BugBytes

Editors Note

Dennis Remmer

dennis@dstc.com

"About time!" I hear you say. I don't blame you. BugBytes is getting increasingly sporadic, but I get 'em out when I can. I've been busy buying a house with Anastasia you see. Things on my mind!

Anyway, inside you'll find lots of interesting talk from the TI world. MicroPendium has closed up shop! There are some other sad developments with some vendors, however there has been a lot of corresponding activity to bring the remaining TI community together on the Internet, as you will see.

The chills of winter are upon us! Stay warm and I'll see you at the nest meeting.

New TI Magazine

Bryan Roppolo

brop99@hotmail.com

HI! Rich Polivka and me are working on a new TI magazine called "The TI News". People can submit articles to this magazine for everybody to see. The first issue of "The TI News" is posted on http://www.whtech.com/tinews

So if you are interested in sending us comments, suggestions, or writing an article about something send it our way. It will be published in Vol.1 Issue 2. If someone you know either doesn't have Internet access or uses a TI that can't open "The TI News", then feel free to print out a copy and spread it around. This way everything is free and everyone can get a copy. Thanks!

Gifts to TIers

Charles Good

cgood@nicsweb.com

The following interesting material has been placed on Don O'Neil's ftp server. It can be downloaded from the web with a browser or by using an ftp program with anonymous login from ftp://ftp.whtech.com/pub/pc99

99ER.EXE is a self extracting archive that contains all the TI software ever published by 99er Magazine/Home Computer Magazine/Home Computing Journal including the very very rare first and last issues. The file unpacks to 35 sssd "disks" in PC99 format. Disk conversions were done by Mike Wright.

AMNION.EXE is a self-extracting archive that contains all the software of Guy Romano's "Amnion Free Access Library". This library includes the entire old IUG software library plus some additional material. The file unpacks into 58 mostly DSDD "disks" in PC99 format as well as a PDF version of the last IUG software catalog. Disk conversions were done by Charlie Good and the PDF file was created by Mike Wright.

PETERSON.EXE is a self-extracting archive that contains Jim Peterson's public domain library of over 600 sssd and dssd disks. The archive includes a PDF version of the Peterson PD catalog and all the disks in PC99 format. The method of archiving lets you extract just the disks you want

without having to unpack all 600+ disks. The disk conversions were done by Charlie Good. Creation of the PDF file and placing all of the disks in an archive was done by Mike Wright.

LIMANEWS.EXE is a self extracting archive that contains most of the articles that were originally published in "Bits Bytes & Pixels", the newsletter of the Lima Ohio User Group. Most of these articles were orginal to the newsletter. They were written by Charles Good, Jack Sughrue, Bill Gaskill, Andy Frueh, and others. The archive unpacks into ascii *.txt files.

REVIEWS.EXE is a self extracting archive containing almost all of the Mircoreviews articles Charles Good published in Micropendium from 1994 until 1999. The archive unpacks into ascii *.txt files

RXB.EXE is a self extracting archive containing RXB v2000 by Rich Gilbertson. This is the final version of this fine product. There will be no more updates according to the author. v2000 includes complete control of the AMS card from within basic as well as a disk manager that works with floppy HFDC SCSI and ramdisk drives. The archive unpacks into two PC99 disks (one of which is an AMS demo disk), the *.grm files needed to run RXB v2000 from PC99, and all the documentation as ascii *.txt files. Charlie Good converted the material to PC99 format and extracted the documentation so that it is easy to read by anybody with a PC.

In the near future I expect to be able to upload the Boston Computer Society's TI Sig disk library in PC99 format. The conversion of these 100+ disks were done by Mike Wright.

Some of the above archives are large, particularly the Peterson and Amnion libraries. The BCS archive will also be large. If you have a slow connection and don't want to download all this stuff you can snail mail me a zip disk and paid return mailer. I will put all the above files and the BCS library in PC99 format on your zip disk and mail it back to you.

If you want to recieve the final update of RXB on TI disks you can snail mail me $2 and I will send you RXB v2000 on TI disks. Please indicate whether you have DSDD or only DSSD capacity. The original disks are on DSDD. You need a gram device, or a Geneve, or PC99 in order to run RXB.

For Sale... Unfortunately

Mike posted this sudden and unfortunate message to the TI mailing list about 2 weeks ago. It seems to have come about due to some insensitive email he received...

Mike Wright
mjmw@ix.netcom.com

For sale to highest bidder (serious offers by private mail only please):

CaDD Electronics.

Properties include:

- 33MHz Pentium notebook with complete PC99 development environment and source code.

- License to distribute original TI ROMs and GROMs

- All material developed and written for The Cyc in WP 8.0 format (about 220Mb of compressed data)

- Two fully working TI-99/4A systems, one with HFDC and two hard drives.

- Complete TI sidecar system, including p-System sidecar

- Gramulator 00001. Gram Kracker.

- Miscellaneous p-Boxes and consoles, including two 99/4s, and spare p-Code, 32K, TI DC cards.

- Other TI hardware, including Forti card, IEEE card, Video Controller, Thermal Printers, CorComp DSDD.

- Almost every cart made for the TI-99/4A from TI (PHM) and 3rd party, such as Romox, Navarone, etc

- Almost every disk made for the TI-99/4A from TI (PHD).

- Almost every cassette made for the TI-99/4A from TI (PHC)

- Original manuals for the above (PHx).

- TI-99/8 and documentation.

- TI-99/2 and documentation.

- Thousands of disks of software, including many originals, for the TI-99/4A

- Full set of Plato software, with three cartons of original Plato in boxes.

- Some original SF School Management applications (large blue binders)

- About 150 books on the TI-99/4A

- TI display stand with revolving triangular towers (as

used in stores, such as K-mart)

- TI display stand for software with internal lighting (as used in stores)

- Original TI manuals, documentation and brochures, including sales training material

- Documentation material for TI-99/4A software that fills about 6 full-size file drawers.

- Complete sets of 99'er, Enthusiast 99, MICROPendium, Smart Programmer/Super 99 Monthly.

- Newletters from almost every user grouip since 1980 that file 6 full-size file drawers

There are other items such as the console tester made in Australia and a p-Box card that was made by TI but we cannot determine its function, etc.

The above material is offered as a whole and without warranty. No part is for sale separately. If you have any questions, please send email to: mjmw@ix.netcom.com. You will need at least a small Ryder truck to pick up this material.

I thought it appropriate to post this offer here given the recent discussion on how we (CaDD) should conduct business. This is not a gut or knee-jerk reaction to any single posting. Rather, it is the culmination of events that have led to the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back. In some ways, it could be likened to the scales falling from one eyes, or perhaps even the revelation that a born-again religious person is said to experience.

This action should in no way be construed as being caused by a single person. It would also not be constructive to have a flame war with lots of finger pointing. That's not what this is about.

It is simply that I am now convinced that it is time to move on to another enterprise, whether it is model railroading or practicing the guitar. For all those who have helped me "see the light", I would like to say thank you.

DR: This is such a shame, as about 2 weeks earlier Mike had posted the following…

I think time is of the essence here in case we let too many people dribble away.

1. We need to establish a worldwide list of remaining TI users. One important source would be the Micropendium mailing list, if we can persuade John Koloen to part with it. All remaining user groups should submit their mailing lists (subject to members' approval) to a central clearing house for registration. The mailing list should be available to any user who wants to

see it and to outside party's only if permission is sought and approved.

2. Contact with members will have to be my email. It is unlikely that everyone will want to pay for the costs of mailing. An exception could be made for those who don't have email, but they will have to pay the costs of printing and mailing information and newsletters.

3. A national newsletter by email needs to be established to replace Micropendium. Back issues should be stored on an ftp site. An editor needs to be found who will perform the work of assimilating, editing, and collating the material. A format (for example pdf or text) should be agreed upon. (Perhaps two versions can be offered, one with full graphics, one with just the text).

4. An institution such as this list server needs to be kept up. Perhaps Tom Wills can give us an idea of how much it costs to maintain the server. Perhaps we should all consider making a contribution to him.

5. In the past, the Central Ohio group tried to set up a "clearing house". I can't think of a better term, so I'll use it here. We need to set up a clearinghouse for all hardware and software. I know you can go to ebay, but those prices seem out of proportion. We should offer a service to anyone interested in TI. All PD software can be taken for free from an ftp site. All hardware can be had for a minimal charge plus shipping. The idea here is not to make a profit, but to cover any costs.

6. We need to set up a "doc center". All documentation that we can lay our hands on should be collected and placed in the doc vault. We can accept different formats, and then try and establish a standard for delivery. We should set up a "doc conversion group" to help with any keyboarding. For example, it would be nice (if John Koloen gives us permission) to be able to deliver the full text of Micropendium in electronic form. [In the past I have avoided things like 99er and the National 99'er since I could not get copyright clearance on them, but I now feel they are so long gone that it probably doesn't matter, and I say that with full respect to the law.]

7. We need to establish "areas of expertise". For example, if you want to know when something happened in the TI world, we should try to convince Bill Gaskill to handle that. If you want to know something about hardware I would ask Michael Becker. If you want to know about the RS232 card, then Jeff Brown. For other vintage computers, then Allison Parent. Stephen Shaw has a wonderful touch and who wants to lose Bruce Harrison. (Note these are just off the top of my head, and the above

named will only know about it when they see this and could easily have no interest at all. It should also be obvious that the above names are _not_ inclusive of all the resources we should be able to lay our hands on.)

8. We should nurture our remaining TI vendors and make them feel welcome. (I am trying to say this in a neutral way, as since I am a vendor, I don't want to be accused of promoting self-interest.) But we should make sure that Tex-Comp, Competition Computer, Ramcharged Computer, and others know that they can place an ad free of charge in the newsletter. At least that way they will have a chance of getting some revenue.

9. Much of the above could be rolled into a web site, but that's going to cost. I spoke to Rich Polivka at the MUG fair and found out that he essentially keeps his TI web site going out of his own pocket. That is one reason why he was forced to allow the popup ads to appear. It's a way of covering his expenses. In my case, I pay $24.95 a month out of my own pocket to keep the CaDD website going. The revenue generated from PC99 does not cover the cost of the site. I would be happy to add more material to the site, but I am not that good at HTML, and am also allowed only 5Mb of storage. (I just know I'm going to get a ton of info on better ISPs. The main reason I chose Netcom [now Mindspring] is that they are worldwide. For example, when I was in Australia or Kuala Lumpur on business, I could find a local Netcom number to retrieve my email. Also I don't want to have to get another email address if I can help it.)

To make this work we need to establish a "council". The president (or chief officer) will set up a series of offices (e.g. newsletter, clearing house, etc), and people can be appointed or elected to them. Also, these offices should not be considered a lifetime burden. They can be rotated on a voluntary or as-needs basis.

If possible, membership should be free. The hassle of sending small amounts to say, Germany or Australia (since the newsletter could be published from there) just end up costing more for the draft than the amount involved.

It would be an incredible feather in our caps if we could pull this off electronically. I don't think we have any other choice, short of some benefactor winning the lottery and giving us the funds. In the case of PC99, we were able to continue development when one of the developers moved to Florida by using a combination of ftp, email, and the phone. However, we were an established "group" and knew who did what and with which to whom. Setting up a diversified TI organization will

definitely be harder. For my case, I think I could be a contributor, but don't think I am that good at organizing. Oh. And, of course, I mentioned national. I did not mean to imply USA only. This has to be a worldwide thing, and with the electronic tools that takes care of that.

Another thing we should try and avoid is duplication. I know this is a capitalistic society and that competition is the way it should be, but it always irked me that Myarc and CorComp (for example) produced similar hardware, neither of which was quite right. I would rather have had a DSDD controller that really worked without any problems, than to have to deal with the quriks of two different ones. Don't flame me for that, I am just trying to make the point that we have to husband our resources carefully and make sure that no efforts go to waste.

Perhaps as a first step we can send in a "TI resume", which should include what, if any, time you would be willing to devote to this project and what areas of interest you would like to have responsibility for.

Finally, it's always good to have a name. It's something to rally around. My proposal, in keeping with the spirit of the web, is "WW99" -- World Wide 99'ers.

I may be in the lifeboat, but I think I just found a compass and am determined to make it to Newfoundland.

TI Mailing List Archives

For those who read the TI mailing list... If you don't then refer to the Feb/March 1997 BugBytes for details...Incidentally Mr Moon is the guy who owns/owned Moonbeam Software... DR

Mr Moon
mister_html@mrmoon.com

With a BIG THANKS to Robert Jones who provided me with ZIPs of his mail folders, there are now some 11,800+ messages in the archives that I set up for this list at:
http://www.mrmoon.communitech.net/ti994a/archives

One Last Look

From the West Penn 99ers Website
http://rams1.rasd.k12.pa.us/~kingt/

In February 1984, a new computer magazine was introduced. Thus on that date, Volume 1 Number 1 of Home Computer Compendium was published. The publisher was John Koloen, with Laura Burns as editor. Their address was P.O. Box 1343,

Round Rock, Texas 78680. The phone number was (512) 255-1512. Does any of this sound familiar? It should!

By July of 1984, the name had been changed to the well known MICROpendium. Subscription prices were $12.00 for 12 issues. Also at this time coverage was added for the TI99/4A compatables, meaning the Myarc Geneve 9640. The magazine was printed on newsprint with 24 pages, 8 1/2" x 11", black on white. The number of pages increased to as many as 48, then settled back to 32. Things stayed this way until May of 1996. March of 1996 was the last monthly issue, there was no April issue. Then starting with May/June 1996, MICROpendium was published six times a year, every other month. The size was now back up to 40 pages, and subscription prices had gradually increased to $35.oo per year.

When the September/October 1997 issue was published, the hand writing was on the wall, but no one would admit it. That issue broke with long standing tradition, and the format was now 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", with 56 pages printed on a lazer printer. Paid advertizments were virtually at zero by this time.

Volume 16 Number 3, May/June 1999 arrived just before the middle of June. On the front cover were three words; "MICROPENDIUM CEASES PUBLICATION". The dreaded day had arrived as we knew it would, but somehow hoped that itwouldn't.

Well, almost 15 1/2 years is a darn good run for a magazine supporting an orphan computer. We can only thank John and Laura for their devotion and tireless efforts in publishing an excellent magazine.

NOTE: All back issues and MICROpendium disks are on sale at half price until July 31, 1999. After that time, everything is closed for good.

Contact; micropendium@yahoo.com

Bruce Harrison Ceases TI Programming

From the West Penn 99ers Website
http://rams1.rasd.k12.pa.us/~kingt/

Long time programmer for the TI99/4A, Bruce Harrison, has announced that he will no longer write programs for the TI. This announcment was made Saturday, 12 June 1999, at the TI MUG in Brook Park Ohio. Bruce's talk, titled "The End Of An Era", summed up the reasons for his quitting. Most had to do with the various pieces of third party hardware which made it

difficult to write a program that would work on everything. Bruce had been one of the best and most prolific of all TI programmers. Having written everything from small utilities to major undertakings like Midi Master and Midi Play In. He also did many programs for the AMS expanded memory card, such as AMS Video Titler, AMS Slide Show, AMS Transfer, and many others. Most all of Bruce's programs were written in assembly language, very fast, compact, efficient, and well behaved. We will all miss not only his programs, but miss his presence at the various TI faires and conferences. Thank you Bruce, for what you have given us. And good luck for whatever you do in the future.

New TI Web Community

Joe Delekto
jdelekto@gcomm.com

Greetings, I have sought permission from my employer to host a web site here at work provided that the following conditions are met: 1) I do not use the site for distributing pornography (which never crossed my mind); 2) do not charge for access or use the system for any type of profit; and 3) that I use our company's software product to power the site.

I intend this site to be a 'classic computer' site, although I am mainly seeking to focus on the TI-99/4a. This web site will feature both a telnet (ASCII / ANSI), Client/Server and a Web-based interface for accessing real-time chat, discussion forums, e-mail, user registry, etc. I have spent this past weekend browsing the Web looking for TI-related links and found a good many of the sites either down or non-existent. (Including alot of the posted FTP sites.) I am currently in the process of registering the domain for the site, but it may be a few weeks before it is up and running.

I would like to make this system open to as many as possible, here are my current intentions for this project:

1) Each user must have an account created to use the system, so that it cannot be abused. Anonymous access will be allowed to a certain degree. Privacy is a major concern for me and I can assure all that any user information supplied (I may just require an ID and password) will not be used for marketing means in any way, shape or form.

2) Each user will be allowed an internet e-mail address that they may use for personal purposes. (Mass marketing or spamming will not be tolerated --I think that this will not be an issue with this audience.)

3) At some point, users will be allowed to have their own web pages set up on the system. This will be meant to allow individuals to have their own personal Web pages hosted, *not* as an advertising vehicle or links to inappropriate or adult sites. (I would like to keep this a family-oriented' site.)

4) An FTP site will be made available with several different areas for downloads and an area for file uploads that will be scanned and placed in the appropriate libraries.

5) Real-time chat will be available to allow many people to participate in scheduled discussions or partake in any user-scheduled on-line meetings. I will encourage everyone to take advantage of this - it would be nice to schedule an on-line chat with some of the veteran members of the TI community.

6) Threaded discussion forums will be available for a variety of topics, be it games, educational software, programming with various TI languages, etc. I would like to solicit the group to see what topics you would like to see posted.

Access to the site will be *free*, there will be no monthly charge nor any donations required. I would like to get a general 'feel' for the project if anyone would care to offer an opinion.

Known TI User Groups

Gary Cox

garycox@netten.net

Here is a list that I received from Micropendium last week. Those with an asterisk (*) are not confirmed...

These were from their list where they exchange newsletters so we know the addresses and groups are still active. I intend to bounce this list of my groups (Mid-south 99 User Group) mailing list to pick up a few more... I have an old listing up on my WEB site at http://www.netten.net/~garycox under the TI section. I'm also working on a vendor listing by sending out letters to all the vendors to determine who is still supporting TI and Geneve, hope to have that done in about a month as well as the user group updated listing... Anyway please send me a updated listing of user groups when you complete your list and I'll send you a copy of mine and between us we should have a pretty accurate list.

TI99/4A Exchange, c/o R. Speed
8 Corfe Close
Southwater
Horsham
West Sussex RH13 7XL
England

TI Brisbane Users Group
18 Zammit Street
Deception Bay, QLD 4019
Australia

TI Users of Perth c/o F. Graham
20 Hudson Street
Bayswater, WA 6053
Australia

MUNCH c/o J.W. Cox
905 Edgebrook Dr.
Boylestown, MA 01505-1724

Upstate 99/4 Users c/o Ruth Burch*
6 Evergreen Court
Albany, NY 12211

West Penn 99ers c/o Paul Brock
P.O. Box 222
North Apollo, PA 15673-0222

Erie 99ers Dept. of CUE
3904 Myrtle St.
Erie, PA 16508-3016

Capitol Area U.G. (Hultberg)*
1407 Concord Rd.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Reading-Berks 99ers*
RD #2 Box 2038
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

GBTIUG c/o P. Wiese*
4115 E. Okara Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617-4446

Manasota Users Group c/o Gluvna*
3836 Calliandra Dr.
Sarasota, FL 34232

Athens 99/4 User Group*
1110 Greenway Lane
Etowah, TN 37331

Mid-South 99 Users Group
P.O. Box 27052
Memphis, TN 38127

North Coast 99ers*
11596 Forest View Drive
Chardon, OH 44024

Cleveland Users Groups c/o Hoffman
3925 Trowbridge Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109-1349

Hoosier Users Group c/o Eicher
4509 Northeastern Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239

Central Iowa Users Group*
940 County Line
Des Moines, IA 50320

Chicago TI Users Group
P.O. Box 7009
Evanston, IL 60204-7009

TI Users Group of Will County
410 W. Palladium Dr.
Joliet, IL 60435

Ozark 99er Users Group c/o Phillips
1041 East Kingsbury
Springfield, MO 65807-2032

K.C. TI99/4A Users Group c/o Blood*
2032 N. 32nd
Kansas City, KS 66104-4308

Dallas Home Computer Group
P.O. Box 29863
Dallas, TX 75229

S.W. 99ers
P.O. Box 17831
Tucson, AZ 85731-7831

LA 99ers Computer Group*
7022 Willowtree Dr.
Rancho Palos Verde, CA 90274-2961

SCCG TI99/4A*
P.O. Box 152535
San Diego, CA 92195

South Bay TI Users Group*
P.O. Box 110037
Campbell, CA 95011-0037

PUNN c/o Ted Peterson
8686 SW Oak St.
Portland, OR 97223-5814

Sooner 99ers
c/o S.D. Farrar
9100 Candlewood Dr.

Oklahoma City, OK 73132
St. Louis 99ers
1214 Lakemont Dr.
Arnold, MO 63010-4620

Kentuckiana 99 Computer Society

5318 Cynthia Dr.
Louisville, KY 40291

Milwaukee TI User Group
4122 Glenway St.
Wauwatosa, WI 53222

Art of Assembly – The Series

Mike Wright

mjmw@ix.netcom.com

I have just finished compiling all 83 of Bruce Harrison's "The Art Of Assembly" articles into a pdf file. This file, artassem.pdf, has been uploaded to Don O'Neill's web site ftp://ftp.whtech.com/pub/articles

The file runs to about 670 pages. It contains all the articles in MICROpendium, together with the balance of articles that were scheduled for publication before MICROpendium ceased publication.

It would be appreciated if someone went over this large amount of material and verified that it is correct. For example, it would have been relatively easy to mix up text and corresponding sidebar.

Bruce sent me a combination of zip file attachments and TI disks. The TI disks were converted to PC99 format, and then the PC99 utilities were used to convert the text files for use in WordPerfect. From here, a pdf file was output.

There was also some other material on the disks Bruce sent, and these will be converted when I find time.

For anyone still wanting to take the plunge into TMS9900 assembly coding, this would be a very useful series. Bruce has the rare qualities of being prolific, entertaining, and informative. This is a world-class, well-written series that could stand against anything else of this nature that I've seen published.

New Element Discovered !

Source Unknown

Chemists recently discovered the heaviest element known to science. The element, tentatively named Administratum, has no protons or electrons and thus has an atomic number of 0. However it does have:

- 1 neutron.

- 125 assistant neutrons

- 75 vice-neutrons

- 111 assistant vice-neutrons

This gives it an atomic mass of 312. The 312 particles are held together by a force that involves the continuous exchange of meson-like particles called morons.

Since it has no electrons, Administratum is inert. However, it can be detected chemically as it impedes every action with which it comes in contact. According to the discoverers, a minute amount of Administratum causes one reaction to take four days to complete when it would have normally occurred in less than one second.

Administratum has a normal half-life of approximately three years, at which time it does not actually decay but instead undergoes a reorganization in which assistant neutrons, vice neutrons, and assistant vice-neutrons exchange places. Some studies have shown that atomic mass actually increases after each reorganization.

Research at other laboratories indicates that Administratum occurs naturally in the atmosphere. It tends to concentrate at certain points such as government agencies, large corporations, and universities and can usually be found in the newest, best appointed, and best maintained buildings.

Chemists point out that Administratum is known to be toxic at any level of concentration and can easily destroy any productive reaction where it is allowed to accumulate. Attempts are being made to determine how Administratum can be controlled to prevent irreversible damage, but results to date are not promising.

It is hoped that Committeeium can neutralize Administratum damage, by issuing irrelevant voluminous reports.

Business Angst...

Phrases you can use in a myriad of business situations!

Source Unknown
1) Thank you. We're all refreshed and challenged by your unique point of view.

2) The fact that no one understands you doesn't mean you're an artist.

3) I don't know what your problem is, but I'll bet it's hard to pronounce.

4) Any connection between your reality and mine is purely coincidental.

5) I have plenty of talent and vision. I just don't give a damn.

6) I like you. You remind me of when I was young and stupid.

7) What am I? Flypaper for freaks!

8) I'm not being rude. You're just insignificant.

9) I'm already visualizing the duct tape over your mouth.

10) Ahhh...I see the Screw-up Santa has visited us again...

11) I will always cherish the initial misconceptions I had about you.

12) It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.

13) Yes, I am an agent of Satan, but my duties are largely ceremonial.

14) No, my powers can only be used for good.

15) How about never? Is never good for you?

16) I'm really easy to get along with once you people learn to worship me.

17) You sound reasonable... Must be time to up my medication.

18) I'll try being nicer if you'll try being smarter.

19) I'm out of my mind, but feel free to leave a message...

20) I don't work here. I'm a consultant.

21) Who me? I just wander from room to room.

22) My toys! My toys! I can't do this job without my toys!

23) It might look like I'm doing nothing, but at the cellular level I'm really quite busy.

24) At least I have a positive attitude about my destructive habits.

25) You are validating my inherent mistrust of strangers.

26) I see you've set aside this special time to humiliate yourself in public.

27) Someday, we'll look back on this, laugh nervously and change the subject.

REAL Business Angst...

A magazine recently ran a "Dilbert quotes" contest. They were looking for people to submit quotes from their real life Dilbert-type managers.

Source Unknown
Here are the finalists:

1. As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the

building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks; (This was the winning quote from Fred Dales at Microsoft Corp in Redmond, WA.)

2. What I need is a list of specific unknown problems we will encounter. (Lykes Lines Shipping)

3. E-mail is not to be used to pass on information or data. It should be used only for company business. (Accounting manager, ElectricBoat Company)

4. This project is so important, we can't let things that are more important interfere with it. (Advertising/Marketing manager, United Parcel Service)

5. Doing it right is no excuse for not meeting the schedule. No one will believe you solved this problem in one day! We've been working on it for months. Now, go act busy for a few weeks and I'll let you know when it's time to tell them. (R&D supervisor, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing/3M Corp.)

6. My Boss spent the entire weekend retyping a 25-page proposal that only needed corrections. She claims the disk I gave her was damaged and she couldn't edit it. The disk I gave her was write-protected (CIO of Dell Computers)

7. Quote from the Boss: "Teamwork is a lot of people doing what I say." (Marketing executive, Citrix Corporation)

8. My sister passed away and her funeral was scheduled for Monday. When I told my boss, he said she died so that I would have to miss work on the busiest day of the year. He then asked if we could change her burial to Friday. He said, "That would be better for me." (Shipping executive, FTD Florists)

9. "We know that communication is a problem, but the company is not going to discuss it with the employees." (Switching supervisor, AT&T Long Lines Division)

10. We recently received a memo from senior management saying: "This is to inform you that a memo will be issued today regarding the subject mentioned above." (Microsoft, Legal Affairs Division)

11. One day my Boss asked me to submit a status report to him concerning a project I was working on. I asked him if tomorrow would be soon enough. He said "If I wanted it tomorrow, I would have waited until tomorrow to ask for it!" (New business manager Hallmark Greeting Cards.)

12. As director of communications, I was asked to prepare a memo reviewing our company's training programs and materials. In the body of the memo one of the sentences I

mentioned the "pedagogical approach" used by one of the training manuals. The day after I routed the memo to the executive committee, I was called into the HR director's office, and told that the executive vice president wanted me out of the building by lunch. When I asked why, I was told that she wouldn't stand for perverts" (pedophilia?) working in her company. Finally, he showed me her copy of the memo, with

her demand that I be fired -and the word "pedagogical" circled in red. The HR manager was fairly reasonable, and once he looked the word up in his dictionary and made a copy of the definition to send back to her, he told me not to worry. He would take care of it. Two days later, a memo to the entire staff came out directing us that no words which could not be found in the local Sunday newspaper could be used in company memos. A month later, I resigned. In accordance with company policy, I created my resignation memo by pasting words together from the Sunday paper. (Taco Bell Corporation)

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Submissions should be about the TI Community in particular, computers in general, or of sufficient general interest. The preferred media is computer file, preferably in ASCII (Text) or Microsoft-Word compatible format, submitted on MacIntosh or IBM-compatible floppy disk or via Electronic Mail to the Editor. Handwritten submissions are acceptable but please remember that they have to be retyped. Other submissions, such as typed, printed or photocopied are welcome but must be of reproducible quality. Submissions are best sent directly to the Editor.

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