More RAM Than God Intended

By Gus Thomasson
SLO Bytes PC Users Group

SLO Bytes Happenings

George started the early meeting at 1:00 in Fisher 286. He was going to talk about setting up letter head stationary, importing graphics, etc. using Ami Professional. As bad luck would have it, he kept getting "out of local memory" errors when trying to import certain graphics. After a few well chosen words he shifted to plan B and took questions from the audience. What a filler for a well planned demonstration. He had questions that ranged from replacing

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Auto Map

STOP

No Paper Mess...
A complete road map in your computer...

By Bob Ward
SLO Bytes PCUG

If you are like me, the only time a road map is properly folded is when it's brand new. Unfold it once, and it always seems that the creases are going in the wrong direction when you try and fold it up again. I've often wondered if map makers go out of their way to fold a map in such a way that it can never be repeated!

Along comes AutoMap, a road atlas on disk. No longer do I have to worry about folding the paper correctly, unless we are talking about computer paper, and then you have at least a 50% chance of getting it right. This program does some wonderful things if you travel much by automobile. To mention a few statistics, AutoMap

Second part in an on-going sauga of DOS revisions and updates...

No one has the right to expect more RAM than you are qualified to receive. If you have an 8088 and you have loaded your pitiful little mother-board with all the RAM it will hold then you are qualified to have 640, right? Nooo! First you must load the boot files and COM-MAND.COM plus any other device drivers you might think you need like ANSI.SYS or DMDRVR.SYS, (a common hard disk partitioning device driver). Then there are files and buffers and TSR's. Now your RAM is down to 530K or so. That's fine, I guess, actually if you still have an 8088 you probably don't need

CONTENTS

Club Officers

President George Campbell
Vice President Sam Powers
Treasurer Bernice Meador
Secretary Bob Ward
Editor Bob Ward

Microlytics' Random House Encyclopedia

By *Jim Bigelow*

This evaluation reflects my first impressions of one of Microlytics' series of INFODESK programs. A second review, which would include some research and maybe six months of usage might be more exciting. But for starters: The electronic computerized version of *Random House Encyclopedia* speaks well for itself in that it is based on the original *Random House Encyclopedia*.

It is a good sized package in that it comes on 16-360K, 5 1/4" floppies; or on 8-720K 3 1/2" disks. (The data could be squeezed.) That tells you something of the vast amount of information it contains, over 20,000 articles. The program is easily installed and must be installed. It cannot be copied directly to your hard disk or moved from one drive to another.

To run it, a user will need an IBM PC Compatible computer with 640K RAM and DOS 3.3 or higher, and for sure, a hard disk with 5.6M of available space.

Operation and control of the program is maintained through a few select key commands. It has an above screen pull-down menu. The combination makes it very simple to learn and use.

Upon starting *Encyclopedia* you will find that it is set up in the following general categories: Geography; History; Philosophy; Religion and Mythology; Social Science; The Arts; Science; Sports and Leisure; Law; Government; and Time Chart.

Time Chart in itself is an interesting and valuable feature. It organizes segments of history into 25 time periods ranging from 4000 B.C. to the present. Each period is divided into subcategories and then into ten time segments. The subcategories give adequate coverage of principal

events, national events, religion and philosophy, literature, art and architecture, music, science and technology.

Move the highlighted bar to the category of your choice, hit the enter key, and you are given subcategories. Again, hit the enter key and a dialogue box appears with your information. This may be only a few lines or more than a full screen of text. They claim there are more than 20,000 entries. I didn't count them.

If you need to search for an item? Press the F2 key, type in your word, hit enter, and it will FIND it for you. FIND looks for exact matches only. If you don't know the correct spelling, or the title, use the Reverse Dictionary. It has several features for finding, including Boolean logic, which is the use of AND or OR. You can narrow a search by entering more than a single word, in which case the only articles listed will be those that contain ALL of the words you entered. You can narrow a search by separating two words or groups of words by OR. Now all articles that contain either word or group of words will be listed. AND ties two words together, and narrows a search. If you have problems, hitting the F1 key opens a context sensitive help screen that assists you.

Encyclopedia keeps track of your pursuits so that later, if you wish, you can outline your studies, pick what you want and then print the list to file or printer. One objection here is Microlytics' desire to advertise which means that their name plus several lines of addresses must be deleted from each article. I found a word processor served me well for deleting the advertising and reformatting the text to suit my purposes. Though it is

Just a Little Library Disaster

By Bob Ward, Librarian

As librarian for our group I received very disturbing news today in the mail. For a long time now, much of our library software was received as downloads from a large bulletin board in Wisconsin, ECEC-PC. This subscription board was accessed through a national service called Starlink which used the local Tymnet telephone outdial service in San Luis Obispo. Therefore the actual telephone call was toll free, the only charge being $3.00 per hour service charge from Starlink. For sometime now Starlink has been merging with their sister company, Connect-USA.

Several things have happened since that time. First, Connect-USA customers can only use phone numbers setup in large cities by Connect-USA. Outdial services such as Compuserve or Tymnet are not available. Then in the mail today comes a letter from Starlink stating that within 4 days all Starlink members will be merged with Connect-USA members and that the only outdial service available will be through their phone numbers in large cities. Starlink will no longer exist nor will the connection to country-wide BBS's through Tymnet in San Luis Obispo.

The bottom line is that the major source for most of our new library software and upgrades has been severed. The only other option would be to purchase a 9600 baud modem and use AT&T's long distance service at about $8.00 per hour. At this point, I don't see this as an alternative for me.

So members of SLO Bytes, if the library looks a little "lean" in coming months you now know the reason. I will pursue other avenues for software such as Genie BBS service. Unfortunately, Compuserve at $12 per hour is out of the question for downloading software.

RAM

any more. How much does WordStar need anyway?

If you have a 80286 you may qualify for more RAM. You may have 1 or 2 megabytes of RAM on your computer. But of course you got it from the cheapest mail order house you could find. Its the American way after all. Of course the person taking your order knows nothing about computers, right? So in short there's no way they are going to help you and your programs access this additional RAM even if they knew. So still you are subject to the dreaded message, " Not enough memory to proceed." Shadow RAM and various memory configurations muddle the picture even more. Still you may only have 530K or so left after you boot. Surprisingly enough, most extended or expanded memory managers take more of your precious RAM than you save by loading them. So what to do?

Enter DOS 5.0

This new DOS does several things different than does those of the past. As you know DOS 4.0 (DOS from Hell), the debacle of the century, was actually developed by IBM during the abortive partnership of Microsoft and IBM. It is rumored that DOS 4.0 was the contributing factor that broke up this partnership. It seems IBM purposely crippled it because they were going to woo the the hapless consumer over to OS2 soon. DOS 4.0 was only to be a stopgap. It was supposed to be bad to make people cry for something better. Microsoft on the other hand had a certain pride in their programs which precluded their association with such companies. Over IBM's dead body they developed Dos 5.0. Not a perfect DOS but a significant improvement in operating systems. First DOS 5 loads much of itself in the no-mans land above 640K. This means COMMAND.COM is loaded in high memory. Let's define some terms before we go on so we can speak of such things in mixed company, no pun intended.

DOS 5 takes a giant step forward by allowing the user access to the upper memory blocks (that RAM above 640K) It's a confusing area because blocks of it are used for many things. The video memory is placed there the BIOS may be loaded there and TSR's (Terminate and stay resident software like sidekick) are loaded there.

The memory is thus broken up into sections. There may be enough memory to load a TSR, mouse or cache into this area, thus leaving more of the 640 area free for your applications. But chances are this file may be splintered into multiple blocks. This is DOS 5's major fault. It has no utility to aid you in the tedious and tiresome task of upper memory management. Trial and error is fine for monkeys and MS-DOS writers but not for people who work for a living. Another DOS 5 problem is the creation of low memory. You see if you load COMMAND.COM into high memory you leave a hole where it was in low memory. Some programs are not used to seeing memory available that low in DOS and bomb. None the less what you end up with is 635K or so with all things loaded high.

Enter DrDOS 6.0

This could be the Great Promised DOS from Heaven? The best thing it has going for it is the fact that Microsoft didn't write it, Digital Research did. It has a utility that reflects where things are in high memory . It graphically displays the information and allows hands on tailoring of the high memory area. But still you must by hand try different combinations of the loading process and different orders to find the optimal one for your system. If only there was a utility that automatically configures the CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT to the optimal order and location of high loaded files. Eureka! there is. It's called QEMM386.SYS; Version 6.0 by Quarterdeck, the same people who wrote the well reviewed Deskview. This miraculous little program will

emulate expanded or extended memory as needed and is completely compatible with Windows 3.0. Not only that but it automatically configures itself to your computer and uses the power of your own system to try many different combinations on TSR's in an attempt to optimize the available memory of your system. It doesn't get much better than this! By the way DrDOS also has a compression utility, which when loaded, will invisibly double the size of your harddisk. I've used it to compress my own harddisks from 158 megabytes to 330 megs each! Not bad. I've only crashed the system once so far more about that in the next exciting chapter of DrDOS from Heaven.

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DOS Hints

By Barry Keller
Kern Independent PCUG
June 1991

I hate installing new software. I'm always afraid that I'm going to run up against installation problems. Some of the people who write INSTALL programs must be brain dead. How else do you explain software that doesn't check to see if it will fit on your hard disk or that when saving your unaltered AUTOEXEC.BAT file doesn't check to see that it is overwriting a backup file of yours which already exists. Now, as bad as both of these problems are, they pale in comparison to the frustration level I used to achieve when confronted with software that refused to install from the B: drive.

Most people who have two floppy drives on their PC do so because they want to support 5 3/4 and 3 1/2 inch diskettes. The problem arises

AutoMap

supports over 52,000 cities and 360,000 miles of roadways in the United States and Canada. You can find details on land area, licensed drivers, interstate miles and Laws of the road in every state, and toll free phone numbers for most of the national car rental and motel/hotel chains in the country. You can print out detailed trip maps between to points in the US or routing maps as seen in figure 1.

How It Works

There are several drop down menus across the top of the screen. You can use the mouse or your keyboard if you wish. I found after using AutoMap for awhile, the keyboard was faster. Most of the commands involve the Alt and a key or a function key.

```
                 AUTOMAP V2.0
       Quickest route from Los Osos to Las Vegas
       Via Bakersfield

       Time 9 hrs 16 min. Distance 427 miles.
                                            Figure 1

Time                          Road    For        Dir    Towards
06:30  DEPART Los Osos (Californi Unknown 5 miles
07:02  At Morro Bay take the       S41    14 miles  E     (Atascadero)
07:19  At Atascadero stay on the   S41    27 miles  E
07:51  Turn right onto             S46    46 miles  E     (Wasco)
08:46  Turn right onto             I5     20 miles  S     (Maricopa)
09:08  Turn off onto               S58     9 miles  E
09:18  Turn right onto             S43     1 mile   S
09:20  Turn left onto              S58    12 miles  E     Bakersfield
09:35  At Greenacres stay on the   S58     2 miles  E     Bakersfield
09:37  ARRIVE Bakersfield (California)
10:22  DEPART Bakersfield (Califo  S58    59 miles  SE    (Mojave)
11:27  Go onto                     S14     2 miles  S     (Mojave)
11:29  At Mojave turn left onto    S58    72 miles  E
12:55  Bear left onto              S247    4 miles  E
13:00  Turn left onto              I15   154 miles N      Las Vegas
15:46  ARRIVE Las Vegas
```

File Menu

Under the file menu you can print what is on the screen to a printer, text file, or PCX graphic if it is a map. You can also save your position from this window so the next time you enter AutoMap you will be right where you left off on the previous session

Display

This window controls the detail and size of the map. The + and - key give more or less detail (i.e. number of roads on the map). This can get quite busy if the map is zoomed out to show most of the US when you ask for this much detail. Save this function for areas where you have "zoomed in" by use of the mouse or

function keys. From here you can also choose "Go to" which will find almost any small town, burg, or cow path in the country. You can even choose states, regions or latitudes and longitudes if you're so inclined. More close to home, Automap found an area within Los Osos, where I live, called Cuesta-by-the-Sea. This is little more than an area one half mile square and doesn't have a ZIP code nor does it show on many local maps. I would guess half the people who live in this area don't even know it's called Cuesta-by-the-Sea or where its boundries lie. The detail of AutoMap is quite impressive.

Data

Here is where you will find most of the power in AutoMap. You can click on as many or few preferences as you wish. For example, you can choose to show all mountain ranges, small towns, state and city data, and water features. Overlay this with oceans, recreation areas, lakes, etc. and you have map with more details than you would find on most foldout paper maps.

Route

From here you can set a starting point and ending point for your trip and the map will show you the fastest, shortest or alternate route of your choice by putting a blinking line over the route. If you want to add a side trip, just select "via" and put it in. Perhaps you dislike a specific road such as Interstate 5 on the west

coast. No problem, that road can be avoided when planning your trip.

Utilities

Some of the utilities are similar to what you would find in the databases. You can choose ferry boat water routes, road classes, coastlines, etc. You can choose default colors or make up your own. You can even play a road map game!

Screen

From the Screen window one can refresh the map, or choose a journey. Pick a starting point and ending point (this time you don't have to use the map) and a routing will be printed to screen, file or printer along with the estimated time between points.

Perhaps you don't drive like most other people on the road. You cruise at 50 mph on interstates and 30 mph on secondary roads. All this can be entered under "editing" the journey and the time of arrival will change accordingly along with the time between the intermittent points (figure 1).

The only improvement I would like to see to the resultant routing map would be a column with cumulative distance as the trip progresses. Also I would like to have the option of setting parameters such as no more than 10 hours on the road in one day and have the program choose the nearest stopping place at night. This would make the trip more realistic as very few people are going to drive 38 hours straight through from point A to point B. You do have of option of choosing places to stop but you must know they are on the route you are taking or you may be off on a side trip.

AutoMap

Help

If you get into trouble while traveling around in AutoMap just press the F1 key and up comes a detailed help screen. With this feature, the accompanying manual isn't very necessary.

Conclusion

This is by far one of the most fascinating programs I've used in some time. It's quite unique and well written. I don't think that new major highways are constructed so often as updates would be necessary every 3 months. Some of the statistics may go out of date but then who really cares how many registered motorists reside in California. I've always known the answer anyway... Too Many!

AutoMap, Inc.
9831 South 51st Street, Suite C-113
Phoenix, AZ 85044-9930
800-545-6626
$99.95

###

SLO Bytes Library

Try one or all these disks at the next meeting. There's a little something for everyone.

#452 Electronic Coloring Book
Great fun for the kids. Color in the pictures. **Chinese Tutorial** - learn Chinese.

#453 **#1ARCTIC** - another great animation graphics game from Apogee Software, the Arctic Adventure. **MCASTLE** - Protect the castle by answering the math questions correctly. **MTHMST27** Math Master, a math tutorial.

#454 WIZPLUS - PC Wizard Power Master Plus. Good menuing program with automatic backup, etc. Quite sophisticated. **JETP12** If you have a laser jet printer, get this one. Set up your printing ques automatically.

#455 PROPLUS - resident utilities to be used with Prodigy.

#456 PRI25 - Prodigy screen capture program.

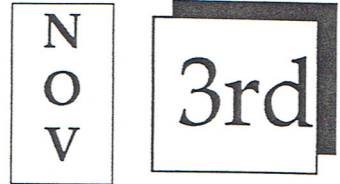Updates:

#419 SCANV82 and CLEAN82 updated from ver 80.

Demos:

#202 **Martian memorandum** (1.2meg) from Access Software
#203 **TitusDOS BBS** ver 2.01 from

Bits n' Bytes

» Sorry we ran out of flyers for Auto-Map. 50 more brochures will be available at the meeting. The company has a special user group offer of $60 if purchased before October 15th. OK you say, this newsletter wasn't even in your possession until the 18th. Call (800)545-6626, talk to Tim Brannan, and explain the situation. I'm sure something can be worked out. Even before doing that, look in one of the national computer magazines. It's possible that "street price" is even cheaper that that!

» I still have applications for purchase of "Definitions Plus". $49 takes away a copy of a dictionary on a disk. I'll remember to bring them to the next meeting. Things arn't normal unless I forget at least one thing each meeting.

Calendar

N O V   **3rd**

November 3	Legacy, desktop pulisher for Windows by Chuck Buelow
December 1	Our annual Christmas party and give-a-way. Also semi-annual swap meet. Election of officers.
March '92	Instant Office by David Dilworth (tentative)

Happenings

modem chips to upgrading an existing modem, to defragmentation of hard disks with the new versions of Norton Utilities and PCTools. The only problem seems to occur if you are running DOS 5.0 and both Norton and Central Point Software are in the process of sending out free bug fixes.

I took the last 20 minutes of the early session and demonstrated two commercial software programs; After Dark, a nifty screen blanker for Windows and AutoMap. There were many "oohs & ahhhs" when I showed the capabilities of AutoMap. Perhaps it was because the program is so incredibly accurate, precise and useful if you do any amount of traveling by car. I quickly ran out of the brochures that were sent with the program. More are on the way though and will be available at the meeting. (See Bits 'n Bytes).

After a short intermission and a late start we got everyone settled down around 2:50 pm. We quickly dispensed with the usual short business meeting and announcements, as we usually don't have any business anyway. After "for$ale" time I got right down to demonstrating Menu-Works Advanced. Rather than go into detail of the demonstration, I suggest you read my review of Menu-Works in the September issue of HardCopy. The audience seemed pleased with the demonstration probably for two reasons: 1. The demonstration only took 20-25 minutes and 2. everyone who attended the demonstration received a coupon that entitled them to a **FREE** copy ($10 shipping and handling) of MenuWorks Advanced. There appeared to be quite a few "happy campers" in the audience.

This coming month we have an outside speaker... hurrah!!! Chuck Buelow, regional sales representative from NBI will be demonstrating their latest version of *Legacy* (2.0), a wordprocessor and desktop publishing package that runs under Windows 3.0. Here are some of the new features added to version 2.0:

» Grammar Checker
» Full Image Processing
» Document Management
» Floating Text Frames
» Macros
» Network Support

and the list goes on... This is on top of the many features found in version 1.1 such as Footnoting, Table of Contents, Mail Merge, linked frames and typesetting. Of course running under Windows it also takes full advantage of fonts provided under Adobe Type Manager. Someone in the audience will be the lucky winner of Legacy version 1.1. So ya all come now, here!

For those attending the demonstration, NBI will also be offering Legacy at a reduced price. Legacy 1.1 for $129 with an upgrade option for an additional $59.

Encyclopedia

lacking in good printout facilities, it is a step ahead of DEFINITIONS PLUS, WordScience's Electronic Dictionary, that has none, period! With some subjects, related articles are outlined for the user. To emphasize *Encyclopedia's* simplicity and ease of use I will tell you about an eleven year old boy, Monte Salazar. Monte, along with his parents and family came to my house to visit. Now Monte had no home computer, but used one at school. I showed him the program and gave him a few basic instructions. He took his turn at the computer and ran *Encyclopedia* very efficiently, for two hours without further assistance.

Encyclopedia doesn't quite match up to the CD illustrated versions, but the price is right. You do get all you pay for and it will provide you and your family with very much information. Companion accessories are also obtainable from Microlytics, the creator of The *Random House Encyclopedia*. These are *Inside Information* for $99.99, and *The Elements of Style* for $59.00. As *Encyclopedia* is a popular program you should be able to obtain it at your local computer store.
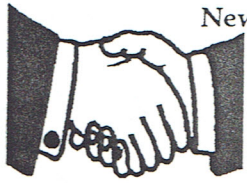
Microlytics Inc.
2 Tobey Village Office Park
Pittsburg, N.Y. 14534
716-248-9150

DOS Hints

when your A: drive and your new software diskettes are not of the same size. I recently read an article in a major PC magazine (four letter name beginning with B) where a columnist related his experience with this same problem and how he solved it by copying the files over to the correct size diskettes. Sometimes this will work, but a lot of times it will not; the files may not all fit or the installation program may be looking for clues to the identity of the diskette that you have not anticipated (such as the volume label, hidden files, etc). Whether it works or not, this is not a good solution to the problem. You shouldn't have to waste your time copying diskettes. There is a simple solution though which eased my frustration and it only takes one batch file:

```
REM  myinstal.bat
REM  Use: Installs software from
        drive B:
REM  Syntax: myinstal instl_cmd
        [options...]
REM  Exam: myinstal install -m3
b:
assign b a
COMMAND /C %1 %2 %3 %4 %5
%6 %7
assign
```

LAW:

Resurrection of a Copyright

By Frederic M. Wilf, J.D.

You may have heard that judge in Los Angeles invalidated the copyrights for a popular database program called dBASE. You have heard that this same judge changed his mind five months later and reinstated the dBASE copyrights. You may be wondering is justice confused as well as blind?

All this started over ten years ago, when Wayne Ratliff was inspired by a mainframe database program called JPLDIS to write his own micro database program he then called VULCAN. VULCAN was later renamed dBASE II (there never was a dBASE I), and the rest is programming history. Much of the dBASE II programming language is derived from the programming language found in JPLDIS, which was created by programmers at a federal agency, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Wayne Ratliff did not ask permission to use the JPLDIS language, but he did not need to ask for permission because any work created by employees of a federal agency is automatically placed in the public domain for free use by anyone. However, Ashton-Tate later made a mistake. After buying VULCAN/dBASE from Wayne, Ashton-Tate failed to tell the Copyright Office about Wayne's use of the programming language in JPLDIS, even though it would have cost Ashton-Tate nothing to be completely truthful.

Later, when Ashton-Tate sued its best-known competitor in a lawsuit stylized as Ashton-Tate Corp. v. Fox Software, Inc. and the Santa Cruz Operation Inc., the defendants argued that Ashton-Tate can't enforce its copyright because Ashton-Tate had mislead the U.S. Copyright Office. Judge Terry Hatter, Jr. reviewed the arguments and then made it clear that he didn't like what he considered Ashton-Tate's intentional and repeated attempts to fool the Office. Fooling the Copyright Office is easy because the Copyright Office does not and can not investigate the claims made by applicants on copyright applications. Thus, this federal judge was willing to penalize a litigant for trying to sandbag a federal agency. Further, it took two years of litigation and countless depositions before Ashton-Tate finally admitted that it had failed to tell the Copyright Office about JPLDIS and VULCAN.

So, Judge Hatter threw out all of Ashton-Tate's copyrights in the dBASE line of products (dBASE II, III, III PLUS and IV). Then, five months later, Judge Hatter rescinded his first order, and the dBASE copyrights are valid again. It may be that Judge Hatter decided that he was wrong the first time around and that the dBASE copyrights are valid regardless of Ashton-Tate's actions or omissions. Most lawyers, however, think that Judge Hatter changed his mind because he believed that an appellate court (in this case, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals) would overturn Judge Hatter's decision and send it back to him. Thus, Judge Hatter rescinded his order before the appellate court did it for him. This doesn't mean that Judge Hatter was entirely wrong the first time around. Rather, it is likely that he felt his order would be overturned on procedural grounds, and he'd rather correct any procedural defects now than try to fix them after another two or three years of litigation.

So, is justice blind? It's supposed to be. Ashton-Tate yelled and screamed that this can't happen because they

are a multimillion dollar company. But that didn't stop Judge Hatter or change his mind.

Is justice confused? So far as software is concerned, probably. Most lawyers and judges are computer illiterate (although Judge Hatter apparently is computer literate). But the technology is new, and the issues keep changing, so the body of judicial decisions is still relatively new. Not so occasionally, a judge will make a decision that he or she later regrets. The difference here is that Judge Hatter is in a position to correct what may or may not have been a mistake the first time around. Frederic M. Wilf is a principal in the law firm of Elman & Wilf with offices in Media and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He practices computer, intellectual property and business law and litigation.

Mr. Wilf may be reached via CompuServe 72300,2061 and by telephone at (215) 892-9580.

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DOS Hints

The first half of this batch file is comments (REMinder statements) to remind you of use and syntax. The first command line simply moves you to drive B:. The second command line however works a bit of DOS magic. The assign command assigns a new name to an existing drive. It is still known to DOS by its old name, but is also known by the new name. In this case we tell DOS to use drive B: whenever it is told to use drive A:.

The next command line may seem confusing, but after some analysis things should be clearer. Remember that this batch file is to move us to the b: drive (already handled), work some magic to make DOS think b: is a: (already handled), run the software installation program and then reset things back to the way

they were, i.e., a: is a: again. Obviously we are at the "run the software installation program" part.

There are actually two parts to this next command line. The first part consists of "COMMAND /C," which I'll get to in a minute. The second part, "%1 %2 %3 %4 %5 %6 %7" is a list of batch replacement parameters. for the first thru seventh word given on the DOS command line (following the name of the batch file itself). It is through the use of replacement parameters that you can specify variable data in a batch file. Variable data is information that may not be the same each time you run the batch file. In this case we are using variable data to specify the name of the installation program and any parameters it may require. The easy way to think of it is that this data represents what you would normally key if your software's installation program worked correctly.

The first part of this command line, "COMMAND /C" tells DOS to load another copy of command.com to execute the installation program. We do this because some installation programs are actually batch files, and when one batch file executes another batch file there is a problem. When the second batch file finishes, control is returned to DOS rather than the first batch file. Using a new command.com solves this problem. If you use DOS 3.3 or higher you can replace " command /c " with the batch command " CALL " (which allows batch files to execute batch files) and myinstal will run a little faster and use less RAM
.

The last line of the batch file is most important; it runs the assign program again, this time with no parameters. This negates all previous assignments, meaning drive A: is drive A: again
.

Barry Keller is a programmer and graphic artist and is owner of Barry Keller Microsystems in Taft, California. He can be reached at (805) 763-1343.

The Sines of the Zerodiac Your Technical Horoscope ©

By Al Gorithm

Reproduced by permission of the author... The infamous and humorous **Saint Silicon***

OCTOBER 23 TO NOVEMBER 21 Sign = SECTOR

You are a Sector. You have very strong opinions about what goes where. "Everything in its place," is your motto. A born leader and soldier, you will often ask: "Do you want this disk initialized?" You should avoid being overbearing and arbitrary. Sector people are usually somewhat controversial and do not do things in half measures. You are known for your IC state. Remember, your sharp words can do or undo good or bad, so try to avoid read/write errors.

ASCIIstrology comes from Jeffrey Armstrong's book The Binary Bible, King Job's Perversion. If you want over 200 pages of laughter, all computer related, this book may be purchased for $16.95 (includes shipping).

Phillip Begley 11/03
Ben Brown 11/04
Cortez Cate 11/07
Doug DePue 11/12
Ken Dully 11/09
Bob Gold 11/02
Walter Heffner 11/16
Ron Ingalls 11/20
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Mary Scrivner 11/03
James Simmons 11/05
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W. Carl Wallace 11/23
Ernest Werbel 11/26

Club Information

The SLO BYTES Newsletter is a monthly publication of SLO BYTES PC User's Group located in San Luis Obispo, California. Information in this Newsletter is derived from both our own membership and other PC User Group Newsletters. The purpose of this publication is to inform our members of meetings and provide information related to the use of IBM PC's and compatible computers.

Membership: Dues are $20 per year. Newsletter only is $12 per year. Full membership entitles you to our monthly newsletter, full use of the public domain software library and discounts at local computer stores.

Article Submission: Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month. Articles should be provided in ASCII format without any type of formatting from your wordprocessor including tabs, indents, extra spaces, or highlighting. We prefer articles on disk but will accept hardcopies if necessary.

Disclaimer: Neither SLO BYTES PC User's Group, its officers, editor, or contributors to this newsletter assume liability for damages arising out of this publication of any article, including but not limited to the listing of programming code, batch files and other helpful hints.

Reprinting of this Newsletter: Articles from this newsletter may be reprinted by other user groups if credit is given to both the author and newsletter from which it was taken. Reproduction of articles with a specific © Copyright notice is prohibited without prior permission from the original author.

Advertising: Commercial advertisers, request ad packet from Bob Ward. Members may advertise personal computer equipment or software for free. Submit your ad to Bob Ward.

Direct all correspondence to Bob Ward, 2100 Andre Ave., Los Osos, CA. 93402. Call (805)756-2164 M-F 7:30am - 5pm and (805)528-0121 all other times.

Editor: John Ewing, 1710 15th Street, Los Osos, Ca. 93402. Phone 528-7196.

Meeting Times

General meetings are held the 1st Sunday of every month, unless noted otherwise in the newsletter calendar, at 2:30 pm in the Cal Poly University Biology Department, Fisher Hall 286. Special Interest Groups (SIGS) meet at 1:00 - 2:15 pm.

New User's SIG - F.H. 286

Our Public Domain Library is in Fisher Hall 292. Hours 12 Noon till closing.
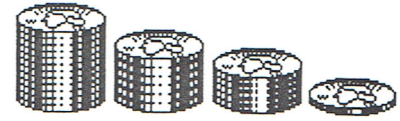
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SLO BYTES BULLLETIN
BOARD

(805) 528-3753 2400/8/N/1

PC Files & Message Section

SYSOP: George Campbell

All Welcome - 24 Hours
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Treasurer's Report

SLO Bytes PCUG Expenditures August, 1991

Beginning Balance:	+1366.47
Expenses:	
Newsletter 09/25/91	- 47.66
First Class Stamps	- 29.00
Deposit 10/07/91	+687.00
Balance 10/07/91	+1976.81

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DISCOUNTS

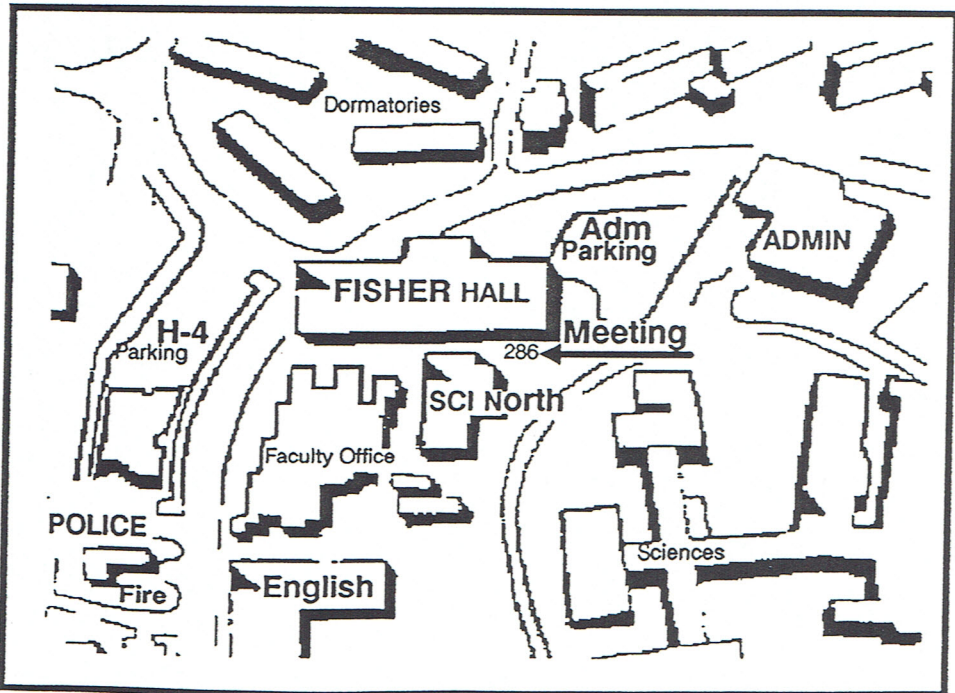|		
Star Computers 855 Morro Bay Blvd. Morro Bay 772-7827	5% 10%	Any software in stock. Paper, ribbons, cables, and other supplies.
Computer Logic 973 Foothill Blvd. #4 San Luis Obispo 544-8347	10%	Off list - all computers, software, computer peripherals, and products. Contact Bruce, Paul or Dave for discount.
WITCO Computers 3563 Sueldo, Blvd. B San Luis Obsipo 549-0811	$100 10%	Off regular prices on Whitaker computers Off service Meet nearly any advertised price on same or similar computers. Bring ad to store.
Los Cerros Computers 466-4402	15% 20%	Above cost on computers and computer peripherals. Above cost on software & supplies (Cost includes shipping & handling)

Ziff-Davis User Group Magazine Discounts

PC-Magazine - $24.97
PC-Computing - $14.97
Have your mailing label handy for renewals
Call 1-800-777-2547 and ask for your
user group discount

SLO BYTES PC USER'S GROUP
c/o Bob Ward
2100 Andre Ave.
Los Osos, CA. 93402

To Grand Avenue

GRAND AVE. - Enter campus via Grand Avenue. Proceed until the street dead-ends on campus. Turn right. Continue past the Administration building, and Fisher Science located to your left. Turn right just beyond Fisher Hall into the H-4 Faculty-staff parking lot. Walk across the street through Fisher Science. The meeting is on the opposite end of the building. Refer to the map for meeting locations.

Hwy 1 / Highland Ave. - Enter campus via Highland Ave. Proceed under the railroad bridge and bear to the right at the fork in the road. Drive past the Library which should be on your right. Continue on North Perimeter road through 2 stop signs. Take the 2nd left turn beyond the Fire Station into the H-4 Faculty/Staff parking lot. Walk across the street through Fisher Science. The meeting is on the opposite end of the building. Refer to the map for meeting locations.