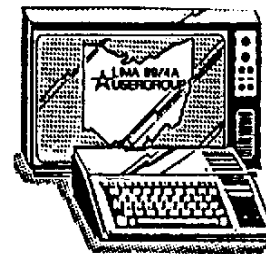


# BITS, BYTES & PIXELS

LIMA 33/4A USERS GROUP



## MAY 1990 VOLUME 6 #5

**TI MULTI USER GROUP CONFERENCE - FINAL UPDATE**  
Reed Hall (formerly Student Activities Bldg)  
Ohio State University Lima Campus  
Lima Ohio

### SCHEDULE OF MAIN EVENTS:

Friday May 25. Setup and disk copying from the Lima 33 software library 6-9PM. If you are arriving from out of town Friday evening, come join us to help or just for fellowship.

Saturday May 26.

Doors open 7:30AM.

First formal presentation 8:30AM

Formal presentations end no later than 6PM.

Cleanup 6-8PM.

Dutch Treat pizza party at local restaurant 8PM till?

### FORMAL PRESENTATION SCHEDULE:

These will be in two different rooms with staggered 1/2 hour starting times using mostly one hour time blocks.

#### Room 160

9:00AM- Gary Bowser (O.P.A.): "Latest hardware and software from OPA."

10:00AM- Jim Horn (Disk Only Software): "How to give away computers."

11:00AM- Bruce Harrison (Harrison Software): "The secrets of assembly language music programming for the TI."

Noon- User group officers meeting, a discussion of common problems.

1:00PM- Bud Mills (Bud Mills Services): "The latest hardware from BMS."

2:00PM- Gary Taylor (Pittsburgh User Group): "A demo of TI's Compact Computer 40, TI's Hex Bus peripherals, and the Mechatronics HexBus disk drive."

3:00PM- Chris Bobbitt (Asgard): "The Asgard mouse and other neat and new stuff from Asgard."

4:00PM- Barry Traver: Title to be announced.

5:00PM- Maybe an additional last minute presentation by someone. One hour is available. Any takers?

#### Room 150

8:30AM- Andy Frueh (Lima Ohio User Group): "Home Filer v2.2 and other original fairware."

9:00AM- Charles Good (Lima Ohio User Group): "A preview of FUNNELWEB version 4.3"

9:30AM- Barry Traver: "How XB programmers can easily use assembly in their XB programs."

10:30AM- Chris Bobbitt (Asgard): "The latest software from Asgard."

11:30AM- Paul Scheidemann (P&A Software): "A demo of PAGE PRO v1.5 and some of the graphic utilities designed for use with PAGE PRO."

1:30PM- Carl Romstedt (C.O.N.N.I.): "Some original label utilities in XB."

2:30PM- Gene Chandler (Great Lakes Software): "The latest software projects from Great Lakes Software."

3:30PM- Irwin Hott (C.O.N.N.I.): "Using AL SAVE"

4:30PM- Bill Hudson (C.O.N.N.I.): "A fast assembly language PreScan for XB programs."

5:00PM- There is one hour of possible presentation time still unscheduled. Any takers?

### VENDOR TABLES IN THE EXHIBIT AREA:

**WAS CONTROLS:** (William A. Shores) offering kits that allow you to add up to 5 grows to a standard extended basic cartridge.

**GENIAL COMPUTERWARE:** offering subscriptions and back issues of the GENIAL TRAVELER magazine on a disk.

**TIGERCUB SOFTWARE:** offering original software and very inexpensive disks of public domain software. New additions to TIGERCUB's PD software library will be available.

**P&A SOFTWARE:** offering original software by Paul Scheidemann.

**HARRISON SOFTWARE:** THE HARRISON WORD PROCESSOR, and disks annotated of classical music programmed in assembly.

**DISK ONLY SOFTWARE:** representing NYARC INC. and the Geneve computer.

**BUD MILLS SERVICES:** Horizon Randisks, PGRAM cards, and MEMEX memory expansion cards for the Geneve.

**OASIS PENSIVE ABACUTORS (OPA):** original software and hardware, including RAMBO for the Horizon Randisk, a "review module library" multi cartridge peripheral, and DISKDEX for indexing your disk library complete with OSKU comments.

**L.L. CONNER ENTERPRISES:** a general dealer in TI and third party hardware and software.

**RANCHARGED COMPUTER:** another general dealer in TI and third party hardware and software.

**GREAT LAKES SOFTWARE:** original assembly language software.

**COMPODINE:** original software by Rodger Merritt will be available at the Kawarthia 99er table.

### USER GROUP TABLES IN THE EXHIBIT AREA:

The following user groups have reserved table space. Most will have stuff for sale, mainly used hardware and original software. Members of other user groups (including groups from Macon GA, Akron OH, Champaign IL, and Lower Burrell PA, to name a few) here have told us that they too will attend. These other groups have decided not to request table space.

NEXT PAGE

## Bits, Bytes & Pixels

Cin-Day UG.....Cincinnati and Dayton Ohio  
 Great Lakes UG.....Detroit Michigan area  
 C.O.N.N.I. ....Columbus Ohio  
 Northcoast UG and TI-Chips..Cleveland Ohio area  
 Erie UG.....Erie Pennsylvania  
 The Fort's UG.....Fort Wayne Indiana  
 New Horizon's UG.....Toledo Ohio  
 OH-MI-TI UG.....Toledo Ohio and SE Michigan  
 Hoosier UG.....Indianapolis Indiana  
 Pittsburgh UG.....Pittsburgh Pennsylvania  
 St. Louis UG.....St. Louis Missouri  
 Kawartha UG.....Peterborough Ontario Canada  
 Lima Ohio UG.....Guess where?

### VIDEO TAPES OF FORMAL PRESENTATIONS:

All formal presentations will be video taped simultaneously using a video camera to show the presenter and a second VCR to show the monitor screen by recording output directly from the computer. From these dual masters, an edited version of all formal presentations will be made available to ANY user group (even those not attending the MUG conference), to any dealer attending the conference, and to those individuals who give the presentations. This edited version will include about 16 hours of viewing. Those groups, dealers, etc. who want a set of these video tapes should leave \$15 (which includes postage) OR three VHS tapes and \$3 postage at the Lima UG table, or send us your check for \$15. Those groups leaving three VHS tapes and \$3 at the Lima table should make sure that your tapes and money are CLEARLY MARKED with your group's name and return address. The Lima UG will copy your tapes and send them back to you 4th class mail. This offer is not extended to individuals unless they are paid members of the Lima OH User Group (hint hint).

### COPYING DISKS FROM THE LIMA UG SOFTWARE LIBRARY:

A representative of ANY user group can make disk copies of any and all software that has been added to the Lima UG software library since the last MUG conference in May 1987. This privilege is extended to UR representatives only and not to individuals (except individuals who are paid members of the Lima UG). There are 179 such new library software disks, all floppies. Commented listings of the contents of each side of each floppy are being sent with this newsletter to all user groups known to be likely to attend the Conference.

We want to try to avoid the waiting for disk copies that occurred at last year's MUG Conference, so we have expanded the times copying will be available and the number of systems available for copying. One set of our library disks and one system will be available for copying Friday evening during setup from 6-9PM. Two sets of our library disks and two systems will be available all day Saturday at the Lima table to allow you to make your copies. Almost everything in the library is in SSSD format. BRING YOUR OWN BLANK DISKS with you when you arrive at the show. Some dealers may be selling blank disks, but the Lima UG will not have blank disks available.

In order to conserve the Lima UG's limited manpower, all disk copying this year will be self service. User group representatives will sit down at our systems and make the copies themselves. REDISKIT and TURBO COPY will be the copy programs in use. These are both rapid whole disk copy programs that do not require preinitialized copy disk. Members of the Lima UG will be available to explain how the copy programs work and to assist with the operation of our copying hardware, but visiting user group representatives are RESPONSIBLE FOR TAKING THE NECESSARY TIME to make their own disk copies from our software library.

### TOURIST INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIMA AREA:

The conference is on a holiday weekend. If you are bringing the spouse and kids and staying at an area motel you may be interested in ways to keep the rest of your family happy while you are at the show. One way, of course, is to stay at one of the fancier motels and let the family use the motel's game room, swimming pool, whirl pool, etc. Information about neat stuff to do in the Lima area is usually readily available in area motels. You can obtain this information in advance by sending a postcard to this address:

Lima Convention and Visitors Bureau  
 147 N. Main St.  
 Lima OH 45801

Specifically state in your postcard that you are attending the May 26th TI Computer Conference at the OSU Lima Campus and request tourist information about the Lima area. I am assured by the bureau that they will send you a complete package of information by first class mail on the same day they receive your post card. This package will include the color booklet "Visitors' Guide to Lima", which is a great guide of things to do and see in and around Lima.

### OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION:

Lima area motels have quoted us the following rates for those attending the MUG conference. All prices quoted are "plus tax" which is 12%. Contact the motel of your choice, specifically state at the time you make your reservation that you are attending the TI Computer Conference at the OSU Lima Campus, and request the special rates quoted below. We have grouped the motels in two categories, "most convenient location", and "less convenient, but good price."

#### MOST CONVENIENT LOCATION, I75 and route 309:

Davis Plaza Motel, 419-222-1080

\$24 one person  
 \$28 two people one bed  
 \$30 two people two beds  
 \$34 family

Howard Johnson's Lodge, 419-227-2221

\$33 one queen bed, limit 2 persons  
 \$40 double bed, limit 4 persons

Holiday Inn (with Hollidome), 419-224-5737  
 \$55 standard 2 bed room, one person  
 \$58 standard 2 bed room domeside, one person  
 \$60 King bed, one person  
 \$63 king bed domeside, one person  
 \$5 each additional person  
 Motel 6, 419-228-0456  
 \$24.95 single  
 \$30.95 double

SLIGHTLY LESS CONVENIENT LOCATION, BUT GOOD PRICE  
 Quality Inn, 419-222-0596  
 \$32 flat rate per room, no extra person charge.  
 Standard, king, queen, and non smoking available.  
 Ramada Inn, 419-228-4251  
 \$30 flat rate per room, up to 4 people. To get  
 this rate reservations must be made TWO WEEKS in  
 advance.  
 Lima Best Western, 419-221-4114  
 \$34 single  
 \$36 two people one bed  
 \$38 two people in two beds  
 \$41 poolside two people in two beds.  
 This motel has an olympic size indoor pool,  
 biggest pool in the Lima area.

\*\*\*DONE\*\*\*

FUNNELWEB v4.21 -- UPDATED MARCH 11, 1990

The following FNB files have been updated from the Dec 20/89 release of version 4.21: -READ-ME, AT, DR (80 column), EE (40 column), FWDCC/EASH, and FWDCC/REPT. These updated files can be directly substituted for the similar named files in the Dec 20/89 release. The following quote from the new FWDCC/REPT describes the bug fixes of the new files:

\*Vn 4.12 mar/11/90 .. Fixes to 40-col EE file to stop potential lockup with QD after return, and to eliminate junk from end of LF line after file marking. Assembler AT file revised to improve file name recognition, transfer, and default. FWDCC/EASH updated to cover this. nonfatal bug with Eof and auto-paged read to View buffer fixed in 80-col DR. Format dot command error fixed in -Read-Me."

You can decide from this description whether it is worth your while to update from Dec 20. Any user group can obtain the updated FNB 4.21 files by sending a disk and return mailer to the Lima UG, P.O. Box 647, Venedocia OH 45894.

\*\*\*DONE\*\*\*

PREVIEW OF FUNNELWEB v4.30  
 described by Charles Good  
 Lima Ohio User Group

I have received from Tony McGovern a beta testing version of 80 column DISK REVIEW (now expanded in size to two files DR/DS) which will form the cornerstone of FUNNELWEB v4.30. This is GREATLY ENHANCED compared to the 80 column DR that is part of FUNNELWEB v4.21 in the following ways:

-Both central menus can be displayed simultaneously on the screen without exiting DISK REVIEW, and the central menu programs can be booted from this display.

-A complete set of disk manager functions is provided including disk formatting and varification, rename and swap disk, single and multiple file copying, as well as file deleting protecting and unprotecting.

-Sector editing with a screen display simultaneously in ASCII and Hex. The cursor can be in either the ASCII or Hex window, and changes made are simultaneously shown in both windows.

-String search for a single file or a whole disk, with wild card characters.

In his accompanying letter, Tony say he has not had to use DM1000 at all since he got this new DISK REVIEW working. Probably the only thing that DM1000 has of significance that is lacking in the new DISK REVIEW is "recover file." Tony says that when the 80 column version of Funnelweb v4.30 is released, the new DISK REVIEW will immediately boot when first entering the Funnelweb environment. The central menus can then be accessed directly from DISK REVIEW. Tony will soon have a Myarc MFDC on long term loan, and intends to make features of the new DISK REVIEW (including sector editing and string search) compatible with hard disks.

Tony says in his letter that he isn't sure yet which of these new features can be incorporated into the 40 column DISK REVIEW. The 40 column DISK REVIEW must reside in low memory expansion, which is limited in size. The 80 column DISK REVIEW resides in the generous 128K of VDP RAM associated with the 9938 video chip used in all TI 80 column systems.

Funnelweb v4.30 will be demonstrated in a formal presentation by me at the May 26 Lima MUG Conference.

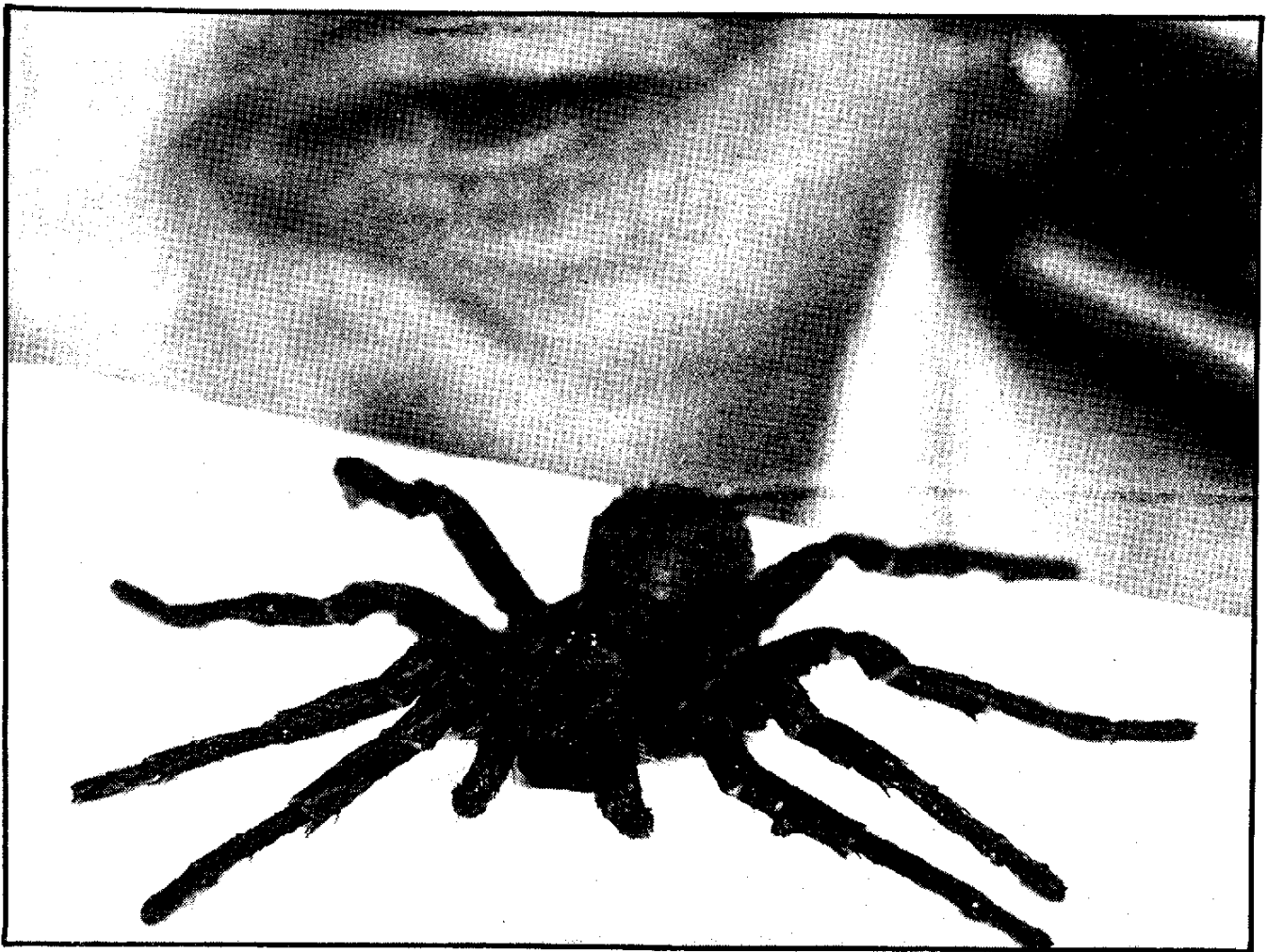
\*\*\*DONE\*\*\*

# Newcastle Herald

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1990

Price — 45c\*

## Rain, humidity bring a rash of funnel webs



One of the funnel web spiders handed in to ambulance officers this week.

FOUR funnel web spiders have been handed in to ambulance stations in the Newcastle area in the past five days.

'We have never had so many (funnel web spiders) in such a short span of time, it's quite amazing,' ambulance public relations officer Mr Bruce Hounslow said last night.

One funnel web was found in a pool at Dudley, while two were handed in to Cardiff ambulance station. Late last

week one was handed in at Hamilton ambulance station.

The recent heavy rain and humid weather has forced the spiders out of their hiding places, according to Mr Hounslow.

Mr Hounslow said people who owned pools should check them regularly for spiders, as the funnel web could live for up to three days in water.

According to Mr Hounslow, even if a spider looked as though it had drowned, it might still be alive.

Mr Hounslow said that in case of a spider bite 'immobilise the person, wrap a crepe bandage over the area where the bite is and wrap another crepe bandage up the limb. Keep the person still, and don't elevate the limb, call an ambulance and, if possible, catch the spider'.

**NEVER RELEASED OFFICIAL TI NUMBLES - PART 4**  
 by Charles Good  
 Lima Ohio User Group

**NECC EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE**

These are described in the booklet TEXAS INSTRUMENTS HOME COMPUTER PROGRAM LIBRARY ADDENDUM (copyright 1982 TI, publication number 1049706-1) that was packaged with a 99/4A computer I purchased new in the spring of 1983. In this booklet the NECC are all given official TI PHD numbers and each is described as follows:

"One of eleven math and science programs developed by the Minnesota Educational Computing Consortium (NECC) for grades one through eight. These programs are standard, in-school computer programs. Peripheral requirements: Disk-disk drive and controller required. Extended Basic command module is required. \$29.95"

The PHD numbers and NECC program names listed in the booklet are as follows:

- Astronomy.....PHD 5081
- Elementary Economics.....PHD 5079
- Social Science.....PHD 5085
- Exploring.....PHD 5083
- Elementary Math Science..PHD 5083
- Math Practice.....PHD 5084
- Metric and Counting.....PHD 5078
- Teacher's Tool Box.....PHD 5088
- Natural Science.....PHD 5086
- Word Beginnings.....PHD 5082

Gary Taylor, of the Pittsburgh User Group wrote TI about the NECC software. According to Gary, "TI contracted with them to produce 10 educational programs but cancelled them during 1982 or 1983. The reason I was given for the cancellation was because there were too many other 3rd party software developers working on similar products. I have seen them advertised in USER GROUP NEWS (Ed. note: This newsletter was sent by TI to its official user groups prior to black Friday). TI claims they do not exist!" But at least one NECC title does exist, and Gary Taylor sent it to me for evaluation.

**NECC ASTRONOMY**

The title screen shows a nice map of the state of Minnesota and says "Minnesota Educational Computing Consortium. Copyright 1982 Texas Instruments." It is written in extended basic, with three linked XB programs and a data file totalling 272 disk sectors. Although this software isn't in command module format, it was never released and therefore I consider it appropriate for this series of articles.

Pressing <enter> from the title screen brings up this screen: "M.E.C.C. presents TI 99/4 software in extended basic. Astronomy. 1- Solar Distance. 2- Ursa. 3- Duit." Notice that it says 99/4 without any "A".

If you press #1, you are given the opportunity to travel between earth and any other planet in the solar system, or the moon, or the sun. You are given your choice of the following modes of transportation: walk, tricycle, bicycle, motorcycle, car, train, plane, jet, or speed of light. Once you select your destination and mode of travel a map of the solar system is displayed at the top of the screen with arrows indicating the earth and your selected destination. The graphics here are superb. A sprite (walking man, tricycle, bicycle, etc) moves from right to left across the center of the screen and the computer displays the time it takes to reach your destination calculated to the nearest second and displayed in years, days, hours, minutes, and seconds. For example, the following times are given for travel from earth to the sun:

METHOD	Years	Days	Hours	Minutes	Seconds
Walk	4242	102	10	23	31
Tricycle	3535	54	9	22	58
Bicycle	1178	122	14	13	20
Motorcycle	212	30	11	22	18
Car	176	260	23	43	42
Train	117	304	6	13	20
Plane	25	91	0	9	23
Jet	10	259	22	23	1
Light speed	0	0	0	8	18

If you select #2 from the main menu a large data file is loaded and you learn from text and diagrams about the north star Polaris and about the constellations Draco, Cassiopeia, Cepheus, Little Dipper, and Big Dipper. You are taught how to find the north star. Then you are asked to input a date (month and day, not year) and an hour. The monitor then displays the orientation of these constellations at that particular time with the north star, of course, in the center of the screen. You can then advance the time in one hour intervals and watch the constellations rotate around the north star. This apparent rotation of the constellations is, of course, due to the rotation of the earth.

If you select #3 to quit, the screen says "Happy Stargazing."

This software is strictly educational and not a game. It is, however, very interesting. For example, it may not be common knowledge that it takes over 8 minutes for light to reach the earth from the sun. Although speech and sound are not used, this is an excellent job of extended basic programming. The graphics are great, and the programming to display the location of constellations at any hour of the year is very sophisticated. The only software in the TI world that resembles NECC ASTRONOMY is STARGAZER 1-2-3.

**LASSO**

The title screen says "LASSO (tm). Copyright 1983 Texas Instruments." The word Lasso is drawn on the screen in script as you watch. Speech is optional but highly recommended.

## Bits, Bytes &amp; Pixels

You are a cowboy and your job is to catch all the loose sheep and shoot the coyotes. The computer speaks to you in a western (cowboy) accent. The game starts with the computer saying, "Oh no, the sheep busted out!" The 4 sheep begin to rapidly move about outside of the corral. If you are touched by a moving sheep or wandering coyote you lose a life, and the computer says, "Oh no, I'm a gonner." You move the cowboy around with the arrow keys or joysticks. Pressing the fire button causes you to either shoot or to throw your lasso. The object of the game is to lasso all four sheep, and it isn't easy! You get points for catching sheep and for shooting coyotes. When you catch a sheep, computer yells "Yaaa Who!".

Games aren't really my thing, and I don't seem to get very far with this game. If I can get my kids interested in LASSO, they will probably show me how to do things properly. The speech with cowboy accent is really cute.

## MILLIKEN ?CLASS-STUDENT MANAGEMENT? MODULE

This one is known to me only as a GramCracker module disk file. I find no reference to it in the literature. It is apparently designed to allow teachers to keep track of students as they progress through the Milliken Math series (ADDITION, SUBTRACTION, MULTIPLICATION, DIVISION, LAWS OF ARITHMETIC, etc.; PHM3090 - PHM3101). The title screen is identical to that of the Milliken NUMBER READINESS SEQUENCE module (PHM3094, copyright 1982 by TI), but is not NUMBER READINESS. That is really strange. I suspect that this module was never completed and that a definite title had not been selected when development of the module ceased. The NUMBER READINESS SEQUENCE title screen was probably grafted onto the rest of the module with the anticipation that this title screen would be changed once a definite title had been selected.

When first booted DSK1 immediately turns on and the screen says LOADING DIRECTORY. If there is no disk in DSK1 you are given the error message CHECK DISK SYSTEM and you must reboot the module. If an initialized disk is in DSK1, even a disk with no files, you are advanced to the next screen which has at the top in a rectangular black box "NAME -- CLASS -- PASSWORD". Below the box you are asked "YOUR NAME?". The black box and "YOUR NAME?" prompt are found at the beginning of all the Milliken math modules. When you (enter) a name you then get this display:

```

CLASSES  TEACHERS
1. ,
2. ,
3. ,
4. ,
5.

```

YOUR CLASS NUMBER?

No matter what I input for class number I am given the error message INCORRECT INFORMATION and am returned to the "YOUR NAME?" prompt. I can't get beyond this screen! The

connas in the above screen suggest that the module expects two pieces of data in each record of the file that is booted when "LOADING DIRECTORY".

Examining with a sector editor the GramCracker files of this module, I can see that the module uses a I/F 17 file called STDIR, and another file called STDTA, both in DSK1. Some of the menus within the module, as revealed by reading sectors in ASCII are as follows:

ADD CLASS -- SHOW PASSWORD

- A. Add a class
- B. Print password of a class

```

\
\ SHOW TEACHER PASSWORD
  Class Name?

```

and this menu:

ESTABLISH PRINT DEVICE

1. Thermal Printer
2. Other
3. None

another menu:

Your Name?

Your Number?

Your Password?

this menu leads to two other menus:

MANAGER MENU

- A. Student Management
- B. Class Management

STUDENT MANAGEMENT

1. Add a student
2. Delete a student
3. Make student assignments
4. List the students
5. Review student progress
6. Delete student password

selecting "Make Student Assignments" gives this:

MAKE STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

Name of student?

New Mastery Level = %

New Failure Level = %

New Minimum Problems per level =

This particular sub menu convinces me that this module is related to the other Milliken math modules. In these math modules a certain percent of correct answers at any difficulty level advances you to the next higher level. A different percent correct (much lower) drops the student to the next lowest level. These percentages can be somehow be altered from this sub menu.

CLASS MANAGEMENT

1. Add a class
2. Delete a class
3. Make class assignments

NEXT PAGE

4. Delete all assignments
5. List the classes
6. Review class progress
7. Set Class Options
  - selecting Set Class Options brings this menu:
  - SET CLASS OPTIONS
  - CLASS DRILL
  - 1. Animation Animation
  - 2. Animation Text
  - 3. Text Animation
  - 4. Text Text

This Milliken software is apparently similar to CLASS DATA RECORDER of the 1981 Scott Foresman "School Management Applications" series, also never released. CLASS DATA RECORDER is described in Part 1 of this series of articles (BB&P January 1990). Perhaps the Milliken software was canceled to avoid duplication.

\*\*\*DONE\*\*\*

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**ANNOUNCING ALEXANDER HULPKE'S VERSION OF TETRIS FOR BETTER KEYBOARD CONTROL**

based on a "video tape to the editor" from Lutz Winkler

Most people write letters to the editor. Lutz Winkler sent us a "video tape to the editor" with a personal on screen thank you for some of the video tapes we have sent him.

Lutz's video tape includes a demonstration game of Alexander Hulpke's version of TETRIS (briefly reviewed in the April 1990 BB&P) with hints on game play and strategy. This short video is very professionally done, complete with background music at appropriate times. It begins with "Greetings from San Diego" and ends with "An El Cheapo Production-- 1990."

Lutz, in his video, suggests a way to improve keyboard control of the falling pieces which should be of interest to all players of Hulpke's TETRIS. This modification allows two handed keyboard operation. The left/right vertical movement of falling pieces is moved from numbers 8 and 9 to the arrow keys (S and D). Rotation of the pieces is moved to the . (period) key. Here are the TETRIS modifications:

- Sector 13, byte 214- change to 53
- Sector 13, byte 238- change to 44
- Sector 14, byte 6--- change to 2E

Copies of Lutz's video tape are available to any Lima OH member or any user group for \$5 including postage, OR for a VHS tape and paid return mailer.

\*\*\*DONE\*\*\*

**WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE DIGIT-EYE-ZER?**

The DIGIT-EYE-ZER video digitizer was to be a peripheral peripheral. Developed by DIJIT systems, it was designed to attached to the AVPC card and permit real time frame grabbing from a video camera, video tape, or off the air television. The captured images would be made into a disk file.

In a March 30, 1990 telephone conversation with Tom Spillane of Dijit Systems we were told that a wire wrap prototype had been successfully tested. However, according to Tom Spillane, not enough interest has been expressed to him by the TI community to justify contracting out for circuit boards and production of this device. We have no specifics at this time about potential cost. The price would not be cheap, but the economics of volume production would help to keep the price down. If any AVPC owner is interested in this product, give Tom's voice line a call. Tom can be reached at 619-295-3301. Dijit system's other voice line (619-281-2667) is no longer in service.

\*\*\*DONE\*\*\*

**PRINTER SETUP PROGRAM FOR ITEM #4 ON  
THE CORCOMP DISK CONTROLLER POWERUP SCREEN**

by Charles Good  
Lima Ohio User Group

Do you have a CorComp disk controller with the original CorComp epron? Have you ever wondered if you could do something useful with the normally empty item #4 on the CorComp powerup menu? You can if you have a GramKracker, PGRAM card, or other gram device. The GramKracker comes with a short utility called MSAVE which allows you to write short TI BASIC (not extended basic) programs and have them show up on the powerup menu with a title of your own choosing right after extended basic. With a TI controller and one MSAVED program, your powerup menu would read: PRESS 1 FOR TI BASIC, 2 FOR TI EXTENDED BASIC, 3 FOR YOUR TITLE. Those with a CorComp controller with CorComp epron would have a powerup menu that lists your first MSAVED program as item #4. With MSAVE, your short TI BASIC program is attached to the end of the extended basic code and loaded in to the gram device along with extended basic. Such a TI BASIC program will show up as #4 on the CorComp disk controller powerup menu. I don't know if the PGRAM comes with something like MSAVE, but extended basic disk files modified with MSAVE on a GramKracker should work on a PGRAM.

Here is a printer setup program for MSAVE which I have showing on my CorComp controller powerup menu as "4 PRINTER SETUP." It is designed for the Star SG10, so you may have to modify the NLU code on line 300. The MSAVE utility adds CALL BYE to TI BASIC programs added to the powerup menu. By pressing #7 from the program below, the program goes to line 360 which resets the computer and brings up the powerup menu.

```

100 OPEN #1:"PIO"
110 PRINT "PRESS 1 for NLU":
:
120 PRINT "PRESS 2 for CONDENSED":
130 PRINT "PRESS 3 for EMPHASIZED":
140 PRINT "PRESS 4 for DOUBLE STRIKE":
150 PRINT "PRESS 5 for EXPANDED":
160 PRINT "PRESS 6 for PRINTER RESET":
170 PRINT "PRESS 7 for POWERUP MENU":
180 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
190 IF S=0 THEN 180
200 IF K=49 THEN 300
210 IF K=50 THEN 310
220 IF K=51 THEN 320
230 IF K=52 THEN 330
240 IF K=53 THEN 340
    
```

```

250 IF K=54 THEN 350
260 IF K=55 THEN 360
270 GOTO 180
300 PRINT #1:CHR$(27) & "B" & CHR$(4)
305 GOTO 180
310 PRINT #1:CHR$(27) & CHR$(15)
315 GOTO 180
320 PRINT #1:CHR$(27) & "E"
325 GOTO 180
330 PRINT #1:CHR$(27) & "G"
335 GOTO 180
340 PRINT #1:CHR$(27) & "W" & CHR$(1)
345 GOTO 180
350 PRINT #1:CHR$(27) & "P"
355 GOTO 180
360 CALL BYE
    
```

**\*\*\*DONE\*\***

**AN IMPORTANT ENDORSEMENT OF THE MISSING LINK  
as reported by Charles Good**

THE MISSING LINK by Textaments is advertised in the March 1990 issue of Micropendium as "the ultimate extended basic upgrade." Cost is \$24.95 plus shipping and a \$3 demo disk is available. A utility is included called PAPER SAVER that allows TI Writer users to preview the format of an entire page before it is printed, including underlining and double strike. With PAPER SAVER, you see a good approximation of the page on the screen including underlining and double strike, and are able to read all the text. In my opinion, based only on what I have seen of PAPER SAVER on THE MISSING LINK demonstration disk, this software may be a MUST PURCHASE by all 99/4A who make extensive use of word processors that display only 40 columns on the screen, such as TI Writer or 40 column Funnelweb. PAPER SAVER is not really needed if you can see 80 columns on the monitor screen (AVPC card or Geneve), but the rest of THE MISSING LINK is sure neat. But, enough said! My comments are not the "important endorsement" mentioned in the title of this article. Read on.

Barry Traver, in a recent phone conversation with me, had nothing but praise for THE MISSING LINK. He said, "I have reviewed in Computer Shopper and elsewhere probably all the extended basic enhancements there are, 14 or 15 of them. I really think THE MISSING LINK is the best." He ought to know. One of the 14 or 15 extended basic enhancements he considers inferior to THE MISSING LINK was written by himself and published in his Genial Traveler.

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**\*\*\*DONE\*\***