

COMPUTING NEWS

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Today JANUS, Tomorrow the World...

VAX users who've explored JANUS, the U of O's online library catalog, may be interested in tapping similar resources at other universities across the country. Boston University, Dartmouth, Oregon State, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute are just a few of the many institutions that allow electronic searches of their library materials.

Below is a list of addresses for accessing the catalogs of select institutions once you're logged in on the VAXcluster. To obtain the addresses of other library catalogs from the VAX 8800, consult the online Quickdocs file LIBRARIES by typing

```
$ type sys$document:libraries.quickdoc
```



Online Library Catalog Addresses

Oregon State University (OASIS)

Before connecting to OASIS, it's advisable to define your own escape key for easy exit. In the example below, a slash (/) was chosen to represent ESCAPE. Enclose your choice in quotes, as shown:

```
$ def telnet_escape "/" (define your escape key)
$ telnet sytek.ucs.orst.edu (connect to OSU host)
```

```
...
destination: oasis
Logon please: oasis
```

After you've completed your OASIS session, exit by typing ESCAPE Q, using the escape key you defined earlier:

```
/q (escape-key quit)
$ (VAX monitor prompt reappears)
```

Boston University

```
$ telnet library.bu.edu
```

Dartmouth

```
$ telnet lib.dartmouth.edu
```

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

```
$ telnet infotrac.rpi.edu
```

(Note that response times can vary due to a number of factors. If you experience difficulties, try again later.)

If you want to borrow materials from these or other off-site libraries, you'll need to make arrangements with the U of O Library for an inter-library loan. Contact the inter-library loan service (x3055) for details.

Software Discounts

Micro Plan's New Deal

University faculty, staff, students, and departments will be able to take advantage of discounts in two major software product lines beginning later this summer. As part of an arrangement with the University's Microcomputer Purchase Plan, Claris and Ashton-Tate are offering substantial price reductions on their software packages.

Prices for Claris products are being reduced 45-60%, while Ashton-Tate products will be discounted by 50-80%.

Claris, originally an offshoot of Apple Computer, is an independent company which markets MacWrite, MacPaint, and MacDraw for the Macintosh, a software line originally sold by Apple. Other Claris software for the Mac include FileMaker II, a database program, and SmartForm Designer, a forms generation package.

The University must place a large initial order to launch the discount program for Ashton-Tate products, which include dBASE III Plus and dBASE IV database packages for IBM PCs/compatibles; Full Impact, a power spreadsheet for the Mac; and FullWrite Professional, a sophisticated Macintosh word processing program. To ensure that this initial order is tailored to campus needs, those planning to purchase Ashton-Tate software should contact Pam Prichard at x4394. Direct general questions about the status of the Claris or Ashton-Tate programs to the Microcomputer Support Lab (x4402).



E-Com Guide Hits the Stands

The preliminary edition of *E-Com on the VAXcluster*, a guide to electronic computing resources for VAX users at the U of O, is now available for check-out or purchase in the Computing Center Documents Room. The new guide presents e-com terminology, services, and networks available on the VAXcluster; discusses MAIL, the VAX's electronic mail program; and introduces UF, the University's faculty/staff conferencing system, and NEWS, a national electronic bulletin board. You'll also find useful information on remote electronic file transfer software, remote log-in capability, and real-time communications facilities. The discussion concludes with a presentation of local and national network resources, such as public-domain software, online library catalogs, and super computing facilities.

The official first edition of the e-com guide will be published at the beginning of Fall Term. You may purchase a preliminary edition in the Documents Room for \$5 and exchange it for a copy of the first edition during Fall Term at no cost.

Summer Mac Orientations Begin

2:30 - 4:30

Thursday, July 27 Thursday, July 13

Room 175 Computing Center

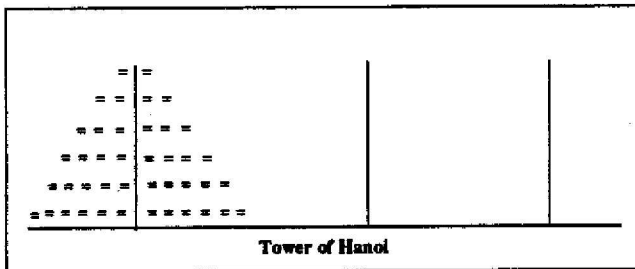


An introductory course for faculty, staff, and students with minimal Mac experience.

Try PROLOG on the VAX 8800

PROLOG, a fourth generation, non-procedural artificial intelligence language, is available for use on the VAX 8800.

PROLOG was used to solve the "Tower of Hanoi" problem reproduced below. This problem consists of three pegs, with the leftmost peg having a number of graduated-size discs placed on it in order. The goal is to move all the discs from the leftmost peg to the rightmost peg while never placing a larger disc above a smaller disc, a task that is more complicated than it sounds.



To demonstrate this PROLOG technique on the VAX, first create a file called HANOI.PRO by issuing the following sequence of commands, being careful to maintain punctuation and capitalization as indicated:

```
$ ed hanoi.pro
*c
/* tower of hanoi */
hanoi(N) :- move(N, 'left', 'middle', 'right')

move(1,A,C) :- inform(A,C), !.
move(N,A,B,C) :- N1 is N-1,
                  move(N1,A,C,B),
                  inform(A,C),
                  move(N1,B,A,C).

inform(L1,L2) :- write(' Move a disc from '),
                 write(L1),
                 write(' to '),
                 write(L2),
                 nl.

:- hanoi(3).
:- halt.
CTRL/Z
*ex
```

Then, invoke PROLOG to process the file:

```
$ prolog
|?- consult('hanoi.pro').
```

For more detailed information on PROLOG, see the *CPROLOG User's Manual* in the Center Documents Room. *Programming in PROLOG* (W. Clocksin and C. Mellish, 1981, available in the U of O Mathematics Library) and *PROLOG Programming in Depth* (Michael A. Covington, et al, 1988) are two other useful sources.

STAT CORNER**New Documents Arrive**

Micro Stat Package Brochures - The Computing Center Documents Room (205) now has a collection of brochures from major vendors of microcomputer statistical packages. These packages were recently reviewed in the March 14th issue of *PC Magazine*. If you're in the process of selecting the ideal micro stat package for your particular requirements, these brochures may help.

Cray Manuals - The Center recently acquired a partial set of Cray UNICOS reference manuals. The collection includes the Cray Fortran reference manual, system and library call reference manuals, an optimization guide, and graphics materials (MOVIE.BYU, DI-3000, NCAR). These documents do not circulate and are available for reference only.

If you're working on moving applications to Cray machines at the University of Illinois or elsewhere, you're welcome to refer to the Center's collection. Contact Joe St Sauver at x4394 for more information.

SCA Workspace Increased

By popular demand, the SCA default workspace has been increased to seven million words. The increased capacity will allow larger SCA time series models to run.

VI Editor Installed

Users of UNIX-based systems may avail themselves of a newly-installed VMS version of the UNIX VI full-screen editor. For more information on the new editor, type

```
$ help @unsupported vi
```

- Joe St Sauver

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