

CLASSIC COMPUTERS**ADAM ADAM****I'M ON MY**

by Faye Deere

Several months ago, we were informed that Gary Lawrence at American Design Components was conducting a survey to see how many ADAM owners would be interested in purchasing new hardware for their ADAMs. He also wanted to know what kind of hardware we would be interested in. Many of us told you to write to Mr. Lawrence. We felt it was important to ADAM's future growth to get American Design Components into production.

A short time ago, I heard that American Design had not gotten enough response, and was not going to be producing any hardware for the ADAM. Being a skeptic by nature, I called Gary. He told me he had not

decided absolutely, but that the response had only been fair. He had gotten between 200 to 250 letters. He had expected many more! At this point, he said it would not be worthwhile to design and produce hardware for the ADAM. 200 maybes just don't cut it! Write to American Design Components, 815 Fairview Avenue, PO Box 220, Fairview, NJ 07002. Maybe it's not too late to write that letter! They even have an 800 phone number! It's 800-524-0809. At least make a phone call! The people at American Design really do want to help us. But they have to make at least a small profit doing it.

Gary Lawrence told me that the item he had the most requests for was an 80 column color monitor and card for the ADAM. He says it is feasible, and if the

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response is good enough, it could be priced competitively. This is only one of the things I would like to see for the ADAM in the future.

While I'm asking you to do things to enhance ADAM's future, I'm going to share with you an item that I saw in the May 1989 issue of the NIAD newsletter: The Image Scanner is now nearing completion, but the major factor in its release will be the response that E&T Software receives. Walters Software Co. will be writing the software for this product. We need an accurate count of those desiring to purchase the scanner so please write to E&T Software at 1010 Westminster, Garland, TX 75040. Include a SASE so that Ed Jenkins can contact you as soon as the scanner is available. Those who have written to us

about their desire to purchase this product when it is available, please write to E&T Software, also.

Here again, we are being asked to respond to a company in relation to the release of an important piece of hardware for our ADAM. This response not only will have direct impact on if the hardware is released, but will also affect the price of that hardware. I understand that the projected price of the Image Scanner is \$100. However, if there is enough response to their request for advance orders, it may help bring the price of the scanner down. The law of supply and demand certainly applies here. Do us all a favor. If you like the idea of owning an Image Scanner, go ahead and order it. If you aren't in the market now, at least write

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to them, and let them know that it is on your future order list.

What about the software that Coleco produced for the ADAM? What is its status since Coleco is in bankruptcy, and is not expected to recover? Even if Coleco did recover enough to go back into production, I have it on good authority that they would never produce the ADAM again. Nor would they manufacture the software for it. This means that there is no software, and nowhere to

buy any. Where does that leave the software they did make and sell? Is it now Public Domain? No one seems to have the answer.

I asked Gary this question, and he didn't have an answer either. Neither did he know where I could find the answer. How about it? What's the answer? My son would like to buy CP/M 2.2. He can't find it anywhere. Where does one buy a copy of CP/M 2.2 when they are all gone, as far as I can tell? How can ADAM grow if we

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can't get copies of these things out there for ADAM owners to use? What are our options? If you know the answer, or have any suggestions, please let me know at ECAUG, PO Box 4934, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-4934.

Calming down a little, I asked Gary about Goliath, the second generation ADAM I have been hearing about. He said that as far as he knows, it was just an idea in someone's mind. He doesn't think it ever made it to the drawing board. At least, not the one he was

working at. The Goliath was talked about, but Coleco was having enough trouble with ADAM at that point. They rushed things to the point that the product was not living up to its press. Then they not only abandoned the ADAM, but any thoughts of the Goliath as well. Although they shouldn't have, they finally dropped the ADAM just when the bugs were being worked out, and people were finding out what a great little computer it was! What a shame!

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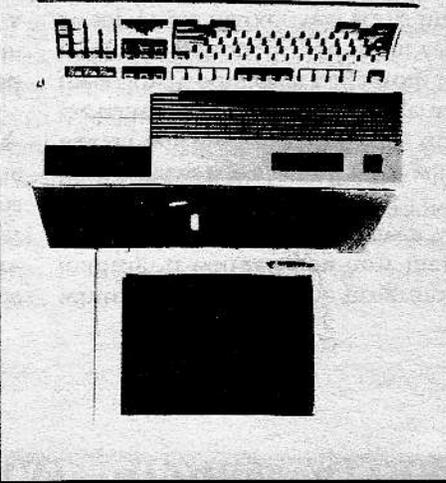
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