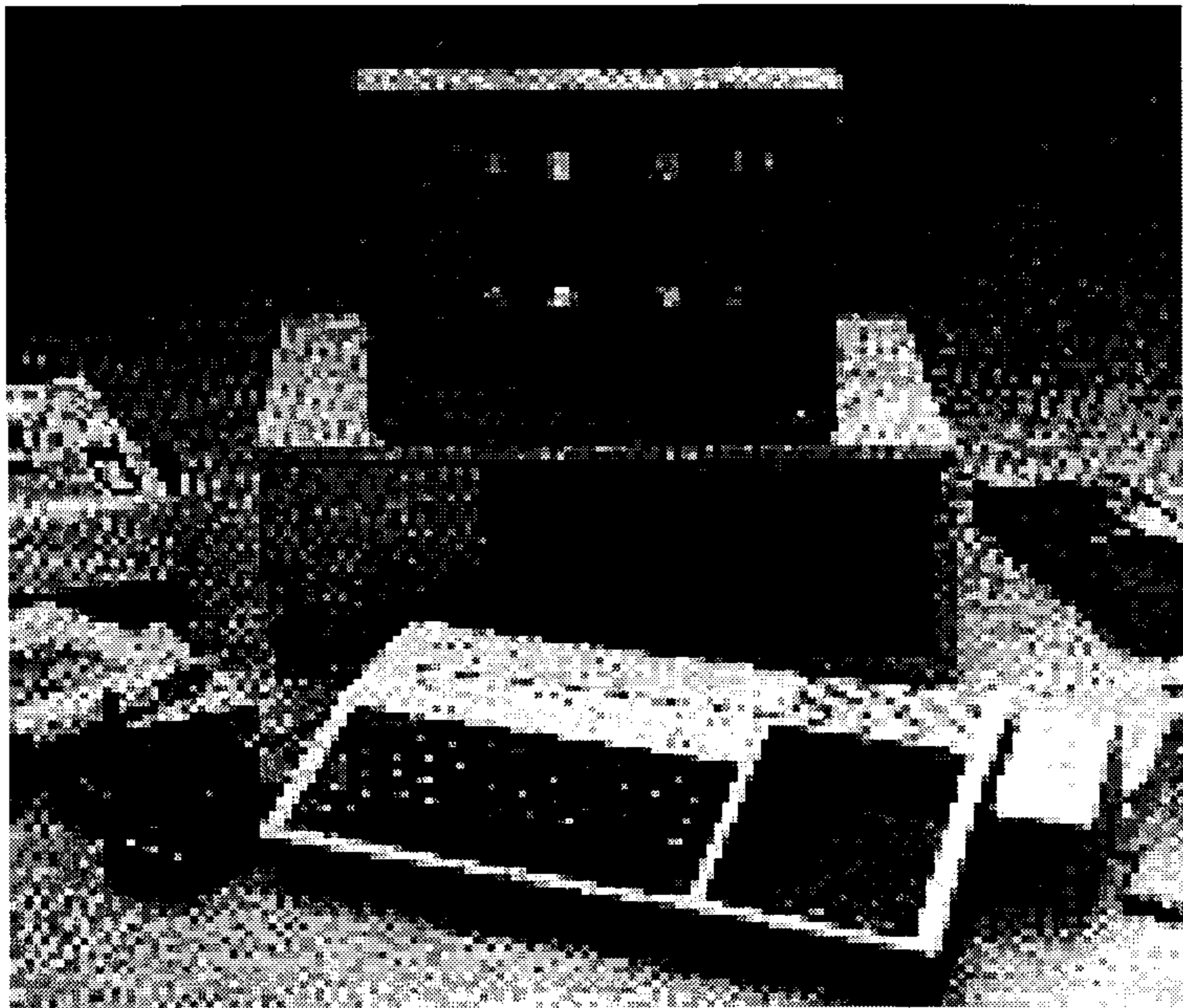


Timeline 99



Fest-West '98

February 14, 1998

Lubbock, Texas

1978



Introducing the personal computer you've waited for. The Exidy Sorcerer.

I didn't buy my personal computer until I found the one that had all the features I was looking for.

The Exidy Sorcerer does everything I wanted to do and a few things I never dreamed of.

It isn't magic. Exidy started with the best features of other computers, added some tricks of their own, and put it all together with more flexibility than ever before available. Presto! My reasons for waiting just disappeared.

I wanted pre-packaged programs. Software on inexpensive cassette tapes for the Sorcerer is available from Exidy and many other software makers.

I wanted user programmability. The Sorcerer's unique plug-in ROM PACT™ Cartridges contain programming languages such as Standard (Altair 8k*) BASIC, Assembler and Editor (so I can develop system software), operating systems such as DOS (so I can also use FORTRAN and COBOL) and applications packages such as Word Processor.

* Altair is a trademark of Perlec Computer Corp.

Circle 137 on inquiry card.

I wanted graphics, and the Sorcerer is super. Its 256 character set—more than any other personal computer—includes 128 graphic symbols that I can define.

I wanted high resolution video. With 122,880 points in a 512 x 240 format, I get the most detailed illustrations.

I wanted to display more information. The Sorcerer displays 1920 characters in 30 lines of 64 characters—equal to a double-spaced typed page.

I wanted a full, professional keyboard. The Sorcerer's 79-key data processing keyboard provides designated graphics, the complete ASCII character set in upper and lower case, and a 16-key numeric pad.

I wanted memory. The 12k of ROM holds a Power-On Monitor and Standard BASIC; the 8k of RAM is internally expandable to 32k.

I wanted expandability. Serial and parallel I/Os are built in, and the optional 6-slot S-100 expansion unit lets

my system grow.

I wanted a computer that's easy enough for children to use. I just connect my Sorcerer to a video display and a cassette tape recorder, and if I have any questions the easy-to-understand Operation and BASIC Programming manuals have the answers.

I wanted to buy from an experienced manufacturer. In five years Exidy has become the third largest producer of microprocessor-based video arcade games.

I wanted to spend less than a thousand bucks. (This is where Exidy does a little magic.) My Sorcerer cost me \$895!

Now, what are you waiting for?

Call Exidy for the name of your nearest dealer. (408) 736-2110. Or write Exidy, 969 W. Maude Ave., Sunnyvale, CA, 94086.

Exidy
Inc.

Your experience with personal computers is going to open an unlimited career at TI.

TI is into personal computers in a big way, and that means a ground floor opportunity is going to be open for you, the personal computing innovator. You'll be joining the undisputed world leader in creating new products and markets for consumer electronics with the company that invented the calculator on a chip. And it's all going to happen in TI's new Management and Technology Center for Consumer Products in Lubbock, Texas. Located in the high, dry, and cool plains of West Texas, Lubbock is about halfway between Dallas and Albuquerque. It is the home of Texas Tech University. You are just a few hours' drive from skiing in Taos, or touring and shopping in Juarez, Mexico.

Make your career opportunities in the following areas:

Personal Computer Product Marketing Manager

Responsible for establishing distribution channels for personal computer products, developing advertising and sales promotion programs, training, quoting and providing market requirements for new products and software. Requires BS in EE, math, physics or Computer Science. MBA preferred. Minimum of 5 years' experience in consumer sales or marketing related to desk programmable calculators, minicomputer

systems, microcomputer systems, or small business systems.

Systems Programmers

Outstanding opportunities — design, code, integrate and debug operating system modules, including device service routines, self-test diagnostics, and system utilities. Requires BSEE or Computer Science plus minimum of 3 years in assembly programming with some high level language experience.

Digital Design Engineers

Opportunity to design and develop digital subsystems for major new products. Projects will require design-to-cost discipline with internal and external component vendors, vendors of peripheral devices and making trade-offs of hardware and software. Requires BSEE with 2 years' experience. Prefer experience in design of bubble and/or flexible disk computer memory subsystems.

Product Design Engineer

Responsibility for mechanical design on major new personal computer products. Interface with electrical design engineers, software development personnel, marketing, purchasing, planning and all areas involved in taking a product from concept through initial production. Requires BSME with a minimum of

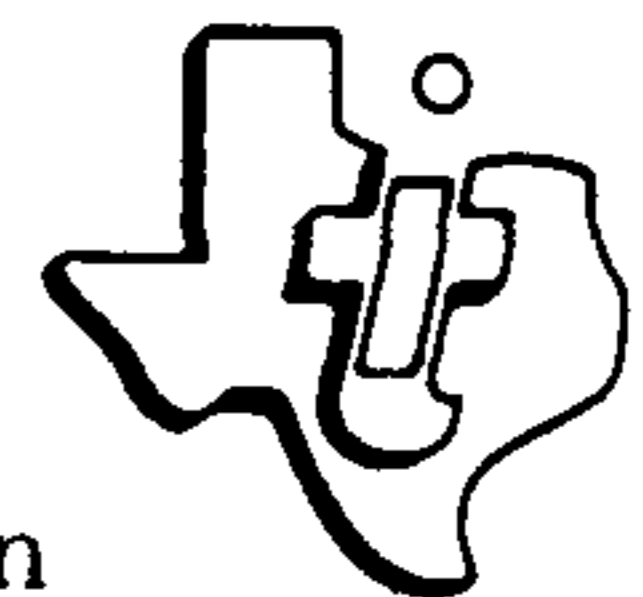
3 years' experience in design or closely related field. Knowledge of plastic tooling preferred.

Application Software Specialist

Total responsibility for development of complete application packages for specific business sectors and professionals. Specifications, design, coding, program check-out and documentation for personal computer systems. Requires BA or BS in math or Computer Science or BBA with data processing major with 2-3 years' experience. Program in high level language on mini, micro, or business computer systems.

Marketing Support Engineers

Project responsibility for future product service direction concerning existing as well as future products. Develop and maintain total service program for personal computer systems and field testing/check-out. Requires BSEE or equivalent with at least 3 years' experience with programmable desk calculators, minicomputer systems, microcomputer systems, small business systems, or product service management.

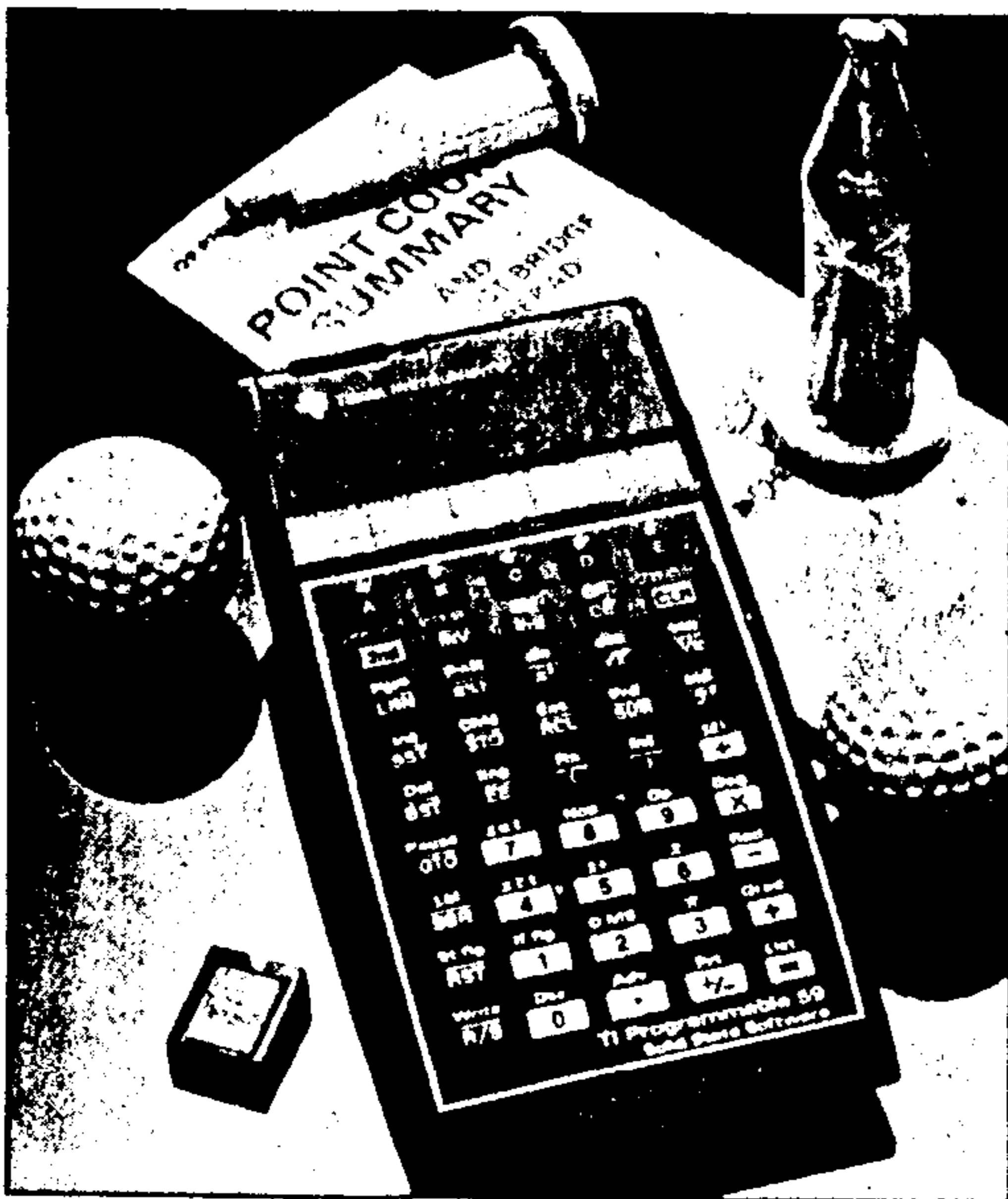


Send your resume in confidence to: Bill Toomey / P. O. Box 10508, M.S. 5807, Dept. B / Lubbock, TX 79408.

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Leisure Program Library for New TI Calculators



Owners of the Texas Instruments Programmable 58 and 59 calculators (see December 1977 *BYTE*, page 204) can now enjoy recreational applications of their pocket sized computers with the Solid State Software Leisure Library module. This plug in read only memory unit contains 20 different keystroke programs for golf handicaps, bowling scores, chess ratings, results of deals in duplicate or triplicate bridge, blackjack, acey deucey, craps, NIM, biorhythms, a spacecraft landing and a sea battle game, and other applications. Two programs use the alphabetic and plotting capabilities of the PC-100A printing cradle. The module is \$35 from Texas Instruments Inc, Inquiry Answering Service, POB 53 (attn: Leisure Library), Lubbock TX 79408. ■

Circle 574 on inquiry card.

FDOS III for iCOM Floppies

FDOS III is a new operating system for 8080 and Z-80 computers using any of iCOM's family of floppy disk drives and interfaces. It is compatible with programs written under FDOS II and has relocatable driver modules for file access. The system includes a string oriented text editor and a relocatable assembler for 8080 or Z-80 programs. Single commands provide for functions such as loading of files, editing and assembly, disk to disk, disk to punch and reader to disk IO. Files may be deleted, renamed or merged to create new files, and may be tagged with attributes to prevent deletion, for example. FDOS III is available from Perdec Computer Corp Microsystems Division, 21111 Erwin St, Woodland Hills CA 91367, (213) 999-2020. ■

Circle 575 on inquiry card.

Complete ANSI FORTRAN Compiler for Z-80

This FORTRAN compiler implements full American National Standard FORTRAN IV with a number of extensions, including one and two byte integers, double precision reals, complex, logical and string data types, named COMMON, sequential and direct access IO, and hexadecimal constants. A full library of scientific and string functions is provided, and a linking loader with automatic library search capabilities can link FORTRAN with assembler programs. Generated code can be placed in read only memory, and the package may be used optionally with a planned hardware multiply and divide module for greater speeds of execution. The compiler runs in 24 K bytes of memory in both FDOS IV and CP/M versions. It is available on floppy disk with a user's manual for \$349 from Technical Design Labs, Research Park, Bldg H, 1101 State Rd, Princeton NJ 08540, (609) 921-0321. ■

Circle 576 on inquiry card.

A FORTRAN Compiler for 8080s

Microsoft, 300 San Mateo NE, Suite 819, Albuquerque NM 87108, has just prepared a brochure on their FORTRAN-80 package, summarizing the features of the compiler for 8080 processors. User's guides for the FORTRAN-80 compiler, MACRO-80 assembler, LINK-80 loader and LIB-80 library packages are available for a price of \$20 each. Single user price for the FORTRAN-80 compiler is \$500. Versions are said to be available for CP/M, ISIS-II, DTC Microfile and MITS DOS floppy disk operating systems. Write the company for complete details or phone Steve Wood, (505) 262-1486. ■

Circle 578 on inquiry card.

Where Do New Product Items Come From?

The information printed in the new products pages of BYTE is obtained from "new product" or "press release" copy sent by the promoters of new products. If in our judgment the neat new whiz-bang gizmo or save the world software package is of interest to the personal computing experimenters and homebrewers who read BYTE, we print the information in some form. We openly solicit such information from manufacturers and suppliers to this marketplace. The information is printed more or less as a first in first out queue, subject to occasional priority modifications.

TDL Version 3.0 "Super BASIC"

Technical Design Labs has introduced Version 3.0 of "Super BASIC," a 12 K BASIC interpreter. Version 3.0 upgrades and supersedes Version 2.1 with improvements in speed and error handling features. Included with the announcement of this improvement was *The 12 K BASIC User's Manual* of approximately 70 pages in length.

Version 3.0 of Super BASIC provides programmable error handling that allows the user to specify special error handling routines processing any error occurring in the basic program without aborting the program. In addition, the ERR and ERL functions are available to provide further flexibility in error processing.

Version 3.0 of Super BASIC allows for the serial input and output of data from the firm's Zapple Monitor defined reader and punch devices. This data may be in ASCII (using INPUT and PRINT commands), or in binary (READ and WRITE). For noncontrolled reader/punch devices, a high speed binary mode is provided (MLOAD and MSAVE). During data input, end of file detection is provided through the ON EOF GO TO construct.

Version 3.0 provides the VARADR function which allows the address of a particular variable to be passed to an assembly language routine through the CALL statement. This allows routines to return data to the calling program.

Version 3.0 also has a provision to associate arbitrary file name strings with LOAD, LOADGO, and SAVE commands.

Version 3.0 of Super BASIC is being released for use with the CP/M disk operating system and is expected to be available soon in a serial paper tape version.

As with all TDL software it is relocatable and uses the monitor's operating system for its IO handling. It comes with the user's manual and occupies 12 K of core. Although primarily designed to run on TDL's Z-80 microcomputer system, it is adaptable to other systems which use the Zilog Z-80 processor. Super BASIC Version 3.0 is on a diskette and is a part of TDL's Software Package A which consists of Version 3.0, The Macro Assembler 2.2, Z-TEL Text Editing Language and the Text Output Processor. This entire package is available now for \$249.

For further information contact Technical Design Labs, Research Park, Bldg H, 1101 State Rd, Princeton NJ 08540, (609) 921-0321. ■

Circle 577 on inquiry card.

Correction

The price of the Equinox 100 computer system is \$799, not \$699 as we stated in the new product release on page 172 of the January 1978 issue. Our thanks to Linda Hall of Parasitic Engineering for calling this to our attention.