

# NORTHERN BYTES



## Double Issue: Volume 7 Number 4

Greetings! and Farewell! This is the last issue of NORTHERN BYTES that will be produced under my editorship. Future issues of NORTHERN BYTES will be edited by Charley Butler of The Alternate Source. As most of our readers are aware, TAS has published NORTHERN BYTES since Volume 5, Number 1 (prior to that it was a computer club publication, and was nothing at all like the NORTHERN BYTES of today). And Charley was the co-editor of The Alternate Source Programmer's Journal, one of the first "hacker" publications for the TRS-80 enthusiast.

If you're a regular reader of NORTHERN BYTES, you are probably already aware of some of the reasons for my decision to abdicate the editor's chair, so I won't go into them here. I had originally figured that this would be the last issue of NORTHERN BYTES, until I discovered that Charley had enough interest in continuing this publication to take over the editor's position. It may well be that NORTHERN BYTES will improve when the entire operation is brought "under one roof"; the over-200 mile distance between Sault Ste. Marie and Lansing has certainly presented many difficulties in the production of this newsletter. This WOULD have been a perfect project for "telecommuting" - that is, doing the work here and sending it by modem to Lansing - but unfortunately, Sault Ste. Marie is still in the stone age when it comes to communications. Someday firms like Tymnet and Telenet and MCI and Sprint and CompuServe and GENie are going to have to realize that intelligent life exists in cities with less than 50,000 population, if true telecommuting is ever going to become a reality. In a way, I sort of hope they all go broke if they continue to restrict the availability of their services to those big cities they love so much. In the meantime, we just can't afford to "telecommute" at 15 to 20 cents per minute (that's the late night rate!), PLUS packet network charges, PLUS online service charges as may be applicable (depending on which online service we are trying to access). But I digress...

Once this issue is off the press, my participation in NORTHERN BYTES will be finished. This means that if your club or user group is exchanging newsletters with NORTHERN BYTES, you should address all future copies to Charley Butler, The Alternate Source, 704 North Pennsylvania Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48906-5319. If you feel that you can spare the extra postage and would like to continue sending copies of your newsletter to me as well, I would be most happy to receive them. But your group's official "exchange" copy should be sent to Charley, not to me.

Of course, this also implies that any and all correspondence for NORTHERN BYTES should now go to TAS. Any NORTHERN BYTES related correspondence that is sent to me by mistake will (in most cases) be forwarded directly to TAS, without intervention on my part.

There is much I could say in closing, but I think it's just best to say that I have learned a lot while doing NORTHERN BYTES, and have appreciated very much the support and encouragement I have received from many of you. No matter what form future issues of NORTHERN BYTES may take, it is satisfying to know that it has been regarded by many as one of the best TRS-80 publications ever. I'm happy to have been a part of that.

I want to encourage you to help the new editor by sending him your articles, tips, techniques, etc. just as you have done in the past. Remember that NORTHERN BYTES will dry up very quickly without reader participation. I wish Charley the best of success in keeping this publication going, and want to say "Thank You!" to all of you that have been so supportive to this point in time. May God bless you all!

Jack Decker, former editor

P.S. I can't quit without telling my crazy mail story of the month. Courts of law generally tend to assume that when something has been put into the mail, it will be received by the recipient. They shouldn't. Recently I received a mailing from a small computer supply company. It was one sheet of paper, folded over and stapled (once) at the bottom. It practically sang out "I am junk mail!!!!" But, being the curious sort, I opened it. And what should fall out but a bill payment from a lady in Huber

Heights, Ohio, to the Dayton Power and Light Company! The stamp on it had never even been cancelled. What probably happened was that when this lady dropped her payment in the mailbox (or perhaps somewhere in the mail collection process), her payment envelope slipped inside the advertisement. Of course, I dropped the payment back into the mail and (hopefully) Dayton Power and Light got their money, albeit a few days later than they would have otherwise.

This is the second time something like this has happened in recent months. A few months back I received a newsletter from a computer user group in New York and when I opened that one up, there was (what appeared to be) a city tax payment, mailed from a local Veterinarian's office. That one also went back into the mail.

Now you are probably thinking that most people, in a similar circumstance, would do as I did and drop the misdirected mail back into the mailbox. That may or may not be true (certainly the point is open to question with today's moral standards). But if you want an eye-opening experience, stand around the post office lobby (in the area of the P.O. Boxes) right after the post office opens on any business day. Watch the people collect their mail from their P.O. Boxes, and then walk over to the nearest table, begin sorting their mail, and pitch anything that resembles an advertisement into the trashcan, WITHOUT EVEN OPENING IT!! Wait an hour or two and peer into the trashcan, and (if the janitor hasn't been around already) you will see that it is overflowing with UNOPENED "junk" mail. This scene isn't confined to the post office, either - it occurs in the mail rooms of many corporations and at the desks of many businessmen. Those who get lots of mail often feel no obligation to open every piece. So, what happens if your important mail slides into one of those pieces that wind up in the trash?

It's an interesting fact that international mail is supposed to be sent inside an envelope (or at least sealed on all sides), presumably to avoid just this sort of thing (other pieces of mail slipping inside). We used to get copies of Northern Bytes returned as unmailable by the post office when we failed to adhere to this regulation - yet there is no such regulation for domestic mail! Maybe there should be. In the meantime, about the only protection I can see against losing mail in this manner is to mail anything really important in as large an envelope as possible - at least a #10 business envelope.

And don't send your mail to the trashcan unopened - there might really be something important inside!

## THE EXTERMINATOR

Some BUGS manage to hide for a long time before anyone discovers them! Such is the case with the program REROUTE (a NEWDOS/80 utility that routes printer output to a disk file) that appeared back in NORTHERN BYTES Volume 5, Number 1 (pages 4-8) and on TAS Public Domain Library Disk #001 (very recent copies of this disk have a corrected version, so check the opening credits of the source code before you start making changes).

The problem was that although the program ran fine on a Model I, it did not get the HIMEM value from the correct location on the Models III or 4. So Model III/4 users could not count on the program operating, at least not reliably. The code below fixes the problem and (with the exception of lines 570, 580, and 790, which are changes to existing lines) should be ADDED to the source code listing that was printed in NORTHERN BYTES (or to the REROUTE/ASM file on the PD disk, if you have the uncorrected version). Then reassemble the source code to produce a new /CMD file that will operate properly on both the Model I and the Model III/4.

00105 ;Model I/III compatible version 06/20/86

```
00561 INTLZE LD A,(54H) ;Get byte from ROM
00562 DEC A ;Determine if Mod 1 or 3
00563 JR NZ,MOD3 ;Go if Model III DOS
00564 LD HL,4049H ;Mod I DOS top-of-memory
00565 LD (MEMSIZ+2),HL ;Self-modify program
```

```

00566 LD (STRMEM+1),HL ; memory pointers
00570 MOD3 LD HL,END ;End of unrellocated pgrm
00580 MEMSIZ LD DE,(4411H) ;End of unprotected mem
00790 STRMEM LD (4411H),HL ;Save new memory size

```

Be sure to read the letters in this issue for other bug fixes!

## LETTERS DEPARTMENT

Persons sending letters intended for publication should send them on magnetic media or via Compuserve [72167,161] or MCI Mail [109-7407] (especially if longer than a couple of paragraphs). If your word processor offers the option to save your file in ASCII format, please do so (especially if using SuperScript!). Your cooperation in this matter will help us to bring you a better newsletter! Also, please keep in mind that due to the change in editors (see page 1), all mail for NORTHERN BYTES should now be sent to Charley Butler at The Alternate Source, 704 North Pennsylvania Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48906-5319.

Dear Jack,

In Volume 7, Number 2 there is a program named NEWMAP. I typed it into my Model 4 and found that it did not quite work. Once I began to study the program I found that I really wanted it, so I not only repaired it but I enhanced it. I believe it is now more user friendly and provides a better print out. The following are the changes I made with an explanation.

The major error is in line 570 where the program is trying INT and integer number. The fix takes place in Line 100. Instead of DEFINTA-Y the program should read DEFINTB-Y. Without the fix A will always equal zero.

The next change I made in the program allows the user to type either in lower or upper case. The program will convert the entry to upper case and then make its decision. This is accomplished with the function defined in line 100. I named it UC\$ because it will always give the user the uppercase of the letter typed in. Lines 770 and 810 use the function.

The third change is a correction. It too is in line 100. The author used CMD"T" for a command to turn off the real-time clock display. My version of NEWDOS80 does not recognize that command. I changed it to CMD"clock n". In line 180 the author used CMD"R" to turn the clock on, again I changed it to CMD"clock y" for the same reason.

The last change I made was to have the program page and print a header if it there are going to be more than 55 printed lines. These changes start with line 100 where I set the variable LP to the location of the Model I/III location of the LPRINT line counter. It is continued in line 145 where I make sure the counter starts with a one, and lines 160 & 190 where I send a FORM FEED if needed. Line 700 sends a FORM FEED for the second page if needed and prints a second page title.

The following are the changes that I suggest be made:

```

100 CLEAR2000: DEFINTB-Y: DEFSTRS: DEFFNUC$(A$)=CHR$(ASC(A$)+(3
2*(ASC(A$)>97ANDASC(A$)<123))) : DIMF$(8,13),Q$(30,8): FORI=5TO8: S(I)=
STRING$(I,32): NEXTI: CMD"clock n": LP=16425

```

```

145 POKELP,1: PRINT"Set the printer paper to the top of the page an
d press any key": A$=INKEY$

```

```

147 A$=INKEY$: IF A$="" THEN 147 ELSE A$=""

```

```

160 GOSUB 770: E$=A$: IF ASC(E$)<48 OR ASC(E$)>51 THEN CMD"clock y": IF
PEEK(LP)<>1 THEN LPRINT CHR$(12):: CLEAR50: ENDELSE CLEAR50: END

```

```

190 IF A$="" THEN PRINT"Yes": CMD"ROUTE,PR,PR,DO": IF PEEK(LP)<>1 TH
EN LPRINT CHR$(12):: GOTO 210 ELSE GOTO 210

```

```

570 C1=1: A=B-INT(B/5)*5: U(0)=A+((A=0)*5)-1: U(1)=4: FORGG=9TO13: I
FGG<13 THEN IF ASC(F$(F,GG+1))=255 THEN C1=0

```

```

700 NEXT F: LPRINT STRING$(63,"-"): IF PEEK(LP)>55 THEN LPRINT CHR$(12)
: LPRINT " ": LPRINT"Map of 705 NEXTM "TAB(23)"#SEC's"TAB(32)"Exten
t"TAB(40)"TRK: TRS"TAB(50)"DSK REL SECS"

```

705 NEXTM

```

770 A$=INKEY$: IF A$="" THEN 770 ELSE IF ASC(A$)=31 THEN 770 ELSE A$=FNUC
$(A$): RETURN

```

```

810 GL=2: DG=10: TD=0: PRINT: LINEINPUT"Single <S> or double <D> sl
ded drive (Default=<S>) ": SX: SX=FNUC$(SX): IFSX="D",TD=2

```

Jack, I found the program excellent. I don't want the author to think I am attacking his program, it is something that I have always wanted but was too lazy to do the research to write.

I have enjoyed NORTHERN BYTES. Keep up the good work. You are filling a void. Without a NORTHERN BYTES the work and play of hackers would be unknown.

Thank you,  
Frank Blunda, 3717 Sundown Road, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

[Frank, I ran the original program prior to publication and didn't seem to have any problems, but perhaps there is some difference in our systems (hardware or software) that makes a difference. Please see the next letter and my reply.]

Dear Jack:

[Regarding] NEWMAP (Northern Bytes volume 7, number 2, page 17): What a great utility! I could have used this many times in the past few years to sort out problems with diskettes which went "funny".

I discovered a few (very minor) difficulties with the source as published. These difficulties wouldn't cause problems for your typical reader ... who I imagine as a "medium to advanced" grade hacker. Possibly, though, you have many less experienced TRS-80 users as readers. They might get hung up by one or more of these small traps, so I'll mention them while they're fresh in my mind.

References are BASIC line numbers as published.

100 - Change DEFINTA-Y to DEFINTA-Z. There is no need to Z variables to default to single precision, which is the result in the program as published.

Lines 100 & 160 - CMD"T" and CMD"R" are replaced by CLOCK,N and CLOCK,Y in the Model III version of NEWDOS/80. In NEWMAP, neither performs any useful function as far as I can see. I eliminated them.

110 - P = 26949. I wonder if it's sufficiently clear what this is all about? Gash says "... line 110 POKES a machine language routine directly into the file buffer area for file 3." True enough, IF you're using NEWDOS/80. If you're not, you'll have to refer to Rosenfelder's "BASIC Faster and Better & Other Mysteries", Appendix 3 to discover what you should set P to.

350 & 680 - The string literal, "to", should be changed to "thru". All sector ranges reported by NEWMAP are INCLUSIVE, thus "thru" is more explicit.

330 - PR = VARPTR( D\$ ) returns a result in signed integer format. Thus, in a 32k/48k device, PR is likely to be negative. The algorithm published works ONLY if PR is positive. Here's an algorithm which works when PR is EITHER positive OR negative:

```

330 Z = VARPTR( D$ ): ZL = Z AND 255
332 ZM = ( Z AND -256 ) / 256
334 IF ZM <0 THEN ZM = ZM + 256
336 POKE P + 9, ZL
338 POKE P + 10, ZM

```

420 - This line is part of a sequence which offers the user some control over NEWMAP output. While it's cumbersome to use, it does work if this change is made in 420:

```

Change IF PEEK( 14400 ) = 128 THEN ...
-to- IF PEEK( 14400 ) >= 128 THEN ...

```

This change introduces a pause in program execution when either the <SPACE> key OR the <SPACE> + <ENTER> keys are held down at the proper time during NEWMAP execution.

Well, Jack, so much for NEWMAP. Thanks again for publishing it!

Cordially, Gil Spencer  
Box 300, Spit Junction, New South Wales 2088, AUSTRALIA

[Gil, what's interesting to me is that both you and Frank (see preceding letter) felt the need to make changes to NEWMAP, yet (except for the changes to CMD"T" and CMD"R") the two of you did not seem to have much agreement on which changes should be made! When I prepared NEWMAP for inclusion on TAS Public Domain Library disk #020, I made several minor changes (like replacing implied THEN statements - indicated by a comma - with

the actual keyword THEN), and a few not-so-minor changes, mostly based on suggestions from both of your letters (although I did not include all of your suggested changes in the PD Library version). The lines that had more than just cosmetic changes are printed below. Changes are underlined (where blank space is underlined, it means that something was deleted from that line at that point):

```
100 CLEAR10000:DEFINTB-Z:DEFSTRS:DEFFNUC$(A$)=CHR$(ASC(A$)+(32*
(ASC(A$)-97)ANDASC(A$)<123)):DIMF$(8,13),Q$(30,8):FORI=5TO8:S(I)=STRIN
G$(I,32):NEXT
160 GOSUB770:E$=A$:IFASC(E$)<48ORASC(E$)>51THEN CLEAR50:EN
D
330 PR=VARPTR(D$):POKEP+10,(PR+(PR<0)*-65536)/256:POKEP+9,PRAND25
5
420 DS=2:IFPEEK(14400)>127THEN420ELSEPRINT:PRINT"WHICH DISK SECT
OR ( 2 TO"DG-1)"TO START FROM ":INPUTDS:DS=DS+1
770 A$=INKEY$:IFAS=""THEN770ELSEIFASC(A$)=31THEN770ELSEA$=FNUC$(
A$):RETURN
810 GL=2:DG=10:TD=0:PRINT:LINEINPUT"SINGLE <S> OR DOUBLE <D> SID
ED DRIVE (DEFAULT=<S>)" :SX:SX=FNUC$(SX):IFSX="D"THENTD=2
```

You'll note that I used a bit simpler method than the suggested one to extract the proper POKE values in line 330 - although I have never had a problem with line 330 in the original version of NEWMAP; the changes shown should insure that no error can occur there. The only problem I've ever personally had with NEWMAP is running out of string space (while mapping an 80-track double sided disk) and that is corrected by the change in the CLEAR statement in line 100.

Again, thanks to both Frank and Gil for their comments on NEWMAP. If anyone else has had similar problems with the program, perhaps the above suggestions will help.]

Dear Jack,

First, I will join the growing chorus of praise for the "new look" of Northern Bytes. The new print quality is great. Then I will hit on several other topics that come to mind as a result of reading Northern Bytes for about a year.

For the year that I have subscribed to Northern Bytes, it has been full of letters and articles about NEWDOS, patches for NEWDOS, praise for NEWDOS, etc. Even you, Jack, admit to being a NEWDOS lover. If that is not bias then I will eat my aging 1963 copy of Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary. On page 82 it offers the following as definition for bias -- "an inclination of temperament or outlook", "prejudice", "bent", or "tendency". But bias is not all bad. After all, without it our little semi-conductors would not be typing this now! (I will confess up front that my favorite operating system on my Model III is LDOS, though I will use any DOS necessary to run a software package if it is choosy.) I like its versatility and I have not found it difficult to learn as many people indicate.

Now to more serious matters, specifically Roy Soltoff. I am not acquainted with Mr. Soltoff personally (and I can understand how his condemnation of hardware manufacturers that make disk drives that run "exactly on speed" might seem like "arrogance" to many people), but on the several occasions that I have spoken to him on the phone he has been most helpful. This applies both to answering queries about his software prior to purchase and to post sales support. In addition he was friendly enough on some occasions to enter into discussion with me on software and the computer BUSINESS in general, not having anything directly to do with sales to me. If he had any inclination to be arrogant or superior, he could certainly have been justified in being so with me, as I am a rank amateur at hacking.

More importantly, in this time of decreasing support for Z80 machines generally and TRS-80's specifically, we should feel very glad that Misosys is sticking with us (Apparat didn't). Actually, there have been few companies put out software that is as smooth operating, professional and sophisticated as Misosys, LSI and Roy Soltoff have, for our machines, especially along the lines of "serious" utilities.

Jack, I know that several times you have stated that the "bias" toward NEWDOS in Northern Bytes is mainly produced because the material that you receive has been mostly from NEWDOS users. I hereby resolve to do my best to change that trend. To that end, I have [sent] HIMAP, an assembly language program that produces a directory and map of high memory usage under LDOS (provided that all high memory residents have the standard header as specified by LSI) and WPFLT, a printer filter for LDOS that adds some "word

processing" features to the comment portion of an assembler listing (or to any printer output with a minor modification indicated in the listing). These are programs that I wrote and are in the public domain. You may publish them in Northern Bytes or file them in the trash can as you see fit. I will also be submitting these programs to the Alternate Source for possible inclusion on one of their public domain disks.

I want to express my appreciation for the work you are doing to support the Z-80 TRS-80's. As far as I know 80-Micro is the only other magazine supporting us and with the recent re-introduction of the color computer material and its big shift to the MSDOS machines, it looks like we are on our own. There is still life in my Z-80 and I sure don't want it to be lonely. So keep up the good work!

Sincerely, Bill McQueen

[Thanks for the submissions, Bill. Despite the amount of ribbing that Roy Soltoff has taken in these pages for his comment about the "fiasco" of a disk drive that always runs at exactly the correct speed, we should all remember that Roy has contributed a great deal to the community of TRS-80 users. I think the basic problem is that Roy (and some others who are devoted LDOS/TRSDOS 6 users) think that we should all share their opinions on which DOS to use, how to program (always use SVC's, never use PEEKs and POKEs, etc.), and some of the rest of us don't appreciate being told how to think. Granted that Roy is a professional programmer and has written some very fine programs, but that does not mean that the rest of us are unprofessional if we choose not to use the same DOS or programming techniques that Roy uses, or that LSI recommends that we use (on the other hand, it should be noted that there are often very good reasons for LSI's suggested programming techniques). I guess I just resent the underlying implication that anyone who prefers a DOS other than LDOS/TRSDOS 6 is something less than a "real" programmer. So maybe I am a bit "biased", but only against the "superiority complex" I sometimes detect from LDOS users.

Of course, if you happen to agree that LDOS is the best DOS, etc. you probably will get along famously with Roy and other LDOS devotees. But we like you, too!]

Jack,

On page 18 of volume 7, number 3 there is a question from the M.A.T.U.G. newsletter about a BASIC program that yields different results depending whether it is run in the III or 4 mode. The problem probably is caused by lines 170 and 180 in the listed program. These lines execute single precision-to-integer conversions, which are handled differently under the two BASICs. Model III BASIC truncates (2.5 -> 2), and Model 4 BASIC rounds (2.5 -> 3).

I did not test this out, but I've seen this problem crop up numerous times.

Mike Zarowitz

[No doubt that's the problem, Mike. I wasn't aware of the difference in the way the two versions of BASIC handle the INT function (it's probably in the manual, but who reads manuals?).]

Dear Jack,

... Your comments about Fast80 and where you got that information instantly became logical, i.e., you got it from reading the newsletters from other clubs. I am guilty of that myself once, I took aim at Prosoft and was written off as a dummy by those who had the program and liked it. So much for being a responsible editor myself (maybe I should practice what I preach). As for background on Fast80, you are correct in your assumption that it was designed to fit into memory. There were a number of reasons for this and I'll at least try to point some of them out.

I have been running a BBS system since 1979 when I started with the first generation of EBBS. It ran in BASIC with a ML driver in high mem and had about 8 overlays. To say that it was slow, would be an understatement. I still get about 80-100 calls a day (when I am not using the system for programming on) and about 40% of those were long distance. Back in '79 a diskette lasted about 30 days. Then you could start getting I/O errors. I was only providing a public service, so I tried to cut down on the cost (which at that time was more expensive than now). I re-wrote the BASIC portion and Online 80 was born out of it. I ran that for another 2 years and then, changed to DOSPLUS. Again the BASIC

portion was redone and the machine language driver was also redone. I run that on the final days of my Model 1 and finally on my new Model 3 (summer '83). I still was going through too many diskettes and the access time was still too slow.

In '84, I bought a nice new Model 4 (couldn't wait for a real computer with an 80 column screen). And tried to get the BBS to run on it. Naturally the RST's fouled me up for a while, and I was trying to use TRSDOS 6.1.0 and it sucked. I eventually went to DOSPLUS 4 and got a version running and it was all in machine language. You must keep in mind that I have always only had floppy disk systems.

That last version was the forerunner to Fast80 at present. I had about 5 years of feedback from users to extract from and I sat down and wrote exactly what they suggested. About the same time I met SOTA systems and they liked what they saw in the initial version, and encouraged me to continue with development. Which brings us up to date.

Fast80 had certain design limitations to meet. I must allow only MINIMUM diskette wear. Message retrieval and entry must be FAST, no indexes could be created. It must use the total 128K ram to store ALL the information it required and provide a programmable update rate where needed. I tried to keep it user friendly and think I did at least that. I had to provide some form of file transfer. I completely agree with anyone who says that the current version lacks in the transfer area. When I wrote it, I must admit that XMODEM was about as clear as San Francisco fog to me. I understood only the XON/XOFF protocols. Hence XMODEM was left out.

However since then I have written a terminal program (which should have been on that disk I sent you "FT/CMD" and was released as shareware this spring). I learned about XMODEM etc. and will be using that information later on.

To continue, as of May 1 this year there are 136 Fast80 Systems in operation. From those Sysops (most of which are hard pressed to type in the date and time), I receive feedback. I have started with a new version of the BBS again on the guidelines of the information received, i.e., xmodem, fast access, etc. Only this time, there will be up to 16 sub-boards. The message base will still be limited, but I am using encoding techniques to store the messages in memory so more will fit. The download menu has been increased from a maximum of 50 files, to 300. Well as you may be able to see, it was completely redone from scratch. Even the driver will be changed. Modem support will be increased and on and on.....But the final version will still be limited by available memory.

I am still writing it at this point and hope to have a version up by the end of the summer. As I mentioned, I have always used a floppy based system for a BBS. It turns out that about 40% of Fast80 owners use a Hard Disk and want more features. I have been looking at sort of trying to keep both families happy to best extent but it's not easy. There are choices to make that will no doubt make some unhappy. I have been examining other BBS offerings like TBBS, SYSLINK, FRENCH CONNECTION, etc. and I think for a floppy based system, those are pretty useless. A hard disk is required. If I am wrong, I would like to know the technique used to store 9000 messages of 1K each on a standard 2 drive Model 4. Granted they use what they have to fullest, but they are even more limited than Fast80 in some areas.

Mel Patrick

[This letter is actually one out of a short exchange of letters between Mel and myself, which was prompted by Gil Spencer's letter in Northern Bytes Volume 7, Number 3 and by my comments which followed that letter. I plead guilty to judging Fast80 by a couple of comments that I read in other newsletters. One thing that must be remembered is that each BBS program has its own unique design criteria. Fast80 was designed with minimizing disk wear as a primary consideration. SYSLINK was designed to permit networking between BBS's, something previously only done by the Fido BBS program (which runs on MS-DOS machines) - and SYSLINK permits both file and message transfer. TBBS was, I think, designed for message base handling and irritating BBS users, particularly when it drops callers without warning when their time has expired, even if they are typing the last line of a 20 line termination message to the SYSOP (I don't care how much the designers of TBBS may protest that this doesn't happen - it DOES, or at least it used to. It happened to me and to MANY other users, and SYSOPs complained about it for years, to no avail. Maybe the problem's been fixed in a recent version but I swore off

TBBS's about a year ago, after being disconnected without warning just once too often!]

In any case, potential purchasers of a BBS program should compare features and if possible, call a BBS using each program under consideration and try out all of the features that are important to you.]

Jack,

I have some information about MCI mail you might find interesting.

Seems I have become a member for life. I joined when it was free (no annual fee) and when they raised the rates and tacked on the annual fee I sent them a letter explaining why I wanted off and paid my last bill (minus the annual fee).

This was last December. And since I received no reply and no past due notices I assumed all was fine.

Boy was I wrong. You don't respectfully decline MCI mail. I received a letter from their lawyer. He is taking me to court for the annual fee.

I don't know yet what is going to happen. I suppose the annual fee is cheaper than a lawyer, unless they never let me quit and I have to pay it forever. That's silly you say, but should I refuse to pay they can play havoc with my credit rating. So I'm over the proverbial barrel.

This is not the first time I have had problems with MCI. And it is not the first time they pulled something I considered shaky. I am going to fire off letters to the BBB, them and their lawyer, and I'm going to quit the MCI long distance service. This is not the kind of company I want to be associated with (or owe money to).

One word of warning. The BBB said I should have insisted on a final bill, so that six months down the line they couldn't claim I still owed them.

Dave Bower

[After receiving the above letter, I sent Dave a reply containing the following suggestions:

1) Call their 800 number - I think it's (800) MCI-2255 and/or (800) 424-6677. Talk to them on their nickle. Write down the name of each person you talk to. If you feel you are getting nowhere with the person you're talking to, ask to talk to that person's supervisor. However, I have found that the people who answer MCI Mail's 800 number are usually able to resolve problems such as this (we've had a few ourselves). Keep calling back until the problem is resolved.

2) Don't pay the \$18 mailbox fee and don't worry about your credit rating. No reputable lender is going to refuse to loan you money because of an \$18 disputed bill. Should you ever apply for credit, you can always tell the lender up front that there may be an \$18 disputed charge from MCI appearing on your credit rating, but it was for service that you did not order and you are waiting for MCI to either sue you (which would be REAL interesting) or drop their demand for payment. Incidentally, I seriously doubt that anything will ever appear in your credit rating because of this. It takes a lot more to damage a credit rating than an \$18 disputed bill.

3) DON'T be intimidated by letters from attorneys. In some cases the "attorney" may only exist in the mind of a collection agency computer (there may be a real attorney with that name somewhere, but dollars to doughnuts he's never seen the letter you've received - it probably came straight from computer printer to you). On the off chance that I am wrong, keep in mind that you still have the right to tell your side of the story in court.

The Alternate Source had a similar situation, where one of their unused accounts was cancelled but MCI Mail still billed them for the annual mailbox fee, so we KNOW that MCI Mail is capable of making such errors. Fortunately, in that case a telephone call to the 800 number resolved the problem. I think large companies would be a lot better off if they would invest a little time and money to call their customers to find out whether there is a problem, instead of firing off letters from attorneys as part of their routine correspondence, thereby alienating the customer. Especially if the customer gets mad enough to start writing letters, which (when printed in a publication like ours) probably wind up costing the company a lot more than the money they're trying to collect, due to the chilling effect such letters have on potential new customers.

One further word of advice when dealing with any large company of this type - if communications seem to be breaking down, tell your problem to someone fairly high up on the

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management ladder. Lower level flunkys are sometimes borderline incompetent, and tend not to pass messages up the management chain (remember NASA and the Space Shuttle?). On the other hand, if you can reach someone in the company president's office (even if it's just his secretary), you can bet that your message will carry more weight if it comes down the management chain from above than if it has to work its way up.

I'm sure that MCI Mail isn't the only large company to make such errors, so the above hints may be useful to other readers in similar situations. Above all, don't be intimidated by letters from attorneys. Remember that, while anybody can sue anybody for any reason, winning the case is something else altogether.]

Dear Jack,

First, here are three more patches. The first was inspired by the patches on page 18 of [Volume 7, Number 2]. To display the full character set in LS-FEDII (not FED), find record 16, byte D7 and record 1E, byte C0 of the program; change 3E84 to 0000.

You may already have published the second. To change the default SETCOM in TRSDOS 6.2 from 7 bit word length and even parity to the more common 8 bit word length and no parity, find record 2, byte B1 of COM/DVR.DRIVER; change A5 to ED. The baud rate remains at 300, and the stop bit at 1. (This change, incidentally, was given to me over the phone several months ago by LSI when I called them and asked how to do it -- I know of no other group that supportive or knowledgeable about its programs!)

Here is the third patch. If you want to use COMM with 8 bits instead of 7 as the default, you need to find record 4, relative byte 54 (hex) of COMM/CMD.UTILITY and change 00 to 01.

The second item: I am looking for the disk version of a game called Volcano Hunter. Does anyone know where I can buy/trade/acquire this program? The manufacturer appears to be defunct.

Thanks a bunch and keep up the good work...

Gary W. Shanafelt

Department of History, McMurry College, Abilene, Texas 79697

[And thank you for the patches. Here's a related one, from Rod Stevenson of the Adelaide (Australia) Micro User Group: The patch to display all characters in the TRSDOS 6 version of FED is at record 16, byte D2. The original value is 38, change it to C9. I'm not sure if this is an alternate method to accomplish the same thing as your first patch, or if we are talking about two different versions of FED, but I'm sure that loyal TRSDOS 6 hackers will be able to figure it out!]

Dear Jack,

I wrote a program called LOAD80 INDEX. It has files on all LOAD-80 programs from 1981 thru March 1986 listed by File Name, Category, Month/Year/Page, and a comment line describing the program. The files can be searched by category or by date of publication or scanned as a total file. The listings can be printed out with LeScript or other large capacity word processor. The program is entirely menu driven. Let me know if you are interested and I'll send you a copy on disk.

Do you ever recall seeing any patches for modifying UltraTerm comm package to run in the Model 4 mode?

William E. (Bill) Baker

2419 Queen Ridge Drive, Independence, Missouri 64055

[To answer the last question first, I've never seen any UltraTerm patches of the kind mentioned. As for the LOAD-80 index, I'd rather not get involved in redistributing it for (what should be) obvious reasons, but would suggest that readers who'd like a copy of this index contact Bill directly (if you write, it might be wise to enclose a blank diskette and a stamped, self addressed disk mailer).]

[NOTE TO READERS: The next four letters are asking for assistance, and I don't have the answers for these folks. So, if any of you can help, please contact the letter writer directly - and, if it's not too much trouble, we'd appreciate it if you'd also send a copy of the answer to us here at NORTHERN BYTES!]

Dear Jack,

NEWDOS/80 version 2 has been a Godsend for my TRS-80. Is there an equivalent for MS-DOS machines? I put GW-BASIC in the same class as Apple BASIC. I especially need good BASIC commands such as REF, RENUM (with ALL operands), CMD"O", the editing commands and line listing commands, etc., and the ease of "FF" random access files with record lengths over 256 bytes.

Dave McGlumphy, 4429 Paula Lane, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37415

Dear Jack,

Communications Problems - Question #1: Recently I purchased the communications package VIDEOTEX PLUS from Radio Shack to run on a Model 4. In the manual mode, the program communicates through the modem to anyone, however, in AUTO-LOG, the modem will not "wake up". Radio Shack has been unable to help. The modem is a Signalman MARK XII which is a Bell System #12 and Hayes compatible. Can anyone out there help me determine what codes I must send through AUTO-LOG in order to store my numbers and issue commands automatically?

Question #2: I own WINDOW-COMM by Pacific Software Consultants and was sent an incomplete manual. I have been completely unable to reach the vendor by phone or mail. If anyone has this software with a good manual, I would like to arrange to copy sections one through three of the manual. I have section four and the Appendix A.

G. R. (Ranny) Robertson, Jr.  
2314 Hilliard Road, Richmond, Virginia 23228

Dear Jack,

I am generally using one of the many calendars that are frequently appearing in the magazines and newsletters, all of them coming from your country.

For us, Europeans and Latins, they are written in a different way, because you always present them like:

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thr Fri Sat

but we always start each week by a Monday, that is:

Mon Tue Wed Thr Fri Sat Sun

For the benefit of your subscribers in Europe, could you correct any of the calendars to be read this way and publish it in Northern Bytes? We shall appreciate it very much.

Gabriel Domínguez, Magistrado M. Artime 6, 15004 La Coruña, SPAIN

Hi there,

I have a TRS80 MODEL 4P and a STAR SG-10 printer, and am trying to find a decent RECIPE catalog program. I have my own word processor/editor (Lescript) - just in case you were going to ask.

I would like to be able to keep track of recipes by category (i.e. deserts, breads, meat dishes, fish dishes, etc), and can be flexible as to what the defined categories are. The entry editor should be fairly easy to make corrections with (or perhaps I can use my own), and I should be able to view the recipes on my screen or printer.

Unless the program is really outstanding I usually don't like to buy Model III software due to the screen size limitation. If you have a 'good' Model III program, though, please let me know.

Thanks for your time. Feel free to answer by mail or easyplex. I am:

Ken Kornblum, 6751 Kingswood West, Detroit, Michigan 49046  
CompuServe EasyPlex [74706,506]

## WANTED TO BUY

Two (2) 80 track double sided disk drives for use with a Model 4 TRS-80. Must be reliable as they will be used with a BBS. Contact Neil Trudel, 35 Ontario Avenue, Sault, Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada P6B 1E2 (note: drives can be sent to a U.S. address if you do not wish to ship them to Canada), or telephone (705) 253-5514 (voice line) or (705) 253-5366 (BBS line - 300 bps only).

by Bill McQueen

This is the source code for HIMAP/CMD. in MISOSYS EDAS or MRAS listing file format. The documentation for this program is in the source code comment lines.

```

00001 ;      ===== HIMAP VER 3.0.1 =====
00002 ;      6/2/86
00003 ;
00004 ;      by: Bill McQueen
00005 ;      805 Ely Road
00006 ;      Hixson, Tn
00007 ;      (615) 875-0731
00008 ;
00009 ;
00010 ;      === NOTICE ===
00011 ;      -----
00012 ;
00013 ; This program placed in the PUBLIC DOMAIN and submitted to
00014 ; NORTHERN BYTES and THE ALTERNATE SOURCE" by Bill McQueen.
00015 ; It may be used, modified, given away etc. by anyone.
00016 ; Please give credit to the author and NORTHERN BYTES or
00017 ; THE ALTERNATE SOURCE
00018 ; -----
00019 ;
00020 ; This program is a utility for use with LDOS 5.1.x. (tm).
00021 ; It will display a directory and map of all modules
00022 ; resident in high memory, provided all are identified with
00023 ; the LDOS (tm) standard header.
00024 ; All system modules, filters, drivers etc. by Logical
00025 ; Systems, Inc (tm) and MISOSYS (tm) intended to
00026 ; be resident in high memory have this header. (If you need
00027 ; info on this header and can't find it in your LDOS
00028 ; documentation, contact LSI, INC or the author).
00029 ;
00030 ; This source file was written with SAID, the text editor
00031 ; by MISOSYS to be assembled on EDAS (tm), the MISOSYS
00032 ; macro assembler.
00033 ;
00034 ; NOTE: VERSION 3.0.1 is the same program as
00035 ; Ver 3.0.0 except that it has been
00036 ; re-arranged so that it contains the
00037 ; appropriate portions of the FBUFF
00038 ; library in its source code. Therefore
00039 ; it can be assembled with EDAS or other
00040 ; non-relocatable assembler.
00041 ;
00042 ; If you have questions or want a copy of the object code
00043 ; for this program, contact the author. Improved versions
00044 ; are planned.
00045 ;
00046 ; -----
00047 ETX EQU 03H ;end of text mark (ASCII)
00048 CRTN EQU 0DH ;ASCII carriage return
00049 LNFEED EQU 0AH ;ASCII end of line mark
4467 00050 DSDPLY EQU 4467H ;LDOS display routine
4020 00051 JEXIT EQU 4020H ;Return to DOS
000F 00052 D0_MSK EQU 0000111B ;Digit 0 mask
00F0 00053 D1_MSK EQU 11110000B ;Digit 1 mask
00054 ; MODEL III EQUATES
4411 00055 HIGH3% EQU 4411H
00056 ; -----
00057 ;
00058 ;
00059 ;
5200' 00060 ORG 5200H
5200' 0000 00061 BEGIN DW 0 ;address of beginning
00062 ; of code segment.
5202' 0000 00063 END DW 0 ;AND ITS END.
00064 ;
00065 ENTRY
5204' 2A1144 00066 LD HL,(HIGH3%) ;Fetch and
5207' 220252' 00067 LD (END),HL ;save HIGH%
520A' 28 00068 DEC HL
520B' F9 00069 LD SP,HL ;Set Stack
520C' 219053' 00070 LD HL,BANNER ;Clear screen and
520F' CD6744 00071 CALL DSDPLY ;print banner.
5212' CD3052' 00072 CALL SHO_HI ;display high%
00073 LOOP1
5215' 2A0252' 00074 LD HL,(END) ;HL = High%

```

```

5218' 23 00075 INC HL ;HL = First byte of hi mem
5219' 220052' 00076 LD (BEGIN),HL ;save it
521C' 7C 00077 LD A,H ;Check to see if we are
5210' FE00 00078 CP 0 ;at top of physical memory
521F' 2005 00079 JR NZ,SKIP1 ;Jump if not.
5221' 7D 00080 LD A,L
5222' FE00 00081 CP 0
5224' 2814 00082 JR Z,NO_HI ;if so jump -----)
00083 SKIP1 ;There is some high mem
00084 ; storage left.
5226' 23 00085 INC HL
5227' 23 00086 INC HL ;HL-->Begining of segment
5228' ES 00087 PUSH HL ;Transfer it
5229' 00E1 00088 POP IX ;to IX.
522B' D05E00 00089 LD E,(IX) ;Then get address of
522E' D05601 00090 LD D,(IX+1) ;end of segment
5231' E0530252' 00091 LD (END),DE ;and save it.
5235' CD6952' 00092 CALL SHO_SEG ;Display the data on CRT
5238' 1808 00093 JR LOOP1 ;Then loop.
00094 ;
00095 ; -----
00096 NO_HI
00097 ;
00098 ; There is no more High Memory so ...
523A' C32040 00099 JP JEXIT ; return to LDOS
00100 ; -----
00101 SHO_HI
00102 ;
00103 ; Display the current HIGH% value.
00104 ;
5230' D021E953' 00105 LD IX,BCB ;IX --> Buffer control block
5241' CD4552' 00106 CALL CLR_B ;Clear work buffer
5244' 11D453' 00107 LD DE,LIA ;DE --> txt to be printed
5247' 3E00 00108 LD A,0 ;No chr count, stop on ETX
5249' CD4552' 00109 CALL ASC_BUF ;Put it in buffer
524C' 3E10 00110 LD A,16 ;Tab val
524E' CD4552' 00111 CALL TABA ;Move cursor
5251' ED4B0252' 00112 LD BC,(END) ;BC = HIGH%
5255' CD4552' 00113 CALL HEX_BUF ;Print hex val to buffer
5258' 3E0A 00114 LD A,LNFEED ;Let's add a Line Feed
525A' CD4052' 00115 CALL WR_BYT ;Write that byte to buffer
5250' 3E00 00116 LD A,CRTN ;Also a Carriage Return
525F' CD4052' 00117 CALL WR_BYT ;Mark end of work buffer
5262' 21F853' 00118 LD HL,BUFFER ;HL --> buffer
5265' CD6744 00119 CALL DSDPLY ;Print to screen
5268' C9 00120 RET
00121 ;
00122 ; -----
00123 ;
00124 SHO_SEG
00125 ;
00126 ; DISPLAY THE SEGMENT DATA
00127 ;
5269' D021E953' 00128 LD IX,BCB ;IX --> Buffer
5260' CD4552' 00129 CALL CLR_B ;Clear text format buffer
5270' 23 00130 INC HL
5271' 23 00131 INC HL ;HL--> length of name
5272' 7E 00132 LD A,(HL) ;Nr of bytes to move
5273' ES 00133 PUSH HL ;Transfer it to DE
5274' D1 00134 POP DE
5275' 13 00135 INC DE ;DE--> name
5276' CD4552' 00136 CALL ASC_BUF ;Move name to buffer
5279' 3E10 00137 LD A,16 ;Tab value
527B' CD4552' 00138 CALL TABA ;Tab to pos 16
527E' ED4B0252' 00139 LD BC,(BEGIN) ;BC = start add of seg
5282' CD4552' 00140 CALL HEX_BUF ;Put seg start add to buffer
5285' 3E15 00141 LD A,16+5 ;Tab value
5287' CD4552' 00142 CALL TABA ;Tab
528A' 3E00 00143 LD A,0 ;No char count
528C' 11E153' 00144 LD DE,LXB ;DE --> txt
528F' CD4552' 00145 CALL ASC_BUF ;Move text to buffer
5292' ED4B0252' 00146 LD BC,(END) ;BC = Seg Ending Address
5296' CD4552' 00147 CALL HEX_BUF ;Write hex value to buffer
5299' 3E00 00148 LD A,CRTN ;Lets put a Carriage Ret
529B' CD4052' 00149 CALL WR_BYT ;Mark end of txt
529E' 21F853' 00150 LD HL,BUFFER ;HL --> Buffer
52A1' CD6744 00151 CALL DSDPLY ;Display to CRT
52A4' C9 00152 RET
00153 ;
00154 ; -----

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52A5'  
52A6'  
52A7'  
52A8'  
52A9'  
52AA'  
52AB'  
52AC'  
52AD'  
52AE'  
52AF'  
52B0'  
52B1'  
52B2'  
52B3'  
52B4'  
52B5'  
52B6'  
52B7'  
52B8'  
52B9'  
52BA'  
52BB'  
52BC'  
52BD'  
52BE'  
52BF'  
52C0'  
52C1'  
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52C3'  
52C4'  
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52C6'  
52C7'  
52C8'  
52C9'  
52CA'  
52CB'  
52CC'  
52CD'  
52CE'  
52CF'  
52D0'  
52D1'  
52D2'  
52D3'  
52D4'  
52D5'  
52D6'  
52D7'  
52D8'  
52D9'  
52DA'  
52DB'  
52DC'  
52DD'  
52DE'  
52DF'

```

00155 ; The following are portions of the
00156 ; ASCII Buffer Formatting Library (FBUF)
00157 ;-----
00158 SAVE_REGISTERS MACRO
00159 PUSH HL
00160 PUSH DE
00161 PUSH BC
00162 ENDM
00163 ;
00164 RESTORE_REG MACRO
00165 POP BC
00166 POP DE
00167 POP HL
00168 ENDM
00169 ;
00170 ;-----
00171 CLR_B
00172 SAVE_REGISTERS
00173+ PUSH HL
00174+ PUSH DE
00175+ PUSH BC
00176 CALL $CLR_B
00177 JR $EXIT
00178 WR_BYT
00179 SAVE_REGISTERS
00180+ PUSH HL
00181+ PUSH DE
00182+ PUSH BC
00183 CALL $WR_BYT
00184 JR $EXIT
00185 TABA
00186 SAVE_REGISTERS
00187+ PUSH HL
00188+ PUSH DE
00189+ PUSH BC
00190 CALL $TABA
00191 JR $EXIT
00192 TABR
00193 SAVE_REGISTERS
00194+ PUSH HL
00195+ PUSH DE
00196+ PUSH BC
00197 CALL $TABR
00198 JR $EXIT
00199 ASC_BUF
00200 SAVE_REGISTERS
00201+ PUSH HL
00202+ PUSH DE
00203+ PUSH BC
00204 CALL $ASC_BUF
00205 JR $EXIT
00206 HEX_BUF
00207 SAVE_REGISTERS
00208+ PUSH HL
00209+ PUSH DE
00210+ PUSH BC
00211 CALL $HEX_BUF
00212 JR $EXIT
00213 ;
00214 $EXIT
00215 RESTORE_REG
00216+ POP BC
00217+ POP DE
00218+ POP HL
00219 RET
00220 ;
00221 ;-----
00222 $CLR_B
00223 LD L,(IX) ;Fetch buffer address
00224 LD H,(IX+1) ;(HL-->buffer)
00225 LD B,(IX+2) ;Fetch buffer length
00226 LD A,20H ;A = space
00227 $LOOP1 LD (HL),A ;set char to space
00228 INC HL ;Bump ctr
00229 $LOOP1 DJNZ $LOOP1 ;Repeat til buffer clear
00230 LD A,(IX+5) ;Fetch ETX mark value
00231 LD (HL),A ;Mark end of buffer
00232 XOR A
00233 LD (IX+3),A ;Set "cursor" to zero
00234 RET

```

```

00235 ;
00236 ;-----
00237 $WR_BYT
00238 LD L,(IX) ;Fetch buffer address
00239 LD H,(IX+1)
00240 LD E,(IX+3) ;Fetch cursor position
00241 LD D,#
00242 ADD HL,DE ;HL--> next chr in buff
00243 LD (HL),A ;put byte in buffer
00244 LD A,(IX+3)
00245 INC A
00246 JR TABA ;Advance cursor
00247 ;
00248 ;-----
00249 $TABA
00250 LD C,A ;Save argument
00251 LD H,#
00252 LD L,A ;HL = argument (tab)
00253 LD D,#
00254 LD E,(IX+2) ;DE = buffer length
00255 XOR A ;clear flags
00256 SBC HL,DE ;Subtract buffer length
00257 JP M,GOOD_TAB ;Jp if tab within buffer
00258 JR TAB_ERR ;Else report an error
00259 GOOD_TAB
00260 LD A,C ;Restore argument
00261 LD (IX+3),A ;Set cursor
00262 XOR A ;Set zero flg
00263 JR EXIT_TAB
00264 ;
00265 ;-----
00266 $TABR
00267 LD H,#
00268 LD L,A ;HL = argument
00269 LD D,#
00270 LD E,(IX+3) ;DE = current cursor position
00271 ADD HL,DE ;HL = requested position
00272 LD A,L ;A = requested position
00273 JR TABA
00274 ;
00275 ;-----
00276 TAB_ERR
00277 XOR A ;Clear A
00278 ADD A,1 ;Set non-zero Condition
00279 EXIT_TAB
00280 LD A,(IX+3) ;Restore A to resulting
00281 ;cursor position
00282 RET
00283 ;
00284 ;-----
00285 $ASC_BUF
00286 LD (IX+7),A ;Save count
00287 LD (IX+8),A ;twice
00288 LOOP2
00289 LD A,(IX+8) ;Fetch original Count
00290 CP # ;Was it zero?
00291 JR Z,SKIP2 ;if so skip count check
00292 LD A,(IX+7) ;Fetch count
00293 CP #
00294 JR Z,END_TXT ;Max chr count; quit
00295 DEC (IX+7) ;Decrement chr cnt
00296 SKIP2
00297 LD A,(DE) ;Fetch Character
00298 CP # ;Is it a zero byte?
00299 JR Z,END_TXT ;if so get out
00300 CP #0H ;Is it a carriage return?
00301 JR Z,END_TXT
00302 CP #3H ;Is it an ETX mark?
00303 JR Z,END_TXT
00304 PUSH DE
00305 CALL $WR_BYT ;put char in buffer
00306 POP DE
00307 JR NZ,END_TXT ;Quit if end of buffer
00308 INC DE ;Bump string pointer
00309 JR LOOP2 ;and do it again
00310 ;
00311 END_TXT
00312 XOR A ;clear flags
00313 JR EXIT_TAB
00314 ;

```

topics. One NEWDOS/80 memory (even hardware mod board. Although recommend t making this t this modifica experimental. will NOT be r a result of yo

How ab 2 Meg? Sou chips, a roll (Yeah, I know speed up the NEC RAMs are \$3.54 each, s

This mo do not have: that you have the chip nu modification installed.

We will leave two de control port.

The wa the alternate change after which 64K g the alternate have five b pages of 64K upper three modifications is replaced Number 3, p CPU is run t is to be m modification of Port 94H compatibility

To be must have a you set 94H addressing i RAM bank machine, yo you are goi could also LD A,1 inst might be p automatically hacker coul some code t (this article)

To ge and bend up line and wh the 4P, ho shield, so th without cut 4P without are careful to stick a where it m part of t Interferen Commission sort of me order to ke

[Reprinted from SMUG News, the newsletter of the Surrey (British Columbia, Canada) Microprocessors Users Group:]

If you do any amount of programming in BASIC you should be aware of the command which you can use while saving a BASIC program which will protect it, i.e. SAVE "filepec".P

What this command does is encode the program in a binary form and enable only the commands RUN, LOAD, MERGE, and CHAIN. Any attempt to EDIT or LIST the program won't work. Using the LIST command from DOS will not work either.

While there are those of us who would take Tandy's word at this, there are others amongst us who balk at not being privy to view something we aren't supposed to. It's kind of like saying, "Here is the safe, bet you can't open it!". Close but no cigar.

Indeed you can open the safe and should be allowed for one very good reason. If you save a version of the BASIC Program you are writing and forget to save an unprotected one, how are you ever going to edit your program again? Right, you can't. So that 23K BASIC program you just spent 3 1/2 months on is gone. Hardly fair, is it?

So for this very reason I will tell you how to unprotect those protected BASIC programs.

First you have to find out which version of BASIC you are using. Type BASIC from the TRSDOS READY mode and have a look at the version number. Use the technique outlined for your BASIC version.

- a) BASIC 1.1.0 (earliest version) - from BASIC type in:  
SYSTEM "MEMORY (ADD=X'6247,WORD=X'0000)"
- b) BASIC 1.1.1 (newest version) - from BASIC type in :  
SYSTEM "MEMORY (ADD=X'72CB,WORD=X'0000)"

Once you have used the proper patch, simply use the LIST and EDIT commands as you always have. They will work again normally.

### SIMPLE MODEL 4/4D/4P CPU SPEEDUP

Information provided by David G. Huffman

If you would like to have a FAST Model 4, 4D or 4P and are an experienced hardware hacker, you can do the following: Open up the case, remove the Z-80 CPU chip from its socket, bend out pin 6 so that it sticks straight out, reinsert the Z-80 into its socket, run a piece of wire-wrap wire from the bent-out Z-80 pin 6 to pin 22 of the graphics connector (connector J7, a 34 pin header), solder both ends of the wire with a low wattage soldering iron, and put everything back together. This will give a CPU clock speed of 5.0688 MHz.

Now you might be saying "big deal" because the normal TRSDOS 6 clock speed is 4 MHz, BUT consider this - this modification does NOT affect the interrupt timing that controls the system clock. What this means is that if you boot up using a Model III DOS, the CPU still runs at 5 MHz but the interrupts are running at the "slow" speed, so the clock is okay. However, if you boot up TRSDOS 6, the CPU speed stays at 5 MHz (still a noticeable improvement) but now the interrupt timing changes to the "fast" speed, so again the system clock works properly.

In other words, changing the "speed select" bit of port 84H now changes only the interrupt timing speed, not the CPU speed. A drawback to this mod is that there is no way to select a "normal" CPU speed, so if you have some Model III "shoot-em-up" type arcade games, you probably will not want to make this mod. Timing loops in other programs would be affected in a similar manner. Of course, you could always install a SPDT switch somewhere on the chassis to switch pin 6 of the Z-80 between pin 6 on the Z-80 socket (normal speed) and pin 22 of the graphics connector (high speed), or perhaps you could use some sort of port-controlled hardware switching arrangement.

One other note - when using this mod you may have to press the RESET switch twice when booting a disk. This is because the timing loops in the boot ROM are not quite long enough for the higher speed.

```

00315 ;-----
00316 ;
00317 D0_MSK EQU 00001111B ;Digit 0 mask
00318 D1_MSK EQU 11110000B ;Digit 1 mask
00319 ;
00320 $HEX_BUF
00321 ;enter with hex number in BC
00322 ;
5360' 78 00323 LD A,B ;iget asb
5361' C07553' 00324 CALL CNVT_DIG
5364' 78 00325 LD A,B
5365' E60F 00326 AND D0_MSK
5367' C07053' 00327 CALL CNVT_DIG2
536A' 79 00328 LD A,C
536B' C07553' 00329 CALL CNVT_DIG
536E' 79 00330 LD A,C
536F' E60F 00331 AND D0_MSK
5371' C07053' 00332 CALL CNVT_DIG2
5374' C9 00333 RET
00334 ;-----
00335 CNVT_DIG
5375' CB3F 00336 SRL A
5377' CB3F 00337 SRL A
5379' CB3F 00338 SRL A
537B' CB3F 00339 SRL A
00340 CNVT_DIG2
5370' C5 00341 PUSH BC
537E' C0B653' 00342 CALL ADJUST ;icnvt to ASCII Hex digit
5381' C0AD52' 00343 CALL WR_BYT ;iput digit in buffer
5384' C1 00344 POP BC
5385' C9 00345 RET
00346 ;-----
00347 ;-----
00348 ADJUST
00349 ; Enter with binary digit in A. Adjust A to
00350 ; an ASCII Hex digit
00351 ;
5386' C630 00352 ADD A,30H
5388' FE3A 00353 CP 3AH
538A' FABF53' 00354 JP M,SKIP3
538D' C607 00355 ADD A,7H
538F' C9 00356 SKIP3 RET
00357 ;-----
00358 ;-----
5390' 1C 00359 BANNER DB 1CH,1FH
1F
5392' 48 00360 DB 'High Memory Map Ver 3.0.1',LNFEED
69 67 68 20 4D 65 6D 6F 72 79 20 4D 61 70 20 20
20 20 20 20 20 20 56 65 72 20 33 2E 30 2E 31 0A
5383' 20 00361 DB '-----',CRTN
20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 00
00362 ;
5304' 28 00363 L1A DB '(HIGH) = ',ETX
48 49 47 48 24 29 20 20 3D 20 20 03
53E1' 3C 00364 LXH DB '(<----)',ETX
20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 03
00365 ;-----
00366 ;-----
00367 BCB
53E9' F853' 00368 BADD DW BUFFER
53EB' 40 00369 BLEN DB 40H
53EC' 00 00370 BCLR DB 0
53ED' 00 00371 DB 0
53EE' 00 00372 BETX DB 00H
53EF' 20 00373 BFILL DB '-'
53F0' 00 00374 T123 DB 0,0,0
00 00
53F3' 00 00375 BTAB DB 0
53F4' 10 00376 DB 10H
53F5' FF 00377 DB 0FFH
53F6' 0000 00378 DW 0
00379 BUFFER
53F8' 00380 DS 50H
00381 ;-----
00382 ;-----
5204' 00383 END ENTRY

```

MODEL 4/4D/4P RAMDISK PROGRAM PLUS ~~MODEL 4P MEMORY~~  
~~MODIFICATION FOR GATE ARRAY BOARDS~~

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[EDITOR'S NOTE: This article really covers two related topics. One is a RAMDISK program that can be used with ~~NEW~~DOS/80 on any Model 4/4D/4P that has more than 64K of memory (even if it's just a stock 128K machine). The other is a hardware modification to the Model 4P with gate array type circuit board. Although this modification is not extremely complicated, we recommend that you attempt it only if you are experienced in making this type of hardware modification. We have not tested this modification, and because of this it should be considered experimental. The author of this article and/or NORTHERN BYTES will NOT be responsible for damages of any kind that may occur as a result of your attempting to build and use this modification.]

How about expanding your Model 4P to 512K RAM or even to 1 Meg? Sound expensive? Well, for the 4P we will need ten IC chips, a roll of wire wrap wire and tool, and 120ns 256K RAMs (Yeah, I know 150ns will work just as well, but... if you want to speed up the machine faster than 4 Mhz then get the 120ns). I use NEC RAMs and have had good luck. The last set I bought were \$3.54 each, so a 512K system should cost you \$75.

This modification is for the GATE ARRAY board ONLY. If you do not have a gate array board but have schematics for the board that you have, the logic that is used here will also apply, however, the chip numbers will change. Actually, the original memory modification was first done on my old Model 4, which has 1 Meg installed.

We will need to add a new port and it was nice of Tandy to leave two decoded address on U28. I used U28-10 (94H) as the RAM control port.

The way this modification works is simple. In the Model 4/4P the alternate 64K RAM is accessed using port 84H, and this will not change after the modification is installed. Port 94H will select which 64K group within the 2048K (maximum) RAM will be used as the alternate 64K RAM bank that is accessed by port 84H. So we have five bits in port 94H (D0-D4). This will give us one to 31 pages of 64K RAM that we can select for port 84H to access (the upper three bits of port 94H are used by other hardware modifications designed by the author, primarily when the Z-80 CPU is replaced by a Hitachi HD64180 [see NORTHERN BYTES Volume 7, Number 3, page 6]. Bit D5 is used for speed selection when the CPU is run at more than 4 MHz, and Bit D7 selects whether memory is to be mapped in 64K or 256K segments. These additional modifications are not discussed here, but the additional bit usage of Port 94H is mentioned here in the hope that possible software compatibility problems can be forestalled).

To be fully compatible with all Model 4 software, port 94H must have at least one of the lower five bits set. For example, if you set 94H to a 1 then this will enable the second group of 64K addressing in the first 256K RAM to be used for the alternate 64K RAM bank (32K high & 32K low). When you first power up the machine, you can go to BASIC and issue a POKE &H94,1 command if you are going to run a program that requires 128K of memory. You could also AUTO a short machine language program that contains a LD A,1 instruction followed by an OUT (94H),A instruction, or it might be possible to patch the boot sector of your DOS to automatically issue this command (the really ambitious hardware hacker could probably copy the boot ROM to an EPROM and add some code to flip a bit of port 94H, but that's beyond the scope of this article).

To get more than 512K RAM we will need to stack RAM chips and bend up pin 15 of the stacked chips. This is the CAS\* control line and will be connected to the 74S08 chip in the drawings. In the 4P, however, you will need to cut away some of the metal shield so the RAMs will clear. You can get one meg in a Model 4 without cutting any metal. You may be able to get one meg in a 4P without any cutting, if you keep everything nice and tight and are careful that no pins touch the metal shield (it might not hurt to stick a strip or two of insulating tape on the shield at the point where it might otherwise contact the IC pins). If you do cut any part of the shield away, it may permit Radio Frequency interference leakage in violation of Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations, so you should try to fashion some sort of metal box-like enclosure to fit over the cut-away part in order to keep the shielding effect intact.

I don't own a Model 4P (don't get worried!) so Jerry Johnson's 4P was the first guinea pig. Jerry says it nice to have 352 Grans (512k) for a system disk.

The installation for the 4P is as follows (refer to the diagrams):

1. Open up the machine and remove the main CPU board.
2. Mount the following IC chips on the board. We will piggyback them, and only solder the pins that we don't bend up:  
#1 74LS32 - U105P - bend all pins except 7&14  
#2 7486 - U24P - bend all pins except 7&14  
#3 74S08 - U129P - bend all pins except 7&14  
#4 74LS32 - U87P - bend all pins except 7&14  
#5 74S08 - U114P - bend all pins except 7&14  
#6 74157 - U111P - bend all pins except 8,15&16  
#7 74157 - U110P - bend all pins except 1,8,15&16  
#8 74LS244- U125P - bend all pins except  
3,5,7,9,10,12,14,16,18,20  
#10 7442 - U116P - bend all pins except 8,16  
(#9 is not mounted until step 4!)

3. Connect the following:

U85-16 to U24P-2  
U85-12 to U105P-9  
U85-15 to U105P-10

4. Place the 74LS273 (#9) on U85 with all pins bent up except 1,3,4,7,8,10,13,14,17,18,20.

5. Make all connections shown in Figure 1 (only!) except U114P-3&6 and U129P-6 (also don't add any circuitry associated with over 512K of memory yet). Then power up the board in the machine and check for operation. At this point the only change noticed should be a new port 148 (94H). Set and reset the bits and read the port to verify operation. NOTE: If you have removed the drives from the case, the 4P may not boot because the drives are not properly terminated. In this case, try holding down the (period) key while pressing RESET. This will run the built-in memory test of the boot ROM. If this runs correctly, everything is probably okay.

6. Then remove the Main CPU board and do the following:

- a. Pull all RAMs.
- b. Wire all pin 1 of the RAM sockets together and connect to U129P-6.

7. Remove R21.

8. RAS MOD - Lift one end of R23 that goes to U115-11 (see drawing). Add jumper from R23 on board side to pad on R21 opposite to U115 (see drawing). Connect lifted end of R23 to U114P-11. Connect remaining pads of R21 & R23 to U114P-12&13. MAKE SURE IT IS AS SHOWN IN THE DRAWING!!!!

9. CAS MOD - Find the feedthrough next to RP1 between pins 15 & 16. This should be the CAS line for the RAMs. MAKE SURE - it should connect to pin 15 of the RAMS (use digital ohmmeter only or LOOK). Turn board over to the non-component side (bottom) and follow the trace to another feedthrough about the same distance from the RAMs as the first feedthrough. Cut the trace that connect the two feedthroughs. The feedthroughs will now be the RAM CAS connections. U133-140 will be "CAS1" & U153-160 will be "CAS2". Now follow the trace from the first feedthrough on the bottom of the board to U136 & U156-15. Cut the trace that connects U136-15 & U156-15. Follow the trace to a feedthrough next to pin 16 of U136. Cut this trace near the feedthrough. Now we should have separated the two rows of RAMs on pin 15. Check with a digital ohmmeter that the two rows are separated. Make sure you understand which traces to cut!!!!

10. Now connect U114P-3 to a 47 Ohm resistor and place the other end in the feedthrough "CAS1". Connect U114P-6 to a 47 Ohm resistor and place the other end in the feedthrough "CAS2."

11. Refresh is found on pin 5 of U87. Connect it (you can run the wire through any available feedthrough) to U114P-2&4.

12. Replace the main board and power up. If you get trash on the screen, check the wiring - you GOOFED. If it runs but is unreliable, you will need a good scope and will have to look at the RAS line. Check for ringing. Add resistance to the series resistor if you have ringing. If the transitions are a good 4.75V then reduce the resistance. Check the CAS line also - 47 Ohms may be too much. On my Model 4 I have no resistors in the RAS or CAS.

Now, to add more RAM you will have to piggyback one or two more 74S08 IC's as U96P and/or U117P (bend up all pins except 7 and 14 before piggybacking). One input of each of the AND gates (example: pins 1,4,9,12) must be connected to the refresh line (pin 5 of U87). The other input for each of the AND gates (example: pins 2,5,10,13) should be connected to one of the CASnA lines (3 through 8) at U116P. You must then stack the added RAM and bend pin 15



```

00034 ;Copying then a patch is added to SYS6/SYS to bypass the
00035 ;format routine and just write BOOT/SYS & DIR/SYS Sectors
00036 ;
00037 ; The Ram disk can be installed in drive Slots 0-4. The
00038 ;drive for the Ram Disk will ALWAYS be #4. If we select
00039 ;Slot 0-3 then the physical drive will select when Slot 4
00040 ;is requested
00041 ; THIS MEANS THAT WE WILL HAVE 5 DRIVES POSSIBLE ONLINE
00042 ;
00043 ; This Version for the HD64180 moves 1 byte at a time.
00044 ;Next update will include a buffer area for moving 256
00045 ;bytes at a time as an option. The Model 4/4P use Hi
00046 ;memory and I HATE to lose memory unless the benefit
00047 ;is great. The HD64180 would be most efficient using the
00048 ;DMA controller however, I didn't want to lose possible
00049 ;compatibility for "Ramdisk boards".
00050 ; Thus each sector is read to and from the buffer 1 byte
00051 ;at a time. That is for each byte read/written a memory
00052 ;map switch must take place. Ramdisk I/O speed can be
00053 ;dramatically increased at a cost of 256 bytes of hmem
00054 ;on the model 4/4P ( A full Buffer option will be added
00055 ;later as a option )
00056 ;
00057 ; The Routine CALPAGE does the Page Calculating so any
00058 ;combination of port decoded ram & MMU ram controlled by
00059 ;the HD64180 can be used.
00060 ;
00061 ; Several patch areas were necessary because of the way
00062 ;SYS6/SYS operates. In all patches a test for the current
00063 ;drive is made. If it is the Ramdisk and SYS6 is resident
00064 ;and we have not patched SYS6 yet, then we patch in some
00065 ;bytes for FORMAT. Patch 1/2 are basically to detect if
00066 ;the Ramdisk is to be POWERED UP and or SELECTED. Patch
00067 ;3 is the actual Sector Read/Write. Patch 4 & 5 is for
00068 ;swapped drives. If we install the Ramdisk at drive 1 then
00069 ;the physical drive 1 becomes drive 4 so we don't have to
00070 ;give up a drive slot. Patch 6 is mainly for SYS6/SYS in
00071 ;case we got an error condition and exit Via 4409H. The
00072 ;purpose is to reset the Patch Flag (SYS6FLG). Once we
00073 ;patch SYS6/SYS we don't want any drive selects to
00074 ;repatch SYS6/SYS because SYS6/SYS calls other SYS
00075 ;modules that overlay SYS6 in the normal overlay area.
00076 ;
00077 ; Operators Instructions
00078 ;
00079 ; Pdrive #4 will Always be the Definition for the Ramdisk
00080 ; There is a check for the Maximum # of sectors so you
00081 ;can't write over the Ram image in the Model 4/4P
00082 ;
00083 ; To install type " RamDisk On " where dn = Drive #
00084 ; Once installed the Ramdisk will operate like the Floppy
00085 ;disk drives. You Must format it to use it.
00086 ; Format dn,;ndm
00087 ; To remount the ramdisk as another drive at any time
00088 ;type Ramdisk dn
00089 ;
00090 ; Legal slots for the Ramdisk = 1to4
00091 ;
00092 ; When the Ramdisk is mounted over an existing drive the
00093 ;physical drive will become Drive #4
00094 ;
00095 ; If you want to change the Pdrive for Slot # & then
00096 ;you MUST reinstall the Ramdisk.
00097 ;
00098 ;*****
00099 ; Equates for Each Type Machine
00100 ;
00101 ; IF LNW ; Team Model 1 Compatible
00102 ;*****
00103 ; LNW TEAM - With HD64180/280H
00104 ;*****
00105 PATAD0 EQU 47E0H ; Patch address for Patch 1
00106 ;
00107 PATAD1 EQU 4776H ; Patch address for Patch 1
00108 PATAD1A EQU PATAD1+1
00109 ;
00110 PATAD2 EQU 47ADH ; Patch address for Patch 2
00111 PATAD2A EQU PATAD2+1
00112 ;
00113 PATAD3 EQU 465CH ; Patch address for Patch 3

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00114 ;
00115 PATAD4 EQU 47A3H ; Patch address for Patch 4
00116 PATAD4A EQU PATAD4+1
00117 ;
00118 PATAD5 EQU 4798H ; Patch address for Patch 5
00119 PATAD5A EQU PATAD5+1
00120 ;
00121 PATAD6 EQU 4409H ; patch address for Patch 6
00122 PATAD6A EQU PATAD6+1
00123 ;
00124 SYAL EQU 477AH ; System AL Option - Max Drives
00125 SYAL1 EQU 439FH ; System - Max # Drive searched
00126 ;
00127 CURDRV EQU 4386H ; Current drive selected
00128 CURDCMD EQU 4309H ; Current FDC Select Bits 1-2-4-8
00129 ;
00130 CONFLG1 EQU 4369H ; Condition Flags - Debug/Overlay
00131 ; Ect.
00132 SYS6ID EQU 4D09H ; Byte ID to Check if SYS6
00133 ; Overlayed its self.
00134 ;
00135 SY6BF EQU 6886H ; System 6 Bypass format Patch
00136 ;
00137 PAT0RCH EQU 4776H ; Patch 0 End Replace command
00138 PAT1END EQU 4779H ; Patch 1 Replaced Command
00139 PAT2END EQU 47DDH ; Patch 2 End Jump address
00140 PAT3END EQU 4773H ; Patch 3 End Jump address
00141 PAT3CON EQU 4710H ; Patch 3 Continue address
00142 PAT6END EQU 440CH ; Patch 6 End Jump address
00143 ;
00144 P6REPCM EQU 4C1EH ; Patch 6 Replaced cmd Address
00145 DIRLMP EQU 438AH ; Directory Starting Lump for
00146 ; Current Drive
00147 DIRGRN EQU 430FH ; Grans/Lump Value for Current
00148 ; Drive
00149 PORTBL EQU 4371H ; Address of Pdrive Table Drive 1
00150 ;
00151 PDRA00 EQU 4399H ; Address of current Pdrive
00152 ;
00153 CURFDC EQU 46C4H ; Current FDC cmd
00154 LDRV0TK EQU 4306H ; Last track Accessed by Drive 0
00155 LDRV4TK EQU 4304H ; Last track Accessed by Drive 4
00156 ;
00157 ;*****
00158 ENIF
00159 ;
00160 IF MOD4
00161 ;*****
00162 ; Model 4 - 128K Ram
00163 ;*****
00164 PATAD0 EQU 4792H ; Patch address for Patch 1
00165 ;
00166 PATAD1 EQU 4723H ; Patch address for Patch 1
00167 PATAD1A EQU PATAD1+1
00168 ;
00169 PATAD2 EQU 475EH ; Patch address for Patch 2
00170 PATAD2A EQU PATAD2+1
00171 ;
00172 PATAD3 EQU 4607H ; Patch address for Patch 3
00173 ;
00174 PATAD4 EQU 4754H ; Patch address for Patch 4
00175 PATAD4A EQU PATAD4+1
00176 ;
00177 PATAD5 EQU 4769H ; Patch address for Patch 5
00178 PATAD5A EQU PATAD5+1
00179 ;
00180 PATAD6 EQU 4409H ; patch address for Patch 6
00181 PATAD6A EQU PATAD6+1
00182 ;
00183 SYAL EQU 4727H ; System AL Option - Max Drives
00184 SYAL1 EQU 428FH ; System - Max # Drive searched
00185 ;
00186 CURDRV EQU 427EH ; Current drive selected
00187 CURDCMD EQU 427FH ; Current FDC Select Bits 1-2-4-8
00188 ;
00189 CONFLG1 EQU 4289H ; Condition Flags - Debug/Overlay
00190 ; Ect.
00191 SYS6ID EQU 4D09H ; Byte ID to Check if SYS6
00192 ; Overlayed its self.
00193 ;

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00194 SY6BF EQU 6888H ; System 6 Bypass format Patch
00195 ;
00196 PATORCM EQU 4723H ; Patch 0 End Replace command
00197 PAT1END EQU 4726H ; Patch 1 Replaced Command
00198 PAT2END EQU 4783H ; Patch 2 End Jump address
00199 PAT3END EQU 4720H ; Patch 3 End Jump address
00200 PAT3CON EQU 46C0H ; Patch 3 Continue address
00201 PAT6END EQU 440CH ; Patch 6 End Jump address
00202 ;
00203 P6REPCM EQU 4289H ; Patch 6 Replaced cmd Address
00204 ;
00205 DIRLMP EQU 4280H ; Directory Starting Lump for
; Current Drive
00206 ;
00207 DIRGRN EQU 4285H ; Grans/Lump Value for Current
; Drive
00208 ;
00209 PORTBL EQU 4291H ; Address of Pdrive Table Drive 1
00210 ;
00211 PDRADD EQU 4289H ; Address of current Pdrive
00212 ;
00213 CURFDC EQU 4687H ; Current FDC cmd
00214 LDRV0TK EQU 4276H ; Last track Accessed by Drive 0
00215 LDRV4TK EQU 4279H ; Last track Accessed by Drive 4
00216 ;
00217 LDDE EQU 5B8DH ; LD DE,(XX) - OPCODE
00218 LDIX EQU 2AD0H ; LD IX,(XX) - OPCODE
00219 STHL EQU 22H ; LD (XX),HL - OPCODE
00220 ;
00221 HIMEM EQU 4411H ; HIMEM FOR MODIII/IV
00222 PORTMSK EQU 4CFH ; PORT MASK of Port 84H
00223 ;
00224 ;*****
00225 ENIF
00226 ;*****
00227 IF HD64180
00228 ; Find Type of Processor We are Running
00229 ; HD64180/Z80H Cpu
00230 ;
00231 ;
00232 H0START DEFB 0EDH,30H,10H ; HD64180 INO (10H),A
00233 DEFB 3H ; IF HD64180 THEN INC BC
00234 JP START ; HD64180 SYSTEM
00235 ;
00236 JP Z80CPU ; Z80 SYSTEM
00237 ;
00238 ;
00239 ;
00240 Z80CPU LD HL,MYTYPEER
00241 CALL 4467H ; DISPLAY ERROR
00242 JP 4020H
00243 ;
00244 MYTYPEER DEFM '**** This MUST be a HD64180/ROP Processor ****',00H
00245 ;
00246 ENIF
00247 ;
00248 ;*****
00249 DEFM 'Written By D. Huffman ',00H
00250 ;*****
00251 ; Get Drive # for Randisk
00252 ;
00253 START LD A,(HL) ; GET Command
00254 CP 00H
00255 JR Z,CMDER ; ERROR
00256 GETCMD1 LD A,(HL)
00257 INC HL
00258 CP ' '
00259 JR Z,GETCMD1
00260 CP ' '
00261 JR Z,GETCMD1
00262 CP ' '
00263 JR Z,GETCMD1
00264 ; Ah Finally
00265 SUB 30H ; CONV TO BIN
00266 CP 5 ; Drive 0-4
00267 JR C,GETCMD2 ; GO IF OK
00268 CMDER LD HL,MESER
00269 CALL MESOUT
00270 JP 4020H
00271 ;
00272 NOMEMER LD HL,MESMER
00273 CALL MESOUT

```

```

00274 JP 4020H
00275 ;
00276 ;
00277 GETCMD2 LD (DRIVE),A ; SET IN DRIVE VALUES
00278 ; JUST for My Sanity We will Attempt to set 148
00279 IN A,(148) ; Get Port if exists
00280 SET 0,A
00281 OUT (148),A
00282 ;
00283 ;
00284 IF MOD4
00285 XOR A ; Zero a
00286 LD (PORTMSK),A ; Setup Port Mask
; to zero
00287 ;
00288 ;
00289 IF NUXMEM
00290 IN A,(148) ; Check for more memory
; Mux is Installed ?
00291 ; Assume No Memory
00292 CP Z55
00293 JR Z,NOMEMER; NOP
00294 ENIF
00295 ; Setup and relocate to top of hmem
00296 LD IX,(HIMEM) ; GET HIMEM
00297 ; BUT FIRST Check if we are already installed...
00298 LD A,(IX+4)
00299 CP 0CDH ; Check for CALL 4723H
00300 JR NZ,GETLA ; NOP USE NEW ADDRESS
00301 LD A,(IX+5)
00302 CP 23H ; ?
00303 JR NZ,GETLA
00304 LD A,(IX+6)
00305 CP 47H ; ? 4723H
00306 JR NZ,GETLA
00307 ; OK IS US.....
00308 LD L,(IX+2)
00309 LD H,(IX+3) ; Old Hmem value
00310 JR GETLB
00311 GETLA LD HL,(HIMEM)
00312 GETLB LD DE,PGMEN-PGM ; PROGRAM LENGTH
; Save for Next boot
00313 LD (HIMEM1),HL
00314 AND A
00315 SBC HL,DE ; HL=NEW START OF PGM
00316 LD (NEWLOC),HL ; SAVE IT
00317 DEC HL
00318 DEC HL ; SUB 2
00319 LD (HIMEM),HL ; SAVE HIMEM
00320 INC HL
00321 INC HL ; PUT IT BACK
00322 LD DE,PGM
00323 AND A
00324 SBC HL,DE ; HL = OFFSET
00325 LD (OFFSET),HL ; SAVE IT
00326 LD A,(RELMN) ; GET # IN TABLE
00327 LD B,A
00328 LD IX,RELTBL ; GET TABLE
00329 GETCP1 PUSH IX ; SAVE IT
00330 LD (IXBYTE),IX
00331 DEFW LDIX ; LD IX,(XX) - OPCODE
00332 IXBYTE DEFS 2
00333 LD (LOCBYTE),IX ; SAVE
00334 LD (LOCBT1),IX
00335 DEFW LODE ; LD DE,(LOCBYTE)
00336 LOCBYTE DEFS 2
00337 LD HL,(OFFSET)
00338 ADD HL,DE ; ADD OFFSET
00339 DEFB STHL ; LD (LOCBT1),HL
00340 LOCBT1 DEFS 2
00341 POP IX ; GET IT BACK
00342 INC IX
00343 INC IX ; BUMP +2
00344 DJNZ GETLP1 ; DO LOOP
00345 ;
00346 JP GETLPEN ; CONTINUE
00347 ;
-----
00348 ;
00349 ; Relocation Table
00350 ;
00351 IF NUXMEM
00352 RELNM DEFB 36 ; # OF ENTERYS IN TABLE
00353 ENIF

```

```

00354 IF NOT,MUXMEM
00355 RELNM DEFB 34
00356 ENIF
00357 ;
00358 RELTBL DEFW ADDR1+1 ; Relocation address
00359 DEFW ADDR2+1
00360 DEFW ADDR3+1
00361 DEFW ADDR4+1
00362 DEFW ADDR5+1
00363 DEFW ADDR6+1
00364 DEFW ADDR7+1
00365 DEFW ADDR8+1
00366 DEFW ADDR9+1
00367 DEFW ADDR10+1
00368 DEFW ADDR11+1
00369 DEFW ADDR12+1
00370 DEFW ADDR13+1
00371 DEFW ADDR14+1
00372 DEFW ADDR15+1
00373 DEFW ADDR16+1
00374 DEFW ADDR17+1
00375 DEFW ADDR18+1
00376 DEFW ADDR19+1
00377 DEFW ADDR20+1
00378 DEFW ADDR21+1
00379 DEFW ADDR22+1
00380 DEFW ADDR23+1
00381 DEFW ADDR24+1
00382 DEFW ADDR25+1
00383 DEFW ADDR26+1
00384 DEFW ADDR27+1
00385 DEFW ADDR28+1
00386 DEFW ADDR29+1
00387 DEFW ADDR30+1
00388 DEFW ADDR31+1
00389 DEFW ADDR32+1
00390 IF MUXMEM
00391 DEFW ADDR33+1
00392 DEFW ADDR34+1
00393 ENIF
00394 ;
00395 DEFW SEC3+1
00396 DEFW PATCH2A+1
00397 ;
00398 ;
00399 GETLPEN NOP ; CONTINUE HERE
00400 ENIF
00401 ;
00402 ; Get Fourth Pdrive for New Drive #4
00403 ; This will be the prive for the Ram Driver no matter
00404 ; where we install it.
00405 ;
00406 LD HL,BOOTSYS ; GET BOOT/SYS Sector
00407 LD DE,FCB
00408 CALL 441CH ; Extract File spec
00409 JP NZ,BOOTER ; Got error
00410 LD DE,FCB
00411 LD HL,BUFFER
00412 LD B,0 ; 256 Byte sectors
00413 CALL 4424H ; Open Boot/sys
00414 JP NZ,BOOTER
00415 CALL 4436H ; Sector 1
00416 JP NZ,BOOTER
00417 CALL 4436H ; 2
00418 JP NZ,BOOTER
00419 CALL 4436H ; 3
00420 JP NZ,BOOTER
00421 CALL 4428H ; Close it
00422 JP NZ,BOOTER
00423 ; Now get Fourth Pdrive
00424 DI ; For safety
00425 ;
00426 IF MOD4
00427 ;*****
00428 ;**** Ok now Move New Copy of Readisk to Correct Loc **
00429 LD HL,PGM ; START
00430 LD DE,(NEWLOC) ; NEW ADDRESS LOCATION
00431 LD BC,PGMEN-PGM
00432 LDIR ; MOVE IT
00433 ENIF

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00434 ;
00435 LD HL,BUFFER+40H ; Start of buffer
00436 ADDR1 LD DE,PDRIVE
00437 LD BC,16
00438 LDIR ; MOVE IT
00439 ;
00440 IF Z80 ; MODEL 4 WITH Z80
00441 IF MOD4
00442 IF MUXMEM ; MUX MEMORY ADDED
00443 IN A,(148) ; Check for more memory
00444 ; Mux is Installed ?
00445 CP 255 ; Assume No Memory
00446 JP Z,NOMEMER; NOP
00447 ; AM We do have more memory
00448 RES 7,A ; Enable Z80 Port Addressing
00449 SET 0,A ; Enable First bank of Mux
00450 OUT (148),A
00451 LD HL,7936 ; 2048K 2 MEG
00452 LD HL,MESS4M ; Message for disp
00453 LD (MESS44P),HL ; SAVE FOR DISPLAY
00454 ; Maximum # of sectors
00455 ; For Safety in case the
00456 ; Pdrive is set wrong
00457 JR ADDR2
00458 ENIF
00459 ; Now Check if Model 4 or 4P
00460 NOMORE LD A,(0)
00461 LD B,A ; SAVE THE BYTE
00462 LD A,1
00463 OUT (84H),A
00464 LD (0),A
00465 XOR A
00466 OUT (84H),A
00467 LD A,(0) ; GET THE BYTE
00468 CP 1
00469 JR Z,MODEL4P ; IS A 4P
00470 ;
00471 MODEL4 LD HL,MESS4
00472 LD (MESS44P),HL ; SAVE FOR DISPLAY
00473 LD HL,320 ; # OF SECTORS MAX 4
00474 JR ADDR2 ; GO CHECK IF MORE MEM
00475 ;
00476 MODEL4P LD A,1
00477 OUT (84H),A ; BANK IN RAM
00478 LD A,B ; GET BYTE
00479 LD (0),A ; PUT IT BACK
00480 XOR A
00481 OUT (84H),A ; BANK IN ROM/WRITE PROTECT
00482 ;
00483 LD HL,MESS4P
00484 LD (MESS44P),HL ; SAVE FOR DISPLAY
00485 LD HL,256 ; MAX # OF SECTORS 4
00486 ENIF
00487 ENIF
00488 IF HD64180
00489 LD HL,768 ; MAX # OF SECTORS
00490 ENIF
00491 ;
00492 IF LNU
00493 LD HL,768 ; MAX # OF SECTORS
00494 ENIF
00495 ;
00496 ADDR2 LD (SECTOR+1),HL ; SAVE IT
00497 ;
00498 IF HD64180
00499 ;*****
00500 ; HD64180 MMU
00501 ; Config MMU for 32K Boundrys 8000H-FFFFH
00502 ;
00503 LD A,128 ; CBAR VALUE
00504 DEFB 0EDH ; OP CODE OUTO (a),g
00505 DEFB 39H
00506 DEFB 3AH ; PORT 3AH CBAR OF MMU
00507 ;
00508 ;*****
00509 ENIF
00510 ;patch Ramdrive into DOS
00511 PATCH LD A,(DRIVE) ; Get Drive # for Patch
00512 ADDR3 LD (PAT0+1),A ; SET IN DRIVE VALUES
00513 ADDR4 LD (PAT1+1),A

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00514 ADDR5 LD (PAT2+1),A
00515 ADDR6 LD (PAT3+1),A
00516 ADDR7 LD (PAT4+1),A
00517 ;
00518 ADDR8 LD HL,PATCH0
00519 LD (PATAD0),HL
00520 ;
00521 ADDR9 LD HL,PATCH1 ; FIRST PATCH
00522 LD A,@C3H ; JP
00523 LD (PATAD1),A
00524 LD (PATAD1A),HL
00525 ;
00526 ADDR10 LD HL,PATCH2
00527 LD A,@CDH ; CALL BYTE
00528 LD (PATAD2),A
00529 LD (PATAD2A),HL
00530 ;
00531 ADDR11 LD HL,PATCH3
00532 LD (PATAD3),HL
00533 ;
00534 ; Is Drive 4 - Now Patch Pdrive Check routine
00535 ;
00536 LD A,@CDH ; CALL
00537 LD (PATAD4),A
00538 ADDR12 LD HL,PATCH4
00539 LD (PATAD4A),HL ; CALL PATCH4
00540 ;
00541 LD A,@CDH
00542 LD (PATAD5),A
00543 ADDR13 LD HL,PATCH5
00544 LD (PATAD5A),HL
00545 ;
00546 LD A,@C3H ; Patch 6 for SYS6TES
00547 LD (PATAD6),A
00548 ADDR31 LD HL,PATCH6
00549 LD (PATAD6A),HL
00550 ;
00551 LD A,5 ; 4 DRIVES
00552 LD (SYAL),A
00553 LD (SYAL1),A
00554 ;
00555 EI
00556 ;
00557 ; Check if Raddisk will be drive 0 ?
00558 LD A,(DRIVE) ; get current drive
00559 CP 0 ; Are we setting up Dr 0
00560 JR NZ,PATCH0N ; No
00561 ; Yes it is .. So we need to copy the Pdrive for
00562 ; the Physical drive 0 to the Ram Disk
00563 ;
00564 ; BUFFER Still has Physical Drive 0 Rel Sector 3
00565 ;
00566 ; Open Boot/sys on Raddisk
00567 LD HL,BOOTSYS ; GET BOOT/SYS Sector
00568 LD DE,FCB
00569 CALL 441CH ; Extract File spec
00570 JP NZ,BOOTER ; Got error
00571 LD DE,FCB
00572 LD HL,BUFFER0 ; NEW BUFFER
00573 LD B,0 ; 256 Byte sectors
00574 CALL 4424H ; Open Boot/sys
00575 JR NZ,BOOTER
00576 CALL 4436H ; Sector 1
00577 JR NZ,BOOTER
00578 CALL 4436H ; 2
00579 JR NZ,BOOTER
00580 CALL 4436H ; 3
00581 JR NZ,BOOTER
00582 ; Ok now copy over old Pdrive to Raddisk
00583 LD HL,BUFFER ; Source
00584 LD DE,BUFFER0 ; Dest
00585 LD BC,16 ; 16 Bytes
00586 LDIR ; Move them
00587 ;
00588 LD DE,FCB
00589 CALL 4445H ; Backup 1
00590 JR NZ,BOOTER ; Error recovery
00591 ;
00592 LD HL,BUFFER0
00593 CALL 4439H ; Write the Sector

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00594 JR NZ,BOOTER
00595 ;
00596 CALL 4428H ; Close it
00597 JR NZ,BOOTER
00598 ;
00599 PATCH0N LD A,(LDRV0TK) ; Get Last Track Accessed
00600 LD (LDRV4TK),A ; Move to Drive # 4 Slot
00601 ; This is so Dos can find
00602 ; the correct track the
00603 ; first time
00604 ;
00605 LD HL,MESS1 ; MESSAGE INIT
00606 CALL MESOUT
00607 IF Z0
00608 LD HL,(MESS44P) ; GET CORRECT MESSAGE
00609 CALL MESOUT
00610 ENIF
00611 IF HD64180
00612 LD HL,MESSHD
00613 CALL MESOUT
00614 ENIF
00615 LD HL,MESS2
00616 CALL MESOUT
00617 JP 4020H ; Done
00618 ;
00619 BOOTER JP 4409H ; ERROR EXIT
00620 ;
00621 NEWLOC DEFS 2 ; NEW ADDRESS FOR RAMORV
00622 OFFSET DEFS 2 ; OFFSET STORAGE
00623 DRIVE DEFS 2 ; Patch Drive #
00624 FCB DEFS 50 ; FCB BUFFER
00625 BUFFER DEFS 256 ; DOS BUFFER - PDRIVE
00626 BOOTSYS DEFM 'BOOT/SYS',00H
00627 ;
00628 BUFFER0 DEFS 256 ; DOS BUFFER - PDRIVE
00629 ;
00630 MESS44P DEFS 2 ; Model 4/4P Display Mess
00631 ;
00632 MESS1 DEFM '*****',00H
00633 DEFM '* Raddisk Version 3.62 Installed *',00H
00634 DEFM '* Written By D. Huffman *',00H
00635 IF MOD4
00636 DEFM '* Bit Mask for Port 84H is at Address 4CFFH *',00H
00637 ENIF
00638 DEFB 0 ; END OF MESSAGE SEGMENT
00639 ;
00640 MESS4 DEFM '* Model 4 - 320 Sectors Maxium *',00H,0
00641 ;
00642 MESS4P DEFM '* Model 4P - 256 Sectors Maxium *',00H,0
00643 MESS4M DEFM '* Model4/4P-Mux Memory Added-7936 Sectors Max *',00H,0
00644 MESSHD DEFM '* 768 Sectors Maxium *',00H,0
00645 MESS2 DEFM '*****',00H
00646 DEFB 00H,0
00647 ;
00648 MESER DEFM '*****',00H
00649 DEFM '* Illegal Drive Specified *',00H
00650 DEFM '* Parameters ---> RAMDISK <Dn> *',00H
00651 DEFM '* Example ---> RAMDISK 4 *',00H
00652 DEFM '* The RamDisk uses Pdrive #4 in the Pdrive table *',00H
00653 DEFM '*****'
00654 DEFB 00H,0
00655 ;
00656 MESMER DEFM '*****PORT 14B (94H) RETURNS 255 (FFH) *****',00H
00657 DEFM ' I Must Assume that the Memory Expansion Doesnt exist *',00H
00658 DEFM ' I Cannot Proceed *',00H,0
00659 MESOUT LD A,(HL) ; GET BYTE
00660 CP 0
00661 RET Z ; DONE
00662 CALL 033H
00663 INC HL
00664 JR MESOUT
00665 ;

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00666 ;*****
00667 IF LNW ; Lnw has Ram from 3000H-37DFH
00668 ; ; But the Illegal Emulator code
00669 ; ; Starts at 3500H
00670 ORG 3000H
00671 ENIF
00672 IF MOD4
00673 ORG 0000H
00674 ENIF
00675 ;
00676 PGM EQU $ ;***** START OF RANDISK
00677 ;*****
00678 ;***** Do Not Change the next 6 Bytes *****
00679 HIMEM1 DEFS 2 ; OLD HIMEM LOCATION
00680 ;*****
00681 ; 47ECh 4792H
00682 ; * Bypass Drive Select & Test routine IF Ram Disk
00683 ; This Routine is called by SYS6/SYS Directly
00684 PATCH0 CALL PAT0RCM
00685 RET NZ
00686 IF DISP
00687 LD A,'0'
00688 LD (3FF7H),A ; Display Patch #
00689 ENIF
00690 LD A,(CURDRV) ; GET CURRENT DRIVE
00691 PAT0 DEFB 0FEH ; CHECK FOR MEMDRIVE
00692 DEFS 1 ; CP DN#
00693 JR NZ,RET0 ; jmp if not Ramdrive
00694 ; Now check if system 6 is active - We may be Formatting
00695 ADDR14 CALL SYS6TES ; If system 6 then patch
00696 ;
00697 POP AF ;ipop call off of stack
00698 RET0 XOR A
00699 RET
00700 ;*****
00701 ; 4776H 4723H
00702 ; * Bypass Drive Select If Ram Disk - Normal Call
00703 PATCH1 PUSH AF ; SAVE IT
00704 LD A,(CURDRV) ; GET CURRENT DRIVE
00705 PAT1 DEFB 0FEH ; CHECK FOR MEMDRIVE
00706 DEFS 1 ; CP DN#
00707 JR NZ,RET1 ; jmp if not Ramdrive
00708 IF DISP
00709 LD A,'1'
00710 LD (3FF8H),A ; Display Patch #
00711 ENIF
00712 ; Now check if system 6 is active
00713 ADDR15 CALL SYS6TES ; If system 6 then patch
00714 ;
00715 RET1 POP AF ;ipop AF back ...
00716 PUSH HL ; Replace cmd
00717 PUSH DE
00718 PUSH BC
00719 JP PAT1END ; GO we replaced the cads
00720 ;*****
00721 ; 47ADH 475EH
00722 ; * Bypass Controller Init for the Read/Write IF Ram Disk
00723 PATCH2 LD A,(CURDRV) ; GET CURRENT DRIVE
00724 PAT2 DEFB 0FEH ; CHECK FOR MEMDRIVE
00725 DEFS 1 ; CP DN#
00726 ;
00727 IF LNW
00728 LD HL,37ECh ; Replaced Cmd
00729 ENIF
00730 ;
00731 IF MOD4
00732 LD A,(4286H) ; Replaced Cmd
00733 ENIF
00734 ;
00735 RET NZ ;ret if no Ramdrive
00736 ;
00737 IF DISP
00738 LD A,'2'
00739 LD (3FF9H),A ; Display Patch #
00740 ENIF
00741 IF MOD4
00742 IN A,(0F0H) ; Get current FOC state
00743 BIT 7,A ; Is it active
00744 JR NZ,PATCH2A
00745 ; AH Drives are running - shut them off

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00746 OUT (0F4H),A ; Reset drive latches
00747 ENIF
00748 ;
00749 IF LNW
00750 XOR A
00751 ; LD (37E0H),A ; Reset drive latches
00752 ENIF
00753 ;
00754 ; Is Ram Disk - now check if Drive 0 If so dont patch
00755 ;
00756 ;
00757 PATCH2A CALL SYS6TES ; If system 6 then patch
00758 ;
00759 RET20 POP AF ;ipop calls & pushes off stack
00760 POP AF
00761 POP AF
00762 JP PAT2END ;continue
00763 ;
00764 ; SYS6/SYS - Format bypass
00765 ; Called if Current drive to be accessed to Ramdisk
00766 SYS6TES LD A,(CURDRV) ; Get current drive agn
00767 CP 0
00768 RET Z ; Dont patch if 0
00769 LD A,(CONFLG1) ; Overlay Address Clt
00770 BIT 3,A
00771 JR Z,SYS6A ; Not SYS6
00772 LD A,(SYS6ID) ; Check if sys is called
; another overlay
00773 ;
00774 CP 60H
00775 RET NZ ; OOPS Don't patch
00776 LD A,(626CH) ; GET Secondary Check PT
00777 CP 20H ; Has SYS6 Bin Reloaded ?
00778 JR NZ,SYS6T1 ; Yes Repatch
00779 ADDR16 LD A,(SYS6FLG) ; PATCH SYS6 FLAG
00780 CP 10
00781 RET Z ; RET IF PATCHED
00782 ; Ah is active so patch it for Ramdrive
00783 SYS6T1 LD A,0C9H ; By pass Source Dest Check.
00784 LD (4E6FH),A
00785 ;
00786 LD A,94H ; Change Check Flag
00787 LD (4EB6H),A
00788 LD A,20H ; Patch Bypass Secondary Check
00789 LD (626CH),A
00790 ;
00791 LD A,18H ; By pass Prompts
00792 LD (558FH),A
00793 ;
00794 ; LD A,0A0H ; Force Option DDND
00795 ; LD (5994H),A
00796 ;
00797 XOR A ; By Pass Format Verify
00798 LD (6655H),A
00799 LD (6656H),A
00800 LD (6657H),A
00801 ;
00802 LD A,0C9H ; By Pass Formatting
00803 LD (56BF),A
00804 ;
00805 IF DISP
00806 LD A,'P'
00807 LD (3FFE),A
00808 ENIF
00809 LD A,10
00810 ADDR17 LD (SYS6FLG),A ; SET PATCH FLAG
00811 ;
00812 RET
00813 SYS6A XOR A
00814 ADDR18 LD (SYS6FLG),A ; Reset flag
00815 IF DISP
00816 LD A,'U'
00817 LD (3FFE),A
00818 ENIF
00819 RET
00820 ;
00821 ;*****
00822 SYS6FLG DEFS 2 ; System 6 Patch flag
00823 ;*****
00824 ; 465CH 4607H
00825 ; * This The Actual Randisk Sector Read/Write Patch

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00826 PATCH3 LD A,(CURDRV) ; GET CURRENT DRIVE
00827 PAT3 DEFB 0FEH ; Check for Randisk
00828 DEFS 1 ; CP DN#
00829 JP NZ,PAT3END ; jmp if not randisk
00830 ;
00831 IF DISP
00832 LD A,'3'
00833 LD (3FFAH),A ; Display Patch #
00834 ENIF
00835 POP AF ;pop call off of stack
00836 PUSH BC ;save registers
00837 PUSH DE ; Rel sector
00838 PUSH HL ; Buffer area
00839 DI ;isable interrupt
00840 EX DE,HL ;HL=relative sector to read
00841 SECTOR DEFB 11H ; LD DE,XXXX
00842 DEFS 2 ; SECTOR MAX
00843 PUSH HL
00844 AND A
00845 SBC HL,DE
00846 POP HL
00847 ADDR22 JP NC,BADREC;jmp if sector not in Randisk
00848 ; Check IF We are accessing Directory Sectors
00849 PUSH HL ; Save it
00850 POP DE ; DE=HL
00851 PUSH DE
00852 LD A,(DIRLMP) ; Get Dir Lump
00853 LD C,A
00854 XOR A ; Zero a
00855 SBC HL,HL
00856 LD B,A
00857 ADD HL,BC ; Multiply Dir Lump * 5
00858 ADD HL,HL
00859 ADD HL,HL
00860 ADD HL,BC
00861 LD A,(DIRGRN) ; Grans per Lump
00862 DEC A
00863 PUSH HL
00864 POP BC
00865 SECLP1 ADD HL,BC ; Multiply dir Lump/Sec
00866 DEC A
00867 JR NZ,SECLP1
00868 ; HL=Starting Sector of DIR ( DL * GRANS/LUMP * 5 )
00869 RST 18H ; Compare HL TO DE
00870 JR Z,SECDIR ; IS DIR sector
00871 JR NC,SEC3A ; Before Dir
00872 ; Sector is beyond the start of the Directory
00873 PUSH HL
00874 PUSH DE
00875 LD DE,9 ; Offset in Pdrive
00876 LD HL,(PDRADD) ; Address of current pdr
00877 ADD HL,DE ; Point to DOGA
00878 LD A,(HL) ; Get it
00879 POP DE
00880 POP HL
00881 LD B,A ; Multiply * 5
00882 ADD A,A
00883 ADD A,A
00884 ADD A,B
00885 LD C,A
00886 LD B,0
00887 ADD HL,BC
00888 RST 18H ; Compare HL to DE
00889 JR Z,SEC3A ; Past end
00890 JR C,SEC3A ; Past end
00891 SECDIR LD A,32 ; Read Protect
00892 JR SEC3
00893 SEC3A LD A,0
00894 SEC3 LD (STATUS+1),A ; Reset Read Protect Sec
00895 POP HL ; Get it back
00896 ; Cal bank value
00897 LD DE,128 ; # Sectors/Bank
00898 LD C,1 ; set first bank
00899 SEC1 AND A
00900 SBC HL,DE ; Sub 128
00901 JR C,SEC2 ; Go if less than
00902 INC C ; bump bank ptr
00903 JR SEC1
00904 SEC2 LD A,C ; A = BANK # 1 to 14
00905 ADDR19 CALL CALPAGE ; Find Byte for bank Cad

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00906 ADDR20 LD (READ+1),A ; A = Command for MMU
00907 IF MOD4
00908 LD A,(PORTMSK) ; Get Bit Mask
00909 ADDR27 LD (PORT84),A ; Save it
00910 ENIF
00911 ; Now Cal Rel Sec in bank
00912 AND A
00913 ADD HL,DE ; Get Rel Sec
00914 ; HL=Rel Sector in Bank
00915 ; C=Bank #
00916 ; Now set HL=to address of Sector in Bank
00917 ; HL Cannot be > 128
00918 XOR A ; Zero a
00919 CP L ; is 0 ?
00920 JR Z,SEC5 ; Is start of next bank
00921 LD B,L ; # of Sectors
00922 LD DE,256 ; # of Bytes/Sector
00923 LD HL,00H ; Base Address
00924 AND A
00925 SEC4 ADD HL,DE
00926 DJNZ SEC4 ; HL=8*256
00927 ;
00928 IF HD64180 ; Bank High by MMU
00929 SEC5 LD DE,8000H ; Offset to 8000H
00930 AND A
00931 ADD HL,DE
00932 ENIF
00933 IF NOT,HD64180
00934 SEC5 NOP
00935 ;HL=Rel address from 0000H
00936 ENIF
00937 ;HL=Address of Sector
00938 POP DE ;pop buffer address
00939 PUSH DE
00940 ;
00941 LD A,(CURFDC) ; BYTE FOR FDC CMD
00942 AND 20H
00943 JR NZ,WRITE ; jmp if write sector
00944 ;
00945 ;*****
00946 ; READ A SECTOR
00947 LD B,0
00948 READ LD A,0 ;A=bank to read/write from
00949 ;-----
00950 IF HD64180
00951 DEFB 0EDH ; OPCODE OUTO (n),g
00952 DEFB 39H
00953 DEFB 38H ; PORT 38H CBR OF MMU
00954 ; Bank in Ram
00955 ENIF
00956 IF Z80
00957 OUT (84H),A ; BANK IN RAM
00958 ENIF
00959 ;-----
00960 LD C,(HL) ;get character
00961 INC HL ;add 1 to Ramdrive address
00962 XOR A ; PAGE IN 0
00963 ;-----
00964 IF HD64180
00965 DEFB 0EDH ; OPCODE OUTO (n),g
00966 DEFB 39H
00967 DEFB 38H ; PORT 38H CBR OF MMU
00968 ; Bank it out
00969 ENIF
00970 IF Z80
00971 IF MOD4
00972 ADDR28 LD A,(PORT84) ; Normal Mask
00973 ENIF
00974 OUT (84H),A ; BANK OUT RAM
00975 ENIF
00976 ;-----
00977 LD A,C
00978 LD (DE),A ;save byte to buffer
00979 INC DE ;add 1 to buffer address
00980 DJNZ READ ;continue 256 bytes read
00981 ;*****
00982 ;
00983 STATUS LD A,0 ;read protect status if directory
00984 JR RET3 ;continue in DOS
00985 BADREC LD A,0C1H ;Error code

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00986 JR RET3 ;continue in DOS
00987 ;
00988 ;*****
00989 ; WRITE A SECTOR
00990 WRITE LD B,0
00991 WRITE1 XOR A
00992 ;-----
00993 IF HD64100
00994 DEFB 0EDH ; OPCODE OUTO (m),g
00995 DEFB 39H
00996 DEFB 38H ; PORT 38H CBR OF MMU
00997 ; Bank it out
00998 ENIF
00999 IF Z00
01000 IF MOD4
01001 ADDR29 LD A,(PORTB4) ; Normal Mask
01002 ENIF
01003 OUT (84H),A ; BANK OUT RAM IF IN
01004 ENIF
01005 ;-----
01006 LD A,(DE) ;iget character to write
01007 LD C,A
01008 INC DE ;add 1 to buffer
01009 ADDR23 LD A,(READ+1)
01010 ;-----
01011 IF HD64100
01012 DEFB 0EDH ; OPCODE OUTO (m),g
01013 DEFB 39H
01014 DEFB 38H ; PORT 38H CBR OF MMU
01015 ; Bank it in
01016 ENIF
01017 IF Z00
01018 OUT (84H),A ; BANK IN RAM
01019 ENIF
01020 ;-----
01021 LD (HL),C ;write character
01022 INC HL ;add 1 to Randrive address
01023 DJNZ WRITE1 ;continue write 256 times
01024 XOR A
01025 ;-----
01026 IF HD64100
01027 DEFB 0EDH ; OPCODE OUTO (m),g
01028 DEFB 39H
01029 DEFB 38H ; PORT 38H CBR OF MMU
01030 ; Bank it out
01031 ENIF
01032 IF Z00
01033 IF MOD4
01034 ADDR30 LD A,(PORTB4) ; Normal Mask
01035 ENIF
01036 OUT (84H),A ; BANK OUT RAM
01037 ENIF
01038 ;-----
01039 ;-----
01040 ;
01041 ;
01042 RET3 NOP ; Patch Area for Debug
01043 IF Z00
01044 IF MUXMEM ; Added Memory
01045 PUSH AF ; SAVE READ STATUS FLAG
01046 ADDR34 LD A,(PORT148) ; GET ORIG BITS
01047 OUT (148),A
01048 POP AF
01049 ENIF
01050 ENIF
01051 JP PAT3CON ;continue in DOS
01052 ;
01053 IF Z00
01054 IF MOD4
01055 IF NOT, MUXMEM ; ADDED MUX MEMORY
01056 ;*****
01057 ; CALPAGE - SETUP PAGE FOR MMU
01058 ; 96K 1 to 3 Pages for Model 4
01059 ; 64K 1 to 2 Pages for Model 4P
01060 ; ENTER A = PAGE # 1T03
01061 ; EXIT A = Command Byte for Port 84H
01062 ;
01063 ;
01064 CALPAGE PUSH HL
01065 LD L,63H ; Bank 1

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01066 CP 1
01067 JR Z,CALEN
01068 LD L,73H ; Bank 2
01069 CP 2
01070 JR Z,CALEN
01071 LD L,3H ; Bank 3
01072 CALEN LD A,(PORTMSK) ; GET PORT 84 bit mask
01073 OR L
01074 POP HL
01075 RET
01076 ENIF
01077 ENIF
01078 ENIF
01079 ;*****
01080 IF HD64100
01081 ;*****
01082 ; CALPAGE - SETUP PAGE FOR MMU
01083 ; 256K = 1 TO 14 PAGES
01084 ; ENTER A = PAGE # 1T014
01085 ; EXIT A = Command Byte for MMU
01086 ;
01087 ;
01088 CALPAGE PUSH HL
01089 LD L,A
01090 LD H,B ; FACTOR
01091 DEFB 0EDH ; MLT - MULTIPLY
01092 DEFB 6CH ; H X L
01093 ; HL HAS RESULTS
01094 LD A,L ; GET LSB
01095 ;
01096 POP HL
01097 RET
01098 ;
01099 ;*****
01100 ENIF
01101 IF Z00
01102 IF MUXMEM ; ADDED Mux Memory Port 148
01103 ;*****
01104 ; CALPAGE - SETUP PAGE FOR MMU
01105 ; 1 TO 31 Pages 2,031,616 Bytes of Randisk
01106 ;
01107 ;
01108 ; ENTER A = PAGE # 1T03
01109 ; EXIT A = Command Byte for Port 84H
01110 ;
01111 ;
01112 CALPAGE PUSH HL
01113 PUSH BC
01114 LD L,A ; SAVE IT
01115 IN A,(148) ; GET BITS
01116 ADDR33 LD (PORT148),A ; Save Bits for later
01117 LD H,A ; SAVE H
01118 LD A,L ; PUT A BACK
01119 ;
01120 LD L,63H ; Bank 1
01121 CP 1
01122 JR Z,CALEN
01123 LD L,73H ; Bank 2
01124 CP 2
01125 JR Z,CALEN
01126 ; OK Its more that 64K We will assume extra Memory
01127 ;
01128 LD L,73H ; Even page
01129 BIT 0,A ; Is it an even # ?
01130 JR Z,CALEVEN
01131 ; IS AN ODD #
01132 LD L,63H ; Odd page
01133 INC A ; BUMP UP TO EVEN #
01134 CALEVEN AND 31 ; Mask off upper bits
01135 ; Just incase we screwed up
01136 AND A ; Clear Carry if set
01137 RR A ; Divide / 2
01138 LD C,A ; Save bottom 5 Bits
01139 LD A,H
01140 AND 224 ; Mask off lower bits
01141 OR C ; Mix together
01142 ; Ah .... about time ....
01143 OUT (148),A ; Set Extra Memory Mux
01144 IF MOD4 ; Is Z00 & MOD4
01145 CALEN LD A,(PORTMSK) ; GET PORT 84 bit mask

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01146 OR L ; Mix A & L
01147 POP BC
01148 POP HL
01149 RET
01150 ENIF
01151 IF NOT,MOD4
01152 CALEN LD A,L
01153 POP BC
01154 POP HL
01155 RET
01156 ENIF
01157 ;
01158 ;*****
01159 ENIF
01160 ENIF
01161 ;
01162 ;*****
01163 ; 47A3H 4754H
01164 ;* Patch in Pdrive Parameters IF Readisk or Swaped Drive
01165 ;
01166 PATCH4 PUSH AF ; Save AF
01167 LD A,(CURDRV) ; Check Current Drive
01168 PAT4 DEFB 0FEH ; Check if Readisk
01169 DEFS 1 ; Patch byte
01170 JR NZ,PATCH41 ; Nap
01171 ;
01172 IF DISP
01173 LD A,'4'
01174 LD (3FFBH),A ; Display Patch #
01175 ENIF
01176 ; Is us - Load in over Pdrive for Mem Drive
01177 ADDR21 LD HL,PDRIVE ; SET HL=DRIVE 4 PDRIVE
01178 PATCH42 POP AF
01179 LD (PDRADD),HL
01180 RET ; CONTINUE
01181 ;
01182 PATCH41 CP 4 ; IS DRIVE 4 ?
01183 JR NZ,PATCH42 ; NOP
01184 ; Is Drive # 4 - AND This is not the Readisk
01185 ; - Now set Pdrive for Replaced drive
01186 LD HL,PORTBL ; Pdrive Table
01187 ADDR24 LD A,(PAT1+1) ; Get patched drive
01188 CP 0 ; Is it drive 0 ?
01189 JR Z,PATCH42 ; HL=DRIVE 0 PDRIVE
01190 PUSH BC ; Save it
01191 PUSH DE
01192 LD DE,10 ; # of enterys
01193 LD B,A ; Set up counter
01194 PAT4LP1 ADD HL,DE ; BUMP 10
01195 DJNZ PAT4LP1
01196 POP DE
01197 POP BC
01198 JR PATCH42
01199 ;*****
01200 ; 479BH 4749H
01201 ;* Patch in Physical Drive Latches IF Swaped Drive
01202 PATCH5 LD L,A ; Save it
01203 ADDR25 LD A,(PAT1+1) ; Get current Mem drive
01204 CP 4 ; Swap flag
01205 JR Z,PATCH51 ; NOTHING TO DO
01206 ;
01207 IF DISP
01208 LD A,'5'
01209 LD (3FFCH),A ; Display Patch #
01210 ENIF
01211 ; Now check current drive
01212 LD A,(CURDRV) ; Get current drive
01213 CP 4
01214 JR NZ,PATCH51 ; DO NOTHING
01215 PUSH BC
01216 LD A,(CURCMD) ; Get Current bit setting
01217 AND 0F0H ; Mask of low bits 0-3
01218 LD C,A ; save
01219 ADDR26 LD A,(PAT1+1) ; Get Swaped Drive
01220 LD B,A ; Save to B for loop
01221 CP 0 ; Is it dr0 ?
01222 LD A,1
01223 JR Z,PATCH54 ; IS drive 0
01224 PATCH52 RL A ; ROTATE 1 2 4 8
01225 DJNZ PATCH52

```

```

01226 PATCH54 OR C ; OR in bits 4-7
01227 POP BC
01228 JR PATCH53
01229 PATCH51 LD A,L
01230 PATCH53 LD (CURCMD),A ; DO INST
01231 RET
01232 ;
01233 ;*****
01234 ; 4C19H 4B8EH
01235 ; Patch for SYS6 incase we get an error and reload SYS6
01236 ;
01237 PATCH6 PUSH AF
01238 IF DISP
01239 LD A,'6'
01240 LD (3FFDH),A
01241 ENIF
01242 XOR A
01243 ADDR32 LD (SYS6FLG),A
01244 ;
01245 LD A,26H
01246 ;
01247 JP PAT6END
01248 ;
01249 ;*****
01250 IF MOD4
01251 PORT04 DEFS 2 ; Port Mask for Model 4
01252 IF MIXMEM
01253 PORT148 DEFS 2 ; Port Mask for Extra Memory bank
01254 ENIF
01255 ENIF
01256 PDRIVE DEFS 17 ; Pdrive Table for Drive 4
01257 DEFS 3
01258 PGMEN NOP ; END OF PROGRAM FOR RELOCATION
01259 ;*****
01260 IF HD64100
01261 ; MMU CHART
01262 ;*****
01263 ; CBAR = 128
01264 ; 0 TO 32K = BASE AREA
01265 ; 32 TO 64K = COMMON AREA 1
01266 ; BBR = 0
01267 ; BANK AREA - NOT USED
01268 ;
01269 ; CBR
01270 ;
01271 ; 256 128 64K 32K
01272 ; 64 32 16 8 4 2 1 MEM RANGE BYTE BANK #
01273 ; 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 32 TO 64K 0 1
01274 ; 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 64 TO 96K 8 2
01275 ; 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 96 TO 128K 16 3
01276 ; 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 128 TO 160K 24 4
01277 ; 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 160 TO 192K 32 5
01278 ; 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 192 TO 224K 40 6
01279 ; 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 224 TO 256K 48 7
01280 ;
01281 END HOSTART
01282 ENIF
01283 IF Z00
01284 END START
01285 ENIF

```



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by Mark McDougall

[Reprinted from SYDTRUG NEWS, P.O. Box 297, Padstow, New South Wales 2211, Australia:]

This article details a method for the creation of a /CMD file of the Model 4/4P version of Super Utility.

- 1. Boot the SU 4/4P disk as normal.
2. Change the following bytes at 69E4H - 77 BE C4 to C3 00 E0.
3. Enter the following bytes at E000H - 21 FF 8D 11 FF DF 01 00 8E ED B8 C3 0B E0.
4. Test Memory (8F00H,8FFFH).
5. After a few seconds, boot (MODELA/III) NEWDOS/80.
6. Enter the command - DUMP SU4/CMD:1 5200H,8FFFH,402DH.
7. Reboot the SU 4/4P disk.
8. Boot (MODELA/III) NEWDOS/80 again.
9. Enter the command - DUMP TITLE/CMD:1 9201H,9A00H,402DH.
10. Relocate TITLE/CMD to E000H.
11. Using SU32 or similar, display file sectors SU4/CMD.
12. Display FRS 107, and <M> for modify.
13. Change the following bytes at SRB 90 - C3 00 E0 to 77 BE C4.
14. Return to NEWDOS/80.
15. Using EDPLUS or similar, assemble the following /ASM file:

```
E800 00100 ORG 0E800H
E800 00110 START EQU $
E800 F3 00120 DI
E801 3100E9 00130 LD SP,0E900H
E804 ED56 00140 IM 1
E806 3E60 00150 LD A,60H
E808 ED47 00160 LD I,A
E80A 3E82 00170 LD A,82H
E80C D384 00180 OUT (84H),A
E80E 210052 00190 LD HL,5200H
E811 110000 00200 LD DE,0000H
E814 01008E 00210 LD BC,8E00H
E817 EDB0 00220 LDIR
E819 2100E0 00230 LD HL,0E000H
E81C 1100F8 00240 LD DE,0F800H
E81F 010008 00250 LD BC,0800H
E822 EDB0 00260 LDIR
E824 CD2C19 00270 KEY CALL 192CH
E827 B7 00280 OR A
E828 28FA 00290 JR Z,KEY
E82A 31B101 00300 LD SP,01B1H
E82D C3A203 00310 JP 03A2H
0000 00320 END
00000 TOTAL ERRORS
```

KEY E824 START E800

- 16. Assemble the file under SUEK/CMD.
17. From NEWDOS, enter the commands.

```
LOAD SU4/CMD:1
LOAD TITLE/CMD:1
LOAD SUEK/CMD:1
DUMP SU4x/CMD:1 5200H,E82FH,E800H
```

Super Utility 4/4P is now executable from any Model III/4 DOS.

Hard Configuring the SU 4/4P File

- 1. Execute the file and configure system.
2. Display Memory at 1B1H and dump it & the next page to printer.
3. Take note of:
The byte at 00BFH - the Printer Config byte
The byte at 037BH - the User Key.
4. Display File Sectors SU4x/CMD.
5. FRS 00 BYTE C3H - the printer config byte.
6. FRS 01 - The drive configuration starts after the FILENAME/EXT.PASSWORD, start zapping the table as is on the printout. BE CAREFUL of the sector data near the beginning of file relative sector 2.
7. FRS 03 BYTE 8BH - the user key byte.
8. FRS 37 BYTE 78H - 01 enables the sound prompt (F2).
9. Save the modified sector to disk.
Super Utility 4/4P is now hard configured.

```
200 GET1:P=ASC(A$):IF(P/16)AND1THENPRINT"FONT FILE CONTAIN
$ IBM EXTENDED CHARACTERS - CANNOT CONVERT":ENDELSEP=(PAND
7)
270 LINEINPUT"DOWNLOAD AS FONT NUMBER <4> OR <5>? ";D$:IFD
$<"4"ANDD$<"5"THEN270
280 PRINT"SELECT PITCH TO LEAVE PRINTER IN AFTER DOWNLOAD
-"
290 LINEINPUT"<N>ORMAL (10), <E>LITE (12), OR <P>ROPORTION
AL: ";P$:IF(P$<"N")AND(P$<"E")AND(P$<"P")THEN280
300 LSETB$=CHR$(27):PUT2:LSETB$=CHR$(38):PUT2:LSETB$=D$:PU
T2:LSETB$="0":PUT2:LSETB$=MID$(STR$(P),2):PUT2:LSETB$="0":
FORX=1TO3:PUT2:NEXT:GOTO140
310 IFERR=162THENPRINT:PRINT"ERROR - YOU MUST SPECIFY TWO
VARIABLE LENGTH FILES WHEN":PRINT"ENTERING BASIC (I.E. "CH
R$(34)"BASIC 2V"CHR$(34)"):PRINT:ENDELSEONERRORGOTO0:OPEN
"R",1,A$,1:END
320 PRINT"INVALID CHARACTER DETECTED":CLOSE:END
```

CONVERTING MODEL III SUPERSCRIPIT FILES FOR USE WITH THE MODEL 4 VERSION OF SUPERSCRIPIT

[Reprinted from the TIDBITS column of the SIG-80 newsletter of the Chicago Area Computer Hobbyist Exchange:]

This issue's TIDBIT comes from a conversation I had with Peter Hru at our last meeting. He's no beginner, but was having trouble with something that Radio Shack didn't explain and no one else knew the answer to.

For the many of us who have upgraded from Model III's to Model 4's or 4P's, the big headache is - "Do we want to retype or recreate all those SuperScripsit and VisiCalc files, or is there an easier way?"

Of course there's an easier way. It's called CONVERT (CONV/CMD), a handy program supplied with the Model 4 (-4P) to 'convert' your Model III files to your new computer. With your NEW Model 4 TRSDOS Disk in Drive :0 and your OLD Model III data disk in Drive :1, you type "CONV:1" at TRSDOS Ready and answer the questions and "poof" - your old files on Drive :1 are moved to Drive :0 in the new Model 4 'mode'.

Nice, until you try to open a SuperScripsit file under your new operating system and encounter "FILE NOT FOUND" as an error message. What the heck does that mean? I know that file is there ... because I can see it in the Directory.

It's not the data file that the program can't find ... it's your print driver. "My WHAT?...?" Your Print Driver, that little sub-program that tells your printer how to handle all those wonderful control codes that you try to use in this word processor.

You'll notice when you open a document under SuperScripsit, you must specify which printer you will be using. If you have a DMP2100 and print a document, the program will call a control program called "DMP2100/CTL" which is on your program disk and use it to print your document.

The problem here is that you may be using a Radio Shack printer like the DWP-210. You specify that printer in your opening menu on your Model III. And when you convert your file to the Model 4, you see the same print driver specified at the opening menu. But instead of seeing the Model 4 character for "no character" or "blank" which is an UNDERLINE, you see the carry-over character for no-space, which is a small block SQUARE. These "square" blanks translate during the CONVERT process to the same blank-squares. Unfortunately, the Model 4 Superscripsit looks at those blank-squares and tries to match them to a printer named "DWP210 PLUS 2 BLANK SQUARES". It can't find such a printer and quits right there, giving you the error message.

So how do you fix this problem? After CONVERT'ing your Model III program files to Model 4, and after opening that favorite SuperScripsit file, before you jump into the document, delete the two or three or four square spaces that follow the name of your printer. Move the cursor past the printer name and press F-2 (Delete) or Control-D. You'll see underlines (blanks) in place of the squares and you can then open the file under your Model 4 word processor with no problem.

Why doesn't Tandy/Radio Shack tell you this trick? I don't know. I found it out by trial and error and have never seen it in print anywhere. I would love to be proven wrong by seeing something official from Tandy, in print, that explains this process. I don't think it has ever been published (another SIG-80 EXCLUSIVE).

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4208 3267A3
420B 2118A3
420E C3A9A2
4211
4211 2118A3
4214
4214 C0C901
4217 D02A2B
421B
421B AE
421C 70
421D FE67
421F 2814
4221 79
4222 FE00
4224 380F
4226 2003
4228 23
4229 77
422A 28
422B
422B 368F
422D 3A95A2
4230 87
4231 2802
4233 3680
4235
4235 EB
4236 2118A3

by Arne Rohde  
 Box 82-211, Highland Park, Auckland, New Zealand

Command line edit is a short program for NEWDOS/80 version 2 on the TRS-80 Model I or III, and TRSDOS 6 on Model 4 systems, allowing the last executed command line to be recalled and edited. With NEWDOS/80 the complete line is recalled, with TRSDOS 6 the first two characters will have to be retyped.

The program is found in three separate versions, I/CMD for Model I NEWDOS/80, E/CMD for Model III/4 NEWDOS/80, and R/CMD for Model 4 TRSDOS 6. The Model I and III versions require no user memory, and the Model 4 version resides under location 3000H and should not overlay any user programs. The source code is found in I/ASM, E/ASM and R/ASM.

When the program is executed, the screen will be cleared, and the last command line will be displayed on the top screen line. For NEWDOS/80 the complete line will be displayed, and the cursor will be positioned after the last character. For TRSDOS the first two characters will be blank, and the cursor is placed on the first character.

The command line editor starts in replace mode, but can be toggled between replace and insert mode with the down arrow key. The left and right arrow keys can be used for moving the cursor, unshifted to move one position at a time, and shifted to move to the beginning or end of the line. Characters will be inserted to the left of the cursor position. The CLEAR (SHIFT-CLEAR for TRSDOS) key can be used to delete the character hidden by the cursor. The BREAK key will terminate editing and return to DOS ready mode.

The ENTER key is used to execute the edited command line. The position of the cursor in the line is immaterial; the complete line will be passed to the DOS for execution.

It should be possible to convert the program for use on other operating systems. The location of the command line buffer and the system I/O buffer must be known, as must the entry point for executing a DOS command.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to the author at the address given at the top of this article.

MODEL I VERSION - I/ASM

```

00100 ;I/ASM - edit dos command line 86-07-28
00110 ;programmed by arne rohde, box 82-211, auckland, nz
00120 ;must fit within 1 sector to use DOS sector buffer
00130 ;for Newdos/80 v2 Model I (for M III change nxt 3 lines)
4310 00140 BUFF EQU 4310H ;command buffer(MIII=4225)
4200 00150 ORG 4200H ;dos buffer area(MIII=4300)
4200 2AA743 00160 BEGIN LD HL,(43A7H) ;2 chars (MIII=42C7)
4203 221843 00170 LD (BUFF),HL ;restore first 2 chars
4206 3E90 00180 LD A,@DH ;set last to cr
4200 326743 00190 LD (BUFF+79),A
4200 211843 00200 LD HL,BUFF ;buffer start
420E C3A942 00210 JP LINEND ;cursor to line end
4211 00220 BEGLIN EQU $
4211 211843 00230 LD HL,BUFF ;buffer start
4214 00240 DSPLC EQU $
4214 CDC901 00250 CALL @1C9H ;clear screen
4217 D02A2040 00260 LD IX,(4020H) ;cursor pos
4218 00270 DSPLB EQU $
4218 AE 00280 LD C,(HL) ;buffer char
421C 70 00290 LD A,L
4210 FE67 00300 CP BUFF+79,0FFH ;check at buffer end
421F 2814 00310 JR Z,RPLNOC ;yes, no cursor
4221 79 00320 LD A,C ;char at cursor
4222 FE00 00330 CP @DH ;check if end of line
4224 300F 00340 JR C,RPLNOC ;line feed, no cursor
4226 2003 00350 JR NZ,RPLCUR ;no, replace cursor
4228 23 00360 INC HL ;to next char
4229 77 00370 LD (HL),A ;set to line end
422A 2B 00380 DEC HL ;cursor pos back
422B 00390 RPLCUR EQU $
422B 368F 00400 LD (HL),0FFH ;set cursor
4220 3A9542 00410 LD A,(MODFLG) ;check insert mode
4230 B7 00420 OR A
4231 2002 00430 JR Z,RPLNOC ;replace mode
4233 3600 00440 LD (HL),@DH ;alternative cursor
4235 00450 RPLNOC EQU $
4235 EB 00460 EX DE,HL ;save pos
4236 211843 00470 LD HL,BUFF ;start for display
  
```

```

4239 C06744 00480 CALL 4467H ;displ line
423C D022040 00490 LD (4020H),IX ;restore cursor pos
4240 EB 00500 EX DE,HL ;pos back to hl
4241 71 00510 LD (HL),C ;restore char
4242 C0A900 00520 CALL @0A9H ;get key in
4245 FE18 00530 CP 24 ;shift left
4247 28C8 00540 JR Z,BEGLIN ;line begin
4249 FE01 00550 CP 1 ;break key
424B CA2D40 00560 JP Z,4020H ;return to dos
424E FE09 00570 CP 9 ;right arrow
4250 282D 00580 JR Z,MVREGT
4252 FE08 00590 CP 8 ;left arrow
4254 2831 00600 JR Z,MVLFY
4256 FE0A 00610 CP 10 ;down arrow
4258 283A 00620 JR Z,INSHDE ;set insert mode
425A FE00 00630 CP @DH ;enter key
425C 283F 00640 JR Z,ENTRKY
425E FE19 00650 CP 25 ;shift right
4260 2847 00660 JR Z,LINEND
4262 FE1F 00670 CP 31 ;clear key
4264 2848 00680 JR Z,DELCHR ;delete character
4266 FE20 00690 CP 20H ;check ctrl char
4268 30B1 00700 JR C,DSPLB ;yes, ignore
426A 00 00710 EX AF,AF' ;save key code
426B 70 00720 LD A,L ;get addr lsb
426C FE67 00730 CP BUFF+79,0FFH ;check if end
426E 2848 00740 JR Z,DSPLB ;yes, ignore
4270 7E 00750 LD A,(HL) ;get char
4271 FE00 00760 CP @DH ;check current end
4273 CCA42 00770 CALL Z,MBUFRG ;yes, move buffer right
4276 3A9542 00780 LD A,(MODFLG) ;check insert mode
4279 B7 00790 OR A
427A CAC42 00800 CALL NZ,MBUFRG ;insert character
427D 00 00810 EX AF,AF' ;get char again
427E 77 00820 LD (HL),A ;insert char
427F 00830 MVREGT EQU $
427F 7E 00840 LD A,(HL) ;check if end of line
4280 FE00 00850 CP @DH
4282 2897 00860 JR Z,DSPLB ;at end, no move right
4284 23 00870 INC HL ;else incr cursor pos
4285 00880 JDSPLB EQU $
4285 1894 00890 JR DSPLB
4287 00900 MVLFY EQU $
4287 70 00910 LD A,L ;current pos lsb
4288 FE18 00920 CP BUFF,0FFH ;check at beginning
428A 280F 00930 JR Z,DSPLB ;yes, exit
428C 7E 00940 LD A,(HL) ;char at cursor
428D 2B 00950 DEC HL ;else cursor back
428E FE00 00960 CP @DH ;check line end
4290 2009 00970 JR NZ,DSPLB ;no, no screen clear
4292 00980 JDSPLC EQU $
4292 1800 00990 JR DSPLC ;else clear screen
4294 01000 INSHDE EQU $
4294 3E00 01010 LD A,0 ;current mode flag
4295 01020 MODFLG EQU $-1
4296 EEFF 01030 XOR 0FFH ;invert flag
4298 329542 01040 LD (MODFLG),A
429B 18E8 01050 JR JDSPLB
429D 01060 ENTRY EQU $
429D CDC901 01070 CALL @1C9H ;clear screen
42A0 211843 01080 LD HL,BUFF ;command buffer start
42A3 C06744 01090 CALL 4467H ;redisplay
42A6 C30544 01100 JP 4405H ;execute dos command
42A9 01110 LINEND EQU $
42A9 3E00 01120 LD A,@DH
42AB BE 01130 CP (HL) ;find line end
42AC 28E4 01140 JR Z,JDSPLC ;found, display new
42AE 23 01150 INC HL ;to next char
42AF 18F8 01160 JR LINEND
42B1 01170 DELCHR EQU $
42B1 7E 01180 LD A,(HL) ;char at cursor
42B2 FE00 01190 CP @DH ;check end of line
42B4 28CF 01200 JR Z,JDSPLB ;yes, exit
42B6 50 01210 LD D,H ;addr in buffer
42B7 5D 01220 LD E,L
42B8 01230 DELNCH EQU $
42B8 78 01240 LD A,E ;addr lsb
42B9 FE67 01250 CP BUFF+79,0FFH ;check end of buff
42BB 2805 01260 JR Z,JDSPLC ;yes, exit to clr screen
42BD 13 01270 INC DE ;next source char
  
```



```

4300 02      01430      LD      (BC),A
4301 18F7    01440      JR      MBUFCH
4300      01450      END     BEGIN
000000 TOTAL ERRORS

```

```

BEGIN 4300  BEGLIN 4311  BUFF  4225  DELCHR 43B1  DELNCH 43B8
DSPLB 4318  DSPLC 4314  ENTRKY 439D  INSMDE 439A  JDSPLB 4385
JDSPLC 4392  LINEND 43A9  MBUFCH 43CA  MBUFGR 43CA  MODFLG 4395
MVLFT 43B7  MVRGT  437F  RPLCUR 432B  RPLNOC 4335

```

**MODEL 4380/4385/4387**

```

00100 ;R/ASM - edit TRSDOS 6.2 command line 86-07-10
00110 ;programmed by arne rohde; box 02-211; auckland, nz
00120 ;for TRSDOS 6.2 Model 4 TRS-80

```

```

0420 00130 BUFF EQU 420H ;command buffer
0016 00140 EXIT EQU 16H
0002 00150 DISP EQU 02H
000A 00160 DSPLY EQU 0AH
0001 00170 KEY EQU 01H
0018 00180 CMNDI EQU 18H
000F 00190 DVCTL EQU 0FH
2600 00200 ORG 2600H ;dos buffer area
2600 00210 BEGIN EQU $
2600 3E0F 00220 LD A,DVCTL
2602 0604 00230 LD B,4
2604 EF 00240 RST 20H
2605 221327 00250 LD (CURP),HL
2608 211527 00260 LD HL,SCRN
260B 0606 00270 LD B,6
260D 3E0F 00280 LD A,DVCTL
260F EF 00290 RST 20H
2610 3E02 00300 LD A,DISP
2612 0E0F 00310 LD C,0FH
2614 EF 00320 RST 20H
2615 212104 00330 LD HL,BUFF+1
2618 3620 00340 LD (HL),20H
261A 2B 00350 DEC HL
261B 3620 00360 LD (HL),20H
261D 3E0D 00370 LD A,0DH
261F 326F04 00380 LD (BUFF+79),A
2622 00390 BEGLIN EQU $
2622 212004 00400 LD HL,BUFF
2625 00410 DSPLC EQU $
2625 0E1C 00420 LD C,1CH
2627 3E02 00430 LD A,DISP
2629 EF 00440 RST 20H
262A 0E1F 00450 LD C,1FH
262C 3E02 00460 LD A,DISP
262E EF 00470 RST 20H
262F 00480 DSPLB EQU $
262F 46 00490 LD B,(HL)
2630 7D 00500 LD A,L
2631 FE6F 00510 CP BUFF+79&0FFH
2633 2B14 00520 JR Z,RPLNOC
2635 78 00530 LD A,B
2636 FE0D 00540 CP 0DH
2638 3E0F 00550 JR C,RPLNOC
263A 2003 00560 JR NZ,RPLCUR
263C 23 00570 INC HL
263D 77 00580 LD (HL),A
263E 2B 00590 DEC HL
263F 00600 RPLCUR EQU $
263F 36BF 00610 LD (HL),0BFH
2641 3AAB26 00620 LD A,(MODFLG)
2644 B7 00630 OR A
2645 2002 00640 JR Z,RPLNOC
2647 36B0 00650 LD (HL),0B0H
2649 00660 RPLNOC EQU $
2649 3E02 00670 LD A,DISP
264B 0E1C 00680 LD C,1CH
264D EF 00690 RST 20H
264E E5 00700 PUSH HL
264F 212004 00710 LD HL,BUFF
2652 3E0A 00720 LD A,DSPLY
2654 EF 00730 RST 20H
2655 E1 00740 POP HL
2656 70 00750 LD (HL),B
2657 3E01 00760 LD A,KEY
2659 EF 00770 RST 20H

```

```

265A FE1B 00780 CP
265C 28C4 00790 JR Z,BEGLIN
265E FE00 00800 CP
2660 CA0A27 00810 JP Z,RETOS
2663 FE09 00820 CP
2665 282D 00830 JR Z,MVRGT
2667 FE08 00840 CP
2669 2831 00850 JR Z,MVLFT
266B FE0A 00860 CP
266D 283B 00870 JR Z,INSMDE
266F FE0D 00880 CP
2671 2840 00890 JR Z,ENTRKY
2673 FE19 00900 CP
2675 2853 00910 JR Z,LINEND
2677 FE1F 00920 CP
2679 2857 00930 JR Z,DELCHR
267B FE20 00940 CP
267D 38B0 00950 JR C,DSPLB
267F 08 00960 EX AF,AF'
2680 7D 00970 LD A,L
2681 FE6F 00980 CP BUFF+79&0FFH
2683 28AA 00990 JR Z,DSPLB
2685 7E 01000 LD A,(HL)
2686 FE0D 01010 CP 0DH
2688 CCE526 01020 CALL Z,MBUFGR
268B 3AAB26 01030 LD A,(MODFLG)
268E B7 01040 OR A
268F CAE526 01050 CALL NZ,MBUFGR
2692 08 01060 EX AF,AF'
2693 77 01070 LD (HL),A
2694 01080 MVRGT EQU $
2694 7E 01090 LD A,(HL)
2695 FE0D 01100 CP 0DH
2697 2896 01110 JR Z,DSPLB
2699 23 01120 INC HL
269A 01130 JDSPLB EQU $
269A 1893 01140 JR DSPLB
269C 01150 MVLFT EQU $
269C 7D 01160 LD A,L
269D FE20 01170 CP BUFF&0FFH
269F 28BE 01180 JR Z,DSPLB
26A1 7E 01190 LD A,(HL)
26A2 2B 01200 DEC HL
26A3 FE0D 01210 CP 0DH
26A5 20B8 01220 JR NZ,DSPLB
26A7 01230 JDSPLC EQU $
26A7 C32526 01240 JP DSPLC
26AA 01250 INSMDE EQU $
26AA 3E00 01260 LD A,0
26AB 01270 MODFLG EQU $-1
26AC EEFF 01280 XOR 0FFH
26AE 32AB26 01290 LD (MODFLG),A
26B1 18E7 01300 JR JDSPLB
26B3 01310 ENTRKY EQU $
26B3 CDF426 01320 CALL RSTSCR
26B6 212004 01330 LD HL,BUFF
26B9 3E0A 01340 LD A,DSPLY
26BB EF 01350 RST 20H
26BC 111527 01360 LD DE,SCRN
26BF 015000 01370 LD BC,00
26C2 EDB0 01380 LDIR
26C4 211527 01390 LD HL,SCRN
26C7 3E1B 01400 LD A,CMNDI
26C9 EF 01410 RST 20H
26CA 01420 LINEND EQU $
26CA 3E0D 01430 LD A,0DH
26CC BE 01440 CP (HL)
26CD 28D8 01450 JR Z,JDSPLC
26CF 23 01460 INC HL
26D0 18F8 01470 JR LINEND
26D2 01480 DELCHR EQU $
26D2 7E 01490 LD A,(HL)
26D3 FE0D 01500 CP 0DH
26D5 28C3 01510 JR Z,JDSPLB
26D7 54 01520 LD D,H
26D8 5D 01530 LD E,L
26D9 01540 DELNCH EQU $
26D9 7B 01550 LD A,E
26DA FE6F 01560 CP BUFF+79&0FFH
26DC 28C9 01570 JR Z,JDSPLC

```

```

ishift left
iline begin
ibreak key
ireturn to dos
iright arrow
ileft arrow
idown arrow
iset insert mode
ienter key
ishift right
ishift clear key
idelete character
i check ctrl char
iyes, ignore
isave key code
iget addr lsb
i check if end
iyes, ignore
iget char
i check current end
iyes, move buffer right
i check insert mode
iinsert character
iget char again
iinsert char
i check if end of line
iat end, no move right
ielse incr cursor pos
i current pos lsb
i check at beginning
iyes, exit
i char at cursor
ielse cursor back
i check line end
ino, no screen clear
ielse clear screen
i current mode flag
iinvert flag
i restore screen
icommand buffer start
idisplay line
isave command line
imax 80 chars
icommand line
ifind line end
ifound, display new
ito next char
i char at cursor
i check end of line
iyes, exit
iaddr in buffer
iaddr lsb
i check end of buff
iyes, exit to clr screen

```

26DE 13	01500	INC	DE	inext source char
26DF 1A	01590	LD	A,(DE)	
26E0 1B	01600	DEC	DE	ito dest
26E1 12	01610	LD	(DE),A	
26E2 13	01620	INC	DE	iready for next move
26E3 18F4	01630	JR	DELNCH	idelete next
26E5	01640	MBUFRG	EQU	\$
26E5 017004	01650	LD	BC,BUFF+80	iend addr + 1
26E8 116F04	01660	LD	DE,BUFF+79	iend addr
26EB	01670	MBUFCH	EQU	\$
26EB 7B	01680	LD	A,E	icheck if at end
26EC 8D	01690	CP	L	icurrent cursor addr
26ED C8	01700	RET	Z	ibes, exit
26EE 00	01710	DEC	BC	ielse back one
26EF 1B	01720	DEC	DE	
26F0 1A	01730	LD	A,(DE)	
26F1 02	01740	LD	(BC),A	
26F2 18F7	01750	JR	MBUFCH	irepeat move
26F4	01760	RSTSCR	EQU	\$
26F4 211527	01770	LD	HL,SCRN	isaved screen
26F7 0605	01780	LD	B,S	iback to screen
26F9 3E0F	01790	LD	A,AVDCTL	
26FB EF	01800	RST	ZBH	
26FC 0603	01810	LD	B,3	icursor pos set
26FE 2A1327	01820	LD	HL,(CURP)	
2701 3E0F	01830	LD	A,AVDCTL	
2703 EF	01840	RST	ZBH	
2704 3E02	01850	LD	A,ADSP	
2706 0E0E	01860	LD	C,0EH	icursor on
2708 EF	01870	RST	ZBH	
2709 C9	01880	RET		
270A	01890	RETDS	EQU	\$
270A CDF426	01900	CALL	RSTSCR	irestore screen
2700 3E16	01910	LD	A,0EXIT	
270F 210000	01920	LD	HL,0	
2712 EF	01930	RST	ZBH	
2713 0000	01940	CURP	DEFU	isave cursor pos
0000	01950	SCRN	DEFS	iscreen data
2600	01960	END	BEGIN	
00000	TOTAL ERRORS			

AVDNDI 0010	ADSP 0002	ADSPLY 000A	0EXIT 0016	0KEY 0001
AVDCTL 000F	BEGIN 2600	BEGLIN 2622	BUFF 0420	CURP 2713
DELCHR 26D2	DELNCH 26D9	DSPLB 262F	DSPLC 2625	ENTRKY 26B3
INSHDE 26AA	JDSPLB 269A	JDSPLC 26A7	LINEND 26CA	MBUFCH 26EB
MBUFRG 26E5	MODFLG 26AB	MVLF 269C	MVRGT 2694	RETDS 270A
RPLCLR 263F	RPLNOC 2649	RSTSCR 26F4	SCRN 2715	

**BACKING UP "HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE"**  
by Alan Morrison 011+61+2+625-5869

[Excerpted from the column ALAN'S SECTOR #5, which appeared in SYDTRUG NEWS (P.O. Box 297, Padstow, New South Wales 2211, Australia):]

Hi hackers, welcome to another month of info and ideas for you to try. First up, we'll take a look at the new Infocom rage "Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy". Infocom has outdone themselves once more in another action-packed adventure, this time starting on Earth and ending up on the "Heart of Gold", a stolen space-craft.

When making a backup copy of this work of art and you decide to do so on another DOS, a certain password is lost in the process and the message "INSERT DISK #2 AND PRESS <ENTER>" appears. The user then presses <ENTER>, the drives whirr and lights flash, smoke pours from the screen, terrible screaming noises are heard from the CPU and then... the question appears again. If the user is very persistent, the message will appear until the end of time (or until your system carks it!).

This is all over a little password! This little password does not get backed up along with the file "HITCHHIK/CMD" so you must put it back there. You see, the computer is looking for "HITCHHIK/CMD,password" and not "HITCHHIK/CMD". There is a difference. To correct all of this you must load your Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy disk in drive 1, your current system disk into drive 0 and DON'T PANIC!! Then you type this:

ATTRIB HITCHHIK/CMD:1 (ACC=,UPD=SMC)<ENTER>

You have now protected this file with a password, thus changing its filespec and it should therefore execute.

**(STILL) MORE ON DON MCKENZIE'S PBUFF KIT**  
by Darrel Hegarty 011+61+2+360-9681

[This information is excerpted from the SECRETARY'S SAYINGS column of SYDTRUG NEWS, P.O. Box 297, Padstow, New South Wales 2211, Australia:]

... I have also had another letter from Tony Briggs in the Land of the Long White Cloud [New Zealand], and ... he has also given some information on the PBUFF kits. Those of you who have the Revision 3 board or earlier, AND have a Gemini Star printer, may notice that the printer goes "OFFLINE", i.e. DESELECTS, when the PBUFF is reset. A 470 ohm resistor from the Z80 address line A13 to ground should cure this problem. The best place to put this resistor is at the Z80 itself - from pin 3 to ground. Don McKenzie has added this resistor on the Revision D board as a 1k resistor, but Tony Briggs has found that 1k is NOT low enough to cure the problem, hence the 470 ohm value.

There is also a method to bypass the PBUFF without turning it off and unplugging - cut the track to Z80/16 (INT\*), and solder a 4.7k resistor to +5 volts, and a switch or push-button to ground. When the bypass option is needed, simply RESET the PBUFF, and press the BYPASS switch or button. PBUFF will then go into a continuous loop and pass all incoming data straight out to the printer. To regain normal operation, press RESET, or switch off and back on again.

The option to load PBUFF offline, may not work with some printers (Gemini Star is one) - if so, leave wire 12 connected as normal, and use wire 13 instead.

A letter from Don McKenzie has bought up a modification to facilitate a HARDWARE pause (such may be required if you have the printer sharer board, whilst changing printers), simply put a single-pole switch in series with the BUSY line of the OUTPUT port (this line goes to pin 11 of the 8255). When this switch is open, the buffer will stop sending to the printer. Make sure that you cut the track such that R6 is still connected to pin 11 of the 8255.

[NORTHERN BYTES Editor's Note: I have just received a new price list from Don McKenzie that has special prices for U.S.A. residents. These are for "short form" kits, which means that you get the printed circuit board and any EPROMs required for the project (with the code already burned in, of course). You then purchase the remainder of the parts from a local (or mail-order) supplier, thus saving even more money (since the parts are not being sent from the U.S.A. to Australia and back again). The PBUFF short form printer buffer kit (which includes a parallel I/O board) costs \$26.00. Add-on boards that can connect to the PBUFF board include a serial I/O board (this board also permits serial/parallel or parallel/serial conversions if necessary) at \$12.00, a P2C1 printer sharer board (lets you connect two printers to one computer, but if a serial board is used only one of the printers may be serial) at \$8.00, and a C2P1 computer sharer board (lets you connect two computers to one printer) at \$8.00. All prices are in U.S. dollars and you should add \$5.00 for postage and handling per order. This seems like an inexpensive way for a hardware enthusiast to solve any computer/printer connection problems you may have! For more information contact Don McKenzie, 29 Ellesmere Crescent, Tullamarine, Victoria 3043, Australia (you may also telephone 011+61+3+338-6286 for more information).]

This patch disables password checking under TRSDOS 6.2 (from Bert's Ramblings, newsletter of the Tandy Hobart Users' Group):

PATCH SYS2/SYS.LSIDOS (D02,33-18:F02,33-28)

The patch has not been tested under TRSDOS 6.2.1.

The second patch is in the form of a /JCL file and is self-explanatory:

. Patch to SYS6/SYS.LSIDOS to default DEVICE (B-Y)  
. For TRSDOS 6.2.1

L61

X'2580'-FF FF

. End of Patch

**MODEL 4 VIVACE WANTED**

A Model 4 user in the Netherlands wants to obtain a copy of the Model 4 Version of Vivace (the BASIC compiler from WittSoft). Since WittSoft no longer markets this product, a pre-owned copy would be about the only other possible option. So, if you have a new or used copy of the Model 4 version of Vivace for sale, please contact P.J. Plomp, Linnaeusparkweg 59, Amsterdam, Holland.

[Editor's note: in NORTHERN BYTES Volume 7, Number 3 (page 36) we published an article by Dick Rechlicz entitled "MODEL 4 TRSDOS 6 WRITE PROTECT". In this article, Dick stated that the procedure to software write-protect drive zero as a default under DOSPLUS 4 is relatively simple, but didn't really elaborate. Bill Baker of Independence, Missouri wrote to ask what the procedure is, I forwarded the letter to Dick, and the letters started flying. Anyway, here are Dick's instructions, as extracted and edited from a couple rounds of correspondence:]

Here is the information on write protecting Drive :0 using DOSPLUS 3.5 and 4.1.

Our computers are used in an office environment, and are nothing more than tools which permit us an easier and more rapid processing of our communications and accounting programs. It is our belief that computer operators in a commercial/industrial environment need to be no more knowledgeable about the computer than they are expected to be about a typewriter.

Since we've evolved from the Model I through the Model III to the Model 4, many of our programs are RUN in the Model III mode...others were developed for the Model 4 or converted. When DOSPLUS 3.5 became available, we began to write protect Drive :0.

Preventive maintenance treats operator error (whenever possible). A write protect tab removed from a diskette is not always replaced. Where and when feasible, this instance of possible error can be corrected by write protecting the drive through software.

Additionally, under some circumstances, write protect tabs may not offer the protection their use assumes will be furnished. The first letter to Bill Baker was saved to a diskette in our Model 4's Drive :0 which had a black write protect tab installed. We can - and do - kill and save files on this drive, supposedly safeguarded by the black write protect tab. Tabs of other colors force the Model 4 to behave properly (drives 1, 2, and 3 operate appropriately regardless of the color of the tab).

The article published in Northern Bytes detailed the procedures to software write-protect Drive :0 using TRSDOS 6. DOSPLUS 4 requires a different approach.

The CONFIG feature of DOSPLUS provides the user with the method to "configure" the system. It, in fact, describes and establishes the protocols for the drives to the operating system (DOSPLUS) so that the computer can function properly.

Our Model 4 has four drives. We inform DOSPLUS 4 of the additional two drives - that they have a 30 millisecond step rates by typing:

```
CONFIG :2 (Step=3)
CONFIG :3 (Step=3)      (See Page 2-35)
```

Additional commands might be:

```
CONFIG :0 (Write Protect=Y)    or, (WP=Y)
```

A problem arises at this point, however. When the computer is turned off, the "CONFIG" instructions are lost. The "SYSTEM" command can "SAVE" them for you (they would become the default parameters upon BOOT up) excepting that you cannot save to a write protected disk! (Or to a software write protected disk drive) (See Pages 2-129 to 2-136).

The answer is simple. "Save" the configuration instructions to a non-write protected drive. Here is an example to help clarify it for you:

```
CONFIG :2 (STEP=3)
CONFIG :3 (STEP=3)
SYSTEM (T=N, E=Y, CL=Y, SA=Y)
CONFIG :0 (WP=Y)
SYSTEM STEP1/CFG:1
CONFIG :0 (WP=N)
COPY STEP 1/CFG:1 :0
AUTO STEP1/CFG
RE-BOOT the system
```

Remove or kill STEP1/CFG on Drive :1

The first two CONFIG statements establish STEP rates for Drives :2 and :3. "SYSTEM" commands turn the time (T) prompt off; turn the beep (E) and the click (CL) on; and "Save" (SA) these "SYSTEM" configurations to disk. Use the combination of "SYSTEM" defaults that you prefer, but be sure to include the "SA=Y".

Next, the CONFIG command to apply the software write protect status is entered, and becomes effective immediately. At that point, nothing can be "saved" to that drive (Drive :0). Neither a file nor the desired defaults established by the "SYSTEM" command or the CONFIG commands can be saved to any but an un-write protected disk.

Therefore, the final "SYSTEM" command saves all configuration instruction to a user-named file on Drive :1 (See Page 2-134) Our filename is STEP1/CFG. You can give this file any name you wish to.

Immediately after you "save" your configurations with the SYSTEM STEP1/CFG:1 command, you must issue a command to un-write protect Drive :0, and then copy the STEP1/CFG file from Drive :1 to Drive :0.

The AUTO command executes this STEP1/CFG file when next the computer is BOOTED. This command then follows any further instruction. In our case, we use the statement

```
AUTO STEP1/CFG; FAST/CMD; DO L
```

which turns on the high speed clock in the Model III mode (FAST/CMD) then loads Lazy Writer (L), our word processing program.

If you choose not to AUTO the CONFIG file, you can have a different CONFIG file for each user of the system if you wish, that can be different from the "standard" STEP1/CFG file. You need only type the name of the desired CONFIG file to install the configuration contained therein. If you are using a data base such as PROFILE that requires that Drive :0 not be software write protected, you can simply not use STEP1/CFG.

Should you need to revise or add a program to Drive :0, type:

```
CONFIG :0 (WP=N) <ENTER>
```

When completed, type:

```
CONFIG :0 (WP=Y) <ENTER>
```

We have used DOSPLUS ever since it became available for the Model I. In our opinion, it was (and is) a most superior DOS for the TRS-80 Models I, III, and 4. However, we became aware of new programs for the Model 4 which were developed specifically for use with TRSDOS 6. Their numbers became greater. It was our decision, reluctantly, to transfer our base to the TRSDOS 6.

We've not been dissatisfied. TRSDOS 6 is a most powerful DOS, with features which place it in a premier position. We no longer know if some of the newer programs work with other DOSes...they do work well with TRSDOS 6.

By the way, we've added the DOSPLUS BASIC shorthand overlays to TRSDOS 6 for an operating system of even greater excellence. In the Model 4 mode, the SYSTEM files are in MEMDISK which becomes :0, and which is software write protected. No SYSTEM files reside in any of the four physical drives (1, 2, 3, and 4).

We like our Model 4 and TRSDOS 6! Though a great many of our applications are now on MS-DOS based equipment (Tandy 1000 and IBM PC-XTS) we look forward to using the Model 4!

Maybe the future belong to the XTs and ATs, but there'll be a Model 4 in our future for a long, long time.

[Editor's note: Both I and Bill Baker were initially skeptical of Dick's comments about writing to a disk that had a write protect tab on it (I even stated my doubts in an editorial comment inserted into Dick's previous article). Then Bill came across some more information (in RAMparts Volume 4, Number 5) that suggests that perhaps there is more to this than just an oddball hardware problem. Here are excerpts from Bill's article on the subject (which in turn contains excerpts from the RAMparts article), which appeared in The Cursor (newsletter of the Kansas City South Computer Club):

"...The first report of anyone accidentally writing to a disk protected with a write protect tab was noted in an article by Dick Rechlicz that appeared in Northern Bytes Volume 7, Number 3. Dick reported that he had lost some data on disks protected with the common sticky write protect tabs on the disks. I had occasion to correspond with Dick on another matter and he again mentioned

that he had accidentally written to disks protected with black tabs but never with silver, gold or white.

I brushed his statement off at the time as a fluke, impossible to occur, at least by any standards that I knew of then, but after reading RAMparts, I now believe Dick was on to a new, bewildering problem. Have drives become color conscious? May sound silly, but read on. It may be just that.

In the June 24th edition of PC WEEK, the alleged problem appeared again when Peter Norton, who wrote the report, told RAMparts columnist Terry Kepner that he had discovered the 'problem' when he accidentally wrote onto write protected disks with the COMPAC 286 DESKPROS in his office. These units were equipped with MITSUBISHI D.S.D.D. drives built to meet IBM standards.

Norton reported that he suspected the trouble was caused by a change in the design of the write protect system -- going from the industry standard 'transmissive' system, to a rather strange 'reflective' system.

In drives using the 'transmissive' detector, an infrared emitter sits on one side of the disk's write protect notch, and on the other side is an IR photo-transistor. If the notch is uncovered, the IR LED illuminated the photo-transistor, telling the drive it is okay to write to the disk. When the IR photo-transistor CANNOT be illuminated (because the notch is either not there or is covered by tape), the drive assumes the floppy is protected...

It seems like I recall reading a report of a major diskette manufacturer who decided to include some snazzy red translucent write protect tabs with their diskettes. As you can imagine, the infrared light passed right on through, and thousands of boxes of diskettes had to be recalled, so even the "transmissive" detector may not be foolproof if you use a translucent or transparent write protect tab! Anyway, back to Bill's explanation:

...But the 'reflective' system reverses the principle. Both the IR emitter and the photo-transistor are on the same side of the disk, and the drives rely on a reflected signal to tell when the drive is protected. When the photo-transistor IS illuminated, the drive assumes that the disk is protected. The problem is that some protected disks are manufactured without a notch, and the disk's textured black surface won't reflect the IR signal. Black write protect tabs, commonly used to cover the notch, would also fail to bounce the IR light back to the photo-transistor.

Mitsubishi engineers are denying they use a reflective notch detector and COMPAC personnel say they are investigating the report. Meanwhile, we now have two reports of the same condition from different parts of the country, so something may be amiss somewhere. The best advice to owners of new drives may well be 'when in doubt, check it out'. Try to write to a disk protected with a black covered notch. If a write is allowed, use gold or silver reflective foil tabs over the notch. If that fixes the trouble, you may have one of the problem drives."

Well... it appears that I owe Dick an apology for my initial skepticism. Whether the reflective system is a good or bad thing depends, of course, on whether it will properly recognize the write protect tab on a TRSDOS 6/LDOS master disk. If it does, it's (presumably) great, if not, it's another "fiasco"! (Sorry about that, I just couldn't resist!) -Jack]

#### IBM AND THE CUSTOMER DRESS CODE by Nick Baran

[With all the recent publicity about the Tandy Computer Center dress code (even though Tandy certainly has a right to enforce these regulations, I must say that I would not want to work for Tandy because of the necktie (noose?!) requirement, if nothing else), I thought you might be interested in this view from the other side. At least Tandy enforces the dress code on their salesmen, and not on their customers... yet...

This article is reprinted from the CSRA Computer Society, Inc. Newsletter and they got it from SF Blue Notes, April 1986:]

It's a well-known "fact" that to succeed in the business world, you have to dress appropriately -- dress for success. You may not know, however, that you also have to dress appropriately to be a successful customer of IBM's.

A case in point. I used to work downtown and always wore a coat and tie. In fact, I bought my PC at the IBM Product Center back in 1982. I'd drop by periodically to see what's new and was always treated with respect and the utmost attention. Salespersons would eagerly hand me their card, give me a demo of the latest IBM printer, and would exchange niceties about the weather or the 49ers.

Now, I am working for myself as a consultant and writer, and I don't wear a coat and tie every day. I often wear blue jeans, no necktie, and even my shoes are sometimes a little scruffy. Nevertheless, IBM still has me on their customer list and sent me a "Personalized Validation Form" a while back which made me eligible for a grand prize of an IBM PC AT "Super System" or some other prizes such as a Proprietary or an IBM PC Cross Pen.

All I had to do was go down to the Product Center and see if the number on my personalized form matched the numbers posted at the Product Center. If there was a match, I would win a prize. If not, IBM would give me a free LCD digital stopwatch if I sat through a demonstration of the PC AT and sent my validated form to Rochester, New York.

This all sounded pretty good. I figured, odds are I won't win a prize but at least I'll get a demo of the AT and a free stopwatch. On the form it said that the demo "will show you how the advanced technology in this IBM system can raise high performance -- and your productivity -- to new heights." Why not? I hadn't seen an AT in action anyway, and this way, I could get a free watch in the bargain.

So I headed down to the San Francisco IBM Product Center. I had on a pair of blue jeans, a vest sweater, a "flight jacket", and a pair of beat up old loafers. Aside from the shoes, I looked perfectly respectable, although I clearly was not a VP at Crocker Bank. But I've seen bankers with beat up loafers before.

I walked into the Product Center. All the salespeople were busy. Aha! There was the list of Prize Numbers posted prominently on a wall. I hurried over, and, to my enormous disappointment, found that none of the numbers matched mine.

OK, no prize, not even a Cross Pen. The next best thing was the AT demo and the forthcoming free LCD digital stopwatch! I walked up to the cashier counter, showed the woman my Personalized Validation Form, and politely asked if I could have an AT demo. She was very nice, and halted a passing salesman and asked him if he could give me a demo. No, he was very busy with a client. The woman at the cashier counter turned to help another customer. I stood there for about five minutes and finally decided to go sit down at the AT on display. Maybe that would give off a signal that I want my AT demo.

I sat down, and after several minutes, a woman walked by and asked if I'd been helped. I said no, I was waiting for an AT demo. She said she wasn't qualified to give demos but would find someone who was and walked off.

A few minutes later, a salesman wearing a vest two sizes too small came rushing by, saying he would be with me in a moment. Fine. Then I saw him conferring with another salesman and they were gesturing in my direction. Finally, one of the salesmen, but not the one with the vest, walked over and introduced himself. I was seated next to the AT and there was a chair next to mine right in front of the keyboard. I was expecting the salesman to sit down and proceed with the demo. Instead, he remained standing, glanced down at my shoes and said, "Are you interested in buying an AT?"

I answered: "Well, I have a PC and was interested in seeing the AT demo."

Salesman: "What do you want to know about the AT?"

I thought this was a demo! He was waiting for me to say something. So I asked, feigning ignorance: "What's different about the AT?"

Salesman: "It's faster and it can store more data."

Silence. I realized it was my turn to say something. This was very awkward and was not helping my productivity reach new heights.

I said: "The keyboard is different, isn't it?"

Salesman: "Yeah, now you have to learn typing all over again, just when you'd gotten used to the backslash key!"

Another silence. This time, he didn't wait for me to say something.

Salesman: "Well! Let me get you that validation sticker!"

The salesman headed for the cashier's counter. I followed obediently. He gave me the validation sticker and I said, "Thank you very much", being a polite sort of fellow. He said, "No problem!"

I was relieved that I hadn't caused the salesman too much trouble. I dropped my validation card in the mailbox. Fortunately, they won't see my shoes in Rochester, New York.

A COLLECTION OF NEWDOS/80 ZAPS  
Compiled by Bob Seaborn

Note: In the following zaps, the notations (I) and (III) indicate that the File Relative Sector and Byte given are for the Models I and III versions of NEWDOS/80, respectively. Note that not all of the zaps are applicable to both Models. The final five zaps (1045 through 1049) were added after the original article was received (zaps 1048 & 1049 are by K. Hemstra of Oosthem, Holland).

Zap #1001 - This zap converts the slash (/) and colon (:) in the DATE/TIME input at DOS powerup to periods. This allows easier use of the numeric keypad. Slashes and colons are required and displayed at all other points in the system.

SYS0/SYS,12,62 (I) from 3E2F  
12,25 (III) to 3E2E  
SYS0/SYS,12,75 (I) from 3E 3A  
12,39 (III) to 3E 2E  
SYS0/SYS,13,08 (I) from 4040 2F44 442F 5959  
13,4E (III) to 4040 2E44 442E 5959  
SYS0/SYS,13,98 (I) from 48 483A 404D 3A53 53  
13,61 (III) to 48 482E 404D 2E53 53

Zap #1002 - This zap allows the time to be bypassed with <ENTER> thus inserting either 00:00:00 or to the previous value. Caution must be exercised as there is no error checking as to proper value.

SYS0/SYS,12,78 (I) from 4F 28ED C9  
12,20 (III) to 4F 0000 C9

Zap #1003 - This zap forces only the date to be required on re-boot, skipping the TIME prompt, thus setting time to either 00:00:00 or to the previous value.

SYS0/SYS,12,68 (I) from ED21 76  
12,20 (III) to EDC9 76

Zap #1004 - This zap allows <ENTER> to default the DATE prompt to either the previous value or to 00/00/00. Caution must be exercised to ensure that valid values are entered as there is no error checking performed.

SYS0/SYS,12,65 (I) from 4F20 ED  
12,29 (III) to 4FC9 ED

Zap #1005 - This zap eliminates the BASIC banner when BASIC is first entered.

BASIC/CMD,14,14 (I) from CD67 44  
BASIC/CMD,13,ED (III) to CDC9 01

Zap #1006 - This zap eliminates the DOS banner upon re-boot.

SYS0/SYS,11,E5 (I) from CD 6744  
11,AD (III) to 00 0000

Zap #1007 - This zap eliminates the TIME/DATE display on re-boot.

SYS0/SYS,12,08 (I) from CD 6744  
11,CF (III) to 00 0000

Zap #1008 - This zap causes the AUTO command not to be displayed when the system disk is booted.

SYS0/SYS,12,50 (I) from CD67 44  
12,13 (III) to 0000 00

Zap #1009 - This zap enables the "-3X" function in Softrend's BREV-T package to be valid upon re-boot or powerup.

SYS0/SYS,12,08 (I) from CD 6744  
or 00 0000  
to CD 8050

SYS0/SYS,13,CD (I) from all zeros  
to FS 3E00 32F0 41F1 C900 00  
or FS 3E00 32F0 41F1 C367 44

Zap #1010 - This zap eliminates the double line feed at DOS READY.

SYS1/SYS,00,EF (I) from 3E 00CD 3300  
SYS1/SYS,04,1D (III) to 00 0000 0000

Zap #1011 - This zap sets the default number of files when entering BASIC.

BASIC/CMD,14,46 (I) from 3E 03 32  
BASIC/CMD,14,1F (III) to 3E yy 32

The value used to replace "yy" should be the default number of files to be allocated when BASIC is invoked.

Zap #1012 - This zap enables more than the 15 files that Radio Shack and Apparat allow.

BASIC/CMD,16,66 (I) from FE 10 30  
BASIC/CMD,16,3F (III) to FE xx 30

The value used to replace "xx" must be one more than the maximum number of files

required and cannot be greater than 81H in a 48K system and; for all practical purposes should not be greater than 64H, because it restricts programming space.

Zap #1013 - This zap changes DOS to display the current time setting under the NEWDOS/80 READY prompt when the prompt appears. It does not update the time in this location.

SYS1/SYS,00,F6 (I) from CC67 4421  
to CCCC 5121  
SYS1/SYS,04,DC (I) from all zeros  
to CD67 44D9  
2157 433E 0032 5F43 ESCD 6D44 E1C0 6744  
D9C9

Zap #1014 - When the Model I is equipped with a Percom type double density adaptor and the last disk access was to a double density diskette the system will not re-boot properly on a HALT or JP 0000H instruction. Since this is the way Apparat has chosen to reset the computer under two conditions the following zaps were constructed. They will allow proper reset to occur under double density from the BOOT command or from the "Fatal DOS Error. Key <R> to Reset" error message.

SYS9/SYS,00,CF (I) from 02 CD60 0076  
to 02 C3D7 5176  
SYS9/SYS,04,EA (I) from all zeros  
to 00CD 6000 21EC 3736 FE76

Zap #1015 - This zap allows SUPERZAP to exit to DIRCHECK if a SHIFT key is pressed as the T in EXIT is entered.

SUPERZAP/CMD,04,D4 from C32D 4047 to C3E2 6F47  
SUPERZAP/CMD,28,F7 from all zeros  
to 003A 0038 FE00 CA2D 40  
SUPERZAP/CMD,29,00 from all zeros  
to 21F0 6FC3 0544 4449 5243 4845 4348 2F43  
4D44 0000

Zap #1016 - This zap allows DIRCHECK to exit to SUPERZAP if a SHIFT key is pressed as the N is entered at the main menu.

DIRCHECK/CMD,07,10 from CA2D 40FE to CAF7 60FE  
DIRCHECK/CMD,14,E0 from all zeros  
to 003A 0038 FE00 CA2D 4021 0561 C305 4453  
5550 4552 5A41 502F 434D 4400

Zap #1017 - This zap allows changing PDRIVE parameters without writing to disk. Syntax - Same as using parameter "A" except use "B". Example "PDRIVE,0,1=7,B". This would set PDRIVE for drive 1 to equal 7 until a reset, or another PDRIVE command with either "A" or "B" is called. It will not change the PDRIVE table on the disk, only that in memory.

SYS16/SYS,02,F7 (I) from 7E FE41 1220 0623  
to 7E C3C0 5100 0023  
SYS16/SYS,02,E8 (III) from 7EFE 4112 20  
to 7EC3 CB51 20  
SYS16/SYS,04,D3 (I) from all zeros  
to 00 FE41 1220 03C3 F14F FE42 C2F7  
4F3E 4112 77C5 E501 0007 21E2 4071 2310  
FCE1 C1C3 F14F 00  
SYS16/SYS,04,DF (III) from all zeros  
to 4112 2003 C3E0 4F30 FE41 20F8 C5E5 0100  
0721 D34D 7123 10FC E1C1 10E3

In SUPERZAP/CMD, DEBUG, and the JKL screen print module non-displayable or non-printable characters are changed to periods (ZEH). In the first two items, a space (Z0H) is defined as non-displayable or non-printable. As well, in the JKL module, graphics are changed to periods (ZEH), if the SYSTEM parameter AX indicates that the printer is not capable of printing graphics. Some printers, (i.e. Radio Shack LPA - Centronics 737) will print very limited graphics for certain ASCII codes. The following zaps allow you to define the character to be displayed or printed instead of the period, if a replacement is to take place. Also given is the byte to zap to change the lowest displayable or printable character as well as the high value of the displayable characters in SUPERZAP/CMD and DEBUG.

Zap #1018 - This is a zap to SUPERZAP/CMD to change the character displayed when a non-displayable character is encountered.

SUPERZAP/CMD,12,DF (I) from 3E 2E FE  
SUPERZAP/CMD,12,E5 (III) to 3E xx FE  
(replacing "xx" with the Hex value of the character to be displayed.)

Zap #1019 - This is a zap to SUPERZAP/CMD to set the high value of the displayable characters (stay under "DF" H).

SUPERZAP/CMD,12,D4 (I) from 0E 5F 1A

SUPERZAP/CMD;12;D0 (III) to 3E xx FE  
 (replacing "xx" with the Hex value of the highest displayable character.)

Zap #1020 - This is a zap to SUPERZAP/CMD to change the character printed when a non-printable character is encountered.  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;16;D0 (I) from 3E 2E FE  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;16;E5 (III) to 3E xx FE  
 (replacing "xx" with the Hex value of the character to be printed.)

Zap #1021 - This is a zap to SUPERZAP/CMD to allow the space (20H) to be displayed as such and not changed to a period (2EH).  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;12;D7 (I) from 06 21 B9  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;12;E0 (III) to 06 20 B9  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;16;D0 (I) from FE 20 30  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;16;E7 (III) to FE 1F 30

Zap #1022 - This is a zap to SYSS/SYS (DEBUG) to change the character displayed when a non-displayable character is encountered.  
 SYSS/SYS;03;75 from 3E 2E E3  
 to 3E xx E3  
 (replacing "xx" with the Hex value of the character to be displayed.)

Zap #1023 - This is a zap to SYSS/SYS (DEBUG) to allow the space (20H) to be displayed as such and not changed to a period (2EH).  
 SYSS/SYS;03;6D from 06 21 B9  
 to 06 20 B9

Zap #1024 - This is a zap to SYSS/SYS to set the high value of the displayable characters (stay under "BF"PH).  
 SYSS/SYS;03;69 (I) from C6 3F 4A  
 to 00 0E xx  
 (replacing "xx" with the Hex value of the highest displayable character.)

Zap #1025 - This is a zap to SYS3/SYS (JKL) to change the character printed when a non-printable character is encountered.  
 SYS3/SYS;04;C1 (I) from 3E 2E CD  
 SYS3/SYS;04;9D (III) to 3E xx CD  
 (replacing "xx" with the Hex value of the character to be printed.)

Zap #1026 - This zap allows the interchanging of the period and slash in filespec definition. Thus a valid filespec would be "filespec.ext/password:dn". One known inconsistency is in the COPY function where the parameter "/ext" is used to define a group of files to be copied which must still be stated as "/ext", not ".ext". Any programs that do not use the NEWDOS/80 system calls for I/O or filespec handling will need changes to work with this zap.  
 SYS1/SYS;02;5E (I) from 3E2F 12 to 3E2E 12  
 SYS1/SYS;02;75 (III) from 3E 2F12 to 3E 2E12  
 SYS2/SYS;01;48 from FE2F 06 to FE2E 06  
 SYS2/SYS;01;4F from FE 2E0D to FE 2F0D  
 SYS3/SYS;03;78 (I) from FE 2F20 to FE 2E20  
 SYS3/SYS;03;58 (III) from FE2F 20 to FE2E 20  
 SYS3/SYS;04;17 (I) from 3E 2F0D to 3E 2E0D  
 SYS3/SYS;03;F0 (III) from 3E2F CD to 3E2E CD  
 SYS4/SYS;11;64 from 3E2F C4 to 3E2E C4  
 SYS8/SYS;00;86 from FE2F C2 to FE2E C2  
 SYS8/SYS;01;62 from 3E2F C4 to 3E2E C4

Zap #1027 - This zap will do the following on a RESET:  
 a) Check to see if Alpha Products Newclock-80 is present and functional.  
 b) If it is, zap SYS0 temporarily with the two zaps outlined in Alpha Products Newclock-80 instruction sheet.  
 c) If a printer is on-line and ready a series of bytes will be sent to the printer for initialization provided a SHIFT key was not pressed.  
 d) If left arrow is held during reset and the clock is not present the old time and date will be used regardless of the setting of SYSTEM option AY and AZ.  
 SYS0/SYS;11;BF (I) from CD 6744 3A  
 to CD E650 3A  
 SYS0/SYS;14;07 (I) from all zeros  
 to 09 0000 E5FD E50E 80ED  
 70FE FF20 4B21 0951 1130 4F01 1000 E0B0  
 11C0 4401 1E00 E0B0 1836 F3CD C044 2E44  
 01BC 01CD 0544 042E 46CD 0544 04CD 0344  
 FB09 2143 4001 0503 1603 E078 00A2 160F  
 0777 0707 0677 E078 A200 0677 2B10 ECC9  
 3A00 30FE 0020 2400 21E8 37FD 218A 51D0  
 7E00 FE3F 2015 06xx F07E 00F5 D07E 00FE  
 3F20 F9F1 D077 00FD 2310 E03A 4030 CB4F  
 200F 3EAS 32AB 433A F942 C8B7 C8BF 32F9  
 42FD E100 E100 09CD 6744 C9yy  
 In the above zap you must replace "xx" with the hex number of bytes to be sent

to the printer and start inserting the bytes to be sent at "yy"

Zap #1028 - This zap converts the "CLEAR" command to respect HIMEM and only clear the memory from 5200H to HIMEM on the DOS command "CLEAR" while the DOS command "CLEAR #" will clear all memory from 5200H to FFFFH and resets all user routing.

SYS14/SYS;03;70 (I) from FE 00 28  
 to C3 75 51  
 SYS14/SYS;03;02 (III) from FE 00 28  
 to C3 87 51  
 SYS14/SYS;04;00 (I) from all zeros  
 to FE 2ACA 7950 FE80  
 C276 502A 4940 228C 50E5 D121 FFFF C39A  
 50  
 SYS14/SYS;04;98 (III) from all zeros  
 to FE2A C8B8  
 50FE 00C2 7450 2A11 4422 A050 E5D1 21FF  
 FFC3 A650

Zap #1029 - This zap changes the "←" and "→" keys required by SUPERZAP/CMD to the left and right arrow keys.  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;03;BC (I) from FE38  
 to 05;23 (III) to FE0F  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;04;16 (I) from FE2D  
 to 05;7C (III) to FE00  
 SUPERZAP/CMD;04;34 (I) from FE2D  
 to 05;9A (III) to FE00

Zap #1030 - This zap removes the "?" prompt at the end of a directory page (Model I only), clears the screen when the next page is displayed (Model I only), and allows any key to be pressed when the next page is requested; instead of only (ENTER). (BREAK) is still used to abort to DOS.  
 SYS8/SYS;03;06 (I) from 3E3F C0AS 50CD 4900 30CA  
 to 2040 FE0C 20F5  
 C049 0030 CA20 48CD C901

SYS8/SYS;02;86 (III) from FE00  
 to 0000  
 C3AS 5000 0000

Zap #1031 - This zap tidies up the directory display when in the expanded (:)A mode.  
 SYS8/SYS;04;C8 from 2E2E 2E2E  
 to 2020 2020  
 SYS8/SYS;04;F3 from 2E 2E2E 2E  
 to 20 2020 20

Zap #1032 - This zap zaps NEWDOS/80 so it will not clobber RAM when used with VIDEO4/CMD (an 80 by 24 video driver utility). This relocates the "bit bucket" area used during disk I/O from RAM to 3000H which is still protected ROM.  
 SYS0/SYS;03;2A (I) change 26 01 CD  
 SYS0/SYS;02;AD (III) to 28 38 CD  
 SYS6/SYS;13;DC change 00 00 00  
 to 00 38 00  
 SYS4/SYS;30;E5 (I) change 00 00 CD  
 SYS4/SYS;30;EE (III) to 00 38 CD  
 SYS19/SYS;04;29 change 11 00 CD  
 to 11 38 CD

Zap #1033 - This zap fixes the directory display to display filenames 5 across and to use all 24 lines of the video display when using VIDEO4/CMD.  
 SYS0/SYS;01;0C change 00 to 15  
 SYS0/SYS;01;12 change 05 to 06  
 SYS0/SYS;02;0E change 04 to 05  
 SYS0/SYS;02;99 (I) change 0F  
 SYS8/SYS;02;96 (III) to 17

Zap #1034 - This zaps DISASSEN/CMD and EDTASH/CMD to use all 24 lines during screen paging when using VIDEO4/CMD.  
 EDTASH/CMD;10;72 (III) change 10 to 18  
 DISASSEN/CMD;01;75 (III) change 10 to 18

Zap #1035 - This zap fixes the "LIB" display to display either 8 names across, or 10 names across when using VIDEO4/CMD in the 00 column mode.  
 SYS1/SYS;03;E1 (III) change 0E 0006  
 to 0E 2F06

Zap #1036 - This is an optional zap for the Model 4 (& Model III DOS) that sets SYSTEM flag CB. This tells the system that it is a Model 4 and the fast clock speed is activated. Note: SYSTEM option BJ must be set to 2.  
 SYS0/SYS;11;12 (4) from 453A A543 87

SYS0/SYS;13  
 SYS17/SYS;0  
 Zap #1037 -  
 BREV-T. No  
 installed;  
 patch in SY  
 SYS0/SYS;14  
 SYS1/SYS;01  
 SYS10/SYS;0  
 SYS10/SYS;0  
 SYS10/SYS;0  
 BASIC/CMD;1  
 Zap #1038 -  
 default to  
 or "BH" spe  
 SYS20/SYS;0  
 SYS20/SYS;0  
 Zap #1039 -  
 user progr  
 for the ROM  
 SYS0/SYS;11  
 Zap #1040 -  
 case with t  
 SYS3/SYS;00  
 Zap #1041 -  
 POKE 16409;  
 only (the s  
 location th  
 also set SY  
 lowercase d  
 Zap #1042 -  
 SYS0/SYS;02  
 Zap #1043 -  
 EDIT/CMD;02  
 EDIT/CMD;43  
 F00/CMD;00;  
 L00/CMD;00;  
 L00/CMD;35;  
 Zap #1044 -  
 each re-b  
 SYS0/SYS;00;

to 45CD A850 B7  
 SYS0/SYS,13,04 (4) from all zeros  
 to 3AFF 43CB 7F2B 0521 1042 CBF6 3AA5 43C9  
 SYS17/SYS,02,57 (4) from FE FFFF FFFF FFFF FFFF FFFF FFFF  
 to FE FEFE FEFE FEFE FEFE FEFE FEFE FE7F  
 FF

Zap #1037 - These zaps document the changes made to the DOS by SoftTrends' BREV-T. Note SYS28/SYS and SYS29/SYS as well as ABBREV/B and ABBREV/D must be installed; with the /SYS files in their proper places in the directory. The patch in SYS0/SYS is loaded at 41F1H.

SYS0/SYS,14,E9 (1) from all zeros  
 to 01 11F1 41CD 4000  
 F57E FE2D 2002 F1C9 233E 3FEF  
 SYS1/SYS,01,16 (1) from 4000  
 to F141  
 SYS18/SYS,00,1C (1) from C853  
 to 8766  
 SYS18/SYS,00,68 (1) from C853  
 to 8766  
 BASIC/CMD,15,90 (1) from all zeros  
 to CDF4 41F5 3A00 52FE BFCA CCS3 ES21 9846  
 E33E 34EF AFES 470E F07E FE00 2004 2304  
 10F7 E1F1 C3CB 53

Zap #1038 - This zap changes the default argument of the BASIC "L" routine to default to Hex rather than Octal. Now "L0" must be specified for Octal and "LH" or "LH" specified for Hex.

SYS20/SYS,02,D1 from 07 4F11 0000 79FE 4820 2207 EBD6 30FE  
 0A38 0006 11FE 0630 22C6 0A29 3007 2930  
 0A29 3001 290A B207 856F EB10 090E 4FB9  
 to 4F 0711 0000 79FE 4F28 200E 40B9 2001  
 2807 EBD6 30FE 0A38 0006 11FE 0630 1CC6  
 0A29 3007 2930 0A29 3001 290A B207 856F  
 SYS20/SYS,03,00 from 2001 2807 EBD6 0100 FAS4 30FE 0030 E3CD  
 9A0A EBC9  
 to EB10 0307 E806 0100 FAS4 30FE 0030 E9CD  
 9A0A EBC9

Zap #1039 - This zap loads SYSTEM option BI (cursor character) into 4023H if the user programmable cursor character option is blasted into the EPROM replacements for the ROM.

SYS0/SYS,11,40 (1) from 8728 03  
 to 3223 40

Zap #1040 - This zap makes CAPS,Y all uppercase and CAPS,N both upper and lower case with the new EPROMs installed.

SYS3/SYS,00,A1 (1) from 32 8A45 AFC9 CDEF 4028 F53E C918  
 to 32 1940 AFC9 CDEF 4028 F53E 0110

Zap #1041 - With the EPROMs installed, the BASIC caps lock control is changed to POKE 16409,0 to set mixed (upper & lower) case and POKE 16409,1 to set upper only (the same as Model III BASIC). This location replaces the 17044 (45B4H) location that Apparat documented (reluctantly) in Model I zap # 082. You must also set SYSTEM option BF=N, BG=N - to prevent a conflict between the ROM lowercase driver and that of NEWDOS/00 for the SHIFT-0 caps lock function.

Zap #1042 - This zap corrects the date and time on a warm boot on a Model 4.

SYS0/SYS,02,DF (4) from 1E 2000 361E 21  
 to 19 2000 3619 21

Zap #1043 - This zap enables the <BREAK> key in the FORTRAN package.

EDIT/CMD,02,0A from AF32 1E53  
 to C3A0 7C00  
 EDIT/CMD,43,54 from all zeros  
 to AF32 1E53 3EC9 3278 44C3 0254  
 F00/CMD,00,04 from C3A1 5700 0000 0000  
 to 3EC9 3278 44C3 A157  
 L00/CMD,00,07 from AF 3215 43  
 to C3 E674 00  
 L00/CMD,35,72 from 3000 0000 0000 0000 0000  
 to 3EC9 3278 44AF 3215 43C3 0752

Zap #1044 - This zap will update the Newclock-00 every second, and get the date each re-boot. SYSTEM options AY and AZ must be set to "Y".

SYS0/SYS,01,BA (1) from 2141 40E5 11AC  
 4301 0600 EDB0 117C 40E1 0603 3A1A 9600  
 7113 2310 F723 34C9  
 to 2143 4001 B503

SYS0/SYS,12,56 (1) from 1603 ED78 00A2 160F 0777 0707 0677 ED78  
 A200 8677 2B10 EBC9  
 44 2163 50CD 644F 019C 5011  
 4640 3E2E C06F 4F20 ED21 7650 C064 4F  
 to 44 F3CD C044 2E44 018C 01CD  
 D544 042E 46CD D544 04CD 0344 FBC9 4F  
 SYS0/SYS,00,0A (111) from C318 3001  
 to C386 4C01  
 SYS0/SYS,09,90 (111) from all zeros  
 to F5 E505

Zap #1045 - This zap permits use of labels starting with the "0" character in source code assembled by NEWDOS/00's EDTASM/CMD program.

EDTASM/CMD,01,70 from FE41 30 to FE40 30  
 EDTASM/CMD,01,8A from FE41 30 to FE40 30  
 EDTASM/CMD,02,BA from FE41 30 to FE40 30  
 EDTASM/CMD,06,10 from FE41 D0 to FE40 D0  
 EDTASM/CMD,12,44 from FE41 20 to FE40 20  
 EDTASM/CMD,20,30 (1) from FE 4130  
 EDTASM/CMD,20,37 (111) to FE 4030

Zap #1046 - This zap to NEWDOS/00's EDTASM/CMD program disables the handling of octal constants during assembling, and replaces it by the more useful binary number decoding facility. The zapped EDTASM/CMD will no longer recognize octal numbers (450, 0340 etc.) but it will now handle binary numbers. These must be written with an ending "B"; e.g. 11110000B, 11B, 1111000011110000B.  
 EDTASM/CMD,15,B7 from 0600 FE4F 20 to 0602 FE42 20

Zap #1047 - This zap modifies NEWDOS/00's BASIC to allow TAB arguments up to 255.

BASIC/CMD,15,BE (1) from 0000 0000 0000 00  
 to E7FC 0528 C338 5F  
 BASIC/CMD,15,C2 (111) from 0000 0000 0000 00  
 to E7FC 0528 C314 5F  
 BASIC/CMD,17,0A (1) from C338 5FC3  
 to C385 66C3  
 BASIC/CMD,17,5D (111) from C3 145F C3  
 to C3 8566 C3

Zap #1048 - NEWDOS/00 currently ignores memory below 5200H when accessing user-defined asterisk (kname) routines (see NEWDOS/00 manual sections 3.31 & 3.32). Some Model I owners have installed a hardware modification that adds memory at (formerly unused) locations 3000H-3700H. This zap allows the kname routines to access this added memory.  
 SYS9/SYS,03,04 (1) from 52 to 30

Zap #1049 - Some Model I owners have purchased a double sided drive zero and have performed a hardware modification to the drive so that side one is accessed as drive zero, and side two is accessed as drive one. The problem with this arrangement (which is seldom used) is that when the disk head is moved to a new track on one side, the head on the other side is "dragged along" and the next time that disk side is accessed, NEWDOS/00 finds that the head is not on the same track it had been left on and moves the head back to track zero and then up to the correct track. This wastes a lot of time and the following patch will speed things up considerably (please note that in most double-sided installations, both sides of drive zero are accessed as a single volume, and in that situation this zap should NOT be applied).

SYS0/SYS,04,04 (1) from 3AED 37 to C35B 43  
 SYS0/SYS,14,04 (1) from F7 to E6  
 SYS0/SYS,14,EB (1) from all zeros  
 to 01 0F50 43E5 70EE 016F 3AED 3777 E1C3  
 BE47

Zap#	Program	Reference - Indexed by Zap Number
1001	SYS0/SYS	TIME/DATE entry by numeric keypad
1002	SYS0/SYS	bypassing the TIME prompt with <ENTER>
1003	SYS0/SYS	forcing date only to be required on reboot
1004	SYS0/SYS	bypassing the DATE prompt with <ENTER>
1005	BASIC/CMD	eliminates the BASIC banner
1006	SYS0/SYS	eliminates the DOS banner on reboot
1007	SYS0/SYS	eliminates the TIME/DATE display on reboot
1008	SYS0/SYS	eliminates display of the AUTO command on boot
1009	SYS0/SYS	enables the "-0X" function in BREV-T automatically
1010	SYS1/SYS	eliminates double line feed at DOS READY
1011	BASIC/CMD	sets the default number of files available in BASIC

1012 BASIC/CMD allows more than 15 files in BASIC  
 1013 SYS0/SYS displays current time under DOS READY  
 1014 SYS9/SYS allows proper reboot under double density  
 1015 SUPERZAP/CMD allows automatic exit to DIRCHECK/CMD  
 1016 DIRCHECK/CMD allows automatic exit to SUPERZAP/CMD  
 1017 SYS16/SYS allows changing PORIVE tables in memory only  
 1018 SUPERZAP/CMD changes non-displayable character  
 1019 SUPERZAP/CMD changes high value of displayable characters  
 1020 SUPERZAP/CMD changes non-printable character  
 1021 SUPERZAP/CMD allows space to be displayed  
 1022 SYSS/SYS changes non-displayable character in DEBUG  
 1023 SYSS/SYS allows space to be displayed in DEBUG  
 1024 SYSS/SYS changes high value of displayable character in DEBUG  
 1025 SYS3/SYS changes non-printable character in JKL  
 1026 SYS1/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1026 SYS2/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1026 SYS3/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1026 SYS6/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1026 SYS8/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1027 SYS0/SYS checks for Newclock-80  
 1028 SYS14/SYS changes CLEAR to respect HIMEM  
 1029 SUPERZAP/CMD changes scrolling control keys  
 1030 SYS8/SYS changes DIR prompt, etc  
 1031 SYS8/SYS cleans up DIR display  
 1032 SYS0/SYS changes "bit bucket" location  
 1032 SYS6/SYS changes "bit bucket" location  
 1032 SYS19/SYS changes "bit bucket" location  
 1033 SYS8/SYS changes DIR display for 80 x 24 video  
 1034 EDTASM/CMD changes display to use 24 lines  
 1034 DISASSEN/CMD changes display to use 24 lines  
 1035 SYS1/SYS changes LIB display for 80 x 24 video  
 1036 SYS0/SYS adds SYSTEM option CB  
 1036 SYS17/SYS adds SYSTEM option CB  
 1038 SYS0/SYS changes required by BREV-T  
 1037 SYS1/SYS changes required by BREV-T  
 1037 SYS18/SYS changes required by BREV-T  
 1037 BASIC/CMD changes required by BREV-T  
 1038 SYS20/SYS changes BASIC "L" defaults  
 1039 SYS0/SYS loads SYSTEM option BI into user cursor  
 1040 SYS3/SYS caps lock processing with EPROMs  
 1041 BASIC/CMD caps lock processing with EPROMs  
 1042 SYS0/SYS corrects DATE/TIME processing  
 1043 EDIT/CMD corrects <BREAK> key function in FORTRAN  
 1043 F80/CMD corrects <BREAK> key function in FORTRAN  
 1043 L80/CMD corrects <BREAK> key function in FORTRAN  
 1044 SYS0/SYS Newclock-80 patches  
 1045 EDTASM/CMD allows labels starting with "Q" character  
 1046 EDTASM/CMD changes to handle binary instead of octal constants  
 1047 BASIC/CMD allows TAB arguments to 255 in BASIC  
 1048 SYS7/SYS allows #name routines to be located at 3000H-3700H  
 1049 SYS0/SYS speeds up access to modified double sided drive zero

1009 SYS0/SYS enables the "-3X" function in BREV-T automatically  
 1013 SYS0/SYS displays current time under DOS READY  
 1027 SYS0/SYS checks for Newclock-80  
 1032 SYS0/SYS changes "bit bucket" location  
 1036 SYS0/SYS adds SYSTEM option CB  
 1038 SYS0/SYS changes required by BREV-T  
 1039 SYS0/SYS loads SYSTEM option BI into user cursor  
 1042 SYS0/SYS corrects DATE/TIME processing  
 1044 SYS0/SYS Newclock-80 patches  
 1049 SYS0/SYS speeds up access to modified double sided drive zero  
 1010 SYS1/SYS eliminates double line feed at DOS READY  
 1026 SYS1/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1035 SYS1/SYS changes LIB display for 80 x 24 video  
 1037 SYS1/SYS changes required by BREV-T  
 1026 SYS2/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1025 SYS3/SYS changes non-printable character in JKL  
 1026 SYS3/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1026 SYS3/SYS caps lock processing with EPROMs  
 1022 SYSS/SYS changes non-displayable character in DEBUG  
 1023 SYSS/SYS allows space to be displayed in DEBUG  
 1024 SYSS/SYS changes high value of displayable character in DEBUG  
 1026 SYS6/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1032 SYS6/SYS changes "bit bucket" location  
 1026 SYS8/SYS reverses "/" and "." in filespecs  
 1030 SYS8/SYS changes DIR prompt, etc  
 1031 SYS8/SYS cleans up DIR display  
 1033 SYS8/SYS changes DIR display for 80 x 24 video  
 1014 SYS9/SYS allows proper reboot under double density  
 1040 SYS9/SYS allows #name routines to be located at 3000H-3700H  
 1028 SYS14/SYS changes CLEAR to respect HIMEM  
 1017 SYS16/SYS allows changing PORIVE tables in memory only  
 1036 SYS17/SYS adds SYSTEM option CB  
 1037 SYS18/SYS changes required by BREV-T  
 1032 SYS19/SYS changes "bit bucket" location  
 1038 SYS20/SYS changes BASIC "L" defaults

by Andy Levinson

[Reprinted from THE INTERFACE newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley TRS-80 Users Group:]

As you have probably heard by now, TRSDOS 6 and LDOS have excellent type-ahead but with a problem: if the drives are running at exactly 300 R.P.M. (the usual recommended speed), TRSDOS 6 and LDOS may "go to sleep" or experience "silent death". The solution is to set the drives to run slightly faster, say 301 or 302 R.P.M.

I have mentioned the problem but it never bothered me on my Model 4. I figured that since I had to use TRSDOS 6 for Model 4 mode, I might as well enjoy it. All my disks were SYSGEN'ed for SYSTEM (SMOOTH=NO). It worked great. But then I knew that my drive was running slow (about 296 R.P.M.). No big deal since I had three drives and never wrote to drive 0. Then came my Model 4P....

I knew the 4P booted slower but something more seemed wrong. I finally listened to myself and removed all those SYSTEM (SMOOTH=NO) commands and restored the default SYSTEM (SMOOTH) command. The result: My non-scientific estimate is that my 4P now runs about three to six times faster when it has to access the system disk. The type-ahead does not work as well but I'd rather get to the disks faster. If your system seems to be running slow then check to see that SMOOTH is set to not off.

The second tip comes from Northern Bytes, Volume 7, Number 2. TRSDOS 6 treats MemDisk just like any other disk drive. This means that normal delay values (wait a moment before accessing a disk) also apply. When configuring MemDisk, TRSDOS 6 assigns a long delay factor even though MemDisk does not need any delay at all. To make MemDisk even faster, use the command: SYSTEM (DRIVE=#,DELAY=NO). Although this is not mentioned in the Northern Bytes article, you can include this in the SYSTEM command that invokes MemDisk. The improvement is worth the extra three words. Next time, try something like:  
 SYSTEM (DRIVE=2,DELAY=NO,DRIVER="MEMDISK")

LNW USER GROUP BBS ONLINE

LNW computer users can communicate with each other via the LNW User Group BBS. The number is (515) 285-4531 and it operates at 300 or 1200 baud, 24 hours a day.

Zip# Program Reference - Indexed by Filespec  
 1005 BASIC/CMD eliminates the BASIC banner  
 1011 BASIC/CMD sets the default number of files available in BASIC  
 1012 BASIC/CMD allows more than 15 files in BASIC  
 1037 BASIC/CMD changes required by BREV-T  
 1041 BASIC/CMD caps lock processing  
 1047 BASIC/CMD allows TAB arguments to 255 in BASIC  
 1016 DIRCHECK/CMD allows automatic exit to SUPERZAP/CMD  
 1034 DISASSEN/CMD changes display to use 24 lines  
 1043 EDIT/CMD corrects <BREAK> key function in FORTRAN  
 1034 EDTASM/CMD changes display to use 24 lines  
 1045 EDTASM/CMD allows labels starting with "Q" character  
 1046 EDTASM/CMD changes to handle binary instead of octal constants  
 1043 F80/CMD corrects <BREAK> key function in FORTRAN  
 1043 L80/CMD corrects <BREAK> key function in FORTRAN  
 1015 SUPERZAP/CMD allows automatic exit to DIRCHECK/CMD  
 1018 SUPERZAP/CMD changes non-displayable character  
 1019 SUPERZAP/CMD changes high value of displayable characters  
 1020 SUPERZAP/CMD changes non-printable character  
 1021 SUPERZAP/CMD allows space to be displayed  
 1029 SUPERZAP/CMD changes scrolling control keys  
 1001 SYS0/SYS TIME/DATE entry by numeric keypad  
 1002 SYS0/SYS bypassing the TIME prompt with <ENTER>  
 1003 SYS0/SYS forcing date only to be required on reboot  
 1004 SYS0/SYS bypassing the DATE prompt with <ENTER>  
 1006 SYS0/SYS eliminates the DOS banner on reboot  
 1007 SYS0/SYS eliminates the TIME/DATE display on reboot  
 1008 SYS0/SYS eliminates display of the AUTO command on boot

**NEWDOS/80 INPUT@nnnn**

by Eddy Schouten, Nieuwendijk 116, 7311 RM Apeldoorn, Holland  
Telephone 011+31+55+212298

Translated from Dutch to English by Bert Guffens

[Reprinted from REMARKS, the publication of TRS-80 Gebruikers Vereniging (TRS-80 Users Group), Postbus 551, 2070 AN Santpoort Noord, Holland:]

If you are working with DOSPLUS you'll know the statement. NEWDOS/80 users may not, but they will now.

Although it does not have all the niceties of INPUT@ from DOSPLUS such as allowing for numeric or alphanumeric input and automatic continuation after the field length is reached, I gather someone out there will come up with the 'rest of the story' [If you do, please send it in so we can print it in Northern Bytes].

You can use the function in a BASIC program by means of a **USR** call. The following line will see to it.

```
DEFNED$(L,P)=CHR$(L)+MKI$(&H3C00+P)+STRING$(-(L-3>0)*(L-3),32)
```

You hereby define the length of **ED\$** and reserve string space whereby **L**=length of the input field and **P**=the starting screen position. (**P** must be between 0 and 1023)

To call the routine:

```
PRINT@500,"NAME :".A$=FNED$(10,507):X=USR1(VARPTR(A$))
```

You may also predefine length and position:

```
L=10:P=507:PRINT@500,"NAME :".A$=FNED$(L,P):X=USR1(VARPTR(A$))
```

At position 500 you will see

```
NAME
```

with the cursor flashing at the first position. You must save the returned string (**A\$**) before calling the function again (example: **B\$=A\$**).

To cancel a previous field use the next function:

```
DEFUSR2=&HF0D4:X=USR2(X)
```

Cancelling a field does not need any parameters.

The assembler listing, **KEYIN/ASM** is the actual program while the Basic program **KEYDEMO/BAS** is a demonstration.

```
10 'KEYDEMO/BAS
20 '
30 CLS
40 CMD"HIMEM F000H":CMD"LOAD KEYIN/CMD"
50 CLEAR500:DEFUSR1=&HF001:DEFUSR2=&HF0D4
60 DEFNED$(L,P)=CHR$(L)+MKI$(&H3C00+P)+STRING$(-(L-3>0)*(L-3),32)
'fix length of string
70 PRINT@450,"Type in a string : "
80 A$=FNED$(20,467) '20 dots
90 X=USR1(VARPTR(A$)) 'pass address A$
100 B$=A$:PRINT@590,"B$= ",B$
110 INPUT"Enter ...";q$
120 X=USR2(X) 'erase A$
```

```
00010 ; KEYIN/ASM
00020 ;
00030 ; E SCHOUTEN (COPY FREE)
00040 ; NIEUWENDIJK 116
00041 ; 7311 RM APELDOORN, NETHERLANDS
00042 ; TEL=055-212298
00043 ;
00050 ; ORG 0F001H
00060 START CALL 0A7FH ;ARGUMENT IN HL
00070 LD (BUF3),HL ;VARPTR (A$)
00080 PUSH HL ;
00090 POP IX ;
00100 LD L,(IX+1) ;STOP ADDRESS
00110 LD H,(IX+2) ;A$ IN
00120 LD (BUF2),HL ;BUFFER 2
00130 LD IX,BUF0 ;POINT TO BUF0
00140 LD B,3 ;
00150 LOOP LD A,(HL) ;GET 3 BYTES
00160 LD (IX),A ;BYTE1=LENGTH
00170 INC HL ;BYTE2,3=POSITION
```

```
F01E 0023 00180 INC IX ;ON SCREEN
F020 10F7 00190 DJNZ LOOP ;
F022 2AE7F0 00200 LD HL,(BUF1) ;PRINT@nnnn
F025 E5 00210 PUSH HL ;
F026 D1 00220 POP DE ;HL IN DE
F027 13 00230 INC DE ;
F028 362E 00240 LD (HL),'' ;PUT NUMBER
F02A 3AE6F0 00250 LD A,(BUF0) ;OF DOTS ON
F02D 3D 00260 DEC A ;SCREEN
F02E FE00 00270 CP 0 ;
F030 2804 00280 JR Z,CONT ;
F032 4F 00290 LD C,A ;AS LONG AS
F033 A8 00300 XOR B ;BUF1
F034 E0B0 00310 LDIR ;
F036 23 00320 CONT INC HL ;
F037 3620 00330 LD (HL),'' ;CLOSE OFF THE
F039 23 00340 INC HL ;FIELD WITH
F03A 3620 00350 LD (HL),'' ;2 BLANKS
F03C 3C 00360 INC A ;
F03D 47 00370 LD B,A ;
F03E 2AE9F0 00380 LD HL,(BUF2) ;
F041 D02AE7F0 00390 LD IX,(BUF1) ;PRINT@nnnn POS
F045 D9 00400 KBDCH EXX ;CHANGE REGIST.
F046 D07E00 00410 SUB0 LD A,(IX) ;
F049 EE0E 00420 XOR 142 ;
F04B D07700 00430 LD (IX),A ;
F04E 010002 00440 LD BC,200H ;
F051 C02B00 00450 SUB1 CALL 2BH ;ROM INPUT KBD
F054 FE00 00460 CP 0 ;
F056 2007 00470 JR NZ,LOOP0 ;
F058 0B 00480 DEC BC ;
F059 78 00490 LD A,B ;
F05A B1 00500 OR C ;
F05B 20F4 00510 JR NZ,SUB1 ;
F05D 18E7 00520 JR SUB0 ;
F05F D9 00530 LOOP0 EXX ;RESTORE REGIST
F060 F5 00540 PUSH AF ;
F061 3E2E 00550 LD A,',' ;
F063 D07700 00560 LD (IX),A ;
F066 F1 00570 POP AF ;
F069 FE00 00580 CP 0 ;
F069 2012 00590 JR NZ,LOOP1 ;
F06B 3AE6F0 00600 LD A,(BUF0) ;
F06E B8 00610 CP B ;
F06F 2B04 00620 JR Z,KBDCH ;
F071 04 00630 INC B ;
F072 2B 00640 DEC HL ;
F073 D028 00650 DEC IX ;
F075 362E 00660 LD (HL),'' ;
F077 D036002E 00670 LD (IX),'' ;
F07B 18C8 00680 JR KBDCH ;
F07D FE00 00690 LOOP1 CP 13 ;
F07F 2013 00700 JR NZ,LOOP3 ;
F081 D0360020 00710 LD (IX),'' ;
F085 D023 00720 INC IX ;
F087 04 00730 INC B ;
F088 78 00740 LD A,B ;
F089 FE00 00750 CP 0 ;
F08B 2820 00760 JR Z,SLOT ;
F08D 23 00770 INC HL ;
F08E 23 00780 INC HL ;
F08F 181C 00790 JR SLOT ;
F091 05 00800 LOOP2 DEC B ;
F092 18B1 00810 JR KBDCH ;
F094 FE20 00820 LOOP3 CP 32 ;
F096 38A0 00830 JR C,KBDCH ;
F098 FE7F 00840 CP 127 ;
F09A 30A9 00850 JR NC,KBDCH ;
F09C 77 00860 LD (HL),A ;
F09D D07700 00870 LD (IX),A ;
F0A0 23 00880 INC HL ;
F0A1 D023 00890 INC IX ;
F0A3 78 00900 LD A,B ;
F0A4 FE00 00910 CP 0 ;
F0A6 20E9 00920 JR NZ,LOOP2 ;
F0A8 2B 00930 DEC HL ;
F0A9 D02B 00940 DEC IX ;
F0AB 1898 00950 JR KBDCH ;
F0AD 3620 00960 SLOT LD (HL),'' ;CLOSE AS
F0AF D02B 00970 DEC IX ;WITH BLANK
```

```

F0B1 D0360020 00780 LD (IX), ' ;
F0B5 D023 00790 INC IX ;
F0B7 D03600BC 01000 LD (IX),140 ;CLOSE WITH
F0B8 D023 01010 INC IX ;GRAPHIC BLOCK
F0B0 05 01020 DEC B ;
F0BE 3AE6F0 01030 LD A,(BUF0) ;
F0C1 90 01040 SUB B ;
F0C2 2AEBF0 01050 LD HL,(BUF3) ;
F0C5 77 01060 LD (HL),A ;
F0C6 78 01070 LOOP4 LD A:B ;WIPE LEFTOVER
F0C7 FE00 01080 CP 0 ;DOTS OFF
F0C9 2800 01090 JR Z,RET ;SCREEN
F0CB D0360020 01100 LD (IX), ' ;
F0CF D023 01110 INC IX ;
F0D1 0F3 01120 DJNZ LOOP4 ;
F0D3 C9 01130 RET RET ;TO BASIC
F0D4 2AE7F0 01140 LD HL,(BUF1) ;CALL ERASE
F0D7 3AE6F0 01150 LD A,(BUF0) ;ROUTINE
F0DA C602 01160 ADD A,2 ;
F0DC 3620 01170 ERASE LD (HL), ' ;
F0DE 23 01180 INC HL ;
F0DF 3D 01190 DEC A ;
F0E0 FE00 01200 CP 0 ;
F0E2 28EF 01210 JR Z,RET ;
F0E4 18F6 01220 JR ERASE ;
0001 01230 BUF0 DEFS 1 ;LENGTH
0002 01240 BUF1 DEFS 2 ;PRINT0 POS.
0002 01250 BUF2 DEFS 2 ;ADDRESS A$
0002 01260 BUF3 DEFS 2 ;VARPTR A$
0002 01270 END START ;ENTRY POINT

```

### NEW PROGRAM REVIEW

by Peter Goed

[Peter Goed is the Program Co-ordinator for the TRS-80 System 80 Computer Group, Brisbane, Australia. This article was reprinted from their newsletter *Bits & Bytes*. Glen McDiarmid (author of the program under review) sent me a copy of this program for review purposes a while back, but as I have been extremely pressed for time I have not been able to give the program a decent going-over, so I hope this reprint will serve the purpose (my apologies to Glen for not getting to it myself, but a good review takes a lot of time!). Please note that this program runs on the Model 4P only at the time of this writing, however, Glen has indicated to me that he is working on a hardware modification that will make a Model 4 emulate a 4P, so you may wish to contact him if you are interested in performing such a modification.]

\*\*\* **TIME MACHINE FOR THE 4P** -- Disk and Manual \$50 [Australian] +\$5 postage & packing anywhere in Australia. Obtainable from Glen McDiarmid, 28 Marginson Street, Ipswich, Queensland 4305, Australia. Telephone (07) 281 7057 [international direct dial from North America 011+61+7+281-7057].

In July last year, Glen McDiarmid, one of our club members wrote an assembly-language program that is unlike any other program that I have ever seen. Glen spent nearly six months perfecting the program and then gave me a copy to Beta Test. After another six months of changes, improvements and de-bugging, the program has now been released.

The name of the program is Time Machine™, and, while it may seem a fanciful name for a program, it does accurately describe one of its functions. How could a time machine help computing? Well, for one thing, if you just made a mistake in inputting data, and you had already pressed <ENTER>, it would be very helpful if you could go back in time to when you were just starting to input the data, so that you could retype it correctly, without having to RESET, load the program again, and input responses to get you to the same point in the program that you were before. In fact, when you know that you can go back in time whenever you wish, you are able to experiment with programs like you have never been able to before.

At the moment, Time Machine runs on Model 4P computers only, in Model III mode. Once installed, any Model III program may be used, as Time Machine resides wholly in low memory (in fact it resides in the ROM area of the 4P). You only have to run Time Machine once, when you first turn on your computer, and it stays there, even if you RESET, except when you go to Model 4 mode.

This program has opened my eyes to new, faster ways of doing things, and some things that simply couldn't be done at all in the past become simplicity itself. For instance, you can save a

moment in time, then save it to disk and send it to a friend with Time Machine, so that he/she could also share that moment you were experiencing on your computer. When you are having troubles with software, this would be VERY handy indeed. Or, if you start something that will take a long time to complete, you may like to save to disk the moment just before you wish to switch the computer off at night, then load that moment again the next day, and continue as if nothing had happened!!

To me the greatest boon has been in the development of assembly language programs, where I am saving about 40% of normal development time, because of the ease of running the assembled program, then doing an immediate return to the editor/assembler for alterations without having to reload. If you are into assembly language at all, Time Machine is a definite must for your shopping list.

As Time Machine can interrupt virtually any program without 'damaging' it, other functions were added, that may be handy while running some other program. By running two separate moments alternately, you can have two DOS's running concurrently, each using full memory (48K). For those that are new to concurrent DOS, it is like having two computers, running only one at a time, while the other one simply waits to be used again.

Other Time Machine functions that can be used DURING virtually any Model III program are:- Switch between slow and fast CPU speeds; Take photos of screen contents (up to six); Examine any one of the six screen photos; Toggle reverse video ON/OFF, Toggle alternate character set ON/OFF, Immediate return to DOS READY; Software RESET; Pass control to a monitor program, with all registers intact -- about 26 functions in all.

The PHOTO function can be used instead of JKL. These photos can be stored on disk. Those that do not have a printer will definitely welcome these solid-state JKL's!!

by Jack Decker

While preparing an issue of NORTHERN BYTES for publication, I ran into the problem of producing a Editor-Assembler output listing from a source code file that had labels that started with the "@" character (it was a Model 4 program and the labels defined Supervisory Calls [SVC's] in TRSDOS 6). The Editor-Assembler program I usually use came up with an error message whenever it hit a label with an "@" character.

Then it dawned on me - somewhere in the Editor-Assembler's code (probably in several places) there was most likely a test for a character lower than an uppercase "A", which would cause a branch to an error routine if a lower ASCII value character was encountered. If that test, which was most likely a CP 41H instruction, were to be changed to a CP 40H instruction, the Editor-Assembler should no longer choke on an "@" character. So, I called up SUPERZAP, used the DFS command to access sector zero of the Editor-Assembler program, and then (when sector zero was displayed on the screen) typed:

```
F,FE,41 <ENTER>
```

This found the first occurrence of a CP 41H instruction. I used the MOD command to change the 41H to 40H, then used the F command to find the next occurrence of a CP 41H. I kept repeating this sequence until all FE 41 bytes in the program had been changed to FE 40. Suffice it to say that it worked. The Editor-Assembler would now accept labels starting with the "@" character.

At this point you are probably wondering why I don't just give you the locations to zap. Well, in the first place, there are so many versions of Editor-Assemblers around that any locations I might give you could be incorrect in the version you have. And besides that, I haven't fully tested the changes I made yet, though they appear to work. It should go without saying that if you try this, always keep an unpatched backup copy of the original version of your Editor-Assembler program, so that you can go back to it if you discover that your zaps have introduced a bug into the program (or if, heaven forbid, you accidentally zapped one of the disk loader codes and now the program won't even load).

I will tell you that I tested this technique with both Apparat's EDTASM program, and with one version of the old Micosys DiskMod program, and in both cases the zaps appeared to work (strangely, in DiskMod only two locations needed to be zapped, while EDTASM had six places that contained FE 41 bytes, all of which were duly zapped). However, my "testing" consisted of assembling ONLY ONE program that contained the "@SVC" type labels. LET THE ZAPPER BEWARE!!!

LETTER TO SMUG NEWS  
by Leigh Sheppard

[The following is reprinted from the official newsletter of the Surrey (British Columbia, Canada) Microcomputer Users Group. The editor of that publication prefaced the following with the comment that "This letter is from Leigh Sheppard and shows the attitude of some rather important individuals (at least they think so)."]

In the September issue of 80 Micro, Hardin Brothers had an article called SUBROUTINE SANDWICHES which contained a list of machine language subroutines called and executed from BASIC for scroll protecting the screen, testing the state of the caps key, etc. I had been experimenting with converting similar routines from BASIC FASTER & BETTER to Model 4, and so thought that I would pass on what I had discovered to Hardin Brothers via the LDOS SIG on Compuserve. Below is my letter which I sent to Hardin, followed by the rather surprising responses that I got from others who obviously enjoy answering other people's mail. I have made a short story rather long but I thought you might be interested in at least some of it for use in your Newsletter. The rest is good for a laugh!

First...my letter to Hardin:

\* \* \* \* \*

I have very much enjoyed tinkering with some of the routines in your SUBROUTINE SANDWICHES article in 80 Micro. I wanted to pass along a few tips tho' as some of the machine language is really not necessary. If you follow the @FLAGS SVC you will see that all it does is load the IY register with @@6AH and return. Well, you don't need to do a SVC to point IY to @@6AH, you can do that yourself. Carrying this further, from BASIC then, setting bits in the @FLAGS table should be a matter of POKing around in the @@6AH range...

CAPS ON = POKE 116,PEEK(116) OR 32  
CAPS OFF= POKE 116,PEEK(116) AND NOT 32  
Test CAPS key: IF PEEK(116) AND 32 THEN PRINT "CAPS ON"

BREAK KEY DISABLED = POKE 124,PEEK(124) OR 16  
BREAK KEY ENABLED = POKE 124,PEEK(124) AND NOT 16  
Test BREAK key: IF PEEK(124) AND 16 THEN PRINT "BREAK DISABLED"

CLOCK DISPLAY ON = POKE 127,PEEK(127) OR 16  
CLOCK DISPLAY OFF= POKE 127,PEEK(127) AND NOT 16

You can also read or alter the system date by PEEK or POKE:  
PEEK(51)=YEAR  
PEEK(52)=DAY OF MONTH  
PEEK(53)=MONTH

I know that the Technical Reference Manual says "Nothing in the system can be accessed via any absolute address reference", but these have always worked for me! I have never seen them published anywhere so I thought you might like them.

\* \* \* \* \*

Here are the responses that I got.

\* \* \* \* \*

#:57188 S3/Mod 4/4P TRSDOS 6  
20-Sep-85 03:37:38  
Sb: #57177-SUBROUTINES  
Fm: Roy Soltoff/MISOSYS,Inc 70140,310  
To: LEIGH SHEPPARD 71625,1446

It is stupid and very non-portable to insist on the archaic practice of poking into ABSOLUTE locations when the DOS provides a procedure to utilize which is portable across ALL past, present, and future releases of the DOS. It is practices such as your suggested poking which have caused countless numbers of conversion problems for thousands in the past. Why not learn to program in a more professional manner? -Roy

\* \* \* \* \*

What did I ever do to him??

This one is from the SYSOP for the LDOS SIG. I think it conveys the arrogant attitude that LDOS seems to ooze.

\* \* \* \* \*

#:57198 S3/Mod 4/4P TRSDOS 6  
20-Sep-85 10:43:53  
Sb: #57177-SUBROUTINES  
Fm: LDOS Support 78703,437  
To: LEIGH SHEPPARD 71625,1446

Arghhh!!!!!! What happens when the pointer returned by @FLAGS moves?? Having \*standard\* methods of interface is the OS is what makes the TRSDOS 6 environment what it is, portable! Where will @FLAGS point to in 6.2.1? Where did it point on 6.0.0? Where will it point in 7.3.9? If you use the standard calls, you don't care! I think that we should make it a point to make sure that everything like that moves around with every release. That sure will smoke out the "Bad boys" quick.

-jkd-

\* \* \* \* \*

Maybe by 7.3.9 they'll get it right!!

Hardin's own reply said much the same thing but is much more civil.

\* \* \* \* \*

#:57209 S3/Mod 4/4P TRSDOS 6  
20-Sep-85 16:08:34  
Sb: #57177-SUBROUTINES  
Fm: Hardin Brothers 70007,1150  
To: LEIGH SHEPPARD 71625,1446

The point with TRSDOS, as I imagine the other replies to your message will also tell you, is that future releases can move anything to any location in memory. Your Peeks and Pokes will work for your version of TRSDOS 6, but not necessarily for any others.

Of course, I know the absolute addresses that TRSDOS uses to store many values, but I certainly don't want to write an article that could be made obsolete (and even dangerous to the health of the DOS) if the programs were run on the next version of TRSDOS. My window driver needed absolute addresses to find enough hooks into TRSDOS 6.2 (and I can assure you that I've been criticized, perhaps rightfully, for developing that program in that manner). But the subroutines certainly run well enough and fast enough that they have no excuse for being specific to 6.2.0 (or any other version of TRSDOS).

--Hardin

\* \* \* \* \*

Realizing that I had been very bad, I did my best to repeat. I sent this to LDOS fully expecting to be kicked of the SIG.

\* \* \* \* \*

Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned! I have PEEKed under the skirts of TRSDOS 6.2.0 and even done a little indiscriminate POKing into its private parts (i.e. below 3000H). And all because:

10 POKE 116,PEEK(116)OR 32

looked more attractive to me than:

10 DATA 9006,28518,18149,32201,26147,1391,-14907,11798,574,...etc.  
20 DIM Q1%(23):RESTORE:FOR Q%-1 TO 23:READ Q1%(Q%):NEXT Q%  
30 DATA 25918,32495,479,32509,14346,10253,-13553,15983,10240,...etc.  
40 DIM Q4%(17):FOR Q%-1 TO 17:READ Q4%(Q%):NEXT Q%  
50 Q%-0:Q1%-VARPTR(Q4%(1)):CALL Q1%(Q%)

Its painfully obvious that I have almost committed the unpardonable sin. All I wanted to do was set my CAPS key! Oh, wretched soul that I am! Always looking for the short cut! How many "HAIL ROY's will I have to do? Please forgive me! Maybe you could re-write BASIC with no PEEK or POKE capabilities, thus removing all temptation!

\* \* \* \* \*

They actually answered that one with an apology, sort of...

\* \* \* \* \*

#:57356 S3/Mod 4/4P TRSDOS 6  
23-Sep-85 13:19:12  
Sb: #57333-SUBROUTINES  
Fm: LDOS Support 78703,437  
To: LEIGH SHEPPARD 71625,1446(X)

How does that old saying go? The laws don't say that you can't do something, only that you shouldn't let yourself get caught... If it's your program, on your diskette, and you know what's going on, the decision, of course, is up to you. We like to discourage this kind of stuff, and especially the publication thereof (exaggerating severely to make a point) 'cause the vast majority of folks latch on to this kind of stuff and start violently shoving the code into everything they can lay their hands on. And who do they call when the DOS revision changes and their programs stop working? I'll give you a hint, it's not 'Ghostbusters', and it's not the author of the code in question.

--jkd--

Oh well, at least they didn't kick me off, so I decided to do it their way, and actually its not half bad. Some of the routines turned out pretty good.

This is what I ended up sending to Hardin:

Alright, I can understand why you might not like poking absolute addresses in TRSDOS 6.2. However, not everyone is trying to write programs meant for distribution. I just like to play around and see what makes things tick. When a new version of a DOS comes out, it means another new challenge. Anyway, I can see your point for not wanting to publish, or otherwise encourage, absolute calls to DOS routines, so to redeem myself, I thought you might like the routine below, which should be transportable between versions of Model 4 TRSDOS.

```

10000 Q(1)=A          :A register contents(SVC Number)
10010 Q(3)=CVI(CHR$(L)+CHR$(H)):HL reg pair(order is important!)
10020 Q(5)=CVI(CHR$(E)+CHR$(D)):DE reg. pair " " "
10030 Q(7)=CVI(CHR$(C)+CHR$(B)):BC reg. pair " " "
10040 SVC=VARPTR(Q(0)):CALL SVC:RETURN
20000 'initialization - needs to be called only once.
20010 DIM Q(8):Q(0)=15872:Q(2)=8448:Q(4)=4352:Q(6)=256:Q(8)--13841
20020 RETURN

```

It sets up a shell routine for calling SVCs. The program should be initialized with 10 DEFINT Q:GOSUB 20000. After that, it's just a matter of setting A=the SVC number, set up the other registers as required, and GOSUB 10000. For instance, to scroll protect 5 lines of the screen, you would set the call up as:

```
A=15:B=7:C=5:GOSUB 10000
```

or to set the cursor character to CHR\$(143):

```
A=15:B=8:C=143:GOSUB 10000
```

to save the screen to memory location E800H:

```
A=15:B=6:H=&HE8:L=&H00:GOSUB 10000
```

and to call it back:

```
A=15:B=5:H=&HE8:L=&H00:GOSUB 10000
```

to enter DEBUG from within BASIC

```
A=27:GOSUB 10000
```

Before each call is made, set A,B,C,D,E,H,L to 0.

Unfortunately, the routine as written will not work with @FLAGS because @FLAGS returns a value through the IY register, and this routine does not pass values back to BASIC. I'm sure that with a little work it could be done however. It works like a charm with @VDCTL and although I haven't tried it, I see no reason why the routine shouldn't work with @BANK for doing a little fancy bank switching from within BASIC.

and sure enough a little later, I was able to send this:

Hi. Back again. I never give up! I now have a routine for calling the @FLAGS SVC. All it does is execute @FLAGS and return the address that is in the IY register back to BASIC in the variable IY%. For the current release of TRSDOS 6.2, that is 006AH. However, should the @FLAGS table move in subsequent releases of TRSDOS, this routine will still find the table. After running the routine, the programmer supplies the offset value for IY and which bit to test, set or reset. The routine needs only be called once, as long as the variable IY is left intact. I have also assumed that the program has defined A-Z as integers.

```

30000 DIM Z(5):Z(0)=25918:Z(1)--529:Z(2)=11803:Z(3)=30587
30010 Z(4)=0082:Z(5)--13961
30020 IY=0:FLAGS=VARPTR(Z(0)):CALL FLAGS(IY):RETURN

```

Once this routine is executed, the calls would be as follows:

```

CAPS ON: POKE(IY+10),PEEK(IY+10) OR 2^5
CAPS OFF: POKE(IY+10),PEEK(IY+10) AND NOT 2^5
test CAPS key: IF PEEK(IY+10) AND 2^5 THEN PRINT "CAPS ON"

```

```

BREAK ON: POKE(IY+18),PEEK(IY+18) OR 2^4
BREAK OFF: POKE(IY+18),PEEK(IY+18) AND NOT 2^4
test BREAK key: IF PEEK(IY+18) AND 2^4 THEN PRINT "DISABLED"

```

```
TYPE-AHEAD OFF: POKE(IY+3),PEEK(IY+3) OR 2^1
```

..... etc.

If the program had a lot of manipulating of the @FLAGS bits, it would be an idea to have the POKES in a subroutine as follows:

```
1000 POKE(IY-OFFSET),PEEK(IY-OFFSET) OR 2^BIT:RETURN
```

Then, turning on the caps lock would be:

```
OFFSET=10:BIT=5:GOSUB 1000
```

There is a lot you can do from within the @FLAGS table, and with these routines, all the programmer needs to know is the information in the @FLAGS section of the Technical Reference manual and he can test or set any bit on the table. Like this better?

To which Hardin Brothers replied "MUCH".

## DOSPLUS 4 RIGID DRIVER NEEDED

Ron Malo is trying to locate a "Rigid Driver" for use with DosPlus 4 and an A&M Hard Drive. The obvious sources have not been able to supply this driver. Failing that, Ron would like to hear from anyone who has the technical expertise to modify another DosPlus 4 Rigid Driver to work with the A&M drive. If you can help, please write to Ron at 1847 North Screenland Drive, Burbank, California 91505, or phone him at (818) 845-5776 (evenings) or (818) 764-4555 (days).

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## TELECOMMUNICATIONS NEWS

[Before we start - just a reminder that articles appearing in NORTHERN BYTES that do not bear a specific copyright notice, including this article, may be reprinted freely by anyone, anywhere.]

There are two conflicting forces at work in computer communications. One is represented by the computer user, who wants to have access to as much online information and/or entertainment as possible, at the lowest possible cost. The opposite force is probably best represented by the telephone companies and similar interests, who want people to use their services - at an added cost - to access the chosen online services. The conflict is that, ideally, the user would like to pay nothing for the link between his location and the chosen online host computer, while the phone companies would like to charge for every minute of online time. As we have discussed previously, there is absolutely no technical reason that we can't transmit all the computer data that we wish by radio, for no charge whatsoever. But government regulations force most of us to use the telephone monopoly instead of the free airwaves - and the telephone companies, which are nothing if not greedy, now are talking about charging for all local calls. In some areas of the country they are already doing this, with little or no apparent opposition! Where are all of the "consumer protection" agencies? Do they receive funding (read: "hush money") from the phone companies? It makes you wonder!

What is galling about this is that one of the reasons the phone companies say they need to begin charging for local calls is that computer users are overtaxing their equipment! They are, in effect, trying to lay the blame at our doorstep! So, why doesn't the government allow (and even encourage us) to use radio for computer-to-computer communications whenever possible, thus relieving the alleged congestion on the telephone switching equipment. Then the phone companies could concentrate on handling voice traffic, and they wouldn't have to start charging by the minute for local calls (want to bet they'd find another excuse to do it?). But in spite of the supposed congestion, you may have noticed that it is the phone companies that scream the loudest over any proposals to give radio spectrum (for either voice or data) to the general public.

Well, in this column we're going to discuss some ways to avoid spending any more of your money that is absolutely necessary for your modem calls. This is not "pie in the sky" stuff, most of what I'm going to talk about is available right now.

### FLAT RATE CALLING

"I am from Milwaukee and my wife is going to kill me if she sees another \$200 phone bill. I have friends facing the same predicament. [PC] Pursuit is just what I need!"

- (name withheld to protect the husband...)

The above message was left by a user of PC Pursuit, which is a service of Telenet, the major packet switching network (that, as it happens, is owned by two of the largest non-Bell telephone companies in the U.S.A.). Frequent MODEM users that are fortunate enough to live within the local calling area of a city that has a local Telenet dial-up access number (that includes almost all major- and medium-sized cities in the United States) can sign up for the NEW, expanded PC PURSUIT service, which lets you dial out to computer Bulletin Board Services and other online services in any of 14 major cities (more to be added soon). For a flat fee of \$25 per month, PC PURSUIT lets you establish an UNLIMITED number of long-distance connections in the evenings and weekends (the evening/weekend flat-fee usage period extends from 6 p.m. - 7 a.m. weekdays and on weekends from 6 p.m. Friday to 7 a.m. Monday [local time]). If you have the need to make calls to online services during business hours, you can use PC PURSUIT during the business day for the rate of \$10.50/hr or \$14/hr, depending upon your access location. Connections made via Telenet are generally much better than those made using a voice-grade long distance carrier, since the Telenet network is specifically designed to handle data transmissions. Thus, you effectively get the transmission quality of a local telephone call.

Note that you no longer have to be located in one of the 14 cities served by PC PURSUIT to use the service! As long as the online service you are calling is in one of the 14 cities, you can access PC PURSUIT from ANY Telenet node in the United States. This is a change from the former system, where both the caller and the called online service had to be in a PC PURSUIT city. Now you can call from ANY city on the Telenet network TO any of the following 14 major cities: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver,

Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Newark, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, D.C.

Another change from the former system used by PC PURSUIT is that in the past, users were forced to enter pertinent information about the numbers they wanted to call, then had to hang up. PC PURSUIT would then call back once the connection was established through the network. That method of operation caused problems for many users and potential users, and has been abandoned in the new system. Now you place you call through the nearest Telenet node, and just stay online while your call is completed. You can even retry busy numbers, or try other numbers accessible through PC PURSUIT without having to hang up and call back.

Although PC PURSUIT is touted as a way for computer users to call Bulletin Board Systems in distant communities, you can in fact save money while calling ANY online computer that has a local access number in one of the 14 major cities listed above - your call need not necessarily be to a private BBS. As an example, services such as GENIE and MCI Mail have their own packet networks, but these do not cover many of the smaller cities that Telenet reaches (and in other smaller cities, a per-minute network surcharge may be imposed). You can simply use PC PURSUIT to dial up a no-surcharge access number in any one of the major cities served by PC PURSUIT, and forget about the per-minute access surcharges you've been paying to reach these services. Or, perhaps you have a friend (that owns a computer and a modem) in one of the 14 major cities. Rather than spending tons of money conversing by long distance, you can agree to have his computer answer the phone at a pre-arranged time. You can then place a call to him via PC Pursuit at the specified time, and the two of you can wear you fingers to the bone typing back and forth at each other all night, without worrying about how long you've been online!

PC PURSUIT will be a real boon for the next generation of networking-type BBS's such as FidoNet and SYSLINK, if the BBS software is rewritten to make maximum use of PC PURSUIT. The reason is that a node of the BBS network that is located in any of the major cities served by PC PURSUIT could be designed to receive messages for other BBS's on the network, and hold them (WITHOUT calling out) until the recipient BBS calls in to collect its messages. I'll use the SYSLINK BBS to illustrate how this might work, though the principle would be the same for any group of networking BBS's.

Let's suppose that you are using SYSLINK and that you want to send TeleLink Network messages and files to several SYSLINKs that are NOT in PC PURSUIT cities. A new version of SYSLINK (which is being programmed at this writing) will be designed to send them all to, for example, the Chicago SYSLINK, and then the other SYSLINKs could call into Chicago using PC PURSUIT to receive their messages! In this way a SYSLINK in Chicago (or any of the other 13 PC PURSUIT cities) could become "holding tanks" for messages in transit for all of the SYSLINKs. The only difference from the present mode of operation is that some BBS's on the network would have to call in to receive their messages, rather than the BBS that is holding the messages calling out to deliver them.

Now, there are a couple of unusual things about the above scenario: First, any of the SYSLINKs that happened to be located in one of the 14 major cities would not even necessarily have to have a PC PURSUIT account, since they would be RECEIVING calls only (however, the SYSOPs of those boards would probably want to have a PC PURSUIT account anyway, in order to communicate with SYSLINKs in other PC PURSUIT cities, and just to have the ability to call other BBS's in other cities). Second, it costs no more to call a distant PC PURSUIT city than a nearby one. While it might be wise to configure a BBS "network" so that no one BBS node carries ALL of the traffic, there is no cost reason that calls for a SYSLINK in Lansing, Michigan (for example) could not be directed first to, say, a Seattle node, since it would cost no more to connect with Seattle than to connect with Chicago. There would probably be practical reasons for choosing an intermediate BBS to route traffic through (such as amount of hard disk storage available, and avoiding congestion on any one node), but distance need not necessarily be part of the calculation.

Of course, there are many smaller cities that do not have a local Telenet node. Even so, BBS operators in those cities may wish to have their messages routed through another BBS in a city that DOES have access to Telenet. In that case, the outlying BBS could make ONE call each evening to the nearest BBS that is part of the same network and is signed up with PC PURSUIT, to send

and receive messages. This would result in a three-tiered hierarchy for networking BBS interrelationship (in the U.S.A. only), which would look something like this:

1. PRIMARY BBS - Located in one of the 14 PC PURSUIT Cities.
2. SECONDARY BBS - Located in a city with a Telenet Dial-Up access number that is not one of the 14 PC PURSUIT cities.
3. TERTIARY BBS - Located in a city that has no local access to Telenet, or that does not choose to access PC PURSUIT.

So, a message sent from one tertiary site to another, distant tertiary site would originate at the tertiary BBS, be transmitted from there to a secondary BBS (by regular long distance), from there to a primary BBS (via PC PURSUIT), from there to another primary BBS (if necessary) via PC PURSUIT, from there to a secondary BBS (when it calls into the primary BBS) via PC PURSUIT, and from there to the destination tertiary BBS. Of course, BBS designers should try to design their systems so that as many of these transfers as possible can take place in a single evening, but in the above (worst-case) situation, it could take two or three days to deliver a message. Note, however, that each tertiary BBS would only have to make a single long distance call each night, to interchange messages with its designated secondary BBS (which would hopefully be located in a relatively nearby location).

(NOTE: When doing the type of "routing" mentioned above, keep in mind that interstate calls may be less expensive than intrastate calls of the same distance, depending on the state and the long distance carrier used. In other words, a tertiary BBS may find it less expensive to route traffic through a secondary BBS in another state, to take advantage of interstate rates!)

As I write this column, none of the networking BBS programs are able to make use of PC PURSUIT (including SYSLINK, but a new version that has this capability is in the works). However, with some minor rewriting of the program code by the authors of the networking BBS's, this type of low-cost networking should be a reality within a very short time.

I encourage all modem users in the United States (especially anyone with any connection with a BBS) to dial the PC PURSUIT online BBS at (800) 835-3001 and download all of the online files (there are only a few) for more information. If you sign up for PC PURSUIT, try accessing the Chicago SYSLINK BBS at (312) 622-4442 (if you can get through to it). [A short plug here - The Alternate Source is an authorized dealer for the SYSLINK BBS program.]

What about access to PC PURSUIT from outside of the United States? After all, in many countries you can get an account with the local PTT (Postal, Telephone & Telegraph authority) which permits you to use the local packet network as a "gateway" to U.S. packet networks such as Telenet. Once you've gotten through to Telenet from a distant country, can you then access a U.S. Bulletin Board by dialing out on PC Pursuit (assuming you have an account with PC Pursuit)? As I write this, the answer is, "no, but it's coming, as soon as all the details can be worked out." So, you BBS operators in major cities may soon be getting calls from really far-flung places (does your BBS software need revision to accommodate callers from outside the U.S. during the logon procedure?).

Although I have discussed the use of PC PURSUIT for accessing public BBS's and online services, it's also true that business users may find that a networking type BBS such as SYSLINK (when interconnected via PC PURSUIT) may be the ideal medium for receiving reports, proposals, sales information, etc. from representatives "in the field", since PC PURSUIT can now be accessed from any Telenet node (in almost all major- and medium-size cities).

In the previous issue of NORTHERN BYTES (Volume 7, Number 3, pages 19-22) I proposed a Common Message Base Protocol that would permit the interchange of entire message bases between BBS's. At the time I received several comments to the effect that such a system wasn't practical due to the high long distance charges that would be expended in transferring a message base from one system to another in anything approaching real time. Since the availability of PC PURSUIT effectively negates this argument, I hope this proposal (or something similar; I'm not saying that my proposal can't be improved upon) will now receive a bit more consideration from BBS authors (as a side note, I have heard that the FidoNet BBS's are experimenting with something called Echo Mail, which seems to have many similarities to what I proposed, but I have been unable to obtain much in the way of information on that feature at this writing). In the more distant future, I'm also waiting for the day when someone sets up a

multi-user BBS, and then figures out how to link up two (or more) of them via PC PURSUIT for late-night conferences between users in distant cities, in real time!

Before I leave the subject of protocols, here's a comment from Birk Binnard, another PC Pursuit user: "I recently started using the Y-modem protocol and it runs about 95% of the calculated speed. You might suggest to your users that they use Y-modem anytime they can because it is MUCH faster than X-modem. The reason is that Y-modem sends 1024 byte blocks instead of the 128 byte blocks of X-modem. Thus, there is much less need for hand-shaking between the two computers. Y-modem is available on QMODEM and PROCOMM comm. software, and also on many BBS's."

Good idea, but at this writing I know of no TRS-80 based terminal programs that use YMODEM protocol (guess what kind of computers QMODEM and PROCOMM run on. Hint: Not TRS-80's!). C'mon, all you smart terminal program authors, how about giving us some of these newer protocols (what do you want to bet that before this issue gets into print, I'll discover about three such programs...). By the way, I personally feel that even 1024 bytes is not a large enough block size for "clean" connections that are plagued by network delays (especially when high speed modems are used). What's needed is an adaptive protocol that can transmit blocks of up to 4,096 bytes (or possibly even larger blocks) but that will automatically "fall back" to a smaller block size on noisy lines. An adaptive protocol (no block length that is "cast in stone") is the only logical choice to operate over both packet networks (relative "clean" connections but sometimes long network transmission delays) and standard long distance telephone circuits (almost instantaneous transmission, but with much more potential for error-causing line noise).

I hope you are encouraged to think about the capabilities of PC PURSUIT, and to use it for your computer-to-computer communications that have previously been just too expensive. If you sign up, please tell the Telenet representative that you are signing up on the recommendation of NORTHERN BYTES, and that you'd like to see them install a Telenet access node in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan (so that WE can get online. I figure it can't hurt to badger them a little. Who knows, it may even help!).

#### FREE CALLING VIA RADIO

There are ways to communicate beyond your local telephone calling area for free - no, I'm not talking about phone phreaking, I'm talking about radio. You are probably aware that amateur radio operators ("hams") send packet radio messages around the world, however, this has a couple of drawbacks. The first is that government regulations say that you can't send messages of a commercial nature over amateur radio, meaning that if one of your BBS users tried to send a message to another node saying that his computer was for sale, and you transmitted it to another BBS via ham radio, you'd be in trouble. This prohibition against commercial traffic is enforced fairly strictly, and too many hams tend to be the sort that tattle to Big Brother whenever they hear another ham even THINKING about breaking a minor regulation.

That's the other drawback - there are all sorts of amateur radio operators, and while many of them are the "salt of the earth", there are also the "snobs" who think of amateur radio the way some people think of a country club - it's "their" fraternity, and let's face it, there are some people who simply do not belong there - such as anyone who happens to believe that learning the antiquated Morse code is a waste of time. I have met a fair number of amateur radio operators and while some of them were VERY nice people, the not-so-nice ones were generally the more vocal. I predict that this latter bunch is going to continue to turn potential newcomers away from ham radio, and their support in Washington is going to dry up as their numbers decrease. When that happens, the public and private interests are going to demand that some of the hams' cherished frequency space be given up to other services, which sorely need more room. Perhaps some of that space might even be allocated for computer communications by way of the "great unwashed" public (we can always hope so, anyway).

Because of the prohibition against anything even resembling commercial traffic, and the licensing requirements for potential operators, amateur radio does not seem to be a viable substitute to telephone lines and packet networks. However, a company called Electronic Systems Technology (1031 North Kellogg Street, Kennewick, Washington 99336 - telephone (509) 735-9092) has developed a device called the "ESTeem Wireless Modem". It operates at 2400 bps and sells for \$1,095 retail. This unit does NOT operate on the amateur bands, but instead operates in the

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72.040 - 72.960 MHz frequency range. I believe it may be considered a "business band" unit (although I am not certain of this), and you do have to apply to the Federal Communications Commission (on Form 574) for a license to use it (a form is included with the unit that, once filled out, gives you temporary authorization to use the modem on the air while you are waiting for your permanent license).

If, in fact, the unit operates on a frequency that is intended for business use, one might reasonably ask what the F.C.C. considers to be a "business". For example, if a BBS operator charges users a fee for access to the BBS, could that be considered a business operation? One thing you would probably NOT want to say to the F.C.C. is that you are charging to send messages, since that could make you a "common carrier" in the eyes of the government and subject you to all sorts of regulations.

The range of the ESTeem Wireless Modem is claimed to be over 30 miles line of sight, if an external 1/2 wave building mount antenna is used, and a repeater unit is available to extend that range. This could have interesting implications for BBS operators that are "just outside" the local calling area of a major city, as a radio modem could be used to "hop across" telephone exchange barriers.

As an example, let's suppose that we had a BBS operating here in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and another operating just across the river in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario (for purposes of this example, we won't worry about any special regulations for international communications that might come into effect - although it should be noted that ESTeem Wireless Modems are sold in Canada, and are currently in use between offices of a multinational firm in Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Mexico. Apparently the Mexican phone lines are so bad that a regular modem wouldn't work). It should be noted that it is a long distance call between the two Sault Ste. Maries, even though the telephone central offices are probably less than five miles apart as the crow flies.

Now, our two Sault Ste. Marie BBS's would be connected to local phone lines in their respective cities in the normal manner, but let's suppose that both are ALSO connected (through a switching arrangement on the RS-232 port, or through a second RS-232 port, either of which would require additional hardware) to a Wireless Modem. Any time one of the pair of BBS's receives a message for the other, it sends it immediately via radio modem.

Let's further suppose that Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan has a local Telenet access number (wishful thinking?!). The Ontario BBS could then send any messages destined for BBS's in the U.S. to the Michigan BBS, where they could then be re-transmitted (to their destinations or to another intermediate BBS) using PC PURSUIT. Similarly, the Michigan BBS could pick up messages for the Ontario BBS when it calls into other systems, and then forward those back to the Ontario BBS via the Wireless Modem. And it would even be possible to have "real time" conferences between users of the two BBS's, if that capability were part of the BBS program.

What if the SYSOP of the Ontario BBS would like to be able to access Telenet directly, without using the Michigan BBS as an intermediary, in order to access CompuServe or some similar service? I tend to suspect that a hardware hacker could probably work out a way to connect a wireless modem "back to back" to a REAL modem in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, so that once the connection was made with the Michigan modem, dialing out on a regular Michigan telephone line could take place. This might open up access to many services at a lower cost than would previously have been available.

Can this sort of thing really be done? Is it perfectly legal? I suspect that it is (at least when communicating within the U.S.) but since I don't know of any real, working BBS systems that utilize this type of Wireless Modem, I can't really be sure. But if anyone is sufficiently motivated to do some further checking into this, I'd be interested to know what you find out. I do think there will be a lot more interest in Wireless Modems if and when the price drops some - although it's really not that extravagant when you consider that you're getting the equivalent of a 2400 bps modem and a two-way transceiver, all in one compact package.

By the way, the ESTeem Wireless Modem transmits data in packets, and has a built-in error detection and correction scheme that sounds remarkably similar to that used in amateur radio units. It occurs to me that we should probably discuss the technology used by amateur radio operators, both to understand how data communication via radio operates, and for the benefit of those who may not share my jaded view of amateur radio, and who may even be thinking of joining that fraternity!

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO PACKET RADIO

[The following information was downloaded from a Data Library of HAMNET on CompuServe, and edited only slightly, mostly to correct spelling errors. Unfortunately, the author's name was not given.]

Radio amateurs in Canada, Sweden, and the United States have been experimenting with packet radio, a system of computer-based communications. This new mode can provide high-speed communication with efficient use of the spectrum, and is resistant to interference due to other stations and to signal degradation due to adverse band conditions. Not only can packet radio be used for informal amateur QSO's [contacts] and traffic handling, but it has additional possibilities for exchange of data between hams with computers, "bulletin boards" and message systems, and remote computer programming.

#### WHAT IS PACKET RADIO?

Packet radio is a communication system in which information is digitally encoded. In this respect it is similar to RTTY or ASCII, but with important differences. These differences are the key to insuring error-free reception and at the same time allowing maximum use of the spectrum through shared frequency use.

Data integrity is provided by packet radio through a "handshaking" technique and error detection. Along with each transmission, a computed value called a "frame check sequence" (FCS) is sent, which allows the receiving station to check for errors. The receiving station acknowledges an error-free packet with a special acknowledgment (ACK) signal. If the sending station does not receive such a signal within a certain period of time, it automatically retransmits the packet.

A packet also contains identification of the destination station, permitting several QSO's to take place on the same frequency. A packet radio station can automatically ignore any packets which are not addressed to it. Due to the fact that the duration of most packet transmissions is very short, a user does not need the channel most of the time. The time between transmissions is available to other users on frequency. This system is called time-domain multiplexing. On a very busy channel, the user will notice an increased delay time before getting replies to transmissions, but the packet radio equipment will take care of automatic retransmissions and sorting out the replies meant for the station. The user never "hears" the QRM [interference].

#### WHAT IS A PACKET RADIO STATION?

Packet radio requires the use of a microprocessor-based controller at each station, and it will obviously appeal to the ham who already has a computer in his shack. However, it does not require that the operator be a programmer, or even that the station have a personal computer. All that is really necessary is a terminal, a terminal node controller (TNC), and an amateur radio transceiver.

The terminal can be a simple display (CRT) or typewriter terminal that produces ASCII characters, a personal computer, or even a commercial mainframe computer. What you need is a terminal with a keyboard to allow you to talk and a screen or a printer to allow you to read incoming information. You can even get an inexpensive terminal that uses a TV set for the display.

The way in which most terminals encode ASCII characters is in "asynchronous" format. Since characters are encoded as they are typed, there is a flag consisting of one or more "mark" (binary 1) values to mark the beginning and end of each character. The device decoding the characters expects a specific "baud rate", or number of transitions from "mark" to "space" (binary 0) per second during the character, but no particular time interval between characters themselves.

The terminal node controller is the heart of the packet radio system. It has one port that is connected to the terminal or computer, and communicates through it by asynchronous ASCII format at the baud rate required by the terminal. The TNC converts the data stream from the terminal to a packet by attaching a "header" showing the destination of the packet and control information for the network, a "tail" containing the result of the FCS calculation for error detection, and flags to mark the beginning and end of the packet.

The second port of the TNC connects it to the transceiver microphone and speaker audio lines, and the Push-To-Talk line. Ordinarily, the TNC will produce AFSK [Audio Frequency Shift Keyed] modulation by putting one of two tones into the microphone input, corresponding to a "mark" or "space". In this fashion, the packet is sent out on the air at the packet channel baud rate,

which is unrelated to the terminal baud rate at the other port of the TNC.

The receiving TNC reverses this procedure, decoding the audio tones from the speaker audio line of the radio, removing and reading the header and tail information, and passing a successfully received packet to the terminal at the terminal baud rate.

The part of the TNC that does the translation between the sequence of tone levels and the characters is called a "modem", short for MODulator-DEModulator. This device may or may not be built into the TNC board. Most packet radio modems operate at 1200 baud, which corresponds to about 1200 wpm, although the Federal Communications Commission now authorizes much higher baud rates on some amateur bands. The audio tones used are 1200 Hz and 2200 Hz. This choice of frequencies is that of the Bell 202 modem, which is available as surplus.

The final component of a packet radio station is an amateur radio transceiver. Most packet radio activity so far has been in the 2-meter band. The only important requirement of the radio is that its audio frequency response at 2200 Hz be adequate. In other words, the 2-meter FM rig you already have is probably just fine.

#### WHAT THE TNC DOES

The TNC consists of a special purpose microcomputer, containing all the necessary software and hardware to communicate with your terminal, assemble a packet, operate your transmitter and receiver to send and receive a packet, and decode a packet. The special functions of the TNC which would be difficult to implement with an ordinary personal computer are the use of protocol to communicate with other TNC's and real-time control.

The encoding and decoding of packets involves a carefully standardized set of procedures called "protocol". The protocol basically determines the exact form of the header and tail parts of the packet. The header allows receiving TNC's to automatically determine the purpose of the packet, e.g., net check-in, part of a QSO, or ACK to a previous transmission. The tail contains the FCS which allows the TNC to automatically determine whether the packet was received correctly, and if so, to automatically acknowledge it. Since the protocol is programmed into the TNC, the operator does not need to know exactly what his packet looks like. In particular, he does not need to know how the destination of his packet is indicated. The operator communicates with other amateurs by call sign, and the TNC translates the call sign into the identification required by the protocol.

The TNC is required to perform a number of tasks simultaneously, including responding to events such as the receipt of a packet or instructions from the operator in "real time", in other words, as they happen. This makes programming in BASIC, the common language of personal computers, undesirable. This is because BASIC uses an "interpreter" which reads each line of the program and translates it into machine-type instructions every time the line is executed. The time required for the translation would prevent a program from responding rapidly enough in a packet radio environment. In order to meet the speed requirement, an assembly-language program or equivalent is required. While BASIC looks pretty much the same on any computer, assembly language is different for every machine. If the TNC were replaced by personal computers, program development would have to be redone for each variety of computer. In addition to maintaining the right pace, the TNC also must be constantly "listening" at both ports simultaneously while putting packets together or taking them apart. The hardware of personal computers may not even be capable of this sort of multi-task application.

Programming of individual TNC's must be as easy as possible, since there will inevitably be unforeseen problems in the initial software. In addition, hardware changes may necessitate software changes. For this reason, TNC's are designed around erasable programmable read-only memories (EPROM's), which normally function like the ROM of a personal computer, where the vital software is stored in an indestructible form. However, if the need arises, they can be reprogrammed by "burning in" the new program using special equipment.

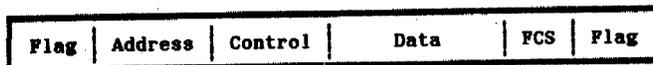
#### WHAT IS A PACKET?

A packet is the basic message unit in packet radio. It ordinarily consists of a text message typed in by the operator, sandwiched between the header and tail information required by the protocol. In a typical QSO, a packet would be encoded and sent out by the TNC when the operator ends a line of typing by hitting the RETURN or ENTER key. In any event, the length of a packet is limited, usually to 128 characters. This helps to prevent a single

user from "hogging" the channel, as well as making sure that the sending and receiving TNC's don't get swamped with information.

A packet need not consist of ASCII or Baudot character strings, however. It could contain information in other coding systems, such as BCD or EBCDIC, or even binary data such as a compiled computer program. The TNC, which uses a "bit oriented protocol" based on a standard called High Level Data Link Control (HDLC), can encode any of these equally easily. An advantage to this choice of protocol is that the functions it requires are available on a single large-scale integration (LSI) chip, which simplifies the TNC hardware and software. A second advantage of HDLC protocol is that the beginning and end of the entire message are flagged, making the "start" and "stop" bits for each character unnecessary when the packet is transmitted in "synchronous" format.

The "frame" of an HDLC packet is represented below. Each field of the packet is encoded as a sequence of 1's and 0's (bits) to be transmitted as "mark" and "space" tones. With the exception of the DATA field, all these fields are generated by the TNC as it assembles the packet for transmission. The operator is concerned only with the contents of the DATA field.



The FLAG is a unique bit sequence which identifies the beginning of a packet to the HDLC controller. This pattern corresponds to no sequence which would be encountered in any of the other fields, except possibly in the transmission of binary data. Even in this case, there are provisions for distinguishing data from the flag sequence.

The ADDRESS field contains routing information for the packet. This information may include the destination station, the originating station, and possibly intermediate routing information if the packet will be relayed to the destination. The destination and originating stations might be identified by a network address number or by amateur call sign, depending on the exact form of the protocol being used.

The CONTROL field describes the purpose of the packet to the network. It identifies packets with such functions as network check-in or check-out request, packet acknowledgments, or request for information from net control. It may also contain a sequence number for a multi-packet message which must be received in the correct order.

The DATA field contains the message being sent, which will ordinarily be the text typed in by the user, converted into an ASCII data string. In the case of a packet identified in the control field as performing a control function, the DATA field may be absent.

The FCS allows the receiving station to verify that the packet has been received correctly. If the FCS calculated by the receiving TNC matches the FCS of the packet, an acknowledgment is sent; otherwise the packet is ignored.

#### WHAT IS A PACKET NETWORK?

A local area packet radio network (LAN) consists of a net control station and a number of individual operators. The net control station is sometimes referred to as the "station node" and the individual stations as "terminal nodes". The net may also contain a digital repeater or "digipeater", which may be the net control station or a separate repeater station. The repeater station may be a single-frequency simplex repeater which retransmits any correctly received packets, or it can be "normal" split frequency repeater.

As operators sign on to the net, they are recognized by the net control and given net address codes. An operator desiring to start a QSO with another net station will subsequently have his transmissions addressed to that station. Any operator may choose to have his TNC receive all transmissions, rather than just those addressed to his station. Of course, the TNC will only acknowledge those transmissions intended for that station. The operator whose station is functioning as net control participates in exactly the same way as other operators. The net control functions are taken care of automatically by his TNC.

As more packet radio LAN's become active, there will be the possibility of link stations with access to two distinct LAN's. These stations can be members of both nets and serve as communications links through which packets originating in one net can be funneled to an addressee in the other net.

A more sophisticated possibility is that of a "gateway" station, which will be a specialized station having access to some long-distance mode of communications. The gateway station will reformat packets with another layer of protocol containing inter-network linking information and transmit it to another gateway station in a distant LAN. Three possibilities are being explored for long-distance links.

TERRACON will be a high-speed ground-based linking system utilizing UHF and/or microwave relays. It could potentially handle most long-distance packet radio communications in the United States and Canada. It will probably be a few years before TERRACON is implemented as a useful system, and somewhat longer before the continent is linked.

AMICON will be a satellite-based network utilizing one of the special-services channels on the AMSAT Phase III-B satellite. AMICON will allow intercontinental linking and contact with isolated areas not accessible to TERRACON. High data rate experiments are being planned for the 23cm uplink/70cm downlink (mode L) translator. There are also plans for a packet radio digital repeater aboard the AMSAT Phase III-C satellite.

SKIPCON is AMRAD's projected HF network of LAN gateway stations. The nature of HF propagation will require slower data rates (75 to 600 baud) and error correction as well as error detection protocol. SKIPCON experiments have been conducted since the end of 1981.

#### HOW TO GET IN ON PACKET RADIO

There are currently two TNC designs available. The first packet radio TNC was designed by the Vancouver Amateur Digital Communications Group (VADCG). The Vancouver TNC is available as a bare board, and requires a power supply, and external modem, and parts. It comes with instructions and notes on the power supply. A modem kit is also available from VADCG. The TNC design is based on the Intel 8085 CPU and 8273 HDLC controller and includes 4K bytes of 2114 RAM and 4 K bytes of 2708 EPROM. The TNC requires an 8250 (serial ports) or an 8255 (parallel ports) for interface to the terminal, as well as an interface to the radio.

The Tucson Amateur Packet Radio group (TAPR) is currently testing a second TNC design. This TNC has the modem, radio interface, serial and parallel terminal interfaces, and power supply circuitry (exclusive of the transformer) on a single board. It is based on the Motorola 6809E microprocessor, and can hold a total of 48K bytes of RAM and ROM on the board. the 1933 HDLC chip it uses is compatible with the 8273 chip used on the VADCG board, and the TAPR TNC will be capable of VADCG-compatible protocol.

Additional information on TAPR activities is available from Tucson Amateur Packet Radio, P.O. Box 22888, Tucson, Arizona 85734.

[End of downloaded text]

It should be noted that since the above article was written, several commercial firms have introduced Terminal Node Controllers that are fully compatible with the TAPR unit. These units are advertised in the pages of amateur radio magazines (such as 73 and QST) for well under \$200. Thus, a person who has a home computer but no amateur radio equipment at all could get into packet radio for around \$500, possibly less. This assumes the purchase of a TNC, a transceiver, and possibly an inexpensive antenna. It also assumes that there are other amateur radio operators using packet radio in the vicinity of the potential packet radio user. This does not include any costs associated in getting a ham license (these costs are more in terms of time than money, since you have to know both Morse code and electronic theory - and your knowledge of digital electronics alone will not be adequate to get you a ham license). For more information on license study courses and/or amateur radio organizations near you, I suggest you contact Fred Mala, W5YL, editor of The W5YL Report, P.O. Box 10101, Dallas, Texas - Telephone (817) 461-6443.

#### MORE ON THE PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE PROPOSAL

Back in NORTHERN BYTES Volume 7, Number 1 (pages 3-5) we reprinted an article on the "Public Digital Radio Service" proposal by Donald L. Stoner, W6TNS. The September 1, 1986 issue of The W5YL Report mentions an article that appeared in the August 18 issue of InfoWorld, in which Ray Kowalski (Chief of the FCC's Special Services Division) is quoted as saying that a preliminary ruling on the Public Digital Radio Service proposal is scheduled for November. The W5YL Report goes on to say that this "almost assuredly means further consideration via a Notice of Inquiry (requesting further information from the public) or a NPRM [Notice of Proposed Rule Making], actually proposing PDRS implementation."

So the issue is not dead yet, and I again encourage all NORTHERN BYTES readers to write to the FCC in support of this proposal!

In addition, this proposal seems to have been warmly received in Australia, as evidenced by the following comments by the editor of the Microcomputer Club of Melbourne (MICOM) newsletter:

"Well, ignoring the 'freedom of speech' outcry of the NORTHERN BYTES editor, and just talking about the proposal for a PDRS, I think its one of the best ideas I've ever seen. I've been involved in the amateur radio packet radio movement virtually from its outset in Australia, and I have a better understanding of the technical aspects that the NORTHERN BYTES editor.

"The service as described WILL NOT be a threat to the postal service, AUSTPAC or any other commercial service. It simply will not provide the level of service that a business would need or accept. Packet transfer would not be instantaneous. Given the short range that 1 watt power output would provide, a packet would have to pass from one node to another until it arrived at its destination. That could take a fair while, even at 1 million bits per second. The other major problem for business use would be privacy. Any radio transmissions are by their very nature, open for all to see. A talented electronics hobbyist could "pluck out" any packets from the airwaves, regardless of whether they were addressed for him or not. I really can't see banks and financial institutions giving up Austpac for PDRS!

"On the technical side, the frequencies in use for TV here are not quite the same as in the U.S.A. Channel 2 is not a problem here, it is channel 0 intrudes into the six metre band (50-54 Mhz). Since channel 0 has now gone forever, amateurs can use the band without interference...

"So what are the chances of a similar service in Australia? Unfortunately, almost none - UNLESS we can get sufficiently large numbers of people to push for an Australian PDRS... Enquiries can be directed to Peter Jetson at Micom, PO Box 60, Canterbury, 3128, Victoria, Australia. I am prepared to act as a focal point in the push for an Australian Public Digital Radio Service. For the record, I am also a licensed radio amateur, my call-sign is VK32MB."

Here in the U.S., several comments on this proposal were filed with the Federal Communications Commission by interested parties, and Mr. Stoner has filed a response to the opposition comments. Because many of our readers may be interested in this response, I am reprinting it here:

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, Washington, DC 20554, in the matter of RM-5241 - Creation of a new radio class and allocation of spectrum for the owners of personal computers.

TO: The members of the Commission

RESPONSE TO OPPOSITION COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC, ARRL AND MST

FILED BY Donald L. Stoner, W6TNS, January 20, 1985

#### OVERALL IMPRESSIONS

The petitioner anticipated significant opposition on the part of radio amateurs. It was a pleasant surprise to find that this was not the case. Responses from the general public (both amateur and non-amateur) were slightly more than 2 to 1 in favor of the concept (or some variation of it). Hopefully, this proportion is reflected in the comments received by the Commission. The ARRL response was the only comment which denied the need for this public service.

A letter from Harold A. Helms, Ph.D. (WA4QLA) is typical. Dr. Helms states "I have no fundamental objection to the concept of a PDRS; in fact, I would probably use such a service myself".

Several amateurs, Dr. Helms included, felt the service should be located in the UHF range.

On the whole, the petitioner was quite pleased with the public comments. The opposition comments can be addressed as part of my response to the submission made by council for The American Radio Relay League.

#### COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The League attempts to make four principal points in their submission. They are:

1. The League denies that the public needs such a service. Their response states "(a) the Amateur Radio Service already provides for communication between computers using packet radio, therefore another radio service is unnecessary;"

2. If the computer public wants access to the airwaves, they must earn an amateur radio license. The League states that "the Amateur Radio Service has the infrastructure and discipline needed for long-term viability of personal computer communications."

3. By means of an amateur radio license, the public will have access to the "orderly development of a data-communications network capable of handling the types and volumes of traffic which may be presented by the computer hobbyists;"

4. The 52-54 segment of the six meter amateur band is adequately populated. The contention of the petitioner, that this band is "underoccupied", is erroneous.

The League does not seem to be totally convinced of the first three points. In fact, they state in their "ARRL Letter" dated 2 January; "It's not the proposal for the service that's the bone of contention, understand - it's just that Amateur Radio intends to go right on keeping that top two megahertz of six exclusively within the Amateur Radio realm".

These points will be examined and this response will show that the League's position is not in the public interest, convenience and necessity.

The Need(1)- The League contends that a PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE is unnecessary and denies that the general public wishes to communicate with their computers.

However, they destroy their credibility by stating: "Amateur packet radio operation is rapidly developing; it is extremely popular". They further state: "The League wishes to point out that there has been a remarkable growth in amateur packet radio over the past few years...". Finally, they provide statistics: "Packet radio in the Amateur Radio Service now stands at about 10,000 units in the field, in contrast to around 4,000 in early 1985".

The statements represent an interesting exercise in convoluted logic in view of their footnote statement: "the entire Petition is no more than an unsupported series of conclusory musings of the Petitioner. There is not one iota of ascertained need for either the proposed service or, therefore, for the allocation of spectrum therefor".

There is something illogical here! The League would have the reader believe there is no desire on the part of the public to have computer-to-computer communication. Then, upon earning an amateur radio license, the exchange of information via computers suddenly becomes viable and desirable!

As pointed out in the petition, there are no conclusive facts and figures available to prove that the public desires computer communications. Inadvertently, the League has proven the basic premise of the petition far more effectively than my "conclusory musings".

The Ham License(2)- The League contends that if an individual desires computer communications, they must have an amateur radio license. According to the League only the Amateur Radio Service provides the "infrastructure and discipline needed for the viability of personal computer communications".

Where is it written that a ham license bestows discipline upon the holder? One need only listen to the 75 meter amateur band to refute this argument. A quick tour of two meters will reveal that good taste, manners and courtesy are not enclosed when one receives the envelope containing an amateur radio license. These things cannot be printed on paper any more than technical expertise can be obtained by studying to pass the Novice/Technician examination.

An amateur license is extremely easy to obtain thanks, in part, to the Commission Rules and Regulations. However, one must face the fact that some people have no desire to enter the wonderful world of amateur radio. It is arrogant to force people to become radio amateurs in order to achieve access to the airwaves. Why not insist that those who fly model airplanes, use Cellular telephones or open their garage doors also become licensed radio amateurs? It is basically dishonest to leverage the ranks of the amateur radio by force and, as a byproduct, increase League membership.

Amateur Packet Radio is Adequate(3)- The PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SYSTEM, as proposed, is not simply an adaption of the amateur packet radio system. While it is conceptually similar, the PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE features significant improvements.

It is safe to say that the creators of the amateur packet radio concept never envisioned that it would become so popular so quickly. A growth from 4,000 to 10,000 units in the short space of 12 months is truly incredible.

Unfortunately, this dynamic growth has also revealed a flaw in the system. The data exchange rate is slow, even with a limited

number of users. This appears to be a major complaint nationally among "packeters".

Local systems slow down to an annoying point, when more than 8-10 users are on a given frequency. Some users "spin off" their activities and move to another frequency. The use of many channels makes the automatic delivery of messages extremely difficult. It becomes necessary to propagate the same information on many channels. This is not spectrum efficient.

The use of high-site packet repeaters has severely limited the number of simultaneous users. These elevated "digipeaters" can probably never be eliminated because of the relatively small number of radio amateurs using packet radio in a given area. The powerful high-site digital repeater provides communication over large areas but precludes any more than one user on a given frequency at any given time.

The solution, of course, is a network of very low power stations which directly communicate over very limited distances. Those in one area can communicate simultaneously without interference to those in another area.

There is a second problem which is even more serious. This is the slow rate at which information is exchanged. Presently communications are conducted at 1200 baud (approximately 120 characters per second). As an inducement to become a radio amateur "packeteer", the League offers a digital Valhalla (at some future date) of 19,200 baud.

If the growth of the PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE parallels that of the amateur radio service, the network would soon be overloaded even at 19,200 baud. There is reason to believe that the growth would exceed that of amateur radio since no licensing would be involved. It is also likely that many radio amateurs would utilize the network, as indicated by the public comments. This provides a unique opportunity to introduce the public to other exciting areas of amateur radio.

As pointed out in the petition, it is essential that the popularity of the service be anticipated. Provision must be made for an adequate number of users from the outset. Designing the network for limited distance communication with high data rates will accommodate an unlimited number of users. Clearly, the amateur radio packet network does not qualify for either requirement.

Six Meter Activity(4)- Some confusion resulted from a typographical error in the third paragraph on page -9-. The sentence should read "...less than 1,000 are active on this portion of the six meter band". Even with this correction, the League has shown that activity is probably higher than stated in the petition. The estimates were made by extrapolating sales of commercial equipment for this band. Overlooked were the numerous conversion of obsolete 30-50 MHz low-band FM two-way radios to operate on six meters.

However, a closer look at the six meter repeater list supplied by the League is interesting. Ten of the repeaters listed are in Canada. Further, only 24 of the 50 states have more than one repeater. In 20 states there are no repeaters. Clearly, the band is underutilized in these areas.

The repeater situation in the State of Washington is typical. According to the Western Washington Amateur Repeater Association, there are 60 repeaters on 2 meters, 26 in the 220 MHz band, 51 on the 432 MHz, yet there are only 9 active repeaters on 6 meters.

The repeaters generally consist of modified surplus low-band FM equipment. A minimum of financial hardship would result from moving repeater activities to another amateur band. It would also appear that repeater usage could be accommodated in the 50-52 MHz portion of the six meter band.

While the League has shown there is more activity than previously supposed, they have failed to prove that the 52-54 MHz portion of the six meter band is adequately utilized or why it should not be allocated to the PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE.

#### COMMENTS OF MST (MAXIMUM SERVICE TELECASTERS)

The response from MST opens with a preconceived assertion. On the first page we learn of "the virtual certainty that Petitioner's proposal would cause significant new interference to television Channel 2". This notion is "proven" by impeccable mathematics, based on dubious assertions. The preordained conclusion is reached that "operation of these radio modems at one watt output power would cause perceptible levels of interference to television receivers within a 2.2 mile radius". This contention is preposterous.

At the outset, MST agrees with the petitioner that amateurs have avoided the 52-54 segment of the six meter band. This is done to support their position that signals in this region cause television interference. MST also mentions other sources of channel 2 interference, such as sporadic "E" reception, which have no bearing on the petition and which are beyond the control of the petitioner.

Concluding their response, MST joins forces with strange bedfellows to contradict themselves. Footnote 1 reads: "Further, as indicated by the comments of the American Radio Relay League, filed this same date, the former belief is likewise unfounded" (my contention that the 52-54 MHz portion of the six meter band is underoccupied).

The ARRL contends there is considerable activity on the six meter band. Transmitters used by amateurs typically vary from 10 watts to 1,000 watts. If one accepts the MST statement that a one watt transmitter on adjacent frequencies will cause interference within a radius of 2.2 miles, then one must logically conclude that radio amateurs cause even greater interference and over greater distances by virtue of their high power equipment. However, we know this is not the case and the assertions of MST are faulty.

It should be mentioned that transmitting equipment used by radio amateurs is not subject to FCC specifications. In particular, "home brew" and modified commercial equipment is seldom measured by the user for spectral purity of emissions.

A Short Course in TVI- Television interference results from two principal sources, i.e., (1) overload of the television receiver r.f. amplifier stage, which causes cross modulation and (2) emissions outside the authorized bandwidth which fall within a television channel.

Commission personnel can prove that a one-watt signal will not cause television interference, within the constraints mentioned in the petition. This can be simply demonstrated by operating a hand-held transceiver in the vicinity of various television receivers. Such a hand-held product may be difficult to find, however, due to the low volume demand for commercial six meter equipment. However, I understand SanTec makes such a transceiver.

The MST submission suggests that a wideband digital transmission will cause more interference than would be generated by the hand-held test described in the previous paragraph. However, the petition states that all spurious emissions outside the 52-54 MHz band must be suppressed by approximately 60 db. Thus, it matters little whether the origin of the spurious is carrier, modulation, data bits or rock and roll music. 60 db of suppression is still 60 db.

Note that video information is also wideband and the radiated spectrum resembles a high speed data transmission. Yet television signals coexist side-by-side without mutual interference as proven by thousands of cable television systems.

If the Commission is not comfortable with 60 db, make the specification 70, or even 80, db. While this makes the design of the equipment more difficult, it can be done. Further, the equipment cost will still be less than for UHF equipment with a more relaxed specification.

MST "clutches at straws" throughout the response. They state "modem operators, particularly in rural area, might find it necessary to boost their operating power to well above one watt in order to reach the nearest transceiver". MST assumes that if a law is passed it will be broken, therefore don't pass the law. They also mention large antennas, man made noise, and so on to support their contention that the service should be at some higher frequency.

Other respondents have made the same suggestion but they do not provide the Commission with any suggestions or guidance as to where this "promised land" might be. The attitude is "they seem like nice folks, I just don't want them living in my neighborhood".

Conclusion - The purpose of my petition was to point out the need for computer-to-computer communications for the public, present certain minimal specifications and identify spectrum space where it could be accommodated.

I had naively hoped that a way could be found to provide for this need within the Amateur Radio Service, as suggested on page 21 of the petition. The League, however, has driven a stake through the heart of this codeless vampire for once and for all.

I believe the Commission recognizes there is a need for the PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE. The implementation of the concept far more important than the location of the PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE within the radio spectrum. Technically, it can be located anywhere within the spectrum up to 1 GHz, or so. While

equipment costs would be higher at these frequencies, this would not significantly retard the growth of the service in the long term.

If the 52-54 MHz portion of the band is not suitable, where can the service be located? Above the frequencies of concern to MST is the sacred ground of the Cellular Service. Further up is the new 902 MHz amateur band. The PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE could easily be accommodated in the 922-928 portion of this band. This is above the proposed repeater frequencies, does not involve international treaties and television interference would be nonexistent.

Above this band, the satellite industry can be expected to protest another incursion. As we continue to "move to the back of the bus", communication by light beam seems the only answer.

I hope it is not and the Commission can identify a small segment of spectrum where the PUBLIC DIGITAL RADIO SERVICE can be located.

In closing, the writer would like to thank the Commission for the opportunity to respond to the negative comments on RM-5241.

Sincerely, Donald L. Stoner  
6014 East Mercer Way, Mercer Island, Washington 98040

#### GIVING OVERSEAS USERS THE SHAFT

Arne Rohde passed along a copy of a letter he received from CompuServe, in response to an inquiry about the availability of their service in New Zealand. The letter states that "There is a \$10.00 CompuServe monthly service fee for subscribers with addresses outside the United States or Canada. International subscribers have the billing option of using an international Visa, Mastercard or American Express." (underline added). Since the credit card companies don't charge anything extra to process card billings outside the U.S., I couldn't understand the basis for the monthly service charge. Well, a call to CompuServe revealed that this additional amount covers the costs of sending the monthly statement and the subscriber's copy of "Online Today" to a foreign address. Just as a point of comparison, we can send a copy of NORTHERN BYTES overseas for only \$1.00 to \$2.00 more than the cost to send a copy to a U.S. address - and that's air delivery! I suspect that CompuServe's actual additional cost per overseas subscriber is maybe \$3.00 per month tops. Overseas users are already heavily surcharged by their local packet networks for their per-minute access to CompuServe, so why this additional dig into subscriber's pocketbooks?

Arne reports that he has used the BIX (Byte Information Exchange) system run by McGraw-Hill a couple of times, and they have no monthly minimum charge (although there is an initial registration fee). I think that CompuServe had better take a good, hard look at their pricing policies or they are going to become a dinosaur. Many TRS-80 users have already fled CompuServe for services such as GENie and Delphi, and this trend is likely to continue (who wants to pay more money than necessary to stay online?).

#### SYSOP - BBS USER RELATIONSHIPS

A closing thought - It seems to me that there are people who shouldn't be SYSOPs of a BBS, because they are just a little too intolerant (or maybe too suspicious) of errors made by users. These people assume that EVERYBODY is a "cracker" or a "twit" until proven otherwise. Perhaps in some areas the local community of BBS users (taken as a whole) has done much to earn a poor reputation, but you cannot tar everyone with the same brush.

As just one example - many SYSOPs get REAL upset if you hang up without going through the "proper" logoff procedure. But there are MANY things that can cause the phone connection to break, from the dog knocking an extension phone off the hook (this actually happened to me once in Lansing) to an airplane flying between microwave towers, thus momentarily interrupting transmission. And, if you are calling long distance, does it really make sense to call back just to terminate the call "properly", if you were almost through anyway?

What about BBS users that call and then disconnect after a few seconds? Some SYSOPs immediately assume that they are "phone phreaking" on a cheap long distance service. Well, I have seen ALL of the major long distance carriers (including AT&T) disconnect modem calls for no apparent reason after a few seconds (back in June we found that on modem calls from Lansing, Michigan to Providence, Rhode Island, only MCI would give us a reasonably good connection. AT&T would disconnect after a second or two, and Sprint gave us too many "garbage" characters along with the data).

Then there are the users who send control characters, trying to crash the system. Or are they? Could it just be good old-fashioned LINE NOISE sending random characters? Even AT&T is not immune from this malady anymore. And some terminal programs AUTOMATICALLY send certain control characters (notably XON and XOFF) at various times, without any intervention by the user.

Then there are the users that just go away and let a system "time out" after a download. Well, maybe. But let me tell you about the MODEM80 terminal program. If MODEM80 receives an XOFF character from the host computer (or line noise that looks like an XOFF), it will not send ANY more characters to the host until an XON character is received - NOT EVEN CHARACTERS TYPED FROM THE KEYBOARD!! There is a way to force a restart in MODEM80 (you press BREAK to go to the menu, then T to go back to the terminal mode) but this is not readily apparent, and the novice user of that terminal program will most likely become very frustrated trying to get the BBS to respond to his typing - while at the same time the SYSOP is thinking that they guy just walked off and left the computer running!

Now I realize that some BBS users do in fact seem to have all the manners of a pig at the trough, and that after seeing a few of those, a SYSOP is going to get real suspicious of anything a caller may do. But I must plead for a little mercy, especially for long distance callers. It is a real pain to call a BBS long distance, have the connection break on you for no apparent reason (or for circumstances beyond your control), and then to be told that you can't log back in because you've had your one allowable call for the day or because you didn't terminate your previous call properly!

BBS users can do a lot to help their SYSOP keep a good attitude. Leave a message telling your SYSOP how much you appreciate his board every now and then, and if you download a few files, leave a note saying "thanks!" And, if at all possible, try to PARTICIPATE - leave a few messages on the message base, or upload a few good public domain programs to the board. In short, go out of your way to show a little common courtesy - it will work wonders and might even keep your favorite BBS around a while longer. Finally, operation of a BBS usually requires an expenditure of funds (for telephone line and long distance charges, and to replace worn-out disk drives and upgrade the hardware and software) and this usually comes from the SYSOP's pocket, so if you're having a good year financially and are getting lots of enjoyment and/or benefit from a particular BBS, you might consider sending a contribution to help cover operating expenses (especially if the board is one of the diminishing number that does not charge any kind of subscription fee for use!).

#### SUPERDOT - A PATCH FOR DOTWRITER 4.0

by Raymond J. Day

9601 Morton Taylor Road, Belleville, Michigan 48111

This patch for Dotwriter 4.0 allows you to get even better print than before. Now, when the double strike command is used, (.DA on) a vertical size reduction of approximately one-half is achieved with the same amount of detail.

The program is designed to separate every other bit going out to the printer so that only four bits in a byte (every other one) is printed out. The printer is then given a line feed of 1/218 and the other four bits are printed out. It works like NLQ, superscript and subscript modes. I think a lot of people would like it. I gave it to the Dearborn TRS-80 Users Group and the editor printed out some of the news letters with it.

I have a couple of printers that are EPSON compatible and can print 1920 dots across 8 inches. I use the following patch to do it: To change SUPERDOT/CMD to print in compressed mode, from MULTIDOS READY type:

PATCH SUPERDOT/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=173) 90

If you need to remove the above patch, type:

PATCH SUPERDOT/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=173) 76

It is half as wide but Dotwriter will not let you do the full 1920 dots across (but it comes close).

[Editor's note: TAS Public Domain Library disk # 022 contains the following files:

NEWS/PR - Dotwriter font file created by the author.  
 NLQ/PR - Dotwriter font file created by the author.  
 SUPERDOT/ASM - Source code for the SUPERDOT patch.

SUPERDOT/DOC - Documentation file.  
 SUPERDOT/IDO - MULTIDOS format patch file for DOTWRITER 4.0  
 SUPERDOT/OBJ - Object code for the SUPERDOT patch.  
 SUPERDOT/SMF - Demonstration text file for use with SUPERDOT.

The SUPERDOT/IDO file is reprinted below. If you are using MULTIDOS, just have a copy of DOTEPS/CMD on a disk in one of your drives, and DO SUPERDOT/IDO. Otherwise, you can use the printout of SUPERDOT/IDO as the basis for making the patches using a ZAP type program. If you have the PD Library disk mentioned above and a machine language monitor program (such as TASMON) you can load DOTEPS/CMD to memory, then load SUPERDOT/CMD, and then save the combined program back to disk. Be sure to always make your patches on a COPY of the original program, NOT ON YOUR MASTER DISK, in case something goes wrong!]

This PATCH is for MULTIDOS. It makes the file DOTEPS/CMD into a file that will print the lettersets like NLQ print just give it the command '.DAON' to get it. This is for DOTWRITER 4.0. This PATCH was done by Raymond Day

PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=2,BYTE=20) 49  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=3,BYTE=208) 53.47.49.55.47.56.54  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=93,BYTE=19) 121  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=62) 245.58.232  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=69) 55.230.240.254.48.32.247.58  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=77) 141.5.254.121.32.5.241.50  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=85) 232.55.201.241.211  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=99) 30  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=113) 42.205.146.204.62.1.205.20  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=121) 204.62.13.205.20.204.175  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=128) 50.238.210.205.121.204.205  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=135) 30.205.62.1.50.238.210.42  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=143) 250.188.18.248.188.205.146  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=150) 204.62.10.205.20.204.42  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=157) 246.188.125.188.192.62.13  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=164) 205.20.204.62.27.205.20  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=171) 204.62.76.205.20.204.58.6  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=179) 189.205.20.204.58.4.189  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=186) 205.20.204.195.204.204.62  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=193) 27.205.20.204.62.51.195.20  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=201) 204.0.6.71.42.40.189.125  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=209) 180.120.104.20.204.111.50  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=216) 238.210.183.125.32.2.7.111  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=224) 230.128.103.125.7.230.64  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=231) 180.183.125.7.7.230.32.180  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=239) 183.125.7.7.7.230.16.180  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=247) 195.20.204.58.238.210.183  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=97,BYTE=254) 200.175  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=78) 24.232.243.42.58.189.125  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=85) 180.40.50.42.230.188.125  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=92) 180.40.43.33.0.0.34.230.188  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=101) 42.2.189.237.91.250.188  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=108) 175.237.82.34.148.188.125  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=115) 180.40.20.42.2.189.93.84  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=123) 27.237.75.148.188.26.182  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=130) 119.43.27.11.121.176.32  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=137) 246.42.250.188.34.140.188  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=144) 42.2.189.229.42.140.188  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=151) 126.205.158.204.42.140.188  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=158) 35.34.140.188.193.197.3  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=98,BYTE=165) 175.237.66.58.234.193.201  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=104,BYTE=41) 245  
 PATCH DOTEPS/CMD (REC=104,BYTE=46) 58.24.240

by Terry Eibo

[Reprinted from the Canberra Micro-80 Users' Group newsletter (113 Owen Dixon Drive, Canberra, A.C.T. 2617, Australia):]

Some of us have had trouble with the clock on the Model 4 running at 60 hertz on TRSDOS 6.2.x, which gives 72 seconds in every minute. This was solved in TRSDOS 6.1.x by running a HERTZ/JCL file to patch the relevant byte for 50 hertz Australian power. No such JCL file was on TRSDOS 6.2.x and we were confused.

The answer is in a SYSTEM command: SYSTEM (HERTZ 5) solves the problem. To make a permanent patch to the disk, SYSGEN it after the SYSTEM command.



```

5370' FDES 00136 PUSH IY
537F' FS 00137 PUSH AF
5380' 1810 00138 JR STRT_WP ;go to word processing
00139 ;
00140 ;
5382' 00141 PUTBYT EQU $ ;exit to original driver.
5382' F1 00142 POP AF ;restore registers.
5383' FDE1 00143 POP IY
5385' DDE1 00144 POP IX
5387' E1 00145 POP HL
5388' D1 00146 POP DE
5389' C1 00147 POP BC
538A' C30000 00148 PUTBXT JP 0
00149 ;
5380' C30000 00150 GETBYT JP 0 ;to original driver
00151 ;
5390' 00152 DMPBYT EQU $ ;routine to return without
00153 ;sending original character to
00154 ;printer.
5390' F1 00155 POP AF ;restore registers.
5391' FDE1 00156 POP IY
5393' DDE1 00157 POP IX
5395' E1 00158 POP HL
5396' D1 00159 POP DE
5397' C1 00160 POP BC
5398' 79 00161 LD A,C
5399' C9 00162 RET
00163 ;
00164 ;
00165 ;*****
00166 ;
539A' 00167 WP_CTL EQU $ ;Word Processing
00168 ;Routine Control Block.
00169 ;*****
00170 ;To make word processing mode effective at all times change
00171 ;this line to "DB 1", and delete the five lines of code
00172 ;indicated above.
00173 ;
539A' 00 00174 DB 0 ;1 = WP mode, 0 = normal
00175 ;
00176 ;*****
5398' 00 00177 DB 0 ;1 = ESC mode, 0 = normal
539C' 00 00178 DB 0 ;FH=Underline on, 0=off
539D' 00 00179 DB 0 ;FH= Italics on, 0 = off
539E' 00 00180 DB 0 ;FH= Bold prt on, 0= off
00181 ;
00182 ;
00183 ;
-----
539F' 00184 STRT_WP EQU $
539F' 00219A53 00185 MARK1 LD IX,WP_CTL ;IX-> Routine Cntl Block
53A3' 007E01 00186 LD A,(IX+1) ;Fetch Escape mode flag.
53A6' FE01 00187 CP 1 ;Are we in Escape Mode??
53A8' 2872 00188 JR Z,ESCAPE ;If so handle it.
00189 ;*****
00190 ;
00191 ;To make wp filter effective at all times for possible use
00192 ;(with basic print lines etc), delete the following five
00193 ;lines of code and change the first "DB 0" in the WP_CTL
00194 ;(Word Processing Control Block) to "DB 1"
00195 ;
53AA' 79 00196 LD A,C ;A = char enroute to prtr.
53AB' FE38 00197 CP ' ;Start Comments???
53AD' 2816 00198 JR Z,SET_WP ;Enter Word Proc mode.
53AF' FE00 00199 CP 0DH ;End-of-line???
53B1' 2818 00200 JR Z,RESET ;End WP Mode.
00201 ;
00202 ;*****
53B3' 007E00 00203 LD A,(IX) ;Fetch WP mode
53B6' FE00 00204 CP 0
53B8' 28C8 00205 JR Z,PUTBYT ;skip if not WP mode
53BA' 79 00206 LD A,C ;A = char enroute to prtr
53BB' FE40 00207 CP ESC_SYM ;Escape Symbol???
53BD' 2857 00208 JR Z,SET_ESC ;Enter ESCAPE Mode.
53BF' 18C1 00209 JR PUTBYT
00210 ;
-----
00211 ;
00212 ;
53C1' 18BF 00213 TO_PUTBYT2 JR PUTBYT
53C3' 18CB 00214 TO_DMPBYT2 JR DMPBYT
00215 ;

```

```

00216 ;
00217 ;
00218 ;The following two routines enable or disable the word
00219 ;processing facilities as a semi-colon or carriage
00220 ;return respectively pass thru the filter and then
00221 ;send character on for printing.
00222 ;
53C5' 00223 SET_WP EQU $
53C5' 00360001 00224 LD (IX),01H ;Flag WP Mode ON.
53C9' 1887 00225 JR PUTBYT
00226 ;
53CB' 00227 RESET EQU $
53CB' 00360000 00228 LD (IX),0 ;Flag WP Mode OFF.
53CF' 00360100 00229 LD (IX+1),0 ;Reset all Feature flags
5303' 00360200 00230 LD (IX+2),0
5307' 00360300 00231 LD (IX+3),0
5308' 00360400 00232 LD (IX+4),0
530F' 3E18 00233 LD A,ESC ;Reset all Feature modes
53E1' C00000 00234 CALL WHERE ;in printer.
53E4' 1849 00235 JR BYTOUT
53E6' 3E2D 00236 LD A,ZOH ;'
53E8' C00000 00237 CALL WHERE
53EB' 1842 00238 JR BYTOUT
53ED' 3E00 00239 LD A,0 ;UL off.
53EF' C00000 00240 CALL WHERE
53F2' 1838 00241 JR BYTOUT
53F4' 3E18 00242 LD A,ESC
53F6' C00000 00243 CALL WHERE
53F9' 1834 00244 JR BYTOUT
53FB' 3E35 00245 LD A,35H ;italics off
53FD' C00000 00246 CALL WHERE
5400' 182D 00247 JR BYTOUT
5402' 3E18 00248 LD A,ESC
5404' C00000 00249 CALL WHERE
5407' 1826 00250 JR BYTOUT
5409' 3E40 00251 LD A,40H ;Bold off
540B' C00000 00252 CALL WHERE
540E' 181F 00253 JR BYTOUT
5410' 1800 00254 JR TO_PUTBYT
00255 ;
00256 ;
00257 ;
5412' 18AD 00258 TO_PUTBYT JR TO_PUTBYT2
5414' 18AD 00259 TO_DMPBYT JR TO_DMPBYT2
00260 ;
00261 ;
00262 ;
00263 ;The following routine sets the ESCAPE mode and then
00264 ;returns to EDAS without printing any character.
00265 ;
5416' 00360101 00266 SET_ESC LD (IX+1),1 ;Escape mode on.
541A' 18F8 00267 JR TO_DMPBYT ;return w/o printing.
00268 ;
00269 ;
00270 ;
00271 ;ESCAPE DECODER.
00272 ;
541C' 00273 ESCAPE EQU $
541C' 00360100 00274 LD (IX+1),0 ;reset ESCAPE mode.
5420' 79 00275 LD A,C ;A = character
5421' FE2D 00276 CP ' ;
5423' 281C 00277 JR Z,UNDERLN ;Toggle Underlining.
5425' FE2F 00278 CP ' ;
5427' 2836 00279 JR Z,ITALICS ;Toggle Italics.
5429' FE2B 00280 CP ' ;
542B' 284C 00281 JR Z,BOLD ;Toggle Bold printing.
542D' 18E3 00282 JR TO_PUTBYT ;Otherwise print char.
00283 ;
00284 ;
00285 ;
542F' 00286 BYTOUT EQU $
542F' 23 00287 INC HL ;set-up for return
5430' 23 00288 INC HL
5431' E5 00289 PUSH HL
5432' C5 00290 PUSH BC
5433' 47 00291 LD B,A ;save byte
5434' 0BF8 00292 LOOP1 IN A,(PRPORT) ;fetch printer status
5436' E6F0 00293 ANO 0FH ;mask
5438' FE30 00294 CP 30H
543A' 20F8 00295 JR NZ,LOOP1 ;wait if not ready

```

```

543C' 78 00296 LD A,B ;restore A
543D' C1 00297 POP BC ;restore B
543E' 03F8 00298 OUT (PPORT),A ;send byte
5440' C9 00299 RET
00300 ;
00301 ;
00302 ;
5441' 00303 UNDERLN EQU $
5441' 007E02 00304 LD A,(IX+2) ;Fetch UL status.
5444' 2F 00305 CPL ;Toggle it.
5445' 007702 00306 LD (IX+2),A ;Store new status.
5448' F5 00307 PUSH AF ;save register
5449' 3E18 00308 LD A,ESC ;A = Escape Character.
544B' C0B000 00309 CALL @HERE ;Send it to printer.
544E' 10F 00310 JR BYTOUT
5450' 3E2D 00311 LD A,ZOH ;'-
5452' C0B000 00312 CALL @HERE
5455' 1808 00313 JR BYTOUT
5457' F1 00314 POP AF ;restore register
5458' C0B000 00315 CALL @HERE ;Send to printer.
545B' 1802 00316 JR BYTOUT
545D' 18B5 00317 JR TO_DMPBYT
00318 ;
545F' 00319 ITALICS EQU $
545F' 007E03 00320 LD A,(IX+3) ;Fetch Italics status.
5462' 2F 00321 CPL ;Toggle it.
5463' 007703 00322 LD (IX+3),A ;Store new status.
5466' 3E18 00323 LD A,ESC ;A = Escape Char
5468' C0B000 00324 CALL @HERE ;Send to printer.
546B' 18C2 00325 JR BYTOUT
546D' 3E35 00326 LD A,ISH ;Make Italic code.
546F' 00B603 00327 ADD A,(IX+3)
5472' C0B000 00328 CALL @HERE ;Send to printer.
5475' 18B8 00329 JR BYTOUT
5477' 1898 00330 JR TO_DMPBYT
00331 ;
5479' 00332 BOLD EQU $
5479' 007E04 00333 LD A,(IX+4) ;Fetch Bold Status.
547C' 2F 00334 CPL ;Toggle it.
547D' 007704 00335 LD (IX+4),A ;Store new status.
5480' 3E18 00336 LD A,ESC ;A = ESCAPE character
5482' C0B000 00337 CALL @HERE ;Send it to printer
5485' 18A8 00338 JR BYTOUT
5487' 3E48 00339 LD A,A0H ;Make printer code.
5489' 00B604 00340 ADD A,(IX+4)
548C' C0B000 00341 CALL @HERE ;Send to printer
548F' 189E 00342 JR BYTOUT
5491' 1881 00343 JR TO_DMPBYT
00344 ;
00345 ;
00346 ;
00347 ;*****
5493' 00348 LAST EQU $
5200' 00349 END ENTRY

```

**PATCH SUPERZAP/CMD TO ALLOW MODIFICATIONS TO BE DONE IN ASCII by Glen Mc Diarmid**

Use this version of SUPERZAP as you would the original version, but note the following: While viewing a sector, whether it be a disk, file, or memory sector, press the '@' key to get into ASCII mode. Press the BREAK key to get back into hex mode. While in hex mode, all functions and keys are identical to those of the original version of SUPERZAP.

However, when in ASCII mode, the left side of the screen shows ALL characters in ASCII format. While modifying a sector, pressing a key will result in the ASCII code for that key being written to the buffer - this includes the ENTER key. There are several escape keys - the arrows, for instance, will scroll the cursor. Pressing the '@' key in ASCII mode is the same as pressing ENTER in hex mode. Pressing the CLEAR key in ASCII mode is the same as pressing the 'Q' key in hex mode.

The following patches are to the Model I version of SUPERZAP/CMD:

```

SUPERZAP/CMD,09,AC change 01 to 00
SUPERZAP/CMD,10,78 change 21 DB 6D to CD DB 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,12,C8 change EF 61 to CA 6F

```

```

SUPERZAP/CMD,14,E5 change 2B 00 to 5B 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,14,EB change 49 00 to B5 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,28,71 change ALL ZEROES to:
3A DA6F B728 075F AF32 DA6F 7BC9 CD2B
00C9 B7C8 FE0A C8FE 5BC8 FE1F 2003 3E51
C9FE 0828 32FE 4020 033E 0DC9 FE09 2827
FE18 C8FE 19C8 5FE6 0FC6 30FE 3A38 02C6
0732 DA6F 7BE6 F0CB 3FCB 3FCB 3FCB 3FC6
30FE 3AD8 C607 C932 DA6F C9CD 4900 FE40
2807 FE01 C03E C918 01AF 326B 6F3E 20C9
F53A 6B6F B728 04F1 C3EF 61F1 7723 23C9
00F5 AF32 DA6F 21DB 6DF1 C9

```

The following patches are to the Model III version of SUPERZAP/CMD:

```

SUPERZAP/CMD,09,AC change 01 to 00
SUPERZAP/CMD,10,78 change 21 E4 6D to CD DB 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,12,D1 change F8 61 to CA 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,14,EE change 2B 00 to 5B 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,14,F4 change 49 00 to B5 6F
SUPERZAP/CMD,28,71 change ALL ZEROES to:
3A DA6F B728 075F AF32 DA6F 7BC9 CD2B
00C9 B7C8 FE0A C8FE 5BC8 FE1F 2003 3E51
C9FE 0828 32FE 4020 033E 0DC9 FE09 2827
FE18 C8FE 19C8 5FE6 0FC6 30FE 3A38 02C6
0732 DA6F 7BE6 F0CB 3FCB 3FCB 3FCB 3FC6
30FE 3AD8 C607 C932 DA6F C9CD 4900 FE40
2807 FE01 C03E C918 01AF 326B 6F3E 20C9
F53A 6B6F B728 04F1 C3F8 61F1 7723 23C9
00F5 AF32 DA6F 21E4 6DF1 C9

```

**THE BASIC DIFFERENCES**  
by John Reid

[This article (originally titled "The President's Report") is reprinted from LPRINT, the newsletter of the MICRO-80 User Group of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada:]

Converting BASIC programs from Model I and III BASIC to Model 4 BASIC seems to be a simple problem. All one needs, it would appear, is a good word processor or a conversion program, a bit of patience, and nothing to it!

The reality is something different. When the Model 4 came out, we got the latest version of BASIC designed for the IBM and its ilk. This is a different BASIC and as a result the conversion process is a very difficult one.

I wanted to convert a Model I BASIC program that did an evaluation of investments. It used an odd method of taking in the date. Instead of the usual formula of MM/DD/YY, it asked for MMDDYY, in the same order.

After I converted to Model 4 BASIC, I discovered that my dates came out 100 years too early. Instead of 1986, it would return 1886. So I began to tear into the program to see what was causing this problem.

To calculate the first two characters of the year, the program has this line:

$$KD=(DA(N)-KM*10000)/100.$$

If DA(N)= 20786 (Feb 7, 1986) and KM=2, the answer I get in Model III and 4 modes is 7.86.

However, in Model III mode this translates to a 7, but in Model 4 mode it is 8! The program works as advertised in Model III mode and will return 1986 when further calculations are carried out; but it gives me 1886 in Model 4 mode. I'm out 100 years! Why should this be so?

Now, there is a DEFINT statement in the program which defines the variables used in this example as integers. The important thing to note is that Model III BASIC interprets the integer using the first whole number, while Model 4 uses the first two numbers.

Consequently, the integer in Model III BASIC is "7" while in Model 4 BASIC the integer is "8".

What this all means is that when you convert a BASIC program from Model I or III BASIC to Model 4, make sure you test carefully all of your calculations. You may not like what you get! The differences in BASIC between the two machines are considerable. It may take more work than you think to overcome the differences.

Be prepared to check your program carefully before you commit yourself to it. Otherwise you may have an unwelcome surprise on your hands.

[Reprinted (slightly abridged) from the CSRA Computer Society Newsletter, which in turn apparently reprinted it from PC+ (Central Texas PC Users Group).]

If you were lucky enough to have chosen an Epson FX-80 dot-matrix printer a couple of years ago you are in luck once more! Quite recently, IBM competition has forced Epson into offering "NLQ", (near-letter-quality) capability in their top of the FX-line printer, the FX-85. Further, full IBM graphics character capability plus touch control for ten type styles using the three normal OFF LINE, FF and LF pushbuttons. The touch control resembles "Fingerprint", which no longer is available. All this without giving up the Epson character sets of the FX-80.

What makes this good news is that an "Upgrade Kit" is now available at a reasonable price. I got two kits for less than \$80 each at discount, and was told that the suggested retail price is now \$109 each. Since my Epson dealer had no information on the kit when I placed the order, they first gave me the wrong kit. There are FOUR kits, not just one.

So you will be able to order the correct kit, here are some of Epson's best kept secrets:

Present Printer	Upgrade Kit	Upgraded Printer
FX-80	#84971	FX-85
FX-80+	#849711	FX-85
FX-100	#84981	FX-185
FX-100+	#849811	FX-185

I finally got the right kits, along with some bad news. There were absolutely NO INSTRUCTIONS with the kits! There was a deluxe new manual for the FX-85 along with a new piggy-back board (with complete mounting hardware) and several important looking new chips. There was a good parts list which clearly identified the new parts, but that was no substitute for instructions.

I called the Epson Southwest (Dallas, Texas) Distributor's Customer Support printer expert. He advised that Epson, in its wisdom, had decided to give these instructions ONLY to Official Epson Printer Repair Stations, and NOT to customers. Further, he said that he had those instructions on hand but he could not and would not let me have a copy.

By now, as you might imagine, I was plenty ticked off, and more determined than ever to do the installation myself. Previously I had repaired my printer when it "died" about a year ago. I learned then that chips and sockets do not always work as planned, but can develop bad pin-to-socket electrical continuity. In particular, the largest chip, the main CPU, gets hot and a colored oxide can develop on some of the pins. This can cause an electrical "bad-contact" condition, stopping the printer cold. Cleaning the contacts with the gentle application of #600 (extremely fine grit) wet-or-dry paper did the trick. Removing four machine screws let the cover come off, exposing the "innards". Another confidence builder was my previous experience installing Fingerprint, which was a piece of cake.

Using all the clues available, I was able to install the additional piggy-back board. Because of good design it can only go on one way. All chips are numbered and have location clues, such as 4A, 5A, etc., so I got them all in place. But I still needed the instructions for some important details. For instance, there is always the question of "jumpers". With Fingerprint, I had to cut one end of a cream-colored resistor (which is also called a jumper). What to do about jumpers?

Calling on the branch manager of an Epson Official Printer Repair Station produced INSTANT COOPERATION! He offered to have their repairmen check my installation. Very nice indeed! I was grateful for their help in checking my somewhat intuitive placing of parts and for cheerfully furnishing me with instructions, which I now pass on to you.

Now, looking at the instructions, we checked the question of the cream colored resistor (adjacent to two dark colored, but similar looking resistors). Epson now calls it "Jumper J-1", located just to the left of the (largest chip) Master CPU. The instructions confirmed that IT SHOULD BE CUT (bend it up to prevent accidental reconnection).

Reading the instructions, I found that by using my small screwdriver/prybar (a 1/8" blade with the end half-inch bent to a

45 degree angle) it was NOT necessary to remove the board from the printer (Instruction Par 1).

Other than needing the one jumper cut (and locating it correctly in the first place) there really should be no difficulty at all with the kit installation now that you have the "secret" instructions at hand. But let's review a couple of fundamentals first:

1. You must keep in mind that one end of all chip sockets is distinctly marked with a notch or depression in the plastic, likewise chips are marked with some similar marking on one end. MORAL: Match chip and socket markings when installing chips.

2. Since most chips are easily damaged by static electricity, precautions are in order when touching chip pins. If you are a "once-in-a-while" chip installer, a large sheet of aluminum foil connected with a jumper wire to an electrical ground (such as the computer chassis bare metal) makes a good grounding plate for hands and bare arms.

[NORTHERN BYTES Editor's Note - Unless you like the thought of zapping your computer's chassis, which MAY or MAY NOT be properly grounded, with a few hundred thousand volts of static electricity, I suggest you pick another grounding point (such as a metal water pipe).]

Another tip, since the chip pins are manufactured pointing slightly outward, rather than straight up-and-down, it is necessary to start one row of pins first. Then by pushing the chip gently sideways, the second row of pins can be persuaded to enter the socket properly. It is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL to visually inspect afterwards for pins that are collapsed, bent or otherwise damaged. Make corrections as needed.

A deluxe new manual for the FX-85 is included with the kit, along with a new plastic label plate to install over the three normal control buttons and lights. Also an adhesive menu list tells you how to tap in numbers representing compressed, expanded, elite and seven other commands using only the normal "off line", "form-feed" and "line-feed" control buttons. "NLQ" is switched on with the FF button; "DRAFT" quality is controlled with the LF button.

Either the full Epson set of characters or the full IBM set is available by setting a single DIP switch.

#### INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR FX-85 AND 185 UPGRADE KITS

Use these instructions to upgrade an FX series, or FX+ series printer to an FX-85 or 185. There is a separate kit for each series, so be sure that you have the correct one before starting.

##### FX-80 and 100 Series

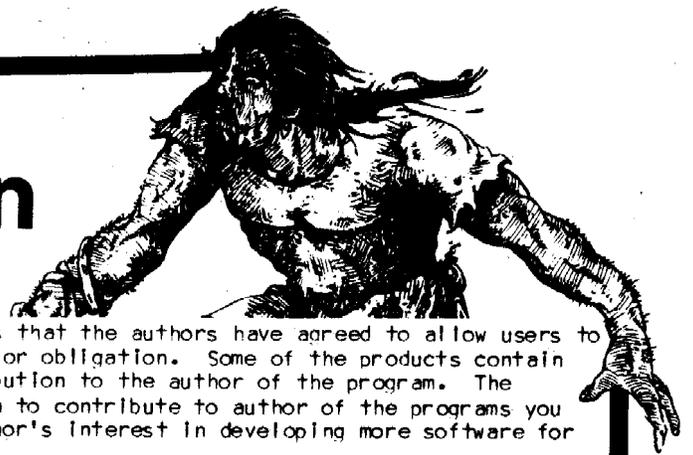
- Carefully remove the board from the printer. Once out, remove the chips currently installed in locations 4A, 5A, 4B, and 9B.
- Check to be sure that Jumper J-6 is connected. J-6 is located just above the ROM locations.
- Carefully install ROM V1-FX4 in location 4A, and ROM V2-FX5 in location 5A.
- Install the new Fuse Prom in location 4B.
- Install the new Slave CPU in location 9B. NOTE: the printer may have a Sumi board installed instead of a Slave CPU. The new slave CPU will replace the Sumi board.
- Check Jumper J-1, located just to the left of the Master CPU, to be sure that it is cut. If not, cut it with a small wire cutter.
- Install the FXMB in the printer. Do not use the small machine screw that originally came with the printer. Attach the FXEXT board, being very careful that all of the pins are inserted into connector CN-3. Use the long machine screw and spacer that is included in the kit to hold down the board.
- Check the new owner's manual for the correct DIP switch settings.

##### FX+ Series

- Use the same basic procedures that are outlined above. The main difference between the regular FX and FX+ kits is the addition of the Slave CPU in the regular FX series kits. The Slave CPU in the FX+ series is correct, and doesn't need to be changed.
- The FX+ series has Jumper J-7 connected, and it must be switched back over to J-6.

Fred Watson is one of the most prolific of our Central Texas PC Users Group writers. He is an Engineer and Writer with penchant for "opening up the box" and seeing what makes it tick. Fred can be contacted at the following address: Route 3 Box 4C Hoffman Road, Bastrop, Texas 78602, or telephone (512) 321-8520.

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