priate than weaponry, other equipment may take priority.

Finally, you christen your ship and prepare for takeoff. You must calibrate the navigation system by using a printed trade map of the solar systems that comes with the program. This map helps you navigate about the stars and locate the solar systems marked as having trade centers. These trade centers, markets where you can buy or sell goods, are also the only place to obtain more fuel for your starship. The map indicates the surface temperatures of the planets by color-coding them. Because conditions have to be suitable for landing on a planet, this map is essential for your exploration.

After takeoff, get ready to enter hyperspace, where you see stars, continuum fluxes, and nebulas. The navigator will maneuver your ship as you begin exploration. Options include exploring nearby planets or finding "wormholes" in space which instantaneously transport you from one location to another.

Your trek through space will provide opportunities for many encounters with aliens who know about trade locations and have information essential to the completion of your mission. Here diplomacy as well as knowledge about the aliens is necessary. Your well-trained science officer will interpret data collected by your ship's sensors, and your communications officer will translate the incoming messages.

Some aliens respond best to a stern posture while others prefer you to be submissive. Make a mistake or have a misunderstanding, and you may be obliterated. Until you are able to buy a strong arsenal and shielding to protect yourself, you are very vulnerable to attack.

Financing this adventure is an ongoing process. Planets along the way can be explored and excavated for minerals and other items of value. Collected while traveling across the surface of the planet in your terrain vehicle and sold at the trade centers, these commodities help you raise needed funds. Trade centers are found by wandering around on the planet. Once you find one, your bartering skills are put to the test.

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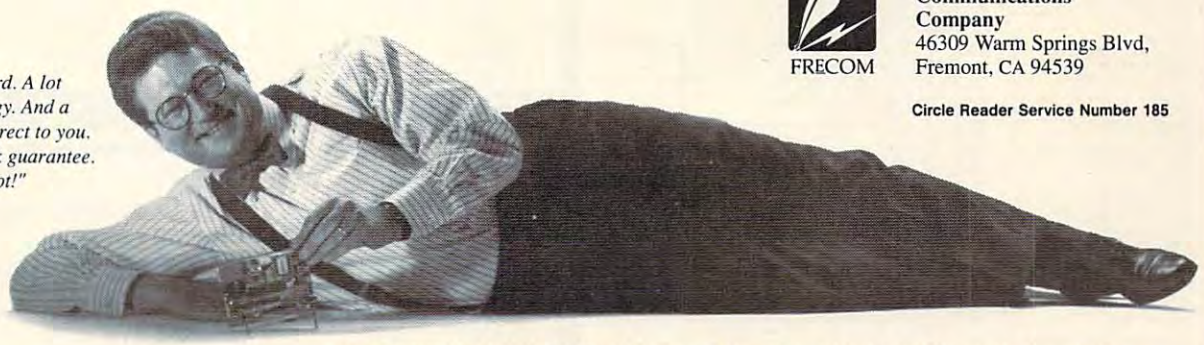

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need to customize the program even more, you can add your own grammar and style rules with the new Rule and Help Editor. Imagine feeding your organization's house style into *Grammatik IV*. It boggles the mind.

On a well-written test document of about 300 words, *Grammatik IV* uncovered three genuine and five false errors. I tried *Grammatik III* about a year ago, and it found an even higher proportion of false errors. With the current version, you'll spend less time dealing with red herrings.

Also new to this version is a feature that lets you interactively correct errors from within six popular word processors: *WordPerfect* 5, *Microsoft Word* 5.0, *WordStar* 5.5, *XyWrite III, Professional Write* 2.1, and the latest version of *Q & A*. You can run the program from the command line with 33 other word processors.

In addition to the manual, the package includes an excellent book, *Secrets of Successful Writing*, by De Witt Scott. It's filled with useful tips on how to write directly and clearly.

Grammatik IV is easy to use and does a good job of ferreting out many kinds of grammatical gremlins. If you need help with your writing, check out *Grammatik IV*. It may not be perfect, but it will do until *Grammatik V* comes along.

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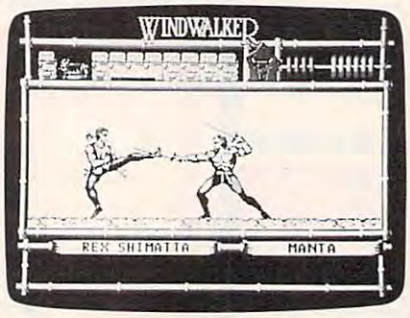
WINDWALKER

A quick duck and the attacker's sword flies harmlessly over your head. The surprised palace guard staggers for the briefest moment to regain his balance. Amazingly, faster than reflexes should allow, you launch your right leg like a battering ram squarely into your attacker's chest. He falls in a heap.

"You landed a powerful blow," flashes the screen. "As the attacker flees he drops some food." *Finally*, you think to yourself, *a meal. . . .*

Windwalker is full of such encounters, which are part of the path to honor and enlightenment. This fantasy role-playing game is set in ancient China. You begin as a Lowly Fisherman and through good deeds, knowledge, combat, and achievements you can rise in rank to Wolf, Condor, Cobra, and finally Dragon. Your ultimate task is to free the emperor from the rule of the evil warlord and his band of followers who have overtaken the local empire.

This sequel to *Moebius* is much more than the standard role-playing scenario, mixing realtime arcade fighting sequences with a richly detailed, captivating story. *Windwalker* sinks deep in the mystic culture of ancient China, engaging the player in rituals



***Windwalker* offers interactive adventure, combat, and intellectual stimulation.**

and disciplines that lead to wisdom, strength, and other goals.

Dozens of smaller tasks, or missions, can lead to success. You must attain your goals while maintaining perfect honor. Stealing, attacking while unprovoked, and even feeling guilty can taint your honor. If this happens, you will be forbidden by the villagers to sleep in their homes, and numerous other factors will work against you.

Honing your martial arts technique is of high priority. Ninja assassins leap from behind rocks, dagger-wielding thieves chase you by boat, palace guards try to carve you with their long swords.

You'll need to learn the discipline of the monks—and quick. Passing this full-day ritual earns you a sacred robe and, more useful, a staff for fighting. Other disciplines award you with even more interesting abilities. Each of the disciplines you learn has its own special prayers, which can bring aid from above. Depending on the phrase you say, prayers can heal your physical wounds, restore your honor, quicken your pace, and so on.

Interact with villagers, who offer advice and clues (sometimes for a fee) and generally steer you in the right direction. The game presents conversational topics through menus.

A particular topic will only appear on the menu after you're aware of its existence. For example, a fisherman will offer clues about the lost explorer only after you've discovered the explorer's empty home. As the story progresses you should double-check with the key characters in the game to see if they have anything new to say.

The attention to realism even includes the use of human martial arts experts that were videotaped, digitized, and used as models for the full-screen fighting sequences. As a black belt in karate myself, I can verify the authenticity of the game's fighting sequences. However, the animation is not as fluid as in games that are designed strictly as karate competitions.

The graphics in general are outstanding. In most games of this type, you see a small section of the game's world from an aerial perspective. *Windwalker* instead creates a horizon effect by having objects in the distance—mountains, temples, trees, walls—rise into view as you move closer. At the same time, the sky above shows the position of the sun, moon, or storms.

Windwalker is ideal for players new to computer role-playing. It doesn't have an overwhelmingly large play area nor are the puzzles too demanding. In fact, *Windwalker* has so many clues that you nearly always know what to do next. Game designer Greg Malone is on my list of software authors to watch for in the future.

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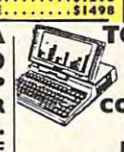

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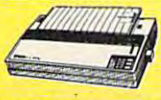

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ta attack aircraft; and four Walrus amphibious assault vehicles. Should be a snap, right?

Wrong. The enemy carrier, though similar to yours, has a newer design. You're taking version 1.0 into combat against version 2.0. Also, you need to build a supply-and-defense network on the nearby island chain. Unfortunately, the enemy got a head start and already has a growing network creating supplies, building weapons, and pumping fuel.

Carrier Command has the best blend of arcade and strategy elements I've ever encountered. Combat is fast-paced, rivaling the best flight simulators and tank games. But the strategy is vital—if you don't build a proper defense network, you won't stand a chance in the arcade sequences.

The 3-D graphics are among the smoothest you'll find in a PC game, and you'll appreciate the fast screen updates even on slower machines. The game also boasts very attractive VGA and EGA screens, and the CGA and Hercules graphics are among the best in their class.

So, go save the world again in *Carrier Command.* It's a fun job, but somebody has to do it.

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HEADSTART EXPLORER

Every aspect of the HeadStart Explorer has been designed to make computing simple for the new user. The hardware is modular, and the interface is intuitive. In fact, the interface is more than intuitive: It's instructive. But user-friendly technology may not be enough to overcome this computer's shortcomings. Flexibility and power are also valuable assets in a home computer; you shouldn't trade them away without some serious thought.

HeadStart uses a bulletin-board metaphor for its graphical user interface. Each peripheral has an icon, and many programs have icons, too. If you haven't installed a peripheral properly, the icon doesn't show up; you know you've done something wrong.

The mouse pointer almost always has a little tag attached, telling you what kind of action it's ready to take. For example, in the Bulletin Board, the tag says *Do This,* meaning it's time to do something with whatever icon you clicked on. In the bundled word processor, the pointer is even more helpful. When you need to select text, click on the button that says *Select Text* and the pointer tag says *Start Here.* Once you've clicked on the beginning of the text block you wish to select, the pointer tag changes to *End Here.* That's what I call a friendly mouse pointer.

Overcome command line phobia with HeadStart's XT compatible, Explorer.

When you want to run other software, however, the system isn't as friendly. Insert a game disk in the drive, for example, and the Disk Navigator pops up with a list of files on the disk and a series of buttons for file operations (Copy, Rename, Use This File). Unless your program has been "Explorerized," the machine won't recognize the game's executable file. So you must look for the file with the .EXE extension, select it, and then click the Use This File button. New users probably won't recognize an executable file, and their software manuals won't be working on the same wavelength as the Explorer.

You can always hop out of the Bulletin Board and into DOS, of course, but that defeats the purpose of a simple shell. Although the Explorer's bundled software and operating environment seem ideal for neophytes, more experienced users will be left wanting more.

Neophytes will also appreciate the way the hardware works. To add a hard disk, for example, purchase HeadStart's 40-megabyte Automagic Hard Disk. It fits in a specially designed hole on the side of the computer. You never have to look inside the machine. A HeadStart RAM Pac is the company's answer to simple memory expansion. The whole design smacks of videogame cartridges—proprietary technology that goes against the grain of an open system, which is what standard MS-DOS PC design is all about.

Consider the Explorer's unusual 16-color CGA graphics. The bundled software supports this mode, but no other programs that I tried did. HeadStart is providing software designers with a developer's kit that lets them include drivers for this graphics mode in their programs, but it's just too soon to tell if 16-color CGA will sink or swim.

The Explorer features only one expansion slot (half-size, 8-bit). If you ever want to add more capability to your system, such as a different graphics adapter or a sound card, you'll need an external expansion-slot chassis.

Not many people stay satisfied with their computers once they know what more memory can do, a couple more megahertz of speed can accomplish, or a few hundred more colors can look like. With all of its simplicity and benevolence, with all of its wonderfully designed interfaces and software, the HeadStart Explorer forces you to wonder how long you'll stay a beginner.

If you don't want to move on from your first computing experiences, the Explorer isn't a bad choice. It's designed for beginners, but, unlike its low-end Tandy 1000 competition, it lacks the support network of a corner Radio Shack store and the software support for its orphan graphics standard.

User-friendly technology is simply not enough to justify a computer that uses nonstandard graphics, is difficult to upgrade, and is outgrown quickly. HeadStart has good intentions, and it's not trying to pass this machine off as anything other than a basic beginner's computing tool, but the Explorer is too limited for most people.

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Form Master	142	An easy-to-use business form generator. Create any form, easily!
Job Cost	147	Excellent job costing program. It's the one you've been waiting for!
MarketCGA	152	Tracks and charts the trends for all your stocks CGA
Medlin Accounting	157	A complete accounting package with G/L, A/P, A/R, and Payroll
Merchant Accounting	162, 163	Designed for any businesses needing an inventory system (2 Disks)
Painless Accounting	168–170	The most complete and easy-to-use accounting system (3 Disks) HD
Payroll USA	175, 176	A complete payroll system that can handle up to 2000 employees (2 Disks)
PC-Loans	181	This program computes payments using most common loan methods
Solve-It!	186	Does all necessary financial calculations (IRR, PV, FV, annuities)
Ticklex	191	Rated as the most powerful time-management software available! HD 512K
UPS RateMaster	196	Complete UPS shipping system!
Year Planner	199	A super calendar and organizer program that can print wall calendars!

DATABASE

dFLIPPER	215	Great utility program for editing any dBASE or compatible file
dLITE	219	A dBASE multi-utility that includes pop-up access to 10 databases
dPROG	223	An amazing dBASE III autoprogrammer that writes the code for you!
File Express	227, 228	Great database package which combines power and ease of use (2 Disks)
Idea Tree	232	An incredible program that stores and organizes your ideas and thoughts
Mass Appeal	236	Excellent mail list program that prints mailing labels
PC-File+	240–242	A powerful relational database with import/export capabilities (3 Disks)
PC-File:dB	244–246	The most powerful dBASE compatible database package! HD 512K (3 Disks)
Wampum	249	A powerful, menu-driven dBASE compatible program HD

SPREADSHEET

As-Easy-As	255	Fantastic Lotus 1-2-3 compatible spreadsheet program
Lotus Macros	265	Collection of powerful macros for 1-2-3 or compatible programs
Lotus Templates	269	Lots of useful templates for Lotus compatible programs
PC-Calc+	275–277	The most powerful spreadsheet package for under $200! (3 Disks)
Pivot	282	Prints Lotus and As-Easy-As spreadsheets sideways
Power Worksheets	288	A set of powerful worksheets for Lotus 1-2-3 or compatible programs
QubeCalc	292	An amazing 3-dimensional spreadsheet program

WORD PROCESSING

Galaxy	310	The most easy-to-use word processing program available
PC-Outline	320	An idea organizer and free-form database
PC-Write 3.03	325–327	Full-featured word processing with spell checking. Rated #1 (3 Disks)
PC-Write Macros	331	Over 100 macros for PC-Write users
Pro Scribe	337	This program will improve the clarity and impact of your writing
Thesaur	345	Very useful when you are looking for the perfect word to make your point
Writer's Heaven	348	A PC-Write enhancement. Make the BEST even better!

WORDPERFECT 5.0

PC-Draft III	365, 366	Create your own graphic images. Several examples included (2 Disks)
WP 5.0 Art/Graphics	375, 376	A big collection of clipart images for WordPerfect (2 Disks)
WP 5.0 Learning System	380, 381	Learn to use WordPerfect 5.0 quickly and easily (2 Disks)
WP 5.0 Macros	385, 386	Over 100 excellent macros for WordPerfect (2 Disks)
WP 5.0 Menu/Mice	390, 391	A collection of menu systems and mouse drivers (2 Disks)
WP 5.0 Tools	395, 396	Several WordPerfect utilities (2 Disks)

UTILITIES

AutoMenu	405	Puts all the programs on your hard drive into a selection menu HD
Baker's Dozen	409	13 handy utilities that every computer system needs
Best DOS Utilities	413	A print spooler, a RAM disk, and much more!
CatDisk	417	This menu-driven program catalogs and organizes your disks
Hard Disk Utilities	420	A whole range of hard disk utilities and enhancements
HD Backup	424	An easy-to-use program that backs up your hard drive on floppy disks HD
HomeBase	427, 428	Desktop organizer that is better than Sidekick! (2 Disks)
LogIt!	432	Keeps an active record of who has used the computer and for how long
Masterkeys	436	Disk multi-utility like Norton Utilities. You'll use this a lot!
PAS Master Menu	440	An easy-to-set-up menu for the programs on your hard drive HD
PC-Deskteam	445	Useful desktop accessories (clock, calendar, calculator, much more)
Quickcache	455	This disk caching utility will speed up your computer, dramatically!
ScreenSaver	459	Saves your monitor (any kind) from burn-in
SimCGA	463	Lets a monochrome system run many CGA programs
Space Maker	466	Lets you fit more data on any floppy or hard disk
Still River Shell	469	Excellent DOS command shell. Makes using DOS easier and quicker!
TreeView	472	A superior DOS command shell with pull-down menus
Virus Killers	474	Several virus detection and elimination programs

GRAPHICS

Charts Unlimited	505	Allows quick and easy creation of virtually any kind of chart or diagram
Draft Choice	509	Excellent menu-driven CAD program with optional mouse support
EGA Fonts	513	Over 50 fonts to give you excellent EGA text displays (req. EGA)
Electron	517	An excellent electronics design and information package CGA
Finger Paint	521	Use your keyboard (or a mouse) to draw great color pictures CGA
Grasp	525	A system for creating and running graphical demos and slideshows CGA
Image 3-D	529	Create, view, move, scale, and edit 3-D objects CGA 512K
Mind Chart	533, 534	A screen graphics charting and design program (2 Disks)
Optika	538	A graphic multi-utility which can convert to/from over 25 formats CGA
PC-Key DRaw	542–545	Powerful CAD design program. Works with keyboard or mouse (4 Disks) HD
VGA Paint	548	A super-duper paint program—only for you lucky people with VGA

PRINTING

Address-O-Matic	553	Envelope printing utility
Banner/Sign Makers	556	Print your own banners and signs on your Epson compatible printer
Bradford	559	A super collection of beautiful dot-matrix fonts
Calendar Printer	562	Design and print a calendar for any month or year
City Desk	565	Create and print your own newsletters and flyers
Epson Utilities	569, 570	Utilities and fonts to enhance your print quality (2 Disks)
E-Z Forms	573	A program that makes it easy to create and print office forms
Formgen	576	Quickly create and print any type of form or chart
ImagePrint	579	Turns your 9-pin dot matrix printer into a letter-quality printer
LaserJet Utilities	582, 583	Fonts and utilities for HPLaserJet compatible printers (2 Disks)
Letterheads Plus	587	Print custom letterheads with your Epson or IBM compatible printer
Mr. Label	589	Versatile address printing program
On Side	591	Prints spreadsheets (or anything) sideways
PrintMaster Graphics	593, 594	Large collection of clip-art for PrintMaster users (2 Disks)
PrintShop Graphics	596, 597	Collection of graphics that you can edit/print with PrintShop (2 Disks)

EDUCATION

Amy's First Primer	605	A collection of six fun learning games for kids 4–8 CGA
Computer/DOS Tutor	609	Makes learning to use the computer easy—and fun!
DOS Learning System	613	Great DOS tutorial. Takes the frustration out of using a computer!
Facts 50	617	A graphic geography lesson of the United States CGA
Funnels and Buckets	621	Wow! They've found a way to make learning math fun for kids CGA
Geography	625	A quiz on the nations of the world and their capitals
Googol Math	629	Math learning system with graphics and several levels of difficulty CGA
PC-FastType	637	A really fun and useful interactive typing teacher CGA
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Play 'n' Learn	645	A collection of six learning games for small children 2–5 years CGA
Presidents	649, 650	Both a learning tool and quiz on the U.S. presidents (2 Disks)
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Spanish I & II	658, 659	Makes learning Spanish vocabulary easier and more productive (2 Disks)
Speed Read	665	Teaches you the principles and concepts of speed reading
Teachers' Tools	669	Tracks grades and attendance for classes up to 100 students
Typing Teacher	673	Helps you practice and improve! Tracks and displays your progress
Vocabulary Builder	681–685	7500 practice words for the SAT. Improve your word power! (5 Disks)
World	690	A fascinating electronic globe/database of world geography CGA

HOME/FAMILY

Computer Chef	706, 707	A recipe database with several excellent dishes for you to try (2 Disks)
Express Check	713	Checkbook program that handles several accounts and does reconciliation
Family Tree	719	Use this excellent genealogy program to trace your family roots
Gardener's Assistant	732	Helps you to plan and cultivate your garden
Home Inventory	738	Keeps a record of all your personal possessions
Home Manager	744	Keeps track of your household budget
Nutritionist	750	A program to help you achieve better health and fitness
Personal Finances	756	Tracks your income and expenses. Helps you stick to a budget
Shopper's Assistant	762	A complete grocery shopping aid and coupon filer
Video Librarian	768	Keeps track of your video collection

MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS

PC-Musician	789	Compose, edit, and play back your musical creations
Tune Trivia	797	Your computer will play popular tunes—can you name them?
Astrology	802	Let this program tell you what lies ahead in your stars
Biorhythms	806	Computes and displays/prints your personal chart for any time period
Handwriting Analyst	824	Does an in-depth personality analysis from any handwriting sample
Lotto!	832	See if your computer can help you win the lottery
Micro World Databank	834–838	A database of worldwide information compiled by the CIA (5 Disks)
PC-Bartender	842	Learn to mix cocktails like a professional bartender
Rental Management	846	Complete rental management system for landlords
Resume	850	Helps you write a better, more effective resume
Stress Test	854	Analyzes your level of stress and can give you warnings
Wisdom of the Ages	862–864	Over 6000 of the greatest quotes from history's greatest minds (3 Disks)
Zip Code Finder	868	Searches and finds any zip code—FAST!

RELIGION/BIBLE

BIBLE Men	876	A quiz on the people mentioned in the BIBLE
BIBLE-Q	877	A fun BIBLE quiz. Test your Biblical IQ
Church Membership	885	Helps a church keep track of all its members
New Testament	888, 889	The complete King James New Testament on disk (2 Disks)
Old Testament	891–896	The complete King James Old Testament on disk (6 Disks)

GAMES

Adventures 1	901	Five great adventure games that you are sure to enjoy
Adventures 2	902	Five more adventure games that will keep you intrigued for hours
Arcade Baseball	905	A game of baseball strategy and arcade fun! CGA
Arcade Games 1	907	Two great PAC MAN games and much more! CGA
Arcade Games 2	908	Several fun games featuring Q-BERT, the arcade favorite! CGA
Arcade Games 3	909	A version of the classic arcade hit, CENTIPEDE and more CGA
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Pinball	965	Five SUPER pinball games. Realistic sound and action CGA
Sans Graphics 1	971	Games that work great on any system (no graphics required)
Scrabble	973	Test your word power with this long-time popular game CGA
Sharp Shooter	975	Battle it out—tank vs. tank CGA
Star Trek	977	A Star Trek strategy game and a Star Trek trivia game
Striker	978	You must maneuver your attack helicopter behind enemy lines CGA

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Bass Tour	981	An incredible fishing simulator with great graphics EGA
Captain Comic	984	Thrill to the commercial quality graphics of this FANTASTIC game EGA
EGA Arcade 1	986	Excellent EGA version of ASTEROIDS. BREAKOUT is also included EGA
EGA Cunning Football	990	You call the plays and control the key players. Great fun! EGA
EGA Games 1	992	A collection of favorites including SCRABBLE and SOLITAIRE EGA
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EGA Risk	997	Use your strategy and cunning as you set out to rule the world! EGA
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CGA=Requires Color Computer HD=Requires Hard Drive 512K=Requires 512K RAM

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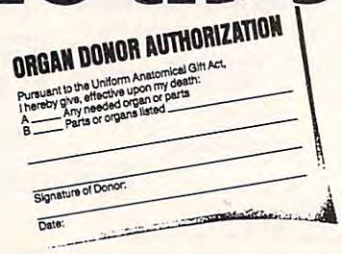

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Advertisers Index

Reader Service Number/Advertiser	Page
193 Access Software Incorporated	61
190 Ad Lib	IFC
ARTDINK/SEIKA	65
154 Brown-Wagh	20
156 CompuServe	43
114 Computer Direct	110–111
130 Computer Video	116
195 COVOX, Inc.	108
Damark International, Inc.	77
160 Data East	27
122 DCS Industries, Inc.	112
121 Direct Link Software	105
155 Electronic Zoo	7
134 Fas-Track Computer Products	82
185 Fremont Communications Company	99
135 GameTek	67
170 Gemini Marketing, Inc.	100–101
131 Gold Hill Software	93
137 Golem Computers	75
Good Software Corp.	1
132 GopherBroke Publishing	116
136 International Software Library	116
180 Interplay	33
171 Konami	IBC
103 Lucasfilm Games	29
179 Lyco Computer	106–107
158 Maxis Software	55
198 Mibro Co	103
144 MicroProse	59
Montgomery Grant	113
NRI Schools	9
138 ORIGIN	25
133 Paradise Software	116
157 Parsons Technology	39
157 Parsons Technology	69
123 Precision Images	116
167 Ramco Computer Supplies	108
127 Reasonable Solutions	95
145 SIERRA	BC
124 Software Discounters of America	115
159 Software Excitement!	119
Strategic Simulations, Inc.	30
143 Suncom Technologies	31
191 TAITO	17
140 TAITO	19
175 The College Board	75
142 The Software Labs	122
153 Ubisoft	5
XOR Corporation	87

Classified Ads	118
COMPUTE! Books	49
COMPUTE! Reader Research Panel	13
COMPUTE! Subscription	121
COMPUTE!'s Amiga Resource Subscription	47
COMPUTE!'s Best PC Games	117
COMPUTE!'s Mean 18 Course Disk	71
COMPUTE!'s PC Subscription	114
COMPUTE!'s SharePak for IBM PC & Compatibles	34
COMPUTE!'s SharePak Subscription	35

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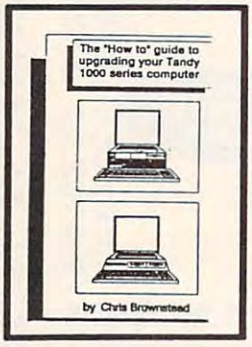

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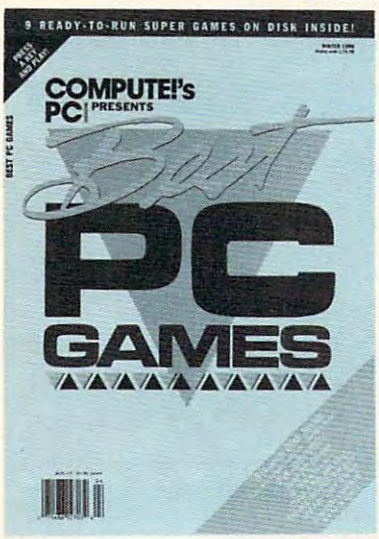

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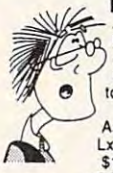

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CONVERSATIONS

KEITH FERRELL

Can software be a viable storytelling medium? Can the PC compete with the printed page?

These questions have been asked since the earliest days of personal computing. The first interactive computer stories—generically known as *adventure games*—were text-based programs with command line parsers that accepted the player's typed input. Graphics added a visual dimension to the storytelling mix, but the stories themselves tended toward rudimentary fantasy-oriented scenarios.

One entertainment software author who has diligently worked to advance the craft of electronic storytelling is Roberta Williams. Cofounder of Sierra, with her husband, Ken Williams, she foresees a day in the not-too-distant future when software stories are as intricate and involved as their paper and celluloid counterparts.

Perhaps best known for her King's Quest series of interactive fantasies, Williams has lately extended her range. *Mixed-Up Mother Goose* places children in an interactive interpretation of famous nursery rhymes. Williams' latest project, *The Colonel's Bequest,* is a gothic murder-mystery set in the 1920s.

"One of the things that we're interested in [doing] is to get away from the term *adventure game,*" she says. "It's not a game anymore. On the packaging, we still call our products *animated adventure games.* But internally, we're referring more and more to *interactive entertainment,* or *interactive storytelling.* My goal is to have an interactive story that is still a game—but that's more story than game."

Williams says that while technology makes possible many of the techniques that deepen electronic storytelling—more vivid colors, smoother animation, better sound—the future of interactive entertainment is more dependent on human creativity and artistic realization than on technological innovation.

"To really have true interactive *stories,*" she says, "we need to have more writers become software designers. I've been a designer for ten years—but I wasn't a writer before that.

"I was always a reader. I was a good storyteller, I think, but I wasn't really a writer. I've had to learn how to write. There are still areas—punctuation—that I'm not comfortable with. I'm still learning."

Artists from traditional storytelling media have much to learn. If the opportunities opened to electronic storytellers are new, so are the constraints placed upon them. In a realistic novel, a character's death is irreversible. In a software story, the player can simply reboot when the plot takes an unwanted turn. Does this affect the seriousness with which an audience approaches interactive stories?

Williams thinks so, and she feels it's not just the audience who must rethink traditional storytelling orientation. "The freedom and interactivity are the hard part—that's the part a 'true' writer is going to have the most trouble with. They have to learn a whole new way of thinking in order to tell interactive stories. You have to be *very* open-minded with your story."

ROBERTA WILLIAMS

MY GOAL IS A STORY THAT'S MORE STORY THAN GAME

Having worked with writers and having experienced firsthand their difficulties in coming to terms with interactive techniques, Williams suggests that not every writer will easily make the transition to interactive stories. "Some writers just can't make the leap. They cannot translate stories into interactive experiences," she says. "It's hard to relearn something. It takes the right person to do it."

Other writers will see the medium as a liberation. "I think we're headed toward interactive stories that are as complex and deep as a novel," Williams says.

The same virtues that illuminate good stories play a large role in the future of interactive entertainment.

"For interactive storytelling to go forward," Williams says, "and make leaps in terms of the story's importance, you must have a story that's developed, characters who are developed, a real sense of who you are and what's going on around you. You must really be drawn into the story, rather than just be drawn into the game."

The artists who will make those leaps may not be the traditional computer storytellers. "Currently, I think that most people who are designing games are not really writers. They are people who come from programming, or they were designing arcade games or flight simulators. Now they're trying to convert to telling stories."

Such people, Williams implies, are anachronisms. The future will belong to real storytellers who can master the interactive medium. "This is a very important new form of entertainment," Williams says, "one that's going to be a full-fledged member of the mass-entertainment community." ⊡

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NEW PRODUCTS

MICKEY McLEAN

Portable Color

Sharp Electronics has introduced the first portable computer with a 14-inch VGA color liquid crystal display.

Featuring a resolution of 640 × 480, the Sharp Multi-Color 386 uses a 20-MHz 80386 processor and comes with a 40-megabyte hard drive. The unit also features one 3½-inch 1.44-megabyte floppy drive. You can expand its 2 megabytes of standard RAM to 8 megabytes. Other features include analog and digital CRT ports for VGA, EGA, CGA, and MDA output, a mouse port, and an external keyboard port.

Sharp's portable Multi-Color 386 features a color-LCD VGA screen.

The Multi-Color 386 has a retail price of $9,395. With an 80-megabyte hard drive, the Multi-Color 386 sells for $9,995.

Sharp Electronics, Sharp Plaza, Mahwah, NJ 07430-2135

Reader Service Number 200.

My World

Tired of the same old beige computers and peripherals? Penor wants to brighten up your surroundings with its line of monitors and keyboards manufactured in popular decorator colors. Penor monitors and keyboards, distributed by Exim International, are available in both blue and

Color-coordinate your office with Penor monitors and keyboards.

mauve. The two colors were selected with the aid of design experts to reflect office-decor preferences.

The 14-inch EGA and CGA color monitors feature a specially etched screen that eliminates glare, a stand that tilts and swivels, an edge-to-edge screen resolution, and uniform horizontal and vertical character sizes.

Penor's IBM-compatible keyboards feature adjustable typing angles and tactile response.

The EGA monitor retails for $699.95; the CGA monitor is available for $499.95. The 101-key keyboard is priced at $129.00.

Exim International, 13760 Gramercy Pl., Gardena, CA 90249

Reader Service Number 201.

Take Off to the Islands

You can explore a tropical paradise with *Hawaiian Odyssey Scenery Adventure,* an enhancement disk for any SubLOGIC flight-simulation program, including *Flight Simulator II, Microsoft Flight Simulator, Stealth Mission, JET, UFO,* and the IBM PC and compatibles version of *ThunderChopper.*

The disk includes the entire island chain in detail with attractions such as downtown Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. You can also fly into the crater of Mauna Loa, one of Hawaii's most volatile volcanoes. You can land at approximately 30 airports, many with Visual Approach Slope Indicator landing lights. The improved runway graphics feature FAA-spec threshold markings, fixed distance markers, and touchdown-zone markers.

The disk also offers the first SubLOGIC scenery adventure. You must locate the secret jewel of the goddess Pele from the cockpit of your airplane.

Hawaiian Odyssey Scenery Adventure is available for the IBM PC and compatible, Atari ST, Amiga, Macintosh, Apple II, and Commodore 64/128 computers. It carries a price of $29.95 and requires one of the flight-simulation programs mentioned above.

SubLOGIC, 501 Kenyon Rd., Champaign, IL 61820

Reader Service Number 202.

Laser Line Expanded

Panasonic has introduced the KX-P4420 laser printer that prints eight pages per minute. It produces text and graphics with a resolution of 300 dots per inch and is equipped with 512K of RAM that's expandable to 4.5 megabytes. The printer features 11 resident fonts, with each available in both portrait and landscape orientations. Two slots are available for additional font cards.

With its HP LaserJet Series II emulation, the KX-P4420 is compatible with most software. It's also com-

The Panasonic KX-P4420 Laser Printer prints eight pages per minute.

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patible with most hardware using a Centronics parallel interface. An optional serial interface is also available.

The EZ-Set front control features a 16-character liquid crystal display and seven keys to set up printer functions and options.

The retail price of the KX-P4420 is $1,895.

Panasonic Communications & Systems, Two Panasonic Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094

Reader Service Number 203.

Supergame

You can help Superman fight for truth, justice, and the American way with *Superman: The Man of Steel* from IntraCorp and its Capstone line of entertainment software.

In this interactive comic book, you become Superman, who is racing to save the planet. Two of your most hated enemies, Darkseld and Lex Luthor, have formed an alliance, and terrorists have hijacked a yacht with the Governor and Lois Lane on board. You must use your x-ray vision, great strength, and superb flying ability to foil your nemesis and save the world from destruction.

The retail price for *Superman: The Man of Steel* is $39.95 for the IBM PC and compatibles, Atari ST, and Amiga versions. The Commodore 64 release sells for $29.95.

IntraCorp, 14160 SW 139th Ct., Miami, FL 33186

Reader Service Number 204.

John Madden Expands

Electronic Arts has announced the release of the *National Football League Player's Association Player's Disk* to be used in conjunction with *John Madden Football.* The disk contains stats for the actual teams and players of the 1987 and 1988 seasons.

The disk also includes 86 new defensive plays, featuring the popular 3-4 alignment of three down linemen and four linebackers. The new playbook also contains 22 custom offensive plays, many of which are trick plays, including the Sea Shovel, Indy Wham, and LA Gadget.

The *Player's Disk* is available for IBM PCs and compatibles and the Apple II series for $24.95.

Electronic Arts, 1820 Gateway Dr., San Mateo, CA 94404

Reader Service Number 205.

A Better Mousetrap

In an effort to relieve neck and back discomfort and and eyestrain associated with the use of a mouse, Town

Le'Trapp relieves the strain from using a mouse.

Computer Supplies has come up with Le'Trapp.

Le'Trapp is an 11 × 14-inch plastic lap-top work area designed to alleviate common mouse-related muscle ailments. It's available in a choice of four colors—black, blue, red, and wine—and carries a retail price of $24.95.

Town Computer Supplies, 235 Wescott Dr., P.O. Box 352, Rahway, NJ 07065-0352

Reader Service Number 206.

Commodore Enters 386 Market

The Canadian branch of Commodore Business Machines has entered the 386 marketplace with the introduction of the PC50-II and the PC60-III.

The PC50-II features an 80386SX microprocessor running at 16 MHz; one megabyte of RAM, expandable to 16 megabytes; an integrated VGA interface; a 1.44-megabyte floppy disk drive; a 40- or 100-megabyte hard drive; and six full-length expansion slots. Additional features include a 101-key enhanced keyboard and MS-DOS 4.01.

The PC50-II floppy-based system retails for approximately $3,900. The 40MB hard drive system sells for about $4,350, while the 100MB hard drive version goes for approximately $5,400 (U.S.).

The PC60-III has an 80386DX microprocessor that runs at 25 MHz. It features 2MB of RAM, expandable to 18MB; one 1.2MB 5¼-inch floppy drive; one 1.44MB 3½-inch floppy drive; and an 80MB hard drive. VGA graphics capabilities are built into the main board. It also features nine AT expansion slots, a 101-key enhanced keyboard, and MS-DOS 4.01. A retail price for the system was not available at press time.

Both computers will initially be available only in Canada, but Commodore plans to eventually market the computer in the United States.

Commodore Business Machines, 3470 Pharmacy Ave., Agincourt, Ont., Canada M1W 3G3

Reader Service Number 207.

VGA to Video

Magni Systems' VGA Producer is a single plug-in board for IBM ATs and compatibles that allows your VGA graphics to be converted to a professional-quality video signal.

The card uses a scan conversion process to encode VGA graphics to a stable, professional-quality video signal, either in NTSC (the U.S. broadcast standard) or S-VHS (Super VHS). Using a remote control, the encoded signal can be mixed with another video source. Features include automatic or manual fades, keying on a selected color, and X-Y image positioning.

VGA Producer supports resolutions up to and including 640 × 480 with 256 colors.

The board requires a VGA card with a 28-pin RAM DAC.

The retail price of VGA Producer is $1,695.

Magni Systems, 9500 SW Gemini Dr., Beaverton, OR 97005

Reader Service Number 208.

Three Scenarios in One

Sir-Tech Software has released the Wizardry Trilogy which includes *Wizardry I: Proving Grounds of the Mad Overlord, Wizardry II: Knights of Diamonds,* and *Wizardry III: Legacy of Llylgamyn.*

The IBM PC and compatibles version is available in both 3½- and 5¼-inch disks and has a retail price of $49.95. The Apple II version also retails for $49.95, while the Commodore 64 and 128 release sells for $39.95.

Sir-Tech Software, P.O. Box 245, Charlestown Ogdensburg Mall, Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Reader Service Number 209.

New Multi-Font

Star Micronics has introduced the NX-1500 Multi-Font, a wide-carriage, 9-pin dot-matrix printer. The NX-1500 for IBM PCs and compatibles features four built-in fonts and advanced paper handling, including bottom-feed capability.

The Star Micronics' NX-1500 Multi-Font printer has four resident fonts.

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It prints at 180 characters per second (cps) in draft mode and 45 cps in near-letter-quality mode at 12 pitch. The printer offers friction and adjustable push tractor paper feeds.

The control panel allows you to select and set almost all functions, including NLQ fonts or draft mode, italic printing, pitch, typeface, top of form, and buffer clear. The four resident fonts—Courier, Sanserif, Orator I, and Orator II—can be printed in pica, elite, condensed pica, condensed elite, and proportional sizes.

The NX-1500 has a parallel interface and incorporates Epson FX-1050 and IBM Proprinter IIXL emulations. An optional 8K serial interface is available. The printer also features a 16K buffer.

The retail price of the NX-1500 is $529.

Star Micronics, 200 Park Ave., Suite 3510, New York, NY 10166

Reader Service Number 210.

Keep Your Back to the Wall

Amarillo Slim's Real Poker—5 Card Stud from Villa Crespo Software attempts to recreate the feel and excitement of poker games played in the Wild West. Villa Crespo enlisted the help of world champion poker player Amarillo Slim to make the game as realistic as possible.

An online tutor can be consulted for information on position benefits, hidden and shown strengths, bluff and sandbag opportunities, odds of bettering a hand, a categorical bet, folding, checking, and raising. An instant-replay feature allows you to review a hand with the electronic tutor's insight.

You can choose the number of players, their names, and their seating positions. You also control the speed of the game, the amount of money each player starts with, the minimum and maximum bets, and the betting personalities of your opponents.

Real Poker retails for $49.95 and requires a color graphics card.

Villa Crespo Software, 1725 McGovern St., Highland Park, IL 60035

Reader Service Number 211.

Low-Cost Laser

Packard Bell has introduced the PB9500 laser printer that prints six letter-size pages per minute. It can also print on legal-size paper, envelopes, overhead transparencies, and peel-off labels.

With 1.5 megabytes of RAM, the PB9500 provides full-page 300 dots-per-inch resolution for text and graphics and compatibility with standard software and hardware. Memory can be expanded to 2.5 or 4.5 megabytes.

The PB9500 laser printer from Packard Bell features HP LaserJet emulation.

Six built-in fonts plus two optional font slots are included. Different printer emulations such as Epson FX, IBM Proprinter, and Diablo 630 are available with optional cartridges. The PB9500 also features automatic and manual paper-feed capabilities.

The printer carries a retail price of $2,195.

Packard Bell, 9425 Canoga Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311

Reader Service Number 212.

Bo Knows Computing

Data East USA has signed an exclusive contract with Kansas City Royals outfielder Bo Jackson, who will endorse *Bo Jackson Baseball,* an extension of Data East's MVP Sports line.

Bo Jackson Baseball is the first sports simulation that uses day-to-day sports statistics. By accessing data via modem from the USA TODAY Sports Center online service, you can place Bo in real game situations using daily statistics from major league baseball games played during the 1990 season.

Bo Jackson Baseball is available for IBM PC and compatible computers for $49.95. A Commodore 64 version sells for $39.95.

Data East USA, 1850 Little Orchard St., San Jose CA 95125

Reader Service Number 213.

Five on the Horizon

Electronic Arts has announced five titles for IBM PCs and compatibles to be released this year.

In *Ski or Die,* the sequel to *Skate or Die,* Rodney and Lester compete in a series of unusual wintertime events including the Acro Aerial Ski Jump, the Innertube Thrash, the Snowball Fight, and the Downhill Blitz. It sells for $39.95.

You can join the ranks of the touring pros with *PGA Tour Golf.* Create and customize the ideal golfer and outfit him with the best equipment the pro shop can offer. Compete against human or computer-controlled opponents, or enter a PGA-style tournament and play four rounds of competitive golf. *PGA Tour Golf* has a retail price of $49.95.

With *Low Blow,* you can jab and punch your way to the heavyweight title, but you must defeat seven different opponents, each with a special trick move. In between fights, you can train at the gym and fine-tune your attack. There's even a way to cheat your way to the championship bout. *Low Blow* retails for $49.95.

Take control of a modern combat helicopter in *Osprey.* In this game, you must outthink enemy aircraft as you engage in over a dozen missions in three different hot-spots from around the world. Choose from combat veterans such as the Apache or Blackhawk, or try the tilt-rotor Osprey or experimental LHX. The game supports VGA and has a retail price of $49.95.

The Roman Empire awaits you in *Caesar,* a historical strategy game. You can direct your navies and armies and engage in diplomatic negotiations with bordering countries. Other activities include chariot races and gladiator events in the coliseum, as well as the opportunity to try and win the heart of Cleopatra. The retail price of *Caesar* is $49.95.

Electronic Arts, 1820 Gateway Dr., San Mateo, CA 94404

Reader Service Number 214.

Strike While the Planes Are Hot

Accolade offers the opportunity for you to climb into the cockpit of one of six different aircraft and attempt to become an elite fighter pilot in *Strike Aces: International Bombing Competition.*

Choose from the McDonnell Douglas F-15E, the MD F-4E, the General Dynamics F-111F, the British Panavia Tornado IDS, the Swedish Saab AJ37, and the Russian MiG-27 Flogger-D. These six can be flown

Fly one of six fighters on 16 different combat missions.

www.commodore.ca

against seven other computer-piloted enemy fighters on 16 different combat missions. You can also design your own missions.

Strike Aces retails for $49.95 for the Amiga and IBM PCs and compatibles. The Commodore 64 version has a retail price of $39.95.

Accolade, 550 S. Winchester Blvd., Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95128

Reader Service Number 215.

Cool Mission

Sierra's newest adventure simulation, *Code Name: Ice Man,* places you in the role of Johnny Westland, a member of an elite U.S. Navy commando team.

You must travel in a state-of-the-art nuclear attack submarine to rescue an American ambassador from a group of fanatical terrorists. Set in the future, the game takes you from the beaches of Tahiti, underneath the polar icecap, to the dusty deserts of North Africa.

Written by *Police Quest* designer Jim Walls, *Code Name: Ice Man* has a retail price of $59.95.

Sierra, P.O. Box 485, Coarsegold, CA 93614

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24-Pin for the Budget-Minded

Okidata has released the Okimate 240, a 24-pin home office printer with features usually found on more expensive printers.

The Okimate 240 allows you to switch between letterhead and continuous forms with the touch of a button. It also features a built-in push tractor and a power-assisted paper loader which automatically positions single sheets at the top of the page. Top and rear feeds allow you to use different types of paper stock and envelopes.

The 240's front control panel has an LED display and allows you to change fonts and character pitch and activate the paper-parking feature with the touch of a button. Courier and Gothic fonts are resident. A utility mode is available for rough drafts or spreadsheets. The fonts can be altered to double height, double width, outline, and shadow options.

Other features on the Epson LQ–compatible printer are a parallel interface and a 200-million-character printhead.

The Okimate 240 has a retail price of $529.

Okidata, 532 Fellowship Rd., Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Reader Service Number 217.

Sunken Treasure

Electronic Zoo has released *Treasure Trap,* a strategy game for the IBM PC and compatibles, Atari ST, and Amiga computers.

You can explore 100 rooms in the sunken shell of the Esmeralda where a priceless cargo of solid gold bars rests undisturbed. To find the gold, you must solve puzzles, locate keys, and search for additional air tanks to stay alive. Your quest is made difficult because the waters around the vessel are patrolled by poisonous jellyfish and electric eels, as well as some creatures you may not have seen before. Make friends with groupers and red snappers, and your exploration becomes easier and safer.

The retail price of *Treasure Trap* is $39.95. The MS-DOS version, available on 5¼- or 3½-inch disks, supports VGA, MCGA, EGA, Tandy 16-color, and 4-color CGA.

Electronic Zoo, 3431-A Benson Ave., Baltimore, MD 21227

Reader Service Number 218.

Squeaky Clean

Curtis Manufacturing has introduced Clean Mouse, a mouse-cleaning kit that helps extend the life of your mouse as well as improve cursor accuracy and roller-ball response.

The Clean Mouse kit removes dirt and grime from the interior of your mouse.

Clean Mouse uses hook-and-loop technology and a specially designed mouse-cleaning solution to remove the buildup of dirt and grime from inside your mouse. In addition to the mouse-cleaning solution, the kit comes with two different size scrubbing balls that fit most mouse-ball cavities, a compact scrubbing board, and a lint-free chamois cleaning cloth.

The entire kit has a retail price of $14.95.

Curtis Manufacturing, 30 Fitzgerald Dr., Jaffrey, NH 03452

Reader Service Number 219.

Get Hyper

Zaron Software's *Hyper-Word* word processor provides hypertext power without requiring any programming knowledge. You can use the program's free-form ability to interconnect documents and jump from reference to reference with single keystrokes. Multiple files can also be quickly searched with one command.

Hyper-Word's touch-and-link power allows you to create interactive tutorials, computerized reference manuals, and form letters. The program can also be used as a multi-window, professional word processor with a spelling checker, a readability index, and a recent reference list.

Programmers can use its hypertext power to perform program mock-ups and use its editor to display a function or subroutine from any reference.

A context-sensitive hypertext help system features over 600 interrelated help screens.

Available for the IBM PC, AT, PS/2, and compatibles, *Hyper-Word* carries a retail price of $249.95.

Zaron Software, 13100 Dulaney Valley Rd., Glen Arm, MD 21057

Reader Service Number 220. ⊡

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OFF LINE

DAN GOOKIN

People often ask me: "How do you do it? Why is it that you know so much about computers? What makes you different?" My answer: I read the manuals. Unfortunately, those four words are much too short to make a column. So I must describe this quest for computer guruhood in all its glory. It all starts with becoming a computer nerd.

Becoming a nerd may not top your list of social improvements for the 1990s. Yet, you're going to have to nerd-it if you ever expect to get anywhere with your computer. In the future, being a nerd won't just be necessary to understanding a computer—it will be a national craze.

Society has a silly habit of eventually idolizing those it currently shuns. In America, we have a whole range of heroes who were once considered untouchables, from the cowboy to the gangster to the rock star. Now, after a decade of being out in the cold, nerds are about to bask in an era of emulation and idolization. It's their turn.

Today, the term *nerd* is just a slight stigma. In fact, I lovingly call anyone who enjoys using a computer a nerd. Some hypersensitive, wimpy, gutless, neocompassionate types may still find it derogatory, but it's much better than *geek, dork,* or *tech weenie.* (This could get really nasty. Let's stick with *nerd.*)

Years ago, the term *nerd* was attached to people who were basically asocial. They were pale, tall, and lanky, with greasy hair and stick limbs. The nerds of yesteryear were the antijocks, the guys who knew who Brahms was and what $E=mc^2$ stood for. They wore clothes their mother chose for them (and sometimes needed their mother's help while dressing in the morning). Anyone who wore thick glasses or a tie to school counted. In math class, they were the human computers, the Mentats, the Vulcans.

Today, nerds are people who are into computers, regardless of looks. But the old stereotype is hard to shake. I'm not saying that everyone who uses a computer resembles a tackily clothed Greek god. Let me assure you, computer people may not be elected the sexiest men and women by *People* magazine, but there are some good-looking folks hiding behind those Coke-bottle-bottom glasses. Some of us even bathe regularly. And, given some sort of fashion sense, a diet (any diet), and contact lenses, today's computer nerd can quite seamlessly blend into society. (That's a scary thought.)

Even so, you just don't see nerds on boxes of Wheaties, or on the cover of *GQ* or *M,* or in magazine ads or on billboards touting Dewar's scotch (well . . .). But, like the cowboy (who was urbanized and then accepted), computer nerds will eventually become vogue—a future fad. Nerddom will be something to attain, an aspiration. (Not every antihero in society eventually becomes popular, of course. I doubt there will ever be a time when everyone yearns to dress and act like a lawyer.)

But in about ten years, everyone will be dying to dress like the traditional computer nerd of yore. OK, maybe not everyone. You can skip over the Valley Gal group. I mean, gag me. But today's housewife—in! Teenager—in! Yuppie—in! (Yuppies are all closet nerds, anyhow, buying computers because it's fashionable: "Muffy! The Peersons are coming over. Better move the Compaq SLT into the den!") And finally, the *Cosmopolitan* girl—in, you bet! She'll dress like a nerd, act like one, even attend nerd functions. Why? Because nerds make massive loot!

NERD CITY—
THE LATEST IN COOL

In ten years, maybe five, we'll all be walking around in Hawaiian shirts and sandals, staying up all night, and saying things like:

"Control-C Me!" *Translation: Give me a break!*

"You're spinning NOPs." *Translation: You're not saying/doing anything.*

"I don't program, I code." *Translation: You're a dweeb. I'm cool.*

Like any fad, nerddom's rise to popularity will be accompanied by a popular prime-time TV show (and I'm not talking Al Bundy here), just as "Miami Vice" started the pastel craze. (I'm still waiting for my Earth-tones to come back in style.) Maybe it will be a spinoff from "Star Trek: The Next Generation" that stars Geordi, Data, and Wesley Crusher as three zany aliens who return to high school in 1979 Vermont.

There will surely be a major motion picture. Forget *Revenge of the Nerds.* I'm talking a superhero movie, something like *Indiana Edwin and the Cray of Doom!*

So, if you want to be a computer nerd, if you're dying to catch the crest of this upcoming fashion wave and lifestyle craze, keep reading this column in the months to come. I'll be addressing such important issues as computer nerd diet, appearance, language, habits, and musical tastes. If you're going to do things properly, if you want to be where it's at before anyone else gets there, this is important stuff. And don't forget that becoming a nerd eventually leads to computer guruhood. ⊡

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HOTWARE

SOFTWARE BESTSELLERS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

HOME PRODUCTIVITY

1. Quicken
Manage your finances.
Intuit
IBM, Macintosh

2. The Print Shop
Make signs, cards, banners, and more.
Brøderbund
Apple II, Apple IIgs, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

3. Tax Cut
Prepare for April 15.
MECA
IBM

4. Turbo Tax 1990
Speed up your tax calculations.
CHIPSOFT
IBM

5. Print Shop Graphics Library
Add variety to your *Print Shop* creations.
Brøderbund
Apple II, Apple IIgs, Commodore 64/128, IBM

6. Managing Your Money
Allocate your income.
MECA
Apple II, IBM, Macintosh

7. Calendar Creator Plus
Create many different calendars.
Power Up
IBM, Macintosh

8. Family Tree Maker
Explore your ancestry.
Banner Blue
IBM

9. PC Globe 3.0
Explore world demographics.
PC Globe
IBM

10. PC USA
Explore the United States.
PC Globe
IBM

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

1. Flight Simulator
Head for the wild blue yonder.
Microsoft
IBM, Macintosh

2. SimCity
Run the world's first simulated city.
Maxis
Amiga, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

3. Tetris
Deceptively addicting falling-block game.
Spectrum HoloByte
Amiga, Apple IIgs, Commodore 64/128, Macintosh

4. Leisure Suit Larry III
Larry and Passionate Patti get together.
Sierra
IBM

5. The Duel: Test Drive II
Fast-paced car racing.
Accolade
Amiga, Apple IIgs, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

6. ChessMaster 2100
Board strategy that isn't boring.
Electronic Arts
Apple II, Apple IIgs, Commodore 64/128, IBM

7. Arcade Megahits
Five hit arcade games in one box.
Mindscape
Apple II, Commodore 64/128, IBM

8. Falcon
Air combat at its best.
Spectrum HoloByte
Amiga, IBM, Macintosh

9. John Madden Football
Take the field with the pros.
Electronic Arts
Apple II, Commodore 64/128, IBM

10. Hero's Quest
Your chance to be a hero.
Sierra
IBM

HOME LEARNING

1. Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego?
Chase Carmen around the world.
Brøderbund
Amiga, Apple II, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

2. Where in the USA Is Carmen Sandiego?
The chase moves to the USA.
Brøderbund
Amiga, Apple II, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

3. Where in Time Is Carmen Sandiego?
Can you find Carmen in time?
Brøderbund
IBM

4. Math Blaster Plus!
Teaches basic math concepts.
Davidson & Associates
Apple II, Apple IIgs, IBM

5. Reader Rabbit
Helps children learn to read.
The Learning Company
Apple II, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

6. Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing
Learn to touch-type.
Electronic Arts
Apple II, Apple IIgs,
Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

7. The Children's Writing & Publishing Center
A desktop publisher for kids.
The Learning Company
Apple II, Apple IIgs, IBM

8. Think Quick
Children learn problem solving.
The Learning Company
Apple II, Apple IIgs, IBM

9. Learning DOS
Learn the ins and outs of DOS.
Microsoft
IBM

10. Math Rabbit
Build early math skills.
The Learning Company
Apple II, Commodore 64/128, IBM, Macintosh

COMPUTE!'s Hotware lists were prepared by Egghead Discount Software and are based on retail sales of Apple II, Macintosh, and IBM software from December 10, 1989 through January 6, 1990, at 205 Egghead stores in the United States and Canada.

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1. What kind of computer do you own? ☐ IBM PC or compatible (261) ☐ Tandy (262) ☐ Amiga (263)
   ☐ Macintosh (264) ☐ Apple II (265) ☐ Commodore 64/128 (266)
2. How long have you owned your computer? _____ (267) years _____ (268) months
3. Do you use your computer mostly for ☐ playing games (269) ☐ working at home (270)
   ☐ school work/learning? (271)
4. What part of COMPUTE! do you read first? _____ (272)
5. Do you find COMPUTE!'s new design helpful in finding information you need? ☐ Yes (273) ☐ No (274)
6. How would you rate the quality of information in this issue of COMPUTE!? ☐ Average (275)
   ☐ Good (276) ☐ Excellent (277)
7. What one topic would you like to see covered in COMPUTE! during the coming year?
   _____ (278)
8. What other computer magazines do you read? ☐ PC Computing (279) ☐ COMPUTE!'s Gazette (280)
   ☐ PC Resource (281) ☐ Home Office Computing (282) ☐ COMPUTE!'s PC Magazine (283)
   ☐ Personal Computing (284) ☐ Other _____ (285)
9. What is your total household income? ☐ >$30,000 (286) ☐ >$40,000 (287) ☐ >$50,000 (288) ☐ >$75,000 (289)

101	102	103	104	105	106
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221	222	223	224	225	226
227	228	229	230	231	232
233	234	235	236	237	238
239	240	241	242	243	244
245	246	247	248	249	250
251	252	253	254	255	256
257	258	259	260		

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Castlevania is available for Commodore and IBM. Available for Amiga Fall 1990.

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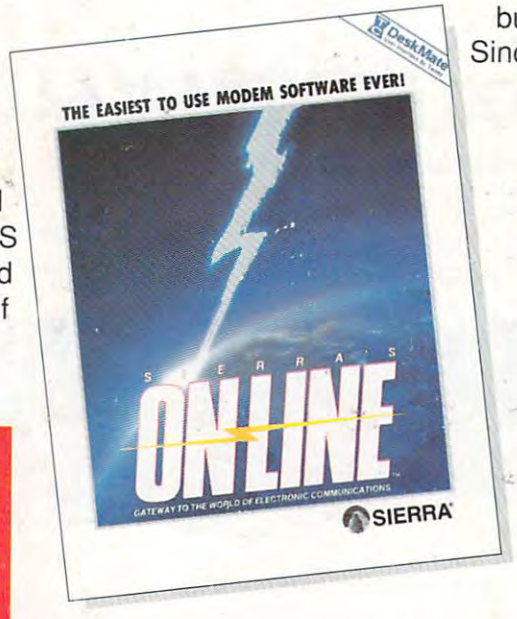

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