Issue #41. May, 1988 Editor: Lyle Marschand Copyright (c) 1988 Single Copy: \$3.00 Annual: (U.S. 3rd class) \$19.00 (U.S. 1st class/Canada) \$26.00

Continuing our study of Romans Chapter 8... There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and death. 3For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: sending his own Son in hte likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin sin the flesh, 4in order hteat he jhust requirement of hte law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on hte thinbgs of hte flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of hte Spirit. 6To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's Iwa, indeed it cannot; Band those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9But you are not in the fleash, you are in the Spirit, if hte Spirit of God really dwells in you. Any one who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10But if Christ is in you , althogh your bodies are dead because of sin, your spirits are alive because of righteousness. 11lf the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also thorugh his Spirit which dwells in you.

Paul has previously explained that sin was defined when God gave man the Ten Commandments. Any person breaking even one of the commandments was a sinner and fell under the "law of sin and death" as Paul calls it. Breaking of the law was sin and the punishment for sin was death. This death is actually a spiritual death or a separation from God. When our bodies stop functioning. our spirits will either end up with God in Heaven or with Satan in Hell. To be spiritually separated from God (spiritual death) is a horrible thought – utter darkness and evil are the result. Man is a spirit being, we were given a spirit by God and this is what makes us different from the animals. Our spirit will always exist, even after our bodies die and we need to "plan" for existing for eternity someplace. Our physical life here on earth is a short one compared to our spiritual life in eternity.

Paul states that there is no condemnation (for sin) for those who are in Christ Jesus. You see, Jesus' whole

mission was to remove the law of sin and death and implement a law of spirit and life. When Jesus died on the cross he took the punishment for all the sins of every one of us. Although he never sinned, he volunteered to take our place as a sinner and receive the punishment for our sins. You may not know that when Jesus died on the cross his spirit was separated from God the father and he descended to Hell. This is why he cried "Father, why has thou forsaken me ?" when he was on the cross. I believe that his greatest fear was of the spiritual separation from his father, not the physical pain of the cross. Jesus and God the father were in total spiritual unity and to be separated from this must have been unbearable. Jesus' spirit was in Hell for three days, where he underwent the torment we would have to receive as a consequence of our sins. After Jesus bore this punishment, having paid the price for all the sins of mankind, God raised him from the dead with his mighty power showing us that we can break the bonds of sin and death and triumph over them. I look at it that my sin nature (flesh) died with Jesus and that my new spiritual nature was born again with Jesus when he was raised from the dead. I now have the same righteousness that Jesus has because I received it from him. I picture this as an exchange. Jesus took my sins to bear on the cross and he gave me his righteousness in exchange.

This is the evidence of God's great love for mankind. He sent his only son to pay the price for our sins and hence to break the bond of sin and death, giving us the oppurtunity to have eternal spirital life with him in Heaven. God has given man a free will and we have a choice to accept this "exchange" or reject it. Man's pride is the biggest enemy to him believing and accepting God's gift. This is what Paul is talking about in verse 7 - not submitting to God's laws. Let's face it, God created the entire universe as well as you and I. He sets the rules, we can't decide that we are a "good" person and hence insure eternity in Heaven. God has set out a very simple set of rules and given us his Son Jesus as the way to achieve righteousness and eternal life with him in Heaven. Don't let stubborness or pride prevent yourliving for eternity in Heaven! Confess your sins, ask forgiveness and accept Jesus sacrifice today.

God Bless you all.

# NIAD NEWS/ UPDATES

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D. Griffith

### M.

#### ■From the Editor's Desk:■



. The telephone problem here in northern Illinois has been a real nightmare for everyone affected. Many businesses have experienced significant monetary losses and some have even declared bankruptcu! If you were'nt aware of what happened, a large fire totally crippled a major telephone switching station in Hinsdale, Illinois. This switching station handled over 50,000 residential and busines customers as well as 13,000 '800' and computer lines. The loss of service for the '800' and computer lines in turn impacted the operations of 10's of thousands of businesses, both locally and across the country. Evidently, Illnois Bell had no redundant backup system and has had to build the switching station back from scratch. The impact to NIAD members was the inability to contact us and the fact that we could not obtain charge card authorizations to process orders, hence most charge orders have been delayed up to two weeks. By the time you receive this issue full service will have been restored.

. We are pleased to announce that COMPUTER SHOPPER has agreed to <u>support our orphaned ADAM</u>. Yes, this major computer monthly magazine will devote space to an ADAM column each month. The first article is in the

June issue and features an excellent article on SMARTBasic, written by G. A. Smith. More articles will appear in future issues. This is great news since FAMILY COMPUTING has recently dropped support of the ADAM. See Charles O. Smith's letter in the "FYI" section for more information. Goes to prove that

#### 1988 IS BETTER then ever ...

. We have some more good stuff for you this month...Our newest staff member, Jim Notini, has completed a comparison of SPEEDYWRITE VERSIONS 1.0 and 2.0 to help everyone decide which version of this fine program they require. Response to this excellent program has been tremendous. Please send in your comments and questions so we can support a monthly SPEEDYWRITE column. We will print this comparison next month.

We have reviews of several new programs from Walter's Software that you will find very interesting. Wayne revies PAINTAIDE for use with POWERPAINT - see the GRAPHICS WORKSHOP for this review.

We have several new user groups and BBS' for you as well. The number of ADAM user groups and quality newsletters continues to grow, which is an excellent sign.

We have a well done SMARTBasic programs - a Perpetual Calendar, converted for ADAM by Wayne Motel.

Our GAME editor, Jim Goebel continues his article on text adventure games and reviews the popular and crazy HITCHHIKERS GUIDE TO THE GALAXY. NOTE that we have this game on special this month for only \$19.95! See the TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP for some information on ADAM electronic bulletin board systems and the first part of a review of the A-NET BBS software.



#### Notice



- . Don't forget to send in your NIAD MEMBER SURVEY form before June 1st to qualify for one of the three gift certificates (\$100, \$50, \$25). All questions on the survey must be answered to qualify. NOTE: If you don't have your member number, just your name will suffice.
- . Unfortunately, the supply of 256K memory expanders

has temporarily dried up. Orphanware, the supplier, has sold out their supply and is working with their board maker to produce another set of the 256K bare boards. This will take some time, so these items will be back ordered for a few weeks. We will be investigating other suppliers of the 256K board in the interim. Additionally, the price of memory chips continues to rise causing shortages and higher prices.

. If you have an ADAM that needs repair you can send it to: Philip Kosowsky 6067 Jerusalem Dr

Cioero, NY 13041 Telephone (315) 699-6456
You must pre pay \$50 for the repair and return shipping.
Note that Philip does not fix printer or tape drive mechanical problems. It is best if you call prior to shipping your unit and explain the problem.

. As customary, we are discontinuing our local monthly meetings here at the store for the summer. There will be no June, July or August meeting. The next meeting will be September 8th.

However, we will be having a large used/ reconditioned ADAM products sale and auction in middle/late JUNE. We will be sending out announcements to all local members a week prior to this event. There will be great bargains to be had at this sale!!

- . Here are some updates to our USET Group list:
- MAUG (Michigan ADAM User's Group). George Nihem,
   President. Write to 22609 Alger; St. Clair Shores, MI
   48080. Call (313) 776-4755. ALMternate contact,
   George Grair (313) 772-2823
- ECAUG (Emerald Coast ADAM Users Group), Bob Keating President. AUGER newsletter published every two months. Monthly meetings held at the YMCA. Write to ECAUG, P.O. Box 4934; Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-4934 or call (904) 939-3063.
- Thanks for mentioning OAVC (Omaha Adam Users Group) in your Feb. issue on page 3. But the \$15 per year for newsletter is not correct. \$5 only for my newsletter mailed 1st class and my address (everyone else had an address) is 809% 33rd Ave. Bellevue, NE 68005 Thanks Norman Castro

#### SOFTWARE/ HARDWARE UPDATES



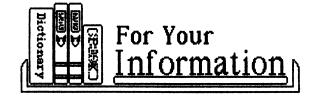


. Digital Express is trying to put out so much software that it appears they are getting ahead of themselves. CHESS CHAMP has just been released after many revisions were accomplished and we should have a supply by Memorial Day, with a review next month. MEGASYSTEM XR is still being worked on and we do not have a firm release date as of yet. GODOS and its associated programs will be completed after MEGASYSTEM XR so there is no date on them either.

- . Digital has announced some new programs as well SWIFTPRINT is a high resolution COLOR graphics printing program for use on the Okimate 20 color printer. We have been hoping someone would come out with a high resolution color printing program for the OKi (only a low resolution color printing program has been available). SMARTTALK is a program for use with the Eve speech synthesizer or Orphanware speech synthesizer. No availability dates for these programs have been announced.
- . Reedy Software has just released PHRASE PAK ONE for use with their recently released wheel of fortune type game PHRASE CRAZE. They also released GRANDMA'S RECIPES, a collection of over 60 recipes for use with Coleco's RECIPE FILER program.
- . Tony Morehan, author of the great FILE MANAGER utility program reviewed in last months issue, is working on a new program that will aid in restoring ddps/ disks that have had the directory block destroyed or overwritten. This is a relatively common problem and usually results in the loss of all programs on the media. DISKDOCTOR should be a great help to all of us in these situations.
- . Walter's Software has just released AUTOBACKUP which contains programs to save the contents of the ramdisk to ddp/disk and load files from a ddp/disk to the ramdisk. We'll have a review next month.







My Adam is nearly 4 years old, and occasionally I have to coax the printer to cooperate. I love my Adam (used mainly for word processing and a couple of times a month for AdamCalo). We have a C64 with word processing and a Seikosha dot matrix, but no one is willing to use it.

What can I do to make sure Adam continues to work? I have two data drives, a disk drive (and two extra keyboards on hand). I have two software engineers and one computer engineer in the family to help me. Should I:

- 1. find a re-conditioned printer (American Design had some)?
- 2. send this printer to Honeywell?
- 3. replace this printer with a dot matrix plus interface?
- 4. with option 3, should I get the "outside" power drive (I did not see it advertised this time.)
- 5. hook the Adam up to the Amiga 2000 with IBM card we are getting soon (for music)? What would I need to do this—the Eve interface? Modems?

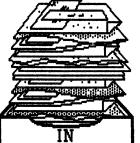
I know you don't have time to answer one letter like this. But a lot of Adam owners must be wondering the same things. I am not a hacker, and I am not interested in writing my own programs. But I am a writer, and my son does all his school work on the Adam. We feel that its welfare is critical to our comfort, even with a nice, new Amiga in the family. So, why don't you address my questions in the newsletter with some non-technical answers so I have a reasonable basis for my next decision. Once I know what I need, I will have plenty of help in setting up the new (if needed) configuration. Thanks a lot!

Harriet C. Burt

- P.S. Note that I'm confident enough of getting some sort of help that I am ordering the new Speedywrite program.
- Dear Harriet, First off, you need to decide whether you will be needing your ADAM printer for any printing or whether you will be relying on your dot matrix printer only. If the latter is the case then you could purchase an independent power supply and unhook the ADAM printer. Eve used to produce a nice independent power supply, but they discontinued it some time ago. Another company is

considering making one in the near future – watch the newsletter for more on this in the future. You can hook your Seikosha printer (if it has a parallel interface connector, it may not if it specifically for use on the C64) to your ADAM via a parallel interface. If your ADAM printer is not working at all, the most economical option would be to buy a used/ reconditioned one. Regarding attaching the ADAM to another computer, if your plan is to transfer data between the two, then the best way is via a modem on each computer. You may want to read the article in the Sept/ 87 NIAD issue on

interfacing ADAMs to other computers. If you have any other questions, please write.



A note I read in High Lights (Trivia, Nov/Dec 1987) said that "media master" on a IBM clone can be used to format disks to the TRS-80 IV (SSDD) format that then can be used by the ADAM. Does that mean that possibly TRS-80 IV disk drives could be adapted to the ADAM? (NO) My Sanyo can read the TRS-80IV format (using

compact) and I could pass disks between them if I could locate a cheap source for the TRS IV Drive and than could get it connected to the Adam. Any tinker's out there who might have more info?

. I would like to get into the disk drive business with my ADAM for less than \$100, or I would like to figure out a way to get a cheap serial port on the ADAM, connected to my Sanyo via the communication ports and use the disks drives on the Sanyo in a remote terminal configured to work like with "MITE". I've got lots of time, little money, and a yen to experiment, would like to see other hardware tips in your magazine, also.

Please direct comments to Ken Peterson, 207 Benham St.; Richland, WA 99352-4439

. You may have caught my letter—to—the—editor in the April 1988 edition of Computer Shopper (CS) magazine. In my letter to Computer Shopper I expressed some dismay that the many ADAM users groups around the United States and Canada have, for some inexplicable reason, never taken up the gracious offer that Stan Veit, the editor—in-ohief of Computer Shopper, made in the

October 1987 Issue of that same magazine.

Mr. Veit, during his introduction of CG's now very popular Classic Computer section, invited ADAM supporters to start their own column in that section. Well, it is April of 1988 and the ADAM still does not have its own section in Computer Shopper magazine. I think that it would be extremely wise if the various ADAM users groups and ADAM product manufacturers in the U.S. and Canada would pool their resources and begin sending ADAM hardware and software information to the Classic Computer section of Computer Shopper.

If the ADAM family computer is to survive for many years to come, those of us who use the system must provide solid support for the ADAM system. Support for an orphaned computer system via a regular CS column must not be underestimated. Take for example how Computer Shopper helped to keep the Texas Instruments T.I. 99/4A (which was discontinued several years ago) alive until the 99/4A was reintroduced into the mass market in late 1987 in the form of the Muarc 9640 computer. T.I. users wisely took advantage of the CS offer to keep 99/4A users united via starting and maintaining their own T.I. column in CS-- the result: their computer system was brought back from almost certain oblivion. The point is simple: if ADAM users (and ADAM product manufacturers) can support the ADAM system in the same way the T.I. users supported their 99/4A, I believe that the ADAM could make something of a comeback in the home computer market. The key to the "ADAM revival" process is to unite ADAM users and ADAM product information at the grassroots level; specifically, via starting and contributing to a continuing ADAM column in Computer Shopper magazine.

Unified grassroots support of the ADAM is absolutely essential if the ADAM is to survive through the coming years. I hope that ADAM users and ADAM product manufacturers will coordinate their efforts in sending ADAM-related information to Computer magazine. Remember, we must all work together if we are to ensure the ADAM's future in the home computer marketplace.

The kind folks at Computer Shopper have extended to us a most gracious offer: free international exposure for the ADAM in the largest computer magazine in the world. Let us make good on Computer Shopper's once-in-a-lifetime offer as, should we wait any longer, we may never get this chance again.

Hoping to read about you in Computer Shopper.

Charles O. Smith, an ADAM user

- Well, Mr. Smith, it seems your prayers have been answered! The June Issue of COMPUTER SHOPPER has an excellent article on the ADAM. NIAD has also submitted some articles to COMPUTER SHOPPER and recommended to them that they set up a permanent home for our orphaned computer in their fine magazine. We are hopeful that this will happen. This just goes to show us, we should never give up. I applaud you for your diligent and support encouragement to ADAM owners everywhere! You can be sure that NIAD will support ADAM in the COMPUTER SHOPPER.

Enclosed is a copy of an article I found in the Rhode Island Providence Journal about computer viruses. I thought you might want to print it in the newletter or at least explain what they are and how to protect ones I would also like to say that I really look forward to receiving my NIAD new letter each month. I have learned a lot about Adam since I started reading your news letter. Keep up the good work.

Donald R. Griffith

HOW TO KEEP YOUR COMPUTER FROM CATCHING THE **FATAL VIRUS** 





How can computer owners forestall a virus attack? Here are a few precautions you can try. software from establish companies. "Presumably if you buy commercial software, you're safe because viruses tend to exist more on disk from people or noncommercial channels," said computer consultant Rex E. Bradford. Andrew Gilmartin, a computer specialist at Brown University, said he doesn't use noncommercial software unless it has been recommended by someone he trusts. Keep untested programs on separate disks or on disks with expendable information, said Ronald Maguire, librarian for the Rhode Island Commodore Users Group. Use the "write protect" tabs on disks - the little notches that can be covered to prevent information on a disk from being altered. However, Maguire warned, that idea isn't always practical because some programs don't run properly when the notch is covered. Test a program by making a copy on a disk that does not contain valuable information, then run the program with and without the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7...



# **GRAPHICS WORKSHOP**



PAINTAIDE by W. Motel

PAINTAIDE, from Digital Express, is a companion product to their great POWERPAINT graphics program.

PAINTAIDE provides two main functions:

- 1. Paintaide itself which corrects minor bugs to the original POWERpaint code. It also allows you to change some original defaults.
- A. Change the color used to clear the backround under PowerPaint. Normal defualt is black. You can set to it or any of the other 13 colors.
- B. Change the typeface of the 4 special fonts under Powerpaint to one of the included fonts. There are 2 for half width, 3 full width, 4 double width, and 5 double sized. (see samples)
- 2. Swift Font Kit is the second item enclosed. This is a collection of new fonts for use in PowerPaint. They come in many formats and varieties. They are stored in at least 3 formats.
  - A. FontPower format for normal PowerPaint text

(load as user font).

- B. Hi-RES shape table format.
- C. Sprite Art format.

These allow you to use them in your own Basic programs, as well as within PowerPaint as Sprite Art stamping and brush shape options. The font files can be Brun under basic with a call made to 56320. That font is then the one used under normal Basic text..

Additional programs are demo showing how to use the files in your own Basic programs. Finally, 9 public domain clip art files are also included.

Overall, the PaintAide fix is a neccessity, but the ability to override default options is a nice feature. The additional fonts are a nice addition to those included on Powerpaint.

Recomended

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF THE NEW FONTS AVAILABLE VIA PAINTAIDE

RITZ OUTLINE SMALL

BIG

COMPUTER

B 0 L

n







BLOCK GOTHIC Italic font

MONTEREY FONT

Øl∂ English Old West

Sans Serif Script Font

STENCIL FORT

SCOP FOND

Computer Foot



# **SMARTBASIC 2.0**



\*\* HERE IS THE REMAINDER OF THE LIST WE PRINTED IN THE LAST ISSUE \*\*

SMARTBASIC 2.0 PEEKS, POKES, CALLS

	A THE BODY CON CONT. CON	
LOCATION	FUNCTION/ DESCRIPTION	DEFAULT/ RANGE
100 CHO CHO STO STO STO STO STO STO	4 CRES CITS COM COMS CROS CROS CROS CROS CROS CROS CROS CRO	

17229	Value of 200: TEXT corrects bug & allows	208
	sprites to appear in any sequence	case
17240	Text & Screen Color NORMAL TEXT Mode	240
17251	Text & Screen Color INYERSE TEXT Mode	15
17322	Start value # of Lines	23
17323	Start value # of Columns	30
17325	Start value of Top Margin	0
17326	Start value of Left Margin	4
17339	Value 227: CALL 17338 = Double Large Sprite Size	226
17339	Value 226: CALL 17338 = Standard Large Sprite Size	226
17339	Value 225: CALL 17338 = Double Small Sprite	226
17339	Value 224: CALL 17338 = Standard Small Sprite Size	226
17437	Yalue O stops Cursor blink	4
24695	Background Color in GR/HGR(2) Mode	1
24784	Text Window Color in GR Mode	17
24847	Text & Screen Color in GR/HGR(2) Mode	240
25360-78		1
	FOR x = 0  to  15: $POKE 25360 + x, x$ :	690
	POKE 25378 + x, x: NEXT x	6299
25992	Value 32 sets up for Large Sprites	32
25992	Yalue 8 sets up for Small Sprites	32

Updated October 1, 1987, Sharon McFarlane, Toronto, CANADA



#### ERRATA

Thanks to Rudy Poebel, we have a revised, corrected version of the sophisticated bowling score keeper program on SMARTBasic volume \*BNDV13

. Bob Tarnowski thinks he has found the problem with the Trucker program on NIAD GOLD TEXT ADVENTURE GAMES.

You may send in your tape/disk or a SASE for instructions on how to make corrections.

. Keith Marner of the United Kingdom ADAM Subsribers, a very active group, has sent us an ADAM product "Mini-Review" data base that utilizes Coleco's SMARTFILER program. This "Mini- Review" data base is Public Domain and contains categorized descriptions of 367 ADAM software and hardware products! descriptions are not detailed, but the real plus of this database is that all the items are categorized into several categories that can be searched on using various fields e. g. book, Basic utilities, business, educational, game, graphics, interface, language, printer software, memory software, word processors, etc. There are 33 of these tupes of categories that can be searched. Additionally, you may search based on item name or manufacturer. A reference is also made to the UK ADAM Subscribers issue that the item was reviewed in more detail. This is a great resource reference tool for all of us. We have added it to our Public Domain list. Thanks to Keith and the UKAS.



NOTE: This volume contains a revised version of SmartBASIC. To use, pull the <RESET>. IMPORTANT - this SmartBASIC may not be compatible with all programs.

\*\*\* MENU - RUNs the menu program. To use, enter BRUN MENU and select program with arrow keys.

\*\*\* DISASS-II - This program will disassemble from memory or from a block on tape or disk then display on screen or print the disassembly in hex or decimal.

\*\*\* MARCOPOLO - A challenging text adventure using 40 columns - see doofile that follows.

\*\*\* CHECK - Prints checks for you and keeps track of the amount printed -nicely done.

\*\*\* BATTLESHIP - Graphic game similar to the board game and just as challenging - for all ages.

\*\*\* INVOICER - Read all REM statements and create your own personal invoicing program.

\*\*\* HANGMAN2 - Classic game done in GR graphics with dozens of preprogrammed words.

\*\*\* CRAPS - 7 come 11! A little bit of Vegas in this graphic game - beat the computer.

\*\*\* ICBM - Challenging! Try to knock out the missle before it hits your base. O is 12:00 o'clock high and 180 degrees would be 6:00 o'clock (behind you).

\*\*\* AIRATTACK - Nicely done graphic game has you in an airplane dropping bombs on the enemy ship.

\*\*\* JUMPJACK - Well done graphic game gets more difficult as you progress. Make the man jump over the holes and go down the ladders to lower levels.

\*\*\* ROADER - Stay on the road and avoid different levels of difficulty and nice sounds.

\*\*\* STARPATROL - Aim your lazer at the enemy spaceship and fire. Use controller \*1.

\*\*\* WATERFALL - Interesting moving graphic picture done using the following program.

\*\*\* A-PAINT1.1 - GR graphic drawing program that allows you to save your picture as a file or as a complete program. Good program and easy to use.

\*\*\* MAYANQUILT - A GR graphic design program creates continuously changing patterns.

\*\*\* LAKESIDE - Another graphic done with A-PAINT1.1.

#### ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"write protect" tab in place. Then compare the length of the programs. If they're different, the disk might be infected. This will not always work, however, if a virus has been ordered to lay low for while. If you own a computer with a hard disk, disconnect it before running a potentially infected program. Hard disks are a favorite target for viruses. Turn your computer off for a few seconds after you've finished a job. The process of "rebooting" your machine might erase a virus that is lurking in the computer's memory and waiting to infect in the end, there's no foolproof the next disk you use. way to prevent a viral attack, said Maguire, "other than being a programmer who is able to look at every program and be able to tell" if it's infected.



# 乡

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP



We know that many of you ADAMITES have the ADAMLink modem and we want to help you get the most out of it. So, please write in with questions, problems in the use of the modem. If you don't understand how to use the modem to contact Bulletin Board Systems, let us know and we will send you some helpful hints.

- . Note that COMPUSERVE usually has some summer specials where they reduce the connect charge from \$6.25/ hour to much less or 0 during certain hours. This is a great way to get a lot done on CS for nothing more then the telephone charges. Check with CS for specifics on these special rates. Also, if you ever get "lost" on CS you can type "GO HELP" at any system prompt to get some help data. The ADAM software is located in the CLUB forum on COMPUSERVE (type "GO CLUB" to get there) and contains a wealth of software that can be downloaded. We will have more on this next month.
- . Local BBS for Adamites --RBBS -PC The Gas Station. Sysop Michael Henderson. 24 hours daily. Supports x-modem transfer protocal. Includes a conference area for Adam users and some downloads. Mike would appreciate some uploads and messages from Adam users. Phone: 817-265-8938.
- . Perhaps you can add the following to your list of bulletin boards. I have one up and running 24 hours a day, called UP AN ADAM. It can be reached at (206) 859-2018. The boards settings are The default settings for ADAMLINK. You might also want to mention that it's C-Net software and is run totally on an ADAM!
- . ST Louis AUG BBS is up and operational at (314) 773-1551. Hours are Thur Sunday 9 PM to 6 AM. Use ADAMLINK standard default settings.
- . The GATE RBBS is a new ADAM board operated by Bob Warren. Since the board operates almost entirely off of a ram disk it should be pretty fast. There are over 80 Public Domain programs and more to be added. Supports up and down loads of programs and electronic mail/message bases. Call (314) 358-2711 from 9PM to 9 AM daily.





#### A-NET V 4.0 BBS SOFTWARE

This BBS software from Alan Neely and his Salt Lake City Utah user's group, is an impressive piece of work. This is going to be a two part review. A review from the end of the SYSOP and the end of the USER.

NOTICE... This software requires at least 1 disk drive, and two tape drives.

#### SYSOP END REVIEW

For this being my first experience with BBS software, I will try not to compare it to software I have not worked with. When you recieve this in the mail, you will notice that it is on three disks. The startup disk, the sub-programs disk, and the text disk. The startup disk is self-booting and has a number of setup programs for the SYSOP, as well as some utilities for normal BASIC use. When you first boot startup, it will show a title screen and then ask you if you wan to set up the RAMDISK. (you must have any ramdisk program EXCEPT SMARTDSK. That is a smartwriter- only program). If you choose Y, it will then set it up. Then it will ask you if you want blocks transferred to the RAMDISK. If you awnser Y then it will ask what the last block to be transferred is , then it will load up the RAMDISK. From there, it prompts you to replace the startup disk. Next, it gives you the options of STARTUP, SET DATE/TIME, WARMBOOT, and EXIT TO BASIC. It is IMPORTANT TO SELECT SET DATE/TIME!. After you have done that, it will take you back to the menu. Choosing STARTUP here takes you to the next This one says LOAD BBS, EXIT TO BASIC, **CONFIGURE** MENU. Selecting the configure menu brings you to the choices of access level, time limit, access name, drive configuration. After you have configured your BBS, it then brings you to the menu. Selecting LOAD BBS brings the prompt "INSERT SYSTEM DISKS (sub program and text disks). From here It loads up the BBS. and by pressing L, you can log-on to your own board, and raise your access to SYSOP level.

This is easy to use. It makes good use of a 40 column fix, and modified screen fonts. Using the arrow keys and return makes it simple to start using.

This is not a complete SYSOP end review, so I wont't have a SYSOP rating until the next article.

The A\_NET software with a comprehensive instruction manual is available for \$15 from Alan Neeley; 2337 South 600 East; Salt Lake City, UT 84106





# SMARTBASIC WORKSHOP

#### A TRULY PERPETUAL CALENDAR

Many computer programs offer "perpetual calendars" but the calendars aren't truly perpetual. The computer programs generally handle only dates between March 1, 1900 and February 28, 2100. The books offer more detail, but their calendars often start at October 15, 1582. Some will figure any date since January 1, A.D. 1, but you're still stuck if you want to know when Brutus stabbed Caesar.

There is a reason why this information is hard to come by. Our calendar is wonderfully complicated because the earth takes 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds to get around the sun. To figure any date since Jan. 1, 1 A.D. requires taking all this into account-whether the date was before October 4, 1582, and falls under the Gregorian calendar, then making the appropriate adjustment, and then determining how many leap years have elapsed, and whether the current year is a leap year.



This sort of tedious calculation is what computers That's why most "perpetual calendars" aren't truly perpetual. excel at, though, and the following program, "Weekday," handles it all. It sets day "O" as Friday, December 31, 1 B.C. (the next day was Jan. 1, A.D. 1-there was no year 0), and computes how many days have elapsed since then. The number of days elapsed in the given year is determined by checking a string which stores the number of days elapsed up The program used Booleanlogic statements when calculating the adjustments for to the start of a given month. calendar alterations. October 4, 1582, was day number 577737. The statement "JDAY>577737" returns 0 if it is false, and -1 if true. By combining these and multiplying them by the appropriate values, the program computes the The weekday is determined by taking the remainder after dividing the proper adjustment for the day number. For B.C. dates, it determines how many days remain until December 31, 1 B.C., And adjusted day number by 7. follows a similar, but simpler, procedure, since no calendar adjustments are necessary. Once you've got this program running, you'll know in an instant that March 15, 11 B.C. fell on a Thursday, as did July 4, 1776, and that Columbus spied land on a Friday. And if you're into science fiction, you're someone who will appreciate knowing that July 20, 7987 will fall on a Monday.

Computer Shopper July 1987

```
Perpetual Calendar Program
10 REM
              July, 87 Computer Shopper
 12 REM
 15 REM
              Adapted for Adam
 16 REM
              W. Motel
 18 REM
 50 DIM we$(7)
 60 \text{ we} \$(0) = "Friday"
 70 \text{ we}\$(1) = "Saturday"
 80 we\$(2) = "Sunday"
 90 \text{ we}$(3) = "Monday"
100 \text{ we}$(4) = "Tuesday"
110 we$(5) = "Wednesday"
120 \text{ we}$(6) = "Thursday"
130 DIM mo$(12)
140 \text{ mos}(1) = "January"
```

```
150 \text{ mos}(2) = "February"
160 \text{ mos}(3) = "March"
170 \text{ mos}(4) = "April"
190 \text{ mos}(5) = "May"
200 \text{ mos}(6) = "June"
210 \text{ mos}(7) = "July"
220 \text{ mos}(8) = \text{"August"}
230 mos(9) = "September"
240 \text{ mos}(10) = "October"
250 mo$(11) = "November"
255 \text{ mos}(12) = "December"
260 mv$ = "000031059090120151181212243273304334"
270 bc$ = "365334306275245214184153122092061031"
280 TEXT
290 PRINT " Enter Month, Day, Year"
291 PRINT " MM,DD,YYYY in numeric form"
300 PRINT " ": PRINT " If Year is B.C."
301 PRINT " Enter as negative number"
310 PRINT " ": PRINT "TO END PROGRAM": PRINT " Enter any as 0": PR
320 INVERSE: PRINT " MM, DD, YYYY "; : NORMAL: INPUT " "; mm, dd, yy
330 IF mm = 0 THEN
                        STOP
331 IF dd = 0 THEN
                        STOP
332 IF yy = 0 THEN
                       STOP
340 IF yy < 0 THEN 560
350 y$ = " A.D."+STR$(yy)
360 \ 11 = 4*INT((yy-1)/4)
370 \text{ ys} = \text{yy}-1-11
380 \text{ jl} = 11*1461/4
390 \, \text{jy} = \text{ys} \times 365
400 jx = jy+j1
410 md = VAL(MID\$(mv\$, 3*mm-2, 3))
420 IF yy/4 = INT(yy/4) THEN 425
421 GOTO 430
425 \text{ IF mm} > 2 \text{ THEN} \text{ md} = \text{md}+1
430 \text{ jd} = \text{dd+md+jx}
440 a1 = (jd > 577737)*(-1)
450 \text{ a2} = (jd > 584094)*(-1)
460 \text{ s1} = \text{jd} - 584095
470 \text{ ce} = INT(s1/36525)
480 \text{ ic} = INT(ce/4)
490 \text{ qe} = a2*(ce-ic)
500 \text{ ad} = a1*(10-ge)
510 jd = jd+ad
520 \text{ wd} = \text{jd}-7*\text{INT}(\text{jd}/7)
530 \text{ wds} = \text{wes(wd)}
535 PRINT
540 PRINT mo$(mm); " "; STR$(dd); ","; y$; " was a ": PRINT "
541 INVERSE: PRINT wd$; : NORMAL: PRINT
545 VTAB 20: PRINT
550 PRINT: FLASH: PRINT " Hit any Key to Continue "; : NORMAL: GET
555 GOTO 280
560 yy = -1*yy
```

```
570 y$ = STR$(yy)+" B.C."

580 fy = yy-1

590 ol = INT(fy/4)

600 ly = fy-4*ol

610 jx = 1461*ol+365*ly

620 te = VAL(MID$(bc$, 3*mm-2, 3))-dd

630 IF ((yy-1)/4) = INT((yy-1)/4) THEN 635

632 GOTO 640

635 IF mm < 3 THEN te = te+1

640 jd = jx+te

650 wd = jd-7*INT(jd/7)

660 IF wd <> 0 THEN wd = 7-wd

670 GOTO 530

680 END
```

#### BASIC PROGRAMMING By L. C. Austill

#### CHAPTER VI

Both hard transfers Transfers: (GOTO) and conditional transfers (IF/THEN) have been mentioned, but more review is warranted. add to a computer's Transfers capabilities. It can react to specific situations and take different routes program. At the while running a same time, transfers are a challenge to the programmer because all of the possibilities must be considered and built into the program.

The simplest of the transfer commands is GOTO xxxx where xxxx is a numerical address. (ADAM does not permit the use of variables in the address except in a limited sense. Some computers will permit some operations on the address. ADAM can accept some of these by machine language doing some A valid question programming. would be "Why bother?" with GOTO, just write the proper route in the program.

That is generally true although there are conditional situations where, depending on information available, it might be desirable to leave one route

and go to another. GOTO is most useful in conjunction with an IF/THEN statement.

If ADAM is told to GOTO an address where there is no program statement, an error message will appear and the program will stop. Changing statement numbers without changing the GOTO statements is a frequently found error. There might be occasions when a program reserves specific program space for additional information and starts with a different set of instructions. Later it is discovered that the reserved space is not sufficient. To avoid going back and renumbering in increments of less than 10, a GOTO statement might be used.

Subroutines: A more useful transfer is the GOSUB xxxx command where xxxx is a number address. The command RETURN (NOT THE RETURN KEY) must be used in conjunction with GOSUB. These are the commands for subroutines. There are some operations or routines that may be desirable to utilize several times in the course of program execution. To avoid repetitous writing and wasting space in RAM,

subroutines can be used. A subroutine can be defined as a block of statement numbers out of the range of the main program. The statements of the subroutine are written once and the last statement of the subroutine is xxxx RETURN.

When the computer encounters the command GOSUB xxxx, it remembers where it is, goes to the new address, and performs all the operations within the subroutine until it finds RETURN. On that command it will return to the first instruction after the GOSUB xxxx command and begin execution of the main program again. Type:

```
10 home
20 x = 32
30 gosub 1000
40 gosub 2000
50 x = 150
60 gosub 1000 :gosub 2000
70 input "Your value for x? "; x: gosub 1000: gosub 2000
80 END
1000 y = x*3.14159
1010 RETURN
2000 ? "x = ";x; " y = ";y
2010 RETURN
```

This program explains why the command END is necessary in a program.

Had END not been the final instruction of the main body of the program the computer would have executed the next sequential instruction or the subroutines. When the instruction RETURN had been reached, there would have been no address to which to return.

Using subroutines and GOSUB, the computer returnes to its last command each time as it finishes the subroutine called for by the return statement. Statement 60 illustrates that ADAM can still return to the proper point even if the GOSUB is in the middle of a single statement containing multiple commands.

Multiple subroutine branches can be nested within one subroutine (total of six subroutines). Subroutines require precise preparation. Information must be provided in the same form as the main body of the program and use the same variables as the main body of the program. Avoid changing the value of a variable accidentally in a subroutine.

To guard against this possibility, double letter variables can be used in the subroutines. An example would be FOR ii in the subroutine and FOR i in the main program. That way, the subroutine loop can not interrupt the established values of the main loop, or the main program.

There might be a situation where it is desirable to leave the subroutine with a hard GOTO transfer. If it happens very frequently while running a program, a problem will arise. Upon finding the SUBROUTINE command, ADAM stores the address that it is at on a stack of numbers. Each time RETURN is found during execution it goes back to that address and removes the number

from the top of the stack. The GOTO command bypasses the RETURN command hence the number is not removed from the stack. Eventually the stack will get full. The next time that ADAM needs to put a number on the stack, it can't so it quits and gives an error message. A program will illustrate this point. Print:

10 i = 0 20 ? i 30 gosub 500 40 if i = 500 then end 50 goto 20 60 END 500 i = i +1 510 goto 40 520 RETURN

When this program is run ADAM gives an error message when i = 31.

A subroutine can be exited by the command RETURN, or if that is awkward there is another command that takes care of it, POP. POP discards the last number on the top of the stack.

Change statement 510 to read as follows:

510 POP: goto 60

Run the program.

Another point on subroutines: Even though a subroutine resides from statement 1000 to 1200, it might be entered someplace other than 1000 if it is appropriate to do so. The xxxx in GOSUB xxxx must be a statement number that contains something.

Conditional transfers occur on IF/THEN statements. The computer can check for several different conditions. They may be defined as follows:

= if equal to
< if less than

- > if greater than
- =< if equal to or less than
- => if equal to or greater than
- if not equal to

NOT if not

AND if condition 1 and condition

2, etc.

OR if condition 1 OR condition 2, or etc.

If the condition tested for exists THEN proceed with the rest of the statement. If the condition does not exist, THEN ignore the rest of the statement and go to the next numbered statement and continue.

The statements might be:

if a = b then goto 4000 That is straight forward -- if a = b then goto step 4000 and continue processing.

340 if x > 31 then x = 1350 ? x

If x is greater than 31 then let x = 1 and go on with the rest of the program.

340 if x < 100 and x > y then gosub 1000

If x is less than 100 and x is greater than y then gosub 1000. Both conditions must exist. If x=5 for example and y=60 the computer will go to the next numbered statement and not to subroutine 1000. There could have been additional conditions in this statement each proceeded by the word AND.

340 if  $x \le 100$  or  $y \ge 100$  then ? "Good": END

If either x is less than or equal to 100 or y is greater than or equal to 100 then ? ."GOOD" and end the program. Either condition can end the program if it exists. What range of values would not end the

#### program.

Strings can be used in IF/THEN statements. For example out is less than dog. Why? The ASCII code for o is less than the code for d. Type the program:

10 home

20 input "a\$? "; a\$: input "b\$? "; b\$

30 if a\$ < b\$ then ? a\$: goto 100

40 ? b\$

100 ? "Want to try again – y or n?": get q\$: if q\$ = "n"

then end

110 goto 10

#### Sorting lists alphabetically:

ENTERing 2345 for a\$ and 3 for b\$. ADAM returns 2345 as the smaller string. The computer looks at the character codes for the characters and compares one at a time starting with the first one. 2 has a lower code than 3 thus the computer never got any further. Type 2345 and 237 for a\$ and b\$ respectively.

More than one IF/THEN command can exist in one numbered statement. However, if the first condition is not met, the second and each subsequent IF/THEN command will not be tested.

## **GAMES**

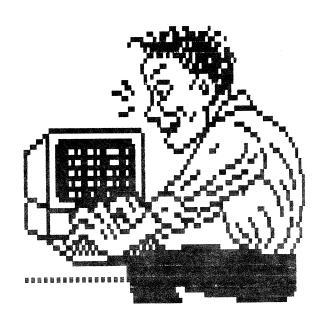
J. Goebel continues his article on TEXT ADVENTURE GAMES...

Now suppose that you DON'T subscribe to Compuserve, what then? Well, there is an interesting text game (well, more of a simulation) called NUKE.BAS on the NIGHTSHADE BBS in the Joliet IL area at (815)439-1264 (it is an OPUS BBS with networking run on a TRS 80, but the sysop is a friend, and has put up ADAM files as a favor). This program is a Nuclear power Plant Simulator, with a graphic display of how the plant is set up.

Now suppose you are all 'DOWNLOADED' out, and feel like relaxing. What then? Well, if you look around, you may find a BBS with an online game. In the Joliet area alone, we have 3 dungeons, 1 stook market, 2 never ending stories, and 2 trivia games on-line.

Now finally, if you have CP/M, there is a whole world

of text games for you. Anything from Uriginal adventure (pd disk #6) To Zork 1, 2 and 3. CP/M is something all text gamers with a disk drive should have. Many commercial and public domain games abound here. The most interesting text game in CP/M public domain (there is also a basic version) is called ELIZA. Very interesting PD game.



As a service to modemers, here is a list of the mentioned BBS's.

- . DARK CASTLE (815)729-0188 (Casino, Dungeon, Solutions for all Infocom text games in the G-Philes section)
- . ALCATRAZ (815)722-6710 (Never ending story, Trivia, Dungeon)
- . SHERWOOD (815)436-5610 (Stock market, Casino, Writer's Retreat)
- . NIGHTSHADE (815)439-1264 (No online games, ADAM U/D Loads)

Please note, Dark Castle REQUIRES you to post to play the games or view the G-PHILES. Also, they must be messages that show a sign of intelligence. Don't be surprised if you don't get through to any of these BBS'S, as they are the most popular in the Joliet Area.



# **REVIEWS**



### SMARTDSK II By L. Marschand

This is the second in a series of three new software products from Walter's Software that utilize the 64K or any size memory expander. SMARTDSK I, which we reviewed last month, allows access to the memory expander from SMARTWriter. SMARTDSK II, allows access to the memory expander from the following software.

.SMARTBASIC VERSION 1.0 .SMARTBASIC VERSION 2.0 .ADAMCALC .FLASHCARD MAKER

64K

Walter's has included several revisions to the ADAM's operating system as part of this product and they recommend that you always use the SMARTDSK software to initially boot your ADAM. If you do this and select the option to not use the ram disk, the revisions to the operating system are installed anyway. I have not done extensive testing of the revisions Walter's has made to the operating system, but trust their claims that it is faster and more compact.

Walter's has also been able to provide more available memory space via their SMARTDSK programs - 61 blocks for a 64K expander, 250 for a 256K, etc. When you first boot the SMARTDSK II software, you are given an option to use the SMARTDSK as a ram disk or to use tape drive 2. This is a little confusing at first. When you choose the option to use SMARTDSK, the SMARTDSK program changes the operating system so that all references to tape drive number 2 are directed to the ram disk instead, which is very convenient. If you don't want to use the ram disk, but you do want to take advantage of the other enhancements Walter's makes to the operating system, you would select the "TAPE DRIVE 2" option after booting SMARTDSK which does not install the ram disk and leaves tape drive 2 operating normally.

If you choose the SMARTDSK option to install and use the ram disk, you are given a second option to use the entire

ram disk or to reserve one bank of the ram disk's memory for use by ADAMCALC. If you are going to use ADAMCALC to print out any spreadsheets, you would have to choose this option because the ADAMCALC software uses 64K of the memory expander as a print buffer during the print operation. If you have a 64K memory expander you can't use ram disk and the print option in ADAMCALC during the same session. If you choose the option to use the full ram disk and then use ADAMCALC to print out a spreadsheet, you will lose any data already stored in the memory expander. Once you have chosen either the full ram disk or the ADAMCALC reserved option you can insert whatever software program you want to work with and it is automatically booted for you. From that point, your software works as normal, except that you can use ram disk to save/ load programs by selecting tape drive 2 from within the program. For example, under SMARTBASIC 1.0/ 2.0 when you want to save a program to the ram disk, you would enter "SAYE prgname, D2". Under ADAMCALC and FLASHCARD MAKER just use the SMARTKEY for tape drive 2. Like SMARTDSK I, SMARTDSK II makes life so much easier

if you have a memory expander. Not only is it faster, but it saves wear and

tear on your tape and disk drives. (DDP OR

DISK)

256K

Walter's also provides some nice utilities along with SMARTDSK II-

COPY II- A copy program that will move files, blocks between disk drives, tape drive 1 and the ram disk. This is useful for transferring your programs, files to the ram disk prior to booting up your software so they are there waiting for you. MATRIX - A program for configuring the dot matrix printer to allow printing from SMARTBASIC. CRUNCHER - A program for bsaving SMARTBASIC programs to make them fastload versions.

SMARTDSK II is compatible with Walter's MEDIA-AID program and their RAMDISK program so that any programs/ files placed in the ram disk can be accessed from SMARTDSK II.

If you do not already own a ram disk program, this is a

great buy for use with Basic, ADAMCALC and FLASHCARD MAKER. I would recommend it for the novice user. For the intermediate or advanced user I would recommend SMARTDSK III reviewed below. If you already have the another ram disk program for SMARTBasic you should get this one if you use ADAMCALC or FLASHCARD MAKER.

RATING - A+

#### SMARTDSK III FOR SMARTBASIC 1.0/2.0

SMARTDSK III provides the same basic functions as SMARTDSK II, but adds a host of excellent utilities for SMARTBASIC V 1.0/ 2.0. ADAMCALC and FLASHCARD MAKER are NOT supported by this version of SMARTDSK. Additionally, SMARTDSK III retains the use of the ramdisk as drive D7 instead of using tape drive 2 as is done by SMARTDSK I and II.

SMARTDSK III is designed for use by Basic programmers and those needing utilities under SMARTBASIC that work with the ram disk. The utilities provided are:

START - Provides access to all the other utility programs on the media

FORMAT - Formats your disks. NOTE: Now supports 160K, 320K and 720K drives!

MENU - Displays all A type files on a disk, ddp OR RAM DISK and gives you the option to run or load them. MODIFIER - Utility for making the following modifications to files on any device (including the ram disk) - lock, unlock, delete, change file date, change file type, rename a file. COPY - A block copy program for tapes, disks, ddps, ram disk. Will copy only blocks used or all blocks. Supports right and center directory ddps.

MANAGER - A file copy utility that copies all files including SMARTBasic. You choose which files you want to copy from the source media. NOTE: THIS PROGRAM CAN BE USED TO COPY ALL THE UTILITIES TO THE RAM DISK FOR USE AT ANYTIME.

TOOLKIT - A block editor that allows you to copy up to 16 blocks of data into a memory buffer beginning at address 30000. You can then read/ modify it and copy it back to the media. A search option is provided to find up to 4 characters in the buffer area. This is useful for finding a specific set of data to modify. A feature to fill a block in the buffer with any single character.

VERIFIER - Checks disk/ddp for bad blocks. You can check a specific block or a range of blocks.

INIT - Initializes ddps/ disks or the ram disk. You can

have up to an 11 character name and up to 127 catalogs with 39 files in each catalog! Having a larger catalog is needed for data packs and the 256K ram disk. HELLOABCD – Used to modify Basic 1.0 to run a HELLO file from any device, not just tape drive 1.

PURGE -Erases deleted files from a ddp/disk catalog and "squeezes" all files to the front of the media to make room for additional files/ programs. Eliminates the dreaded "NO MORE ROOM" messages.

All utilities use a nice set of menus and the same options. Error testing is comprehensive and a list of error messages and explanations is provided in the well written manual.

Additional programs include a dot matrix printer patch and a crunch program for bsaving SMARTBasic programs.

This is a great program for the price and gives the SMARTBasic programmer some great utilities and use of the ram disk.

RATING - A+

#### PRBOOT By L. Marschand

This program from Walter's software is simple in concept, but powerful in application for the ADAMite who makes frequent use of their ADAM for various programs. Essentially, PRBOOT provides the capability to copy the following programs to a disk (2 disks if they are the standard 160K Coleco drives), data pack or the ram disk and then RUN THEM VIA A SINGLE MENU: SMARTBASIC V 1.0 SMARTBASIC V 2.0 ADAMLINK ADAMCALC SMARTFILER SMARTLOGO SMARTWRITER

No more fumbling for disks/ data packs and removing/ inserting them when you want to switch from SMARTBASIC to SMARTFILER, etc.

The first job is to transfer each of the programs you want to place on a single disk /ddp to the PRBOOT master disk/ ddp. A file transfer program is provided on the PRBOOT media to accomplish this function. Then, you must rename the programs you transferred so PRBOOT can recognize and boot them individually. This may be difficult for novices so we asked Walter's to add a simple procedure for accomplishing this function. Once they are renamed you just pull the reset on the PRBOOT media and

a menu is displayed of all the programs you transferred and renamed. You select a program by hitting a SMARTKEY and it is loaded automatically. When you want to run another program, you pull the reset to display the menu and select via another SMARTKEY. Sounds simple – yes it is!

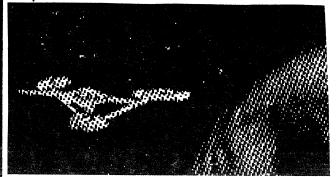
# SK I SK II SK III

If you have a ram disk, you can copy the bootable programs you want from the PRBOOT media to the ram disk via the transfer program that is included. To boot a program from the ram disk you MUST HAVE either SMARTDSK I OR SMARTDSK II (see above). You must first boot the SMARTDSK program, then insert your PRBOOT media and select your program from the menu. To switch to another program, you must re-boot SMARTDSK again and then insert PRBOOT. The requirement to do this each time takes away some of the advantages of booting from the ram disk in my opinion. Hopefully, Walter's can come up with a quicker method to switch between programs within the ram disk itself.

The price of this program is very reasonable and worth the convenience that is provided by having all your programs on one or two media. I personally don't think it is much savings for booting from the ram disk for other then SMARTBasic itself.

RATING - B

#### HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY By J. Goebel



HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE is one of the Infocom text adventure games. These games are very challenging and require various levels of logic and creativity to solve as well as a lot of time. There are no graphics in these games, they are all text oriented requiring phrase

answers to questions and situations. See my GAME column in the April and May NIAD issues fro more information on text adventure games.

If you have ever read the book, you will be able to get your way through the beginning of the game, no prob. The problem arrives when you get into the meat of the game.

Then the only thing similar to the book is the characters and objects. If you haven't read the book, it may be a little confusing at first. If you have or haven't read the book, you will never guess the object of the game.

The game is as silly as the book which was written by Douglas Adams (who used to be a writer for Monty Python). This text oriented game puts you in the shoes of Artur Dent (and maybe some other caracters). Even if you find the names of objects confusing (infinate improbability drive for example) just as many amusing ones will pop up (KILL-O-ZAP GUN). If you intend to tackle this game, be prepared for a lot of saving, and ripped out hair.

These games are very tough on data drives because of the frequent access to the tape to get the responses to questions and load the next part of the game. NIAD doesn't recommend tape versions of these games, but will provide them if you specifically request it. You MUST make a backup before you play the first time, however. If you have a 256k expander, then you can copy the entire game to it and play the game from the 256K! This works great — is lightning fast and no wear and tear on your drives.

All in all, this is a good game. If you are just breaking into Infocom games, however, make another selection (like ZORK I) your first because this one is so tough.

RATING A-



# PRODUCT LIST - MEMBERS ONLY PRICES EFFECTIVE: 8/ 1/88 and SUBJECT to CHANGE Without notice

OTHER SOFTWARE CONTINUED	26. 95 ADAMCALC DOT Matrix PATCH \$ 9.95 NEW ADAMCALC DOT Matrix PATCH \$ 9.95 NEW ALM MANAGE BEYOND TREK ALLY PATCH \$ 9.95 NEW ALLY METER \$ 16.95 NEW ALLY METER	SPECIAL   RANDMA'S RECIPES   DUSK	9.95 ACTIVISION SOFTWARE \$ 27.95 NEW 9.95 ACTIVISION SOFTWARE \$ 27.95 NEW 9.95 ACTIVISION SOFTWARE \$ 27.95 NEW 9.95 BOULDER DASH \$ 27.95 NEW 8.95 BOULDER DASH \$ 27.95 NEW 8.95 BOULDER DASH \$ 22.95 NEW 8.95 NEW
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