NOTE: If you have some information about the ADAM that you would like to pass on to other members, please write. We will welcome your contributions to ADAM'S ALIVE, any information such as: articals, programs, reviews, comments, hints, complaints, etc. With your help, we can help other ADAM owners to get full use from their computer.

Please, unless you are the author, do not send any listings of copyrighted software. Except for programs with a signed release, all program listings printed in each issue must be public domain.

PROGRAMMERS/HACKERS: If you have a program or utility that you think is good enough to have published, please send us a review copy. We will market all software that we feel is good enough for publication. ColecoVision, ADAM, SmartBASIC, SmartWRITER, and all other COLECO products are registered trademarks of COLECO INDUSTRIES, INC. CP/M 2.2 is a registered trademark of DIGITAL RESEARCH, INC.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

Just when I thought I was going to get caught up with the newsletter, my regular job hours were increased dramatically and my wife had to spend two weeks in the hospital.

For the above reasons, the June and July issues were not published. Maybe someday I can get caught up.

I wish to thank those members that sent in letters and articles for the newsletter. Your help is greatly appreciated.

ADAM NEWS:

● The very first ADAM Convention (ADAMCON-01) is scheduled for October the 7th - 11th in Orlando Florida. We will be there, and we'll be giving away one of our MegaRAM cards as a door prize.

We are sorry that we were unable to publish this important information until now. If you would like to attend the convention, we suggest you book your flight and make your hotel

reservations as soon as possible. Look for complete details on this exciting event elsewhere in this issue.

● We recently found a supplier that has 256K memory sips (that are used in our MegaRAM expander card) at a much lower cost. The member price for one 256K memory sip is now only $55.00 .

● Due to the lower cost in 256K memory sips, the member cost for a MegaRAM card (with 256K installed) is now only $135.00.

● We are currently offering a $25 rebate for your 64K expander when you purchase our new MegaRAM card. Upon receipt of your 64K card (it must be in good condition), we'll send you a $25 refund, or give you $25 in credit. The choice is yours.

● Sol Swift (Digital Express) has went into business with Tony Patterson (Temple of the Snow Dragon) and formed a new software company called "The Softworks Factory". All current and future software tiles will be released through this newly formed company. Now that Sol and Tony have joined forces, we can expect exciting new products in the very near future.

● We recently received a demo copy of Go-DOS/Go-BASIC from the Softworks Factory (Go-BASIC is now included with Go-DOS). This demo version had Go-DOS locked out, but the package contains several excellent demos of Go-BASIC programs. I must say that if this is any indication of how the final package will work, we are in for a real treat. The final released version should be available in a few weeks. Stay tuned for details.

● Walters Software has just released their new program called 'The Label Works'. As with their program 'Formatter II' and 'The Print Works', 'The Label Works' uses a new operating system, SmartKEY Labels, File Folder (just like Coleco Software), and is super fast. Look for a complete review of this excellent program in this issue. It's a MUST HAVE for dot matrix printer owners.

● Walters Software is working on a cartridge that will contain SmartDSK I, II, III, AUTO-BACKUP, PR-BOOT and a complete set of machine language utilities. The cartridge can remain in the cartridge slot and when ever you wish to access the programs, you simple pull the cartridge <RESET> and a MENU displays a list of all the available programs and utilities. I can't hardly wait for this one. Jim Walters is hoping to have a working demo to display at the Orlando ADAM convention this October.

● Walters Software should be releasing their new ADAM game called 'THE VASE OF TURR' within a month or so. Written in 100% super fast machine code, this game will contain great graphics and addictive game play. Retail price will be $29.95. Look for a review as soon as it is released.

● If you are using a ONE MEG MegaRAM card, it has recently come to our attention that RAM BOOT (from Walters Software) will work with all the available memory, but will only display 64K card on the screen. Walters is aware of the problem and will send all registered owners a free up-date upon request. Except for the display of the ONE MEG board, the program will be the same.

● McGrath Software has just released a new Graphic/Adventure game called 'Lord Simon's Castle'. Since this is one of the largest program packages available for the ADAM, the program comes on two data packs (requires two tape drives), four 160K 'flippy' disks, two 320K disks, or one 720K disk. Member price is only $22.95. Look for a review of this excellent Adventure game next issue.

● Wizard's Lair Software has just released their new math skill development package called 'SCHOOL DAZE'. This package is designed to teach the various math skills by using high-resolution graphics, and an entertaining graphic game. This package is one of the finest educational products available for the ADAM it's great for children of all ages. Look for a complete review in this issue.

● We have recently discovered that the SQUEEZE program (offered on our utilities disk with our 720K drives and conversions) WILL NOT work with a multiple directory 720K disk. We have, however, recently received an update from Alan Neely (Adam-Link of Utah). If you have one of our 720K drives or conversions, send us a blank 720K disk and we'll send you the latest revision FREE.

● MMSG is working hard on their new Action/ Adventure game called 'Galactic Bounty Hunter'. Written in super fast 100% machine code, this game is being promoted as one of the most sophisticated games yet available for the ADAM.

We will be offering a data pack or or disk demo for only $3.00. If you like the game, simply return the demo to us and we'll deduct the demo total charge. If, for some strange reason, you do'nt like the game, just return the demo for a $2.00 refund (we keep $1.00 to help cover our shipping costs). We'll notify you when the demo is ready for distribution.

● We recently discovered a problem with the Data Pack version of ADAM BOMB, the game is stored on a right directory tape. The problem occurs in trying to save a game after using the BOMB DESIGNER. Since the game is on a right directory tape, ADAM gets lost when looking for the directory on a center directory tape, and then goes into SmartWRITER. For those of you that have purchased ADAM BOMB on tape, return it to your supplier for a replacement.

● For you MageQuest fans, Reedy Software will shortly be releasing (may be available when you read this) 'MageQuest Construction Set'. This program will allow you to create your own Solo Adventures to be used with the MageQuest game. Look for a review as soon as it is released.

● The response has not been sufficient enough concerning the production of our planned Image Scanner. If produced, the scanner would use fiber optics to scan an image on a newspaper, magazine, picture, etc . (at over 300 dots per inch) and store the image in a PowerPAINT format file. The scanner will work with any EPSON compatible dot matrix printer, will NOT require a memory expander, and will retail for under $100. If you want such a product, we MUST hear from you in writing. The decision for us to produce this product depends on the amount of responses we receive from you the ADAM owners. If we do not hear from enough interested ADAM owners, this type of product will not be produced by us.
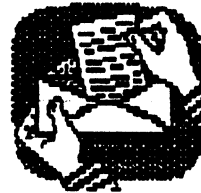
IN THIS ISSUE

In this issue we have reviews of The Label Works, Formatter II, School Daze, and the Panasonic 1180 dot matrix printer.

MEMBERS LETTERS:

Dear Adam's Alive:

I am setting up some book keeping and accounting spreadsheets on AdamCalc, and have run into a few questions. I originally learned how to use spreadsheets on Lotus Symphony, and it had a few features that I feel AdamCalc probably has. After reading through the tutorial, I could not find these features explained and I could not figure them out. The first feature is absolute copy {or that is what it is called on Symphony}. The Adam seems to be permanetly in this mode. Basically this is when you copy a formula from one cell to the next, and it copies the exact same formula. I do'nt want this mode. I would rather have the numbers change according to their position {i.e. If I copy the formula in cell 5,1 sum ([1,1:4,4]) to cell 5,2 the formula would change to sum ([1,2:4,2]) without any manual work}.

The second feature is that the backslash key is called the copy key in Symphony. Basically, this key just copies in one cell whatever you put past the backslash. {i.e. "\-" would cause a line to go across the whole cell} I was hoping that AdamCalc had this feature also.

I would appreciate it if you could find out for me what the commands are? If I totally overlooked it in the manual, let me know. I searched for hours for these two commands.

Thank you for your time.

sincerely,

Paul Gulon

EDITOR'S NOTE: If any of you AdamCalc uses can help Paul with his questions, please contact him via this newsletter.

Dear Adam's Alive:

I own an Adam computer and I need a program(s) that will help me to keep records on customers, etc.

My Adam is now equipped with two data packs. No disks.

I have approximately 2000 accounts, not all active. I sell them a particular product. Every product is somewhat different and therefore have different descriptions including a number that I assign to each product.

When I make the sale, I earn a commission, which I receive in installments, as the customer makes payments (for a period of approximately four years). When the sale is first made, I receive a down payment. Then I receive a payment from the customer each month, until my entire commission is paid in total in about four years.

Therefore, I need a program for my Adam that will enable me to set up an account for each customer, including their name, address, telephone number, account number, product number, price of the product, description of their unique product, and, my commission amount.

1. The program should include the ability to post the amount of the payment each month, (some times its not the same each month for a variety of individual reasons), their check number, the date of the payment, and, when the amount of their payment is posted the program should be able to deduct that amount from the sum that

they still owe me (which is my commission), and automatically record the balance of my commission still due.

2. The program should include the ability to post each account randomly (by account number) if possible.

3. The program should include the ability to add new accounts as they occur, by account number assigned or by customer name.

4. It would be helpful if the program could also give me a total of payments I received from all of my customers for each month.

5. It would be helpful if the program could help me find an account number if I do'nt have the name or the name if I do'nt have an account number.

6. It would be helpful if the program permitted me to deduct a payment from the account if I find that the check sent me later bounced, and of course then the account balance should reflect this.

7. It would be helpful if the program could print out individual accounts in case I have to send an account card to a customer.

8. It would be helpful if the program could give me a list of clients in alphabetical order, in spite of the fact that the accounts are going to be posted by account number.

I am not a computer specialist or trained, therefore when you write me to tell me what I need and how it should work, I would appreciate if you used simple (user friendly) ENGLISH.

Sincerely,

Paul Kahn

EDITOR'S RESPONSE: The above sounds like a great program. Any Adam's Alive members interested in writing such a program?

When the final version of Go-DOS/Go-BASIC is released, and enough ADAM owners would like this type of business software, then we will work on similar application programs.

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

We bought our ADAM four years ago this month, and it has been in constant use since. One of the reasons we continue to use it is the constant flow of new hardware and software from developers and dealers. You, Soloman Swift, Lyle Marchand, Darrell Sage, John Lingrel, Terry Fowler, Mr. Walters, and others, through programs, hardware, and newsletters have really kept the ADAM a truly useful machine. The most amazing progress seems to have taken place in the last year! There is so much available that I have'nt had time to keep up with all the developments. We already have a second tape drive, two standard disk drives, a dot matrix printer, an 80-column card, 512K memory expansion, and an external 1200 baud modem. Now it is time to upgrade permanent storage to a 720K drive (See the enclosed order).

I am pleased to see continued development - particularly in plans for a hard disk interface and an OCR. I plan to buy both. I am also waiting for Orphanware's speech synthesizer to become available.

I am also pleased by the cooperation between the various purveyors of ADAM software, hardware, and information. Each newsletter publisher has been extremely fair in evaluating software, even when it is in direct competition with his own product. In addition, you all seem to sell each other's products without favoritism. I am hopeful that this spirit, which certainly benefits all ADAM users, will continue for a long time.

Sincerely yours,

Timothy M. Ferdinand

EDITOR'S RESPONSE: The preceding letter was sent to us last November, but we misfiled it.

Thanks Tim for the nice comments. All of us ADAM retailers and programmers are trying our best to work together to keep our favorite computer alive for years to come. If the ADAM owners will support us, we will succeed.

FROM THE SMARTWRITER'S HANDBOOK,

A PD Disk from Eric Danz's AdamZap Co. and ADAMZONE Publishing Co.

COLECO "Says"

"ADAM has a wonderful way with words!"

Coleco manufactured the ADAM for its compatibilites to the ColecoVision Game Unit. It marketed it for the Super Game Innovations. And most of all, its "everything in one package" design. Coleco wanted to have a computer on the market that no one else had. They accomplished just that, but one major flaw.

Coleco had bad management. It would rush its programmers and advertise it to soon and in the end came out with a computer that was a sloppy put-together. After many revisions and call backs, the reputation was ruined and the only owners would probably sell their ADAM, out of frustration, in the used computer market a few months later. But what actually happened was a computer that was unique and started to obtain a great following.

Rumors of 500,000 plus being sold in the first year and many third party companies wanting to program for it were true, Coleco just did'nt't provide technical data for the third party companies and they were eventually frustrated just as much as the consumer and halted any ideas of programming for the ADAM.

With many returns at the stores and malfunctioning units needing revisions, Coleco decided to withdraw from the computer market by halting the ADAM and ColecoVision production. Coleco did continue support and software manufacturing, but that only lasted a short time. Supplies ran out quickly and owners were faced with a small third party vendor list.

In the short time that Coleco did have with the computer market (including the video game market) they accomplished quite a bit. Here is a list of hardware produced in the short time from December of 1982 through January of 1986.

ColecoVision Game Unit, Super Action Controllers, Roller Controller Attachment, Expansion Module #1 (Atari 2600 converter), Expansion Module #2 (Steering wheel joystick), Expansion Module #3 (ADAM expansion system), ADAM Computer System, High Speed Digital Data Drive Replacement, ADAMLink 300 Baud Modem, 64K Memory Expander, Autodialer, 5 1/4 inch Disk Drive, Blank Digital Data Packs, Replacement Printer Ribbons, Replacement Daisy Wheels, Monitor Cable.

With the above list came many revisions. The ColecoVision went under three revisions. The ADAM printer went under two revisions. The memory console went under four revisions and the digital data drives went under two revisions. Coleco did a good job of replacing older versions with newer ones. Coleco also changed their format many times. First the data packs had right directories but then changed to middle directories. Second the printer had a loud striker head and then a quieter one.

In conclusion the revisions were needed but didn't help the ADAM to much; it was still doomed and was halted. If you figure that a company like Coleco worked so hard to put together such a machine and then rushed its production so much that the product became faulty is such a shame.

The ADAM could of had a brighter future if the owner would of been a littler brighter in itself. We are all owners of an orphan.

"COMMAND THE POWERS OF ADAM and program your future!"

ADAM The ColecoVision Family COmputer System - Coleco Ind.

••• All quotes are from the Coleco advertisement brochure.

HANGER TRICK
By Eric Danz

What can you do if you don't want to spend money for an ADAM compatible tractor feed for your SmartWRITER printer?

The answer is very simple. First go into your ordinary household closet and obtain an empty coat hanger. Please make sure it is empty or the person who's belonging is attached to it will be very angry when he or she finds out you stole a piece of his or her clothing.

Second you have to obtain a pair of pliers and a wire cutter. Sometimes the wire cutters and pliers are on the same tool.

Third you have make sure your coat hanger is a complete metal coat hanger, not the ones with cardboard bases.

Now you can begin to construct your ordinary and very economical tractor feed for your ADAM SmartWRITER printer. Follow the instructions below carefully or you will wind up with a bunch of useless metal and you'll have to try again. Thank God coat hangers are cheap!

1. Unwind your metal coat hanger at the hook.

2. Straighten your coat hanger out as much a possible so as to get a long piece of straight metal wire.

3. Take a ruler and measure one inch at any end of the hanger.

4. Take the pliers and bend at the mark of one inch. You should now have a long piece of metal with a little "L" shape at the end.

5. Take the ruler again and measure from the bent part (not including the one inch "L" shape) a whole 9 1/2 inches and bend at that mark. You should now have a one inch bend and a 9 1/2 inch bend with a long extra piece left over.

6.On the piece left over measure another one inch. At the one inch mark, cut with the wire cutters the long piece left over. You should now have a metal piece 9 1/2 inches long with a one inch "L" bend on either side. This is your tractor feed.

Take your new piece of hardware and place it in the holes located on the dark grey section o your printer. Make sure to leave at least a half an inch room between the plastic and the metal. This is where the paper slides through before it enters the roller part of the printer. Keep the

paper release engaged so as to get friction. Your paper should slide under the hanger into the roller and out the top for a continuous flow of form feed paper, accomplishing the same task as the Tractor Feed commercial product..

RANDOM (?) NUMBERS

Whenever you use the RND (random number) function in SmartBasic it gives you the same values each time. If you use RND(O) you will get the same value each time you use RND(0). If you use RND(I) you will get a different number than RND(0) but it will be the same each time you use RND(I). RND(-I) gives the same value as RND(I). This is all due to the "pseudo" random numbers that was built into SmartBasic.

There have been various schemes to avoid or work around this problem. I have made a collection of many of these and will share them with you. Some are better methods than others. Some depend upon the program usage you wish to make of the RND function. There are MANY other methods and this article is not meant to cover all of them or even the best of them. It covers those that I have encountered in various places. Some of which I understand and will try to explain as this may give some help with understanding other basic commands and programming and some which I have no idea how or why they work. As usual your comments are invited and I am sure that as usual no one will bother to write in.

The line numbers shown are for demonstration only and you would renumber depending upon where in your program you inserted these lines.

As usual my comments are in italics and not meant to be part of the actual program lines. Only use the actual lines in the programs.

1000 REM *Random number routine. REM only means remark and whatever follows it has no effect on the running of the program.*

1010 POKE 64885, 0. *Sets value of 64885 which contains last key pressed to 0.*

1020 PRINT "PUSH A KEY, PLEASE"

Prints Message on screen, push a key.

1030 IF PEEK(64885) = 0 THEN r = r - I: GOTO 1030

IF a key has been pushed the value of 64885 which apparently contains the value for the last key pushed, will be something other than zero. However, if no key has been pushed, the value will remain zero and then the "THEN" statement lowers the value of r by I and has you go through line 1030 again. Each time it recycles it changes the value of r. When you finally push a key and the peek is no longer zero, then whatever value r had, which was based on how many times the line recycled which was based on how long it took you to push a key, then the r value is taken to the next line to generate the random number. Since the r value will vary from time time, the rnd in the next line which is based on the r value will also vary.

1040 seed = RND(r) *The r value from line 1030 which varied based on time it took you to press a key is carried into line 1040 where it is used to set the random number function which now will produce different series of random numbers for different values of r.*

1050 HOME *Clears the screen*

1060 RETURN Sends program back from the random number sub-routine to your main program.

Here's another RND routine, this one works with machine language apparently and I cannot give you an explanation.

10 LOMEM : 28000

Needed early in your program to set the low memory limit at 28000.

4000 DATA 229,42,64,63,35,34,64,63,225,221

4010 For x = 172 to 181: READ ml: POKE X, ml: NEXT 4020 POKE 171, 0: POke 11907, 201

5000 DATA 19,26,183,200,254,32,40,248,183,201

5010 FOR x = 6346 to 6355: READ ml: POKE x, ml:NEXT

5020 DATA 0,205,203,24

5030 FOR X = 15815 to 15818: READ m: POKE x,m: NEXT 5040 POKE 335,188

Here is a short routine which generates a random number in one line and uses that random number to generate another random number in the next line. The combination of the two is supposed to give you a different random number each time.

5 num% = INT (RND(-num%*-10))+1 10 num% = INT (RND(num%)*5)+1

The INT or integer command eliminates decimals & fractions giving you a whole number. The RND(num%)*5 gives you a random number between 0 & 4. The +1 at the end adds one to the random number between 0 & 4 giving you a random number between 1 & 5. By varying the *5 &/or the +1 , you could obtain other ranges of random numbers from this routine.

WILL CONTINUE THIS RANDOM NUMBER SERIES FROM TIME TO TIME BUT WILL NOT REPEAT THE OPENING COMMENTS EACH TIME.

OPERATION HARD DRIVE
PART ONE
by R. H. Mitchell

Meeting before last, Tony Morehen gave us a demo on the new 22 Megabyte hard drive. Here are some initial impressions, along with my own experience to date in actually placing an order. Two of us, Doug Peterson and myself, will be owners three and four respectively of the hard drive system here in Ottawa. Tony and Guy were the first two.

This drive is fast. It can load the CP/M operating system quicker than you can blink. It can make literally hundreds of files available to you in a matter of ten seconds or less, usually less. You can load directories with several hundred entries and not even come close to running out of space. (Tony is presently debating how many entries to a directory, 1800 or 1200!) You can have all your utilities, assemblers, interpreters, compilers, loaders and programs available at the touch of a key without having to first figure out which disk they're on.

Tony and Guy have put a lot of effort into their supporting software over the last while. They started with CP/M and now have a 40 column version of TDOS resident and available on the hard drive. Recently they've been working on EOS installation, and have the operating system up as well as most of the major programs such as SmartBASIC. I've heard from state side that someone down there has added VideoTunes and some others, so it looks like very soon most if not all of your favorite ADAM 'self-booters' should be installable in the hard drive. What's also significant is that Solomon Swift has ordered himself one, so it probably won't be too long before all the good stuff from Digital Express will be able to access the drive as well.

If you want to get in on this project, you'll have to act fairly fast. At the heart of the Hard Drive system is the disk controller card, now available from John Lingrel in Akron Ohio. Initial reports were that he had ordered only 50, but from the message traffic on the Akron ADAM bulletin board, I see he's now increased that to 80. Last time I looked on there - May 11 - he had 20 orders. The controller card must be ordered from him, and the cost is $150.00 (US). By the time I got the money order bought and paid for, that turned into $182.00 Canadian. So the controller card is step one.

Step 2 is the hard disk unit itself. What you need is a standard IBM ST506 interface of capacity between 20 and 40 Megabytes. Doug and I have placed an order at Peach Microsystems here in Ottawa for a second hand unit each. That will run us, were' told, between $150 and $200 Canadian. The salesman didn't have any in at the time we placed the order, but he said it was something like the tide, you know they're coming in, it's only a question of when. That's a second hand unit. A new one would run between $300 and $400 Canadian, and can also be ordered through Peach for those who's budgets are flush.

And finally, step 3. You need a power supply. I got one at Tony's recommendation from

Komputer Korner for $50 Canadian. They're available cheaper than that apparently, (around $25 or so) but there's no casing with them. The one I got is actually a casing for a disk drive with the power supply installed in the back. Later on, as funds permit, I might install a double sided disk drive in there - that's what it's for; but meantime I at least have a power supply that's enclosed in a proper case and whose guts won't be spilling out all over my computer table.

Ok, so that's what you need. I expect that as the installation actually proceeds, I'll also be needing a suitable array of connectors, ribbon cables and other bits and pieces. Tony estimates that the whole system should run me between $400 and $500 by the time it's done. So far I've spent $182 + $50, and let's say $200 for the drive itself when it arrives. So that's $432 so far.

The installation is not, repeat not, something you should attempt yourself unless you're a skilled electronics professional or an experienced hobbyist. I've been told that the controller card installation is somewhat easier on the stand alone ADAM than it is for the Expansion Module III, which is what I have. In my case, I'm told, the controller card has to be installed between the ADAM expansion module and the ColecoVision game unit, thus requiring some 'surgery' on the outside casing of both units. The connections into the existing ADAM system are such that some tricky soldering is necessary. I will be describing the detail cut by joint in later installments. Meantime, suffice it to say that we of AUFG are indeed lucky to have a couple of real pioneers of the ADAM world right here in town to help us with the installation. If it wasn't for Tony and Guy, this whole project would be a semi-reality happening in a city somewhere else. . . probably Akron Ohio. (Sorry John!)

So if you're interested in the Hard Drive, you've got a couple of real-live guinea pigs to watch. We'll keep you posted as my faithful and mild mannered computer, embarks on this perilous, risk-laden and uncharted course where only a few have dared to venture - hopefully to emerge as . . . Super ADAM!!.

EDITORS NOTE: The preceding article was re-printed from the May/June issue of "The Adam User-Friendly Group" newsletter from Orleans Ontario Canada.

USING WALTERS UTILITIES
with MegaRAM
by Ed Jenkins

It appears that many ADAM owners are confused about just how to use the different types of Ram Disk utilities that Walters Software has available.

What is a Ram Disk? This is an area of memory (Random Access Memory) that is used as a high speed storage device (like your tape or disk drives). In order to have a Ram Disk, you MUST have some type of memory expander and a software program that uses it as a Ram Disk.

For those of you that are unfamiliure with Walters Software's products, the following utilities are available from this fine company:

SmartDSK I (allows the use of ADAM's Smartwriter wordprocesser with a Ram Disk)

SmartDSK II (uses Tape Drive #2 for the Ram Disk)

SmartDSK III (allows the use of SmartBASIC 1.0 or SmartBASIC 2.0 with a Ram Disk and supplies a complete set of utilities)

AUTO-BACKUP (works with SmartDSK I, II, and III. It copies your favorite programs/files to/from the Ram Disk - automatically)

Pr-BOOT (allows the user to auto-boot: SmartFILER, SmartWRITER - with/without dot matrix support, AdamLINK, AdamCALC, SmartLOGO, SmartBASIC 1.0, and SmartBASIC 2.0). The program also allows the user to 'BOOT' these programs directly from the Ram Disk.

RAM-BOOT (automatically copies SmartBASIC 1.0, SmartBASIC 2.0, and AdamCALC directly onto your expander - 256K or larger required for all the programs). Allows the user to almost instantly switch between the above various programs as well as SmartWRITER.

To work with your memory expander, PR-BOOT and AUTO-BACKUP require you to also have SmartDSK I, II, or III. If you use only SmartDSK I, then you can ONLY access the files on your Ram Disk with SmartWRITER. To explain how each utility package works, the following is a brief explanation:

SmartDSK I works with your expander and SmartWRITER. You can store/retrieve your programs/files using SmartWRITER (Adam's built-in word processing program).

SmartDSK II uses Tape Drive #2 as the Ram Disk (even if you do'nt have a second tape drive). The purpose of this program is to allow older ADAM programs, such as SmartFILER, AdamCALC, and various BASIC programs that were not designed to access device #7 (a Ram Disk). This program fools ADAM into thinking that the Ram Disk is tape drive #2 so that any standard program should work with the Ram Disk.

SmartDSK III uses 'd7' as the Ram Drive designation and also supplies a complete set of utilities in both SmartBASIC 1.0 and SmartBASIC 2.0 formats. This package is my favorite.

AUTO-BACKUP works with either SmartDSK version. The program automatically copies files to/from the Ram Disk VERY QUICKLY. This program is excellent for setting up your Ram Disk.

PR-BOOT allows the user to auto-boot various programs from Tape, Disk, or Ram Disk. When using a Ram Disk, you can 'boot' directly from the expander - thus the expander acts just like a Hard Drive.

RAM-BOOT works like AUTO-BACKUP AND PR-BOOT. Programs are automatically copied directly to the Ram Disk and then can be 'booted'. An added feature is the ability to almost instantly switch between the various programs by simply pressing <CONTROL> and the <DELETE>E key. The program does not have a utility for re-copING your programs back to your Tape or Disk. To fully use this package, a 256K or larger expander is recommended. To automatically load the programs and your favorite files, a 320K or 720K Disk Drive is suggested (you can, however, fit a lot of programs/files onto a Data Pack).

All of the Walters utilities allow the user to re-set the system (pull the computer re-set switch without damaging any of the files/programs on the Ram Disk). These gives you the ability to use the Ram Disk, 'boot' a game such as Buck Rogers, and then re-activate the Ram Disk and use the stored programs/files again.

Since none of these utilities double-boot (load themselves and then another application program), Walters has a double-boot media available for all registered owners of SmartDSK III. Available for only $5.00, this special media allows you to put AUTO-LOAD/AUTO-SAVE (from AUTO-BACKUP) or SmartBASIC 1.0, or SmartBASIC 2.0 onto the same media.

With this special double-boot media, you can customize it just about any way you want. T give you an example, I have one set up with SmartBASIC 1.0 and the BASIC 1.0 utilities from the SmartDSK III package. And, I have another set up with SmartBASIC 2.0 and the utilities that work with BASIC 2.0. To use either of these two versions, I simply insert the media and pull the computer <RESET>, activate my full expander by pressing SmartKEY #1, SmartBASIC loads and then loads the HELLO program giving me access to all the available programs.

Without the double-boot media I would have to 'boot' SmartDSK, insert a copy of Basic (with all the utilities copied onto it) and press <RETURN>. As you can see, the double-boot media saves me from an extra tape/disk swap.

The double-boot media comes with SmartDSK (from SmartDSK III), a double-boot block (block #20) and SmartBASIC 1.0. Before using this double-boot media, the first thing you do is make a backup copy, do'nt use the original.

To use SmartBASIC 1.0 programs (such as those found on the SmartDSK III media), simply copy them to the backup double-boot disk. To activate your expander and then use the

programs, just insert and pull <RESET>, choose either SmartKEY I (full expander) or SmartKEY II (reserve first 64K). The version of BASIC will then 'boot' and then 'boot' your HELLO program if you have on on the media.The first thing you should do is make two or three copies of the double-boot disk, use MODIFIER to delete the BASICPGM program and then use PURGE to clear the directory. Be sure to do this only on the copies that you wish to use with something other than SmartBASIC 1.0.

To use SmartBASIC 2.0, do the following to one of the above copies: Use MANAGER to copy the BASICPGM (from SmartBASIC 2.0), use TOOLKIT and copy block #0 (from BASIC 2.0) onto block #20, use MANAGER to copy your favorite BASIC 2.0 programs onto the media. MODIFIER, MANAGER, PURGE & TOOLKIT are on the SmartDSK III media. Now you can load the program just like the SmartBASIC 1.0 version.

To further illustrate how we used the various combinations, we created the following disks:

1) On disk #1 we copied block #0 from AUTO-LOAD (on the AUTO-BACKUP media) onto block #20 of our special disk (after deleting BASIC and PURGing the directory). This procedure gave us a disk that has SmartDSK and AUTO-LOAD on it. We then used MANAGER to copy SmartBASIC 2.0 and all the programs and data files we use for our ADAM'S ALIVE members. We then used MODIFIER to RENAME the BASICPGM to BASICPGM2. This was done so that we can 'boot' SmartBASIC 2.0 directly from the expander by using PR-BOOT. This procedure is fully explained in the PR-BOOT manual.

Since 'The Print Works' and the new 'The Label Works' both access the expander as a Ram Disk, you could set up a special version as above. Instead of coping SmartBASIC 2.0 and the various programs, you could copy all of your favorite clip arts instead. In this way, your expander could be set up and all the clips automatically copied to it. You could then 'boot' The Print Works or The Label Works and

access the clips directly from the expander card.

2) On disk #2 we copied block #0 from AUTO-SAVE (on the AUTO-BACKUP media) onto block #20 of our second special disk. This gave us SmartDSK and AUTO-SAVE on the same media.

For those of you that are registered owners of SmartDSK III and PR-BOOT, Walters has a special double-boot media with both SmartDSK and PR-BOOT on it. Send them $5.00 and request this special disk. Since PR-BOOT requires a special disk, you cannot make your own doubl-boot disk by following the above explained procedures.

This is how we would use the above three mentioned disks:

1) We insert disk #1 and pull <RESET>, we press SmartKEY I for the full expander, and at the AUTO-LOAD screen we press <RETURN>. This process activates our expander card, and then automatically loads all the programs/files onto our expander.

2) To 'Boot' from the expander, we insert and special SmartDSK/PR-BOOT media and pull <RESET>, we press SmartKEY I to re-activate the expander (all our programs/files are still unchanged on the expander), at the PR-BOOT screen we press SmartKEY I (for SmartDSK), and then press the appropriate SmartKEY to load SmartBASIC 2.0 from the expander. Basic loads, and then runs the HELLO program. We can now access all of our programs directly from the MegaRAM card.

If we changed anything on our expander (added or changed records on our data files) we then use disk #3 to re-copy the contents back onto disk. This is accomplished in the following manner: We insert disk #2 and pull <RESET>, we again press SmartKEY I to re-activate the expander, at the AUTO-SAVE screen we insert disk #1 and press <RETURN>, all the contents of the expander card is now copied automatically back onto disk #1.

As you can see, the two special double-boot tapes/disks give you the ability turn your expander card into something like a Hard Drive.

If you have any further questions concerning these procedures, drop us a line and we'll try and answer them in the members letters section.

COPY PROTECTION?
A PROGRAMMERS PERSPECTIVE
by Ed Jenkins

In the last issue, Mr. Joe Friendy expressed his opinion concerning copy protection. He stated that he would not purchase any ADAM software that is copy protected.

As an ADAM user and programmer, I am fully aware of the problems that come with copy protection. I realize that it is a pain to have to order a backup copy of a program instead of being able to copy it myself. But, I also realize that piracy among ADAM owners is just tremendous.

I have written two software packages for the ADAM (Softpack 1 and Business Pack 1). The sales of these two packages never even came close to my expectations. Because of the size of the ADAM market I expected sales to reach nearly three times what they actually are.

During the four years since I released these two packages, I have encountered many ADAM owners that had illegal copies. They either received these copies from friends, or they received them from retailers that were pirating them. All in all, I estimate that I have lost close to $3,000 due to piracy.

If the ADAM market was as large as with the IBM, then piracy would not be much of a problem. But with the size of the market as small as it is with the ADAM, piracy becomes a real threat.

As a programmer, I do not wish to spend hundreds of hours writing a program only to find out that three out of five being used are illegal copies. I am simply not interested in writing a commercial program without a modest profit.

Many ADAM owners are simply not aware of just how bad a problem piracy in the ADAM market really is. I have heard reports of users groups passing out pirated copies of ADAM software in their meetings. I have also encountered two ADAM retailers that were selling pirated copies of various types of commercial software (including our Softpack 1 and Business Pack 1 programs).

I own an Atari ST (which has a much larger owner base than the ADAM), and I recently heard a report concerning piracy that has me real concerned. A game developer recently released a new commercial game for the ST called 'FALCON'. Six weeks after releasing the game, pirates had broken the copy protection and put the entire game on a BBS. The developer stated that if piracy in the ST market was not curtailed, they would no longer make new programs for this system.

Piracy in the ADAM community is so bad that several developers have decided that copy protection is an absolute must. They have also stated that if sales drop much lower than they already are, they will stop development of ADAM software and go to another computer system.

A developer can spend hundreds of hours developing a commercial software program, and sell only a fraction of what should be sold (considering the size of the active ADAM community. One developer received 50 requests for updates on a particular product, and none of these people we able to give the serial number from their original media.

These same companies have a very good backup policy. Registered owners can receive a backup copy for a very reasonable price.

We as ADAM owners have a choice. We can either welcome (reluctantly) copy protection, and thus have many new exciting software titles to choose from. Or, we can refuse to purchasr copy protected software, and force those companies out of business. The choice is ours.

THE AVERAGE USER'S.....

POINT OF VIEW

BY
JOE FRIENDY

THE FATE OF ADAM

Remember the ADAM scanner that was being developed to attach to a printer. It was reported in NIAD and ADAM ALIVE several months ago. Well E & T Software just announced it has been put on hold.

How about the E&T HARD DISK DRIVE! It was going to be great, wonderful for the ADAM. Then it was put on hold along with the E&T MOUSE.

It seems that the ADAM dealers/developers want to keep ADAM owners on a Merry-Go-Round. Reaching for the brass ring, but never quite able to grab it.

My suggestion is that the developers/dealers build a few of each item. Then distribute them for review. If the item checks out good, they won't be be able to keep up with the orders.

I like my ADAM COMPUTER very much and I am still waiting patiently for a HARD DISK DRIVE, SCANNER AND MOUSE. But how much longer I wait will depend on the developers of ADAM hardware.....

There are other computers in the world that are not so expensive, with these hard ware items and more. With loads of SOFTWARE that can be purchased from your local Computer store. "RIGHT OFF THE SHELVES" (NO MAILORDER, NO WAITING)

I beleive that the ball is in the developers court. How long "ADAM LIVES" is completely and entirely up to them. If you ADAM owners feel as I do. Write or call your Usersgroup/Newsletter and tell them so. If no new products, other than empty promises, are going to be made. Then they should let ADAM die in PEACE.....

Just purchased a PANASONIC 1191i. It is great! And the best part is....It works just fine with PowerPAINT. None of the print codes need any changing. It also prints much faster in SmartWriter and SpeedyWrite 2. MORE LATER

"ADAMCON 01"

LAS PALMAS INN * ORLANDO, FLORIDA * OCTOBER 7 - 11, 1989

Join ADAMITES from all over North America as we gather in Orlando for the first ever ADAM users convention. We will have speakers, demonstrations on the latest software and hardware for the ADAM, a Swap Shop, workshops, and more! Whether you've just learned to turn your ADAM on, you're a part time hacker or an ADAM expert this is the one event you won't want to miss!

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Arrival	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Departure
	Session I	Session IV	Session VI	
	Lunch	Session V	Lunch	
	Session II	Afternoon	Session VII	
Reception	Session III	Free	Awards Dinner	

One of our featured speakers will be Soloman Swift, author of some of the most popular (and most long-awaited) software ever written for the ADAM! Other speakers will be announced as they are confirmed.

PRIZES!   PRIZES!   PRIZES!

Every convention registrant will be eligible to win one or more of many great prizes donated by ADAM suppliers, supporters, and clubs! We will be giving away GoDOS! PowerPAINT! Temple of the Snow Dragon! Hard disk interface! Memory expander! Interface board! Club memberships! Newsletter subscriptions! PD Vols! Many more special prizes to be announced!!!! **GRAND PRIZE** TWO ROUND-TRIP TICKETS ON AMERICAN AIRLINES FROM YOUR HOME TO ANY CITY IN THE CONTINENTAL U S OR CANADA! PLUS: HOTEL! CAR RENTAL! MORE!!

$179.00	$139.00	$39.00
FULL CONVENTION	*SPOUSE/COMPANION*	*CHILDREN*
4 Nites Accom (dbl)	4 Nites Accom (dbl)	4 Nites Accom (w/ parents)
Welcome Reception	Welcome Reception	Full Breakfast (3)
Full Breakfast (3)	Full Breakfast (3)	
Lunch (2)	Awards Dinner	(NOAUG will assist in
Admission to ADAMCON 01		arranging babysitting at a
Awards Dinner		nominal charge if needed.)

AIR: American Airlines is offering a 5% discount off their very lowest fares for people that are flying to ADAMCON 01. All you do is call 1-800-433-7300 and tell the agent the convention star file number is "S0409FS". Also ask that the tickets be mailed by appointed travel agency: NEWS Travel. Every ticket purchased through NEWS will earn a contribution that will help defray the cost of the convention.

ACCOMODATIONS are priced per-person with two people sharing a room. For a third or fourth adult in a room, deduct $70 from the full convention or spouse rate as applicable. Up to two children may share a room with parents. Some rooms have king beds but most have two double beds. You may stay extra nites at the special rate of $59.00 per nite per room if you reserve extra nites in advance.

Upon receipt of your registration form we will forward information about area attractions, ticket prices and special tips to help plan your visit!

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S) /1/_____ /2/_____

CHILDREN/1/_____ AGE_____ /2/_____ AGE_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____

Add $90 for a single room. If you are traveling alone but wish to share a room, check here !__!. We will try to arrange a roommate.

You will arrive Oct _____ and depart Oct _____ for a total of _____ nights.

Car Rental is available for $89.00 for a compact, $109.00 for a mid-size for 5-7 days. Extra days are $19.00 per day. You want a rental car for _____ days. If you would like to share a rental car check here !__!.
SPECIAL ADAM
INTERESTS:_____
You are strongly encouraged to bring your extra ADAM software, hardware, cartridge games, books, or other ADAM items to be sold or traded at the SWAPSHOP session. Check here if you are bringing items for SWAPSHOP !__!

If you have any questions call: DAYSPRING TOURS - 407-695-9199

REVIEWS

PANASONIC
1180 PRINTER
by Terry Fowler

Last month we introduced the Panasonic KK-P1180 Dot Matrix Printer for ADAM. After using the printer extensively, it has been found to be very impressive. This month we'll talk more in detail about its many features.

The FRONT PANEL SWITCHES provide many function changes which we will discuss here in more detail. In addition to the standard LF (line Feed), FF is another switch (function switch) and a Selector Chart with lights displaying your choices. These four switches alone and in combination provide Pica, Courier, Prestige, and Bold PS Fonts, 10 cpi, 12 cpi, 17 cpi and proportional spacing, in paper lengths of 11", 12", 14", or 8.5 inch. Prestige, and Bold PS Fonts, 10 cpi, 12 cpi, 17 cpi and proportional spacing, in paper lengths of 11", 12", 14", or 8.5 inch.

The selections depend upon the lights On in the three column and "three" rows on the Selection Chart. You turn these lights on and off using the FF and LF switches which double as ROW and COLUMN selectors. Once the correct setting is achieved, the On Line switch doubles as a SET switch. The selections may be made after first pressing the FUNCTION switch, followed by the row or column selection. SET the change and press FUNCTION and you're ready to print. Changes can be made anytime the ON LINE Light is turned OFF first.

MICRO LINE FEED in forward or reverse direction is a nice feature to position the paper exactly where you desire. It is accomplished on the front panel by pressing LF or FF switch while pressing the ON LINE switch. The platen

moves about 1/8th line each time. PERFORATION CUT is also nice since it rolls the paper out enough for tearing the perforation while not printing, or while the ON LINE light is off, by pressing ON LINE after the FUNCTION SWITCH. Pressing the function switch again rolls the paper back to the start.

MEM LOAD is the equivalent of "paper Parking". Fan Fold paper may be automatically parked below the platen while allowing friction feed of paper or envelopes. This fantastic feature saves the time of unloading and reloading your fan-fold paper. The process is simple, but the sequence must be exactly accomplished:

1) Press the FUNCTION Switch and pull the PAPER BAIL from the platen. The paper will roll

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"The Panasonic 1180 is the best value dot matrix printer to come along in years."

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back under the platen.

2) Put the paper bail back on the platen, and move the Paper Feed Selector to the Friction position.

3) Insert your material directly behind the platen, and then pull the paper bail from the platen to auto-wrap the material into print position. Replace the paper bail and print.

4) Remove the material once printed, re-setting the paper bail back on the platen.5) Move the selector back to the tractor position and pull the paper bail from the platen to reset the fan fold paper to print position. Most problems with this procedure occur due to incorrect positioning of the paper bail. Make sure it is on the platen before switching the selector between Friction or Tractor positions.

The PANASONIC 1180 is much quieter that the 1080. But, it also provides a QUIET MODE, making it whisper quiet. This is accomplished in the draft mode by making TWO passes very quietly. The SET switch is an alternate action switch which sets and releases the Quiet mode. Another new feature is a LOGIC SEEKING TECHNIQUE which gives the printer a look-

ahead capability that allows it to skip blank spaces at the beginning and the end of a line and blank lines between paragraphs. This really speeds things up in programs like INVOICER. The printer no longer has to travel the length of EACH BLANK LINE, but skips down to the NEXT PRINTED LINE!

The SOFTWARE COMMANDS are available for Standard and IBM modes, but provide many additional commands than previously. One such command is for DOUBLE HIGH PRINTING, or in combination with DOUBLE WIDTH. Also, 20 cpi Compressed Printing gives you a full range of printing options. There is simple selection of NLQ Fonts, providing Courier, Sans Sirf, Prestige, and Bold Proportional Spacing. We have updated FILE PRINTER for the Panasonic 1180 for use of these new features too!

The PANASONIC 1180 is the best value dot matrix printer to come along in years. It is versatile enough to work with the best computers, too. DIP Switches provide selection of 7 or 8 Bit Computers. It has an IBM Mode (Proprinter II) and Standard Mode (FX-86e/FX-800). Even a Cut Sheet Feeder can be installed. These features make the Panasonic 1180 capable of meeting even future applications, while retaining its value in the event of re-sale. How can you loose with an investment which will speed up your work processing while insuring reliability and top quality printing for many years to come. It's the next best step in expanding your ADAM's ability.

THE LABEL WORKS
by Ed Jenkins

The Label Works is the latest release from Walters Software Company. The Label Works is a label designing and printing program designed for home as well as small business use. The program requires an Epson compatible dot matrix printer and a standard Parallel Interface for printing.

The Label Works contains Walters Software's new SmartDSK operating system. This added

feature allows the program to access any size memory expander (up to ONE MEG) if installed. And because the program is compatible with their various Ram Disk utilities, the user could use AUTO-BACKUP to copy Clip art files directly to the Ram Disk and then access them directly from The Label Works.

Since The Label Works contains their new SmartDSK operating system, the program also allows the use of your expander as a Ram Disk with SmartBASIC 1.0 and SmartBASIC 2.0 as well. You do not have to re-boot SmartDSK III to access your expander after using The Label Works, simply insert your favorite BASIC and choose the option to QUIT the program. The program will 'boot' BASIC and access to your memory expander will be available.

When creating labels, four type styles can be used: Elite, Italicized, Expanded, and Compressed. All are double striked to make them near letter quality. Clip art pictures can be included in standard mailing labels and they are also double striked.

Spacing between labels can be in one, two, three, inch and #/72 (1 to 85), of an ich. This feature will allow you to create just about any size label you need.

The Label Works can hold up to 200 labels in memory (with one Clip) and allows the use of as many label files as you wish. This gives you the ability to create literally hundreds of label files.

A special feature allows you to mark labels to be printed, a print all labels feature, and an option that allows you to print a single label from 1 to 99 times. The custom label option lets you set up a label from one to ten lines with up to 40 characters on each line.

As with all of their recent releases (Formatter II and The Print Works), The Label Works is written entirely in Z80 machine codes, uses colored screens, SmartKEY displays, a graphic file folder (just like Coleco Software) and of course the SmartDSK operating system.

When using the various screens, I noticed that the time it took for the program to respond

was almost immediate. Walters has written some super fast routines that have just got to be seen to be believed. Press a function key, and 'BAM' you're at the next screen or the command has been executed.

The program is auto-booting, simply insert and pull the computer <RESET>. Since BASIC is not used, the loading time is very fast, just a few seconds when loading from disk.

As the program loads, a nice graphic representation of a label is shown, and then the main menu is displayed. At the top center of the screen, a graphic widow is displayed. This window is used to display the current Clip art picture when loaded.

Entering labels is very straight forward, simply choose the appropriate SmartKEY, choose the type style for the line, enter all required lines, and then SAVE the label to memory. After all labels are entered, it is advisable to save them to data pack or disk before experimenting with the various print options. This is recommended in case of any power failure causing the loss of your work.

Saving the label file is accomplished in much the same way as when using SmartWRITER. A graphic file folder is displayed, choose a drive, give the file a name, and the file is stored.

Loading a Clip is done in the same fashion. When the function is chosen and a drive is picked, the Clip can be selected by simply using the arrow keys and press SmartKEY V to load it. When loaded, the Clip is displayed in the graphic window.

In this review, I used the program very extensively and could find no apparent bugs.

The program is so easy to use and the manual so well written, that the user should be creating some very impressive labels in a few short minutes.

We have included a few sample labels elsewhere in this issue. These should give you some idea of just what can be done with this fine program.

I have an Atari ST and use a label printing program similar to The Label Works. I must say, however, that The Label Works has features that my ST program does'nt.

There are two features, however, that I would like the program to have. These are: The ability to enter serial numbers and have them increment by one when printing, and a search feature to locate a label more quickly. Maybe Walters will add these in a later revision.

In conclusion, The Label Works is one excellent program. The program is very easy to use, performs very well, and it has features not found on my Atari St. My congratulations to Walters Software for a very fine piece of work.
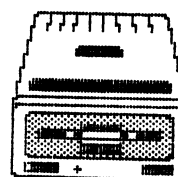
For those of you with a dot matrix printer, The Label Works will make a very fine addition to your software library. You won't be disapointed.
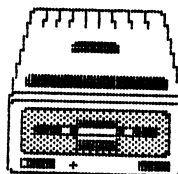
RATING - A+

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Member price for this excellent program is only $24.95.   AVAILABLE NOW!

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Walters Software Co.
Rd# 4 Box 289-A
Titusville, PA 16354
Phone 814-827-3776
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        ADAM
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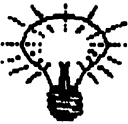
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    Walters
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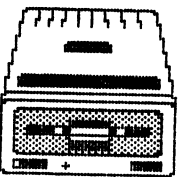
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-      THE         -
-      LABEL       -
-      WORKS       -
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ADAM NEWS: Continued from page 3

● We recently updated our Softpack I package to work with a Ram Disk. The user can now access the files directly from his/her memory expander card. NOTE: SmartDSK III (from Walters Software) is highly recommended as a Ram Disk utility package. Send us $5.00 and your original Softpack I for an update. If you are using SmartDSK II, you will not need the update. SmartDSK II uses tape drive #2 as the Ram Disk even if you only have one tape drive.

● Our new data packs no longer contain a label insert inside the plastic case. I understand that LORAN also no longer supplies a label insert. For those of you that would like label inserts, they are available at most department stores.

Have any ideas for the newsletter? If you have suggestions on what you would like to see covered, drop us a line and let lus know. Several members have asked for a SHOP-SWAP department. If you have ADAM software that you would like to sell or trade, send the information to us. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

REVIEWS CONTINUED:

FORMATTER II
by Jim Notini
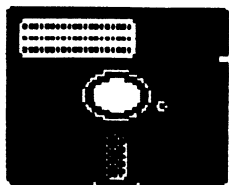
Formatter II is the newest disk formatting program to be released by Walters Software Co.

Yes, another disk formatter, but easily the best one that is on the market to date.

For years, Walters Software has been bringing us some of the best utility programs around and

you can add Formatter II to that list. Formatter II was written to format disks and verify them completely. The user has the option to format one or two disks at the same time (if you have two disk drives), a *read verify format* can be done automatically after the format.

Three verify options are included: read, write or both read and write.

Formatter II is written entirely in Z80 machine code. It is Coleco SmartKEY driven and uses dialog boxes for messages. Screen colors can be one of five different colors, a system status lets you know how many disk drives are on line and the amount of ram contained in your ADAM computer. Formatter II automatically checks the size of your disk drive(s) and formats them correctly. Upon boot, you are presented with a title screen as the program loads into memory. Once loaded, you will be presented with six SmartKEYS at the bottom of the screen with the top portion on the screen used for display information.

Pressing SmartKEY I will display the system status which tells you how many disk drives are on-line and the total amount of memory that the system has.

Pressing SmartKEY II will bring up the disk status menu where you have the choice to init the disk or read disk. If you choose to init disk, then you will have to choose which disk drive, catalog name, number of catalogs (up to 8), and then a caution comes up on the screen warning that all data on the disk will be lost. Choose conrtinue init or previous menu to escape. If you choose to read disk, then the number of the drive will be displayed along with the volume name, # of catalogs and the disk size.

Pressing SmartKEY III from the main menu will take you to the verify disk option. Here you have the option to read, verify, or both.

☞ Read Verify will do this that, read the format on the disk.

☞ Write Verify will write to to the freshly formatted or initialized disk and verify the format.

☞ Walters Software recommends that if you are going to be using the disk for storing data, that you use both verify options.

Pressing SmartKEY IV from the main menu will take you to the format disks options. Here you can chage the default catalog name and size settings, choose to format on more that one drive at the same time. When you choose to format, one or two sprites will be displayed at the top of the screen depicting how many drives are being used, and when the format is complete, you will be notified of the size of the drive.

Pressing SmartKEY V from the main menu will allow you to change the screen colors for cyan to either gray, blue, green, or yellow. SmartKEYS display the colors available with a bar at the top of the screen to show what the colors look like.

Pressing SmartKEY VI will take you to the exit option screen where you can choose an EOS START which will boot whatever is in the disk drive, exit to SmartWRITER or return to Formatter II.

This is the first formatting program which will do a write verify, and for this option I would have to recommend you purchase it.

Also, the whole setup is so professionally done, you would think you're using an IBM software package.

The screen displays are very sharp and moving from one screen to another is executed dramatically faster than any other SmartKEY driven program available for the ADAM to date. One of the best functions in Formatter II is that the size of the drive is automatically calculated when formatting (whether it be 5 1/4 160K, 5 1/4 230K, or 3 1/2 720K).

I am truly amazed at Walters workmanship over the past couple of months, with such releases as SpellingAID, The Print Works, The Label Works, and Formatter II, they have proven to be one of the most prolific developers of software for the ADAM. I just can't wait to see what they come up with next, and just realize how lucky we

NOTE: If you have previously purchased Double-Disk Formatter, another Walters Software disk formatting program, you can send it back to them for any upgrade to Formatter II for $7.50.

RATING - A+

SCHOOL DAZE
by Ed Jenkins

SHOOL DAZE is the latest educational software package by Wizards Lair Software Company. Jim Notini, the president and co-founder, is also the software designer. Jim has really become a top rate programmer with his release of this very high quality software package.

SCHOOL DAZE is a math skills development package, that uses high resolution graphic clip art, sprites, and various fonts. The program is designed to teach the various math skills: adding, subtraction, multiplying, and dividing.

Jim is an excellent artist (he also created Clip Art Volume 1 & 2 for use with PowerPAINT, The Print Works and The Label Works) and SmartBASIC programmer. To create School Daze, Jim used PowerPAINT, Clipper, SpritePOWER, FontPOWER. and some advanced BASIC programming to create an excellent educational package.

The program is auto-loading, simply insert and pull the computer <RESET>. As the program is loading, a copright screen is displayed and then the programs MAIN MENU is shown. The MAIN MENU is an excellent graphic drawing of a school blackboard, with five SmartKEY options written on the board. The following options are available:

[I] MATH DRILLS

[II] MATH CLIMBER

[III] READ INSTRUCT.

[IV] ADAM SUPPORT

[V] RESET ADAM!

SmartKEY I takes you to the MATH DRILLS section. The Math Drills screen is split into three

graphic sections. Section one (on the left) is the players report card. Below a graphic smiling face and frowning face, is displayed the number of right and wrong answers respectively. The center section displays the current math problem, whether it be in addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division. The section on the right displays two playing hints and info on how to exit the program.

Five SmartKEYS are displayed at the bottom of the screen. These are options to choose either of the four math skills, and one to exit the program. Once a skill is chosen, the player chooses the math table he/she wishes to use (from 0 through 12) and then chooses the type of mathematical equation. The player can start the equation from any of the 13 available math tables. Pressing SmartKEY I increases the math table, and pressing SmartKEY decreases it.

As the player answers the various equations, a smiling face is displayed for a correct answer and a frowing face for an incorrect answer. Equations are given from numbers 0 through 12. If the child chooses number one (1) as the number and addition as the math skill, the program will start with the problem 1 X 0 = , on up to the problem 1 X 12 =. After the round is completed, the program increases the first number by a factor of one. The program even allows the child to choose his/her favorite screen color.

Pressing SmartKEY II (from the MAIN MENU) takes the player to the MATH CLIMBER GAME. Math Climber is a game in which the player plays a man trying to climb up a ladder to the top of a castle.

The Main screen is a very detailed high resolution graphic drawing of a castle. The math equation is chosen randomly and is displayed in the window on the left side of the castle. When a correct answer is given, the players man advances one rung up the ladder. For each incorrect answer the player drops down by one rung. After each answer is given, the program displays the scoreboard that shows the high score for the current session of play, the score

for the current game, the number of right and wrong answers, and the percentage correct. It takes 16 correct answers to reach the top of the castle. When the player reaches the top, a final tally is displayed.

Not only does SCHOOL DAZE educate your child in the various types of mathematical skills, but it does so while being entertaining and fun. Of course SCHOOL DAZE is not only for children. The problems given in the higher math tables can challenge even us big kids.

SCHOOL DAZE also contains a rather large listing of all available ADAM retailers, developers and users groups.

Complete instructions can be accessed by pressing SmartKEY III from the MAIN MENU. The instructions fully explain how to use the two programs so the user can start using them almost immediately.

In conclusion, SCHOOL DAZE is an excellent program for teaching children the various math skills. The child will really enjoy learning math with this well done and well thought out package. If you have children, I highly recommend SCHOOL DAZE.

RATING - A+

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

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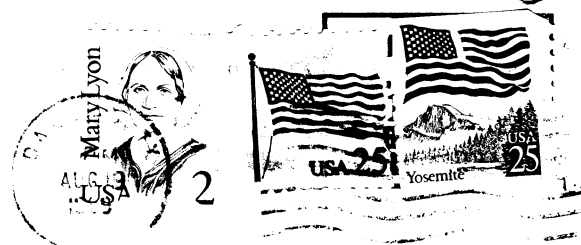
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