THE QUARTERLY NEWS MAGAZINE OF SOFTWARE DESIGN ASSOCIATES, INC.

VOLUME XI

Summer 1985

#### THE PERFECTION OF TEN

"All lovers swear more performance than they are able, and yet reserve an ability that they never perform; vowing more than the perfection of TEN, and discharging less than the TENth part of one."

#### Troilus and Cressida, William Shakespeare

As The SDA Newsletter celebrates its tenth anniversary, I wish to thank each and every one of you who have helped to make this even possible. Although we have certainly not enjoyed ten perfect years of publication, we have enjoyed ten great ones, thanks largely to the hard work, enthusiasm and imagination of all you out there.

Like lovers, contributors may not always deliver all that they have promised, but, if what you have delivered is any indication of your capabilities, you are a terrific bunchof people! And of course, I know you are because of your fantastic performance as SDA consultants. Even if you give ninety-nine parts to your technical assignments and one part to the Newsletter, the whole is so great that that one part has helped to fill our pages with enough interesting, varied, learned, funny and sometimes controversial material that we have survived splendidly for ten years and continue to flourish.

Again, thank you, one and all.

#### THE BIG BET

Doug Jerger and Jay Goldberg have a big



No. 3

bet on. If the Chicago Cubs end the baseball season with a standing higher than the New York Mets, Corporate will send the Chicago office enough cheesecake for forty people. If, on the other hand, the Mets end up ahead of the cubs, the Chicago office will send Corporate enough sausage for forty people.



THE SDA NEWSLETTER 71 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10003

Publisher: Editor: Coordinator: Staff Artists: Jay Goldberg Jane Braik Kon Episcopo Patri Tiberi Sandy Greer Kose Heibendahl Suzanne Wachler

Production Manager: Suzanne Wachler

#### SPRING OUTING IN LEXINGTON

On May 15, 1985, the Lexington contingent of the Cincinnati branch held their Spring Outing at the Red Mile race track in Lexington, Kentucky. Most of the staff of 19 SDAer's enjoyed dinner and an evening of harness racing (in harness racing, the rider sits in a sulky and is pulled by the horse). Roger Giesel, the Technical Manager, came down from Cincinnati to join in the festivities.

After dining in the Clubhouse, everyone eagerly studied the racing forms. As post time grew near, the excitement began to build. Those who braved the risk of losing \$2 jumped in line to place their bets. Roger and the Lexington Account Supervisors, Jim Fischer and Steve Wheeler, organized a jackpot drawing allowing one person in each of the 9 races to win a free wager, with the highest winning bet to receive the remainder of the jackpot. Paul Wigler's wife, Susan, (shown studying the racing form with Paul) was the lucky winner.

The 5th race was named in SDA's honor and everyone gathered in the winner's circle for a group photo. As you can see by the pictures, a good time was had by all!





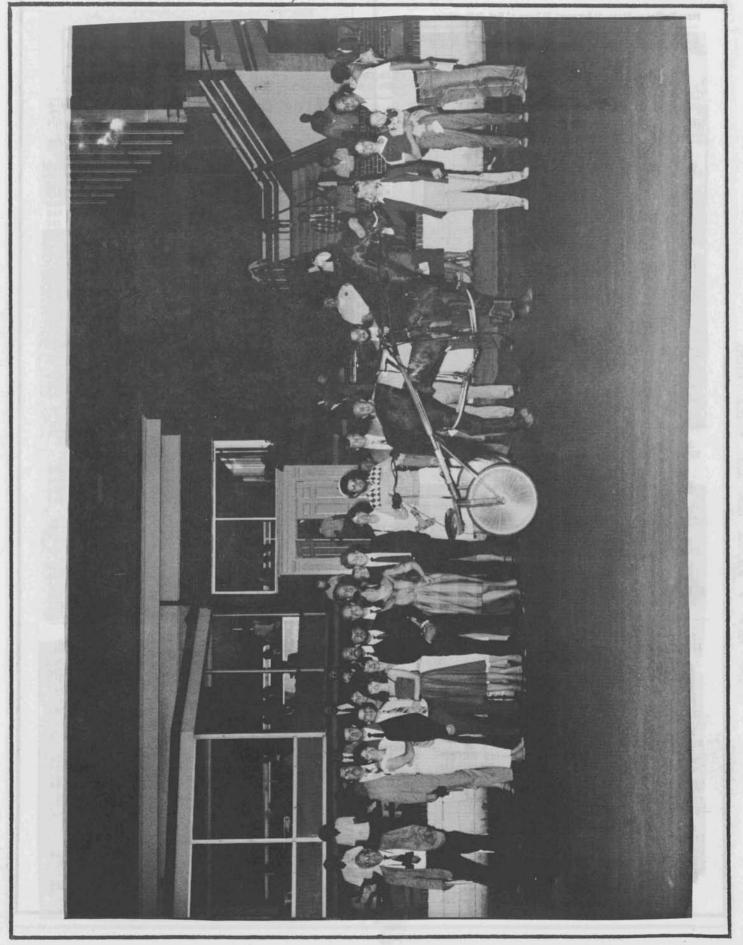


#### WE UNDERGO AN ABOUT-FACE

We really have egg on our face after seeing the faint and fuzzy text of the last issue.

Until further notice, the final typing and printing of the Newsletter will again be done one the Wang using the Trojan print wheel. In the meantime, I shall be looking into the possibility of purchasing a Commodore-compatible printer, possibly an Okidata, with better print quality.

We offer our apologies to Saadet Can and thank her for her superb work and her patience.



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SCENES FROM A RECENT NEW YORK CHECK NIGHT

#### THE FIRST ANNUAL SDA "PRO-INVITATIONAL" GOLF TOURNAMENT

Phoenix staff member LARRY PARAL organized a golf outing and picnic on Saturday, April 13. All SDA staff and guests were welcome to attend, regardless of golf experience or skill. For some of the staff that joined in on the fun it was the first time out with a club, or should I say armed with a club? We're afraid the fairways may never look the same!

When it was all over and everyone humbly admitted their scores, handicaps were calculated and prizes were awarded. First place was taken by technical staff member Steve Fletcher. Second place was swept away by technical manager Don Wright's better half, Debbie.

As we relaxed in the shade at a nearby park, we decided that next time we would try croquet.

Paula Gascoigne

#### SDA EXTENDS A HAND TO THE HANDICAPPED

Project Access to Computer Training (PACT) is a partnership of the public, private and non-profit sectors of the business community organized to provide training opportunities for bright, physically disabled people in computer related professions. PACT consists of two programs; one prepares individuals to become entry level programmers, and the other prepares them to become accounting/ data entry clerks. Both are run through United Cerebral Palsy of New York.

The important link to the employment market is PACT's Business Advisory Council, for which SDA is a supporting company, Ron Episcopo represents SDA in this group.

Fourteen students completed the project this year. The program was established in 1983 with the assistance of the International Business Machines Corporation, and, fittingly enough, this year's graduation ceremony took place in the IBM Gallery of Science and Art.

#### PHILADELPHIA BRANCH HANDS-ON TRAINING

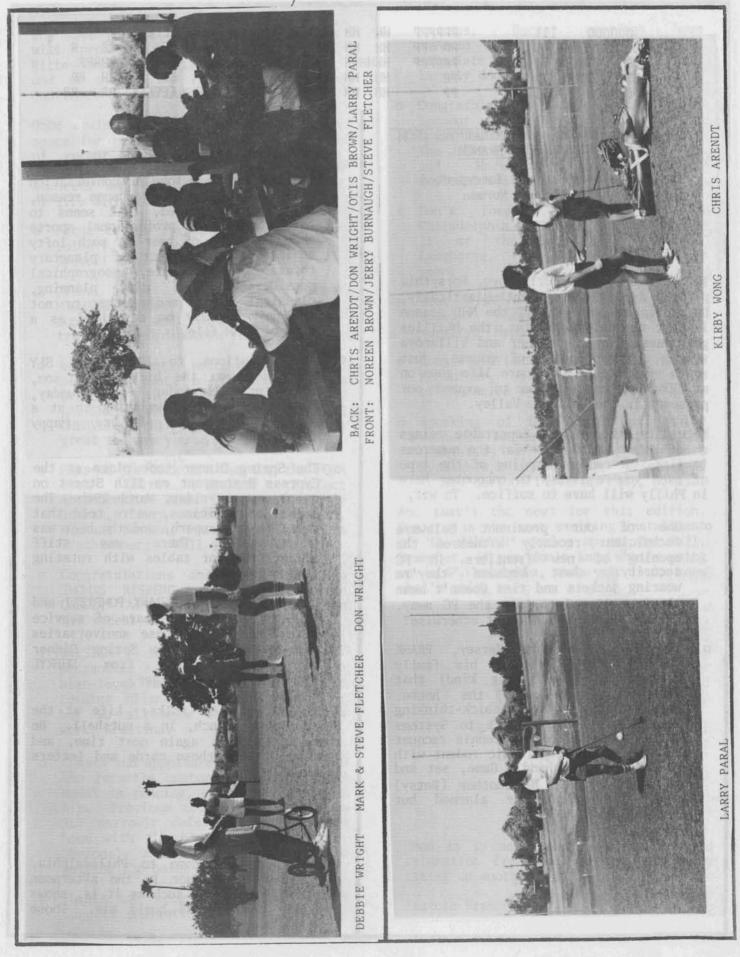
SDA of Philadelphia has joined with AGS Management Systems, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, to enhance the quality of technical in-house training available to employees of both companies. This relationship between our companies is truly a 'win-win' situation. SDA is able to provide experienced and technically able instructors, and AGS is able to provide 'hands-on' physical facilities.

AGS has provided terminals and access to an IBM 4341 in a classroom environment. The available operating environments are VM/CMS, PRIME, TSO/SPF and OS/CICS, COBOL and FORTRAN compilers are also available. SDA has already modified one of its existing courses to take advantage of these facilities. The CICS Concepts and Coding course, taught by Kristina Matzon, now includes a four hour hands-on workshop, in addition to the ten hours of traditional classroom study.

A COBOL self-study course for programmers and a one day workshop on OS/CICS are also now being planned.

Grover McKenzie April 1985





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REPORTS, RUMORS AND RUMINATIONS FROM THE PHILADELPHIA BRANCH

Compiled, Assembled and Interpreted by Michael Norman

Spring, 1985

In the city of brotherly love, Forsythia plants are blooming enthusiastically, Daffadils are everywhere, the NHL season is past the half-way point, the Phillies got thumped in the opener and Villanova reigns supreme. And, of course, just south of Rittenhouse Square life goes on at SDA, as we continue to expand our presence in the Delaware Valley.

Naturally, the various reportable goings on of recent months are far too numerous to list. A random sampling of the type of even you're likely to encounter here in Philly will have to suffice. To wit,

o One of our prominent Delaware technicians recently witnessed the opening of new frontiers in PC security. Just because they're wearing jackets and ties doesn't mean they're allowed to take the PC away. But who would have thought otherwise?

Meanwhile, over in Jersey. 0 FRANK TORNOE bravely defended his family from a bat (the flying kind) that found its way into the house. Demonstrating the quick-thinking resoucefullness essential to Systems work, Frank hefted his tennis racquet and felled the supersonic rodent with a withering backhand. Game, set and match to Frank. New mother (Betsy) infant reported: alarmed and but unhurt.

Comments have been received pointing out the improved tone of conversation at recent checknites. For some reason, as yet undetermined, talk seems to have turned from professional sports and the price of beer to such lofty topics as the effect of planetary rotation on climate, geographical considerations of city planning, classical music, and whether or not the universe may be described as a kind of VSAM file.

 Congratulations to NILDA and SLY WHITEHEAD, on the birth of a son, Sylvester Alexander on Sunday, February 24, 1985, weighing in at a strapping 7 lbs., 3 oz. Happy parenting!

o The Spring Dinner took place at the Cypress Restaurant on 11th Street on a hot, muggy Friday, March 29th. The steak was delicious, we're told that the fish was superb, and the beer was unsurpassed. There was stiff competition for tables with rotating fans overhead.

 Congratulations to FRANK POMPIZZI and BILL ANDEL on five years of service with SDA. . . These anniversaries were honored at the Spring Dinner with presentations from SHERYL FRANKLIN, Branch Manager.

There you have it folks. Life at the Philadelphia branch, in a nutshell. Be sure to tune in again next time, and remember: Keep those cards and letters coming.

Summer, 1985

Summer heat has come to Philadelphia. The sidewalks shimmer in the afternoon heat. The horizon, such as it is, shows blurrily through the humid air. Those

who have not yet planted their gardens will probably wait till next year. Rittenhouse Square is busier than ever, and of course the Philadelphia branch continues to grow and prosper.

Once again, there is far more new than space for printing it. But a selection of recent events should provide the objective reader with a comparatively accurate and entirely unbiased picture of life with SDA in Philly.

- o First things first, we must add our voice to those congratulations, Grover! We wish you all the best.
- o Other recent appointments include MICHAEL NORMAN (who?) as Account Supervisor and GRACE BURROWS as training Co-Ordinator. Three cheers!
- We have recently welcomed a number of new consultants to the Philadelphia branch. Big "Hello"s to DIANE LAVIGNE, JOHN AKERS, JIM WEBB, GENE CHERVETS AND VICTOR SCOTT. It's great to have you with us.
- o Pats-on-the-back are due for the FQPA club (First Quarter Perfect Attenders). Grace Burrows, Woody Ingram, Larry Marcus, Leif Matzon, Michael Norman, Frank Tornoe and Ira Trachtenberg. Well done!
- o Congratulations and best wishes to THOMAS RISBERG and his new bride CAROL. Also to IRA TRACHTENBERG on his recent engagement.
- o KRISTINA MATZON found herself presenting a project-test proposal to high-level management at one of our leading clients. They liked it -but we all knew they would. Nice work, Kristina.
- o Cheers and appplause for SLY WHITEHEAD who recently captured a coveted Gold Medal in fencing, a favorite hobby of his. Previous tournaments have seen SLY narrowly defeated, but he came home with the big prize this time. Obviously a man who has no trouble getting the point across.
- Thanks and recognition to LEIF MATZON for his energetic support of the MAG

process. Recent meetings have covered a lot of ground and helped stimulate a number of new ideas, largely due to Leif's efforts.

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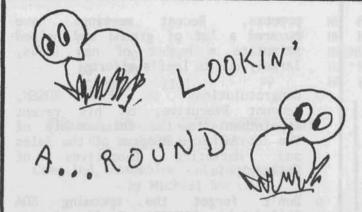
- o Congratulations to JOEL ROSEN, Account Executive, on his recent appointment to the chairmanship of The Job Exchange Program of the Sales and Marketing Executives of Philadelphia.
- o Don't forget the upcoming SDA Philadelphia PICNIC! Sunday, August 11 at the Shore Picnic Club, Langhorne, PA. Details to follow soon.
- o Best wishes to JOHN AKERS for a speedy recovery from upcoming surgery. Happy birthday, too.
- o Congratulations to DOT YOUNG, Branch Recruiter, on successful completion of the Sales Training course.
- Speaking of DOT YOUNG, a usually reliable source reports that limited quantities of old-recipe Coke are available, at premium prices of couse. Serious inquiries only, please.

And that's the news for this edition. Don't miss the next exciting installment of 'OL PHILLER' coming up in the Fall. Remember, if you don't know what's going on in Philadelphia, then you don't know what's going on.



"Man is so made that he can only find relaxation from one kind of labor by taking up another."

Anatole France



10.

#### AT THE CHICAGO BRANCH

#### Published "occasionally" March 29, 1985 PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

If you don't happen to be in one of the classes you might not have noticed. If not, you should notice that the Spring Training Schedule is moving along apace. Two courses are running concurrently at the moment and others are coming up. Thanks to Mehdi Beheshti for making all the arrangements and coordinating. Thanks, also, to the instructors and the attendees.

On Friday, March 29, Jim Farrell wraps up his current assignment. On Monday, April 1, Jim will be working on the NOMAD project, along with Dick Kramer.

On Monday, April 1, a new person will be joining the staff -- Pat Lyons-Upton.

On Tuesday, April 2, Alex Burns, who has been on leave of absence, in England, will return to our staff in Chicago.

Jon Dixon who has also been on leave of absence, in England, will be rejoining the Chicago staff on April 15.

Congratulations to Don Jones and Dick Kramer on becoming Account Supervisors during the past month or so. Also congratulations to Gary Britain who takes over the role from Mike Waghorn on May 1, 1985 when Mike completes his assignment.

We're having a party! On April 18, 1985 we will have our SDA Spring Party for all staff members. It will be hors d'oeuvres, dinner, and drinks at the Kon Tiki Ports Restaurant (in a separate area), 505 North Michigan, Chicago. We will start at 5:00 and end about 9:00. Please put it on your schedule. More details later. RSVP to Lee, please.

Jay Goldberg, the President of SDA, will be joining us that evening. It will be a nice time to meet Jay. This is one reason we changed the date from April 17.

Another good time for meeting people will be on Monday, April 15, our next check night. We will be joined by Seth Hanover, the Senior Vice President of SDA. He is looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and meeting new people.

On April 17, 1985, Kathy Farrell presented Jim Farrell of the Chicago branch with Timothy O'Meara Farrell who was born 21 inches long, weighing 8 pounds, 9 1/2 ounces. The family is doing just fine.

"The Pot" -- As promised, with this issue there will be regular disclosures of what's in "the pot" -- the pot is holding the \$500 contributions for each person hired through an employee referral. Right now "the pot" contains \$1500. You recall that this "pot" will be distributed at the end of the year by drawing. Those eligible for the drawing are people who have made successful referrals during the year.

We ended up with three people scheduled for the Referral Open House on April 25 and, because of cancellations, actually completed one of the interviews. We look forward to meeting the other candidates in the future. Please be alert for candidates. We are looking for people on an on-going basis, and we will probably try additional open houses.

We hope that everyone enjoyed the Spring party. There was plenty of noise, food and drink, it seemed; that may be an indication of the level of comfort. If anyone didn't get an SDA Chicago hat, please check with Lee. And remember, hit a "Line Drive in '85."

REMEMBER THE SDA REFERRAL PROGRAM



#### IN DEFENSE OF THE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMMER

Maintenance is one of the most underrated DP jobs and because it is not considered glamorous, little attention is paid to it--unwisely.

#### By Christine B. Tayntor Director, MIS Support Group Five Technologies Inc. Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Second-class citizens. Whether or not anyone admits it openly, that is how most application maintenance programmers are regarded, and--all too often--how they see themselves. Their work is viewed with disdain because it is not considered "state-of-the-art." Their jobs are thought to be routine and lacking in creativity, and as a result maintenance programmers are frequently paid less than their counterparts on the development staff.

This should not be. It's time that management recognize the importance of application maintenance programmers and the unique skills that they possess.

In most data processing (DP) shops, the primary emphasis is placed on the development of new systems, without that maintenance considering and modification of existing systems are even more critical to the continued functioning of the company. Without maintenance programmers, such essential systems as billing, payroll and accounts receivable--the lifeblood of every business--might cease to function. Imagine a manufacturing shop if its material requirements planning system didn't run, or a bank without its daily demand deposit system, or an insurance company lacking the ability to issue policies. The result would be chaos. It is absolutely vital that core systems continue to function. The key to that continued functioning is the application maintenance programmer.

Just because a job is essential doesn't mean that it is difficult. In the case of application maintenance, however, several factors make the job both complex and challenging. A unique set of skills is required. It is important to note that these skills, while different from those needed by the development staff, are not lower level. It could be argued that a good maintenance programmer has a higher skills level than a development programmer with comparable experience.

Let's examine the differences between application maintenance and development.

While development programmers create programs and can, thus, write them according to their own personal styles, maintenance programmers must work with programs they did not design or write. They must understand another person's coding style and force their own techniques to meet those of the original program. In the case of clear, structured code, this is not difficult.

Many systems, however, do not use structured code and have been modified so many times that they are classic examples of "spaghetti" code. They may be rife with nested "ifs" and obscure coding techniques such as the "alter" statement. Simply being able to understand one of these programs should qualify a person for a promotion; modifying them is even more difficult.

Added to the need to understand someone else's code is the necessity of comprehending the design of the entire system. While a development programmer needs to know only his portion of the system to write an efficient program, someone modifying a module needs to understand how his piece fits into the overall scheme, lest a seemingly innocent coding change have a ripple effect that causes the system to crash.

The complexities of the maintenance function are increased when you realize that, in many cases, adequate documentation is not available. Program specifications and sample output are frequently either missing or out of date. In the worst case, the program folder doesn't even contain the current source listing. All of these problems make the maintenance programmer's job difficult.

Timing is also critical. Although the development staff is noted for working long hours when deadlines are close, it

does not function in the crisis environment that the maintenance group does. Phone calls in the middle of the night and systems that have to be fixed immediately are part of the maintenance programmer's life. Operating under those conditions requires both patience and a high level of commitment to the job.

Furthermore, maintenance programmers must be able to "multiprocess." While their counterparts on the development staff often have the luxury of working on one system at a time, maintenance programmers are frequently applying changes to several systems the same day. They must be able to switch between systems without losing their train of thought.

The specialized skills just described could comprise an entire job. But for maintenance programmers, they are only a portion of it. Like their counter- parts on the development staff, maintenance programmers also must be thoroughly competent technicians.

Maintenance programmers, far from being sound second-class citizens, are a unique, necessary and valuable part of every DP shop. Let's give them the recognition they deserve.

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Contributed by April Chau



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#### ON CORRECT USAGE

"Against the misuse of words every editorial prejudice should be fixed in concrete."

Ellery Sedgwick

## Social Notes

13.

On April 17th Kathy Farrell presented Jim Farrell of the Chicago branch with Timothy O'Meara Farrell, who was born 21 inches long, weighing 8 pounds 9 1/2 ounces. The family is doing just fine.

On April 18 New York Account Executive Pauli Overdorf and her husband, Iden Syms, became the proud and happy parents of a baby boy, Reid. The sex of the child was no surprise, and it had already been determined by amniocentesis.

On May 2nd at 1:03 A.M., Jane Braik's daughter Margery Scow gavie birth to her third child, James Ivan, who weighed in at 8 pounds, 9 ounces. James has a three-year old brother, Christopher, and a two-year old sister, Greta.

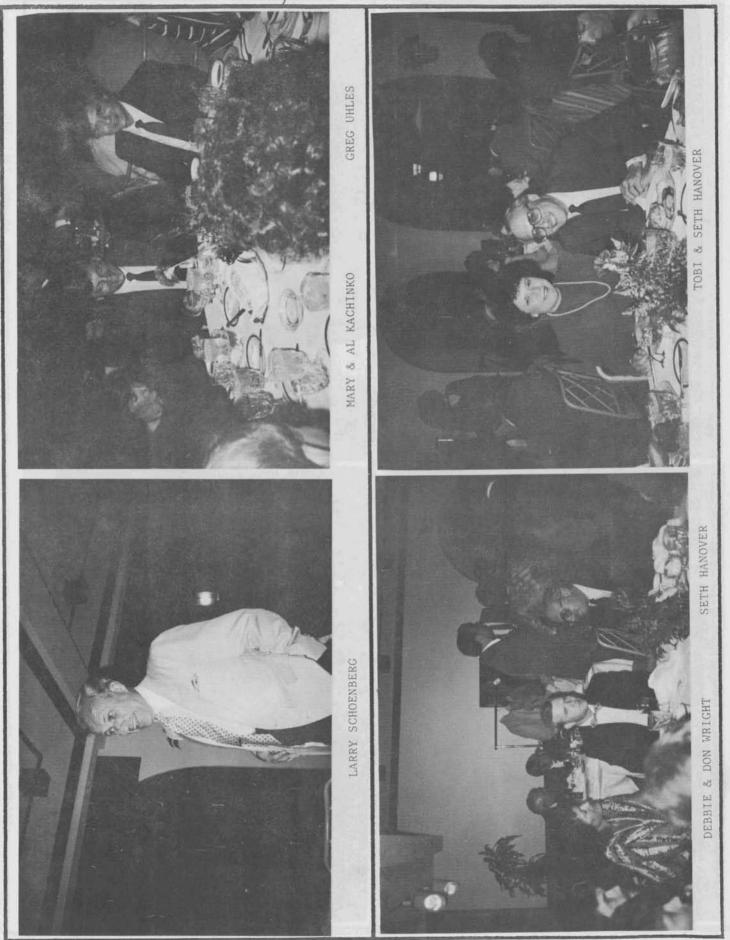
On June 8th Patri Tiberi and her longtime sweetheart Tony Motola, were joined



in holy matrimony. The happy couple honeymooned on Paradise Island in the Bahamas, which lived up to its name so well that Patri said she wanted to stay there for the rest of her life.

On June 19th at 8:08 A.M., Roger Giesel, Technical Manager for the Cincinnati branch, and his wife, Laura, became the delighted parents of a baby girl, Rosalie Wente, who is their first child. Rosalie weighed in at 8 pounds, 1-1/2 ounces and measured 20 inches. Quite a lovely haul for an expectant father who had to pace the floor for 26 1/2 hours.









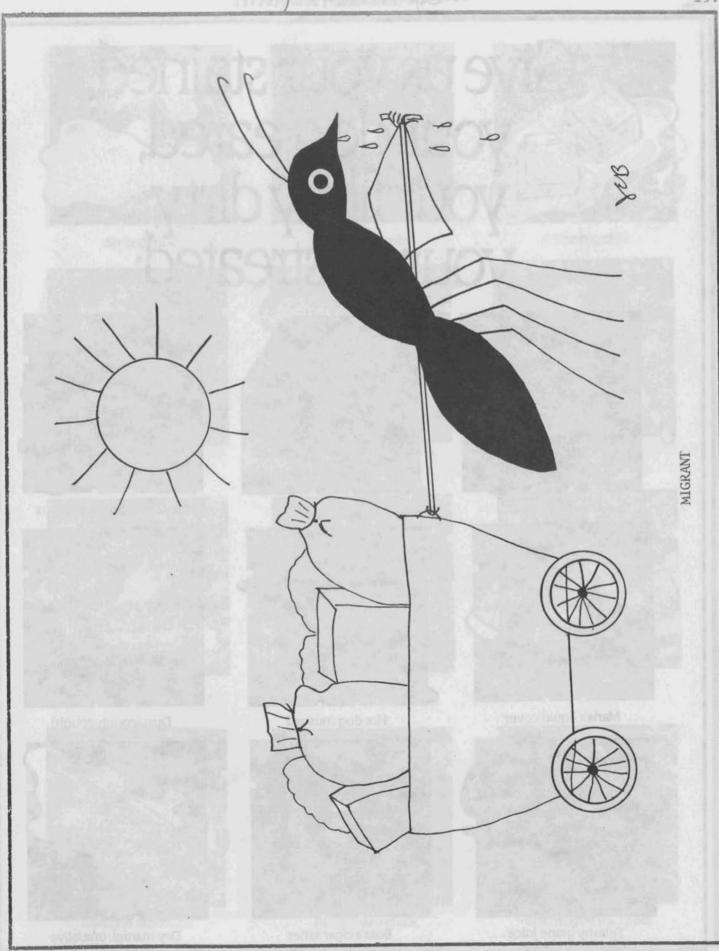
#### HOW TO READ ANY TAPE

I recently had to read all of the files on a tape without knowing the number of files or the record format. In this case, there were up to 1000 files on an NL tape. The following program contains the techniques required to perform this function. Since the tape is read as if the records are RECFM-U, the program must be able to recognize the true format and perform all of the deblocking.

Bob Steinberg

#### EXAMPLE CSECT

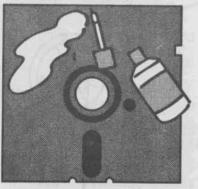
	LA USING	IHADCB,R7 R7,TAPDCB JFCBDSCT,R8 R8,JFCB1 OPENPREP	ADDRESSABILITY FOR DCB DSECT ADDRESSABILITY FOR JFCB DSECT
PROCESS	EQU GET		A
	AP	BLKCNT,=P'1'	ADD 1 TO BLOCKS READ IN THIS FILE
			CORD ADDRESS IN THE BUFFER
	DCBLRI	ECL CONTAINS BLOG	CK LENGTH
* REC		ROCESSING GOES HI	ERE
	В	PROCESS	
OPENPREP		*	and the same barrier was such as the same second
ODENTNY	RDJFCI OI	JFCBTSDM,X'08'	READ IN THE JFCB FOR THE INPUT FILE SET NO REWRITE OF JFCB ON OPEN
OPENINX	EQU		DEGER NUMBER OF RECOVE IN STAR
	ZAP	BLKCNT,=P'0'	RESET NUMBER OF BLOCKS IN FILE
	LII TA	R6,FILESEQ	PICK UP NUMBER OF FILES READ
		R6,1(R6)	ADD 1 TO NUMBER OF FILES READ
		R6,FILESEQ	
	DIR	R6, JFCBFLSQ	SET NUMBER OF FILE TO BE OPENED RESET NUMBER OF VOLUMES TO 1
	MVI		RESET NUMBER OF VOLUMES TO 1
		(TAPDCB), TYPE=J	OURGE DOD GUGODGODUE ODDU
		DCBOFLGS, X'10'	CHECK FOR SUCCESSFUL OPEN
		BADOPEN	
PADODEN	B	PROCESS	
BADOPEN	nde		
FOF		999, DUMP	
EOF *	EQU		DOUDLE TH (END OF VOL)
*	INC	R IN FRONT OF LEA	DOUBLE TM (END OF VOL)
~	CP		
		BLKCNT,=P'0' MOREFILS	WERE ANY BLOCKS READ
	BNE	FUREFILS	YES SO KEEP GOING
	BNE	FILESEQ, -A UUUI	' WAS THIS THE FIRST FILE NO SO MUST BE EOV
MODEETTS		*	NO SU MUSI BE LUV
MOREFILS	100		NODE BILLES CO DODGE NO DEUTID
	B		MORE FILES, SO FORCE NO REWIND
ENDOEVOT		*	GO TO OPEN OF NEXT FILE
ENDOFVOL			
		(TAPDCB, DISP)	
BLKCNT	B	ENDOFJOB PL8'0'	
		H'0'	CTADE AR NO DITEC DEAD
		n 0 *	START AT NO FILES READ
JFCB1X	EQU		and and a second s
	DC	X'87'	X'08' FOR LAST IN LIST, X'07' FOR JFCB
THORA	DC	AL3(JFCB1)	ADDRESS OF JFCB
JFCB1	DC	XL176'00'	AREA TO READ IN JFCB
TAPDCB	DCB		ORG=PS, MACRF=GL, EODAD=EOF, X
	-		CFM=U,LRECL=32000
	IEFJF(		
	DCBD	DSORG=PS	
	END		



# Give us your stained, your dog-eared, your filthy dirty, your mistreated:



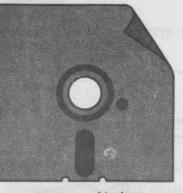
Aunt Molly's jam



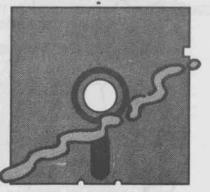
Maria's liquid cover



Splashy grape juice



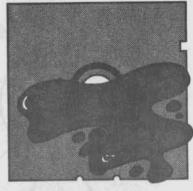
Dog-eared jacket



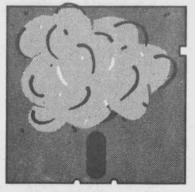
Hot dog mustard



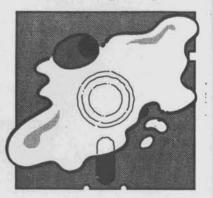
Boss's cigar ashes



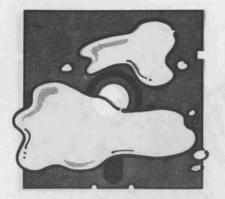
Regular coffee, two lumps



Dust (cough-cough)



Dry martini, one olive



Spilled milk



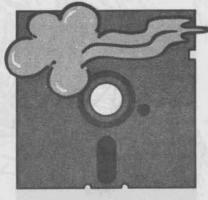
Cracker crumbs



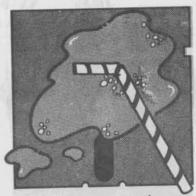
The big chill



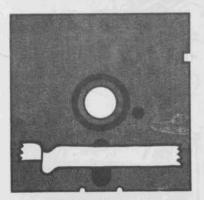
Lunchcounter ketchup



Clouds of smoke



Fizzy orange soda



Tacky white tape



Bologna sandwich



Potted plant-no pot

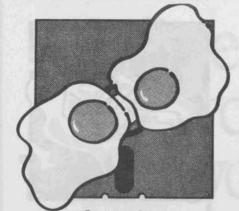
Blackboard chalk



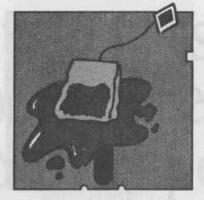
Muddy doggy prints



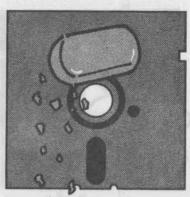
Waterbased ink spots



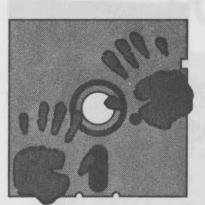
Sunny side up



English breakfast tea



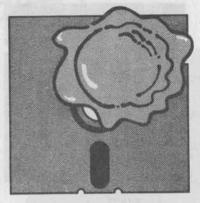
Eraser bits



Chocolate fingerprints



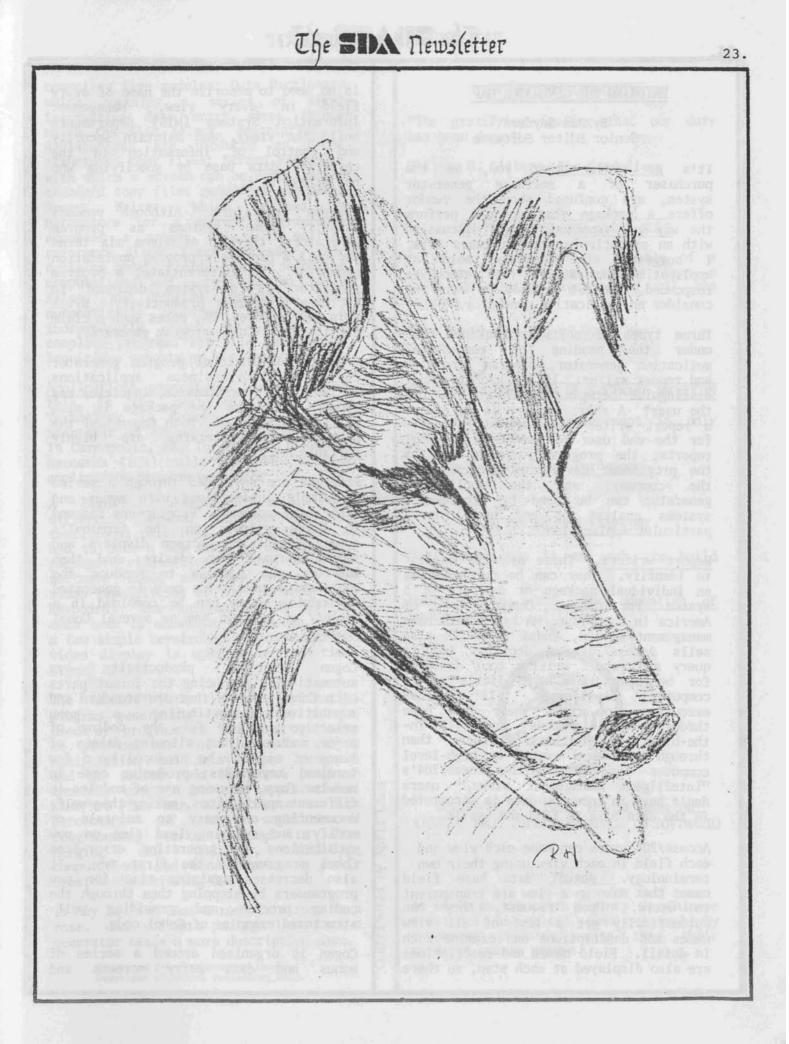
Sudsy soap bubbles



One scoop of ice cream



If it's a Polaroid diskette, we'll fix it.



#### BRIDGING THE GENERATOR GAP

#### By Jan Snyders Senior Editor Software

It's no wonder that you, as the purchaser of a software generator system, are confused when the vendor offers a package that doesn't perform the way you expected. In a discussion with an executive at one software firm, I suggested the company sold an application generator. This executive responded, "It all depends on what you consider an application generator."

Three types of software packages fall under the heading of generators: aplication generator, program generator and report writer. If the vendor cannot distinguish between the three, how can the user? A short summary is in order: a report writer is designed basically for the end user to produce individual reports; the program generator is for the programmer developing programs for the company; and the application generator can be used by programmer, systems analyst or end user for a particular application.

Report writers. These are the easiest to identify. They can be purchased as an individual package or as part of a system. For instance, Computer Corp. of America in Cambridge, MA has a data base management system, Model 204. It also sells Access/204, a decision support query and report writing tool designed for business users with little or no computer experience. allows It executives to access their data base fill-inthrough simple menus and the-blank completions rather than through a command syntax or high-level computer language. With Access/204's "intelligent management views," users don't have to know how data is structured in the data base to find and use it.

Access/204 users can name each view and each field in each view using their own terminology. Actual data base field names that make up a view are transparent to users. Upon request, they can automatically get a list of all view names and descriptions and examine each in detail. Field names and descriptions are also displayed at each step, so there is no need to memorize the name of every field in every view. Management Information Systems (MIS) departments build the views, and maintain security and control of information in the corporate data base by specifying who has access to it.

Program generators. Although vendors classify some systems as program generators, they do at times mix terms and call a package a program application generator. To differentiate, a program generator is a system designed to increase programmer productivity. Bytek Corp. of Berkeley, CA, makes such a claim for its Cogen Cobol program generator.

Cogen is an RM/Cobol program generator for standard business applications including file maintenance, inquiries and reports. Because the package is also written in RM/Cobol, both Cogen and the programs it generates are highly portable.

Programs are developed through a series of simple interactions with menus and data entry screens. Programmers respond to Cogen prompts on the terminal's screen, paint the screen displays and report formats they desire, and then instruct the package to produce the application code. The code is generated in modules which can be combined in a variety of ways in one or several Cobol programs.

productivity improves Cogen by: automatically producing the format parts of a Cobol program that are standard and repetitive; substituting а menu selection process for the coding of major modules, thus allowing dozens of lines of code to be produced by a few terminal keystrokes; producing code in modular form, allowing use of modules in different applications, making them selfdocumenting and easy to maintain or modify; and reducing lead time on new applications by generating error-free Cobol programs on the first try. It also decreases training time for new programmers by stepping them through the coding process and providing wellstructured examples of Cobol code.

Cogen is organized around a series of menus and data entry screens and

24

comprises five modules; Data Dictionary, which contains a series of simple interactive data entry steps through which the file select, description and declaratives are produced as Cobolstructured copy files; Screen Processor. with which a screen can be formatted and standard copy files generated and saved; Report Writer, which defines the parameters for a report program that accesses a master file and multiple reference files; Batch Processor, which contains update fields, record selection, computations and access of up to 99 and Program Generator, which files: automatically combines Cogen-coded or independently coded copy files into complete programs for file maintenance. inquiries, reports or batch processing.

Applications generators. Of the three, this is the most clouded. Signal Technology in Goleta, CA, classifies Smartstar as an applications generator. In Caraopolis, PA, Information & Systems Research (ISR) calls RIMS/MPS- Plus an application program generator.

A Signal spokesperson said, "The difference between Smartstar and the traditional offerings is so vast that we had to coin a new word to describe the package: 'videoactive.'" This means the software takes advantage of all the video capabilities of the CRT screen and keyboard. The information needed for each task is shown on the screen. Only a few simple keystrokes are used and the video display is updated in real-time, Signal claims.

The RIMS/MPG-Plus is an application program generating system that can be used by programmers and nonprogrammers to produce most of the data entry, manipulation and data output programs and the source code for those programs commonly used in business applications. RIMS/MPG-Plus can also create a high 5 percentage of the sophisticated April programming tasks related to file updating, including and merging computations and conditionals on newly à created and existing data.

It may be true that a rose is a rose is a rose. But software package listed as a generator needs a more descriptive name.

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#### ON MEETING A DEADLINE

"The gratifying feeling that our duty has been done."

William S. Gilbert, The Gondoliers

#### ON ENTHUSIASM FOR ONE'S WORK

"Give me a man that is capable of a devotion to anything, rather than a cold, calculating average of all the virtues."

Bret Harte, Two Men of Sandy Bar

#### ON THE PROLIFERATION OF SOFTWARE PRODUCTS

"See how today's achievement is only tomorrow's confusion."

William Dean Howells, Pordenone

#### ON ON-THE-JOB LEARNING

"All experience is an arch, to build upon."

Henry Brooks Adams, The Education of Henry Adams



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#### BUG BULLETIN

As early as the ninth century the Chinese practiced biological pest control by releasing predatory ants into their mandarin orange groves.

PUZZLES												CROSSWORD												
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#### ACROSS

- 1. dBase II or Lotus 1-2-3, e.g.
- 9. Report components 14. CPU or disk, e.g.
- Assigns to the same storage 22. area
- 23. What one should not regard the 24. Smelly substance 26. Ancient Roman official

- Swinging back and forth, for 27. short
- 28. Fishhook attacker
- 29. D3E2D5
- 30. Large Pill
- Made a loan 31.
- 32. Honorable mention

- 34. Word in COBOL Data Division
- 37. Having to do with machinery, for short Binary states short
- 38.
- Study of prison management Medicinal substances 39.
- 40.
- Common COBOL data name Prefix 42.
- 43.
- N.E. state Preceder of fum 44. Printer part
- 45. Executed
- 46.
- Man's nickname 47. 48. H.S. course
- Note of the scale 50.
- 51. Hank's 54. C5E3D3
- C5E3D3 54.
- 55.
  - DISP option

56. Guided 151. Sports org 59. Printer part 152. Old-fashioned patent medicine 153. Mongrel 61. Spooky 63. Mr. Caesar 154. Arab leader defeated in battle of Gashegar 156. Instruction format 157. SI instruction 158. College deg 64. Bobby Pin contents Haphazardly aligned COBOL 65. Programs, e.g. IBM 7094 unconditional branch 67. 160. Of Rossi, an opponent of 68. Corrosive substance Mussolini's fascist regime 69. Surrogate mother 163. Unbound 70. Look! 71. Create graphics 165. H.S. course 73. Central high sail 166. Resembling a snakelike fish 76. Time not measurable in 168. Kitchen implement 169. Vegetable seed vessel nonoseconds 170. Fortran trig function 171. Auto wheel adjustment 80. Eggs 81. Sick 81. Sick
82. Apiece for short
83. Mortimer's
87. Yes, in Paris
88. --- you!
90. Greek letter 173. Mouths 174. Pertaining to 104 across 176. Preceder of gopoly or garch 177. Former Met catcher 177. Former Met catcher 178. Minidumps 92. COBOL compiler option 95. Contort 180. Feminine name 181. COBOL precompiler part 96. Shoshonean Indians 183. Furtive 184. Word in COBOL PERFORM 98. IBM 7090 assembler language statement 100. COBOL data manipulation verb 185. Sets a value on 101. SS instruction States Incomentation DOWN 103. Logical value 104. Series of ecological stages 106. Spanish Priest's title 108. Curve Of an occupation like 1. 110. Opening programming or typing Of a Norse god Touched E3C6C5 112. Psychic Phenomenon State of the state of the state 2. 113. Phony 3. 115. E4C9 4. 116. Mr. Amin 116. Mr. Amin 118. Fast food of a kind The Antilles and Bahamas, for 5. short 120. Artist's pad
122. Used a COBOL data manipulation statement
126. ---- Bel, Babylonian 0i1 6. Reinitialize with saved 7. values Grow rapidly 8. Emperor Part of program development 9. 127. Floating-point instruction process Irritate 128. Admission 131. Diphthongs 10. Adolescent
 C5D4D3
 Wooded
 Santified 132. Sea eagle 134. Made a high shrill sound 139. Processions 140. Limb 140. Limb 141. Unit of capacitance 143. COBOL I/O statement Kinds of decimal point
 Rajahs' wives 144. Plant lice 145. Amphetamines 146. Cow genus 147. Facial spasm 149. Puffy Indian breads 17. Kind of radio antenna, for short 18. Arachnid's home 19. Unit of matter 20. Angers 20. Angers

150. E4D6

21. Teachers

22. Assign to an area in storage North Carolina resort town 25. Computer mfr employee of a kind 32. Dressing table item 33. 35. RX instruction 36. RX instruction 40. Architect's aid, for short Making thread or yarn
 Ship's part: phonetic 46. Fish eggs
49. Edible
52. Feminine name
57. Feminine name 53. E2D6D9 Florida city Prevarications Pocket breads --- - ing machines 55. 56. 57. 58. 60. Color 62. Instruction format Data-link control character 63. 64. Foot Kind of multiple dwelling, for 66. short 68. --- Abner 16th century English poet and 69. diplomat Farewell, in ancient Rome 72. Way to eat pie 74. 75. New Zealand Parrot 76. Cursor-directing device 77. Peripheral Early 20th century chemist 78. 79. Preceder of 1on 84. Less common 85. Crystalline rock cavity lining 86. Obeyed the CMS SLEEP command 89. SS instruction 91. Cutting tool 92. IBM TP software 93. What seldom happens to SDA old-timers 94. Unit of energy 97. Shipping company 99. DOS JCL card 102. Data name 105. Sit astride of 107. IMS format descriptor 109. Feline 111. Logon requirement 114. Mr. Grey's 116. Popular DBMS 117. Concepts 119. 'Sesame Street' org 121. Rockets of a kind 123. Of a southern state 124. Paddles 125. BASIC comment indicator 126A You, in Ulm

128.	Shoulder crnaments
20.	Rich layer of pastries
.30.	E3D9C3
133.	Instructio
135.	C9C5D7
136.	Irish sea-god
137.	Blanches
138.	
140.	
141.	
142.	9 1 1
145.	
146.	
148.	Certain Louisiana natives
152.	Implant firmly
153.	
	garment
154.	
	marsupials
155.	Of an Asian country
159.	Sheep cry
161.	Football pos
162.	Rare nonmetallic element:
	chem.
163.	Rent
164.	Noun suffix
165.	Make amends
167.	Exclamation of dismay
169.	Edge
170.	FORTRAN function input, for
	short
	Maritime org
	Mr. Whitney
179.	
100	001 1 · 1

#### 182. SSA logical operator

#### CRYPIOGRAM

NUW RU UFITQW UPUQCTJU WT GT WIVHQ AWRTLW WT WIHJM TAWIHGU VJG XUCTJG TAQ OQULUJW DHQDNU TZ HGUVL. ZTQ UPUQC HGUV EVHJUG HL V IAJGQUG CUVQL TZ LNVPUQC QURHWWUG.

QHDI VQG KUZZUQHUL

#### CRYPTOGRAM

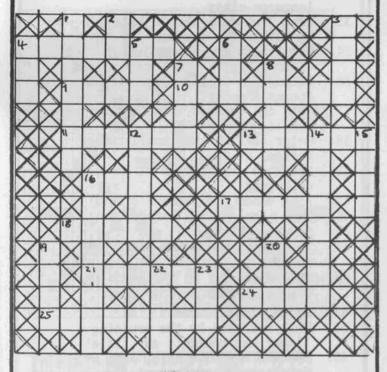
TU TZ MKU UBGW UBFU ZKNW IWKIRW MWWA RWZZ ZRWWI UBFM KUBWEZ--UBWS ZTNIRS ZRWWI LFZUWE.

### IWUWE AWDETWZ

SDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F

#### CROSSWORD

#### By Trevor Wills



#### ACROSS

- Site of desert office building from 4. ashes
- Relieves pressure after IBM canteen 9. lunch
- 10. Our windy office is in such a state
- 11. Data base management system
- 13. Only office on foreign soil
- 16. Screen generating language
- 17. Keyboard operator (sometimes mistaken for Superman)
- 18. Group of records on a tape
- 21. Produce something new
- 24. 8 x 3 down (Its bark is worse.)
- 25. See 20down

#### DOWN

- Language for scientists 1.
- 2. Terminal needs to be . . to work
- More than one Binary Integer 3.
- 4. Hybrid language
- 5. Another type of 11 across
- 6. Language to control your job
- Yet another type of 11 across 7.
- 8. A work force joined in solidarity is to be expected at this office
- 12. Language for beginners originally
- 14. Small french data media

- 15. Digit not permited in OCTAL
- 16. Long Island's office location
- 19. IBM competitor
   20. 25 across Company President
- 22. Produced by lots of 6 down statements

PUNS AND ANAGRAMS

23. Label

65

21 15 66

#### 15 16 14 20 17 19 18 25 21 24 26 27 29 29 30 31 3233 35 36 37 38 39 41 42 43 40 17 98 十好5 49 50 53 51 55 36 54A 60 61 62 63 64 58 10

#### ACROSS

68

69

75

- What the farmer yelled when the 1. gander ranged over his garden
- 7. Play a cat on Broadway
- What made the scribe bolt 10.

61

72

16

- Is Rio Leo a Baltimore Player? 14.
- 15. Roach riddance, no chance Raid!
- 16. Time for a bedtime tale
- 17.
- Flippancy without a fancy P? State of a fast mouse, even off a 18. set
- cur's followers in 20. One of tete-a-tete?

21. Final, as Lot's wife's state as a pillar of salt

- 23. Starland without a strand
- 24. One with a use for lentils
- 25. In epexegesis without 6 geese
- 26. Has existence, but can't see hex?
- Recorded to end obscurity 28.
- 30. Found by a prospector, but not on top
- 31. Will this team be spared the humiliation of ending up in last place?
- 34. What the klutz wasn't able to save
- 35. 'e mere Moslem ruler
- 36. Mick's hat, not hick's
- 38. Sandy sound is far off key

- 39. Bar potation, not necessarily at piano bar
- 40. Place where revelers ram boor?
- 41. It's unwell without we nuts
- 44. A sad beast, even without bad tea
- 46. Bit of pangless yapping
- 47. As I be, a talented Count!
- Group who can sing la or ti
   Fitting in so well that nobody heeds 'm
- 53. Emollient not lent me
- 54. Kind of colony in Nepal?
- 57. The tackler, his middle 'e lack
- 58. Home to some, but not he
- 59. These rugs are a hazard to the elderly
- 59A. Engineer, but no ginner
- 61. This sacred image is no mere coin
- 65. Particle found in Automat
- 67. Tent Pitchers on dams of sand?
- 70. Ripen fromage without performin'
- 71. Secretary filling in for m' Pet
- 72. Enormous one never at noon rose
- 73. Destroyer, but not a searer
- 75. What made 49'ers sore
- 76. Idled--he? No, heel!
- 77. Damaged boat a bit in deck?

#### DOWN

- 1. 50--old? Why, she's a charmer!
- 2. Poreless opera air?
- Enough of these will make you head spin
- 4. Game with goal--but where is Al?
- 5. Creature that made a flea leave A.A.?
- Not like the creations of Edward Lear
- 7. A disorder causing riders to flee
- 8. What the vinegar made a truce with the oil in
- What the caster did to see who would do Tess in the film of ardy's novel
- 10. Color of Renault getting a lube job?
- Teacher of Antony's lang. does not nag Sonny
- The hunter, 'e trots after these furry mammals
- 13. Home of Pete, E.E.?
- 19. 'Nam veterarn of a kind
- 22. Become exhausted performing rite
- 24A. This makes you made when you fall for it and lose \$1000
- 27. 's Belgradians, even without Dina gal
- 29. Will the instrument play 'Don't Fence Me In,' a popular con aria?

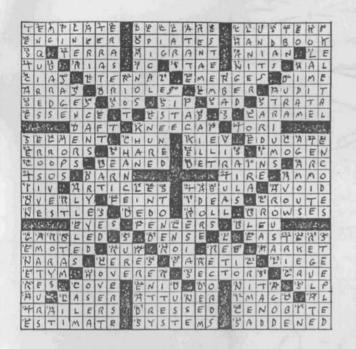
- 30. Like the guy who said 'a fish o' kettle' instead of 'a kettle o' fish
- 31. This kind of dog is seldom temperate 'less he tamer
- 32. What the extinct moa said in a language class
- 33. What the dick was lo king for when he tailed the suspect
- 34. Was Albert's spouse a virago without Iago?
- 36. Attempt to write poetry without Poe as a model
- 37. What can be made into pompador despite dour pa
- 38. Color of fish that would rather be ram?
- 42. Relax in a stateroom on the Ile de France
- 43. What Moses did in days of eld
- 45. Thus after Al and before DA
- 48. Spumanti without m' pun
- 49. This vegetable looks pretty big to atom
- 50. This disturber of the peace is seldom seen to rest or tire
- 51. Cried, 'Eeek! End!?
- 54. What was seen by the cruising lisper who couldn't say 'isle'
- 55. She who may have said, 'For my daughter-in-law I moan'
- 56. Pleasant meadow, unless you paw ant domes
- 59. How many of these are needed to broil spam
- 60. Eve's garden, with no graves
- 62. Does Dry Sack come in this?
- 63. 'O gee, I really bungled that arch!' said the architect
- 64. The guy who said, 'Dern it all, nothing I do works'
- 66. Where Cockney MOe wanted to go
- 68. Is this dirt mucky but not tricky?
- 69. A lank Sir from Ceylon?
- 74. Opposite of a current with no return

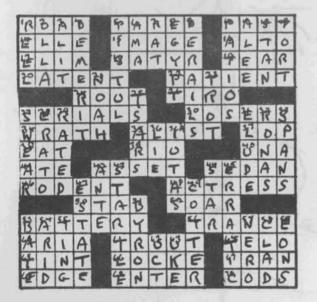
#### BUG BULLETIN

To control slugs in your vegetable garden, sink small containers of beer in the earth with their topes at ground level. Attracted by the beer, the slugs will fall in and die in a happy drunken stupor.

#### ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLES

CROSSWORD





#### BUG BULLETIN

In some parts of the country, where fishing is a big thing, there are worm machines along the road. You just insert a few coins, and out pops a can of worms.

#### CRYPTOGRAM

IF A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE IS DANGEROUS, WHERE IS THE MAN WHO HAS SO MUCH AS TO BE OUT OF DANGER?

THOMAS HENRY HUXLEY

#### CRYPTOGRAM

A WORK THAT ASPIRES, HOWEVER HUMBLY, TO THE CONDITION OF ART SHOULD CARRY ITS JUSTIFICATION IN EVERY LINE.

JOSEPH CONRAD

#### CRYPIOGRAM

ONE MUST HAVE A GOOD MEMORY TO KEEP THE PROMISES ONE MAKES.

FRIEDRICH WILHELM NIETZSCHE

#### ADVICE TO TECHNICAL WRITERS

"The obvious is better than obvious avoidance of it."

H. W. Fowler and F. G. Fowler, <u>Modern</u> English Usage

#### ADVICE TO CONSULTANTS

"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."

Theodore Roosevelt, <u>Speech before the</u> Hamilton Club

#### ON AUTOMATION

"The greatest task before civilization at present is to make machines what they ought to be, the slaves, instead of the masters of men."

Havelock Elllis, Little Essays of Love and Virtue

