



**Monthly Publication
Of The
Kentucky Indiana
PC Users Group**

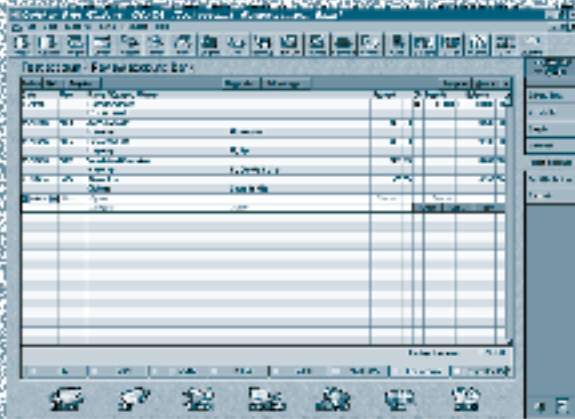
**December
1996**

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Intuit



**Quicken
Ver. 6**

**Quicken
Family
Lawyer**



**Quicken
Financial
Planner**

Check us out at <http://www.kipcug.org>

KIP CUG

Next meeting

INTUIT'S RICHARD KATZ
Quicken 6.0 for Windows and more!
Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m.

From The Editor

When you get to the end of this issue, one thing should be obvious. A lot of the bylines should look markedly similar.

We seem to be running a little thin on submissions for the newsletter.

While I don't go all the way back to the beginning, I can remember the time when every member of the board of directors wrote a column, as did the program director and membership chairman.

I have talked with a lot of other newsletter editors and find that many organizations have regular articles on their special interest groups. I think that is something that we could benefit from in I/O.

I don't want to make this a negative column, but rather one that encourages everyone involved in



JOHN L. GILKEY

the organization to get involved and do what they can to share the knowledge.

Computer user groups are entering a different stage in their evolutionary life cycle, and we in KIPCUG are no exception to the rule.

The sophistication of computer users now, compared to fifteen years ago is enormous. As a result, we must offer a more sophisticated product.

Our strength is in presenting the local view of life in cyberspace. It is one thing to bring you what someone in Vermont wrote about a software product, but it is something quite different to tell what the people in the Louisville metropolitan area think of that product, and how it fits into the local market.

I/O

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The editors reserve the right to make any changes deemed necessary to any editorial matter submitted or to refuse publication of any material submitted.

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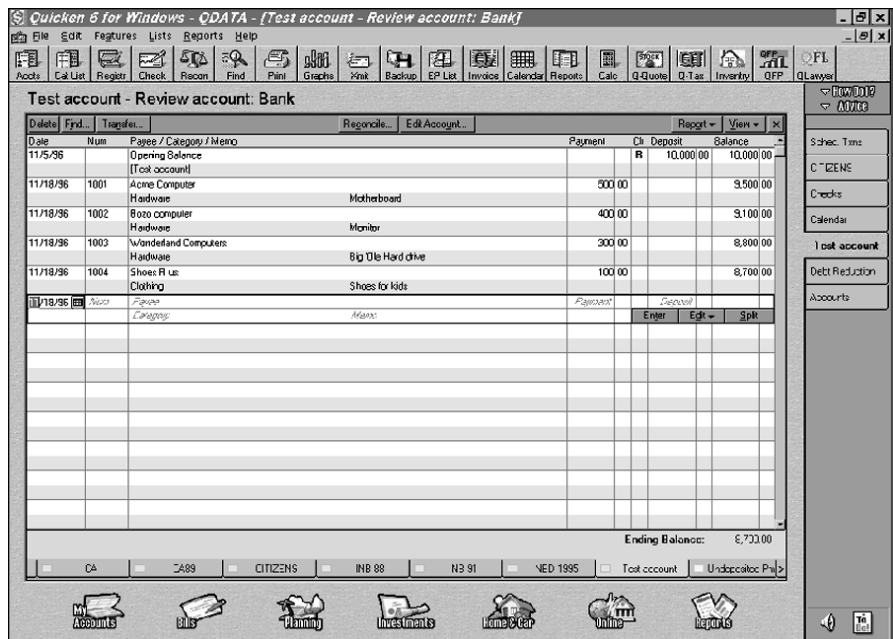
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Financial Suite



The Quicken for Windows Ver. 6 check register

By John L. Gilkey
Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group

Quicken Financial Suite is without question, one of the most comprehensive programs to help organize your finances that you will find on the market today. It includes Quicken Deluxe 6.0, Quicken Financial Planner and Quicken Family Lawyer, all in CD form complete with digital video presentations by experts to help get you going.

Quicken 6 is Intuit's flagship product, and deservedly so. No other software package on the market today offers the power or functionality in a financial management package that you get from Quicken. I have been involved in microcomputers since their inception some 25 years ago. In all that time, I have not seen another product that is more cost effective or that does its job better than Quicken.

In fact, I started programming back in the "old days" right after the introduction of microcomputers. One of my very first applications was a checkbook program.

In writing programs for yourself, you tend to start with the basics and then refine the application through a process known as "creeping elegance." Ultimately it reaches the point where you can no longer maintain it and development stops.

I had done just that with my own checkbook program. I willingly abandoned the project when Quicken first came on the market. It was everything I had done and more, and the price - then as now - was the best investment I had ever seen in software!

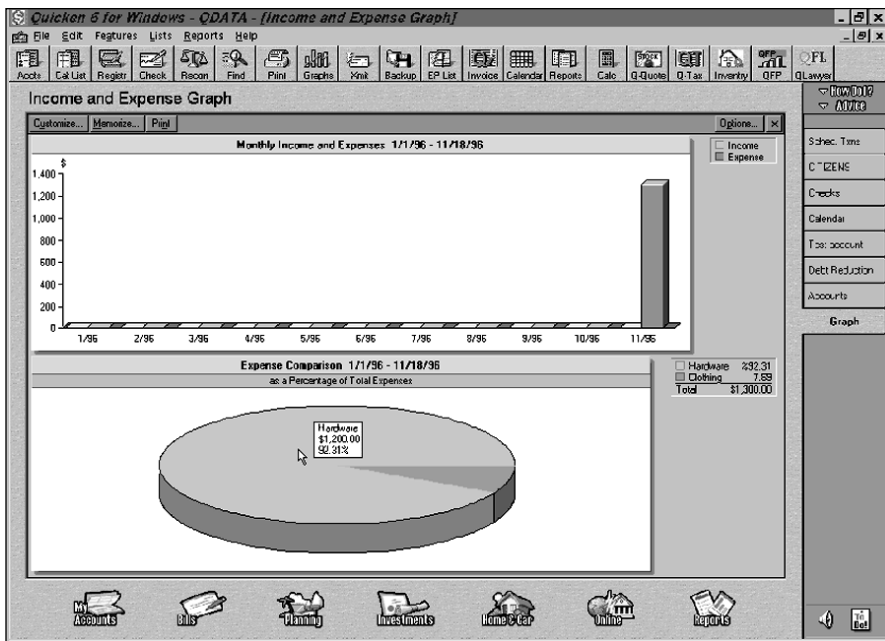
Installation is painless, and I found tech support easily accessible and knowledgeable. Once installed, the program is easy to configure and begin using.

Quicken takes charge of your finances allowing you to create various types of accounts including checking, credit card, money market, asset, savings, cash, investment and liability. The system's built-in instructions can walk you through the process.

There are audio files on the distribution CD-ROM that will provide annotation on practically anything you do in Quicken. Many areas also have video clips that play on request using Video for Windows.

Quicken provides excellent tools for managing accounts, including reconciling and year-end close out if you desire.

Paying your bills is a snap with the options available under Quicken. Not only can you write out checks manually and enter them into the Quicken Check register, but you can also fill in preprinted checks using your computer system's printer. You can order envelopes with a



Comparing money spent on computers to other expenses can be surprising

mailing window that fit the check so that you can print and drop it in the mail. You can even order checks and similar supplies online.

If that's not high-tech enough, Quicken supports electronic bill paying and banking. For years, you have been able to pay bills through the program using a service known as CheckFree Corporation. You simply designate a vendor as an electronic payee, enter certain account information, and tell Quicken to transmit the payment information via modem to your CheckFree account.

A number of the nation's larger financial institutions have now joined into the game and allow electronic banking and bill paying directly through Quicken. Locally in the Louisville metropolitan area, PNC and NBD banks offer the service. Quicken can submit your application for computer banking services electronically through an option in its menu system.

You can schedule payments from your checking account in advance such as for a loan payment or your utility bills if you use an equalized monthly payment system. In fact, the program offers a loan calculator that can set up a payment schedule for you.

If you are like me and the old gray cells aren't what they use to be, Quicken can help remind you of sched-

uled payments. A window appears when you start Quicken if you have set up checks to print, scheduled transactions, or have online payments that need to be transmitted. It also lists online statements ready to be downloaded, displays notes you've added to your Financial Calendar, or makes you aware of investment reminders you've entered.

Okay, I slipped one in there on you, didn't I. The Financial Calendar is a system that makes paying bills easy enough so that just about anyone can do

it. You drag transactions from a list of established payments to a date on a calendar. That's it. There is even an option for setting up new transactions by dragging a special "new transaction" item onto the calendar.

Quicken doesn't just take care of the here and now; it also provides planning assistance in a number of categories. It can help you establish a budget, plan for taxes, save for an upcoming expense, implement a debt reduction plan, identify possible tax deductions or get a copy of your personal credit report.

The program also provides financial planning calculators for loans, savings, college, retirement or refinancing a loan such as your mortgage.

If you have investments, Quicken can maintain your stock portfolio, track your securities and provide an investment register much similar to your check register. You can get online stock quotes, research mutual funds, get stock news or research the stock market.

You can also keep track of things around the home for insurance purposes or asset tracking using the "Home and Car" segment of the software. It allows you to set up and track a loan, determine the value of your assets and maintain an inventory of items in your home in addition to providing an address book and online insurance quotes.

Other online services include bill pay-



Financial security starts right here with the Quicken Financial Planner.



Quicken Family lawyer offers a wide range of advice and forms.

ing and banking, downloading quotes, access to financial sites on the World Wide Web through your Internet account, financial tips and news and the Quicken Financial Network. You can even update your software with incremental version patches online.

One truly powerful way to understand your finances is through reports and graphs. Quicken provides excellent functionality in these areas.

Reports can be customized almost any way you desire and printed or stored in a file on disk. Whether you want a snapshot of your financial position or a register of the checks you wrote today, Quicken can give you the report just the way you want it. Controls for setting up reports are easy to understand as well as being easy to use.

If you are a computer addict like me, there is one caveat I feel I should interject. Don't ever let your spouse see a graph of your expenses by category. That huge section of the pie chart labeled "computers" can make for some interesting conversations you may want to avoid.

The second component of Quicken Financial Suite is the Financial Planner: a program that walks you through the creation of a financial plan developed specifically to meet your needs.

It collects information on you, your spouse and any children you may have.

Your income, savings and assets are studied as well as the taxes you pay and the effect of inflation on your savings.

Loans, expenses, retirement benefits, returns on investment and the results you expect from your financial plan are all part of the review process.

Quicken offers two ways to approach the creation of an action plan. A quick format makes a number of assumptions and leaves out some areas, but takes only about 15 minutes to complete. The full plan leaves everything to your discretion and takes a bit longer. Intuit says an hour, but I found it taking a bit longer because I had to dig up a lot of information on my finances.

If you have all of your financial information at your fingertips, the hour might be right.

The interview approach is augmented with video clips from the CD-ROM that can help to explain things in a clear manner.

What you end up with is a plan and a series of charts and graphs that show you everything from your net worth to your portfolio value. You get an idea of your estimated income, expenses and cash flow through retirement.

It's almost as much fun as doing your taxes. In fact you will find some marked similarities. However, the end result is that you will have a clear plan for achieving your financial goal when you

finish. The only thing you get out of doing your taxes is a headache.

Finally, the suite includes Quicken Family Lawyer, a program that can generate binding legal documents in a wide range of areas.

Primary categories include estate planning, family and personal matters, powers of attorney, health and medical documents and consumer documents. In addition, the program will create documents dealing with consumer credit, real estate, finances, corporate matters and employment matters.

Following a format similar to the other areas of the suite, documents are generated after an interview process with extensive background information available in digital video format on the CD-ROM.

You even have access to a digital version of Arthur Miller, a professor of law at the Harvard Law School, Legal Editor for ABC's Good Morning America, Host of "In Context" on the Court Television Network and author of numerous books and articles on matters of law.

You can pose questions on a variety of subjects for a personal, albeit digital, session with this prestigious lawyer.

The suite requires an MPC-2 compliant PC based on a 486 or higher CPU with at least 8 Mb of RAM. In addition, you will need 50 Mb of free disk space for typical use or 64 Mb for full use. You must have a minimum of a 2x CD-ROM drive. Your video card and monitor must be capable of displaying 256 color VGA.

Additionally, you must have Windows 3.1 or higher, and your computer must have Microsoft's MSCDEX 2.2 or higher CD-ROM extensions installed.

Optional components include a speaker or headphones, a printer and a 100 percent Hayes compatible modem if you intend to use online banking.

You can reach Intuit at PO Box 7850, Mountain View, California 94039-7850. Their technical support phone number is 505-896-7228. They are located on the World Wide Web at www.intuit.com.

Look into your future with Quicken Financial Planner Ver. 2 for Windows

By Forrest D. Wright Sr.
Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group

When I volunteered to test drive this program I thought it dealt with just stocks, bonds, mutual funds and such. Not so, as I found by reading the Users Guide. Yes, I did read it first although sometimes I must admit that is not the norm. The program has many facets but what I found that it does best is to look into the future. Your financial future. And it does it in a way that takes into account where you are today and where you will be when you are retired or any time in between.

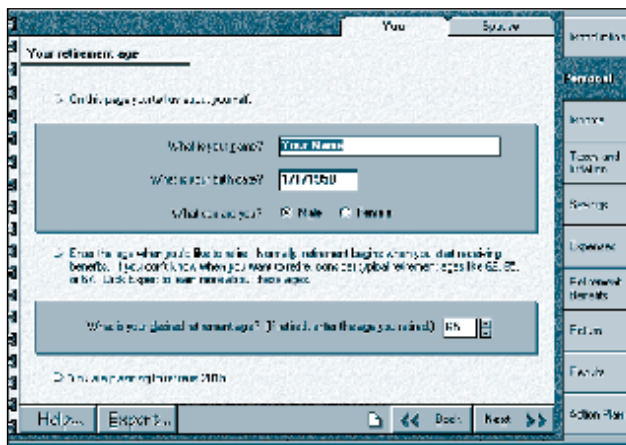
I am retired so I thought it could not help me very much. But I was once again proven wrong. Regardless of where you are in life, the program can answer those question that sometimes creep into our minds late at night when sleeping is a problem. Questions like, can I afford to send my children to college, how should I invest my savings, do I have enough life insurance. And the really big one, how much will it cost me to retire.

The program provides two options to get answers to these questions. They are called "The Quick Plan" and "The Full Plan". The Quick Plan simplifies the procedure by focusing in on a few key elements of your financial life. How much do you earn? How much do you save and how much do you spend?

You are then presented with a simple cash flow model to estimate your retirement needs. While the "Full Plan" lets you enter all the fine details of your finances. Such as your home, real estate, annuities, pensions, social security and hundreds of other items. Look at it this way. The Quick Plan is a sketch and the Full Plan is a set of detailed blueprints.

I decided to use both the Quick Plan and the Full Plan method. I also used my retirement situation in both plans and then I entered hypothetical

financial data of a working family man and wife in their thirties with two children. With an income \$60,000 per year in both plans. I entered all financial data for my both my wife and myself that I could find into the work book section of the Quick Plan.



Quicken Financial Planner questionnaire

The key word here is "find" that was a big problem. It was like doing you income tax in November. If you use Quicken 4 to keep track of you current financial picture some of that information can be imported. Then all that is necessary is to fill in the blanks with the collected data as they appear on the screen. As I said, I am retired and some of the blanks were not applicable.

My two boys finished college several years ago so those and other questions relating to a younger user did not need to be answered. Using answered lifestyle questions, one area projects your longevity. I found that I will live to be 89 and my wife will live to see her 92 birthday.

After I entered all the data in the Quick Plan, the program then gave me what my income is now and what it will be until I become 89 and also what my wife would have after my death. It told me where it will come from, if it will be enough and how to make adjustments in my savings and investments to make sure that I could live comfortably

The Quick Plan and the Full Plan results were slightly different because

data was more detailed. In the hypothetical family's situation it gave a great deal more information. On the way to their retirement it helped by figuring what college would cost when their children reached that age and how to financially prepare for it. It also calculates one's need for life insurance at various ages through out life and suggests changes. I found that I have too much life insurance and currently I am in touch with my agent to go over what I found using the program.

The results of either plan is presented in graphs for every phase. Every aspect of your plan can be customized and printed for discussing with your family or financial advisors. Speaking of financial advisors, Jane Bryant Quinn is present in the multimedia

area to give opinions and advice. Much like she does in Quicken 4.

Included also are a couple of other accessories. A very detailed mutual fund finder with data from Morningstar for some 4,400 mutual funds. Also included on the CD Rom is Netscape Navigator and access to Intuit's free Internet site.

I use TurboTax to do my Federal and State taxes every year and I found that the format used in Financial Planner and TurboTax is very similar in that it leads you where you need to be with options for almost every situation. I found the program very easy to use and the documentation is complete and easy to comprehend. I am by no means a wizard when it comes to matters of money and finance, so I really learned a lot by using this program.

In most evaluations of software there are always a "Pros and Cons" statement. I found no "Cons" even though I kept notes on important points to present in this writing. If you are interested in your financial future, and who is not, I suggest this program heartily.

Windows 95

System Talk by Libby Thurman

The cooler temperatures and shorter days mean a change in habits for most people. Vacations are over and the pool is closed. Now we have time for football, basketball and Christmas shopping. We also have more time to surf the 'Net.

Microsoft Internet sites are a gold mine of free downloads, information and news about the latest and greatest versions of your favorite programs. The following is a list of Microsoft and Win95 sites you can visit:

- www.microsoft.com
 - www.windows.microsoft.com
 - www.microsoft.com/magazine
 - www.microsoft.com/support (information on Microsoft-related news-groups)
 - www.microsoft.com/msoffice
 - www.microsoft.com/windows/software/shareware
 - www.microsoft.com/mstv (Microsoft TV information)
 - www.microsoft.com/ie (home page for Internet Explorer)
 - www.microsoft.com/ie/download/ieadd.htm (add-ons for Internet Explorer)
 - www.microsoft.com/netmeeting (information on NetMeeting for real-time Internet phone calls)
 - www.microsoft.com/magazine/gallery (Microsoft Art Collection)
 - www.microsoft.com/works (Microsoft Works home page)
 - www.microsoft.com/mspress (information on Microsoft books)
 - www.microsoft.com/LogoStore (online source of Microsoft merchandise)
 - www.windows95.com (excellent site)
 - www.winstuff.de/index_start.html (tips, tricks, etc.)
 - www.microsoft.com/windows/tryitout.htm
 - www.gc.net/rwclements (Ray's Win95 support, upgrades and fixes)
 - www.scott.net/~gtaylor/route95 (Route95 site-excellent)
 - www.cobb.com/w95/index.htm (Cobb Group site)
- For more sites, search on Windows 95 and/or Microsoft

Tips and Tricks for Win95

Robert Ladouceur sent in the following tip: One of the thorniest problems with Win95 is uninstalling a program. There are users who won't try potentially useful software because of the hassle of removing it if it doesn't turn out to be what they hoped for. The uninstall routines that come with some programs are generally inadequate (they don't remove everything) and dangerous (they remove files needed by other programs).

The best way around this is to use a

tracking program that can tell you exactly what happened during the installation process. Highly recommended and almost essential is PC Magazine's free INCTRL2 (a 16-bit app for Win 3.11) and INCTRL3 (a 32-bit app for Win95). You run this program before installing a new app. It records a snapshot of your hard disk, installs the new app and then issues a report of all the differences between what was there before installation and what is there afterwards. You can give the report any name you want. Giving it the same name as the app you installed (with the default .rpt extension) helps you remember later what it goes with should you want to remove the app.

To remove the app, put the report in one window and the File Manager or Registry in another and simply undo each thing the report shows the installation program did. When you have finished, you can be sure the app is completely gone and you haven't lost any essential DLL's (because you backed them up using an earlier tip from I/O). If the report shows the installation replaced a DLL in the Windows or Windows\System folder with an earlier version, simply restore your backup DLL. Worry no longer about removing software from your system. From now on you can be INCTRL.

Thanks Robert!

Have a Win95 Question or Tip?

If you have a Win95 question or tip, send it to me. I can be contacted through the Fifth Dimension (Libby Thurman), Internet (libby.thurman@tfd.org), Microsoft Network (libby.thurman@msn.com), CompuServe (76450,1453) or mail (P.O. Box 367, Crestwood, Ky. 40014). I will also accept written questions and suggestions at our meetings.

Please include your name and address (e-mail or street) and as much detail as possible, including information about the system you are using. I will reply to the address you include with your question as soon as possible. An e-mail address is preferred. Selected questions and tips will be included in this column. I would prefer no telephone contacts as scheduling, etc. makes telephone contacts difficult.

This column is specifically for the Win95 operating system. I realize that Win95 and Win95 applications are often closely related, and, as I do use a variety of other Win95 applications, I will consider questions regarding these applications, but I cannot guarantee a reply or any useful information.

+ WinFax 7.5

Now you can fax over the Internet with Symantec's latest offering

By John L. Gilkey

Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group

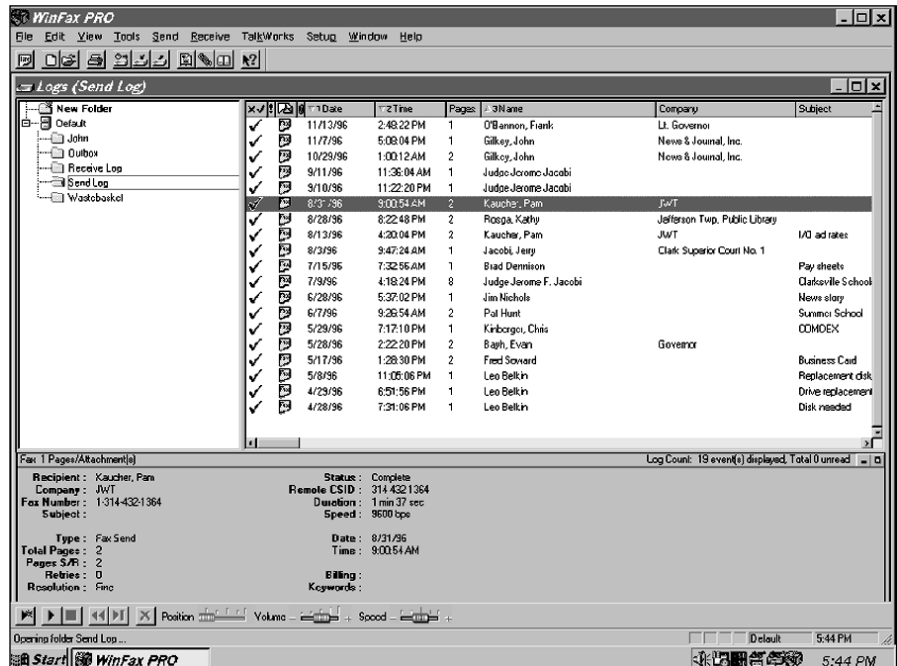
Sending and receive faxes with your computer is rapidly becoming one of the hottest things going in the home office arena. As hot as say, accessing the Internet. But the latest entry into the market by software giant Symantec sends faxes over the Internet, making WinFax Pro 7.5 the next generation in computer faxing.

WinFax was among the first software packages introduced allowing you computer to have fax capability. In fact, it was WinFax that came up with the concept of treating the computer fax like a printer, making it as easy to fax a document as it is to print a hard copy.

The company has maintained its lead in the software market and is today the leading vendor of computer fax software in the world. Keep in mind that the company is competing with fax software that has been included with Windows since version 3.1 and that is an impressive achievement for anyone.

The package installs effortlessly from a CD-ROM in a Windows 95 environment using the AutoRun option if enabled. Simply install the CD and the installation menu comes up. I tried it on desktop systems with internal and external modems as well as a laptop with a PCMCIA modem. All of the installations went without a hitch.

The new version 7.5 contains enhancements that aren't immediately visible right out of the box. New grayscale drivers improve the ability of the software to fax photographic images. There are also new low level fax drivers that take advantage of the Windows 95 native 32 bit environment. In the fax world, time is money since you are often dealing with long distance calls so the new drivers can save you a bunch.



The WinFax 7.5 main screen showing the fax in box.

Perhaps the biggest improvement is in the inclusion of Internet Fax functionality. You can send faxes over the Internet and avoid long distance charges (although you still pay a fee to an Internet fax service provider.

You can get hard copy confirmation of fax delivery, set up a complex list of fax recipients using groups and recurring faxes and store received faxes in folders you organize. If that's not enough, the software comes with built-in OCR capability so that you can convert faxes into machine readable text. Xerox TextBridge 3.0 provides that functionality.

Once WinFax is installed, all that is necessary to send a fax is to select WinFax as the printer from any Windows application. You enter the name of the recipient and the fax number ... and print. If it's a person you fax to frequently, you can enter the information into the program's phone book and select from there. The information

is stored on disk for future reference.

In fact, phone books allow you to group people together for automated fax broadcasting. Say you have a group of people you need to send faxes to on a regular basis. All you need do is set up a group and tell WinFax to send faxes to the group. You don't have to deal with individuals on the list.

You have a number of delivery options: regular fax, Internet binary file transfer or compressed binary file transfer. A binary file transfer doesn't send the document a line at a time like a fax. Instead the data is sent much like a file transfer over a modem. It is generally faster and results in a better quality document.

Internet faxes are handled by NetCentric which offers a 30 minute or 30 day (whichever comes first) free trial with the new version of WinFax. The service acts much like an e-mail address for faxes.

Since WinFax Pro version 7.5 is a true

Windows 95 application, it supports multithreading, or doing more than one thing at a time. That means that you can send more than one Internet fax at a time. Not bad, eh?

WinFax phonebooks deserve a little more mention, since they are such an important part of the program. You can, of course, have multiple phone books. The program supports MAPI, an interface that deals directly with the telephony hardware. As a result, you can use the phone books created by Windows 95 Exchange (which is also based in the MAPI paradigm).

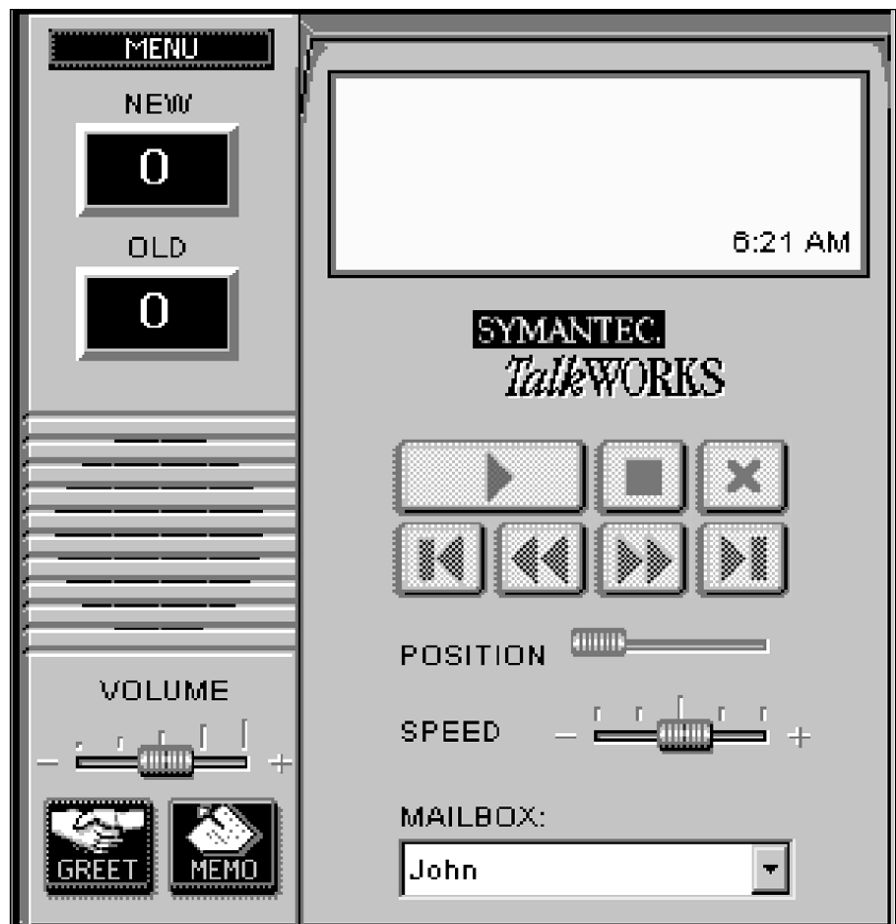
Cover pages are an important part of faxing, and they have not been ignored by WinFax. Actually, that's a bit of an understatement. The product literally comes with hundreds, and a built-in cover page designer allows you to create even more or edit what you have. There are even autofill fields that you can insert on a page to transfer information about the sender, recipient or details about the fax being sent. They are somewhat like spreadsheet @ variables

Since WinFax supports OLE (Object Linking and Embedding), you can attach any object that is capable of being printed in Windows using the incorporated drag-and-drop interface or the easy to follow drop down menus.

What if you want to send a fax after peak hours to take advantage of lower rates? Again, no problem. You can schedule the transmit time of any fax, or even set up a fax as a recurring event. Say you need to fax a copy of a spreadsheet report every Monday. No problem with WinFax's scheduling features. In fact, you can schedule faxes to your office to remind yourself of important dates - like your anniversary!

Okay, so you really want to get automated? Well try WinFax's letterhead capability. The latest version supports fax letterheads. You literally mailmerge your information onto the predefined letterhead "stationary". You can schedule the program to use one page for the first page, and another for subsequent pages. Try that with the fax software that came with your operating system!

The entire WinFax interface is easy to



WinFax 7.5 includes TalkWorks which will allow you to use your data/fax/voice modem as an answering machine or a complex voice mailbox.

understand and easy to use. Drag-and-drop and right clicking for operational or formatting options are everywhere. You can configure the program environment to suit your needs and customize all toolbars.

Items like advanced autoforwarding make WinFax 7.5 great to work with. You can set up rules about faxes based on who they are from or to, or what they are about. Those rules will decide if a fax is to be forwarded to another location, stored in a particular folder, printed, scanned as OCR or just about any other function WinFax is capable of performing.

Then there's TalkWorks.

If your modem supports voice messaging as many high-end modems do today, you can use the same software to answer calls either as an answering machine or a complex multi-level voice mail system with some high-end items like fax on demand.

Messages are stored in the same folders as faxes, but with a different icon to identify them as voice mail. There is even an option to use WinFax as your telephone dialer using the phone books you have saved to disk.

In short, WinFax sets the standard for fax communications on your computer.

Symantec can be reached at 10201 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, CA 95014. Their phone number is 408-253-9600 and their fax is 408-973-9340. Customer service is at 800-441-7234 and the customer service fax is 541-334-7474.

Symantec has a presence on the World Wide Web at www.symantec.com and their FTP address for product updates and utilities is [ftp.symantec.com](ftp://ftp.symantec.com). On CompuServe, GO SYMANTEC and their AOL screen name is SYMANTEC. Their BBS is at 541-484-6669.

Cinemaniania '96

Quite possibly the ultimate experience for the avid movie buff

By David M. Knights
Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group

I must start this review by admitting that I am a dyed in the wool movie buff. So much so that I actually have an ever changing list of my ten favorite movies (more on this later). Cinemaniania 96 is one of the new offerings from the ever-expanding line of Microsoft software.

As the name might infer, the single CD-ROM that the software comes on contains mainly movie reviews, drawn from a number of different sources. It also contains numerous biographies and filmographies with photos of many actors, directors and the like.

For people who have seen every new release at the video store, the program also has a feature that lets you pick a type of movie (comedy, action, Oscar Winner, etc.) and it will randomly recommend titles for your viewing pleasure. The CD also contains sound and video clips from many movies, though frankly I did not find this particularly useful.

I tested this program thoroughly, trying to see if I could come up with movies or actors that I could think of that the program would not recognize or on which it had no information. Amazingly enough, I was not able to stump the program once and I tried some rather esoteric entries.

In fact, in most instances the program not only recognized the movie title or actor, it actually had reviews or biographies/filmographies from more than one source. The program contains reviews, etc. from electronic versions of books by professional reviewers such as Roger Ebert, Leonard Maltin and Pauline Kael.

I liked the fact that in most cases more than one review was available for each title, since in many cases the reviewers had vastly different opinions on the worth of a particular movie.

The only place the program does not recognize an entry is with very recent releases, as one would expect. Even this can be overcome if the person using the program is a subscriber to Microsoft's MSN on-line service. If you are, then monthly

updates can be downloaded directly on the your hard disk. Since I am not signed up with MSN, I cannot comment on this aspect of the program.

The program operates, as one would expect, with a classic Windows point it-and-click interface. Most of the commands are intuitive. If you remember only part of a movie title or an actor in a particular movie, the program can help by giving suggestions based on what you do remember.

As with most recent CD-ROM based software, this program does not come with any hardcopy instructions such as a manual. However, the interface is easy to understand and I did not need a manual to consult the software's on-line help.

The program requires a 386 PC with at least 8 meg of RAM and Windows 95 or Windows NT. The program will not run on Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups 3.11.

I can highly recommend this program, not only for the movie buff like me, but also for anyone with even a mild interest in movies or the

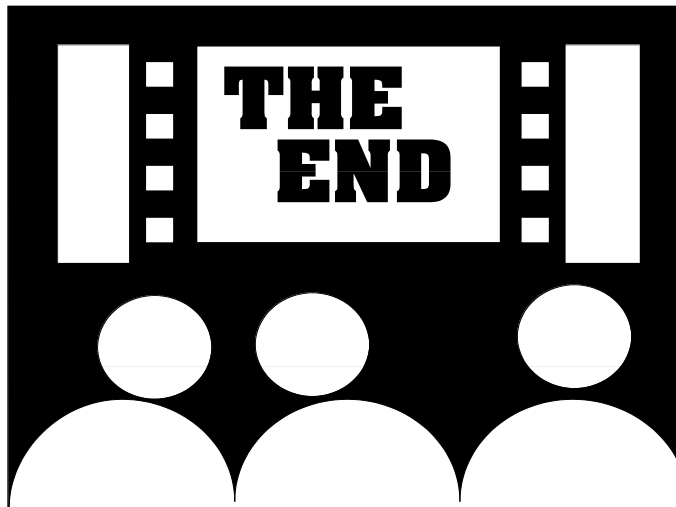
person interested in expanding their movie viewing horizons.

And now the moment I am sure you have all been waiting for, David's top ten all time favorite movies. Please remember, these are not in my opinion the ten best movies ever made, but rather are simply the ten movies that I like the best and get the most enjoyment out of seeing.

TEN TOP MOVIES:

1. 1776
2. Apollo
3. The Seven Samurai (or The Magnificent Seven)
4. Rio Bravo (or She Wore a Yellow Ribbon)
5. Other Peoples Money
6. Patton
7. Forbidden Planet
8. Casablanca
9. Aladdin
10. The Blues Brothers

Check one out next time your at your local video store. I also have a ten worst list, but I will save that for another review.



Something to get Excited about +

By John L. Gilkey
Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group

What's the first thing that happens when you use your browser application to log onto your Internet service provider? As a rule, you get their home page and the latest news of what's happening there, but not much more.

That's not necessarily bad. But, is it everything you want at your initial logon? The people at Excite - one of the leading Internet search engines - thought you might want more. As a result, they are offering just about everything you could ask for through their Excite Live site.

The company doesn't charge a fee for the service and allows you to customize a home page to meet your specific information needs. You get news on a wide range of national and international topics, as well as the ability to identify areas of specific interest.

You log onto the service at <http://live.excite.com> and are given the opportunity to create a personalized startup page addressing your particular interests. Once the page is created and you have loaded it into your browser, you can make it your default home page. Another way to create a personalized home page is to access the site by selecting the Live icon from Excite's home page at <http://www.excite.com>.

The URL or Universal Resource Locator, looks a bit strange, but the alpha numeric code identifies you from everyone else on the Internet. So that you don't have to memorize the code, a hypertext help line on the home page shows you how to make it your default starting page.

If you are using Microsoft's Internet

Explorer 3.0, you simply go to "View" on the bar menu across the top of the page and select the "Options" submenu. From there, go to the "Navigation" tab and under the "Customize" box with "Start Page" selected in the pulldown list box, click on the "Use Current" but-

hypertext links to pages on business, sports, weather, lifestyle, the fun page, entertainment, technology and nation & world news.

Under the heading of "Reviews," you get access to Excite's "What's New" page where you can check out over

60,000 of the best web sites broken into sixteen categories to make your browsing easier.

A feature called "Web Watch" gives you the week's best way to make the World Wide Web work for you. As before, it is categorized to help make browsing easier.

Still not enough for you? Well there's a direct link to City.Net. With that link, you can see what others think of destinations across the country or pan across the U.S. with street-level maps — which you can also



The Excite Live main screen customized to my taste.

ton. That's all there is to it.

You can also print out instructions from the hypertext option on your personalized page entitled "Make this my home page." It's really quite simple.

Aside from the sprinkling of advertisements on the page - somebody has to pay - you will find the "NewsTracker" that will keep track of topics you have selected. The list is searched each time you access the page, so it is always current.

You also have access to headline news which provides the latest in national and international news on a constantly updated basis. Then there's technology news, a stock portfolio that allows you to enter stocks of your own choosing, weather, reminders of holidays and other important events, access to your favorite links and, of course, the Excite search engine.

As if that isn't enough, you have

print. City.Net's concierge will help you plan any trip from the comfort of your computer.

Still hard to sell on this freebie? Well, City.Net also offers white and yellow page lookups of people and businesses across the country. Like everything else on the site, it's free! You can search for that guy who owes you money or borrowed your lawnmower right before leaving town. Or, you can look up long-lost friends or a company you know something, but not everything, about.

In short, this is one sweet deal. I have already installed it as my default home page. The only problem I have has is that there is so much neat stuff right off the bat, I find myself forgetting what it was I started out to do. But then, isn't that what the Internet is all about?

December

1996

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																									
1	2	3 6:30 PM Executive Board meeting, 5th Quarter, Shelbyville Rd.	4	5	6	7																																																																																									
8	9 6:30 PM New Users SIG meets at Pomeroy Computers, 908 Dupont Rd.	10 6:30 PM Regular Meeting, Hurstbourne Convention Center.	11	12 7:00 PM - 12:00 PM Visual Basic SIG CompuPro, NA C-twn. Pike, C-ville	13	14																																																																																									
15	16	17 Mainframe Sig IBM offices 14th Floor Providian Building 4th & Market Sts.	18	19	20	21																																																																																									
22	23 6:30 PM Windows Word & Excel SIG meets 10th floor John Hancock Building 9300 Shelbyville Rd.	24 6:30 PM OS/2 SIG IBM offices, Suite 1400 Providian Building, Use Market St. entrance.	25 6:30 PM Telecom. SIG Meets at AdWare Systems 10th floor of the Waterside Building, 101 E. Main St.	26	27	28																																																																																									
29	30	31	<p>NOVEMBER 96</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	<p>JANUARY 97</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14	15	16	17	18		19	20	21	22	23	24	25		26	27	28	29	30	31		
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Official listing of events for KIPCUG, Inc.

Directory of KIPUCG Leaders



Helpline (502) 329-5720

Name Position Home Phone Work Phone

Judy Lococo	President	893-8710	893-8710
Robert Myers	Vice President	495-6744	
Sharon Kinney-Romeo	Secretary	893-2672	568-5192
Nancy Lorey	Treasurer	280-0468	
Sandy Carr	SIG Director	241-7296	566-5171
John Gilkey	Newsletter Editor	282-6040	283-6636
Steve Goldberg	Program Director	282-5186	
Paul Ward	BBS SYSOP		
David Puckett	User to User Coordinator	451-8907	
Mike Shaikun	Legal Advisor	425-3326	589-4200
Mike Robinson	Membership Director		
Fred Soward	Volunteer Coordinator	426-1829	
Marvin Livingood	Director Emeritus	459-8888	459-8888
Rick Manning	Webmaster		
Paul Newman	New Mbr. Orientation	459-2019	
Bob Streever	Membership Assistant	895-4180	459-2151
Debbie Bulleit	Membership Assistant		
Louis Gagel	Program Setup		

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Please support them with your business

The vendors listed below have contributed hardware or software to KIPUCG to assist in production of the organization's monthly newsletter. We encourage you to support these vendors who are helping to support our organization.

Lexmark	Novell
4029 Laser printer with accelerator	WordPerfect DOS/Windows
Adobe	Netware 4.1
Photoshop 3.0	Corel
Illustrator 4.0	Corel Ventura
Intuit	
Quicken 5.0	

Call the Helpline 24 hours a day for:
* General information about KIPUCG *

* How to join KIPUCG *

* Information about upcoming meetings and events *

* Help with hardware or software problems from members who are experts *

* Request a complimentary copy of I/O, the monthly newsletter of KIPUCG *

The Fifth Dimension

Official Bulletin Board of KIPUCG

The Fifth Dimension is available 24 hours a day at (502) 231-0053. Data transmission standards are: 1,200-28,800 bps, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity, v.42, v.42bis., v.32, v.32bis. Operating with three nodes.

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Half Page (3 col x 5")	110.00
Full Page	200.00

Ad sizes must be in full column width and in one inch depth increments.

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Discount	Rate
Three consecutive insertions	10%
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Special discounts offered to KIPUCG members	Call
Membership discount	10%

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Send all advertising materials to:

Nancy Lorey, I/O Ad Manager, 5314 Hidden Lakes Blvd., Jeffersonville, IN 47130. For more information, call (812) 280-0468 evenings.

NOTE: I/O is published electronically in addition to its printed edition. Advertising materials not supplied in electronic form will **not** be included in the electronic edition.

+ The Sig

Kentucky Indiana



Scene

P C U s e r s G r o u p

Investing

Meets monthly at the Louisville Aero Club, Bowman Field, Louisville, Kentucky. Call leader Doc Viele at 452-6878 for additional information including date and time. Please note, this SIG does NOT discuss relative merits of mutual funds.

Knowledgeman

Call leaders Danny PcPheron at 456-6200 or Jim Martin at 452-4916 for meeting times and locations.

Mainframe

Meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the offices of IBM on the 14th floor of the Providian Building, 4th and Market Streets, Louisville. Contact leader position vacant in memory of Tom Carr. Watch for additional information.

New Users

Meets 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m. at Pomeroy Computers, 908 Dupont Road, Louisville, Kentucky. Contact leader Tom Neukam at 893-2800 extension 135 for more information.

OS/2

Meets 4th Tuesday in the Providian Building, 400 West Market Street, Louisville, Kentucky. Use the Market Street entrance and proceed to IBM Suite 1400. Leader is Alan McCutcheon, 587-8285.

Paradox/dBASE/Quattro Pro

Contact SIG leader is Steve Goldberg at 282-5186 for further information and meeting place.

Telecommunications

The Telecommunications SIG meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at AdWare Systems, Inc. located on the 10th floor of the Waterside Building, 101 E. Main Street. For more information, contact SIG leader Joseph Xie at 569-5423 or Sharon Kinney-Romeo at 568-5192.

Windows Word & Excel

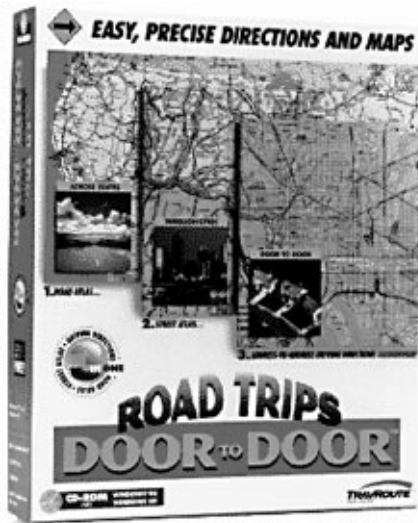
Meets 4th Monday at 6:30 p.m. at 102 Daventry Lane, Suites 7-8, Louisville, Kentucky. Leader is Jim Travelstead, 852-4761 (W) or 375-4796 (H). Take Hurstbourne Ln. north towards Shelbyville Rd., turn right on Shelbyville Rd., turn at the Pizza Hut about 1 block on the left. Go past the Pizza Hut to brick building on the left.

Visual Basic

The Visual Basic SIG meets at 7 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at CompuPro located at 1410 New Albany-Charlestown Pike in Clarksville. Contact Martin Campion at 637-9878 for additional information.

Getting there is half the fun +

TravRoute Door-to-door



The software can give you turn-by-turn routing from just about anywhere in the country to any other location.

*John L. Gilkey
Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group*

Okay, you're in city "A" and you need to go to city "B". No problem. Just about any travel touting program on the market can accommodate you. But what if you are at a specific address in city "A" and you need to go to a specific address in city "B"? the field of available software is a lot narrower. High on the remaining list is Road Trips Door to Door by TravRoute Software. Of Princeton, New Jersey.

The software can give you turn-by-turn routing from just about anywhere in the country to any other location. Literally. You get block by block turning instructions on street names and directions. It sort of makes you wonder what will happen when Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers become cheap enough to put in your car. My guess is that Road Trips will be there riding with you and telling you which turns to take. But that's in the future. Lets look at what's here today.

You can generate street-level maps of your route along with the step by step turning instructions to more than 95 million homes and businesses in the continental United States. If that's not enough, how about 1 million points of interest including airports, golf courses, amusement parks and schools.

The system operates on the Windows 95 operating system or on Windows NT. That means it is 32 bit software with a lot of punch when it comes to getting things done quickly. As you would imagine, selecting your route from the vast database is no simple task.

The program stores information on more than 640,000 miles of major highways across the country coupled with 28 million street segments allowing for the extra information needed to get you to and from the major highways. If you want to insert an address into the database, you can do so, allowing you to keep the data up to date.

As I said, Door-to-Door goes well beyond being a city-to-city trip planner. It will get you to a specific address, printing your itinerary in full color if you choose. Detail from a mid-range inkjet printer is excellent.

Installation is a snap. The program comes with a software CD and a database CD because of the wealth of information supplied. Once the software is installed, you can put the install CD away. You won't be needing it anymore unless you have need to reinstall the software.

The database CD is where all of the goodies are stored, and you will use it regularly. In fact, it is required to run the program. TravRoute decided, and rightly so, that few people would want to devote most of their hard drive to the vast database supplied with the software. Travel planning, using my 4X CD-ROM was without delay.

You start the program by entering your point of origin including the city, state and street address. You do the same for your destination. All that is left is to tell the program to run the route and your map and driving instructions are generated.

I plotted a trip from my office at The Evening News newspaper offices in Jeffersonville to the New Albany

National Cemetery, a landmark within a block of where I grew up as a child. The software plotted the 5 mile route quickly, and other than taking me to the side of the cemetery instead of the front, the route was correct. It involved mostly local streets, challenging the program with on an off-interstate route. It worked equally as well on a trip to Gatlinburg, Tn. Where the routing was mostly interstate.

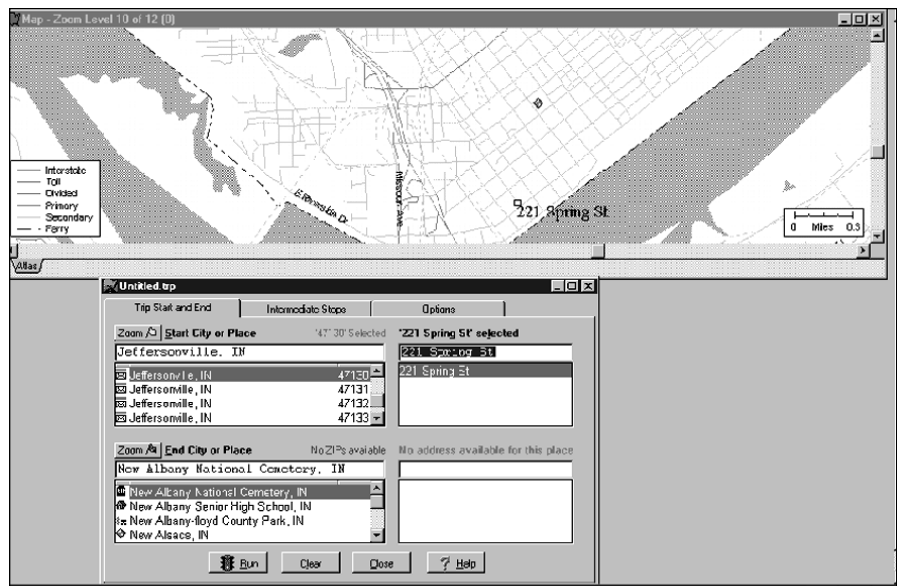
The software allows for quite a bit of personalizing to adjust to the way you like to drive. A set of sliding preference scales allows you tell the software your preferences in avoiding or using certain types of roadways such as multi-lane highways, toll roads, divided highways and the like. You can even select to include or avoid ferries depending on whether you are in a hurry or just sight-seeing.

Door-to-Door comes with default values for various types of roads, but if your driving style is different, you can adjust the speeds to make time estimates more accurate. You can also request the quickest, shortest or a preferred route on any given trip.

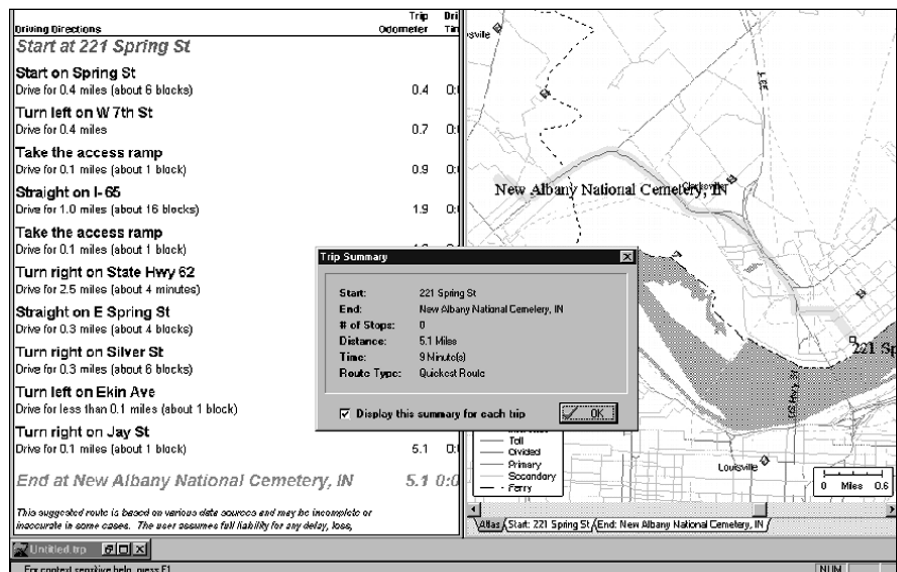
While I might have to wait a while for a GPS version that will know where I am and speak to me when it tells me which way to turn, the current version does an excellent job of getting you there and back again.

Door-to-Door requires a 485 PC processor or better and must operate on Windows 95 or NT. Minimum memory is 8 Mb, but 16 Mb is recommended. You will need 60 Mb. Of hard disk spece to devote to the program and a CD-ROM rated at 2X or faster.

TravRoute is located at 1000 Herronton Rd., Princeton, NJ 08540-9116. Their phone is 800-297-8728 and their fax line is 609-252-8166. Tech support is 609-252-8197 Mondays-Fridays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST. They are located on the World Wide Web at www.travroute.com.



Starting is as simple as saying where you are and where you want to go.



My trip is computer and I get a map plus the time and distance details.

Driving Directions	Trip Odometer	Drive Time
Start at 221 Spring St		
Start on Spring St Drive for 0.4 miles (about 6 blocks)	0.4	0:01
Turn left on W 7th St Drive for 0.4 miles	0.7	0:02
Take the access ramp Drive for 0.1 miles (about 1 block)	0.9	0:03
Straight on I-65 Drive for 1.0 miles (about 16 blocks)	1.9	0:04
Take the access ramp Drive for 0.1 miles (about 1 block)	1.9	0:04
Turn right on State Hwy 62 Drive for 2.5 miles (about 4 minutes)	4.4	0:08

Detailed turning instructions are prepared by the program.

The Server Wars

The battle for dominance in personal web servers

By Gary Theilman
Mississippi Computer Society

We've all heard about "The Browser Wars": Netscape's Navigator vs. Microsoft's Internet Explorer. The two companies are fiercely competing to make their World Wide Web browser the industry standard. For the most part, this has been a good thing for the consumer. Each new version of the browsers has featured new capabilities, better design, and lower prices. That's basically the way that a competitive marketplace is supposed to work. The "Server Wars", on the other hand, look like they may turn out to be an entirely different animal.

There is a tremendous potential market for "personal web servers". While a browser is a piece of software that allows you to view web pages sent over the Internet, a server is the software that sends out the web page pages to begin with. Up until recently, web servers have only been available for mainframe computers running some variation of UNIX. The emergence of more powerful personal computers with 24 hour a day connections to the Internet has made it possible to run a web server on a desktop machine running Windows. Why would someone want to do this?

Many corporations are turning to TCP/IP (the communications protocol that runs on the Internet) as a standard for setting up "Intranets". These are small versions of the Internet that are used by employees of the corporation for distribution of documents and files. These Intranets can be accessed by

employees at remote locations simply by connecting to the Internet. Other potential uses of a web server include information (advertising) pages for customers of these companies. A representative of Microsoft estimated that the potential market for web server software is \$1 billion.

Now let's meet the combatants in the server wars. There are many companies offering web server software, but the ones we will focus on in this article are Microsoft, Netscape, and O'Reilly Associates. Microsoft also makes the platform these company's server software runs on: Windows NT.

Windows NT (New Technology) is a high end version of Windows that runs in a true 32-bit environment. Like UNIX, it isolates each program running on it so that if one program crashes, it doesn't bring down the entire system. Windows 95 was supposed to be such a system, but it is actually a hybrid 16-bit/32-bit system. This was done to ensure backwards compatibility with DOS-based programs.

Windows NT will run some, but not all DOS programs. Therefore, Windows NT has been marketed as a platform for networking applications, not as a consumer-level operating system. Windows NT comes in two flavors, NT Server (NTS) and NT Workstation (NTW). The differences between the two have been describe by Microsoft as optimizing, pricing, and licensing. NTW has been "optimized" for use as a personal computer. It dedicates system resources in such a way that one can quickly switch between applications and redraw screen graphics.

Many corporations are turning to TCP/IP (the communications protocol that runs on the Internet) as a standard for setting up "Intranets".

Maximal memory is dedicated for running applications. NTS has been “optimized” to work as a file server. File servers don’t switch between applications very often. More memory has been reserved for disk cache to maximize the rate at which the machine can pump out files. NTS also comes packaged with “free” web server software, Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS). NTW cost \$319, while the 10-client license NTS costs about \$800 more. The third difference, license, we’ll come back to later.

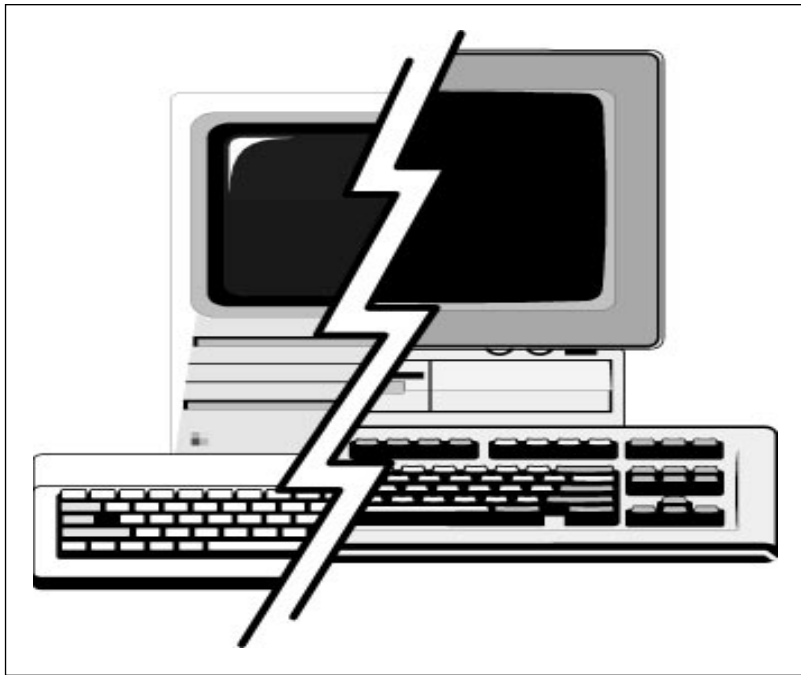
The provocation for the Server Wars came when Netscape started suggesting that users could purchase the less costly NTW operating system and run Netscape’s Enterprise web server package on it. Netscape insisted that while NTW may not be “optimized” to run server software, it still did a good enough job that most people wouldn’t notice the difference.

Microsoft immediately protested that NTW was not an adequate option for web serving and that if people wanted to do so, they should purchase the more expensive NTS operating system with its “free” server software. It further announced that the newest release of NTW (version 4.0) would have a piece of code in it that would prevent it from accepting any more than 10 Internet connections during any 10 minute period. This limitation would make NTW unusable as a web server for any but the smallest Intranets and web sites.

To give you an idea of potential capabilities, PC Week technicians loaded Netscape’s Enterprise web server software on NTW and found the system was able to handle 120 connections per second. Microsoft’s own IIS web server software running on NTS was only slightly faster at 140 connections per second. PC Week went on to state that

all configurations they tested would saturate the capability of a T-1 (1.55M bps) connection, after which performance differences would be meaningless.

The announcement to limit connection capability was met with howls of protest all across the computing industry. Particularly vehement was O’Reilly Software, makers of WebSite (\$249). People pointed out that there was no such physical restriction in the current version 3.51 of NTW. Essentially what Microsoft would be doing is crippling it’s next release. Within a few days



Microsoft withdrew it’s plan.

When version 4.0 was released, it had no physical restrictions on the number of Internet connections it could accept. However, the license now had a clause in it prohibiting the user from employing the operating system as a web server. As most readers probably know, most software companies do not sell their software, they license it. The distinction is academic for most users. The main reason for this practice is that if you buy a piece of software, presumably it is yours to do with what you will, including making copies and giving them to your friends.

If you have licensed a piece of software, what you have purchased is the right to use it on your machine. Another person cannot use that software unless

they too have licensed it. The license may also include other restrictions on the use of the software. What Microsoft had placed in their license for NTW was that the user could not use the software to accept more than 10 Internet connections even if it was physically possible to do so.

The analogy that I thought of had to do with buying a car. Suppose you wanted to purchase a new Chrysler. Chrysler sells two versions of it’s car, the “standard” for \$10,000 and the “deluxe” for \$10,800. The standard version does not come with a car radio. The deluxe version has been “optimized” for maximum listening enjoyment. The interior compartment has been shaped to focus sound waves in just the right fashion to bring out the high and low notes. There is special sound proofing installed to keep out road noise. And to top it all off, it comes with a “free” stereo system installed.

O’Reilly’s Car Audio down the street, however, has offered you this deal. For \$250, they will install a stereo system in the standard Chrysler.

They tell you that even though the standard isn’t “optimized” in the same way as the deluxe version, most people can’t tell the difference in sound quality anyway. You would be saving money by purchasing Chrysler’s standard car and letting O’Reilly’s install it’s own stereo.

Chrysler hears about O’Reilly’s offer, and insists that the standard model was never intended to have a stereo system. Chrysler goes on to announce that the of their new version of the standard model will be built so that if you install someone else’s stereo, you will only be able to listen to AM radio. Special features in the standard model will prevent the CD player, the tape player, and FM stereo from working.

If people want to listen to music while driving, Chrysler insists, they should

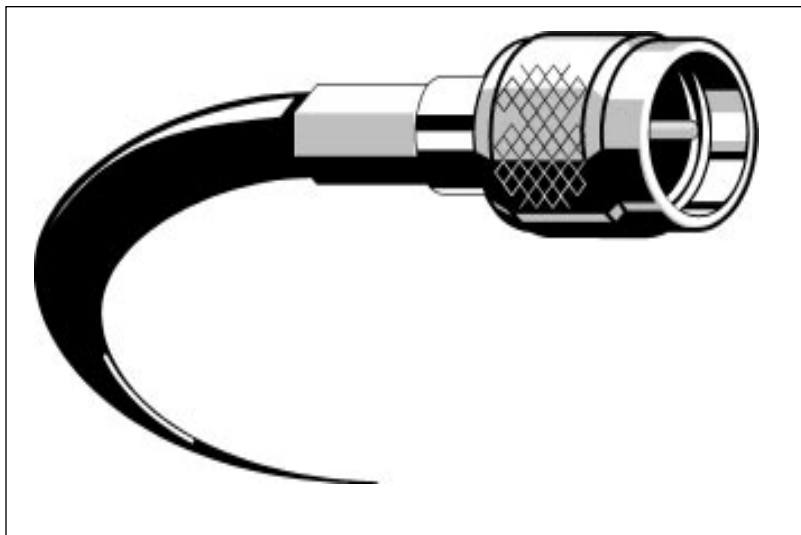
buy the deluxe model. O'Reilly's realizes that if people buy the more expensive deluxe model with the "free" stereo system, they are unlikely to spend more money to take it out and buy O'Reilly's car stereo. After listening to the protests from car buyer's all over the country, Chrysler relents, but decides to make buyer's sign a contract when they purchase the standard model stating that they will not try to install anything more than an AM radio in it.

Now, if this happened in the real world, most people would laugh at Chrysler and start looking at Fords and Toyotas. However, Microsoft dominates the operating system market in ways that Chrysler can only dream of. Suppose you decided to not buy the Chrysler, but then found there were only 3-4 other cars on the market. One of them will only run on special roads (Macintosh), one is hard to drive (UNIX), and others are hard to find gas for (OS/2). Since most other people are driving Chrysler's it's easy to find mechanics, spare parts, and gas for it. You would probably break down and buy the Chrysler.

Now, back to computers. O'Reilly Software, makers of another third-party server called WebSite (\$249), added fuel to the fire by announcing that they had discovered that NTS and NTW were actually much more similar than most people believed. As a matter of fact, they discovered by changing one registry setting in NTW version 3.51 the software would be changed into NTS! This is the equivalent of changing one line in the config.sys file of Windows 3.1, rebooting, and having it come back up as Windows 95. Testers at PC Week confirmed this discovery. When that one registry had been changed, NTW rebooted as NTS, complete with opening screen identifying it as the server version. Server software that could not be run on NTW now

worked under the modified operating system. Further inquiry revealed that version 4.0 of NTW could also be transformed into NT server by changing two registry settings.

Microsoft countered by stating that they had deceived no one. They had always said that both NTW and NTS had the same kernel and API. It was just more efficient to release the same software package with two different configuration settings. Those two registry changes triggered over 700 different changes later on in the boot process. They also stated that changing the registry settings was a violation of the license agreement. In version 4.0, attempting to change the registry set-



tings brings up a warning box stating the such a violation was taking place.

No one has suggested that Microsoft has done anything illegal. It is common practice with networking software to sell licenses for different number of users. If you purchase Novell Netware, you will pay different amounts of money depending upon how many users you want to connect to your local area network. On the other hand, critics of Microsoft have argued that this is the first time that the maker's of an operating system have tried to limit what other companies software is capable of doing. It's almost as if Microsoft was saying "All word processor programs that run under Windows (other than Microsoft Word) may not be used for anything larger than a two page document. If you purchase Microsoft Word, you are then

permitted to purchase WordPerfect and use it however you like".

Of course, Microsoft is free to put whatever restrictions they want in their licenses. No one is being deceived as to what they are purchasing. If people don't want to agree to those restrictions, they don't have to buy Windows NT Workstation. They can purchase OS/2, Macintosh or UNIX. Microsoft is betting that most people won't. They will either violate the license agreement, thus opening themselves up to legal action by Microsoft, or lay down the extra \$800 for NTS.

A third option that has been suggested by one columnist is for users not to upgrade to version 4.0. Since the license in version 3.51 did not specifically spell out the restrictions on Internet connections, one could conceivably run whatever server one likes on that platform. The columnist went on to state, however, that Microsoft would probably come up with some way to insist that the restriction was actually there all the time or that it is retroactive.

I personally admire what Microsoft has done for the software industry. I remember when the lack of industry standards meant that it was difficult for personal computers to communicate with each other and share files. The emergence of Windows as a standard has actually increased competition among third-party hardware and software providers. However, I also remember when I was free to tinker with my copy of DOS to my heart's content, doing whatever I needed to eke out that extra bit of performance. Such experimentation was encouraged, and led to the development of more powerful desktop systems. What Microsoft is doing is good for Microsoft, but bad for the computer industry as a whole. And when the computer industry suffers, Microsoft will eventually suffer in turn.

+ Meeting

Our November meeting was the annual GAMES REVIEW and we sure got our money's worth (you knew those dues were going to something, didn't you?). We owe a big round of thanks to Louis Gagel for providing his equipment and time. Louis is an avid gamer himself and he knew enough to bring a stereo amplifier and large speakers to run his sound card through - just like he sets it up at home. We do this at home also. It makes a big difference in your sound quality. The amplifier in the sound card just doesn't measure up to the one in your home stereo system. This is definitely the way to go when you have one of the less expensive sound cards.

Before we get onto the games, let's take a few moments to cover the club business handled at the start of the meeting.

President Judy Lococo started things promptly at 6:30 pm. The meeting had been unexpectedly changed to the bigger hall that we used for the last Microsoft meeting. This was fortunate as the crowd turned out to be a bit larger than the smaller room would have been able to handle.

Judy warned us about the '809' area code phone scam that's making the rounds here in Louisville. It seems that there are people leaving urgent messages that want you to call them back. The scam is that the area code used to reach them is going to the Caribbean somewhere and this area code is expensive - like \$25/min. You've been warned.

There are other area codes involved in this scam and Judy had a sheet that gave all the Caribbean area codes. Certainly, not all are involved. But you need to be cautious if someone says a member of your family is hurt and gives one of these numbers for you to call.

Judy also passed on a request from WinNET Communications about employment opportunities with this company. Those with Internet and people skills can contact Andy Phelps by

REVIEW

by Sharon and Michael Romeo

email with "jobopp@worldhq.win.net" or by fax at 502-589-7300.

Fred Soward, our Volunteer Coordinator, brought up the fact that it is time to put together a committee to nominate officers for next year. There will be five members on the committee - three non-elected board members and two general members. Please contact him if you want to serve.

Also, we still need a Publicity Director. Fred, Steve Goldberg and Debbie Bulleit are serving in this capacity on an interim basis but we need someone who can take over full time and put time and thought into promoting KIPCUG and sparking interest in the community.

Speaking of volunteers, Ted LeSeour stepped up to the plate when the Wayside Christian Mission asked for volunteers to teach basic computer skills, typing, word processing and spreadsheet skills at the Mission. There was so much interest that they could really use some more help. Please contact any of the officers if you could help one night/week.

We have a few names for our mentor list and these were put on TFD. We'll publish a list once we have a few more volunteers. So please consider adding your name if you have an area of knowledge where you feel comfortable and would be willing to answer questions from other members.

We had a Volunteer Fest in September to recognize the contributions of the many volunteers who have helped out during the past year. If you were invited but unable to attend, please see Fred after the December meeting to pick up a recognition award.

Three SIG announcements were made. (1) VISUAL BASIC SIG: Martin Campion reminded everyone that the meeting time is now the 2nd Thursday

of the month at the same place. The last newsletter had conflicting info in two different places. (2) INVESTMENT SIG: Doc Viele announced that the November meeting is to be held in a different location. Contact him for the latest info. (3) TELECOMUNICATIONS SIG: No meeting for the month of November as it lands on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. There is also a problem in December as the 4th Wednesday lands on Christmas day this year.

The TELECOMUNICATIONS (TC) SIG is going to be moved to one of the first two weeks of the month. Currently, the first Wednesday of the month is planned but some interest in a Saturday morning meeting has also been expressed. This sounds interesting to me as it gets a bit hard to come to meetings after a long day's work. I would even like to have it on Sunday. Would you please leave your opinions about weekend SIG meetings on the BBS? Michael went to the Indianapolis general meeting last June and he found out that they have all of their SIGS on the same night - after the general meeting. They meet in a school and split up into various classrooms.

Upcoming meetings of the TC SIG will cover tips about using our BBS effectively (along with off-line readers), Telephony concepts (voice messaging and fax management), Remote Control and Remote Node programs, Pager Management software and Internet Browsers. We will even spend some time with Web Design so that you can get your own home page up and going.

Ron Wechsler announced that there is some interest in starting a new SIG to cover Corel Draw and Ventura Publisher. If you are interested in attending, please leave a message on TFD or let one of the officers know so we can pass the info along.

User to User - featuring Jim Martin & Dave Puckett

This is the section of the meeting where user questions are answered.

Prior to the meeting the questions are penned onto index cards. Martin & Puckett read them out and then referee the responses. Dave and Jim received well-deserved recognition for their continuing volunteer efforts in this capacity.

Question: I have a 386 DX/25 running Windows 3.1. The pointer jumps all over the place. I think the problem started after I installed QEMM ver.8.
Response: Try reinstalling the mouse driver. Try replacing the mouse. Clean the mouse inside.

Question: A previous KIPCUG treasurer wrote a Lotus 1-2-3 macro that would print a report showing what each member owed in dues. The member has used it successfully over time. Now he's trying to run the same thing in Excel and it doesn't work.

Response: Maybe Excel is defaulting to a smaller range of the worksheet than you need. Check the range. It could be the macro doesn't convert well.

Question: Does anyone have experience with free email Juno or FreeMark?

Response: Several attendees said they had used and like these products.

Comment: An attendee has an HP Laserjet II with envelope tray he wants to sell for \$350. If you're interested, call him at 945-3187.

Question: I have a 386/SX. Is an override chip available to upgrade it.

Response: Chips are available. One user recommended the Web site called pricewatch (try www.pricewatch.com). It would be a good place to start.

Question: I have WinFax Lite. It receives faxes from other computers and sends faxes OK. It will not receive a fax from a dedicated fax machine.

Response: One user had a similar problem and said he had to get a new chip (didn't say what kind) to correct the problem.

Upcoming meetings include an Internet Service Provider panel for January, Hart Macklin from Symantec in February and MicroSoft presenting MS Office and NT 4.0 in March.

Featured Presentation - Games!!

We were pleased to have two KIPCUG members and a Microsoft rep-

resentative present a look at some of the latest and greatest in games software this month. Gil Levitch, our OLD Sysop of the The Fifth Dimension, Ric Manning who has a computer column in the Courier Journal each Saturday and serves on the KIPCUG Board of Directors, and Bob Curtis of Microsoft in Cincinnati were the Masters of Ceremony. It was an entertaining evening and there were a lot of very nice items given away in the usual drawing at the end of the meeting.

The system Louis brought to use for the games program is a Pentium Overdrive 83 with 32 Meg of ram, 2.2 Gig of disk, 2 CD-rom drives, a SoundBlaster 16, Midi daughter board and SVGA.

Gil started off with The Pandora Directive, an interactive movie which is a sequel to the very popular Under a Killing Moon. We watched the Intro which sets up the action. When you play this game you take the role of Tex Murphy, private investigator. You choose to play at the Entertainment level or the Game Player level (the latter is the tougher level). You also choose one of three general attitudes that you want your character to have.

During the Intro, the scene opens with an intruder searching an apartment where a woman lies dead on the floor. Next, Tex is approached with a job offer. He needs to find Dr. Thomas Malloy. After he returns to his office, a mostly bare room with a desk, Gil showed us how you proceed to play the game.

As you move about the room, if you look closely at a picture you'll get some information about Tex's background and how that person or scene fits into his life. As you approach a door it will open so that you can go through it.

As Tex encountered people, you get to choose the type of approach he will take in conversation or questioning that person. The game looked like a lot of fun. Can't give anything away because we had several games to cover and could not get too deeply into the story.

The Pandora Directive requires at least a 486/80, 2X CD-rom, SoundBlaster or better, 1 Meg of ram,

We still need a Publicity Director. Fred, Steve Goldberg and Debbie Bulleit are serving in this capacity on an interim basis but we need someone who can take over full time.

Win 3.1, Win 95 or DOS. Gil demo'd the DOS version of the game.

Ric Manning gave us quick looks at five different games.

The first was Quake 1.01. Ric mentioned that Wired magazine did an article about ID Software's founders, who created Quake. There's a free version you can download from the Net with episode #1. This is supposed to hook you so that you'll buy all the other episodes. Apparently, they're pretty successful with this tactic.

Basically, this is a game where you get in, kill everything you see and get out. Ric gave us a short sample of this. Quake supports multiple players in a networked environment. He's seen this a couple of times. You can get into a death match.

Quake requires 8 Meg of memory in a DOS environment and 32 Meg in a Win 95 environment. Ric tried it with 16 Meg in Win 95 and it didn't work. It requires 30 Meg of hard drive space.

Area 51 was the next game up. This is computer version of a coin operated game from GT Interactive. Other products of theirs include Doom and Mortal Combat. This, too, has lots of guns, targets and gore.

Aliens have taken over the military installation and your job is to kill all of them. Try not to kill your own men while you're doing it! The scene is full of drums, tanks, jeeps, etc and is crawling with aliens. You have your hands full taking care of them.

The Neverhood Chronicles is a clay-mation game produced by Dreamworks Interactive a joint venture by Microsoft and Stephen Spielberg. You direct the movements of this very odd, lanky clay guy through a very strange world of obstacles.

I'd gotten the impression that slow was his only speed until he met a monstrous crab-like monster. He could move faster than any of us under those circumstances!

This looked like a very inventive and interesting game to keep adults or kids occupied. Earthworm Jim is another game by the authors.

BUG is a game from Sega. They have been translating several of their games

to the Win 95 platform. Ric said they've had uneven success with this. For instance, Sonic the Hedgehog is not as much fun as Bug.

Bug is a lot like Super Mario. You go through different ramps, platforms, jumps, levels, avoiding killer insects and frogs in much the same way. It is a really cute game and if you like Super Mario, you'll probably like this, too.

The Quest for the Holy Grail, by 7th Level, contains a lot of clips from the original Monty Python movie and was my favorite game of the night. If you were a fan of the movie, you'll find a lot to entertain you.

In addition to the very hilarious clips and dialogues there are some sidetrip games you can play. For instance, they include the "Bring out your dead" scene from the movie concerning the Black Plague. For those who aren't familiar, a guy brings out a body and the guy is saying "But I'm not dead yet!". "Yes, you are." "No, I'm not!" "Well...you soon will be!" And so on.

The offshoot game for this scene is a Tetris like game where they throw a body down a deep hole (he's saying "But I'm not dead yet"). Then they keep throwing in body after body which you have to turn about to fit into place at the bottom (like Tetris).

Sounds awful, but in the Monty Python tradition, it's hilarious.

Bob Curtis of Microsoft in Cincinnati and Columbus was up next. Bob was previously with Broderbund so he's had plenty of exposure to the games market. Microsoft recognized that the games people weren't migrating to Win 95. They addressed Win 95 as a games platform to beef it up and also worked with partners on getting more games developed for Win 95.

Bob brought a new game joystick that Microsoft has developed for games. It's designed for two-handed use with pointer direction, firing pins for your index fingers and buttons for special effects like jumps.

Bob brought along CD's with a sampling of their games for Windows. They went to the first 100 people who came up to the front after the meeting. The CD's can provide info about the games

in the Win 3.1 environment. If you want to try out the sample version of the game provided on the CD, you need Win 95.

NBA Full Court Press was the first game Bob showed. This was great looking game where you can choose coaching styles, edit your team, change the game book, develop your own, etc.

You can daisy-chain up to 4 people on the MS gamepad he brought for multiplayer basketball. If you get completely frustrated by your team, there's a cheat code available. You can put a lid on the basket so the other team never makes it's shot or use a "never miss" code. You can even make the 2 teams line up and do a dance on the game floor.

Microsoft has a site www.zone.com where you can play multiplayer games on the Net. Check it out.

Bob showed us Monster Truck Madness next. This gives you the feel for a Monster Truck rally. You can choose your truck and look at it from all angles. You can also choose the trucks you're competing against. Then you just go out and have some fun.

Hellbender is a sequel to Fury II.

The PC Bob brought to demo his games was a Pentium 120 with 40 Meg of ram. In addition to the games CD's, Bob brought a lot of software products to giveaway. These included the latest versions of Encarta and Encarta World Atlas. He also gave away 3 of the new gamepads (about \$35).

The games he showed were mostly in the \$35-\$40 price range.

Many thanks to all of our presenters!

Next month the very entertaining and informative Richard Katz will join us from Intuit. He will be presenting Quicken Financial Planner.

Reader Rabbit's Reading Development Library 3



Brings to life The Princess and the Pea and The Goose That Laid the Golden Egg

By Rita Shank
CIACUG

Interactive Books Feature Engaging Activities That Develop Reading Comprehension, vocabulary and Thinking Skills

Finally, an educational program that engages all three of my children ages 4, 7 & 8, all at the same time. When we first ran RR' RDL 3, they eagerly listened to the stories together and did some of the skill building activities. Since then, they have come back individually or in pairs to do the activities or to show the stories to their friends. My seven year old said, "Mom, I'm learning how to read better and I'm learning new words."

On May 8, 1996, The Learning Company, a subsidiary of SoftKey International (Nasdaq: SKEY),

launched Reader Rabbit's Reading Development Library 3, the newest addition to the company's highly acclaimed series of interactive books. "With Reader Rabbit as their guide, children ages five to eight can enjoy the classic stories The Princess and the Pea and The Goose That Laid the Golden Egg while improving their reading comprehension, vocabulary and thinking skills. Reading Development Library 3 is available on CD-ROM for Windows and Macintosh."

Story Match: Children match key words from the stories to pictures, building word-recognition skills as they expand their vocabulary.

Story Order: Children place story events in the correct order, building reading comprehension and sequencing skills.

Express It: Children write letters to

storybook characters and receive personalized responses, developing early writing and vocabulary skills.

System Requirements: IBM or Compatible or Macintosh computer with a hard disk and a double speed CD-ROM drive. Windows version requires a 386DX/33 MHz processor or better. Windows 95 with 8 MB of RAM or Windows 3.1 with 4 MB of RAM", a 256-color SVGA monitor; a Windows-compatible sound card; DOS version 3.1 or higher. The Macintosh version requires a 68030 processor or better; System 7.0.1 with 4 MB of RAM or System 7.5 with 5 MB of RAM (8 MB of RAM recommended); a 256-color monitor, 13" or larger; and System 7.0.1 or higher. The estimated retail price is \$50.

Application for Kentucky Indiana PC Users Group, Inc. Membership

Annual dues: \$35. Make checks payable to: KIPCUG, 219 N. Hubbards Ln. Suite B-26-318, Louisville, KY 40207

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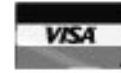
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Hurstbourne Hotel & Convention Center
Intuit's very own Richard Katz with Quicken 6

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