

HOCUS

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Home Computer
Users Spotlight
a monthly publication of the
Milwaukee Area 99/4 Users Group



MARCH - 1988

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1988
HUGE
COMPUTER
ELECTRONIC
SWAP
MEET

Next Group Meeting - 2nd Saturday
April 9, 1988 - 12 noon til 4 PM
Wauwatosa S & L - 7500 West State

North Sub-Meeting - 1st Tuesday
April 5, 1988 - 7 PM til 10 PM
Security S & L - 5555 N Ft Washington

South Sub-Meeting - 3rd Tuesday
March 15, 1988 - 7 PM til 10 PM
Franklin State Bank - 7000 So 76th

Membership Dues \$10 - Family \$15

The Milwaukee Area TI User Group will be holding their annual Swap-Meet next month at our regular April meeting. Most normal meeting affairs will be suspended to give more time for Meet activities. The table space is free for all paid-up members, so take advantage of this opportunity to get rid of any computer//electronic hardware, firmware, software or related items that are no longer needed. Also get out there and help spread the word about it so that a large turnout of customers will attend. Everyone and his brother is invited, free admission to all, so you can bring all of your friends and relatives. And remember to bring lots of moolah too because there definitely will be loads of unbelievable bargains not normally available any place at any other time, and you'll be sorry if you miss out on them!

REMEMBER APRIL 9, 1988
SATURDAY AFTERNOON
WAUWATOSA Savings & Loan
12:00 til 3:30 PM

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PROGRAMS THAT WRITE PROGRAMS

Part 1

by Jim Peterson

Way back in 1982, in the old 99'er Magazine, Vol. 1 Nos. 3 and 4, John Clulow wrote two articles entitled "How To Write a Basic Program That Writes Basic Programs". At that time I thought I would never understand what he was writing about!

But really, it's simple. Have you ever LISTed a program to the disk, and noticed that the resulting D/VBO file took up many more sectors than the program itself? That is because the TI saves programs in a compacted form, with each statement represented by a single token ASCII.

When a program is saved in MERGE format, by SAVE DSK (file-name), MERGE it is saved in this same compacted form, but in a D/V 163 file. And of course a D/V file can be created by a program - so you can write a program which will create a D/V 163 file in the form of a program, and then MERGE that file into memory and RUN it as a program, and SAVE it as a program.

You ask, why use this roundabout way of writing a program? Why not just key it in directly? Well, for one thing you can write program lines that could not possibly be keyed in directly. As for instance, the famous "line zero". Key this in, run it with a disk in drive 1, then enter MERGE DSK1.ZERO and LIST the result.

```
100 M$="BETCHA CAN'T DELETE THIS!"
110 OPEN #1:"DSK1.ZERO",VARIABLE 163,OUTPUT :: PRINT #1:CHR$(0)&CHR$(0)&CHR$(131)&CHR$(200)&CHR$(LEN(M$))&M$&CHR$(0)
120 PRINT #1:CHR$(255)&CHR$(255):: CLOSE #1 :: END
```

Actually, there is an easy way to delete that line - but no way to key it in directly.

Here's another one - the full

ASCII string.

```
100 OPEN #1:"DSK1.FULLSTRING",VARIABLE 163,OUTPUT
110 LN=100 :: GOSUB 190 :: A$=L$&"M$"&CHR$(190)
120 FOR J=1 TO 127 :: C$=C$&CHR$(J):: NEXT J :: A$=A$&CHR$(199)&CHR$(127)&C$&CHR$(0)
130 PRINT #1:A$
140 GOSUB 190 :: B$=L$&"M2$"&CHR$(190)
150 FOR J=128 TO 255 :: D$=D$&CHR$(J):: NEXT J :: B$=B$&CHR$(199)&CHR$(128)&D$&CHR$(0)
160 PRINT #1:B$
170 GOSUB 190 :: F$=L$&"M3$"&CHR$(190)&"M$"&CHR$(184)&"M2$"&CHR$(0)
180 PRINT #1:F$ :: PRINT #1:CHR$(255)&CHR$(255):: CLOSE #1 :: END
190 L$=CHR$(INT(LN/256))&CHR$(LN-256*INT(LN/256)):: LN=LN+10 :: RETURN
```

Run that, then enter NEW, then MERGE DSK1.FULLSTRING. The string contains every ASCII from 0 to 255 in sequence, and there is no way to enter many of the unprintable ASCII codes from the keyboard. You can of course create that string in a program - FOR J=0 TO 255 :: M\$=M\$&CHR\$(J):: NEXT J but it saves a few seconds to have it predefined.

The full ASCII string is very useful for a quick shuffle without duplication. For instance, to scramble the numbers 200-250, -

```
100 M$="
!""#$%&'()*+,-./
0123456789::<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJK
LMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[]^_`abcdefg
hijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{:}"
110 M2$="
120 M$=M$&M2$
130 M$=SEG$(M$,200,50)
140 L=LEN(M$):: RANDOMIZE ::
X=INT(L*RND+1):: N=ASC(SEG$
```

<p>CRASH-EM by Jim Beck *****</p>	<p>370 C(2)*0000367EFE7E3600*</p>	<p>690 CALL MCHAR(0,6,32,9)</p>	<p>1050 CALL SOUND(-10,330,9)</p>
<p>Program is in consol basic Requires Joystick #1. A variation of original V1 module game CAR WARS.</p>	<p>380 C(3)*007C7C387C7C3810*</p>	<p>700 CALL MCHAR(0,18,32,9)</p>	<p>1060 IF DDT=180 THEN 1830</p>
<p>100 BIN C(14)</p>	<p>390 C(4)*0000DBFCFEFCDB00*</p>	<p>710 NEXT D</p>	<p>1070 CALL MCHAR(RP,CP,32)</p>
<p>110 BIN BC(9,1)</p>	<p>400 FOR D=1 TO 9</p>	<p>720 CALL MCHAR(13,16,32)</p>	<p>1080 RP=RP*RM</p>
<p>120 CALL CLEAR</p>	<p>410 FOR DE=1 TO 4</p>	<p>730 CALL COLOR(12,8,2)</p>	<p>1090 CP=CP*CM</p>
<p>130 CALL SCREEN(2)</p>	<p>420 READ BC(D,DE)</p>	<p>740 CALL COLOR(13,16,2)</p>	<p>1100 CALL MCHAR(RP,CP,DIR*127)</p>
<p>140 PRINT " CRASH" EM: : : : :</p>	<p>430 NEXT DE</p>	<p>750 CALL COLOR(14,10,2)</p>	<p>1110 CALL GCHAR(RPC*RMC,CPC*CMC,FR)</p>
<p>150 PRINT " BY JIM B" ECK: : : : :</p>	<p>440 NEXT D</p>	<p>760 CALL COLOR(15,16,2)</p>	<p>1120 ND=32</p>
<p>160 PRINT : : : : :</p>	<p>450 RESTORE</p>	<p>770 CALL COLOR(14,16,2)</p>	<p>1130 IF FR=127*DIR THEN 2330</p>
<p>170 PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY TO START GAME."</p>	<p>460 FOR D=1 TO 4</p>	<p>780 DIR=3</p>	<p>1140 IF FR=32 THEN 1170</p>
<p>180 FOR D=1 TO 14</p>	<p>470 CALL CHAR(127*D,C(1D))</p>	<p>790 DDT=0</p>	<p>1150 IF FR(>)26 THEN 1250</p>
<p>190 CALL COLOR(B,16,2)</p>	<p>480 CALL CHAR(135*D,C(1B))</p>	<p>800 LT=LT+1</p>	<p>1160 ND=26</p>
<p>200 NEXT B</p>	<p>490 NEXT D</p>	<p>810 IF LT<10 THEN 830</p>	<p>1170 CALL MCHAR(RPC,CPC,0)</p>
<p>210 CALL KEY(0,K,S)</p>	<p>500 FOR D=2 TO 12 STEP 2</p>	<p>820 LT=1</p>	<p>1180 OD=ND</p>
<p>220 IF S=0 THEN 210</p>	<p>510 CALL MCHAR(B,B*3,124)</p>	<p>830 DC=BC(LT,3)</p>	<p>1190 RPC=RPC*RMC</p>
<p>230 CALL CLEAR</p>	<p>520 CALL MCHAR(B,B*4,121,25-18*2)</p>	<p>840 LC=BC(LT,4)</p>	<p>1200 CPC=CPC*CMC</p>
<p>240 FOR D=1 TO 14</p>	<p>530 CALL MCHAR(26-D,B*3,125)</p>	<p>850 CALL MCHAR(13,16,LT*48)</p>	<p>1210 CALL MCHAR(RPC,CPC,135*BC)</p>
<p>250 CALL COLOR(B,2,2)</p>	<p>540 CALL MCHAR(26-D,B*4,121,25-14*2)</p>	<p>860 RPC=BC(LT,1)</p>	<p>1220 IF RPC=13 THEN 2030</p>
<p>260 NEXT B</p>	<p>550 CALL MCHAR(B*1,D*3,120,25-15*2)</p>	<p>870 CPC=BC(LT,2)</p>	<p>1230 IF CPC=16 THEN 2180</p>
<p>270 SCR=0</p>	<p>560 CALL MCHAR(B,29-D,122)</p>	<p>880 ON DC 60SUB 1390,1420,1450,1480</p>	<p>1240 GOTO 1320</p>
<p>280 LT=0</p>	<p>570 CALL MCHAR(D*1,29-D,120,25-14*2)</p>	<p>890 RMC=1</p>	<p>1250 DC=DC-1</p>
<p>290 CALL CHAR(120,"10101010101010")</p>	<p>580 CALL MCHAR(26-D,29-D,123)</p>	<p>900 CMC=12</p>	<p>1260 IF DC>0 THEN 1280</p>
<p>300 CALL CHAR(121,"00000000F00000")</p>	<p>590 CALL MCHAR(B*1,B*4,126,25-13*2)</p>	<p>910 RP=23</p>	<p>1270 DC=4</p>
<p>310 CALL CHAR(122,"00000000F0101010")</p>	<p>600 CALL MCHAR(B*1,D*4,126,25-14*2)</p>	<p>920 LEV=5</p>	<p>1280 ON DC 60SUB 1390,1420,1450,1480</p>
<p>320 CALL CHAR(123,"10101010F0000000")</p>	<p>610 CALL MCHAR(25-D,B*4,126,25-14*2)</p>	<p>930 OD=32</p>	<p>1290 RMC=11</p>
<p>330 CALL CHAR(124,"0000000010101010")</p>	<p>620 CALL MCHAR(D*1,28-D,126,25-14*2)</p>	<p>940 CP=17</p>	<p>1300 CMC=12</p>
<p>340 CALL CHAR(125,"1010101010000000")</p>	<p>630 NEXT D</p>	<p>950 DIR=DIR*1</p>	<p>1310 GOTO 1110</p>
<p>350 CALL CHAR(126,"0000000010000000")</p>	<p>640 FOR D=15 TO 17</p>	<p>960 ON DIR 60SUB 1390,1420,1450,1480,1510</p>	<p>1320 IF CMC>0 THEN 1360</p>
<p>60 C(11)*0010387C7C387C7C</p>	<p>650 CALL MCHAR(3,D,32,9)</p>	<p>970 RM=11</p>	<p>1330 IF RP=15 THEN 1530</p>
	<p>660 CALL MCHAR(15,D,32,9)</p>	<p>980 CM=12</p>	<p>1340 IF RP=15-RM THEN 1530</p>
	<p>670 NEXT B</p>	<p>990 CALL GCHAR(RP*RM,CP*CM,FR)</p>	<p>1350 GOTO 990</p>
	<p>680 FOR D=12 TO 14</p>	<p>1000 IF FR=32 THEN 1070</p>	<p>1360 IF CP=16 THEN 1680</p>
		<p>1010 IF FR=135*DC THEN 2330</p>	<p>1370 IF CP=16-CM THEN 1680</p>
		<p>1020 IF FR(>)26 THEN 950</p>	<p>1380 GOTO 990</p>
		<p>1030 DDT=DDT+1</p>	
		<p>1040 SCR=SCR+5</p>	

DATA BASE MANAGERS FOR THE TI-99

By Bill Gaskol, reprint from Chicago Times.

Some owners/authors of the applications I have covered in this article will no doubt be angered by the apparent brutality of it. I choose to view it as honesty rather than brutality. Too many reviewers white wash the weaknesses of TI software they critically review. I will not. I think sometimes that we are afraid that the software market will dry up and blow away unless we give favorable reports on the software products that do appear for our computer. I prefer to think of it in another way; if we promote junk software in a favorable light those that do publish product reviews will lose credibility and those that buy software based upon those reviews will simply be that much more reluctant to get burned a second time. In the process of searching for the perfect data base manager I have purchased several programs and spent over \$300. All of the programs that I own have positive points and all have negative points. What I have discovered to date is that the "perfect" data base manager does not exist yet (not even in the business world). What I am going to share with you are my impressions of the programs I own and in doing so will perhaps save you a little time and money if you too are looking for that "perfect" application.

The programs I own are;

ACORN 99 from Oak Tree Systems DBMS from Navarone Industries DATA BASE I from SPC Software DATA BASE 99 from Quality 99 Software DATA BASE 300 from the International Users Group DATA BASE X from Western Ware PR BASE v1.2 and V2.0 from William Warren TURBO DATAMAN from Easy Ware

I have used these programs enough to feel comfortable with each and could probably write several pages about each one. Unfortunately, publication space is limited and such a voluminous article would never see print because of it. Thus I have tried to be brief, but to the point in my comments on each program. Also, please keep in mind that my comments are subjective, based upon how each product meets MY needs and expectations. Yours may be different. For ease of reference I have included some of the information in a comparison table that allow analysis at a glance. In the paragraphs that follow I will try to provide a little detail to each issue and cover special features, lack of what I view as standard features and product performance of each program. I apologize in advance for the cryptic style you will read, however I needed to be brief. The DATA BASE 300 program will not be looked at since it is not available.

DATA BASE MANAGERS FOR THE TI-99/4A

ACORN 99:

Among the top three DBM's available to the TI community. The only relational data base available, also the only one with a programming language interface for custom applications. EXTREMELY powerful and well designed. Can support three active files at one time, allows existing data file formats to be edited, copied to another file, resequenced and can reformat a file structure into another file format. Does not have the ability to show number of records in a file. Can hold more than 1500 records per file on a SS/SD disk (depending on file size). Sorts alpha characters and strings better than numbers. indexes record location for subfile creation and mainfile is then concatenated to create the subfile as another database. Possesses ability to search using; "equal to, unequal, greater than, less than, ignore" logical operators. Supports relational operators in

search routines through the use of a true/false convention that allows selection of records where all parameters are met or any parameters are met. CAN print a single record from a display screen. EXTREMELY slow in operation. Uses 40 column text mode. Allows duplicate key field data entries. Allows printed control codes to be encrypted in setup file. Provides input checking for "numeric, integer, money, string, flag and date" entries. Overall, a fabulous program, with almost limitless potential. The best documentation of the group, giving many examples along with explanations. SUPERB application.

DBMS (Navarone):

Allows 32,000 records per file but only 350 per SS/SD diskette. Limits you to half that amount if you wish to sort the file since it creates a second sorted file that demands equal space on your data disk. Most interesting report generator I have ever seen, a cut and paste type affair that is really neat but poorly documented. Excellent custom screen design module which includes help screens that you design. FAST,FAST,FAST. Requires unique key field entries only, which I find inconvenient. Documentation is better than originally written but still confusing at times and incomplete. Dotes on mundane things and skips over or entirely omits important things. Does totaling in reports but no other computational work. Does not support single record printing but can use the report module to scroll data on screen, write it to disk or send it to your printer. Can append new data fields to the end of an existing record but cannot reformat the record in any other way. Can create subfiles but you have to figure out how to do it for yourself because the documentation does not tell you how. It doesn't even mention subfiles. Allows printed control codes to be encrypted in Report Generation file. Does not perform input checking of any type. All data is considered to be a string entry. Best suited for a hard disk environment. Not difficult to use once you have "played" with it, but can be intimidating at first.

DATA BASE I:

Best suited for mailing lists or other LIST type data files. Cumbersome design setup requiring records to be accessed by their relative position in the file (record number). You must first list the records by a specified field if you don't know the record number. Time consuming. Provides three pre-set mailing label re-... formats and one custom format for your own design. Will NOT do reports that have heading information. Includes several nice utilities such as a form letter generator, disk file data base which creates a DBI data base file out of the information on your library of disks. Does not provide for input checking nor length of field entries. Only looks at the length of overall record. Does searches by "equal to" operator only, only on one data field at a time. Requires that you first create an index file and then search. To search by another field you must create another index file. Searches by maximum of 5 characters in any field. Sorts are limited to 1000 records no matter how many exist in the file, but both alpha and numeric sorts are offered. Subfiles can be created to printer in the main program or to disk by using the Utilities options. Selection is by "equal to" or "between two values" which can be either alpha or numeric type.

DATA BASE 99:

More emphasis put on copy protection than on program performance. Allows custom screen design and claims 28 fields of up to 28 characters each. Would be a neat trick to do since four of the 24 rows on screen are used by program prompts. Fast assembly language interface for report generation. Cannot generate reports with headings and does not permit printed

control codes to be inserted in report data. Does not save a format after design so you will have to re-create it each time you want a report. Data is printed in continuous format without regard to page breaks or anything else. Design of layout is cumbersome, requiring you to conceptualize how many colons and/or semi-colons are needed to push the data across the page. Number of colons/semi-colons is limited to 27 characters allowed in a LINPUT command. A terrible system. Disk catalog accessed from main menu will crash program if you enter an alpha character instead of a number when it prompts for the disk drive number to be cataloged. Color is lost after a crash since it was CALLED from the LOAD program. Does not permit single record screen print unless you buy the DB99 Utilities), must use EDIT option to search for a record or search sequentially. Cannot go directly to a record by its relative position in the file. Will create subfiles to disk allowing the search by "less than, equal to or greater than" operators. Search is limited to one field for all practical purposes. Sorts can be performed in ascending order, by any one field. Sort is an actual re-write of the file. All data considered string information. No number crunching (again, unless you buy the DB99 Utilities), no input checking. Documentation consists of two 8 1/2" X 11" sheets of paper printed on both sides. Program is slow, inflexible, inconvenient in many ways and cumbersome to use. It might have been an advanced application two years ago. Today it is a dinosaur, even with the LINT Utilities. Much too expensive.

DATA BASE X:

Very modular, meaning that each function (adding, editing, printing, deleting etc.) is a separate program that must be loaded each time you want to use that function. Does statistical analysis of data. Record counter is inaccurate, code of program jumbled and entirely unstructured. Does not sort data even though documentation uses the term "sort". What it means is "select". When DATA BASE X "sorts" by a particular parameter it is really selecting records for dumping to a printer that meet that parameter. Does allow selection between ranges. Cannot create subfiles, does not index existing records. Access of a record is done sequentially unless you know the record number. No way to tell the record number, you must guess. Supports 1 or 2 disk drives. Excruciatingly slow. Requires that you name the data disk DBXDATA for no good reason that I can see, otherwise program errors out. Does not save report definition but does allow it to be printed in normal or compressed mode. Definition process is fairly simple but time consuming. Documentation is the "shabbiest" I have ever seen. It is photocopied and put into booklet form with the pages not even cut straight, so that some information is missing off of some pages. Overall, this program is JUNK! As with the JG's DATA BASE 300/500, it never really belonged on the market in the state that it is in. Unfortunately I didn't know that and paid out over \$30 to find out.

PR BASE:

Completely assembly language coded. THE BEST all-around application in my opinion. FAST, flexible, does virtually anything a user would want in the way of data handling except number crunching. It will not do anything in that area. Treats all data as part of a big string just as DBMS and DATA BASE 9 do. As long as you own the PRB Utilities written by John Johnson you can create subfiles, other wise you can't. Has on-line help for commands, creates an index by any input field you choose and then accesses any record in about 1 second. Also has a FIND feature to look at data sequentially in any single field and a GLOBAL option that searches for a single data entry anywhere in the record. Saves up to five report

formats, V2.0 allows you to format a data disk. Custom screen layout with terrific graphics options for borders/windows etc. is available. A tremendous program, well thought out, well designed, artistically executed. FAIRWARE!!! PRB Utilities are free for the asking as long as you provide the disk and mailer. Report design routine is cumbersome and confusing. Prints single record from screen display in either 40 or 80 column mode. Program is very sensitive about I/O device names. My copies (V1.2 and V2.0) both require PIO. To work rather than just PIO or PIO/1 etc. With number crunching abilities this program would be a perfect "flat-file data manager" for most TI users. As it is, the value and performance for a FAIRWARE application or a commercial application too for that matter, is unsurpassed. If you don't have PR BASE then you are missing out on one of the premier productivity tools available to the TI Community.

TURBO DATAMAN:

This is the second most powerful and useful data manager, taking a back seat only to PR BASE. It runs slightly ahead of ACORN because it performs number crunching and is faster in operation. Like ACORN, TURBO DATAMAN allows you to create a dictionary of data items (fields) and then lets you choose from that library of fields to put a record together. Up to 30 fields are allowed per record. Twenty pre-defined records (file formats) can exist on one disk. Allows custom screen layout design, complete with graphics for borders/windows etc. Does input checking, allows secondary screen access like ACORN's Detail Records. Allows formulas to be created and saved that perform the four basic math functions. Report definitions can be saved. Allows wildcard type operators in searches, will print single record from screen display. Provides "less than, greater than, equal to, not equal to, greater than or equal to, less than or equal to" operators in screen display and report generation modules. Permits sub-totals in reports that can be formatted like TI Extended Basic does with the IMAGE statement. Subfiles can be created through the report generator by sending the output selected to a disk file rather than a printer. The results must be converted back to INTERNAL, FIXED or DISPLAY FIXED before you can use it in the program however. TURBO DATAMAN does not provide you with that utility. The documentation instructs you to "write a program" to do it. Names used for different modules in the program are confusing. Ex; ETCH,SKETCH, SKETCHR, FETCH. Should change names to more accurately reflect function of module. Documentation acceptable but lacks adequate coverage in some areas. Utilities are provided to perform some mundane operations such as counting the amount of records in a database. Reformatting or restructuring of an existing file is not permitted unless the input field is appended to the end of a record format. This program needs some "fine tuning" in some areas but is still an exciting productivity tool with immense possibilities. Its speed of operation is not fast but acceptable. It is faster than ACORN. One can set up the SKETCH program to auto-load if desired but the whole application should be centered around a menu in my opinion. As it is now, you must RUN each module from the READY> prompt when you need to use it, because every module exits with an END statement. If you don't own this program, you should. Whether you want to manage a mailing list or do accounting, TURBO DATAMAN is for you.

Reprinted from:

CALL SOUNDS, AUGUST 1987
Newsletter of the Central Westchester 99'ers,

...CHESS CLOCK

```
ITE"
440 FOR I=7 TO 23 :: DISPLAY AT(I,1):""
    :: NEXT I
450 DISPLAY AT(7,1):"START TIME?      ST
    ART TIME?"
460 DISPLAY AT(8,8):T$(U1)ST$(V1)S"  HO
    URS "ST$(U2)ST$(V2)
470 DISPLAY AT(13,8):T$(W1)ST$(X1)S" MI
    NUTES "ST$(W2)ST$(X2)
480 DISPLAY AT(18,8):T$(Y1)ST$(Z1)S" SE
    CONDS "ST$(Y2)ST$(Z2)
490 CALL NOW(T,8,8):: T=3600*T :: CALL
    NOW(U,13,8):: T=T+60*MIN(59,U):: CA
    LL NOW(U,18,8):: T1=0.5+T+MIN(59,U)
500 CALL NOW(T,8,19):: T=3600*T :: CALL
    NOW(U,13,19):: T=T+60*MIN(59,U)::
    CALL NOW(U,18,19):: T2=0.5+T+MIN(59
    ,U)
510 DISPLAY AT(23,1):"COUNT UP OR DOWN
    ? UD" :: ACCEPT AT(23,20)SIZE(-1)VA
    LIDATE("UD"):W$
520 IF {W$="U"}THEN R3=R1 ELSE R3=-R1
530 IF {W$="U"}THEN R4=R2 ELSE R4=-R2
540 DISPLAY AT(7,1):""
550 FOR J=0 TO 2 :: FOR I=1 TO 4 :: DIS
    PLAY AT(7+I+5*J,1):" *****
    *****" :: NEXT I :: NEXT J
560 DISPLAY AT(8,12)SIZE(-5):"HOURS" ::
    DISPLAY AT(13,11)SIZE(-7):"MINUTES
    " :: DISPLAY AT(18,11)SIZE(-7):"SEC
    ONDS"
570 CALL MAGNIFY(4)
580 CALL SPRITE(#1,96,1,24,112,#2,100,1
    ,24,112,#3,104,2,56,26,#4,104,2,56,
    58,#5,104,2,96,26)
590 CALL SPRITE(#6,104,2,96,58,#7,104,2
    ,136,26,#8,104,2,136,58,#9,104,2,56
    ,162,#10,104,2,56,194)
600 CALL SPRITE(#11,104,2,96,162,#12,10
    4,2,96,194,#13,104,2,136,162,#14,10
    4,2,136,194)
610 CALL TICK(0,T1,U1,V1,W1,X1,Y1,Z1)
620 CALL PATTERN(#3,U1,#4,V1,#5,W1,#6,X
    1,#7,Y1,#8,Z1)
630 CALL TICK(0,T2,U2,V2,W2,X2,Y2,Z2)
640 CALL PATTERN(#9,U2,#10,V2,#11,W2,#1
    2,X2,#13,Y2,#14,Z2)
650 REM MAIN LOOP
660 DISPLAY AT(22,1):"0=START LEFT  1=
    START RIGHT":"3=RESET      8=QUIT
    "
670 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 670
680 IF K=51 THEN 380 ! RESTART
690 IF K=56 THEN 860 ! END
700 IF {K<48}+{K>49}THEN 670
710 DISPLAY AT(22,1):" PRESS KEY OR FIR
```

```
E BUTTON":" TO START OPPONENT'S CLO
CK"
720 IF K=48 THEN 740 ! PLAYER 1
730 IF K=49 THEN 800 ! PLAYER 2
740 REM PLAYER 1
750 CALL COLOR(#1,4,#2,1)
760 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF K=32 THEN 790
    ELSE CALL KEY(1,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN
    770 ELSE 800
770 CALL TICK(R3,T1,U1,V1,W1,X1,Y1,Z1)
780 CALL PATTERN(#3,U1,#4,V1,#5,W1,#6,X
    1,#7,Y1,#8,Z1):: GOTO 760
790 CALL COLOR(#1,9):: GOTO 650
800 REM PLAYER 2
810 CALL COLOR(#1,1,#2,4)
820 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF K=32 THEN 850
    ELSE CALL KEY(2,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN
    830 ELSE 740
830 CALL TICK(R4,T2,U2,V2,W2,X2,Y2,Z2)
840 CALL PATTERN(#9,U2,#10,V2,#11,W2,#1
    2,X2,#13,Y2,#14,Z2):: GOTO 820
850 CALL COLOR(#2,9):: GOTO 650
860 REM END
870 CALL CLEAR :: CALL CHARSET :: CALL
    DELSPRITE(ALL):: END
880 SUB TICK(R,T,U,V,W,X,Y,Z)
890 T=T+R
900 IF T<0 THEN T=359999.5
910 IF T>=360000 THEN T=0.5
920 S=T/360000 :: U=INT(S):: S=10*(S-U)
    :: V=INT(S): S=6*(S-V):: W=INT(S)
930 S=10*(S-W):: X=INT(S):: S=6*(S-X)::
    Y=INT(S):: Z=INT(10*(S-Y))
940 U=104+4*U :: V=104+4*V :: W=104+4*W
    :: X=104+4*X :: Y=104+4*Y :: Z=104
    +4*Z
950 SUBEND
960 SUB NOW(W,X,Y)
970 ACCEPT AT(X,Y)SIZE(-2)VALIDATE("012
    3456789"):W$ :: W=VAL(W$)
980 SUBEND
```

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB

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Here is a versatile printer utility which will accept all printer control codes, print in 1 to 5 columns with choice of column separation and margin width, allow alternate margins and pause at end of page to turn paper over, and will load and print a diskfull of

files one after another. It is set up for the Gemini 10X and may require modification for other printers.

100 BIN NO(400),FS(50)
110 GOTO 150
120 K,ST,SET,S,P,PL,C,L,D,W,S
90,10,00,00,MC,CW,CT,TA,TK,A
V,CS,SO,LT,AB,LSP,LP,RN,OK,0
000,K,F0(1),SL,F,IP,NO(1),TO,F
LAB,J,PP,LT0
130 CALL CLEAR :: CALL KEY ::
:: CALL COLOR :: CALL SCREEN
:: CALL SOUND
140 :BP-
150 CALL CLEAR :: CALL KEY(3
,K,ST):: ON WARNING NEXT
160 FOR SET=0 TO 14 :: CALL
COLOR(SET,2,0):: NEXT SET ::
CALL SCREEN(3)
170 DISPLAY AT(3,6):"TIGERCUB
B PRINTALL": :TAB(7):"Copyri
ght 1987":TAB(6):"Tigercub B
oftware" :programmed by Jim
Peterson
180 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"May be
distributed without":restr
iction providing that":no p
rice or copying fee is":cha
rged."
190 DISPLAY AT(18,7):"TURN P
RINTER ON:"
200 DISPLAY AT(20,0):"PRESS
ANY KEY" :: DISPLAY AT(20,0)
1:press any key" :: CALL KEY
10,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 200 EL
SE CALL CLEAR
210 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"PRINTE
R DESIGNATION" :: ACCEPT AT
(14,1)BEEP:P0 :: IF P0\$P0,"
.LF",1)=0 THEN P0=P0\$.LF"
220 ON ERROR 230 :: OPEN #1:
P0,VARIABLE 255 :: ON ERROR
STOP :: PRINT #1:CHR0(27):"0
" :: CALL CLEAR :: GOTO 240
230 DISPLAY AT(20,1):"CANNOT
OPEN PRINTER" :: RETURN 21
0
240 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"PRINT
SIZE?" : : 1) PICA" : (2)
"ELITE" : (3) CONDENSE"
250 ACCEPT AT(12,13)VALIDATE
("123")SIZE(1):P :: PRINT #1:
CHR0(27):"0":CHR0(P)
260 !The values 80, 96 and 1
36 in the next line are the
maximum number of pica, elite
and condensed characters p
er line on Gemini 10X

270 !Change as necessary fo
your printer!
280 CL=(P=1)800+(P=2)96+(P
3)136 :: CL=ABS(CL)
290 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE A
L:"DOUBLE-WIDTH? (Y/N) N" ::
ACCEPT AT(12,21)SIZE(-1)VA
LIDATE("YN")BEEP:DWO :: IF D
WO="Y" THEN PRINT #1:CHR0(27
):"4":CHR0(1):: CL=CL/2
300 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE A
L:"SUPERSCRIP? (Y/N) N" ::
ACCEPT AT(12,20)SIZE(-1)VA
LIDATE("YN")BEEP:SSO :: IF SSO
="Y" THEN PRINT #1:CHR0(27)
:"9":CHR0(0)
310 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE A
L:"ITALICS? (Y/N) N" :: ACC
PT AT(12,16)VALIDATE("YN")S
IZE(-1)BEEP:IO :: IF IO="Y"
THEN PRINT #1:CHR0(27):"4"
320 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE A
L:"DOUBLE-STRIKE? (Y/N) Y"
:: ACCEPT AT(12,22)VALIDATE(
"YN")SIZE(-1)BEEP:ID0 :: IF D
O="Y" THEN PRINT #1:CHR0(27)
:"0"
330 IF P<3 AND P<4 THEN DI
SPLAY AT(12,1):"EMPHASIZED?
(Y/N) Y" :: ACCEPT AT(12,19)
VALIDATE("YN")SIZE(-1)BEEP:
I :: IF E0="Y" THEN PRINT #1:
CHR0(27):"E"
340 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE A
L:"NUMBER OF COLUMNS? (1-5)
1" :: ACCEPT AT(12,26)VALIDATE
("12345")SIZE(1)BEEP:NC
350 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"COLUM
N WIDTH (NUMBER 8F) : "CHARA
CTERS" :: ACCEPT AT(14,13)VA
LIDATE(10#17)BEEP:CV
360 TC=NC*CV :: TA=CL-TC ::
TI=TC*NC/2-2
370 IF TI<CL THEN 390 :: DI
SPLAY AT(18,1):STR0(NC)":" co
lumn of "STR0(CV)" charac
ters":"plus 2-column spacing
equals"
380 DISPLAY AT(20,1):STR0(TC)
18" characters; maximum:"av
ailable in print size":"sele
cted is "STR0(CL)":" : "XXXX
Please reselect!!!!" :: GOTO
240
390 IF NC=1 THEN 410 :: AV=
NT(TA/(NC-1)) :: DISPLAY AT(1
2,1)ERASE ALL:"COLUMN SEPARA
TION?" : "MINIMUM 2" : "MAXIMUM
"STR0(AV)":" AVAILABLE " : "2"
400 ACCEPT AT(15,1)VALIDATE

```

17)SIZE(-2)BEEP:CS : IF
2 OR CS\AV THEN 400 ELSE
RPT0(" ",CS)
3 TA=TA-CS*(NC-1): IF TAC
THEN 450
4 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
LEFT MARGIN WIDTH?": "MA
NUM *STR0(TA)* AVAILABLE
: ACCEPT AT(12,20)VALIDATE
(DIGIT)BEEP:LT : IF LT>TA
CN 420
5 DISPLAY AT(12,1)"ALTERN
NG LEFT/RIGHT": "MARGIN?
or pages to be": "later re
duced on both": "sides" (Y
N"
6 ACCEPT AT(16,14)VALIDATE
M)SIZE(-1):A0
7 LSP=12 : DISPLAY AT(10,
" " : " " : "LINES PER PAGE?
" " : " " : " " : " ACCEPT
AT(12,17)VALIDATE(DIGIT)SI
-3):LP : IF LP<70 THEN 4
8
9 DISPLAY AT(12,1)"LINE S
ING - 72 INCH" : DISPLAY
(11,16)"_" : ACCEPT AT
(1,16)VALIDATE(DIGIT)BEEP:L
10
11 IF LP/(INT(72/LSP))>1.5
THEN DISPLAY AT(20,1)"WON'
IT!": : GOTO 450
12 PRINT 0:CHR0(27);"A";CH
LSP);
13 RM=TA-LT
14 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
TR0(NC)*" columns of":"GTR
M)*"-character width": "l0
margin of *STR0(LT)*" sp
s"
15 DISPLAY AT(15,1):STR0(LP
lines per page": "with " &
0(LSP)*"/72 line spacing"
16 DISPLAY AT(17,1):STR0(CS
spaces between columns):
ght margin of *STR0(RM)*
paces": "OK? (Y/N) Y"
17 ACCEPT AT(20,1)VALIDATE
M)SIZE(-1)BEEP:DK0 : IF
0="N" THEN 240
18 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
PAUSE AT END OF PAGE? M"
19 ACCEPT AT(12,23)VALIDATE(
")SIE(-1):Q00
20 DISPLAY AT(1,1)ERASE ALL
NPUT FILENAMES TO BE": "PR
ED.": "PRESS ENTER WHEN DO
21 X=X+1 : DISPLAY AT(X+3,
"FILENAME? DSK" : ACCEPT

```

```

AT(X+3,14)SIZE(-12)BEEP:F0(
X)
22 570 IF F0(X)=" THEN X=X-1 :
: GOTO 600 ELSE F0(X)="DSK"&
F0(X)
23 580 ON ERROR 590 : OPEN 02:
F0(X): CLOSE 02 : GOTO 560
24 590 ON ERROR STOP : CALL 50
UM0(1000,110,0,-4,0): DISPL
AY AT(20,1)"CANNOT OPEN *F
0(X)": X=X-1 : RETURN 560
25 600 SL=1
26 610 F=F+1 : IF F>X THEN 700
: ON ERROR 620 : OPEN 02:
F0(F),INPUT : DISPLAY AT(22
,1)"READING *F0(F)": ON ER
ROR STOP : GOTO 630
27 620 CALL SOUND(1000,110,0,-
4,0): DISPLAY AT(20,1)"COUL
D NOT OPEN *F0(F)": STOP
28 630 FOR IP=SL TO LP*NC : LI
NPUT 02:MO(IP): IF LEN(M0(IP
))=0 THEN 670 : IF NC<1 AN
D POS(M0(IP),CHR0(13),1)<0
THEN MO(IP)=SE0(M0(IP),1,LE
N(M0(IP))-1)
29 640 IF ASC(M0(IP))>126 DR AS
C(M0(IP))<32 THEN IP=IP-1 :
GOTO 680
30 650 IF LEN(M0(IP))<CN THEN
670 : T0=SE0(M0(IP),1,CN):
: CALL SOUND(1000,110,0,-4,0
): DISPLAY AT(12,1):M0(IP);
" OVER";CN;"CHARACTERS": "TRU
NCATED TO *T0":OK?"
31 660 CALL KEY(3,K,B): IF S=0
THEN 660 ELSE IF C<089 THEN
STOP ELSE MO(IP)=T0
32 670 MO(IP)=MO(IP)&RPT0(" ",C
W-LEN(M0(IP)))
33 680 IF EOF(2)=1 THEN CLOSE 0
2 : SL=IP+1 : GOTO 610
34 690 NEXT IP : IF EOF(2)=1 T
HEN CLOSE 02 : GOTO 720 ELS
E 8078 720
35 700 ON ERROR 710 : FLAG=1 :
: FOR J=IP+1 TO NC*LP : MO(
J)=" : NEXT J : GOTO 720
710 STOP
36 720 PP=PP+1 : IF PP/2=INT(P
P/2)AND A0="Y" THEN LT0=RPT0
(" ",RM)ELSE LT0=RPT0(" ",LT
)
37 730 FOR J=1 TO LP : ON NC B
OSUD 750,760,770,780,790 :
NEXT J : PRINT 0:CHR0(12):
: SL=1 : IF F>X THEN STOP E
LSE IF Q00="M" THEN 630
38 740 DISPLAY AT(24,1)BEEP:"PR
ESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE" :

```

```

CALL KEY(0,K,B): IF S=0 THE
N 740 ELSE DISPLAY AT(24,1):
" " : GOTO 630
39 750 PRINT 0:LT0&MO(J)&CHR0(
10): RETURN
40 760 PRINT 0:LT0&MO(J)&50&MO
(J+LP)&CHR0(10): RETURN
41 770 PRINT 0:LT0&MO(J)&50&MO
(J+LP)&50&MO(J+LP*2)&CHR0(10
): RETURN
42 780 PRINT 0:LT0&MO(J)&50&MO
(J+LP)&50&MO(J+LP*2)&50&MO(J
+LP*3)&CHR0(10): RETURN
43 790 PRINT 0:LT0&MO(J)&50&MO
(J+LP)&50&MO(J+LP*2)&50&MO(J
+LP*3)&50&MO(J+LP*4)&CHR0(10
): RETURN
44 100 CALL CLEAR : RANDOMIZE
110 B=INT(50RND*2): IF B=02
THEN 110 ELSE B=0
120 F=INT(50RND*2): IF F=F2
THEN 120 ELSE F2=F
130 D=INT(50RND*2): IF D=D2
THEN 130 ELSE D2=D
140 X=F0B0D
150 BB=INT(50RND*2): IF BB=
0D2 DR BB=0 THEN 150 ELSE BB
2=BB
160 DD=INT(50RND*2): IF DD=
0D2 DR DD=0 THEN 160 ELSE DD
2=DD
170 F=F0B00DD
180 DISPLAY AT(3,1)ERASE ALL
: "IF";0;"BOYS CAN CATCH";X;
"FR0SS IN";0;"DAYS,"
190 DISPLAY AT(6,1)"HOW MAN
Y FR0SS CAN";0B;"BOYS": "CATC
H IN";0D;"DAYS?"
210 ACCEPT AT(7,19):0
220 IF Q=F THEN DISPLAY AT(9
,1)"THAT'S RIGHT!" : GOTO
110
230 DISPLAY AT(9,1)"NO, THA
T'S WRDNG."
240 DISPLAY AT(11,1)"IF";0;
"BOYS CAN CATCH";X;"FR0SS IN
";0;"DAYS"
250 DISPLAY AT(13,1)"THEN 0
ME BOY CAN CATCH";X/0;"FR0SS
IN";0;"DAYS"
260 DISPLAY AT(15,1)"AND ON
E BOY CAN CATCH";X/0/D;"FR0B
S IN ONE DAY."
270 DISPLAY AT(17,1)"50, IF
ONE BOY CAN CATCH";X/0/D;"F

```

```

ROSS IN ONE DAY,"
280 DISPLAY AT(19,1)"THEN";
0B;"BOYS CAN CATCH";X/0/D&0B
;"FR0SS IN ONE DAY"
290 DISPLAY AT(21,1)"AND";0
0;"BOYS CAN CATCH";X/0/D&0B&
0B;"FR0SS IN";0D;"DAYS."
300 DISPLAY AT(24,1)"PRESS
ANY KEY" : CALL KEY(0,K,S):
: IF S=0 THEN 300 ELSE 110

```

Here's an idea for an unusual title screen -

```

100 CALL CLEAR : FOR SET=1
TO 8 : CALL COLOR(SET,1,1):
: NEXT SET : CALL CHAR(100,
"0",101,"0")
110 X(0)="4043241818244202"
: X(1)="4021261818648402"
: X(2)="2020131C38C80404"
: X(3)="1010101FF8080808"
: X(4)="081010907E11020"
120 X(5)="080808BF1F1010"
: X(6)="0404C6381C132020"
: X(7)="0284641818262140"
130 A0=RPT0(CHR0(100)&CHR0(
10),13): FOR R=1 TO 24 : C
=C+1*(C+2)*2 : DISPLAY AT(R
,C):A0 : NEXT R
140 CALL VCHAR(1,23,1,168)
150 CALL SCREEN(2): CALL CO
LDR(9,5,16): FOR S=1 TO 8 :
: CALL COLDR(S,16,2): NEXT
S
160 DISPLAY AT(5,5): "TIGERC
UB SOFTWARE": DISPLAY AT(
6,6): "SQUIRMY SCREEN":
170 FOR J=0 TO 7 : CALL CHA
R(100,X(J)): CALL CHAR(101
,X(7-J)): NEXT J
180 CALL KEY(0,K,S): IF S=0
THEN 170

```

MEMORY FULL

Jim Peterson


```

(M$,X,1)):: M$=SEG$(M$,1,X-1
)&SEG$(M$,X+1,255)
150 PRINT N;:: IF LEN(M$)=0
THEN STOP ELSE 140

```

One more example - can you run this program and get these results? You won't even be able to key in that last line!

```

>LIST
100 FOR J=1 TO 7 :: READ M$
:: PRINT M$ :: NEXT J
30000 DATA AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAA,BBBBBBBBBBBBBB,BB
BBBBBBBBBBBBBB,CCCCCCCCCCCC,
DDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD
30010 DATA "TESTING",,,,,,
,,,,,,""TEST
ING""
>RUN
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
BBBBBBBBBBBBBB,BBBBBBBBBBBB
CCCCCCCCCCCC DDDDDDDDDDDDD
"TESTING"
,,,,,
""TESTING""
*READY*

```

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