

YESTERDAYS NEWS

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PLOTTING FROM TI TO PC

If you read last months issue of Yesterdays News you saw on page 4 the plotted image of an Escher drawing. This was accomplished by running the program from my TI and sending the output thru a serial cable via RS232 to Fred Kaal's T199Print. It is available on his site. You need to set it to use Sony Emulation for this to work. Have fun with this and if any of you programmers out there come up with an awesome "plot" please post on ATARIAGE for all to enjoy.

```

100 !ESCHER
110 !MAURICE E T SWINNEN
120 DIM X(50),Y(50):: FOR N=
1 TO 50 :: READ X(N),Y(N)::
NEXT N :: DISPLAY ERASE ALL
:: OPEN #1:"RS232.BA=9600.DA
=8.PA=N" :: PRINT #1:CHR$(27
);"#":"C0":"M100,-500":"I"
130 FOR Q=1 TO 2 :: FOR N=1
TO 50 :: PRINT #1:"D";X(N);"
,";Y(N):: NEXT N :: PRINT #1
:"H":"R2,-2":"I" :: NEXT Q :
: PRINT #1:"HM0,-200":CHR$(2
7);"d" :: CLOSE #1 :: END
140 DATA 0,290,200,250,200,2
70,50,300,0,290,200,250,200,
400,400,360,450,370,250,410,
200,400,400,360,400,10,350
150 DATA 20,200,-10,200,-30,
400,10,350,20,350,320,250,34
0,250,190,300,200,300,330,25
0,340,250,190,50,230,50,-10
160 DATA 0,0,50,-10,150,10,1
50,-90,100,-80,100,0,150,10,
-30,150,-90,150,10,50,-10
170 DATA 50,230,100,220,100,
50,200,70,150,80,100,70,100,
50,200,70,200,-30

```

```

100 !GLOBE
110 ! MAURICE E T SWINNEN
120 CALL CLEAR :: OPEN #1:"R
S232.BA=9600.DA=8.PA=N" :: P
RINT #1:CHR$(27);"#":"C0":"M
340,-500":"I"
130 A=(PI*2)+.25 :: B=25*PI/
180 :: DISPLAY AT(5,5):"PLOT
TING OF A GLOBE":" ":" d
iameter?<230"
140 ACCEPT AT(7,20)SIZE(3)BE
EP VALIDATE(DIGIT):C :: FOR
D=0 TO A STEP B :: FOR E=0 T
O A STEP B :: F=SINCE)*C*COS
(D):: G=COS(E)*C :: IF E=0 T
HEN 160
150 GOSUB 200
160 G=INT(G):: F=INT(F):: GO
SUB 190 :: NEXT E :: NEXT D
:: FOR D=0 TO A STEP B :: FO
R E=0 TO A STEP B:: F=COS(E
)*C :: G=SIN(E)*C*COS(D):: I
F E=0 THEN 180
170 GOSUB 200
180 G=INT(G):: F=INT(F):: GO
SUB 190 :: NEXT E :: NEXT D
:: PRINT #1:"M0,";-(C+30):"A
" :: CLOSE #1 :: END
190 PRINT #1:"M";G;",";F ::
RETURN
200 PRINT #1:"D";G;",";F ::
RETURN

```



INSIDE

INFORMATION

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TYPE INS - AMIGA, MULTICOLORPage 4

REVIEWED

January 1997 MICROPENDIUM Microreview by Charles Good

LOADMASTER V2.2 BY MICKEY CENDROWSKI AND BRUCE HARRISON

Yes, I know I reviewed this twice already in Micropendium. But it keeps getting better, much better. For those of you who don't remember, Loadmaster is for those wishing to organize their disk collections and find out what kind of software is on each disk. When you ask loadmaster to bring up a disk directory you are told all the usual disk directory information such as file name, size, kind (program, DV89, etc.) and protection status. You are also told the file kind in a way that is not often possible to guess from an ordinary directory listing. You are told "Infocom game", "TI Base data file", "Page Pro Banner", "Extended Basic long file", etc for every file on the disk. There are 52 file types that can be identified. This is very complete disk information not available from any other TI utility product. You can print disk labels, disk jackets, and create disk files that contain all this information.

New to v2.2 since my last review of v2.1 are speed, the ability to run any runnable file, more extensive and accurate file identification, and user friendly error trapping. Bruce Harrison has added his assembly language skills to Mickey's extended basic earlier versions so that Load Master can now do things that cannot be done with just extended basic.

The most immediately obvious change is speed. In my previous review I noted that the entirely extended basic v2.1 was very very slow. Version 2.2 really flies along.



DISK OF THE MONTH



Bringing back the tradition of a Disk OF the Month (DOM) that quite a few TI users groups put together back in the

SEE "DOM", PAGE 3

SEE "LOADMASTER", PAGE 4

Back in the day
this was known as..

THE LETTER

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL TI GROUPS

Someone had to be crucified!
Someone had to burn Watts!
Someone had to get shot at Kent!

The TI community will not be satisfied until someone sets themselves on fire in the middle of Times Square with a TI computer clutched in their arms! Who shall it be? Barry Boone, Peter Hoddie, Chris Bobbitt? How about Stu Olson or Barry Traver? Maybe Ron Albright would do this for us. It sure as hell won't be me because nobody knows me, and besides, somebody has to remain as curator.

I am sick and tired of the whimpering and whining that is echoing from the halls of this community.

Many times in the last few weeks of this summer I have been subjected to rumors of TI groups across the country converting to multi-computer groups. It is my belief that the people suggesting this are nothing more than lemmings going to sea. And the people that are listening are going to lead the pack.

I want to make it very clear to everyone that I do not believe that computer is spelled "TEXAS INSTRUMENTS". I have, over the last seven or eight years, been associated with Atari, Color Computer, IBM and clones. Also, I have had nodding acquaintances with Commodore and Apple. During that period of time I have compared my computer to every one of them, and have often been envious of graphics, sounds and massive amounts of memory. But at the same time, I have left the keyboards of these machines with the attitude that "I (my TI) can do that, too." Every time I have been proven correct. Axel-F, TI-Artist, and the Horizon ram disk have done the job, and there's more to come.

It's a proven fact that in any group, no matter what they gather for, five percent of the people will always do ninety-five percent of the work. There is no getting around it. Many of the most dedicated of group members will sit back and let the "Knowledgeable" take the lead. That doesn't mean they are not interested, it just means that they have stupid priorities like families, work and a bowling league. These are not the people that are coming under fire here. I am bringing to task the leaders of those people. The "Knowledgeable ones" that

are not saying "Kiss off IBM, I'm a TIER and proud of it!"

Quit worrying about the size of your groups. The people that are leaving you are USERS or MONEYMAKERS. The users are the people that in the last seven years have never bothered to learn to program the simplest code. The money makers come in two categories. There are the "I-have-an-IBM-at-work'ers" and the "I-can't-make-any-money-from-TIER's" gang. Neither of these two groups can do you any more good. The first group added nothing more than volume to the ranks, the second group, for the most part, I have a tiny bit of sympathy for. We TIER's are a cheap lot. I don't really know why. I guess we are just birds of a feather, but I didn't join this community so many years ago because I was cheap. I joined for the value of the TI and what it could do based on my investment. I have NEVER regretted my decision, but I do realize that I'm not making anyone rich, least of all Craig Miller, a fine example of what I'm talking about.

I know of people that have left the community and have come back to us with sheepish grins. Allow me to quote a former member of the Front Ranger Ninety-niners of Colorado Springs.

"I sold my TI and bought an AT clone. I used to walk up to my TI, press a couple of keys, wait a minute and pound out a perfectly formatted letter. I was in control. Now I have to walk up, bow twice and BEG my computer to PLEASE allow me to do the same thing I used to do on my TI.... I WANT MY TI BACK!!"

I will quote one other.

"I purchased a PC and an AT for my business, where-upon I put my TI on a desk in the corner. That was six months ago. I bought some user friendly programs for the clones and went to work answering all their questions. I'm still answering questions and my TI is doing all the work."

I have been the president of the Western NV 99'ers for three years. The group used to consist of about 125 members. Today there are 60. Out of that 60 people, 45 show up at every meeting because the staff has a monthly meeting and plans a program for them. Of that 60, 28 have Horizon rams, and I feel safe in saying that ALL of the rest are looking forward to one or at least something like it. The group fully supports our BBS with purchases of public domain disks every month. The GROUP requested that we continue meetings all summer, no breaks. We have many people that drive over a hundred miles round trip to every meeting. We have one of the best looking newspapers in the community, supported by the dues and printed every month without fail.

Why are we successful? Because six people, (10%), meet every month and PLAN. We INFORM the people. We have published the prices for IBM software in our newsletter and compared the abilities of Procom to Mass-Transfer... and questioned why it takes 125000 bytes to accomplish what we do in 18432 bytes. Is it possible to use Genie or Delphi with a TI terminal program? If that question weren't so serious I would be rolling around the floor hysterically.

When I am asked why I continue with TI, my answer is simple. "Because I have not fully explored the possibilities of the TI. I still have at least four languages to learn and uncounted memory locations to attack. I have programmed the TI to handle all of my business records, and I know how to manipulate my files to get all the information I will ever need, and it's all so easy.

If the person that asks the question says he is going to buy a clone, then I say "Byebye, make sure the person you sell your TI to knows we're here."

And that brings up my final point. I have yet to find a TI in a trash can, and believe me I've looked! How can the community be going down hill when all of the equipment is STILL IN CIRCULATION?? You guys aren't trying! We have people in my group that are mainframe programmers by day and TI hobbyists under the cover of night. It's positively inspirational!

This fall will bring two new P-boxes to the nine out of ten consoles that do not have them. If the people are made aware of this, many of the dust collectors will get pulled out the closets and brought to life.

QUIT WHINING, FIND YOURSELVES A SMALLER PLACE TO MEET AND KISS THE USERS GOODBYE. Combine the groups in a given area and have a general meeting every three months as well as the regular local meetings. Form a statewide group and take out ads in Popular Science so that the new TIers know we exist. Look and SEE where your new members are coming from. Concentrate on that area. You are going to find out that the community is better off today than it's ever been. If you wind up at the waters edge, call me for help.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry T. Brashear

President;
Western NY 99er's
phone number omitted

ONE TI GROUP'S REPLY TO HARRY BRASHEAR'S LETTER!!!

Don't get me wrong! I'm still as much a TI'er as I have ever been but I do take exception with some of Harry Brashear's comments that were in this area last week.

First, I have two TI systems, one running Villa-TI, our group's BBS, and the other tied by RS232/2 to COMM2 on my IBM XT clone, which I bought while out at TI-Fest West last May. I have only used my clone for a couple of months but I can see that there are things that it can do that the TI simply can't. Most are due to the severe lack of memory in the TI. When you see a clone copy a DSDD disk in one pass, this fact is painfully clear. As to word processing capability, I'm not sure who Harry was referring to in his piece when he mentioned "a former member of Front Range Nin(e)ty-niners" who couldn't write a letter on his clone. I have a program that you can get for less than TI-Writer used to be, which will do everything that TI-Writer could do and more, including on-line spell checking while you type a document. Perhaps the individual he spoke of didn't have the DOCs for the program he was using (if you catch my drift). If one is using bootlegged software, it is often difficult to get it to do what you want if you don't have the complete DOCs.

As for multi-computer groups, I would probably agree that it is better to join another group for one's other computers, although I see little difference between a clone SIG and a 9640 SIG in a TI group. The 9640 is a different computer as is a clone. If there is any doubt of this, I quote Walt Howe in this July's Boston Computer Society newsletter, "If you have a 9640, the only working emulator at the moment is Paul Charlton's modified Fast Term". In speaking of the FAIRWARE fee, "Don't consider that if you already paid him (Paul) for your 4A program, you have a right to it", referring to the 9640 version. "With FAIRWARE, you are expected to pay for each computer you use it on, particularly if they are different computers." Furthermore, let's remember that even the prestigious LA 99'ers were forced to share the upper level of the Shrine auditorium with the Amiga group in order to make TI-Fest West economically feasible.

I especially take exception to Harry's crack about Craig Miller. Craig is in business to make money. He supports his family by turning out software and hardware products. When our esteemed TI community could do nothing better than turn out copiers that caused him to discontinue marketing software due to loss of sales, he had little choice but to move on to greener pastures. I would like to see how long Harry could survive on the revenues he has received from his software offerings. For most of us, the TI is a hobby or second occupation. We don't depend on it for our livelihood. Craig does, and the TI community has no one to blame but itself for his departure! If the TI community does not survive, it is because it has generated

SEE REPLY, PAGE 3

REPLY CONTINUES

the seeds of its own destruction. How many have software that they use and have not paid for? Why do some feel that because they paid for their hardware that they have the right to use every piece of software that has been written without compensating the authors? When they buy a car, do they feel they should get gas for nothing? Apparently so!!!

As for software, I have used 4A/Talk, Fast Term, P-Term, Mass Transfer, TE 1200, TE II, Omega, and TE 3, to mention a few, but to compare any of these with Procomm is ludicrous. The TI programs are good as far as they go, and the programmers who wrote them made excellent use of the space they had, but Harry touches on the exact point I mentioned before..... lack of memory. Mass Transfer uses up 38.4% of the TI memory while Procomm uses only 19.5% of the clone's. Furthermore, Procomm has earned it's authors well over a million dollars as FAIRWARE according to a Kansas City Times article which was reprinted in the Rocky Mountain News on July 21st of this year. The basic price for this program is \$25 so you can see that they have sold a bunch! As for the prices of other clone software you can pay as much or as little as you want and get excellent programs at either end of the spectrum. I bought a spreadsheet for \$30 that will do far more than TI's Multiplan including computing and printing line, bar, and pie graphs from the data on your spreadsheet. It recalcs faster than you can enter your data so you don't have to disable it. I'm looking at an ad this very moment for an integrated software package (word processor, database, spreadsheet, mail-merge, calculator, RAMdisk, directory manager, typewriter program, and more) and it's only \$39.95. The software area on GENie for the clone when printed out, is over an inch thick!

So, Harry, let me say that there are things you can do with the clone that you cannot and will not ever be able to do on the trusty 4A, a 9640, perhaps, but not the 99/4A. By the same token, there are some things that a 99/4A will do that a clone, at least my clone, will not do yet. If we never moved on to a new computer, I would still be using a Sinclair computer.

Now, as for the vitality of a group, ours has been doing quite well over the last few years. Our membership has been in the 90's and our treasury is in good shape at a bit over \$2800. In addition, the club owns a complete TI system with a PEB with the standard TI cards in it, three DSSD drives, an AMDEK color monitor, modem, and are in the process of purchasing a TI printer. Our newsletter has been rated among the best by many and our newsletter exchange program has been most successful with about sixty groups on our exchange list. We always attempt to have interesting programs for our members. We have flown in guest speakers from out of town, interviewed others by phone at our meetings, and try to demonstrate any new software that is developed. We have been blessed with good leadership over the years, having four different

presidents in our four years of existence, and we will soon have a fifth. Perhaps, Harry, it is time to turn over the reins to someone else. New people have new ideas, and that's what makes the whole thing work. We have had some members buy "new toys" but we have never cast aspersions upon them. We hate to see them leave, not because they have changed computers, but because they are friends and we will miss them. Many still are active on our BBS.

I'm a TI owner and proud of it! I'm also a clone owner, and a TRS-80 owner and I'm proud of that too. Each has it's pros and cons. I made one trip to the Chicago Faire two years ago with a full blown TI system so I could upload items of interest back to our members on our BBS. Try hauling one in and out of motel rooms for four or five days. I quickly learned that it could be done much more efficiently with a TRS-80 Mod 100. It has come in real handy on three trips over the past year or so for this very reason. Each has it's own place and does some things better than the others, but I like them all. Remember, if the TI-99/4A were the last word in computers they would never build any new ones!

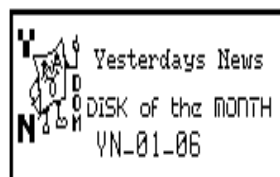
Best Regards,

Joe Nuvolini

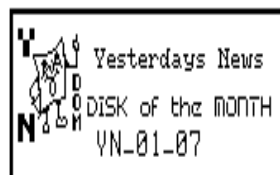
President,
Front Range 99'er Computer Club
phone number omitted

DOM CONTINUES

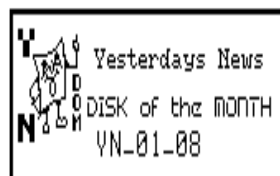
day to sell at monthly club meetings for a buck or two to keep the club bank account flush. We may not have an in person monthly club meeting for the gang at my favorite TI site - ATARIAGE, but I thought I would cobble together a DOM each month for downloading for others to enjoy.



Yesterdays News Vol 1,#6 - Sep/16
CAVERN QUEST - MOONBEAM SOFTWARE
Disk & cassette versions.
◀disk label



Yesterdays News Vol 1,#7 - Oct/16
RING DESTROYER - REPUBLIC SOFTWARE
32K and 16K versions
◀disk label



Yesterdays News Vol 1,#8 - Nov/16
LOADMASTER
Version 2.2
◀disk label

LOADMASTER CONTINUES..

Code loads and executes quickly and screen refreshes are kept to a minimum. Sometimes if only half the screen needs refreshed then that part of the screen only is redone. Loadmaster requires extended basic and loads from an XB program called LOAD, but you don't have to boot it from DSK1. The product has boot disk tracking and will load from any floppy or horizon ramdisk drive. It also boots properly from the root directory (only) of either a SCSI or HFDC hard drive with the included extended basic loader. Just put all the files on one drive and run LOAD. When it loads press C to catalog a drive. If you don't like the default drive press another number within 3 seconds to catalog that drive. After 3 seconds the default drive is automatically cataloged. This default can be changed from an options menu. Loadmaster will catalog any floppy drive, but not horizon ramdisk drives if the horizon ramdisk is not at cru address 1000. The catalog provides you with file identification information that is much more accurate and extensive than previous Loadmaster versions. All PROGRAM files are now properly identified, which can only be done by reading file headers using assembly language support. TI Basic/Extended Basic, Extended Basic Only, EA5, Adventure, TOD, TI Artist, and other types of PROGRAM files are all labeled as such. The inability to correctly distinguish between the different types of PROGRAM files characteristic of earlier Loadmaster versions has been fixed using assembly language readings of file headers. If "*" appears next to a file name in a Loadmaster disk directory this means Loadmaster can do something with the file. Move the cursor next to the file and press enter. DV80 text files are viewed with a word wrap 40 column display. Not all DV80 files are text files, and Loadmaster knows this! TI Basic, Extended Basic, EA5, and EA3 files can all be run. Just press <enter> and the file runs.

In the case of EA3 files if there is only one entry name then the file starts running. If there are several entry names then these are displayed. You put the cursor next to the most promising of these entry names, press <enter> and see if the software starts properly. If not you can try one of the other displayed names. Running EA3 software is much easier with Loadmaster than it is with the EA module or with Funnelweb, the only other ways I know to run such software. You don't have to remember the mysterious and often undocumented startup name needed for the EA module, and you don't have to first blank the screen as is the case with Funnelweb. In starting assembly software Loadmaster clears the screen before running the software. Some assembly software does not clear the screen at the start of the assembly program. Such software produces a messy screen with other assembly loaders, but not with Loadmaster v2.2.

This is a really first class product. It's main use for most of us will be printing disk labels or disk jackets

with complete file information. The new version is also the best software I have seen for running software from a disk directory, better even than Funnelweb's Disk Review. All 99/4A users should evaluate this unique product. It is fareware. The title screen tells you where to send your "whatever you think it is worth" donation, which will be divided equally among the two authors. Send me \$1 and I will send you the latest version. If you have an earlier version you should definitely upgrade.

**T Y P E I N
P R O G R A M**

**T Y P E I N
P R O G R A M**

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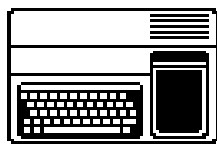
1 ! AMIGA
100 DISPLAY ERASE ALL :: CAL
L SCREEN(2):: CALL COLOR(12,
16,15):: CALL MAGNIFY(4):: R
M,CM=6 :: RP,CP=80 :: SP=128
:: IP=4
110 G$="FF818181818181FF" ::
B$="030F1F3F7F7FFFFFFF7F7
F3F1F0F03CF0F0F0FCFEFEFFFF
FFEFECF8F0C0"
120 S1$="000010300F0F0F0FF0F
070700F0F0F03CF0F0F0E0E0F0
FF0F0F0F00C0000000" :: S2$="0
00C1C3C4343C3C3C3C3C3C03030
3030030383CC2C2C3C3C3C3C3CC
0C0C0C0"
130 S3$="030F0F0F7070F0F00F0
F0F0F301000000000000CF0F0F0F
00F0F0E0EF0F0F0C0" :: S4$="0
30303033C3C3C3CC3C3C43433C1C0
C00C0C0C0C03C3C3CC3C3C2C23
C303000"
140 CALL CHAR(123,G$,124,B$,
SP,S1$,132,S2$,136,S3$,140,S
4$):: CALL VCHAR(1,3,123,672
):: CALL SPRITE(#1,SP,7,RP,C
P,RM,CM,#2,124,16,RP,CP,RM,C
M)
150 CALL POSITION(#1,RP,CP):
: IF CP>20 AND CP<206 THEN I
F RP>4 AND RP<158 THEN GOTO
170 ELSE RM=-RM ELSE CM=-CM
:: IP=-IP
160 CALL MOTION(#1,RM,CM,#2,
RM,CM):: CALL SOUND(-50,110,
0,131,0,175,0,-8,0)
170 SP=SP+IP+IP*4*(SP=128 AN
D IP=-4 OR SP=140 AND IP=4):
: CALL PATTERN(#1,SP):: GOTO
150

```

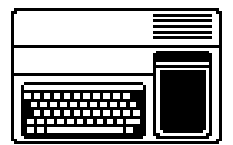
```

1 ! From the BYTES AND PIECE
S Newsletter of MARCH 1988 t
hese are programs dug up fro
m the archives of other news
letters.
100 CALL CLEAR :: CALL INIT
:: CALL LOAD(-31788,232):: P
RINT " MULTICOLOR PATTERN
S" :: PRINT " $$$$$$$$$$
$$$$$$$$" :: PRINT : : : :
: : : : : PRINT " PRE
SS ANY KEY"
110 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0
THEN 110 ELSE CALL SCREEN(2
)
120 CALL CLEAR :: FOR T=1 TO
7 :: FOR I=34 TO 126 :: PRI
NT CHR$(I):: NEXT I :: NEXT
T
130 FOR I=1 TO 2 :: FOR X=1
TO 12 :: CALL HCHAR(X,1,X+33
,32):: CALL HCHAR(25-X,1,X+3
3,32):: NEXT X
140 FOR X=1 TO 16 :: CALL VC
HAR(1,X,X+33,24):: CALL VCHA
R(1,33-X,X+33,24):: NEXT X :
: NEXT I
150 FOR D=34 TO 37 :: FOR X=
1 TO 12 :: CALL HCHAR(X,1,D,
32):: CALL HCHAR(25-X,1,D,32
):: NEXT X :: NEXT D
160 CALL CLEAR :: FOR D=1 TO
25 :: CALL HCHAR(1+INT(24*R
ND),1+INT(32*RND),33+INT(92*
RND)):: NEXT D
170 FOR I=34 TO 126 :: CALL
VCHAR(1,1,I,768):: NEXT I ::
GOTO 120
180 END

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Yesterdays News Information



Yesterdays News is a labor of love offered as a source of pleasure & information for users of the TI-99/4A & Myarc 9640 computers.

TI-99/4A HARDWARE

Black & Silver computer
Modified PEB
WHT SCSI card with SCSI2SD
Myarc DS00 FDC
Myarc 512K Memory Card
Horizon 1.5 meg Ramdisk
TI RS232 card
Concomp Triple Tech Card
1 360K 5.25 floppy drive
1 360K 3.50 floppy drive
1 720K 5.25 floppy drive
1 720K 3.50 floppy drive
80K Gram Kracker
Samsung Syncmaster 710mp

TI-99/4A SOFTWARE

PagePro 99
PagePro Composer
PagePro FX
PagePro Headline Maker
PagePro Gofer
TI Artist Plus
GIFMania

PC HARDWARE

Compaq Armada 7800 Notebook
Compaq Armadastation
Samsung Syncmaster 710mp

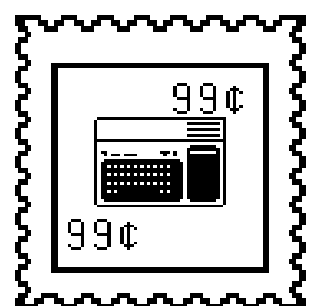
PC SOFTWARE

Dead,Dead,Dead Windows 98se
FileCap
prn2pbns
Infanview
Adobe Distiller
Adobe Acrobat

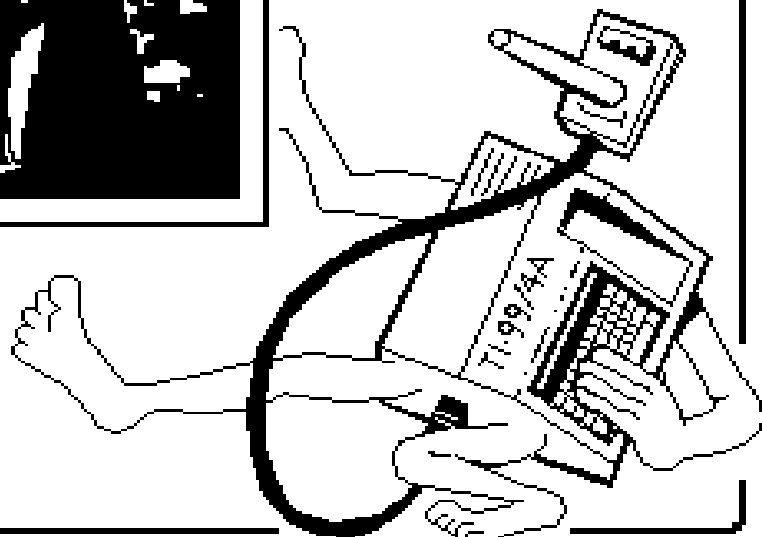
Yesterdays News is composed entirely using a TI-99/4A computer system. It consists of 11 PagePro pages which are "printed" via RS232 to PC to be published as a PDF file.



Yesterdays News
c/o Sparkdrummer
AtariAge forum
Phoenix, AZ. 85027



FIRST CLASS MAIL



FIRST CLASS MAIL