

CLASSIC COMPUTERS

ADAM AI

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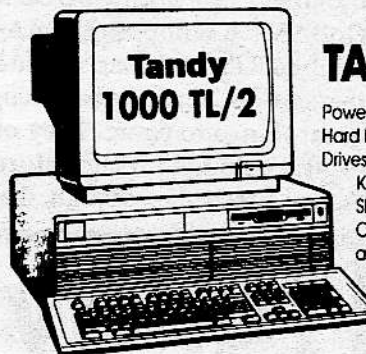
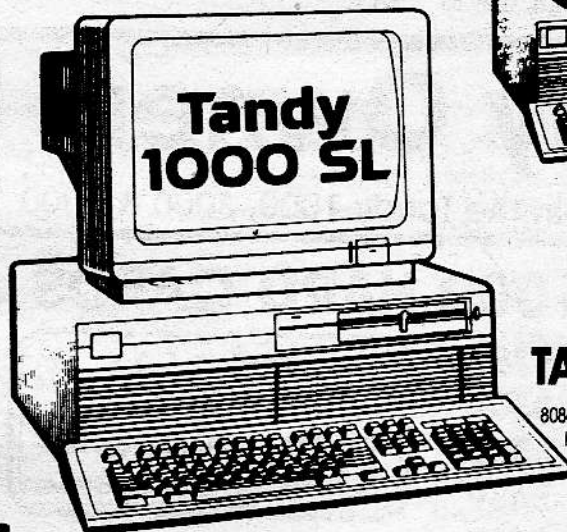
by Paul Pappas

Nibbles & Bits is back! I am pleased to report N&B is back on line with a new masthead and a new

company, The Softworks Company.

As reported earlier, the Softworks is a joint venture of Tony Patterson (Temple of the Snow Dragon) and Solomon Swift (Digital Express).

After you



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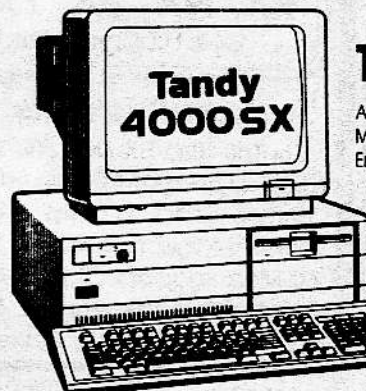
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M FORUM

The Softworks has incorporated all Digital Express products into its own product line and is renovating its offices to better serve the ADAM community. More than a few

ADAM users feared they had seen the last of N&B, one of the best ADAM newsletters ever published. This is one time it's nice to be proven wrong! Best of luck to Tony and Sol.

Now to more sombre news. After Digital Express (nearly) collapsed, a new P.O. Box was established in Belmont, N.C. (preceding the creation of the Softworks). ADAM users were encouraged to send let-

ANDY 1000TL/2

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Hard Disk, 360K 5.25" Disk Drive, Serial Port, Keyboard, Two Joystick Ports, 5 Expansion Slots, ROM, Optional 8087 Co-processor, Deskmate .00

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*A serious bug
has surfaced in
the tape
version of
ADAM Bomb.*

letters to Solomon Swift indicating support, requesting refunds, authorizing extensions, even placing new orders to help Solomon get back on his feet. By now, those of you who sent letters to that address (and possibly others) have seen them returned with "no forwarding address" stamped on the envelope. According to the Belmont postmaster, no forwarding address was ever filed, so when the August '89 P.O. Box renewal fee came due, the box was closed and over 100 letters were returned (my thanks to the ADAM user who brought this to my attention; enjoy the game cartridge).

I called The Softworks Company and requested an explanation from Tony Patterson. I was the first person to contact him about the problem, and he seemed as surprised as anyone else. He indicated the failure to file a change of address form was due to a clerical error caused by the reorganization effort.

...s, MDA/CGA Compatible, MS-DOS in ROM,
Optional 80287 Co-processor, Deskmate Software
and more! Reg. \$2096.95

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reorganization effort.

Since the postmaster did not
know who to contact about the
renewal fee, Softworks did not real-
ize the P.O. Box was up for renewal.
Tony requests that anyone whose
letter was returned (from any Digital
Express address) re-send it to

Softworks. He personally assured me that, by the time you read this, all correspondence would be processed within 24 hours of receipt.

Being skeptical by nature, I must admit a "clerical error" is a pretty flimsy excuse. I don't mean to dump this in Tony's lap (after all, he helped save N&B and the Digital Express line), but after all the support Solomon Swift has received from the ADAM community, you would think a change of address form was not too much to ask. The end result is a lot of disgruntled ADAM users who feel they were "abandoned," not once, but twice!

However, I hold in my hand the first issue of the "new" N&B, and it's every bit as good as the original. Further, I did not have to contact Softworks about my original subscription; it was reactivated automatically. For these reasons, I accept Tony's explanation. I don't understand it, but I do accept it.

I know it will take an act of faith, but please lick one last stamp and resend your letter to the Softworks. If you don't receive a satisfactory reply, contact me and I'll see what I can do (but I don't think that will be necessary).

New and Noteworthy

Effective November 1, 1989, NIAD's area code will change from 312 to 708. Thus the new number will be (708) 961-3529. Nothing else will change. For those of you without this excellent organization's address, it's NIAD, P.O. Box 1317, Lisle, IL 60532; phone (312) 961-3529. To quote Ma Bell: "Please make a note of it."

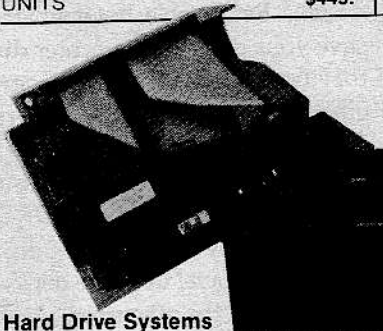
Syd Carter of Trisyd Labs has developed some outstanding products for the ADAM, but this time he has outdone himself. Syd has developed a format generator which increases the storage capacity of a standard digital data pack from 256K to 306K. It is predicted that C-60 cassettes will store 320K and C-90 will store over 400K! Best of all, no

more required to purchase a standard parallel printer. Recently, Canon's serial-interface thermal printers became available for around \$60 dollars, but ADAM

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MegaHaus specializes in hard drive upgrade shipping. We will be more than happy to support ST506, SCSI, ESDI, and IDE/AT

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SCSI Tandy 1000/XT/AT UNITS	\$349.
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Hard Drive Systems

All of the MegaHaus hard drive systems internal systems mount in a floppy location

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21 Meg	\$249. \$32
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40 Meg	\$319. \$39
48 Meg	\$389. \$46
64 Meg	\$399. \$47
80 Meg	\$509. \$54
103 Meg	\$839.* \$78
120 Meg	\$899.* \$85
142 Meg	\$1229. \$132
188 Meg	\$1399. \$149
230 Meg	\$1749.* \$179
330 Meg	\$2099.* \$207
620 Meg	\$2899.* \$294

External Floppy Drives
For Tandy 1000/XT or 1000/HL

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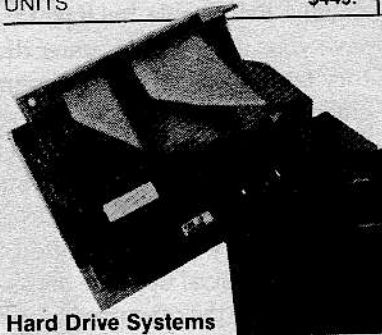
An external printer is a great addition to the ADAM, but not everyone can afford the \$150 or

For Tandy 1000, A, SX, TX, SL, TL, TL/2,3000HL, IBM PC/XT, PS2/30 Compatible **\$279.**

For Tandy 3000, 4000, IBM AT (with 16 Bit/AT Controller). **\$359.**

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142 Meg \$1229.	\$132
188 Meg \$1399.	\$149
230 Meg \$1749.*	\$179
330 Meg \$2099.*	\$207
620 Meg \$2899.*	\$294

External Floppy Drives

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Refund policy: If you're not happy with our product

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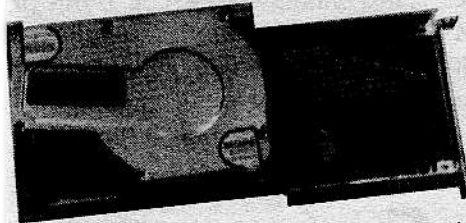
owners lacked the software to utilize them. Shawn Merrick has developed S-Patch, a program designed for use with the Canon printer. Please note this product does not

enable software written for parallel printers to function with serial printers. For more information, contact Shawn at 6413 Briscoe Lane, Louisville, KY 40228-1641.

Professionals

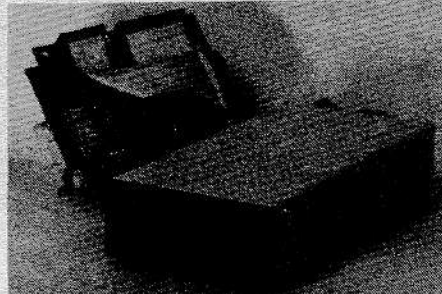
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\$379.	\$389.	\$399.	\$689.	\$829.	\$999.	N/A	\$1249.	\$1899.
\$479.	\$489.	\$499.	\$789.	\$929.	\$1099.	N/A	\$1349.	\$1999.

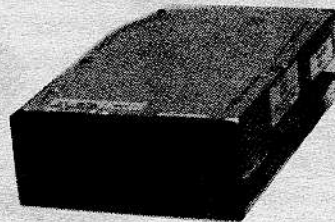
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include the hard drive, cables, and controller. unless noted as external systems (*).

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9.	\$899.*	\$1699.	\$1069.*
9.	\$1249.	\$1799.	\$1599.*
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 230 MegAT \$1689.

CLASSIC COMPUTERS

ADAM A

◆ THE ADAM FORUM

A terrific new PD program called DaVinci has been making waves in the ADAM community. DaVinci is a graphics development program which rivals the commercial versions.

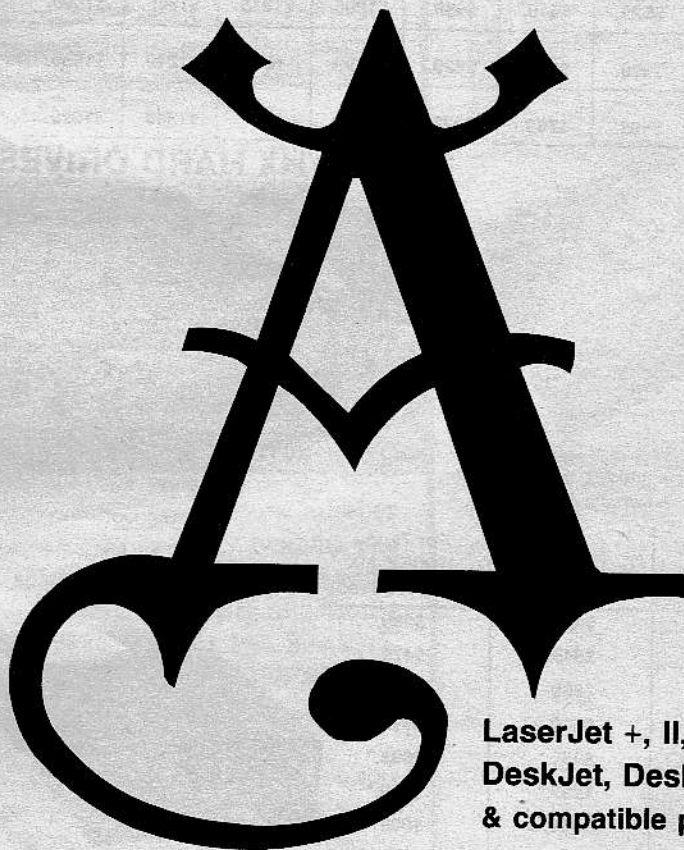
Originally available only in French, it was converted to English and released to the public. DaVinci is available from the N.O.A.H. BBS—John Lingrel, 3/12/24, 8-N-1, (216) 882-4720, 24 hours. Please note this program is "packed" in a CP/M file and must be "unpacked" with the CP/M program Clone2, also

available on the BBS.

Elliam Associates has released a new catalog filled with PD and retail CP/M programs. They also convert other CP/M disk formats to ADAM CP/M disk format. For a free copy, call or write Elliam Associates, P.O. Box 2664, Atascadero, CA 93423; phone (805) 466-8440.

McGrath Software has released a graphic adventure game entitled Lord Simons Castle. LSC is one of the largest games ever released for the ADAM, requiring either two 256K tapes (and two tape drives),

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DeskJet version 599.95

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four 160K floppy disks, two 320K disks, or one 720K disk. The product should retail for about \$25 from most ADAM dealers.

Here is another ADAM BBS for your telecommunicating pleasure. Power House, run by Joe Occhiuzzo, may be reached at (413) 536-9250 with standard ADAMLink parameters.

The Softworks Factory has complete ADAM systems (in the original box) for \$225, including shipping. The systems are fully tested and come with all the original equipment. Contact The Softworks Factory, P.O. Box 732, Ocean Springs, MI 39564, (601) 875-2414.

A serious bug has surfaced in the tape version of ADAM Bomb, the popular game from Pittman Software. Since ADAM Bomb is distributed on right directory (supergame) tapes, ADAM looks for a right directory tape when attempting to save your game-screen designs. Reasonable, but if you try to save your designs to a center directory (standard) tape, the program crashes and returns to SmartWriter. To obtain a corrected copy, send the original media plus return postage to place of purchase.

Tom Clary has completed his third commercial upgrade release of ADAMLink, the oft-cursed telecommunication software that comes with the ADAM modem. Entitled ADAMLink III+, it has little in common with its ancestor. In addition to the standard features of AL, AL III+ supports external modems, printers, Xmodem file transfers, 80-column video (with appropriate equipment), and configuration files. If you wanted a real telecommunications program without resorting to CP/M, the wait is over. The program retails for around \$25, with upgrades from AL III available for \$5 plus \$1.50 postage. Contact NIAD at the address mentioned earlier in this article.

Walters Software is working on a cartridge that will contain SmartDisk I, II, III, Auto Backup, F

with RAM Boot, you may wonder why a 64K ram expander is displayed on the screen when the full 1Mb is found and used. Not to worry, Walters is aware of the problem and will send a free update to registered users on request. Contact Walters Software, Rt. 4, Box 289-A, Titusville, PA 16354.

TCR Software has upgraded its popular Super Basic Plus to revision 90. To check which version you have, enter "PRINTPEEK(260)". If the number displayed is less than 90, you have an older version. The upgrade consists of minor changes and new demo programs to clarify use of the RAMPOKE statement. To receive the latest version, send your original media with return postage to Computer Quorum of America, Rt. 2, Box 14-B, Spring Mills, PA 16875-9720; phone (814) 422-8339.

American Design Components is offering substantial quantity discounts when you purchase 10 or more of the same item. This could be a great way for user groups to fight inflation. Contact American Design Components, 62 Joseph St., Moonachie, NJ 07074; phone (800) 524-0809.

Gerlach Family Software has released a rather unique program, Learning Turkish with ADAM. A German version and other educational software is planned for future release. GFS is best known for its excellent PowerPoint, Clipper, and SmartLOGO compatible graphics. For a free catalog, contact Gerlach Family Software, P.O. Box 175, Ft. Campbell, KY 42223.

Here is a risk-free way to try out MMSG's forthcoming action-adventure game, Bounty Hunter. E & T software will offer a demo version for only \$3. If you like the game, return the demo with your Bounty Hunter order to receive a \$3 credit. If you don't like the game, return the demo for a \$2 refund (E & T keeps \$1 for postage and handling). Personally, I hope this idea becomes standard with ADAM software.

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Also, if you are using E & T Software's 1Mb MegaRAM card

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Inland Empire ADAM User Group

An addition to my growing roster of ADAM newsletters is the IEAUG newsletter. IEAUG has published an excellent newsletter for several years, but inexplicably doesn't receive the press it deserves. With a decided bent toward CP/M, this newsletter is a required addition to any ADAM CP/M user's library. A recent issue contained articles on buying equipment, an extended series on useful CP/M utilities, plus the ins and outs of the CP/M Clone/Image programs. But the IEAUG newsletter is not just for ADAM CP/M users. News, reviews, and articles like Thomas Keenes' delightful personal look at the ADAM community's (mis?)use of telecommunications make this a worthy addition to everyone's ADAM library.

Judging by the newsletter and overviews of club meetings, IEAUG monthly meetings are well worth the trip. For more information, send an SASE to Inland Empire ADAM User Group, 3141 Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92669.

Software Piracy

Computer Quorum of America [Rt. 2, Box 14-B, Spring Mills, PA 16875-9720; phone (814) 422-8339] has released a 38-page catalog of ADAM products and services (please enclose \$1 for postage and handling). But the most interesting item in the catalog is not for sale. The inside front cover and first page speak of the harm software piracy has caused CQA and the ADAM community in general. The ADAM Forum and many ADAM newsletters have discussed software piracy, but usually from the user's perspective. Daniel Decker, president of CQA, recently sent me a letter detailing the effect software piracy has on his company. Keeping in mind that almost every ADAM dealer indicates his or her business is affected by software piracy, I offer excerpts from Daniel's letter as a

Commodore Amiga, and Atari ST computer markets. We are also looking at the possibility of producing software for the Apple IIe/C series of computers. In addition to producing, distributing, and selling computer software through our home offices and various dealers, we sell IBM XT/AT software and hardware, Commodore Amiga software and hardware, and Atari ST software and hardware.

"There is no other ADAM firm which has diversified into the other markets like we have. However, our experience with ADAM has hardly been profitable. To date, due to software piracy, my firm has lost an estimated \$44,000 in ADAM software sales. That includes sales of software from the following firms distributing software through our company: National ADAM Computer Council (NACC), Ticonderoga Computer Systems Inc, Admiralty Microsystems, Vanguard Ltd., and of course D.L. Decker Enterprises. Currently, as you can see in the cover letter of our new 1989 ADAM Family Computer System Overstock Clearance Catalog, we have identified several user groups and dealers in the U.S. and Canada (which we have left nameless to protect us from a slander lawsuit). What I wish to ask is that you not publicize any ADAM users group or company engaged in software piracy of third-party ADAM goods [Author's note: I would never knowingly publicize any organization engaged in software piracy, period.]. In addition, I have located two ADAM software firms in Texas which are currently pirating and selling CQA software and other ADAM third-party titles, as well as firms in Illinois, Massachusetts, and Virginia. User groups in Ontario, British Columbia, Florida, Missouri, and California are currently passing out CQA, Digital Express, David White Co., and a host of other ADAM titles at meetings as "discontinued" public domain or "user group copies". If

ADAM library.

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"...Computer Quorum of America was formed from my first computer firm, D.L. Decker Enterprises. The reason for the name change is that we have now expanded into the IBM XT/AT,

National ADAM Computer Council (NACC), Ticonderoga Computer Systems Inc, Admiralty Microsystems, Vanguard Ltd., and of course D.L. Decker Enterprises. Currently, as you can see in the cover letter of our new 1989 ADAM Family Computer System Overstock Clearance Catalog, we have identified several user groups and dealers in the U.S. and Canada (which we have left nameless to protect us from a slander lawsuit). What I wish to ask is that you not publicize any ADAM users group or company engaged in software piracy of third-party ADAM goods [Author's note: I would never knowingly publicize any organization engaged in software piracy, period.]. In addition, I have located two ADAM software firms in Texas which are currently pirating and selling CQA software and other ADAM third-party titles, as well as firms in Illinois, Massachusetts, and Virginia. User groups in Ontario, British Columbia, Florida, Missouri, and California are currently passing out CQA, Digital Express, David White Co., and a host of other ADAM titles at meetings as "discontinued" public domain or "user group copies". If this piracy does not stop, ADAM third-party development will be destroyed. Look at Digital Express, for instance. Third-party piracy nearly killed Swift's business. If this petty software habit ADAM owners have keeps up, ADAM will be a dead computer by mid-1990, as all

ADAM ADAM ADAM ADAM ADA!

software development for ADAM will be halted.

"However, there is an alternative—software copy protection. Although, this is only a temporary remedy, as all computer users know eventually copy protection is broken. Hence, my firm adopted two methods of fighting piracy: 1) Lower all commercial software under \$9.95 so it is affordable and people will patronize legitimate firms only; 2) Educate ADAM owners about the destruction of the ADAM community because of piracy eroding sup-

port.

"I need your help in point 2 above. Please help educate ADAM owners about the dangers of third-party piracy. First of all, piracy hinders producers from developing new titles due to lack of sales. Secondly, it causes demand for a product to fall by 40%-60% as the software is distributed through nationwide "pirate ship" bulletin boards and underground "pirate cave" networks, causing products to

(continued on page 708)

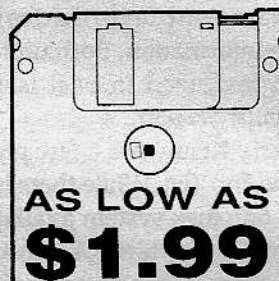
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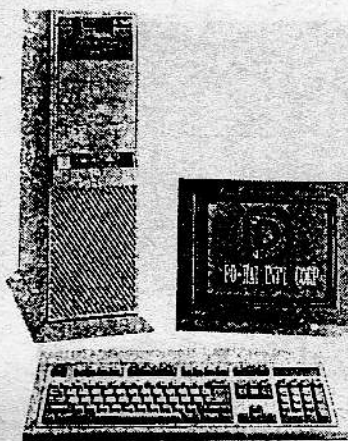
(continued from page 695)

be discontinued and firms to go out of business. Thirdly, and worst of all, it gives the computer community a stigma about software; namely that the 'X' computers market is basically nonexistent due to software piracy. If you think I am coming up with these numbers out of thin air, you're wrong. They can be verified in such common journals as *PC Magazine* and via computer departments at such universities as Penn State and the University of Virginia. Please help me and other ADAM dealers to save the ADAM computer from a 'garbage can' fate due to lack of software and service support.

"...Since we deal with several IBM computer firms, we are in an excellent position to negotiate on the release of new software products for the ADAM computer. In fact, [we offer] the first IBM program ever converted to the ADAM—Label Maker Delux. If you and other

ADAM owners would like to see more IBM and other computer (Atari ST, Amiga) software converted to ADAM software, they must write me (no phone calls) at P.O. Box 175, Spring Mills, PA, 16875, stating that they would be interested in purchasing IBM/Amiga/ST software converted to the ADAM. The retail of this new software (of which 15 titles have been completed and I am awaiting response which will determine whether I release it to the ADAM market) will retail within the \$29.95 to \$99.95 price range and will retail on the mail order street at no more than \$7.95 to \$19.95 per title! So, please spread the word—the release of new software from other computers transported to the ADAM depends on the ADAM community's response....

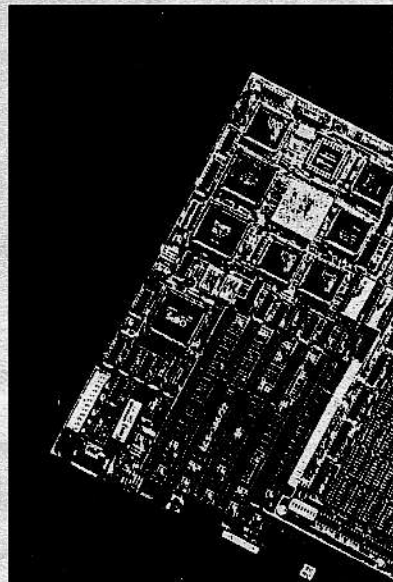
"...Unfortunately, if my firm, which has overseen production and distribution of over 125 software products for the ADAM, doesn't soon see more ADAM owner sup-



386/25 MHz

- * 80386-25 CPU
- * SI = 31
- * 1 MB RAM
(Expand to 16 MB)
- * FDD/HDD Controller
(1 to 1 Interleaf)
- * 1.2 MB floppy
- * Enhanced Keyboard

ECS-



DAM ADAM ADAM ADAM ADAM

port, we, like Coleco, will abandon the machine and cancel our negotiations with all IBM/Amiga/ST software firms in release of related computer products for the poor old ADAM. However, we will continue to protect our software legally via the copyrights we have registered, both in court and out...."

Software piracy has been a problem in the ADAM community since the initial "feeding frenzy," triggered when Coleco dropped its support. Even third-party hardware designs were copied and sold as original efforts. The time has come for ADAM users to realize we have top-quality support available, support much better than Coleco offered. Most ADAM software sold today offers high quality at a low price, so what is gained by software piracy? Nothing! The next time someone offers you pirated software, just say no and help take a "byte" out of crime (apologies to the U.S. Government). The computer you save

may be your own.

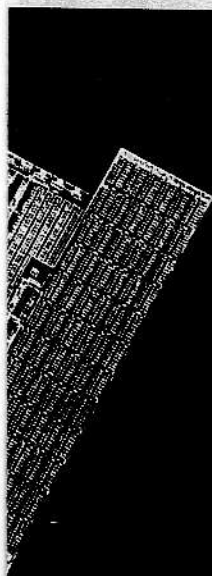
Keep In Touch

Looking for an easy way to increase your ADAM user group membership? If I don't subscribe to your group's newsletter, send me a copy and I'll send you a check for a year's subscription. And remember, the authors of the two most interesting letters I receive each month will be sent a free game cartridge.

I am always happy to hear from fellow ADAM users. Contact me in care of the Triangle ADAM User, 2623-A Yanceyville St., Greensboro, NC 27405-4407, or phone (919) 375-6159. Due to the volume of mail I receive, you must enclose an SASE if you expect a reply (no exceptions). If you leave a message on the answering machine asking me to return your call, be forewarned I will call collect. I may also be contacted via EMAIL on American People Link (PAPPASPM), Compuserve (72277.3223), or in care of Computer Shopper.

386/32

\$619



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- Utilizes page interleave technology.
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