lisa 2, Desktop Calendar integrates your daily schedules and important events with the Lisa Office System. You designate which notes you want to be reminded of later, and Desktop Calendar interrupts you with a reminder at the proper time, even if you are using another program. (List Price: \$295) Videx, Inc.

1105 N.E. Circle Blvd. Corvallis, OR 97330 (503) 758-0521 CIRCLE 909 ON READER SERVICE CARD



Desktop Calendar, from Videx

Lock-It-Up

This disk copy-protection system for the Macintosh is menu-driven and gives several levels of security that render standard disks virtually uncopyable by even the most sophisticated pirating methods, including advanced nibble-copy programs.

The system, which Double-Gold Software leases to users, includes a software-duplication system that al-



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Pipeline Macintosh and Lisa

ProPrint

ProPrint for the Macintosh is a printer-driver program that outputs text directly to letter-quality printers, making possible the preparation of professional-quality letters, reports, and documents. ProPrint uses pulldown menus and is compatible with Macintosh word-processing programs. It is available with or without a printer cable. (List Price: With printer cable, \$99; without cable, \$74) Creighton Development, Inc. 4931 Birch Street Newport Beach, CA 92660 (714) 476-1973 CIRCLE 900 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Keystroke Data Base

Keystroke Data Base for the Lisa functions as an electronic filing cabinet with which you can store, find, update, and print information, designing input forms on the screen and executing commands with the mouse. The program sorts reports in up to four fields with 28 columns. To simplify use, all references to storing and retrieving data are made in English rather than in computer code—and Keystroke uses everyday business terms throughout. To run the Keystroke system, you need a Lisa with 1 megabyte of RAM memory, a harddisk drive, and a Lisa Office System or Workshop. (*List Price:* \$595) Brock Software Products, Inc. P.O. Box 799 Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (815) 459-4210 <u>CIRCLE 901 ON READER SERVICE CARD</u>

Main Street Filer

An information-management program for the Macintosh, Main Street Filer uses pull-down menus, dialogue boxes, and mouse commands to perform file-design, record-retrieval, and reporting functions. Menus and help messages on most screens make the program easy to use.

The filing system and report generator can handle up to 65,000 records in each file, with up to 36 fields with a maximum of 40 characters in each record. Program features include a tree-index system; four different indexes for each file; and several print programs including customized reports, labels, envelopes, and card-file cards. (*List Price:* \$249.95) Mainstreet Software One Harbor Drive, Suite 304 Sausalito, CA 94965 (800) 824-8757 CIRCLE 902 ON READER SERVICE CARD



McPic

McPic is a picture library of 130 pictures created by professional artists for the Macintosh. Using MacPaint and MacWrite, users can reduce or expand the size of the artwork, combine it with other pictures or picture segments, change the tones and patterns, or add text.

The 130 pictures cover a wide range of categories including artwork for business, home, school, and recreational uses. With McPic you can create special letterheads, personal stationery, invitations, and greeting cards. (*List Price*: \$49.95) Magnum Software 21115 Devonshire Street, Suite 337 Chatsworth, CA 91311

(818) 700-0510

CIRCLE 903 ON READER SERVICE CARD

MacTote

A high-quality, lightweight carrying case for the Macintosh and its peripherals, the MacTote incorporates such features as an adjustable, nonslip shoulder strap, a padded velcro handle (no snaps), and a side handle for added stability. The interior of the MacTote is lined with antistatic fabric and has padded pouches for the mouse, the disk drive, and the keyboard. On the exterior, there are two zippered pouches for disks on both sides of the case, an open pouch for manuals or notes, and an additional pouch for cords, a modern, or other accessories. MacTote measures $15\frac{1}{2} \times 12 \times 15$ inches and weighs less than two pounds. (List Price: \$99.95) **Optimum Computer Luggage**

4445 Fiftieth Street San Diego, CA 92115 (800) 447-0330; in CA (800) 632-4200 CIRCLE 904 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Sargon III

Sargon III, a chess program for microcomputers, is now available for the Macintosh. Using a series of pulldown menus, players can easily maneuver through the game. With the mouse, players can select options and playing levels or move chess pieces

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CIRCLE 334 ON READER SERVICE CARD

6030 REM BUFNUM=0 TO 1 two buffers so we can play one while diddling other REM Set up four-tone sound Write parameter list LPOKET=RCDEDF:(LPOKE) REM INPORTANT: NO NEW VARIABLES MAY BE USED AFTER THIS POINT REM 10 TO 49,2: PARAMLIST(1, BUFNUM)=0; NEXT 1 POMMLISTCAD OF DEMONSTRY 6040 FOR BUFNUM=0 TO 1 6050 6060 6070 6080 6090 PARAHLIST(24%2, BUFNUH)=-4 ' Sound reference number CA!L LPDKE!(VARPTR(PARAHLIST(0,BUFNUH))+32, VARPTR(SYNTHREC(0,BUFNUH))) CALL LPDKE!(VARPTR(PARAHLIST(0,BUFNUH))+34, 61) ' 4-t rec. is 6 bytes 6100 6110 6120 6130 6140 REM Set up four-tone synthesizer record SYNTHREC(0, BUFNUM)=1 ' Positive number ()0) indicates four-tone CALL LPOKE!(VARPTR(SYNTHREC(1, BUFNUM)), VARPTR(SOUNDREC(0, BUFNUM))) 6150 6160 6170 6180 6190 6200 REM REM REM Set up four-tone sound record FOR I=0 TO 24; SOUNOREC(1, BUFNUM)=0; NEXT I REM Select a wave pattern for each synthesizer voice CALL LPOKE!(VARPTR(SOUNOREC(17, BUFNUM)), VARPTR(WAVETHIRD(0))) CALL LPOKE!(VARPTR(SOUNOREC(19, BUFNUM)), VARPTR(WAVETRIANG(0))) CALL LPOKE!(VARPTR(SOUNDREC(23, BUFNUM)), VARPTR(WAVETRIANG(0))) CALL LPOKE!(VARPTR(SOUNDREC(23, BUFNUM)), VARPTR(WAVETRIANG(0))) CALL LPOKE! 6210 6220 6230 6240 6250 NEXT BUFNUM 6260 NEXT BUFNUM 7000 REM Play the music from the lists 7010 REM NEXT BUFNUM

 7010 REH

 7020 LPEEK!=FNCODE:(LPEEK): 10WRITEASYNC!=FNCODE:(10WRITEASYNC)

 7030 PRINT: PRINT 'Playing music."

 7040 LLSTPTR=0: BUFNUH=0 ' start at beginning of play list; first buffer.

 7050 WHILE DURLIST(LISTPTR:)0 ' zero duration ends list

 7040 BUFNUH=1-BUFNUM ' switch buffers

 7040 BUFNUH=1-BUFNUM ' switch buffers

 7040 WHILE PARAMLIST(LISTPTR:)0 ' wait for next buffer available

 7050 WHILE PARAMLIST(LISTPTR:) ' set duration of next note

 7090 FOR 1=0 T0 3 ' process four voices

 7100 TP1=WARPTR(SOUNDREC(1+1+4, BUFNUM)))

 7110 TP2:=WARPTR(TONELIST(0,1,LISTPTR))

 7120 OLL LPEEK(TP1:, TP2) ' put tone in sound record

 7130 NEXT I

 7140 CALL LOWRITEASYNC!(WARPTR(PARAMLIST(0, BUFNUM))) ' play the notes

 NEXT 1 CONRITEASYNC!(VARPTR(PARAMLIST(0, BUFNUM))) / play the notes LISTPTR=LISTPTR+1 / next item in list 7140 7150 7150 LISTPTRELISTPTR1 ' next item in list 7160 WEND 7170 WHILE PARAMILIST(16\2, BUFNUM)(>)0; WEND ' Wait for final note to end 7180 REM 7180 PRINT: PRINT "Press a key to play again..." 7200 WHILE INKEYS="": WEND ' wait for a keypress 7210 GOTD 7000 7220 REM 8000 REM Initialize the machine language subroutines 8010 8020 8030 8010 REM 8020 REM 8020 REM HEX (Intel format) data for machine-language subroutines 8030 DATA *1000000000002000300044005400624E56000206600830102066000C30800A* 8040 DATA *10001004E544275455000020660008455442754* 8050 DATA *10038002012026600028455462754550000206000020660008403455442754* 8060 DATA *1003800020266000845542754550000206600020660084403455442754*

 BUGD DATA 'ICUDSAUDAESSBUDUZDAEDUDBABUJAESEEE/SESSUDUDZDEBUDUBABUJAESEEE/SEA'SES

 BOYD DATA 'DODOBDOBODOD''

 BOYD DEF FNCDDE'(OFFSET)=UARPTR(CODEARRAY(0))+0FFSET

 BIID RESTORE 8030 '. First DaTA statement line number

 BI30 READ MLS '. Read next line of HEX data

 BI40 MLCINE-8030 '. First DaTA statement line number

 BI30 READ MLS '. Read next line of HEX data

 BI40 MLCINK-0 '. Initialize checksum

 BI50 FOR I=1 TO LEN(MLS)-1 STEP 2 '. Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI40 MLCINK-(*AH*HINGK(MLS,1,2)) MDD &H100'. Compute checksum

 BI40 MLCINK-(*AH*HINGK(MLS,1,2)) MDD &H100'. Compute checksum

 BI50 IF MLCHK

 BI50 IF MLCHK
 Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI40 MLCINK-(*AH*HINGK(MLS,1,2)) MDD &H100'. Compute checksum

 BI40 ILLENCHK
 Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI50 IF MLCHK
 Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI40 ILLENCHK
 Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI40 ILLENCHK
 Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI50 IF MLCHK
 Scan by bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI41 ILLENCHK
 Scan bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI41 ILLENCHK
 Scan bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 BI50 IF MLLENCHK
 Scan bytes (pairs of hex digits)

 B10 IF ML=0 THEN GOTO 8 8070 DATA "000000000000" 8250 MLLINE=MLLINE+10 ' Keep track of DATA line number, in case of error 8250 MLLINE=MLLINE=10 / Keep track of DATA line number, in case of error 8240 GDTO 8130 8270 REM Set up CALL address pointers - offsets are at beginning of array 8280 WPEEK=CODEARRAY(0): WPEEK!=0 / Two-byte peek 8290 WPOKE=CODEARRAY(1): WPOKE!=0 / Two-byte poke 8300 LPEEK=CODEARRAY(2): LPEEK!=0 / Four-byte poke 8310 LPOKE=CODEARRAY(3): LPOKE!=0 / Such-robyte poke 8320 IOWRITE=CODEARRAY(4): IOWRITE!=0 / Synchronous Write ROM call 8330 IOWRITEASYNC=CODEARRAY(5): IOWRITEASYNC!=0 / Asynchronous Write ROM call 8300 RETURN 8350 REM This is the music to be played 9010 REM First data item is tempo, in standard metronome units (quarter-note beats per minute). Subsequent data items are quintuplets of duration and four notes: Duration is single letter (SI:xteenth], Eligth], Oluarter], H[a]f], or W[hole]). Note is note letter (C, D, E, F, G, A, or B), followed by octave digit (octave 4 starts with Middle C), optionally followed by N for sharp or % for flat. Note may be single letter X. 9020 REM 9030 REM 9040 REM 9050 REM 9060 REM 9070 REM 9080 REM 9090 REM 9100 REM 9100 REM 9110 REM 9120 REM Fi 9130 REM 9140 DATA 120 9140 DATA 120 9150 REM 9150 REM 9170 DATA H,R,R,R, 9170 DATA E,R,R,R,R 9190 DATA E,DS,R,R,R 9200 DATA E,DS,R,R,R 9210 REM 9220 DATA H,65,64,84,05 9230 DATA H,06,64,84,05 9230 DATA H,06,64,84,05 9240 REM 9240 REM 9250 DATA E,C6,64,C5,E5 9260 DATA S,B5,64,C5,E5 9270 DATA S,A5,64,C5,E5 9280 DATA H,66,64,B4,D5 9290 DATA G,D6,64,B4,D5 9290 DATA 0,06,04,84,05 9300 REM 9310 DATA E,C6,64,C5,E5 9320 DATA S,B5,64,C5,E5 9330 DATA S,A5,64,C5,E5 9340 DATA H,66,64,84,D5 9350 DATA 0,06,64,84,D5 9360 REM 9340 REM 9370 DATA E,C6,A4,C5,E5 9380 DATA S,B5,A4,C5,E5 9390 DATA S,C6,A4,C5,E5 9400 DATA H,A5,F4#,A4,D5 9410 DATA Q,R,R,R,R 9420 REM 9430 DATA X 9440 END +

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Four-Tone Synthesizer Music Demonstration

1000 CLS: PRINT 1010 PRINT * Macintosh Four-Tone Synthesizer Music Demonstration' 1080 PRINT *Initializing - Please wait.....* 1090 CLEAR, 20000 1100 DEFINT A-2 ' Default to integers for speed and space 1090 CLEAR ,20000 1100 DEFINT A-2 ' Default to integers for speed and space 1110 DIM PARAMLIST(49/2, 1) ' Standard ROM Write parameter lists 1120 DIM SWITHREC(2, 1) ' Mode word and pointer to sound record 1130 DIM SUMNREC(24, 1) ' Duration wrd, 4 long-wrd triplets (tone, phase, wave) 1140 DIM DURLIST(300), TONELIST(1,3,300) ' lists of durations and tones to play 1150 TP1=0: TP2!=0 ' temporary pointers for later use 1160 REM 1170 GDSUB 8000 ' Go initialize the machine-language subroutines 2020 PRINT: PRINT * Building tone tables..... 2030 DIN NOTEFREGM(87) ' Simulate a piano Keyboard (88 Keys) 2040 HALFSTEPH=2#'(1#/12#) ' ratio of musical half-step 2050 NOTEFREGM(0)=400H/16# ' 4th A below middle C (A above middle C = 440 Hz) 2070 NOTEFREGM(1)=NOTEFREGM(1-1)=HALFSTEPH ' fill in base octave 2080 NEXT I 2090 FOR 1=12 TO 87 2000 NOTEFREGM(1)=NOTEFREGM(1-1)=HALFSTEPH ' fill in base octave 2010 NOTEFREGM(1)=NOTEF 1100 REM Build the tone frequency table 2010 REM 2020 PRINT: PRINT * Building tone tab NOTEFREGH(1)=NOTEFREGH(1-12)+2H ' fill in rest of array NEXT | 2110 2110 NEXT 1 2120 REM 2130 REM Set up table of synthesizer step rates corresponding to frequencies 2140 DIM NOTERATE(1,87) 2150 STEPSERKE#(2584:704#/15667200#)) 2160 FOR 1=0 TO 87 RATEM=NOTFRED#(1)*STEPSPERH2#*65536# LPDKE!=FNCODE!(LPDKE): CALL LPDKE!(VARPTR(NOTERATE(0,1)), RATE#) NEXT 1 2170 2170 RATEW=NOTEFREQ#(1)*STEPSPERK2#4 2180 LPOKE'=FNCODE'(LPOKE): CALL LPOK 2190 NEXT I 2200 REM 3000 REM Build various waveform tables 3010 REM 3020 PRINT: PRINT " Building waveform tables....." 3020 PRINT PRINT "Building waveform tabl 3030 REM 3040 REM Set up a square-wave waveform table 3050 DIM WAVESQUARE(127) 3050 FOR I=0 TO 127 3070 POKE VARPTR(WAVESQUARE(0))+1,255 3060 PREVT 1 3000 NEXT I 3090 FOR I=128 TO 255 3100 PORE VARPTR(WAVESQUARE(0))+1,0 3110 NEXT I 3080 NEXT J
 3110
 NEXt 1

 3120
 REM

 3130
 REM Set up a triangle-wave waveform table

 3130
 DIM WAVETRIANG(127)

 3160
 FOR 100 TO 43

 3170
 POKE VARPTR/WAVETRIANG(0))+1,128+(1*2)

 3180
 NEXt I

 3180
 NEXt I
 3180 NEXT I 3190 FOR 1=64 T0 191 3200 PORE VARPTR(WAVETRIANG(0))+1,255-((1-64)*2) 3210 NEXT I 3220 PORE VARPTR(WAVETRIANG(0))+1,(1-192)*2 3240 NEXT I 3250 POR NEXT I 2240 NEXT 1 3250 REM 3260 REM Set up a sine-wave waveform table 3280 DIM WAVESINE(127) 3290 DIM-314159265# 3300 FOR 1=0 T0 255 3310 APH_ITUDE#=SIN((1/256#)+2#+PI#) 3320 PDKE VARPTR(WAVESINE(0))+1,FIX(127.5#+AMPLITUDE#+127#) NEXT 1 3330 NEXT 1 3340 REM 3350 REM Set up a fundamental plus third-harmonic waveform table 3370 DIM WAVETHIRD(127) 3380 FOR 1=0 TO 255 3390 AMPLITUDE#=(SIN((1/256#)*2#*PI#)*SIN(((1*3)/256#)*2#*PI#))/2# 3400 POKE VARPTR(WAVETHIRD(0))+1,FIX(127.5#+AMPLITUDE#*127#) 3410 NEXT 1 Alio NEX I
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< 4110 READ NUISINDEX:17 4120 NEXT I 4130 REM 4140 REM Build duration table 4140 REM Build duration table 4150 DURWHESS="SEGHJ" ' duration names (Sixteenth thru Whole) 4160 DIM DURVALUE(LENCOURNAMESS)) 4160 DIM DURVALUE(LENCOURNAMESS)) 4170 DURVALUE(1)=1 ' relative length of a sixteenth note 4180 FOR I=2 TO LEN(DURNAMESA) 4190 DURVALUE(1)=DURVALUE(1-1)*2 ' each duration is 2X the previous 4210 PM 4180 FOR 1=2 TO LENCOURNAMES\$) 4190 DURVALUE(1)=DURVALUE(1-1)*2 ' each duration is 4200 NEXT 1 4210 REM 5000 REM Compile the music into duration and tone lists 5010 REM 5020 PRINT: PRINT "Compiling music.....* 5030 RESTORE 9000 SUZU PRINT PRINT "Compiling music...." SUZU PRINT PRINT "Compiling music...." SUZU READ TEMPO SUZU READ TEMPO SUZU DIRESPRIATE 900/TEMPO ' translate tempo to ticks per sixteenth-note SUZU DIRESPRIATE 900/TEMPO ' translate tempo to ticks per sixteenth-note SUZU DIRESPRIATE 900/TEMPO ' translate tempo to ticks per sixteenth-note SUZU DIRESPRIATE 900/TEMPO ' translate tempo to ticks per sixteenth-note SUZU DIRESPRIATE 900/TEMPO ' translate tempo to ticks per sixteenth-note SUZU DIREST(LISTPR)=0 ' zero will terminate list SUZU DIREST(LISTPR)=0 ' zero will terminate list SUZU DIREST(LISTPR)=1 ickSPERIGTHADURVALUE(INSTR(DURVAMESS,DURATIONS)) SUZU EXPONDES: IF NOTES()*R' THEN GOTO 5140 ' not a rest SUZU EXPONDES: IF NOTES()*R' THEN GOTO 5140 ' not a rest SUZU EXPONDES: IF NOTES()* ' about to set up a rest SUZU EXPONDES: IF NOTES) ' build index value from note characters SUZU EXPONDES: NOTENDEX: (INSTR(NOTEMAMESS,MIDS(NOTES,J,I))) SUZU EXPONDE: (VARPTR(TONELIST(0,1,LISTPTR)), 04RPTR(NOTERATE(0,INDEX))) SUZU EXPONDES: (VARPTR(TONELIST(0,1,LISTPTR)), VARPTR(NOTERATE(0,INDEX))) SUZUE LISTERELISTPR=1 (advance to next 5210 LISTPTR=LISTPTR+1 ' advance to next element of play list 5220 GOTO 5070 5230 REM 6000 REM Set up four-tone sound data structures 6010 REM 6020 PRINT: PRINT * Setting up sound data structures.....*

therefore sound qualities, from simple square-wave (organ-like) or sinewave (flute-like) tones to complex mixtures of fundamental and harmonic tones, mimicking a wide range of musical instruments.

The program I present here plays a familiar tune in four-part harmony, with different "voices" in the melody and each harmony part. You can easily modify it to play a different tune and to use different waveshapes for the parts. For the details of the interface to the Macintosh sound system, see "The Mac Makes Music," A+, August 1984 (page 74).

ines 2000 through 2200 of the program build a table of note rates (which you use to specify the pitch of each note) corresponding to the 88 keys of the standard piano keyboard. All note frequencies (pitches) are derived mathematically from the international standard of 440 Hz for A above middle C, with equal tempering.

Program lines 3000 through 3420 create a set of waveform tables, with various shapes. Sine, square, and triangle waves are set up (the latter have a stringlike quality), and lines 3350 through 3410 create a sinewave fundamental plus third-harmonic wave, as an example of a more complex waveform. Later in the program, you'll find references by name to these waveform tables. Modifying one of the supplied waveforms or adding new ones is easy.

Lines 4000 through 4210 create tables that you'll use to "compile" the music to be played, translating it from a natural notation of note letters, accents, and so forth into the numeric form that the program needs in order to play the music. Lines 5000 through 5230 do the actual compiling, reading the music from DATA statements at the end of the program, producing a list of note durations in the array DURLIST, and creating a list of "steprate" quadruplets (which specify the pitch of each of the four tones) in the array TONELIST.

In lines 6000 through 6260, the

I know of no other microcomputer that provides so much flexibility and control over the factors involved in generating music.

data structures required for playing the music-parameter lists and synthesizer records-are set up. The program creates two of each, so that when the Mac plays the music, one set can be playing while the other is being set up with the data for the next note. This technique is necessary because the four-tone synthesizer plays only one note (comprising four parts) each time it is called. We'd get an undesirable staccato effect if we played a note, then computed the next one, then played a note, and so on. Use of the Macintosh asynchronous Write ROM call (see my August column) makes it easy to overlap playing and computing the next note.

Lines 6210 through 6240 are where you specify the waveform that corresponds to each part—just edit in different waveform table names to change the "voicing" of the program.

Lines 7000 through 7220 are where the action is. This section of the program plays the music, advancing through the duration and note lists and calling the four-tone synthesizer. If you decide to incorporate four-tone sound into another program, restructure these lines as a subroutine and call them when you want to play a tune.

Lines 8000 through 8350 set up the machine-language subroutines that provide word (two-byte) and longword (four-byte) peeks and pokes and that provide the interface between BASIC and the Write function in ROM for invoking the sound synthesizer.

If you modify the program, don't introduce any new variables within lines 6060 through 6260, or within lines 7020 through 7220. A new variable would cause all the BASIC arrays to move in memory and invalidate the pointers that are set up at the beginning of these sections of code. If you need a new variable, initialize it (to a dummy value, if necessary) outside of those sections.

The section of the program that starts on line 9000 contains the coded representation of the music to be played-the REM statements at the beginning describe the coding scheme and format. When the tune I've provided begins to drive your family to thoughts of MacSabotage, just replace the DATA statements with a new tune. If you code a tune with more than 300 notes, the array sizes in line 1140 will have to be increased to accommodate the longer tune, and the CLEAR statement in line 1090 may need modification to clear more memory space. The program may become too large for you to execute directly by double-clicking it from the desktop. If that happens (as indicated by an Out of memory at line 0 message when you try to run the program), you'll have to set up a "runner" program. Assuming you've saved the program under the name Four-tone, create another BASIC program consisting of the following two lines:

10 CLEAR , 20000

20 RUN "Four-Tone"

Save it under the name Four-Tone Runner. (If you've increased the CLEAR size in the main program, modify line 10 of the runner program correspondingly). Then just doubleclick on Four-Tone Runner to run the program.

sy of the Macintosh that has just surfaced is that the modem port somehow interferes with the music programs. To avoid problems, make sure nothing is plugged into the modem port and turn the Mac off before running the program. I'll be investigating this irregularity, so check my future columns for a further discussion of the problem.

If you have any comments on this column, or Macintosh tips or techniques to pass on, write me care of A + (11 Davis Drive, Belmont, CA) 94002), or send me electronic mail via CompuServe (ID 70065,172) or MCI Mail (ID DBROTHERS).

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BAS

UNDER THE DESKTOP/BY DENNIS F. BROTHERS

I'd Like to Teach the Mac to Sing ... in perfect harmony

n August's Under the Desktop column ("The Mac Makes Music"), I described the three sound-synthesizer modes of the Macintosh (free-form, square-wave, and four-tone) and presented programs that demonstrated the free-form and square-wave techniques. This month I offer a program that demonstrates the Mac's four-tone capability (see listing, page 114).

The designers of the Macintosh put serious effort into the Mac's sound system, and the four-tone synthesis system emerges as a tour de force. I know of no other microcomputer that provides so much flexibility and control over the factors involved in generating music. You can program the Mac to produce music with up to four simultaneous parts or voices, with independent control over the waveform of each part.

You specify these waveforms in a general way, as an envelope, or shape, for one complete cycle of the wave. Thus, you can set up an almost unlimited range of waveshapes, and



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The first mouse wanted a modem that would be very Macintosh-like. Icons and all.

The second mouse wanted a modem that could talk to its brothers at IBM.

The third mouse wanted a modem that could take over while its owner was sleeping.

The fourth mouse wanted a 1200 baud modem that could be inexpensively upgraded to 2400 baud.

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MACINTOSH IS A TRADEMARK OF APPLE COMPUTER, INC. IBM IS A TRADEMARK OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION MACMODEM AND MICROCOM ARE TRADEMARKS OF MICROCOM INC cive to manipulation with Mac-Paint—it has enough of a variety to satisfy most needs. CLIP 1's images are consistent with classic clip art, but this volume does not contain the arrows, borders, and symbols that many users will probably want to enhance business reports, newsletters, and the like. Mac the Knife has good borders, symbols, and fonts, but not many "pictures." It is the most eclectic package of the four. ClickArt is a portfolio of pictures, with limited use.

If you can use clip art, you may want to select one or two of these packages to start your collection and then wait to see what the second volume of each has to offer. ADDENDUM

At the time I was writing this article, releases of two other clip-art packages, Cut'N'Paste from Dreams of the Phoenix and Art Portfolio from Axlon, were announced. Christopher Allen, of Dreams of the Phoenix, informed me that Cut'N'Paste was not yet ready for review. According to Allen, each volume will be faithful to the tradition of clip art and will feature a specific subject, such as people, nature, or computers. The publisher is planning noncommercial distribu-



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e was not	tion—i.e., it will encourage users to	Art Portfolio from Axlon contains
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friends and colleagues, expecting that

those who receive a copy will send in

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for the Apple II line of computers, is

distributed this way.

Art Portfolio from Axlon contains more than 120 images and symbols. It has a 150-page spiral-bound manual that has reproductions of the images on the diskette, as well as tips and instructions on using the images for creating greeting cards.

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infinite number of printed images that are already available, as well as actual photographs of people, places, and objects. In the Luna folder, for example, we get photographs of the first moon walk. The old etchings of flora and fauna, reproduced in Plants and Animals, can never find their equal in contemporary renderings. The manual credits some of the images to Dover Books and Hart Publications, well-known publishers of clip art.

Using digitized art also has its disadvantages. Digitizing an image breaks it down into dots, resulting in pictures that are not as "clean" or sharp as line drawings, nor as conducive to MacPaint manipulating. Recognizing that filling these dotted images with patterns would be impossible (the patterns would be impossible (the patterns would spill out through the spaces between the dots), the publisher added "fill-corrected" versions. I recommend leaving these images intact, rather than shrinking,

stretching, and otherwise playing with them.

Summing Up

If you are looking for miniature engravings to enhance your Macintosh documents, CLIP 1 will start off your collection. This package does not contain the arrows, borders, and symbols commonly associated with clip art, but it will definitely add class to your letters, bulletins, and other documents.

CONCLUSIONS

I am an artist and have set high standards for judging the software packages here. If I were looking at them as Macintosh art galleries— "See what people can draw with a Mac"—I would be less critical, but the software is being released as electronic clip art. When we purchase software, we have every right to expect that the package will contain exactly what it advertises. Clip art must be useful, or its purpose is negated.



Opening and closing documents or moving and renaming scrapbooks to get pictures onto the clipboard is tedious and time-consuming. One method isn't necessarily better than the other. You will probably find it less intimidating to work with Mac-Paint documents than to remove scrapbook files from the system folder and replace them. With the current memory restrictions of the Mac, I doubt that a more elegant solution to the problem is possible.

To find particular images in these packages, you have to look through a MacPaint catalog that shrinks and merges each document onto a single page, resulting in indistinct images. A full-page printout of each document would be more useful.

Documents that contain images that are related in theme and consistent with the titles of the document are the easiest to use. When you need pictures of animals, you should not have to open three or four files to get all the animals offered.

None of the packages mentioned here includes all the existing types of clip art, so none will fulfill all of your clip-art needs. McPic has an assortment of images that are most condu-

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disk onto your program disk, however. The number of scrapbook files you can put on your disk at one time depends on how much room you have. Usually, you will need only one or two images from a scrapbook, so, after you have put the selected scrapbooks on your disk, you can page through them, clearing out the images you don't want. This technique leaves more room on your work disk—room you will need for Mac-Paint, MacWrite, and other files.

When you call for a scrapbook, the Finder gives you the one that is in the systems file of the *startup* disk, so you must replace that scrapbook file with one that you selected from McPic—a laborious process.

McPic has 12 scrapbooks, compiled by category, such as Business,



Nature, and People. The first page of each scrapbook displays a list of its contents. Images were pasted into the scrapbook with the lasso, so when you copy them onto your document, they are free-floating. Placing the images in the scrapbook has advantages and disadvantages.

Summing Up

McPic is well organized and documented. The images are, for the most part, professional in quality, useful, and receptive to MacPaint's editing options.

MAC THE KNIFE

Mac the Knife is the most useful of the four packages in terms of providing borders and other images for business purposes, but it still needs improvement and is not as well rounded as McPic.



The manual is thorough, with step-by-step instructions for using the images in Mac the Knife, as well as hints on using the Macintosh in general. Occasionally, the style of writing gets "friendly" in a way that I find unappealing, out of context, and particularly inappropriate for professional application software.

The Software

Mac the Knife is more a package of graphic aids than a clip-art package. It has 18 MacPaint documents, each including a unique set of fill-pattern



textures (all of the figures on this and the preceding page are from Mac the Knife documents). Two documents contain enough border designs to satisfy anyone's needs. The page of corporation symbols and two pages of international icons should be useful for certain business applications. The package includes two new fonts, as well as an enhanced version of New York, called Manhattan, which adds new option-key characters-every icon from MacPaint and MacWrite. The inclusion of new fonts is one of the best features of Mac the Knife. One of the fonts must have been included at the last minute, since it is not mentioned in the manual, nor does it appear on the document called Font Charts. Paint Tools has rulers for use with MacPaint documents, blank



diskette labels, and a blank "pattern chart."

The "friendliness" of the documentation carries over into the software. Gallery #2 has an amateurish rendering of a clown credited to the contributor with this annotation: "When I saw the balloons in the Mac-Paint manual, I just knew they had to have a clown at the other end of their strings." A picture of an invitation, on Gallery #3, invites users to contribute to future volumes of Mac the Knife. Artists whose work is chosen will re-



ceive \$20 and a free copy of the volume in which their work appears. Volume 2 of Mac the Knife will contain 30 to 50 new fonts.

Summing Up

Mac the Knife has the potential to be an excellent package, but it has room for improvement. The documentation especially needs some work and shouldn't be "cutesy."

CLIP 1

I received a prototype of CLIP 1 for this review. The disk contents were finalized, but the manual was incomplete.

The Documentation

According to the publisher of the software, each CLIP product will include a disk in a plastic holder, in a high-quality, three-ring, loose-leaf binder. Each disk will include print-



ed, categorized images, and each manual will include some practical Mac instructions, describe new Mac tricks, and offer suggestions for using the contents of that CLIP disk.

The Software

Future CLIP products will contain original Mac art as well as digitized images, but all the images in CLIP 1 are digitized, meaning that they are not original drawings contributed by artists working on the Macintosh. Instead, the images are photographs that are broken down with special equipment from shades of gray into pixels and then translated to the computer screen. If you have seen T-shirts with photographs of people on them, then you have seen digitized art.

The advantage to using digitized art is obvious: It allows you to use the



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How old are you? If you're younger than 40, you probably think that it's too early to begin preparing for your retirement. You're right. "Preparing" for your retirement involves picking where you want to live and travel and what you want to do.

It's not too soon to begin *planning* for your retirement, though. Without proper financial planning, you're not going to be able to retire, because you won't be able to afford it.

Financial planning is a term that is often used interchangeably with *investing*. Everyone wants to buy something today that will be worth more in the future.

For those of you who expect that inflation will continue to go down, highinterest-rate, long-term bonds are an attractive investment for the future. If inflation does go down, bonds will be worth more, and if inflation goes up, bond prices will fall. Bond Basics

Bond Basics

Ever since the era of the flapper, bonds have been a popular, even presti-

Although Gatsby is no longer with us, bonds are—and they're still considered a good investment for long-term income growth.

gious, investment. The Great Gatsby himself was "a bond man." Although Gatsby is no longer with us, bonds are—and they're still considered a good investment for long-term income growth, especially compared to the wild and woolly stock market.

Bonds are not what they once were, though. Starting in the late 1970s, when interest rates began to change faster than foreign governments, bonds became a very risky business.

Because bonds pay interest on a specified capital amount (a 12%, \$1000 bond pays \$120 per year in interest, plus the par value back at maturity), their value has to change to keep the bond in sync with changes in interest rates. Take our 12% example. If interest rates went up, then the value of the bond would have to drop to make the \$120-a-year interest payments competitive. Conversely, if interest rates fell, the value of the bond would go up.

For many of you, this little lesson has been a simple refresher in bond basics. Now, get ready to enter the jungle, and

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beware of the TIGRS and CATS. The Jungle

TIGRs (Treasury Investment Growth Receipts), which come from Merrill Lynch, and CATS (Certificates of Accrual on Treasury Securities) from Salomon Brothers are bonds, but not the domesticated type you are used to dealing with. For the calendar year that ended March 31, 1984, conventional 30-year government bonds fell in price 3%, but bonds such as TIGRs and CATS fell 25%.

The generic name for TIGRS and CATS is zero coupon bonds (zeros). Unlike conventional bonds, zeros do not pay interest; instead, they are heavily discounted. If the prevailing market in-

With a zero coupon, you don't see a penny of interest until the bond matures, so you don't have the option of reinvesting.

terest rate is 12% and a ten-year zero is "priced to market" or yields 12%, it will cost approximately \$312, whereas a conventional ten-year, 12% bond that has a semiannual interest payment will cost approximately \$1000.

Why? Because the interest you would receive from the zero coupon bond (if it were a conventional bond) is subtracted from the bond's par value to arrive at its price.

Just like other bond buyers, zerocoupon buyers assume that interest rates won't go up, but down. Thus, they try to lock in today's high rates and know that if inflation falls, their bonds will be worth more.

The zero-coupon feature drastically lowers the price of bonds and makes them attractive to people who might not otherwise buy bonds. With all this going for them, why are zeros financial dynamite? The problem lies in the interest income from the bond.

Remember, a 30-year government bond pays interest semiannually, but a zero coupon bond does not pay interest until maturity. If rates do go up, you can mitigate the effect by investing the interest you receive from a conventional bond into another instrument (other bonds, money-market funds, and so on) that are yielding the new, higher rate. With a zero coupon, you don't see a penny of interest until the bond ma-

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tures, so you don't have the option of reinvesting. You're locked in to the same interest rate, which could go well below future market rates, for the life of the bond.

As we have already learned, if interest rates go up, the value of the bond goes down, and in the case of zeros, it goes way down! Of course, your losses are only on paper, unless you sell the bond. According to Pacific Investment Management of Newport Beach, California, a 10-year zero is nearly twice as volatile in price as a 10-year conventional bond, a 20-year zero is nearly three times as volatile, and a 30-year zero is about four times as volatile as a 30-year conventional bond.

Even with this high degree of volatility, zeros can be a good investment, especially for self-directed Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) or in custodial accounts (such as a child's education fund). The advantage of a zero coupon bond is that you automatically earn interest on your interest at a set rate, even if interest rates fall. For example, on a 20-year 12% zero coupon bond, one-quarter of the total interest is on the initial cash investment, and three-quarters is interest on interest. That's what makes these bonds so attractive for retirement. In a market where the prevailing interest rate is approximately 12.45%, a 30-year zero coupon bond costs approximately \$300. Twenty years later you'll get \$1000.

Tax Considerations

For our analysis, we will look at zeros as IRA investments, so we can ignore the effects of income tax. If you "break" the IRA, however, or are evaluating bonds as a standard investment, be advised-with conventional bonds, the bondholder has to pay tax on received income (interest payments).

With a zero coupon bond, the bondholder pays taxes on the theoretical interest accretion.

A Spreadsheet Model

Now that you have a basic understanding of what goes on with zeros, we are going to build a spreadsheet model that analyzes how an investment in zeros can help or hurt you (see figure 1). In no way does our analysis presuppose that zeros are a bad investment. On the contrary, for investors who will hold them for the long term, they lock in interest rates that are historically high. You can use any spreadsheet program you want for this model, because it uses common commands.

The value of a conventional bond is the sum of the present value of the interest paid each year plus the present value of the par, or maturity, value, which is typically \$1000 per bond. The present value of a zero is based only on the par value of the bond. Remember, there is no periodic interest payment, only full settlement at maturity.

Let's look at the formulas in the spreadsheet and see what we are doing. Luckily, we can use standard formulas for computing the present value of each dollar we will get in the future (the par value of the bond) and the present value

B10: (C0) +\$D\$ 1-((\$D\$ 1/\$B\$20)*

((((\$D\$1*\$D\$4)/2)*(1-(1/((1+(B9/2))∧ (\$D\$2*2))))/(B9/2)+

(\$D\$1*(1/((1+(B9/2)) / (\$D\$2*2)))))))-(((\$D\$1/\$E\$20)*

\$E\$20-((\$D\$1*(1/((1+(B9/2)) ((\$D\$2*2))))))))

Figure 1: This spreadsheet formula analyzes how an investment in zero coupon bonds can help or hurt you. Note: \$ = a constant formula (reference), whereas no \$ means the reference changes when replicated.



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of each dollar of the interest income, which is also called an annuity.

The formula for each calculation is basically the same. The only variable that changes is the interest rate. The areas shaded yellow in the formula are for computing the present value of the bond's par value. We compute a factor, which tells us what each dollar is worth, and then multiply it by our investment, which gives us the total present value of the par value of the bond.

The areas shaded pink compute the present value of the interest annuity on a conventional bond. Notice that we divide the interest rate and the coupon payment in two because of the semiannual interest payment, which, with bonds, has a higher value than does a yearly payment.

The blue area is a "leveler." Because we are using the theoretical market price for the bonds, we have to calculate how many bonds we can afford for our investment. By dividing our investment by the theoretical market price, we come up with a decimal factor that "levels" our calculations to our investment amount.

The green area is also a leveler. Because zeros are drastically different in price from conventional bonds, we have to develop an equivalent means of comparing them—an apples-to-apples, rather than apples-to-oranges, comparison. To do so, we divide the theoretical price of a zero coupon bond into the total investment and multiply our valuation calculations by it.

At the bottom of the spreadsheet, we compute the estimated present value of a conventional bond, as well as a zero coupon bond. We use these calculations to compute the change in price of both bonds as the interest rate increases. (Figure 2 shows how the spreadsheet will look on your computer.)

Risk or Reward?

The risk analysis calculates the additional loss you may sustain with a zero coupon bond compared to a similarly priced conventional bond if interest rates go up. At each interest rate, we take the original investment in each type of bond and subtract it from the bond's "new" price (the new price is based on the interest rate shown in figure 2 above the estimated loss). The formula then multiplies the difference by the respective levelers to get the equivalent loss on each bond.

Finally the formula subtracts the change in price of the zero coupon bond from the change in price of the conventional bond. The result is the additional

loss that you would incur on a zero coupon bond over a conventional bond as rates rise.

To build the spreadsheet, set up your headings to correspond to the row-andcolumn references in figure 2. Key the formula in figure 1 into cell B10, making sure that you keep the relative vs. the constant references the same. Then use your spreadsheet's Copy or Replicate commands to copy the formula B10 into cells C10-F10, B13-F13, and B16-F16. Finally, key the formula in

The bond market, just like the stock, currency, and commodity markets, is an auction market.

figure 3 into cell B20 and the formula in figure 4 into cell E20.

To use the spreadsheet, all you have to do is enter the necessary information—the investment, the number of years until the bond matures, the prevailing interest rate (prime or T-bill rate) at the time of the offering, and the coupon rate of the bonds—in the input section (the first four lines of the spreadsheet entry), making sure that the numbers go into cells D1–D4. The model will do the rest.

The risk analysis shows you what your additional loss will be at .25% intervals, all the way up to 4% above the prevailing market rate. By changing the interest and coupon assumptions, you can see the sensitivity of the bond.

If you have bought some zeros, you can plug in the prevailing interest rate and coupon rate that were in effect when you bought them and look at what's happened to them. Remember to adjust the years to maturity. A sevenyear bond you bought one year ago has only six years left to maturity.

The closer the bonds get to maturity, the less the difference in their pricing, thus less additional loss. Try it on the spreadsheet, and you'll see the prices gradually merge together.

As with any analysis, we have made some simplifying assumptions. In this case, we have ignored brokerage commissions and taxes and have based the analysis on theoretical prices, rather than on historical market changes.

The bond market, just like the stock, currency, and commodity markets, is an auction market. As anyone who has ever been to an auction can tell you, emotion plays a big part in determining prices. It is this emotion that we have not quantified in our formulas, which is why the prices are "theoretical." We could probably incorporate emotion, but it would make the formulas, and thus the spreadsheet, more complex and difficult to use.

Build the spreadsheet on your Apple and give it a try. Knowing how much you may lose is a lot better than losing money you can't afford to lose.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	INVESTMENT			\$1,000		
2	YEARS TO MATI	JRITY		10		
3	INTEREST RATI	E AT TIME OF	OFFERING	11.50%		
4	COUPON RATE	DN BONDS AT A	DFFERING	12.25%		
5	******	*****	****	****	******	********
6	RISK ANALYSI	5- ESTIMATED	LOSS ON ZE	ROS VS. CONV	ENTIONAL BO	ONDS
7		IF INTERES	ST RATES RI	SE		
в						
7	INT. RATE	11.75%	12.00%	12.25%	12.50%	12.75%
10	EST. LOSS	(\$9)	(\$18)	(\$26)	(\$35)	(\$42)
11						
12	INT. RATE	13.25%	13.50%	13.75%	14.00%	14.25%
13	EST. LOSS	(\$58)	(\$65)	(\$72)	(\$79)	(\$85)
14						
15	INT. RATE	14.75%	15.00%	15.25%	15.50%	15.75%
16	EST. LOSS	(\$98)	(\$103)	(\$109)	(\$115)	(\$120)
7	********	*********	*******	*******	*******	*****
18						
19	CONVENTIONAL	BOND PRICING	3	ZEF	RO COUPON PR	RICING
		\$1,044			\$327	

Figure 2: Sample spreadsheet display with zero-coupon analysis

 $((\$D\$1*\$D\$4)/2)*(1-(1/((1+(\$D\$3/2)) \land (\$D2*2))))/(\$D\$3/2) +$

(\$D\$1*(1/((1+(\$D\$3/2)) \ (\$D2*2))))

Figure 3: Formula for determining conventional-bond pricing

\$D\$ 1*(1/((1+(\$D\$3/2)) ∧ (\$D2*2)))

Figure 4: This formula gives you zero-coupon pricing.

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The other twist borders on the mundane. Titan Empire places armies at your disposal, supposedly for conquering and defending planets. As any armchair general knows, he who controls the air, which is outer space, controls the ground, that is, the planet. You can annihilate all armies stationed on a planet by placing your starship in orbit and launching a ground bombardment.

As the starship commander, you have a five-year mission to conquer strange Titan worlds, to seek out and destroy Titan life-forms and Titan civilization.

At your disposal is an Earth starship armed with photon torpedoes and tracking missiles, but, alas, no phasers. It does come with shields and an extensive set of sensors. The ship holds 500 units of fuel; and each time you fire the weapons or put up the shields, fuel units are subtracted. The ship is capable of speeds up to warp 9, that is, nine times the speed of light, but not impulse power, which is sublight speed. The faster the speed, the higher the fuel consumption. If destroyed, the ship reincarnates over a friendly planet.



Only this time, the enemy isn't the Klingons, but the evil denizens of Titan, one of Saturn's moons. These infamous invaders want to conquer the solar system, and guess who's been recruited to clash with the Titans?

Titan Empire, a tedious combination arcade and strategy game, places you in command of a starship. Another entry in the "Star Trek-with-the-innovativetwist" competition, this game fails to capture the wonder and excitement of the original game.

Titan Empire actually contains two twists. The first one makes our solar system the field of play, that is, from





The solar system contains 9 planets and 21 moons. Each planet or moon holds 1023 units of fuel and a maximum of 255 armies. At the start, Earth controls 22 of these heavenly bodies, with the Titans controlling the balance. Your starship begins play orbiting Earth. **Captain's Commands**

The keyboard commands are swift and responsive and break down into five types: movement, combat, display, pilot, and orbiting. You can move either manually, that is, altering course by pressing one of the four direction keys, or automatically, by specifying a course to a particular planet or moon. You can alter the warp speed at any time, but even

The programming is competent, but the game design is seriously flawed.

at warp 9, traveling between planets is slow and monotonous.

The firing, display, and pilot commands require only a single keystroke to perform their functions. In general, the program carries out the commands swiftly. Some of the more thoughtful commands include a Help menu, Pause Game, Save Game, and Clear All Previous Commands. The game saves high scores in the Titan Empire Hall of Fame.

Meanwhile, the Titans, those interplanetary nasties, are fanning throughout the solar system, conquering distant planets and moons and trying to overwhelm you with numerical superiority. As they take more planets, however, their offensive spirit lessens and they send out their forces piecemeal. This change of tactics probably occurs because the program compensates for the material imbalance, or perhaps it is because you've vaporized so many of the little buggers.

Stone-Age Graphics in the 23rd Century Titan Empire's graphics are pre-

dominantly black and white, presenting an abysmal lack of color and creativity. Two effects, the scrolling purple-andorange star field in the background and the colorful explosion of a Titan ship, look pretty good. Unfortunately, that's about all the color the game contains.

The game's sound effects, though simple, are more effective than the graphics. The red alert beeps, photon hits register as grating sounds, and if the Titans destroy your starship, the game plays a funeral dirge.

Designer E. Zaron apparently tried to make a more graphics-oriented version—with a couple of twists—of the original Star Trek game. The programming is competent, but the game design is seriously flawed.

Fueling up, repairing damage, and beaming armies up and down create minor delays that may be logical, but are not especially enjoyable. In addition, you experience a sort of rigor mortis as the warp-9 starship plods slowly between planets.

Even when you reach a planet, what difference does it make? Planets and moons are all the same, from an icy rock called Pluto, to a gas giant named Jupiter.

Armies seem to be a good idea at first, but they add an extra element of bookkeeping. Parking the starship in orbit and bombarding the Titan armies with missiles is more effective than beaming down an invasion.

I disagree with Titan Empire's designation as an educational game. I find no lessons in astronomy, physics, or other science.

As for information, the five pages in the booklet contain facts and figures that are easily forgotten and just as easily found in an encyclopedia. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, through the Government Printing Office, publishes books, booklets, and posters that are far more informative, interesting, colorful, and inexpensive than Muse's Titan Empire.

Titan Empire falls light-years short of educating and entertaining you. Its yawn-provoking graphics and dull play make Titans only half as much fun to destroy as Klingons. If you can measure a game at warp speeds, Titan Empire plods along on impulse power.

Russ Lockwood

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JURY TRIAL II

Navic Software Box 14727 North Palm Beach, FL 33408 (305) 627-4132 List Price: \$49 Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or IIe; 48K RAM: one disk drive

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The prosecuting attorney faced the witness on the stand. "Mr. John Onthespot, where were you the night of the 12th, at about 6:00 in the evening?"

"At the corner of 86th and 66th. I was out for a walk."

"And you saw someone exiting from a second-floor apartment through a window."

"Objection, your honor. The attorney is leading the witness," the defense attorney protested.

"Overruled." "Describe that person."

"Yes. A big man, somewhat young, wearing an orange shirt, open collar, short sleeves. And red pants. He had a tattoo on his arm."

"And is this suspect the man you saw?"

"Yes, that's he."

"Your honor, the prosecution rests!" **Apple as Courtroom**

Jury Trial II, a fascinating game of

You must gather clues about the crime, choose a jury, and argue the case in court.

legal strategy, packs a courtroom full of suspense into your Apple. The game is for two players-one takes the role of

the prosecuting attorney and the other the defense attorney. Additional players serve as witnesses, and the computer functions as judge and jury.

Like any good attorney, you must gather clues about the crime, choose a jury, and argue the case in court. The clues come from the police and a sheriff. You select the six-member jury from a pool of 12 people. The case is tried in front of the Honorable Judge Apple.

First, the police describe the scene of the crime, in this case a break-in at 86th and 66th streets. A paragraph details the time, date, weather, and what was stolen.

Next, the attorneys question a redneck sheriff about the suspect. The sheriff may or may not answer, depending on his mood and on whether Deputy Fuzz has taken the case sheet or not. His answers concern the suspects' appearance, vehicle, and weapons.

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You need a six-member jury to start the trial. Jury selection is where the attorneys begin to lock horns over the case, and it affects the entire game.

The 12-page instruction booklet describes the jurors, complete with caricatures. All the jurors represent stereotypes of one sort or another, in-



cluding an Archie Bunker type, a brainless beauty, a stuffy aristocrat, and a real dipstick.

As the prospective jurors parade by, both attorneys must agree on a choice before that candidate is seated. Each attorney can challenge—that is—veto, the seating of two jurors.

Of course, the attorneys want to take advantage of these biases, so they try to stack the jury in their own favor. For example, the prosecution always wants to seat Mr. Hawgg, the Archie Bunker type, because he always votes to convict. On the other hand, the defense wants to seat kindly Ms. Eubank, who usually votes to acquit.

Questioning

During the trial, each witness appears for five questions of direct testimony and five questions of crossexamination. The attorneys do not ask their own questions. Instead, the computer displays a question on the screen, and the questioning attorney can choose to ask it or pass it by. The opposing attorney may object to any question, and the computer judge overrules or sustains the objection.

Questions come in three basic types: yes-and-no, one-word descriptions, and affidavits. A yes-and-no question, such as "Was the weapon a type of firearm?" requires a yes or no answer. Other questions, such as "What color was the getaway car?" require one-word answers.

Affidavits pose the toughest and most important questions. They usually ask the witness to describe the crime scene, suspect, or getaway vehicle. The opposing attorney cannot object to an affidavit.

The program is pretty clever at picking out the key words in the affidavit, so you cannot fool it. For example, one scatterbrained witness described the scene of the crime as a "ship at sea, 16th century galleon." The program rejected the affidavit as immaterial to the case.

The program accepts attorneys' and witnesses' input quickly, with new questions appearing almost instantaneously. Affidavits require a few seconds to tabulate but do not slow game play down measurably.

As in real courtroom battles, the prosecuting attorney tries to get the jury to convict, and the defense attorney strives for acquittal. The jury decides the suspect's fate by comparing the witnesses' answers with the sheriff's clues.

Each time a witness, whether for the prosecution or the defense, gives an answer that matches one of the sheriff's clues, the prosecution receives "one point for conviction." Each juror has a certain numerical threshold. If the total number of conviction points exceeds this threshold, the juror votes to convict. If not, the juror votes to acquit.

For example, the prosecution needs very few conviction points to convince Mr. Hawgg to convict the suspect. On the other hand, the prosecution requires many points to convince Ms. Eubank to vote to convict. You can see why jury selection is so important. Thus, witnesses on both sides must pay attention to the clues. The prosecution witnesses try to agree with the clues, and the defense witnesses try to disagree.



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During the trial, the screen displays the questions at the top, the answers underneath, and the jurors' ongoing reactions to the evidence at the bottom. As the prosecution gains and loses conviction points, the jurors change their opinions of the suspect's guilt or innocence.

When the jury returns a verdict, the losing attorney may appeal and try the case over again. If the defendant is guilty and appeal is waived, the judge pronounces a sentence proportional to the number of conviction points. If innocent, the defendant goes free.

Since Jury Trial II is a battle of wits and not fingers, its graphics consist almost entirely of text. The few examples of color are limited to a banging gavel and the opening and closing screens.

Jury Trial II is a silent program, containing few sound effects. A staccato buzzing accompanies descriptions of potential jurors. Another buzz signals the banging of the gavel. Other than that, the game proceeds quickly.

Although Jury Trial II is designed for two or more players, I found the solitaire version as fascinating and chal-

> Jury Trial II effectively presents the trials and tribulations of courtroom drama. Whether you play the game alone or with others, Jury Trial II is an appealing brain teaser.

lenging as playing the game against an opponent. As both prosecuting attorney and witness, you try to remember all the facts and clues. If you can, you get the conviction. If not, the defendant walks.

The game contains some nice touches. It swears in all witnesses by asking if they "promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Incidentally, should you answer "no," you will be prohibited from giving testimony.

The game can give you a hung jury if the jurors fail to reach a unanimous decision. The judge then declares a mistrial, and you try the case again.

Jury Trial II effectively presents the trials and tribulations of courtroom drama. Whether you play the game alone or with others, Jury Trial II is an appealing brain teaser. The reviewer rests his case.

Russ Lockwood



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*If you do not have a Duodisk, or use an Apple III, a special cable is available. See your dealer for details.

**Catalyst works on the Apple IIC, IIe and Apple III. It is not compatible with Macintosh.

Photography by Barbara Kasten



THE MAC'S FUTURE

I got a glimpse into what's ahead for the Macintosh at the MacForum given last summer in San Francisco by the market-research firm Future Computing. Among the more interesting aspects of this two-day event were various "promises" that John Sculley and Steve Jobs of Apple made. By 1986, they claim, optical-disk technology will be available; the Mac and the Lisa will come with full-page displays able to show an entire $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ -inch piece of paper at once; there will be a lap-size Macintosh that Jobs calls "Mac in a book"; and UNIX support will be available for the Mac and the Lisa.

Even sooner, according to Sculley and Jobs, a laser printer that produces typeset-quality output will be on the market. The laser printer is so advanced that it contains more RAM and more chips than does the Mac itself. Another surprise was that spokespeople from both Microsoft and Lotus Development Corporation claimed that their companies were placing a higher priority on producing Macintosh software than on producing IBM PC software.

Also at the MacForum, Chuck Colby of Colby Computer in Palo Alto, California, was showing off a modified Macintosh dubbed the Colby Mac. The Colby Mac is an actual Macintosh rebuilt into an Osborne-style carrying case that contains the Mac's circuitry, screen, and two disk drives. The main advantage of the Colby Mac is that it fits under airline seats, whereas the regular Mac cannot. John Sculley looked dubious when he first saw the Colby Mac (it's not as cute as the original Mac), but he was eventually sold on the idea and placed an order for several of the modified Macintoshes.

JAPANESE LIKE MAC

Apple Computer Japan, Inc., has signed up more than 50 leading Japanese software producers to develop Macintosh application software in the Japanese language. Since the Japanese language is much more graphically complex than English, Japanese software producers feel that the Mac, with its excellent graphics capabilities, is much better suited to their language than the IBM PC type of computer. In order to help these firms get started, Apple is supplying them with a Japanese version of the Mac's operating system, the toolbox, and other development tools. The Japanese Mac has 512K RAM to handle the kana character set and comes with a special kanasyllabary keyboard. This keyboard has keys with graphic elements that combine to form the thousands of characters in the Japanese language.



CIRCLE 396 ON READER SERVICE CARD

NETWORK BATTLE

The race to come out with local-area networks is heating up. Here are the players lined up at the starting gate: Davong Systems of Sunnyvale, California, with its MacLink and MacDisk for the Macintosh; Symbiotic Computer Systems of Fairfield, Connecticut, offering SyMBfile hard disks and SyMBnet networks for the II, II Plus, IIe, IIc, III, and Macintosh: Sunol Systems of Pleasanton, California, with its Sun-*Disk hard disk, Sun*Net network, and Sun*Mac AppleBus network for the Macintosh and Apple II: Tecmar with its MacDrive and planned AppleBus network; and, last but not least, Corvus, offering OmniDrive for the Macintosh, which will be compatible with the company's OmniNet network for the Apple II series and the Apple III.

MOUSE ALTERNATIVE

Although I personally like the mouse, quite a few people seem to dislike it. I always thought the logical alternative would be a touch-sensitive pad—you could tap the pad to simulate pressing the mouse button.

KA Design Group of Oakland, California, has come up with another interesting alternative called the Puck Pointer. The Puck Pointer is like a knobby little joystick that is not much larger than a key on a computer keyboard. In fact, you can integrate it into a keyboard quite easily, if you don't like to take your hands away from your keyboard to roll the mouse around.

The Puck Pointer uses a noncontact optical sensor in combination with a light-emitting diode (LED) light source to detect movements precisely. Although the device takes up only four square inches, it has a resolution of 2048 by 2048 points on the screen, which is better than that of most computer displays. To top it off, this device is quite inexpensive, selling for around \$15 wholesale.

ROBOTS, ANYONE?

If you're interested in robotics, you may want to pick up a copy of the International Robotics Industry Directory, which lists more than 250 robot models. The directory is available for \$35 from Technical DataBase Corporation, P.O. Box 720, Conroe, TX 77305.

TECHNOLOGY ADVICE

Uncle Sam wants to share information about technology with scientists, inventors, and researchers in private industry. To help increase the flow of information, the government has published the *Directory of Federal Technology Resources*, which is available for \$25 from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

CHIP CHAT

Apple's choice of the Motorola 68000 as the processor for the Macintosh and Lisa is turning out to be wiser than IBM's choice of the Intel 8088 family of processors. Not only is the current 68000 superior to the 8088, but the future of the 68000 family looks much rosier than that of the 8088 family. Intel is struggling to produce a smooth upward path for its processors, but Motorola is forging ahead at full steam.

The new Motorola 68020 is a feature-laden superchip with a full 32-bit architecture capable of accessing up to four billion bytes of data. It performs up to 20 times faster than the 68000 in the Mac and the Lisa. The 68020's advanced design uses state-of-the-art HCMOS technology, which consumes less power than the 68000 does. The chip has extended support for coprocessors and features dynamic bus sizing that supports 8-, 16-, and 32-bit bus ports. Thus, the chip can work in existing 8- or 16-bit systems. The best news for Apple is that all the precious Macintosh and Lisa object code written for the 68000 can execute without revision on the more powerful 68020.

WOZ WANTED HART

Steve Wozniak, cofounder of Apple Computer, and Regis McKenna, head of Apple's public-relations firm, were both delegates for Gary Hart at the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco last summer. Although their candidate didn't win the nomination, the pair seemed to enjoy the convention and its lavish parties. Woz's participation represented a new interest in politics, but McKenna is an ardent Democrat of long standing.

Word has it that Woz did promote one winner. He was plugging Brøderbund's Print Shop program for the Apple II series, which creates typesetlooking greetings cards, stationery, announcements, and banners. Print Shop is a great program at a great price (\$49.95), created by David Balsam and Marty Kahn of Pixellite Software in Berkeley, California. David tells me that a Macintosh version of Print Shop is now on the horizon.





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THE FOURTH VERSION OF DB MASTER COMBINES LARGE CAPACITY WITH EASE OF USE

SOFTWARE REVIEW/BY JILL MORGAN

DB Master, one of the early file-management programs for the Apple, shows welcome signs of maturity in its fourth version. The program lets you store information in such a way that it is available in several files at once and can be sorted into groups.

File-management programs such as DB Master have many complex uses, but the basic one I started with, two years ago, was creating a customer mailing list. Because of this program, I can send specialized mailings to targeted customers, based on their product interests and account activity, and my list now comprises 4000 names.

DB Master, Version 3, was the first program I bought for my Apple II Plus. I learned the program by reading the manual, and in my innocence, I didn't realize that the manual was complicated and poorly organized. Maybe that is why I started calling the program DB Monster.

Version 4 Plus is considerably easier to learn and use. The manual is a handsome, clearly written tome. Programmers may not regard DB Master as elegant, but it is useful for data management in small businesses or corporate departments. It also has the largest capacity and the most options of the popular database programs for the unenhanced, non-CP/M Apple II. What Is a Database?

"A data base is a collection of related information," says the first line of the introduction to the DB Master manual. The paragraph continues with a pithy definition: "A true data base manager is a computer programmer's tool, designed to handle information storage and retrieval within larger computer programs, and requiring advanced programming skills. A 'file management system' such as DB Master is a complete, self-contained prodesigned help gram to nonprogrammers manage information."

I am proof that a computer novice, with reasonable patience and the ability to follow a recipe, can set up DB Master. I knew that if I could grasp the program, I could train someone to enter names.

I initially spent 60 hours with DB Master and used it not only to learn about my new computer but also as a primer in data-management strategies. If I had had the well-written Version 4 Plus manual, I might have been able to cut my learning time in half. Because of its instructive content and its depth, the manual could be a textbook in a business class.

To use DB Master, or any file-management system, you should understand a few standard terms. Consider a familiar form, such as a catalog mail-order form. It has lines for name, address, city, state, and ZIP code, as well as boxes to check and columns for item descriptions and prices. With DB Master, you can make your own form, which is called a record. On the form are lines and labels, called fields. Perhaps you will have a field for last name, another field for first name, four for the four elements of the address, another for the old phone number, and other fields for item descriptions, quantities ordered, cost per item, and total costs.

Each form is a record; a group of records makes up a file. Within a file are all the orders for each customer. You can sort the records, using any of the fields as criteria, such as by ZIP or alphabetically by name, and you can search the records to select only those that include certain items such as total purchase amounts. If you want to send a special mailing to everyone in ten states who ordered more than \$1000 in the past month, you can have a list or mailing labels within minutes. For organization and for speed in finding records, each record must have a primary key: a unique number or set of characters, such as a customer number or invoice number.

DB Master is like other business tools; it works best if one or two people learn how to set up the system and teach others how to handle the daily use.

A Manual for Everyone

The DB Master Version 4 Plus manual gives information that satisfies any reader's need to know or ability to absorb. Within the covers of its small three-ring binder, it is divided into logical sections. Instructions for novices on starting the computer are separatemore advanced people can skip that section and start with the tutorial. In seven lessons, the 178-page tutorial leads readers through a sample file setup for Nose to the Grindstone Gravel Company. Messages that appear on the computer screen appear on the page in easy-to-spot bold type, which is helpful for experienced and novice users alike. The reference guide that follows the tutorial is a 96-page, alphabetical listing that succinctly defines DB Master terms and functions.

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marketing plans, legal briefs, case reports, engineering specifications, research notes, action items, hot lists and to-do lists.

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On your mind. The First Idea Processor. "ThinkTank" and "The First Idea Processor" are trademarks of Living Videotext, Inc. © Copyright 1984, Living Videotext, Inc., 2432 Charleston Road, Mountain View, CA 94043, (415) 964-6300 manual, preferring to learn the program through trial and error, will appreciate the programmers' tool. This graphically pleasing flowchart poster shows the structure of the program.

The manual's appendix offers helpful information, including the only instructions on what to do with the sample disk that comes with the program. I found this section only after I had managed to figure out what to do with the disk.

Stoneware, Inc., developer of DB Master, will send you a 23-page essay on the strategy of good file design, upon receipt of your registration card. The company wants to be sure it can send

I am proof that a computer novice, with reasonable patience and the ability to follow a recipe, can set up DB Master.

you updates and newsletters, so it emphasizes the necessity for customer registration. With Version 3 of DB Master, it sent backup disks for the program upon registration; with Version 4 Plus, a set of backups to the two-disk program comes in the package. Also enclosed is the sample files disk that contains four sample files and also allows you to convert files you've created with PFS software (from Software Publishing Corporation) or with Visi-File to DB Master files.

Don't be alarmed that DB Master comes on three disks. You need to use one of them only rarely to create a new file and to do some file housekeeping. The improvements in Version 4 Plus need the disk space and are well worth the occasional, minor inconvenience of inserting another disk.

In addition to the thorough manual, DB Master Version 4 Plus presents several major improvements to Version 3. All aspects of the program have at least one new function that remedies a previous drawback. When you create a file and its screen form, you can now edit freely-you don't have to restart whenever you want to change something. Making a new file form in Version 3 often gave me the edgy feeling of being in an amusement-park spook house. If I

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made an error or wanted to change something, a cackling witch jumped out and screeched, "Start over!" Editing is also available during record entry, so you can change information without erasing the entire line, which was the case in Version 3.

Records can now contain alphanumeric fields with up to 100 characters instead of a maximum of 30. This change does mean that files you create with Version 4 Plus may not work with the Version 3 program, although files

Making a new file form in Version 3 often gave me the edgy feeling of being in an amusement-park spook house.

you create with Version 3 will work with Version 4 Plus.

Changes in the printing portion of the program are especially welcome. Before you print a report or labels, you can review the formats that determine the appearance of the information in the printout—no more wasted time creating duplicate formats. In selecting which records to print, you can now match up to 20 criteria, which was supposed to be possible in Version 3 as well, but Version 4 Plus won't crash when you get to the 10th or 11th criterion.

To extract the records you choose, DB Master may need to make a separate Sort file on "scratch" disks. This process can take a long time. In Version 3 you could use the sort file only once. In Version 4 Plus you can reuse that sorted file, although you must remember that any changes you've made to the main file since the sort will not appear on the previously sorted file.

The most important characteristic of Version 4 Plus is its reliability in carefully storing and retrieving data. I have never suffered a data loss because of the program itself; even the errors I've made in interpreting instructions have not proven catastrophic.

DB Master constantly displays options on the screen, which might annoy advanced computer users, but I appreciate them because I know I can check the choices at the bottom of the screen and move through the program without hesitation. In Version 4 Plus, the new headings at the top of the screen that tell me where I am within the program have proven helpful.

Entry/Edit Techniques

To avoid typing repetitive information, you can set defaults that pretype specified information into the screen form. A last-record default option causes the record you have just entered and saved to reappear on the screen, and you type over it to enter a new record. You can use this function to review your previous entry for errors and to avoid retyping if some of the information within a batch of new records is similar. If you need to add five new records of people at the same company, for example, enter the first name, title, company, and address. With last-record default, type only the name and title for the next four records.

Another option is to set up permanent defaults during file creation or temporary defaults just before adding records. Fields with the same information for all or most new records can already be filled-in when each fresh form appears on the screen. If most records will include the title Sales Director, for instance, or will have the same city and state, defaults in these fields can save typing time and help prevent errors.

Before adding records you can choose to set defaults and to print each of the new records. DB Master has always made it easy to produce a daily report of the records you enter by letting you print each record as you save it. The new version improves this feature by letting you use a space-saving format, printing all fields on one line across the page, instead of having only one field per line.

Another way to print a daily report is to set up the original form with an automatic-date field. Whatever date you enter when you boot DB Master is logged automatically into this field on any records you enter or edit that day. At the end of the day you can print a report of all records for that date. I also use this field as a last-activity date, separate from another field for the record's original entry date, to show when customers have made their most recent purchases. By printing a report of all records with last-activity dates prior to six months or one year ago, I can spot customers who are not buying.

An increment option makes entry of numbers easy. Many DB Master options use the Control key and a singlekey mnemonic. Control-I, for instance, causes a number to increase by 1. Whenever the form appears, to have you add the next record, the increment option adds 1 to a number from the previous record. For invoice numbers or unique, primary-key numbers, the increment ups the previous record's number and saves both typing the entire number and remembering which number comes next.

DB Master allows a certain amount of data-entry checking by providing for specific field types. If you set up your form with fields for date, telephone, or Social Security number, for example, you can use a field type that makes the typist conform to the spacing appropriate for that information. You can select a Yes/No field that accepts only Y or N, or a field that formats dollar amounts to two decimal places.

You can also choose a field that includes only numbers and can set the maximum length to fit a specific type of entry, such as catalog number. The program won't allow you to type a longer number, and a shorter number that may be incorrect will stand out.

You can make two fields part of a formula and create computed fields. For example, one field includes the quantity of an item in inventory, another field tells how much it costs, and the computed field shows the calculated total inventory value for that item.

To give you room to enter text, alphanumeric fields can include up to 100 characters. You can combine several 100-character fields into a paragraph of text that includes any keyboard characters.

The most important characteristic of Version 4 Plus is its reliability in carefully storing and retrieving data.

Editing records is the most timeconsuming part of maintaining a database system. DB Master makes this process simpler in several ways in Version 4 Plus than it was in Version 3. One is the alphanumeric-field editor, which lets you edit a field without having to retype it entirely, as you had to in Version 3. Imagine not being able to edit a 100-character field! DB Master's field editor is a simple word-processing editor. You can move to the beginning or end of a line, delete characters, and insert characters. You can use it while

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adding or editing records and when you set temporary defaults. If you don't like your editing, you can press Control-V to void it and retrieve the original record. If, on the other hand, you like it, press Control-S to save it.

Another helpful way of using the editor saves time much like the default option does. If you have a new record to enter that contains information similar to that in another record, call that record to the screen, edit it, and press Control-A to add the record as a new one without altering the original record.

Data, Front and Center

Now that you have the information in the computer, how do you get it out? As usual with DB Master, the options are many and can be complicated if you don't have a good understanding of the instructions. What you want the program to do is search through the records to find each one that matches a set of criteria you choose. You can display them on the screen or print them with the printer.

The program lets you find records that match; are greater than or less than; include a specific character, number, or set of letters; or records that fit within a range. You can combine these criteria and find only records within a ZIP code range that include a certain letter code. You can choose records that fit one set of criteria *and* another set, or records that fit one set *or* another set. Thus, you can combine records in many different ways to suit your needs. In effect, you have duplicate copies of information in many file folders at one time with the option of updating or reprint-

You won't always know how to get off a trail you know you don't want to be on until you follow the program further into the woods.

ing reports with little effort.

Another Version 4 Plus improvement is the feature that enables you to get a count of the number of records that fit the criteria you specify, before you print the report. Some weeks before printing mailing labels, I need to know how many flyers or letters to print. When I choose the Total option, Control-T, the program searches the file. Total also gives a sum, average, and standard deviation for numeric fields and prints the results on the screen or printer. Statistical analyses are also available through printed reports.

Creating a report, like creating a form, is easiest when you plan it on paper first. Within the DB Master manual are several blank Report Design Worksheets and Form Design Worksheets. Each design takes time and can be tailored to special needs. A form can fill up to nine screen pages and include 21 lines of fields per page, with a maximum of 100 fields per record. Reports can print one or more lines per record, in a layout to fit a form, or in labels. Reports can include a little or all of a record's data, as well as comment lines. footnotes, column titles, date, page numbers, statistics, and breaks at the end of groups or pages.

Lost in the Woods

DB Master can be frustrating. With its many options for creating forms and reports, mistakes and improvements take time. If people in business had more time, DB Master might be considered an adventure, but once you've selected an option, or started a hike, you won't always know how to get off a trail you know you don't want to be on until you follow the program further





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into the woods. At a clearing you will have a choice to cancel the trip or start again from a point along the way. It is always better to stay on the trail by continuing with the program's options, one of which will let you abort the current process, rather than to cut through the woods by pressing Control-Reset. The latter procedure may or may not work-if it doesn't, it may damage your file. When you follow them literally, the screen prompts, like trail markers, help avoid confusion.

file, DB Master can require an annoying amount of disk swapping in order to read or write records in a sort. The best way to surmount this problem is to use a mass-storage device such as a hard disk or design a file so that the most common sort field is the start of the primary key.

If you need to sort records in many different ways, a hard disk may be the better answer. Check with Stoneware when you want to choose a hard disk, because DB Master is not yet compati-Because of the potential size of a ble with all hard-disk brands-you'll



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find that the company offers excellent technical support.

Utilities to the Rescue

If you use DB Master as a professional tool, the many file-maintenance routines the program offers will help you. DB Master Version 4 Plus includes two additional Utility Pak programs from Stoneware. File maintenance in DB Master includes a simple and helpful task: reblocking to reorganize and condense the records. The utility programs also have routines to determine the total number of records within a file, add and delete secondary keys for fast screen searches, translate abbreviated fields into long definitions, change passwords, and configure (i.e., connect) a printer to work with the program.

The Utility Paks include several useful tasks and some esoteric abilities. Utility Pak 2 includes a program for printing labels up to five across a page, which is especially useful for direct mail. Its global edit is helpful for automatically editing or deleting a selected group of records and for computing days elapsed between dates. For companies that work with DB Master in different offices and need to merge records, each Utility Pak has an appropriate routine.

Utility Pak 1 includes basic help for creating a new, blank file with an original's formats and for recovering damaged files. It also contains a DIF translator to allow a DB Master file and a file from another program to merge information.

DB Master cleans up myriad details in any paperwork routine and builds a system that can grow into a hefty workhorse on your Apple. Whether you print and file invoices, calculate estimates, keep personnel records, or maintain a library catalog, DB Master can help. The program gives you fast access to your information and an opportunity to analyze it, print it, and improve its usefulness.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

DB Master, Version 4 Plus Stoneware, Inc. 50 Belvedere Street San Rafael, CA 94901 (415) 454-6500

- List Price: \$350 (includes Utility Pak 1 and 2)
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1. Write to us, and we'll send you a copy. Be sure to state the name of the program, the month that it won, and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. 2. Download the program directly into your Apple from CompuServe, Log onto CompuServe (vou must already be a member) and type GO PCS51, which will bring you to the Micronet Apple User's Group area. The computer will then guide you through the system with a series of menus and help screens. If you have any questions, you can send a message directly to us via CompuServe's electronicmail system. A+'s ID number is 72356,2673. If you want to contact CompuServe, its phone number is (800) 848-8199 (in Ohio, dial (614) 457-0802). 3. Watch A + Disk Magazine for listings of our contest winners. Future issues of A + Disk Magazine will have the winning program, ready to run, on the diskette.

CONTEST WINNER

Take a bow, Mark Bisho, winner of October's Program of the Month contest. He will receive \$500, and we'll enter him in our special \$1000 grand-prize contest. Mr. Bisho's comments describe the program:

IntelliCalc

IntelliCalc knows how to do everything that a normal calculator does, plus almost everything else you wish one did. It is simple and easy to use, yet potentially a powerful program—hence the name IntelliCalc. If you have ever spent hours running and checking a calculation, with or without a tape, only to find a mistake or a deleted entry, you will really appreciate the capabilities of this program.

IntelliCalc provides a running total that is updated with every entry. As many as nine memories, available at any time, are fully interactive with the running total and you can access them directly from the keyboard without affecting the normal entries or the total. You can insert—or revise—an entry at any time into an easily rechecked "electronic tape" of entries. It is also possible to save and load information to and from the disk. The program can print a hard-copy calculator tape that is correct every time. Well-documented subroutines are included to expand the program to meet your own calculation needs.





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program for database management

elcome to our ongoing series of tutorials on the increasingly popular microcomputer data-management tool dBASE II. If you have been participating in the 11 dBASE II installments up to now, you should now be fairly adept in many of the rudimentary, as well as some of the more complex, techniques for creating data-

bases, storing information in them, and keeping that information up to date. You should also be familiar with most of the approaches for data retrieval, including the use of sorted and indexed databases, as well as operators, memory variables, functions, and more global commands such as Total, Update, Copy To, and Append From, which accomplish large-scale modifications of and interactions between existing data files.

For the most part, past installments have directed your attention to the tedious and irrelevant details of unknown or entirely fictitious businesses, because of the necessity for examples. You've suffered through the prices and quantities of wing nuts, the part numbers of \$15 phonographs, and the cost/benefit ratio of lead space suits. Therefore, as a reward, I now offer something a bit more fun. This time we'll be playing with ways to create custom data input/ output screens and printouts using the ZIP.COM program.

Before we get started, though, here are a few important

points for newcomers to the dBASE tutorial series. Tutorial Conventions

These tutorials contain numerous examples. Sometimes you are asked to type a command, and then dBASE II responds. Just to differentiate between what you do and what dBASE II responds with, the ones you type appear in lowercase letters. Uppercase works too, so it doesn't really make a difference; it's just clearer this way. Some examples may specifically ask you to type in uppercase, but they always involve a series of words between quotation marks. The dBASE II responses are usually in uppercase letters. All screen interactions are listed in larger type to distinguish them from the rest of the text. To make these sections more readable, carriage returns are implied rather than included here.

In the command-syntax examples, words between square brackets (e.g., [scope]) indicate an optional phrase or "argument." All examples assume dBASE version 2.4 or higher and an 80-column display.

Screen Gems

Have you ever wished there were an easy way (without writing dBASE programs) that you could display and enter data into your dBASE files, using your own custom-designed screens? Wouldn't it be nice if you could list the cursor-control codes or special instructions and prompts on the screen during the Append and Editing processes? Well, it's not as difficult as you may think.

A program included on your dBASE II disks is named ZIP.COM. Ever wonder what it's for? Well, it's a screen and printout editor that is designed expressly for use with dBASE II. Zip makes a simple task of creating custom screens and printout forms, saving them on disk as .FMT files. dBASE II 2.4 or later sports a command (Set Format to <filename>) that instructs dBASE to use an .FMT disk file to determine the appearance of your screen. Additionally, for the dBASE II programmers among you, Zip can also help you write all the code necessary for displaying fancy screens from within your programs. Let's find out more by actually using Zip.

First, make sure to run the installation program, ZIPIN.COM, and answer the questions according to your system's configuration:

A>ZIPIN <ret>

Assuming you have a bona fide Apple version of dBASE and not a generic CP/M one, your choices are relatively simple. Specify 40 or 80 columns and Apple II or Apple III. Don't bother changing anything else, except perhaps the cursor-control keys so that they match your word-processing program. Then exit from the program, using F for *finished*.

Next, dredge up the database we used in the last issue, or create a new one with the name, field layout, and data in figure 1.

OK. Now let's run Zip and see what we can do with it. First, make sure you have at least 3K of space on your floppy disk. Then type

A>ZIP <ret> press any key to continue N (for new) TUTOR (that'll be our filename)

Now you should have an almost blank screen waiting for you to start typing. Notice that you can type anywhere

on the screen by moving the cursor around with the cursorcontrol keys you chose during installation. Also, moving down a line doesn't send you back to the left margin or to the end of the next line, as is often the case with word-processing programs such as WordStar. This difference arises because the entire screen is initially filled with "blanks" waiting for whatever you want to replace them with.

In this first example, we are going to create a data I/O (input/output) screen that we can use when we Append or Edit our Inv-1 data file. So create a screen that looks something like the one below, including some little message

The field names can go anywhere on the screen, as long as you have enough room for the data display.

about careful typing at the bottom of the screen. You can tailor everything to your liking, except for the field names (which must, of course, match the database in use). The field names can go anywhere on the screen, as long as you have enough room for the data display. Note that a # sign must immediately precede the field names.

**** APPEND OR EDIT **** INPUT SCREEN FOR INV- 1 DATABASE

Category Part Number Brand Model	>>> >> >>	#category #part:numb #brand #model
List price Actual cost	>>	#price #cost
Number on hand	>>	#quantity

Please type carefully. Use dBASE cursor control keys to move between fields, edit, and insert.

	OF RECORDS: 00010	0/00					
The second second second	Y USE DATABASE						
FLD	NAME	TYPE	WIDTH	DEC			
001	PART: NUMB	N	005				
002	CATEGORY	c	0 10				
003	BRAND	c	0 10				
004	MODEL	с	006				
005	OUANTITY	N	002				
006	COST	N	006	002			
007	PRICE	N	006	002			
*TOTAL	*		00046				
.list							
00001	1 RECEIV	/ER	NIZO	T-33	5	225.49	350.49
00002	2 RECEIN	/ER	NIZO	T-35	4	3 12.00	425.25
00003	3 RECEIN	/ER	ACME	R25-MT	13	19.99	49.99
00004	4 RECEIN	/ER	NADIR	2-CHP	50	12.95	29.99
00005	5 SPEAKE	ERS	RAZCO	L-55	30	199.00	0.00
00006	6 SPEAKE	ERS	TALBEST	BG-20	6	250.00	350.88
00007	7 TAPE D	ECK	ROLLEM	CAS-3	10	125.65	2 12.99
80000	8 TAPE D	ECK	FLOWUTTER	WBL-5	5	149.33	250.77
00009	9 TURNTA	BLE	XIRTAM	25-L	5	99.99	149.99
00010	10 TURNTA	BLE	RALURIC	RND-1	3	595.00	850.00

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BLUE CHIP SOFTWARE

Once you have the screen looking the way you want, type /S to save the file. Then type F to tell Zip to create a format (.FMT) file rather than a command (.CMD) file. We don't want to change the name, so type N in answer to the name-change question and N for the question about printing the form. Now Zip starts processing the screen, creating three files on your disk. When the cursor jumps back into the editing area, type /Q to quit Zip, answering Y to the Quit to system (Y/N)? query.

Just for fun, let's see what Zip created. Either use the CP/M Type command on your word-processing program to view the file TUTOR.FMT in figure 2.

This is a file that dBASE can use to place field data and notes on the screen while you're appending, editing, or inserting records. If you'd needed to, you could have created this form with your word-processing program. You can also edit it with the WP program, assuming you use a "nondocument" mode designed for writing programs. Otherwise, the WP program sometimes inserts strange control codes into the file, which confuses dBASE. Writing this format file by hand would have required some time-consuming calculations. For example, the line

a 2,26 SAY "**** APPEND OR EDIT ****"

means

"at row two, column 26 print this message--->
**** APPEND OR EDIT **** "

The other files that Zip creates have the extensions .ZPR and .ZIP. The .ZPR file looks just like the screen we created. Editing the .ZIP file with your word-processing program will probably damage it, so it's better just to type it out:

A>type tutor.zip

Figure 2: The TUTOR.FMT file

This file is the one Zip uses to store your screen for future editing.

Now, get into dBASE II, making sure that your Inv-1 database and our new TUTOR.FMT file are both resident

* TUTOR.FMT

10.000	TOTOR.THI
ລ	2,26 SAY "**** APPEND OR EDIT ****"
ລ	4,22 SAY "INPUT SCREEN FOR INV- 1 DATABASE "
ລ	5,21 SAY ""
ລ	7,21 SAY "Category>>"
ລ	7,47 GET category
ລ	8,21 SAY "Part Number>>"
ລ	8,47 GET part:numb
ລ	9,21 SAY "Brand>>"
ລ	9,47 GET brand
ລ	10,21 SAY "Model>>"
ລ	10,47 GET model
ລ	12,21 SAY "List price>>"
ລ	12,47 GET price
ລ	13,21 SAY "Actual cost>>"
ລ	
ລ	15,21 SAY "Number on hand>>"
ລ	15,47 GET quantity
ລ	19,13 SAY "Please type carefully. Use dBASE
	cursor control "
ລ	20, 13 SAY "keys to move between fields, edit,
	and insert. "

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Do spreadsheets faster and easier with complete cursor control on the programmable IIe Tender Keypad.

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Standard, non-programmable models are also available for both the Apple IIe and Apple II+* Ask your dealer for details.

*Apple IIe, Apple and Apple II+ are registered trademarks of Apple Computers, Inc. **VisiCalc is a registered trademark of VisiCorp.



on either the A: or the B: drive (the examples assume the default drive). Then type

- . set format to tutor (or b: tutor if it's in drive b)
- . append (go ahead and add one record)
- edit 5 (edit record 5, or walk through the database using Control-R and Control-C)

If you did everything correctly, your new data-display format should have appeared, along with some data, allowing you to walk through the fields, make changes, and the like. Easy, wasn't it?

Rules and Notes

Now that you've got the general idea, you need a few additional pieces of information:

1. You can create as many format files as you want, although only one can be active at a given time. If Bill likes a particular format and Mary another, just make two format files with Zip, naming them Bill and Mary. Then Bill can simply type Set format to Bill before beginning work. Ditto for Mary.

2. Pressing // while in Zip gives you a menu of Zip editing commands and defaults. You can easily center text, insert lines and columns, draw vertical and horizontal lines, and so on. Try playing with some of these options to spruce up your display.

 If you just want to display data, either on the screen or on paper, you must replace all of the # signs with @'s. This substitution does prevent editing and appending, of course.
 To print a form rather than looking at it on the screen, change all the #'s to @'s and choose C when saving your file in Zip. Then answer Y to the question about printing. Once you're in dBASE, turn on your printer, locate the record you want printed, and type Do <filename>. For example, suppose the file was saved as tutor2:

. use inv-1 . do tutor2

One record will be printed in your customized form.

So there you have it: a simple way, without programming, to give your dBASE II files a customized appear-

Programmers will find Zip almost indispensable, since it eliminates the hassle of estimating where prompts will appear on the screen.

ance. Programmers will find Zip almost indispensable, since it eliminates the hassle of estimating where prompts will appear on the screen. They can also forget about having to type @14,20 SAY . . . ever again—Zip does it all. Just create a screen and let Zip create a .CMD file. You can later pull the .CMD file into your program with your word-processing program and eliminate the drudgery. Have fun experimenting!

Any thoughts? Write to me, Robert Cowart, and let me know, c/o A + Magazine, 11 Davis Drive, Belmont, CA 94002.

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[.] use inv-1

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MAC/HARD DISK WOES

Q. I recently bought a five-megabyte hard-disk drive for my Macintosh. I use MacWrite for writing some letters and reports, I use MacPaint for creating graphics of all types (sometimes just doodling) and I've just bought the Omnis database program for file management. The hard disk seemed great, since it helped speed up a lot of my work. Programs and documents seemed to load and run quite a bit faster.

The most enjoyable part of using the Macintosh is using MacPaint. Using MacPaint with a single-drive Mac is relatively laborious (much diskette swapping involved), so I thought the hard disk would really be the answer to my prayers. At first it was, but now I'm beginning to have serious problems. I have several diskettes' worth of my own graphics and doodling, and I just bought six diskettes of clip art from various vendors. Well, I loaded my own diskettes onto the hard disk and everything seemed fine, but after I loaded four of the six clip-art diskettes, the Mac started acting weird. It would quit in the middle of the copying process and give me several strange error messages. MacPaint gave the error message MacPaint can't find work space on the default drive. Mac-Write would stop after the saving-document-to-disk stage and tell me This document can't be printed. Finally, I was left with an empty dialog box with a bomb in it, but nothing else! I thought I might have overloaded the hard disk, but when I rebooted the system, the Mac reported that there were about 1.5 megabytes of unused disk space on the hard disk. What's wrong with my hard disk? Why can't I fill it up to capacity?

A. Nothing is wrong with your hard disk; the problem is with the finder, which is the Macintosh's operating system. The current version of the finder (version 1.1g at the time of this writing) has a few drawbacks. One is that you can have only about 200 directory entries (folders, documents and so on) before the finder gets lost. Sometimes, if your filenames are especially long, the finder can get lost after only 100 or so directory entries. The finder keeps track of all the directory entries at once and puts that information in RAM. The 128K RAM in the Macintosh limits the amount of space that the finder has available for keeping track of directory entries. Apple claims to be working on the finder, and the 512K Macintoshes will probably not have this problem.

For the time being, you can try giving your documents shorter names so the finder can fit more names into the Mac's precious 128K RAM. You may be able to squeeze more directory entries in this way. As to using all the space on your hard disk, you can fill the disk up with longer files, such as lengthy data files you create with Omnis.

Until Apple upgrades the finder, you can fill your hard disk with a few long database files, but you can't fill it with a whole lot of short (e.g., MacPaint, MacWrite) files. You should remove some of the files from the hard disk and transfer them to a diskette, which should help alleviate the problem for the time being.

Please send your questions and problems to Rescue Squad, A+, 11 Davis Drive, Belmont, CA 94002. ONNA TARZIAN



HARDWARE

Password 300

A 300-bps modem with auto-dial and auto-answer capabilities, Password 300 can be configured to any type of RS-232C port and operates on either Bell System or dedicated lines. It measures $4.4 \times 7.4 \times 1.4$ inches and comes with two velcro strips so that you can attach it to the side of your computer. Password 300 is compatible with most communications software. *(List Price: \$199)*

Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; serial card U.S. Robotics, Inc. 1123 West Washington Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607 (312) 733-0497 CIRCLE 930 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Amdek Color 600

Some features of this high-resolution RGB color monitor are a CRT that provides vivid, high-contrast color displays for graphics applications, a switch that changes text color from white to green for easier reading, a built-in audio amplifier and speaker, and front-mounted operator controls. (*List Price: \$650*) **Requires:** Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; RBG interface card Amdek Corporation 2201 Lively Blvd. Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 (312) 595-6890 CIRCLE 931 ON READER SERVICE CARD

SuperCable

A serial-outlet cable with standard couplings, SuperCable allows you to attach your Apple IIc to a number of printers, including Epson, Olympia RO, Brother, and Okidata.

SuperCables, manufactured with shielded cable and using 24-gauge wire and gold-plated pin connectors, meet all current FCC shielding specifications. (*List Price: \$39.95*) **Requires:** Apple IIc, printer Cord Ltd. 2815 Junipero Avenue, Suite 102 Signal Hill, CA 90806 (213) 595-4446 CIRCLE 932 ON READER SERVICE CARD



HARDWARE/SOFTWARE

Communications Package for IIc

This hardware/software communications package includes a Hayes Smartmodem 300, a power pack, all necessary cables, and Hayes Smartcom I communications software.

The Smartcom I software takes advantage of the Smartmodem 300's ability to automatically place, answer, and end calls.

The program accommodates touchtone, pulse, or combination dialing; remembers the last number dialed; automatically retries until a connection is made; and lets users create, erase, display, print, send, and receive files.

The Smartmodem 300 is Bell 103compatible in the Originate or Answer mode and connects directly to modular phone jacks. (List Price: Ilc Communications Bundle, \$339) Requires: Apple IIc Hayes Microcomputer Products, Inc. 5923 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Norcross, GA 30092 (404) 449-8791 CIRCLE 933 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Computer Sheet Music

Designed to provide beginning keyboard students with an easy-to-use and entertaining way to play and enjoy music, Computer Sheet Music consists of software, recorded music, and custom music books that can be used with any MIDI keyboard; Passport MIDI interface card; and an Apple II, II Plus, or IIe. All of the songs from the music book are stored on disk and can be displayed in big-note, easy-to-play notation along with chords.

In the Play mode, the computer displays the music, and you can select the tempo and play along with the display. The computer changes the note color as you play the notes correctly. In the Learn mode, the computer takes you through the music either one note at a time or continuously.

The first package of Computer Sheet Music is the "Michael Jackson— Thriller" program, which includes all of the songs from that album. (List Price: Computer Sheet Music, \$29.95; Passport MIDI Interface Card, \$195) **Requires:** Apple II, II Plus, or IIe; 48K RAM; one disk drive; MIDI keyboard; Passport MIDI Interface Card Passport Designs 625 Miramontes Street, Suite 103 Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 (415) 726-0280

CIRCLE 934 ON READER SERVICE CARD

RGB Interface for the IIc

The RGB Interface improves the video output of the Apple IIc by removing the extraneous colors in low- and mediumresolution applications and by displaying tinge-free 40- or 80-column text in the lower four lines in the Mix mode. Users can employ their RGB monitor as a monochrome monitor for 80-column text or for RGB color graphs and charts.

A demonstration diskette accompanies the interface. A set of double-density drivers allows easy access from Applesoft to the Apple IIc's double-



Varicalc solves science, engineering, and business equations.

density video modes. (List Price: \$199.95)

Requires: Apple IIc, 128K RAM, Apple-compatible monitor with Apple III cable Video-7 Incorporated 12340 Saratoga Sunnyvale Road Suite 1 Saratoga, CA 95070 (408) 725-1433 CIRCLE 935 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Era 2

A communications product for the Apple IIe, Era 2 includes communications software, a 1200-bps on-board modem, a users' manual, and a telephone cord. Era 2 features include auto-answer, originate-answer, pulse or tone dialing, and on-line printer control.

Users can send, receive, display, and print files; set communications parameters such as transmission rate, flow control, character format, parity, and answer-back; and display, print, delete, and rename files. (*List Price: \$429*) **Requires:** Apple IIe, 64K RAM, one disk drive Microcom, Inc. 1400A Providence Highway Norwood, MA 02062 (617) 762-9310 CIRCLE 936 ON READER SERVICE CARD

SOFTWARE

Varicalc

Interactive Microware announces its new program that interactively solves science, engineering, and business equations. Varicalc can simulate complex physical, chemical, or mathematical processes as well as accept realtime input directly into a predefined model.

Varicale solves for any one of 19 variables on the right or left side of a formula without rearranging the formula. Users can plot results on a high-resolution graphics screen or any text screen. Up to 255 equations store on disk for quick recall. (*List Price: \$100*) **Requires:** Apple II Plus or IIe, 48K RAM; one disk drive; DOS 3.3 Interactive Microware P.O. Box 139 State College, PA 16804-0139 (814) 238-8294 CIRCLE 937 ON READER SERVICE CARD

The Write Choice

A combination word-processing and typing-instruction program, The Write Choice provides users with the proper formats for written documents, correct grammar, punctuation rules, composition style tips, and interactive typing tutorials.

The typing tutor, Tut's Typer, features an arcade game to test your typing skill, tutorials for Dvorak and QWERTY keyboards, and an interac-



tive keyboard drill that shows the proper finger placement for each key.

The word processor, which can be used to prepare letters, forms, term papers, and résumés, supports both 40column and 80-column screen displays as well as on-screen formatting. (List Price: \$44.95)

Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 48K RAM; one disk drive Roger Wagner Publishing, Inc. 10761 Woodside Avenue, Suite E P.O. Box 582 Santee, CA 92071 (619) 562-3670 CIRCLE 938 ON READER SERVICE CARD

MarketManager

An easy-to-use, menu-driven program for Apple II-series computers, Market-Manager gives you complete control

What made over 100,000 Apple II owners fall in love with System Saver?

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70-90% of all microcomputer malfunctions can be traced to power line problems.* Problems your System Saver guards against.

Power line noise can often be interpreted as data. This confuses your computer and produces system errors. Power surges and spikes can cause severe damage to your Apple's delicate circuitry and lead to costly servicing.

System Saver clips surges and spikes at a 130 Volts RMS/175 Volts dc level. A PI type filter attenuates common and transverse mode noise by a minimum of 30 dB from 600 kHz to 20 mHz with a maximum attenuation of 50 dB. You end up with an Apple

that's more accurate, more efficient and more reliable.

SYSTEM SAVER APPLE II

System Saver makes your Apple more convenient to use.

No more reaching around to the back of your Apple to turn it on. No more fumbling for outlets and cords to plug in your monitor and printer. System Saver organizes all your power needs.



It functions as a multi-outlet power strip with two switched outlets. Plus System Saver offers the ultimate convenience; a front mounted power switch for fingertip control of your entire system.

*PC Magazine: March 1983.

System Saver is UL Listed. System Saver's surge suppression circuitry conforms to IEEE specification 507 1980, Category A. Available in 220/240 Volts, 50/60 Hz.

System Saver lets your Apple keep its cool.

Today's advanced peripheral cards generate heat. In addition, the cards block any natural air flow through the Apple IIe creating high temperature conditions that shorten the life of the Apple and peripheral cards.

System Saver's efficient, quiet fan draws fresh air across the mother board, over the power supply and out the side ventilation



slots. It leaves your Apple cool, calm and running at top speed.

So if you want to keep

damaging heat, line noise and power surges out of your system for good, pick up the only peripheral that's in use every second your computer is in use. The System Saver. You'll soon come to think of it as the piece Apple forgot.

Compatible with Apple stand



\$89.95 at Apple dealers everywhere.

KENSINGTON MICROWARE

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System Saver is a registered trademark of Kensington Microware Ltd. @ 1984 Kensington Microware Ltd. System Saver is patent pending.


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PRODUCT NEWS

over your stock portfolio. With Market-Manager, you can keep records, print reports, sort information, and answer tax questions. In addition, a passwordprotection system ensures your privacy. *(List Price: \$79.95)* **Requires:** Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 48K RAM; two disk drives Jonathan Sobel Associates P.O. Box 27 Wetwood, NJ 07675 (201) 664-4802 <u>CIRCLE 939 ON READER SERVICE CARD</u>

Dental-Medical Office Data

Dental-Medical Office Data, a medical-database system, consists of 13 programs that allow users to enter, change, delete, sort, search, and print office and personal data in multiple formats. These programs include Appointments File, Patient File, Dead Beat File, Phone Lists, Insurance Lists, Inventory, Checkbook, Employee Records, Subscription Index, Text Editor, Mail List, File Transfer, and Data Base. (List Price: \$150) Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or Ile; 48K RAM: one disk drive Andent, Inc. 1000 North Avenue Waukegan, IL 60085 (312) 223-5077 **CIRCLE 940 ON READER SERVICE CARD**

MasterType

This typing tutorial includes 18 lessons for the standard QWERTY keyboard and 5 lessons for the Dvorak keyboard. MasterType teaches typing and keyboard skills through an arcade-game format. (*List Price: \$39.95*) **Requires:** Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 48K RAM; one disk drive Scarborough Systems, Inc. 25 North Broadway Tarrytown, NY 10591 (914) 332-4545 <u>CIRCLE 941 ON READER SERVICE CARD</u>

Apple Writer II, Version 2.0

Apple IIe and IIc users can now obtain this enhanced ProDOS-based version of Apple Writer, the word-processing program that creates, edits, stores, and

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Get the complete modem/software package for your Apple II, II+, or IIe that includes 300 Baud Modem card, easy menu-driven communications software and a subscription to the SOURCE.^{*} Ask your computer dealer about the NETWORKER[™] or call us at 1-800-631-3116 and we'll tell you where to pick one up. The NETWORKER[™] modem is made in the U.S.A. by ZOOM Telephonics, Inc.

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Here's the indispensable source on the choice, care and feeding of your Apple II, II Plus, and IIe. Everything you'll ever need to know about your Apple: inside, up-to-date advice on the hardware, critical reviews of the software, and even an exhaustive look at the peripherals.

InfoWorld's Essential Guide to the Apple has been written by Thom Hogan, an authority on Apple computers, and the editors of InfoWorld, the respected voice of the industry.

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prints all types of documents. It works with ProFile and with Quark, Inc.'s Catalyst IIe, a program selector that allows users to store their application programs on a hard disk.

PRODUCT NEWS

New features include horizontal scrolling; a terminal mode so users can access information services from within Apple Writer; the ability to format a ProDOS disk—for users who do not own the ProDOS user's diskette; and a Catalyst IIe utility file for easy installation of Apple Writer onto the ProFile. (List Price: \$149. From now to February 1, 1985, current Apple Writer IIe users can upgrade to the new 2.0 version for \$50.) **Requires:** Apple IIe or IIc; 64K RAM; one disk drive

Apple Computer, Inc. 20525 Mariani Avenue Cupertino, CA 95014-2094 (408) 996-1010 CIRCLE 942 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Stamp Collector

This database program for philatelists consists of six programs with which users can enter, delete, change, search, sort, and print in multiple formats their collection information. It can also catalog foreign and domestic lists by denomination, country, description, year, value, and source. The Meeting List allows you to sort and select meetings by date and location. The Source List gives sources for stamps and supplies and information on trades and liquidations. With File Transfer, you can transmit data to other computers over the telephone. (List Price: \$49) Requires: Apple II or IIe, 48K RAM, one disk drive, printer optional Andent, Inc. 000 North Avenue Waukegan, IL 60085 (312) 223-5077 **CIRCLE 943 ON READER SERVICE CARD**

Design Estimator

Architects, engineers, and contractors can use this software package to prepare building-cost estimates on new construction projects in less time than it takes to prepare complex preliminary cost estimates by hand. The two-disk



It's easy with the **BEN FRANKLIN**TM Stamp Collector Series program doing the work for you!

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package by Dodge MicroSystems includes the costs of more than 4000 key building components, as well as the wage rates for different construction trades, automatically adjusted by ZIP code. Based on the location of the construction project, the materials to be used, and the size and complexity of the structure, the software program automatically calculates an accurate cost estimate. (List Price: \$795: semiannual updates, \$300) Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 48K RAM; two disk drives McGraw-Hill Cost Information Systems P.O. Box 28 Princeton, NJ 08540 (800) 257-5295, in NJ (609) 921-6500 **CIRCLE 944 ON READER SERVICE CARD**

Facts Files 2

Facts Files 2, a mini-database program for the Apple II series of computers, is designed for home or business use. Using Facts Files 2, you can create mailing lists, disk-directory files, income-tax records, inventory files, and customized record forms. Some features of Facts Files 2 are on-line documentation, up to 13 fields in each records, and quick search. (*List Price: \$24.95*) DiNess Software Company P.O. Box 5671 Fort Smith, AK 72913 (501) 441-9846 CIRCLE 945 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Multigraph

Multigraph automatically produces graphs from data entered manually or from a file. Bar graphs use up to four groups of data. Other graphs can use up to six groups. (*List Price: \$150*) **Requires:** Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 64K RAM; two disk drives Microlab Computer Products 2699 Skokie Valley Road Highland Park, IL 60035 (312) 433-7550 CIRCLE 946 ON READER SERVICE CARD

TK!SolverPack

Users of TK!Solver can now choose from four new application packages designed for use with the equation-processing program. Each package contains models that use equations, values, and tables to solve specific problems. The packages include: the Financial Management TK!SolverPack for financial analysts and managers; the Mechanical Engineering TK!Solver-Pack for teachers and students; and TK!SolverPack for Building Design and Construction for architects, building designers, and construction engineers. (List Price: \$100 each) Requires: Apple IIe, 128K RAM, one disk drive, TK!Solver Software Arts 27 Mica Lane Wellesley, MA 02181 (617) 237-4000 **CIRCLE 947 ON READER SERVICE CARD**





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PRODUCT NEWS

Medclaims

With Medclaims, users can control the medical/dental claims they file with insurance companies. Medclaims asks for the data it needs, one step at a time, and there are no languages to learn or commands to look up. Medclaims keeps track of which claims you've sent to each insurance company, their amount, when you sent them, which claims were paid, which are still open, how much the insurance paid on each claim, how much was applied to the deductible, and whether or not you asked for payment directly to the doctor. (List Price: \$49)

Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 48K RAM; one disk drive Computerscope, Inc. P.O. Box 529 Matawan, NJ 07747 (201) 566-0522 CIRCLE 948 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Auto-Pool

This new program keeps track of the distance each participant in the car pool drives, provides schedule calendars for each member of the car pool, and prints several reports. The Pool Summary report lists the nonpool distance driven, the pool distance driven, the distance saved for each participant, and pool totals for each of these items. The Fuel Savings Analysis lists the nonpool fuel cost, the pool fuel cost, the fuel-cost savings for each participant, and pool totals for each of these items. With Auto-Pool, files for numerous car pools can be maintained. (List Price: \$39.95) Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or IIe; 48K RAM; one disk drive; DOS 3.3 Star Point Technology 4730 Grannan Way Placerville, CA 95667 (916) 621-1393 **CIRCLE 949 ON READER SERVICE CARD**

Your Personal Net Worth

Designed for home use, this financialmanagement program organizes and tracks all aspects of a family's financial affairs. It comes with a real silver dollar on the package front and an excerpted edition of Sylvia Porter's *New Money Book for the 80's*. Users can set up a

TURN DOT MATRIX



with the **NicePrint** Card (formerly SUPER-MX Card) for the **Apple II**, **II**+, **or IIe**.

The standard of printing excellence is the daisy-wheel printer. The **NicePrint** interface card improves EPSON or GEMINI printers so they have just about the same quality print as the daisy-wheels! And this high quality is easily available to all Apple software, even copy-protected diskettes.

Here is a sample of dot matrix printing.

Change it into a daisy with NicePrint!

Four optional font styles are available in addition to the standard Roman font shown above that simply plug into the card:

Letter Gothic, ORATOR LARGE, Script Style, and Olde English. Apple DMP can now do SUPER/SUB-Scripts and italic. All fonts have underline, boldface, pica, elite, and condensed.

BETTER THAN GRAPPLER!

The **NicePrint** card has all the Apple Hi-Res graphic dump commands that the Grappler has including: double dumps (both pages side by side), dump from page 1 or 2, double size, emphasized, rotated, strip chart recorder mode, and text screen dump.

Spies Laboratories

(pronounced "speez") P.O. Box 336 Lawndale, CA 90260 (213) 538-8166

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PRODUCT NEWS

budget with as many as 350 categories; keep records of all banking and creditcard transactions-the program handles up to ten bank accounts-record tax-deductible items; record investment transactions; document all household valuables and important papers for insurance purposes; and produce a variety of personal financial reports. (List Price: \$79.95) Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 64K RAM: one disk drive Scarborough Systems, Inc. 25 North Broadway Tarrytown, NY 10591 (914) 332-4545 **CIRCLE 950 ON READER SERVICE CARD**

Finance Manager

Finance Manager allows you to track income, expenses, and personal assets; balance multiple checking accounts; pay bills; print checks; and maintain tax records. The program uses help screens to answer questions about its functions. In addition to standard financial-management options, such as bank-book reconciliation and graphing capabilities, Finance Manager has a wild-card search option, and it can make financial calculations. (List Price: \$99.95) Requires: Apple II, II Plus, IIe, or IIc; 64K RAM; one disk drive Human Engineered Software 150 North Hill Drive Brisbane, CA 94005 (415) 468-4111 **CIRCLE 951 ON READER SERVICE CARD**

MISCELLANEOUS

Microsearch

Created exclusively for members of The Source, this new searchable database provides information on approximately 15,000 current reviews and descriptions covering more than 6000 microcomputer products. It answers questions about compatibility, the availability of products, and current prices.

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How to use computers to teach math!

COMPUTERS IN MATHEMATICS: A SOURCE BOOK OF IDEAS

Now that more and more math departments have access to a microcomputer, the problem becomes: How to use the computer effectively as a teaching aid?

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8¼" x 11", softcover, hundreds of black-and-white diagrams and illustrations.

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\$7.75, evenings and weekends) **Requires:** Terminal program, modem, subscription to The Source Information, Inc. 1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1006 Washington, DC 20006 (202) 833-1174 CIRCLE 952 ON READER SERVICE CARD

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BOOKS

Computer Literacy: A Hands-On Approach

By Arthur Luehrmann and Herbert Peckham

Computer Literacy gives teachers a complete course in one text-33 handson lessons and 34 classroom-discussion lessons. Using structured BASIC, this text teaches students to load, run, and change programs; understand how computers work; and solve problems with computers. A Teacher's Guide and copyable diskette are also available. (List Price: \$17.97, text; \$23.97, Teacher Guide and Diskette) Requires: Apple II, II Plus, or IIe; 32K RAM; one disk drive Webster/McGraw-Hill 1221 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10021 (800) 223-4180 in NY State (212) 512-2646 **CIRCLE 953 ON READER SERVICE CARD**



UNE SPREADSHEET TO START ON. TO GROWON. Introducing The VisiCalc[®] Package.

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Here are two powerful spreadsheet programs for the Apple®/// family in one package – VisiCalc,® the standard by which all other spreadsheets are judged, and VisiCalc Advanced Version, a second generation spreadsheet for advanced users. These two programs allow you to begin with a basic spreadsheet program and later move on to a more advanced spreadsheet as your business and home needs grow.

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And if two great spreadsheet programs aren't enough, The VisiCalc Package comes with comprehensive documentation and **The VisiCalc Book** by

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