



# COMPUTING NEWS

June, 1987

The Computing Center University of Oregon Eugene, Oregon 97403

Vol. 2 #9

## New Machine Selection Nears

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new academic computer was released to vendors on May 5. A conference to review the requirements of the system and answer vendor questions was held on May 15. Vendors have until June 15 to respond to the RFP. Evaluations will then be made, with selection expected in mid-July. The current schedule calls for delivery of the new system by mid-September.

Use of the new machine will not begin until sometime during fall term, at the earliest. Academic users will be moved to the new machine as soon as is reasonable. However, the existing DEC 1091 and IBM 4341 computing environments will continue to be available through fall term, and probably through the 1987-88 academic year.

Faculty interested in following the acquisition process this summer can join the new **Computing News** conference on Faculty Forum (FF). (If you're not familiar with FF, pick up the free FF handout in the Computing Center's Documents Room, 205).

## Student-Run Conferencing Debuts

On May 1, a new computer conferencing system, CIE (Campus Information Exchange), was installed on the DEC 1091. CIE differs from the existing FF and BB systems in sponsorship, membership, and topics. Organized and run by the Oregon Computing Association (ORCA), it is open to all U of O students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Use of CIE is free during a trial period supported by student fees.

CIE members may participate in a wide range of discussion by joining conferences like **General Debate** and **Philosophy and Religion**. There are also informative conferences, like **AIDS Update**, and exchanges, like **Buy and Sell**. Topics change as discussion interests change.

Those who have used FF or BB will find CIE commands familiar, since it is derived from the same program (COM). CIE is accessible from any terminal or micro connected to the DEC, including 4 free, public-access terminals in the EMU Computer Lounge.

Applications to join CIE are available at the Computing Center Reception Desk (Room 108) and at the EMU Computer Lounge. Questions about CIE can be directed to Kelvin Wee at 484-1298.

## New LAN for Applications Development

Computing Services has acquired a new local area network (LAN) that will be used to develop multi-user applications for University departments. It consists of

Novell's Advanced Netware/286, version 2.0a, running on 3Com's Ethernet, and supports IBM PCs and compatibles. The dedicated file server and 3 workstations are AST Premium/286 machines, running at 10Mhz, with 2Mb RAM and 40 Mb hard disks. Two additional workstations are IBM PC/XTs.

With the acquisition of this network, Technical Services will be offering maintenance for Novell Ethernet LANs and their file servers. If you would like more information on this service, please call Rick Millhollin at x4394.

Questions regarding networking applications for your IBMPCs (and compatibles), or your Apple Macintoshes, can be directed to Susan Hilton, x4394.

## Summer Computing Events

This summer, the Continuation Center (part of Continuing Education) is sponsoring two special, computer-intensive events which are open to everyone:

### The University of Oregon Computer Camp

Now in its fifth year, this 9-day camp for 9-15 year-olds combines extensive computer instruction on a variety of hardware and software with a diverse recreational program. The camp will run July 18-26.

### Extending the Human Mind: Computers in Education

This sixth annual conference, focusing on "Education for an Information Age," will feature product displays and review labs, post-conference hands-on workshops, and over 50 special interest sessions. It will be held on campus August 6-7, with workshops August 8-9.

For brochures and further information, contact the Continuation Center, 1553 Moss Street, x3537.

## New BITNET Information Files

In addition to mail and file exchange, the international BITNET network provides access to online services at other institutions. Up-to-date information on mailing lists, publications, public-domain software sources, and other BITNET services is now available online on CMS. Type

**bitlib**

and follow the instructions displayed on the screen to access the information.

The BITLIB files are updated monthly by the staff of the BITNET User Library at Yale. If you have questions or comments about these files, please contact David Boyes via MAIL (postmast at oregon1) or by calling x4394.

**MICRO SCOPE****Micro Purchase Plan Updates**

A new pamphlet, "Instructions for Departmental Purchases," is now available in the Computing Center's Microcomputer Support Lab (105) and Documents Room (205). This gold booklet explains the procedures for University departments that want to make use of the Microcomputer Purchase Plan.



**Attention, June graduates!**  
June 12 is the last day to order a micro at a discount through the University's Microcomputer Purchase Plan

Departments can purchase IBM products, including the new Personal System/2 (PS/2) models, at better-than-ever prices, as a result of a new contract between IBM and OSSHE. For prices, call the Microcomputer Support Lab (x4412) or the Microcomputer Support Coordinator (x4394). Or, contact IBM, Corvallis, directly at 757-2795.

A new agreement enabling U of O individuals to purchase the PS/2 products is still under negotiation and should be available by summer term. - *Kathy Heerema*

Apple Computer congratulates two new MacChampion Award winners:

**Craig Hickman** Fine Arts  
**Kathy Heerema** Computing Services

**STAT CORNER**

- *Pat Holleran*

**Calm Before the Storm**

Acquisition of the new academic computer this fall (see "New Machine Selection Nears") will affect everyone using statistical software. So be ready... it's going to be an exciting year! In the meantime, we plan no major changes to statistical software or services over the summer. The statistical computing environments you're used to now will be in place when you return in the fall.

If you have questions about statistical computing, call Pat Holleran (x4394). If you're a faculty member, you may join the Faculty Forum (FF) conference called **Statistical Computing**. The discussion there will give you an idea of how we are trying to improve some of our services.

**No Fall Courses**

With a new machine expected in the fall, the Computing Services staff does not plan to teach SAS or SPSSx courses this fall. If you need instruction on a statistical computing topic in the fall, please contact Pat Holleran (x4394).

**IBM 4341 NOTES**

- *Rick Millhollin*

**CMS Disk Space Short**

Free disk space on CMS is almost gone. New CMS accounts cannot be opened and existing disk allocations cannot be increased until some space is reclaimed. Please review your CMS disk space and contact the Computing Center's Accounting Clerk (x4404) to reduce your allocation, if possible. Remember, you are charged for allocated CMS space whether or not it is used, so cutting back will save you money!

Project administrators, please let the Accounting Clerk know of any userids not in use that can be deleted.

**CMS Reader Files: Too Many? Too Big?**

The disk space used to store files in CMS readers and those awaiting printing is critically low. Recently, this lack of spooling space has caused system performance problems. Reader files, including MAIL and NOTE files, files sent via SENDFILE, and all BITNET traffic, seem to be the source of the problem. Please help conserve space by emptying your reader frequently. And, use LINK and COPY instead of SENDFILE to transmit large files to other CMS users.

Currently, reader files over 30 days old are automatically deleted. If lack of spooling space continues to cause problems, the reader file retention limit will be reduced. Watch the CMS online news for new developments on this policy.

**SCRIPT Macro Packages Not Working**

For some time, new versions of Waterloo SCRIPT on CMS have been accompanied by warnings that the SYSPAPER and SYSPUB macro packages were obsolete and unsupported. While Waterloo has not yet withdrawn these macros, some of their features do not work properly with the current release of SCRIPT (version 86.1). Please convert your document to use the supported GML macro package instead. SYSPAPER and SYSPUB will probably be discontinued with the next release of SCRIPT.



This is the last issue of *COMPUTING NEWS* until fall. For news during the summer, watch the DEC and CMS online news and the new *Computing News* conference in Faculty Forum (FF).

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*Newsletter Editor:* Sara Wyant  
*Text Processing:* Joyce Winslow

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