CLASSIC COMPUTERS   *ADAM AD*

ADAM NEWS

by Faye Deere

I hear that the IMAGE SCANNER being produced by E & T Software, is almost finished. As I understand it, the scanner will hook up to your Dot Matrix printhead with attached fiber optics to scan anything you put into your printer. It produces a high resolution picture that ADAM stores for later use. It can then be printed with software such as PowerPAINT or SwiftPRINT, and your Dot Matrix printer.

The May, 1989 issue of NIAD printed the following item. I felt it should be passed on to you:

"The IMAGE SCANNER is 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." - NIAD.

So, if you are at all interested in purchasing the scanner, write to E & T Software. Even if you ordered it from someone else, write and tell them from whom you ordered it. If you can't purchase the scanner right now, but would like to have one in the future, write to E & T and tell them this, also. That will help in their final decision as to release and price.

I understand that the projected retail price for the IMAGE SCANNER is $99, and I'm sure it will be worth every

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penny of it! I have been looking at the ads for Image Scanners for IBM and IBM compatibles. I find that they cost considerably MORE, so I think we have a winner on our hands, folks. Even the hand held scanners cost a lot more than the one we will be getting to attach to our Dot Matrix printheads, so write that letter. Don't think that your letter won't be missed if you don't write!

E & T Software has also recently produced a new ADAM memory expander, called the Mega Ram Memory Expander. It is about the size of the ADAM 64K memory expander card, is very easy to install, and uses state of the art SIPS. SIPS are little plug in boards that contain 256K of memory each. The expander board contains four sockets, which means that you can plug in four 256K SIPS. This gives you a whopping big 1024K of memory, or 1 meg! It is compatible with Orphanware's PIA2 parallel interface board. For those who don't have a parallel interface board, an addressor card is available.

The Mega Ram Memory Expander with 512K of SIPS gives you a large workspace with PowerPAINT and a 40,000+ word spell checker with SpellingAID! The SIPS are cheaper than individual memory chips, and you can copy a complete tape/disk to a SmartDSK ramdisk. You can then re-copy it back to another tape/disk. This saves wear and tear on your drives. You can also load several programs, such as AdamCALC, PowerPAINT, and Smart-BASIC, and jump back and forth between the different programs. This saves time as well as wear and tear on your drives, and gives you an agility that was impossible to achieve before. Perhaps E & T Software should be re-named E & T Software and Hardware Co.

The Mega Ram Memory Expander is available from NIAD for $169.95 with 256K of memory installed. Additional 256K SIPS are available for $79.95 each. The Addressor Card is $19.95. Sounds great, doesn't it? Adam certainly has come a very long way in the past year.

I am hearing some confusion about two of the older programs from NIAD Software. Remember that the GRAPH-ICPIX I program is written to be used with an Adam Printer. This is a set of utilities used for converting Smart-

Resolution. It also converts RLE picture files to Adam SmartBASIC Hi-res graphics that can then be printed by GRAPHIXPAINTER.

Your SmartBASIC manual does not tell you a lot of things you probably would like to know. I sometimes get the feeling they didn't want us to know too much. One of the things not mentioned in the manual is how to raise a number to a power. To raise 5 to the second power, which is 5 squared, all you have to do is use the caret (^). Just type PRINT 5^2, and Adam will respond with the answer of 25.

A number of SmartBASIC programs, especially the graphics programs, turn the cursor off while they are being run. Most turn them back on, but once in a while, you find one that doesn't. The program most likely contained a line saying: POKE 16953,32. This turns the cursor off. Type: POKE 16953,95 and it will return. If you don't like the cursor that Adam uses and would like to change it to something else, just POKE address 16953 with the number of any ASCII character you want. POKEing 16953,93 will change the cursor to a blinking "]".

If you are using line numbers with five digits, such as 12500, you will have a problem when you try to retype the line or make corrections in it. When you move the cursor to the line to be corrected, the cursor will not go to the first number of the line. It will appear under the second number and stay there. To get around this problem, hit the WILD CARD key, then backspace with your arrow key. Your cursor will now move under the first number.

After you have typed in a SmartBASIC program, a useful tool in "de-bugging" it is the SPEED command. Normal speed is 255. When trying to find an error, I type SPEED=100. This slows everything down so that I can follow the action after typing RUN. If this doesn't do the trick, type TRACE. This gives you the line numbers as they are executed. This way you know what line caused the program to abort. Thus, you can list this line, see what is wrong, and correct it. When you are done, be sure you type NOTRACE, or you will continue to get line numbers along with the execution of the program until you do. Also, type SPEED=255 to return the

each. The expander board contains four sockets, which means that you can plug in four 256K SIPS. This gives you a whopping big 1024K of memory, or 1 meg! It is compatible with Orphanware's PIA2 parallel interface board. For those who don't have a parallel interface board, an addressor card is available.

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The GRAPHIXPAINTER program is a graphics printing program for a Dot Matrix printer. It is a graphics print utility that allows printing of SmartBASIC graphics screens, both in Hi and Lo

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For some reason, using the Public Domain program called "basicmodif" to permanently change a SmartBASIC address, has created some problems for me. The program itself works just fine, and does exactly what it's supposed to do. It's after I leave the program and return to SmartBASIC that I have problems. When I ask for a CATALOG, I

don't get a catalog listing. To be able to get a catalog listing, I have to turn my Adam off, and re-BOOT SmartBASIC! Very frustrating!

Joe Quinn of the Gulf Coast Adam Users Group gave me a copy of a Public Domain volume that solved the problem! It contains a file that does the same job, without creating the same hassles. The volume is called EZFiles, and the file is called EZPatch. This volume was written by Solomon Swift, and makes doing some of those difficult BASIC functions extremely easy. The volume also contains a very good COPY program and a file transfer program. The COPY program comes in two versions, the COPY320 version to be used with Double Sided Disk Drives. I especially like the file transfer program. If you don't have a commercial program to do these functions for you, you might try to pick up a copy of EZFiles. I have added it to our Public Domain Library. Many thanks to Joe Quinn and Solomon Swift!

Here are some tips to speed things up when you are using SmartWRITER. If you use the TAB key to move across your screen, then change your mind, and use the arrow key to move back to where you started, you may have a problem. If you type characters in part of this space, and then try to insert a carriage return, you will get the famous "beep" and nothing else. You "wrote" empty spaces with your TAB key, just as if you had written characters, and a carriage return cannot be inserted between characters. Just press the INSERT key, then the RETURN. This will give you the carriage return and erase the empty spaces at the same time. If you use the BACKSPACE key to move back across your screen, you won't have this trouble. The BACKSPACE key erases the unwanted spaces as it goes.

If you want to remove a large amount of text in a SmartWRITER file, you may have discovered that you can do this quickly by pressing the CLEAR key, and than pressing the CLEAR SCREEN SmartKEY (number V). This is a quick and easy way to do it, but for some reason, using the CLEAR key method will not allow you to re-STORE the file under the same name. To be able to re-STORE the file with the same

DELETE. Everything goes! Much faster than doing it in STANDARD MODE, since doing it this way allows you to HI-LITE more than just one screen at a time, and then DELETE it. When you're done, just return to STANDARD MODE.

In the June, 1989 issue of the Metro Orlando Adam Users Group newsletter, there was an article by Rich Lefko. He states that Eve Electronic Systems still exists! It is now E.E.S. Companies. Rich talked to the owner of E.E.S., Hank Szretter, and Hank seemed surprised to hear that Adam was still alive and well. They still have the same address and phone number, so you can write or call for a free catalog:

E.E.S. Companies
2 Vernon Street, Suite 404
Framingham, MA 01701
Phone: (508) 650-1872

If the response is good enough, maybe they will resume production for the Adam.

Another item in the MOAUG newsletter that I feel is worth repeating is the following:

When you are through using PowerPAINT, don't forget to re-set your Dot Matrix printer befor you exit the program (assuming you have been printing your work). Otherwise, if you try to go from PowerPAINT to a word processing program, you will find that the printer will print lines of text too close together. Don't be alarmed if this happens...you can easily fix it by turning the printer off and back on again.

-Thanks, Patricia Herrington!

I would like to add this comment to Pat's item. I always turn my Adam off when I finish using PowerPAINT. I then turn it back on and load whatever program I want to use. To use Power-Paint, you must have at least a 64K memory expander card. PowerPAINT loads into a considerable amount of this extended RAM. I find that turning your Adam off completely clears the RAM. This way, you don't have any conflict with another program that might try to use the RAM and run into residual data left by PowerPAINT. I'm not sure that this could happen, but it makes me feel more secure to turn Adam off and make sure the RAM is completely clear.

One last comment! If you are looking forward to using Solomon Swift's

...Domain Library. Many thanks to Joe Quinn and Solomon Swift!

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the Adam.

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One last comment! If you are looking forward to using Solomon Swift's new GO-DOS system, remember that you MUST have at least a 64K memory expander card, and a Dot Matrix printer. You will also find that a second drive is helpful. If you don't have these things, give purchasing them a thought. You cannot enjoy the full potential of your Adam without them. Since you went to the trouble of buying an Adam, why not make it an enjoyable experience?