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Please\# Date Size Objects Globals Vocab Pre-Load


Zork Zero Compilations (page 3)
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Zork Zero Compilations (page 2)


Zork Zero Compilations


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Ett．Gev．Time： 12 months












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SLP





















（comments to Steve）

Fantasy
probably EZIP
As the name implies，a prequel to the Zork trilogy．It would be set in the Great Underground Empire，beginning at the time of its collapse（B83 GUE），an continuing through 948 （the year of the Zork trilogy）．It would certainly en ＂west of a white house．＂There d be some story，about as much as the Enchanter games，but for the most part it would be an intensely puzzle－oriented game wit a huge geography．It would be great to reassemble the original Implementors for a design session．

## MINUTE MYSTERIES

Mystery
EZIP
Standard Level Cor mixed Est．Dev．Time： 12 month Four mini－mysteries，each set in the same locale，but during different period of time：one during the $1910^{\circ}$ s，one during WNII，one during the present，an one at some point in the next century．For the location，I m leaning toward a small cruise ship．（Naturally，I would have to spend several wears on crus shivs doing research）．Some ideas for the individual mysteries：In one of them it turns out that you were actually the killer，but are suffering from amnesic because of $\exists$ blow received during a struggle with the victim－you first thin that the blow yas inflicted by the murderer！In another，you would be the desc endant of a character in one of the previous stories，attempting to prove th innocence of your relative，and getting mixed up in a new murder，and having t solve both．The last story，set in the future，would have some sci－fi elements

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Humor
ELI
Imagine the ad campaign：＂have you always thought that God scre⿻⿰丨丨八又土 it it ap？ it yourself！＂or more simply＂play The gook．＂It would be a short story formal along the lines of wordplay．The stories would include：Creation，The Garden o Eden，Noah and the Flood，Moses and the Exodus from Egypt，and Revelations（th last section）．The highlight：a story in which you experience the most control versial concept ever attempted by interactive fiction：playing the character o Jesus Christ．The text would all be in shalts and begat and hath and sayeths part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe．

BLAZING PARSERS
Hun or
ZIp？
The western comedy that Jer ny started．A lot of the basic design and alittl bit of the implementation is already done．If you don＇t recall，the basic stor line is a spaghetti wester？with all the usual characters and situations，an the basic gag is that there are several parsers with different personalities and degrees of competency that are constantly wandering＂in＂and＂out＂of th gama．Another gag revolves around Mr．Smith，who can imitate nearly anything ＂There is a bowling ball here．＂TAKE BJWLING QALL．＂DODS！It＇s only Mr．Smith doing his famous bowling ball imitation．＂Jr．．．＂president Rutherford 3．faye is at the bar．＂DRESIDENT HAYES，HJWJY．＂As you begin speaking，you realiz that it isn＂t President Rutherford B．Hayes after all，but merely Mr．Smith doing his totally awesome President Rutherford hayes imitation．＂A laugh riot

Standard Level Est. Div. Tine: 10-12 months
ark trilogy. It would be set in the tine of its =0113pse (883 GUE), and ark trilogy). It would certainly end story, about as much as the Enchanter n intensely ouzzle-oriented game with e-assemble the Original Implementers

Standard Level (or mixed)
Est. Deva. Time: 12 months
ES
$t$ during different periods locale, but during different periods or the location, I 'n leaning toward have to spend several wees on cruise individual mysteries: In one of them, ller, but are suffering from amnesia le with the victim -- you first think r! In another, you would be the descmed so in a new murder, and having to ure, would have some sci-fi elements.

Standard Level Est. Dev. Time: 10 months thought that God screwed it so? Try k." It would be a short story format
ould include: Creation, The Garden of odus from Egypt, and Revelations (the which you experience the most controlive fiction: playing the character of its and begat and hath and sayeths.
$\qquad$

Est. Div. Tine: 8 months lot of the basic design and a little If you don't recall, the basic story usual characters and situations, and try wandering "in" and "out" of the th, who can imitate nearly anything: NJ BALL. "Doos! It's only Mr. Smith, Or... "President Rutherford 3. Hayes yes after all, but merely Mr. Smith, ford hayes imitation." A laugh riot.

I like this one, if either or all work on Mace, you, me, Time, etc.) or Int lent input into is. I thin's the colborentivi ink re wither then the sigite-antoro ores (5-6)
(9) If its just on author

Bring. Not enough room for one god $m$ in EZIP, much lis fore.

It wont.
Birdies, it's surly gait a wis of ore-e ", it's not rudely gangs to be ffernin for the whicests a the enough for the below

Or tor innit jots.
A western is a good ike thongs, but plo a litter mare strigigt.

$$
[\text { A weston is a (6)] }
$$

POL
Sale $\left[\begin{array}{l}10 \& \text { Thtidhular's bine to bork } \quad P D L \\ \hline\end{array}\right.$

Standard Level
Tine: 10-12 months would be set in the pose (883 GUE), and would certainly end ch as the Enchanter -oriented game with iginal Implementors
rd Level (or mixed)
iv. Time: 12 months
g different periods
g the present, and
In leaning toward
cal weeks on cruise
es: In one of them, fering from amnesia -- you first think would be the desc moting to prove the order, and having to me sci-fi elements.

I like this one, if either ir all work on it (eeg., Marc, you, me, Time, etc.) or I at lent hare some. input into it. I thins the collobontwi works $(1 \rightarrow 3,4)$ me letter than the sigige-anthor ores (5-6).
(9) [If its just one author (5)]

Bowing. Not enough room for one gard mystery in EZIP, much lis four.

Standard Level iv. Time: 10 months screwed it jo? Try tion, The Garden of nd Revelations (the ing the character of hath and sayeths.
erse. $\qquad$ ", it's not really gain to be offersim enrage for the athieasts in the enough for the belwins.

Standard Level Deva. Tine: 8 months
ensign and a little 11, the basic story nd situations, and and "out" of the te nearly anything: toes only Mr. Smith, Rutherford 3. Hayes taking, you realize on." A laugh riot.
(1)

One bug inside joke.
A western is a good idea though, but played a litter more straight.
[A wester is a 6]

When Marvel Comics asked if we'd be interested in a coll Steve old buddy old pal, you could thinx up alot more interesting and weird an and fun suoarheroes than those worn out boring larvel Comics superharoes. Suc as Farn Stand Man, who can turn hims lf into any vegetable beginning with vowel. Or Madmoiselle Mozzarella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza bafor the box is even opened! I see this as a Hitchhiker"s/Rashomon type gane i which you can play your choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The stor would be slightly different depending on which one you chose. If you elected t portray Anvelid Man (able to communicate with any member of the worm family) you wouldn't command as mucn respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire eight-lane highways), and the other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readily Potential for lots of interesting ouzzles. Possible RPG elements.
"the viable idea"

## Experimental

ZIP or EZIP
An idea I oniginally came uo with as a way to than could normally be expected, but which I think is an interesting ifea eve witnout that need. Sasically, one oerson (the Editor) designs a tiny "oiece" o a game -- a cosole of rooms, a fey objects with action routines, naybe even character. Working from this, in complete isolation, five (or so) imps woul write a small mini-game (a couple of puzzles, ten to tmenty rooms) around tha original cone. The Editor would be rasponsible for integrating the five idea together, blending the =ode, making sure that therz wasn't any gross repetitio in the stories, and, of course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how differen peoole vent in different directions from the sane starting point would nake fo an interesting interactive fiction experience.

TITANIC
TOA? Docu-dnama?
ミZI?
It yas one of the rost dramatic monents in history luxuriaus, nost technically advanced oean liner, earrying my of the monld richest and most fanous people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. A 11:40 p.m. on April 14, 1912 an iceperg sideswiped the huge ship, leaving a 30 foot underwater gash. Less than theee hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic wa gone, taking 1500 people with her. The events of that night are well-recounte in several sooks.
You are a oassenger on the Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguisa th importance of your nission: transporting a MasGuffin fron London to Vew York As the ship opens and you fael a long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship you must begin the process of escaping the restricted Third Class section retrieving the Macjuffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, an surviving the sinking to complete your delivery assignment. The actual event of those 150 minutes between iceberg and sinking would sceur around you. I se this as a game of split-second timing, that yould require multiply playing t optimize your turns in order to solve all the ouzzles in the snortest possibl time. But yod could also ignore all the puzzles and simply wander around th shio as a "tourist," taking in the sights of this amazing event.

Standard Level
Est. Deva. Time: 10 months
"d be interested in a collaboration I thought Id think up alot more interesting and weird and lorn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Such n himself into any vegetable beginning with a , who can tell the toppings on any pizza before this as a Hitchhiker's/Rashomon type gave in f any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The story handing on which one you chose. If you elected to :ommuni= ate with any member of the worm family), pet as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire then superheroes wouldn't obey you as readily. guzzles. Possible RPG elements. $\qquad$
$\qquad$

This is great. The super-herress so silly, though.... maple.

Standard Level cv. Time: 10 months oration I thought superheroes. Such e beginning with a on any pizza before oman type game in - If you elected to f the worm family), e to devour entire
bey you as readily.
ants. $\qquad$
rd Level (or mixed)
Div. Tine: 5 months
e in much less time sa tiny "piece" of ines, maybe even a (or so) imps would rooms) around that ny gross repetition eeing how different oint would make for
rd Level (or mixed) Time: 10-12 months ld's largest, most many of the world's ship, leaving a 300 nkable" Titanic was are well-recounted
ss to disguise the London to New York. s through the ship, rd Class section,
he confusion, and The actual events around you. I see
e shortest possible
y wander around the en.

Imagine a Bldg. 19 where you buyold/denaged
superHero equipment? super Hero equipment?
This is greet. The super-herres shouldint be quite so silly, though .... maybe.
I
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
(0)
$1 / 5$ of a game takes more than $1 / 5$ the time to do. When ore 5 imps ever free?
Thus newer wanks all that well in literature.
(6)

Too fad it int conning out last Janeery. Is it tor serious?
Is it too big?

THE BEST OF STEVJ
Mixed genre
Standard Level (or mixed ELI Est. Dev. Time: 12 month
A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to plat in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories on the disk. They would have little or no connection to each other. The manual would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you want by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably b frons several different genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot o interesting ideas which are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to become a full story. There could be some new genres, som completely ouzzleless stories, a story with reolayability. A story or two could be longer, to yean beginners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction efforts. The reaction to Jeff's short story format will certainly have a impact.
Sone problems with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to ti the stories together? COne thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sister appears in one of the stories as a character they could make cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) What would the oackage be like? What would the program be called? Would it turn of our hard-cone fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" concepts? (egg. Doctor Who, collaborations) Any "new technologies" to consider? (egg. sound, XZIP features)

Restanvort? Dong would work with you...
I dort like Dr. Who.
Garry Trudeau? /Gory Larson / Berm er Breathe \} " I l l u m u r ~
at the beginning. The stories would probably be res. This would be a good chance to try a lot of too experimental to risk a whole product on, or are full story. There could be some new genres, some s, a story with reolayability. A story or two could s into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction eff's short story format will certainly have an
is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to tie thought for tying the stories together: there are $N$ ister appears in one of the stories as a character; ences to the sibling in the other stories.) What hat would the program be called? Would it turn off
n" concepts? (egg. Doctor Who, collaborations)
insider? (egg. sound, XZIP features)
at? Dong would work with you...
like Dr. Who.
redeem ? Gory Larson / Berks Breathed \} " I l l u m n a t e d " ~ c o m i c ~ a d v e n t u r e . ~ (potentially offensive)*
*see "Intenactur Bible"
rd Level (or mixed)
eve. Time: 12 months
there anyway to tie
gether: there are $N$
lies as a character;
her stories.) What
would it turn off
elaborations)
5)
you...
urthed $\{$ "Illuminated" comic adventure. (potentially rffersir $)^{*}$
*see "Interactive Bible"
**** Next P~oject

Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10-12 months

Fantasy
prosably ELIP
As the name imolies, a praquel to the Zork trilogy. It would be set in the Great Underground Enpire, beginning at the time of its collapse (883 GUE), and continding throagh 948 (the year of the Zork trilogy). It would certainly end "west of a white house." There"d be sone story, about as much as the Enchanter ganes, but for the nost part it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game with a hage geography. It would be great to re-assemble the Original Implementors for a design session.

## minute mysteries

Mystery
EZI?
Est. Dev. Tine: 12 months a of tine: ove daring the $1 \nexists 10^{\circ}$ s, one during WNII, one during the present, and one at some point in the next century. For the location, I'n leaning touard a stall cruise ship. (Naturally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruise shios doing resear $=h$ ). Some ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of them, it turns out that you were actually the killer, bat are suffering from amnesia because of $\exists$ blow received during a struggle with the victim -- you first think that the blow yas inflicted by the nurderer! In another, you wosld be the descendant of a character in one of the previous stories, attempting to prove the innocence of your relative, and getting mixed up in a new murder, and having to solve both. The last story, set in the future, yould have some sci-fi elements.

INTERACTIVE 3IBLE
Hunor
EZIP
Standard Level
Est. Jev. Time: 10 months Inajine the ad canoaign: "tave you aluョys thought that God screwed it up? Try it yourself!" or more simply "play the Book." It would be a short story format along the lines of Wordolay. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden of Eden, Noah and the Flood, Moses and the Exodus fron Egyot, and Revelations (the last section). The highlight: a story in which you experience the most controversial concept ever attempted by interactive fiction: olaying the Jesus Cnrist. The text would all be in shalts and begats and haths character of Part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe.

## BLAZING PARSERS

Humor
ZIP
Est. Dev. Tine: 8 months
The western comedy that Jerry started. A lot of the basic design and a little bit of the implementation is already done. If you don't recall, the basic story line is a spaghetti western with all the usual characters and situations, and the basic gag is that there are several parsers with different personalities and degrees of competency that are constantly yandaring "in" and "out" of the game. Another gag revolves around ur. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything: "Thare is a bowling ball here." TAKE BJWLING BALL. "Dops! It's only Mr. Snith, doing his famous bowling ball imitation." Jr... "President Rutherford 3. Hayes is at the bar." PRESIDENT tAYES, HOWJY. "As you begin speaking, you realize that it isn"t President Rutherforf B. Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smith, doing his totally awesone President Rutherford Hayes imitation." A laugh riot.
** Next Project (comments to Steve)

Standard Level Est. Nev. Tine: 10-12 months prequel to the Zork trilogy. It would be set in the beginning at the time of its collapse ( 883 GUE ), and the year of the Zork trilogy). It would certainly end There "d ba sone story, about as much as the Enchanter art it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game with Id be great to reassemble the Original Implementors

MINUTE MYSTERIES
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Lev. Tine: 12 months set in the sane locale, but during different periods $1310^{\circ}$ s, one during WNII, one during the present, and next century. For the location, I "n leaning toward turally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruise me ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of them, e actually the killer, but are suffering from amnesia d during a struggle with the victim -- you first think ed by the murderer! In another, you would be the descon of the previous stories, attempting to prove the e, and getting mixed wo in a new murder, and having to $y$, set in the future, would have some sci-fi elements.

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Standard Level Est. Jev. Tine: 10 months
"Have you always thought that God screwed it up? Try ply "play The Book." It would be a short story format ar. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden of Moses and the Exodus from Egyot, and Revelations (the ign: a story in which you experience the most controopted by interactive fiction: playing the character of ld all be in shalts and begat and hath and sayeths. to offend every person in the universe.

BLAZING PARSERS
Standard Level
Est. Div. Tine: 3 months
ferry started. A lot of the basic design and a little is already done. If you don't recall, the basic story :er with all the usual characters and situations, and re are several parsers with different personalities that are constantly wandering "in" and "out" of the es around Mr. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything: here." TAKE BJWLING BALL. "DODS! It's only Mr. Smith, ball imitation." Jr... "President Rutherford j. Hayes IT HaYES, tow JY. "As you begin speaking, you realize Rutherford 8 . Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smith, President Rutherford hayes imitation." A laugh riot.

Good idea. (Better than jus have more of the original flavor

Unless marketing vetoes

*     *         *             * 

***


- Probably could get further than

Sounds funny but ordic

- at least, that on ave


AMY
(there is no $2^{\text {un }}$ places)

Standard Level Tine: 10-12 months would be set in the pose ( 883 GUE ), and would certainly end ch as the Enchanter -oriented game with iginal Implementers

*     * 

Good idea. (Better than just PDL alone - at hast, would have more of the original flavor.)
ind Level (or mixed) eq. Tine: 12 months g different periods g the present, and In leaning toward ral weeks on cruise es: In one of them, firing from amnesia -- you first think wold be the descmoting to prove the order, and having to me sci-fi elements.

Standard Level lv. Tine: 10 months screwed it up? Try short story format ion, The Garden of and Revelations (the ce the most controing the character of hath and sayeths. erse.

- Probably could get further than you ever have before...

Standard Level
Div. Tine: 3 months lesion and a little 11, the basic story nd situations, and erent personalities and "out" of the te nearly anything: t's only Mr. Smith, Rutherford 3 . Hayes baking, you realize t merely Mr. Smith, on." A laugh riot.

Unless marketing vetoes mo ne mysteries...

*     *         *             * 



*     *         * 

Sounds funny but ordinary IF. No real gimmick - at least, that on average customers would notice.


Fantasy? Conedy?
EZI?
Standard Lev Steve harel comics and fun suoərheroes than those yorn out boring yarvel Cowics superheroes. Su as Farm Stand Man, who can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with vowel. Or Madmoiselle Mozzarella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza befo the box is even ooened! I see this as a Hitchhiker's/Rashomon type gane which you can play your choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The sto would be slightly different depending on which one you chose. If you elected portray Ancelid Man Cable to commanicate with any member of the worm family you wouldn't command as much respect as Doctor asphalt cable to devour entir eight-lane highways), and the other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readil Potential for lots of interesting ouzzles. Possible RPG elements.

## "the viable idea"

Exparimental
ZIP or EZIP
An idea I oniginally came uo with as a way to than =olld nornally be expected, but which I without that need. 3asically, one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" a game -- a coavle of rooms, a few objacts with action routines, naybe even character. Wor<ing fron this, in zomplete isolation, five (or so) imps wou write a snall mini-game (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around th original core. The Editor yould be responsible for integrating the five ide together, blending the code, making sure that there wasn't any gross repetiti in the stories, and, of course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how differe peoole went in different directions fron the sane starting point would make f an interesting interactive fiction experience.

TITANIC
TロA? Docu-d-ama?
EZI?
Yt vas one of the nost dramatic monents in historyo luxurious most technically richest and most fanous people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. 11:40 0.m. on april 14, 1912 an iceberg sideswiped the huge shio, leaving a foot underwater gash. Less than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic gone, taking 1500 people with her. The events of that night are well-recount in several sooks.
You are a passenger on the Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise imoortance of your nission: transoorting a Macjuffin from London to New Yor As the ship opens and you feel a lons, Jrawn out shudder pass through the shi you must begin the process of escaoing the restricted Third Class sectio retrieving the Macjuffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, $\exists$ surviving the sinking to complete youn delivery assignment. The astual even of those 16 j minutes between-ieeberg and sinking would occur around you. I s this as a game of split-second tining, that would require multiply playing optimize your tarns in order to solve all the ouzzles in the shortest possib time. But you could $\exists$ lso ignore $\exists>l l$ the puzzles and simply wander around shio as a "tourist," taking in the sights of this anazing event.

Standard Level
Est. Deva. Time: 10 months ed if wed oe interested in a collaboration I thought you could think up aloft more interesting and weird and those worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Such can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with a zzarella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza before I see this as a Hitenhiker's/Rashomon type gate in choice of any of half-a-dozen super-haroes. The story ent depending on which one you chose. If you elected to ole to communicate with any member of the worm family), much respect as Doctor Asphalt Cable to devour entire nd the other superheroes youldn't obey you as readily. teresting puzzles. Possible RPG elements.
"the viable idEa"
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Time: 5 months e up with as a way to produce a game in much less time xpeeted, but which I think is an interesting idea even ally, one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" of oms, a few objects with action routines, maybe even a this, in =omolete isolation, five (or so) imps would (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around that or would be responsible for integrating the five ideas ode, making sure that inere was nt any gross repetition course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how different directions front the sane starting point would make for we fiction experience.

## TITANIC

Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Tine: 10-12 months fanatic moments in history. The world's largest, most lily advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world's people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. At 1912 an iceberg sideswiped the huge ship, leaving a 300 es than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic= was with her. The events of that night are well-recounted he Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise the on: transoorting a Macjuffin from London to New York. u feel a long, dray n out shudder pass through the ship, es of escaping the restricted Third Class section, from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, and o complete your delivery assignment. The actual events ween iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I see -second fining, that would require multiply playing to rider to solve all the puzzles in the shortest possible loo ignore $\exists l l$ the puzzles and simply wander around the ing in the sights of this amazing event.
$X Z \mathbb{P}$ ?

## A hurnorses

 un, sage, there is e no(if set up somewhat
super-herves solve diff $\underbrace{\sim}$ * * * * *
"Thieves Wold" on disk (if we're down to only do this?.)
I like this dea, but and PDL, that enow
enough to make it set

## * * * * *



(1 have some reservats second timing / multiple scoond timing in Trinit Prof - only pored nause Suspended 1 finally gat
out of boredorn...)

Standard Level Time： 10 months ration I thought ing and weird and uperheroes．Such beginning with a any pizza before on type gate in eros．The story If you elected to the worm family）， ta devour entire y you as readily． ts．

Level（or mixed）
v．Time： 5 months in mush less time resting idea even a tiny＂piece＂of es，maybe even a or so）imps would poms）around that ing the five ideas gross repetition ing how different nt would make for

Level（or mixed） ins：10－12 months －s largest，most nay of the world＂s alden voyage．At io，leaving a 300 able＂Titanic＝was －well－recounted
to disguise the don to New York． through the ship， Class section， confusion，and The actual events round you．I see Ltiply playing to shortest possible wander around the
$X Z 1 P ?$
A humorous RPG！From what Brian yells， um，says，there io no humor in RPG now．．．
－Nf set up somewhat PPG－iokey（different （super－heroes solve different puzzles in different ways ${ }^{\text {i }}$ ）） －Tied for $1^{\text {st }}$ with Titanic
＊＊＊＊＊
＂Thieves Wold＂on disk 米
（If we＇re down to only three Imps，could you still do this？）
I like this idea，but I don＇t think，other than you and PDL，that enough imps are famous enough to make it sell．
＊＊＊＊＊
Tied for $1^{\text {st }}$ with superheroes
（1 have some reservations about the apht－ second timing／multiple playing bit．The split second timing in Trinity－admittedly，it wa o by Prof－only proved nauseatingly fionstiating． Suspended，finally gave up Tugging to do better out of boredom．．．）

Mixad genre ELI?

Standard Level (or mixec
Est. Dev. Tine: 12 mont $A$ collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to pla in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stori on the disk. They yould have little or no connection to each other. The manu would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story yod yant by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably fron several different genres. This yould be a good chance to try a lot interesting ideas unich are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to decome a full story. There could be some new genres, sor comoletely ouzzleless stories, a story with reslayability. A story or tuo $=0$ ul be longer, to wean beginners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fictic efforts. The reaction to jeff's short story format will certainly have impact.
Sone problens yith the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to t the stories together? CDne thought for tying the stories together: there ヨre siblings, and each brother/sister appears in one of the stories as a character they could nake cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) wh: would the package be like? What would toe program be called? Would it turn o our hard-core fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" conceots? (e.g. Doctor Who, collaborations)

Any "new tezhnologies" to consider? (e.g. sounj, XZIP features)
es," many or all of which would be designed to play tely an hour or two. I envision around ten stories little or no connection to each other. The manual tents so that you could enter any story you wanted $r$ at the beginning. The stories would probably be res. This would be a good chance to try a lot of too experimental to risk a whole product on, or are full story. There could be some new genres, some s, a story with reolayability. A story or two could s into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction eff's short story format will certainly have an?

द (Yes cornma no. Jeff's game
: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to tie thought for tying the stories together: there are $N$ ister appears in one of the stories as a character: ences to the sibling in the other stories.) What hat would the program be called? Would it turn off it's also wordgarnes. I don't th anything valuable - marketis shot stories or unshod games - fro
n" concepts? (egg. Doctor Who, collaborations)
Think of Prof's flaming about "Ca a role in each story...
insider? (e.g. sound, XZIP features)

Level (or mixed)
Time: 12 months designed to play

- sound ten stories
there. The manual
story you wanted

(7n) or $6^{\text {th }}$
would probably be to try a lot of -oduct on, or are lew genres, some orly or two could reactive fiction
certainly have an? (Yes comma no. Jeff's game may be short stories, but re anyway to tie
her: there are $N$ as a character: stories.) what lould it turn off
abortions)
it's also wordgomes. I don't think weill learn anything valuable - marketing-wise - about cither shot sonnies or and games - from it.)

Think of Prof's flaming about "Cat's Paw" - a cat played a sole in each story...


*START* Job NEXT Req *43 for SEM Date 30-Apr-87 18:15:15 Monitor: FRED *s Ma File PS: <SEM〉NEXT. PROJECT. 27, created: 30-4pr-37 18:14:12, printed: 30-4pr-87 Job parameters: Request created:30-Apr-37 19:14:36 Page 1imit:215 Forms:N0 File parameters: Copy: 12 of 12 Soacing:SINGLE File format: ASCII Print m

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MY CNHICES, IN ORDRR:

1. The best of stevo
2. Dr. who/ GOoD CouAbi
3. ZORK zERO.

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lonitor: FRED*s Machine, TOPS-20 Monitor 5.4C1025 *START*
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Y CHOLCES, IN ORDER:

1. The best of stevo
2. DR wito/GOOD COUABORATION
3. ZORK zero.
MIKE

Fantasy? Conedy?
ELIP in a collaboration I though and fun suparheroes than those worn out boring Marvel comics superheroes. Sue as Farm Stand Man, who can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with vowel. Ir पadmoiselle Mozzarella, who can tell the topoings on any pizza befor the box is even opened! I see this as a Hitchhiker's/Rashomon type gane i which you can play your choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The stor would be slightly different depending on which one you chose. If you elected t portray Annelid Man (able to communicate with any member of the worm family) you wouldn't command as much respect as Doctor Asphalt cable to devour entire eight-lane highyays), and the other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readily Potential for lots of interesting ouzzles. Possible RPG elements.
"the viable idea"
Experimental
ZIP or EZIP
An idea I oniginally came up with as a way to oroduce a game in much less tim than could normally be expeeted, but which I think is an interesting idea eve witnout that need. Basically, one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" o a game -- a couple of rooms, a fey objects with action routines, maybe even chanacter. Working fron this, in complete isolation, five (or so) imps woul write a snall mini-game (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around tha original core. The Editor vould be responsible for integrating the five idea together, blending the code, making sure that there wasn't any gross repetitio in the stories, and, of course, fixing ougs. I think that seeing how differen people went in diffarent directions fron the sane starting soint wosld make fo an interesting interactive fiction experience.

## TITANIC

TOA? Docu-drama?
EZIP
resto lo larasto luxurious, nost technically advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world richest and most famous people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. 11:40 p.m. on Aoril 14, 1912 an iceberg sideswived the huge ship, leaving a foot underwater gash. Less than three nours later the "unsinkable" Titanic wa gone, taking 1500 people with her. The events of that night are well-recounte in several books.
You are a passenger on the ritanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise th inportance of your mission: transporting a Macjuffin from London to New York As the ship opens and you fael a long, jrawn oدt shudder pass through the ship you must begin the process of escaping the restricted Third Class section retrieving the Maçuffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, an surviving the sinking to complete your delivery assignment. The a=tual event of those 16 minutes between iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I se this as a game of split-second timing, that would require multiply playing optimize your turns in order to solve ヨll the ouzzles in the shortest possibl time. But you could also ignore all the puzzles and simply yander around th shio as a "tourist," taking in the sights of this anazing event.

Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10 months we'd be interested in a collaboration I thought could think up alot more interesting and weird and e worn out boring Marvel Comics superharoes. Such turn himself into any vegetable beginning with a 1la, who can tell the toppings on any pizza before ee this as a Hitchhiker's/Rashomon type gane in e of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The story epending on which one you chose. If you elected to - communicate with any member of the worm family), respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire e other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readily. ting puzzles. Possible RPG elements.
he VIable idea"
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Dev. Tine: 6 months with as a yay to oroduce a game in much less time ed, but wnich I think is an interesting idea even one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" of a fey objects with action routines, naybe even a in comolete isolation, five (or so) imps would uple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around that uld be responsible for integrating the five ideas making sure that there wasn't any gross repetition e, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how different ctions from the sane starting point wosld make for ction experience.

## TITANIC

Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Dev. Tine: 10-12 months ic moments in history. The world's largest, nost dvanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world's e, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. At an iceberg sideswioed the huge ship, leaving a 300 han three nours later the "unsinkable" Titanic was her. The events of that night are well-recounted
tanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise the transporting a Maçuffin fron London to New York. 1 a long, jrawn out shudder pass through the ship, of escaping the restricted Third Class section, on the purser's safe anidst the confusion, and plete your delivery assignment. The aztual events iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I see nd timing, that would require multiply playing to to solve $\exists l l$ the suzzles in the shortest possible gnore all the puzzles and simply wander around the n the sights of this anazing event.

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Standard Level

Level (or mixed)
v. Tine: 6 months in much less time resting idea even a tiny "piece" of es, maybe even a or so) imps would -oms) around that ing the five ideas gross repetition ing how different nt would make for

Level (or mixed)
inge: 10-12 months
's largest, most
ny of the world's
maiden voyage. At
ip, leaving a 300
able" Titanic was
rewell-recounted
to disguise the ido to New York. through the ship, Class section, confusion, and
The actual events
round you. I see ltiply playing to shortest possible yonder around the t.


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I STU LUGE IT.
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Mixed genre SIP

Standard Level (or mixed Est. Def. Tine: 12 month

A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to ola in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories on the disk. They would have little or no connection to each other. The manual would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you want by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably b from several different genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot o interesting ideas which are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to become a full story. There could be some new genres, som conoletely ouzzleless stories, a story with reolayability. A story or tao soul be longer, to wean beginners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction efforts. The reaction to Jeff's short story format will certainly have a

Some problems with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to ti the stories together? COne thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sister appears in one of the stories as a character they could make cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) What would the package be like? What would the program be called? Would it turn of our hard-core fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" concepts? (e.g. Doctor who, collaborations)
CCHELK ON GOING RUTS
Any "new technologies" to consider? (eeg. sound, XIIP features)
ID STRONGLY CNCOCRIGE

THE BEST CF STEVO
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Def. Time: 12 months tories," many or all of which would be designed to play ximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories have little or no connection to each other. The manual contents so that you could enter any story you wanted umber at the beginning. The stories would probably be genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot of are too experimental to risk whole product on, or are e a full story. There could ba some new genres, some ories, a story lith reolayability. A story or two could nners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction nners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction
0 jeff is short story format will certainly have an - lou kNow UNTLL ert idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to tie One thought for tying the stories together: there are $N$ er/sister appears in one of the stories as a character; eferences to the sibling in the other stories.) What e? What would the program be called? Would it turn off

I LIKE THIS A ENOUGH REPUTATION TRYING A COT OF Which COVLD LEAT
riven" =oneapts? (egg. (Doctor Who, collaborations)
Check on Getting mitis with whom?

- consider? (egg. sound, XIIP features)

CNCOCRITEE USING SOUND, GRAPHICS, ON- LINE INJISICMES WHEREVER AR
rd Level (or mixed) eu. Tine: 12 months be designed to play around ten stories other. The manual ny story you wanted s would probably be ce to try a lot of product on, or are e new genres, some story or tao could interactive fiction 1 certainly have an - YOA WON'T kNoW UNTIL TE END OF Mi (EAR
there anyway to tie
gether: there are $N$
lies as a character;
her stories.) What would it turn off

0llaborョtions)
GUIN RIGHTS WITH WHOM?
es)
RRONGCY CNCOCRIGÉ USING SOUND, GRAPITICS, ONSCREEN MAPPING AND ON- LINE INJISICUUES WHEREVER APPLICABLE.


Fantasy
provably EZIP As the name implies, a prequel to the York trilogy. It would be set in Great Underground Empire, beginning at the time of its collapse (833 GUE), continuing through 949 (the year of the Zork trilogy). It would certainly "west of a white house." There d be some story, about as much as the Enchant games, but for the most part it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game dit a huge geography. It would be great to reassemble the Original Implementor for a design session.

## MINUTE MYSTERIES

Mystery
ELI
Standard Level (or mixed
Est. Div. Tine: 12 month
Fou miרi-nysteries, each set in the same locale, but during different period of time: one during the $1910^{\circ} \mathrm{s}$, one during WNII, one during the present, one at some point in the next century. For the location, I m leaning toward a small cruise ship. (Naturally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruis shivs doing research). Some ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of then it turns out that you were actually the killer, but are suffering from amnesia because of a blow received during a struggle with the victim -- you first thin that the blow was inflicted by the nurderer! In another, you would be the desc end ant of a character in one of the previous stories, attempting to prove th innocence of your relative, and getting mixed vo in a new murder, and having solve both. The last story, set in the future, would have some sci-fi elements

## INTERACTIVE BIBLE

Humor
ELI?
Standard Lev e
Imagine the ad campaign: "Have you always thought that God screwed it up? it yourself!" or more simply "Play The gook." It would be a short story form along the lines of wordplay. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden Eden, Noah and the Flood, Moses and the Exodus from Egypt, and Revelations (th last section). The highlight: a story in which you experience the most contra versial concept ever attempted by interactive fiction: playing the character o Jesus Christ. The text would all be in shalts and begat and hath and sayeths part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe.

## BLAZING PARSERS

Humor
ZIP The western comedy that Jerry started. A lot of the basic design and a little bit of the implementation is already done. If you don't recall, the basic stor line is a spaghetti western with all the usual characters and situations, the basic gag is that there are several parsers with different personalities and degrees of competency that are constantly wandering "in" and "out" of th game. Another gag revolves around Yr. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything "There is a bowling ball here." TAくE 8JNLIVG BALL. "Dobs! It's only Mr. Smith doing his famous bowling ball imitation." Or... "President Rutherford 3. fay is at the bar." PRESIDENT HAYES, HOWDY. "As you begin speaking, you realiz that it is president Rutherford 8 . Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smith doing his totally ョwesone Presijent Rutherford Hayes imitation." a laugh rio

JOEL Reaction (partitive, negots
Ch L *** Next Project ****
( $=0 \mathrm{mments}$ to Steve)

YORK ZERJ

Standard Level
Est. Dev. Tine: 10-12 months
logy. It would be set in the
Est. Nev. Tine: Standard Level months IN We should to this s ire, beginning at the time of its collapse (883 GUE), and
(the year of the Zork trilogy). It would certainly end ." There'd be some story, about as much as the Enchanter st part it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game with would be great to reassemble the Original Implementors

MINUTE MYSTERIES
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Deva. Tine: 12 months
each set in the same locale, but during different periods the $1910^{\circ}$ s, one during WNII, one during the present, and the next century. For the location, Ism leaning toward (Naturally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruise - Some ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of them, were actually the killer, but are suffering from amnesia dived during a struggle with the victim -- you first think lifted by the murderer! In another, you would be the descin one of the previous stories, attempting to prove the ative, and getting mixed wo in a new murder, and having to story, set in the future, would have some sei-fi elements.

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Standard Level Est. Nev. Time: 10 months gi: "Have you always thought that God screwed it up? Try simply "Play The Book." It would be a short story format $\phi$ rdolay. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden of pod, Moses and the Exodus from Egyot, and Revelations (the ighlight: a story in which you experience the most controlattempted by interactive fiction: playing the character of t would all be in shalts and begats and hath and sayeths. fort to offend every person in the universe.

BLAZING PARSERS
Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 3 months
at Jerry started. A lot of the basic design and a little tion is already done. If you don't recall, the basic story western with all the usual characters and situations, and there are several parsers with different personalities ency that are constantly wandering "in" and "out" of the volves around $4 r$. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything: all here." TAKE BJNLIVG 3ALL. "CoDs! It's only Mr. Smith, ing ball imitation." Or... "President Rutherford 3. hayes IDENT HAYES, HOWDY. "As you begin speaking, you realize eft Rutherford 8 . Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smith, some President Rutherford hayes imitation." a laugh riot.
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- Wait for new parser.
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I'm afraid Forth mir

JOEL Reaction (partitive, negative of nerval).

Standard Level I'm afraid Fork minus be getting a tithe. wi. inf: $10-12$ months (833 GUE), and $f$ ald certainly end as the Enchanter rented game with anal Implementers

Level (or mixed)
Time: 12 months
different periods
m leaning toward - Wait for new purser. wees on cruise In one of them, ing from amnesia you first think Ald be the desc$r$, and having to sci-fi elements.

Standard Level Time: 10 months awed it un? Try ort story format $n$, The Garden of Revelations (the the most controlthe character of the and sayeths.
e.

Standard Level - Time: 3 months In and a little situations, and. nt personalities nd "out" of the nearly anything: only Mr. Smith, herford 3. Hayes ge, you realize rely Mr. Smith,

Fantasy? Conedy? EZI?

Standard Leve
Est. Dev. Time: 10 month Whan Marvel Comics asked if we d oe interested in a collaboration I though Steve old baddy old pal, you could think up alot more interesting and weird an and fun superheroes than those worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Suc as Farn Stand Man, who can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with vowel. Or Madmoiselle Mozzarella, who こan tell the toppings on any pizza befor the box is even opened! I see this as a Hitenhikeros/Rashomon type gane i which you can play your choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The stor would be slightly different depending on which one you chose. If you elected portray Annelid Man (able to communizate with any member of the worm family) you wouldn't command as much respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire eight-lane highways), and the other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readily Potential for lots of interesting ouzzles. Possible RPG elements.
"the viable idea"
Experinental
ZIP or EZI?
An idea I originally cane uo with as a way to than could nornally be expected, but unich I without that need. Basically, one oerson (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" a game -- couple of rooms, a few objects with action routines, maybe even character. Working fron this, in comolete isolation, five (or so) imps woul write a snall mini-game (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around tha orizinal core. The Editor would be responsible for integrating the five idea together, blending the code, making sure that there wasn't any gross repetitio in the stories, and, of course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing now differen peoole went in different diefections fron the sane starting point would nake fo an interesting interactive fiction experience.

## TITANIC

TJA? Docu-drama?
EZIP
It yas one of the most dramatic monants in history. The world's largest, mos luxurious, nost technically advances ocean liner, carrying many of the world richest and most famous people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. 11:40 p.m. on April 14, 1912 an iceberg sideswised the huge shio, leaving a foot underwater gash. Less than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic w gone, taking 1500 people with her. The events of that night are well-recounte in several poo<s.
You are a passenger on the ritanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise th importance of your mission: transporting a MasGuffin from London to New York As the ship opens and you feel a long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship you must bejin the process of escaping the restricted Third Class sectior retrieving the Masbuffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, surviving the sinking to complete your delivery assignment. Tne a=tual even of those 15 j minutes between iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I se this as a game of split-sezond timing, that would require multiply playing optimize your turns in order to solve all the ouzzles in the shortest oossibl tima. But you cosld also ignore all the puzzles and simply wander around th shio as a "tourist," taking in the sights of this anazing event.

Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10 months if we "d be interested in a collaboration I thought」 could think up alot more interesting and weird and sse worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Such n turn himself into any vegetable beginning with a pella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza before see this as a Hitchhiker's/Rashomon type game in ice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The story depending on which one you chose. If you elected to to communicate with any member of the worm family), $x$ respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire the other superheroes wouldn't obey you as readily. esting puzzles. possible RPG elements.
"the viable idea"
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Def. Time: 5 months
o with as a way to produce a game in much less time eted, but munich I think is an interesting idea even $y$, one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" of a few objects with action routines, maybe even a is, in complete isolation, five (or so) imps would couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around that would be responsible for integrating the five ideas , making sure that there wasn't any gross repetition rise, fixing bugs. I think that seeing now different erections from the same starting point would make for fiction experience.

TITANIC
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Dev. Tine: 10-12 months atic moments in history. The world's largest, most advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world's ole, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. At 2 an iceberg sideswiped the huge ship, leaving a 300 than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic was th her. The events of that night are well-recounted

Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise the transporting a MasGuffin from London to New York. eel a long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship, of escaping the restricted Third Class section, from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, and omplete your delivery assignment. The actual events n iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I see fond timing, that would require multiply playing to - to solve all the ouzzles in the shortest possible ignore $\exists l l$ the puzzles and simply wander around the in the sights of this amazing event.

I lite the idea, but o for your sample cha

Standard Level
Time: 10 months ration I thought
ing and weird and superheroes. Such beginning with a any pizza before
on type game in
roes. The story
If you elected to
the worm family), to devour entire you as readily.
s.

Level (or mixed)

1. Time: 5 months
in much less time
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tiny "piece" of $\varnothing$
or so) imps would
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ing now different
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Level (or mixed)
ne: 10-12 months
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wy of the world's
den voyage. At
o, leaving a 300
ale" Titanic was
to disguise the
don to New York.
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ne actual events

- round you. I see
shortest possible
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I lite the idea, but don't cane much for your sample characters.

Tort whit we need, a frothgeme for tres!

Mixed genre EZI?

Standard Level (or mixed
Est. Dev. Time: 12 month
A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to pla in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten storie on the disk. They would have little or no conne etion to each other. The manua would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you wante by typing in a yord or number at the baginning. The stories would orobably b fron several different genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot o interesting ideas which are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too snall to becone a full story. There could be some new genres, som comoletely ouzzleless stories, a story 山ith reolayability. A story or tyo coul be longer, to yean beginners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fictio efforts. The reaction to Jeff's short story format will certainly have a ino act.
Some problens with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to ti the stories together? COne thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sister apoears in one of the stories as a character they could nake cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) Wha would the package be li<e? What would the program be called? Would it turn of our hard-cone fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" concepts? (e.g. Joctor Who, collaborations)

Any "new tezhnologies" to consider? (e.g. sound, XIIP features)

Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Nev. Time: 12 months pries," many or all of which would be designed to play mately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories vel little or no connection to each other. The manual :ontents so that you could enter any story you wanted haber at the beginning. The stories would probably be genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot of too experimental to risk a whole product on, or are
full story. There could be some new genres, some a full story. There could be some new genres, some -ias, a story with reolayability. A story or two could hers into accepting multi-hour interactive fiction Jeff's short story format will certainly have an
dea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to tie he thought for tying the stories together: there are $N$ Isister appears in one of the stories as a character: ferences to the sibling in the other stories.) What What would the program be called? Would it turn off
iven" concepts? (egg. Doctor Who, collaborations)
consider? (e.g. sound, XZIP features)

Good; don for expersimer different themes, It fie them together, tho something format? they were. Although the twilight-zone-lite ending rewire pony yam as

Level (or mixed) 1. Time: 12 months designed to play around ten stories other. The manual story you wanted would probably be to try a lot of new genres, or ares new genres, some
story or ty could teractive fiction certainly have an
here anyway to tie other: there are N as as character: er stories.) What would it turn off

Good: don for expasimerting with lots of datacent themes, It nad be side to Gie them together, though. How about something analogous to TSC Ilesthated Man Ararat?: (Although that hid unrelated stories, they were rotolistimally simitar with the trilight-zonedibe endings.) Perhaps you cold rewire Panty sym as the conncating lint??
(laborations)
**皮 Next Project **** (comments to Steve)

ZORK ZERJ
Fantasy
orobably EZIP
As the name implies, a prequel to the Zork trilogy. It would be set in Great Jnderground Enpire, beginning at the time of its collapse (883 GUE), continuing throsgh 948 (the year of the Zork trilogy). It would eertainly en "west of a white house." There"d be sone story, about as mach as the Enchante games, but for the most part it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game wit a hage geography. It would be great to re-assemble the Original Implementor for a design session.

## MINJTE MYSTERIES

Mystery
EZIP
Standard Level (or mixed Est. Dev. Tine: 12 month Four mini-mysteries, each set in the same locale, but during different period of tine: one daring the $1910^{\circ} \mathrm{s}$, one during WwII, one during the present, one at sone point in the next century. For the location, I n leaning toyar a snall cruise ship. (Naturally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruis shios doing research). Some ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of them it turns out that you were actually the killer, but are suffering from annesi beçuse of a blow received during a struggle with the victim -- you first thin that the blow yas inflicted by the nurderer! In another, you would be the desc endant of a character in one of the previous stories, attempting to prove th innocence of your relative, and getting mixed up in a new murder, and having solve both. The last story, set in the future, would have some sci-fi elements

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Hunor
EZI?
Standard Leve Inヨgine the ad campaign: " lave you always thought that God scrawed it ap? it yourself!" or more simply "Dlay the sook." It would be a short story forma along the lines of Wordolay. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden Eder, Noah and the Flood, Moses and the Exodus fron Egypt, and Revelations (tr last section). The highlight: a story in which you experience the most contro versial coneept ever attempted by interactive fiction: playing the character Jesus Christ. The text would all be in shalts and begats and haths and sayeths Part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe.

BLAZING PARSERS
Hunor
ZIP
and litt bit of the implementation is already done. If you don't recall, the basic stor line is a spaghetti western with all the usual characters and situations, the basic gag is that there are several parsars with different personalitie and degrees of competency that are constantly yandering "in" and "out" of th game. Another gag revolves around ur. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything "There is a bowling ball here." TAKE BDNLING BALL. "OoDs! It's only Mr. Snith doing his famous bowling ball initation." Jr... "President Rutnerford 3. taye is at the bar." PRESIDENT taYES, towכr. "As you begin speaking, you realia that it isn't President Rנtherforf B. Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smith doing his totally awesome President qutherford Hayes imitation." A laugh rio
**家 Next Project ****
(comments to steve)

IRK ZERJ
Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10-12 months
a prequel to the Zork trilogy. It would be set in the re, beginning at the time of its collapse ( 883 GUE), and (the year of the Zork trilogy). It would certainly end

There $d$ be sone story, about as much as the Enchanter t part it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game with would be great to reassemble the Original Implementers

MINUTE MYSTERIES
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Time: 12 months ach set in the same locale, but during different periods he $1910^{\circ}$ s, one during WWII, one during the present, and he next century. For the location, I'n leaning toward (Naturally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruise Some ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of them, were actually the killer, but are suffering from amnesia ived during $\begin{aligned} & \text { struggle with the victim -- you first think }\end{aligned}$ icted by the nurferer! In another, you would be the descin one of the previous stories, attempting to prove the tive, and getting mixed up in a new murder, and having to tory, set in the future, would have some sci-fi elements.

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10 months
n: "lave you always thought that God screwed it ap? Try simply "play The Book." It would be a short story format dolly. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden of od, Moses and the Exodus from Egypt, and Revelations (the ghlight: a story in which you experience the most contotempted by interactive fiction: playing the character of would all be in shalts and begats and hath and sayeths. ort to offend every person in the universe.

BLAZING PARSERS
Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 8 months
t Jerry started. A lot of the basie design and a little ion is already done. If you don't recall, the basic story ester with all the usual characters and situations, and there are several parsers with different personalities icy that are constantly yandering "in" and "out" of the olves around Mr. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything: 11 here." TAKE BONLING BALL. "OODS! It's only Mr. Smith, ing ball imitation." Jr... "President Rutherford 3. Hayes DENT HAYES, HOWDY. "As you begin speaking, you realize nt Rutherford B. Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smith, one President Rutherford Hayes imitation." A laugh riot.

Standard Level Time: 10-12 months
ould be set in the se (883 GUE), and
would certainly end $h$ as the Enchanter oriented game with
final Implementers lementors

Level (or mixed) different periods the present, and al weeks on cruise $s$ : In one of them, -- you first think would be the desce sci-fi elements.

Standard Level Crewed it ap? Try
short story format ion, The Garden of the most controlhath and sayeths.
se.

Standard Level
V. Time: 8 months
i zn and a little

1, the basic story -ant personalities
nearly
-s only Mrything.
therford 3 . Hays
ring, you realize
merely mragnith,

Too close to
BEYOND ZOON


Too much in zone

Standard Level
cv．Time： 10 months boration I thought sting and weird and superharoes．Such e beginning with a on any pizza before oman type game in －If you elected to f the worm family）， $e^{\prime}$ to devour entire bey you as readily． ens．
rd Level（or mixed） Lev．Time： 5 months e in much less time terasting idea even sa tiny＂piece＂of ines，maybe even a （or so）imps would rooms）around that ting the five ideas ny gross repetition eeing how different
point would make for

Level（or mixed）
Time： $10-12$ months
ld＇s largest，most
many of the world＇s
maiden voyage．At
ship，leaving a 300
able＂Titanic＝was
are well－recounted
ss to disguise the －ondon to New York． s through the ship， Cd Class section， he confusion，and The actual events around you．I see
multiply playing to
$\qquad$ wander around the そ そ 。

Sounds very interesting


No comment

Mixed genre EZI?

Standard Level (or mixed Est. Dev. Time: 12 month A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to pla in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten storie on the disk. They would have little or no connection to each other. The manua would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you wante by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably b fron several different genres. This yould be a good chance to try a lot o interesting ideas which are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to becone a full story. There could be some new genres, som comoletely ouzzleless stories, a story with reolsyability. A story or tuo coul be longer, to wean beginners into accepting multi-hour interactive fictio efforts. The reaction to Jeff's short story format will certainly have a impact.
Some problens with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to ti the stories together? CDne thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sister aopears in one of the stories as a character they could nake cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) What would the oackage be like? What would the program be called? Would it turn of our hard-core fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" concepts? (e.g. Doctor who, collaborations)

Any "new te hhnologies" to consider? (e.g. sound, XZIP features)

THE BEST OF STEVJ
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Time: 12 months tories," many or all of which would be designed to play ximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories have little or no connection to each other. The manual contents so that you could enter any story you wanted umber at the beginning. The stories would provably be genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot of are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or are e full story. There could be some new genres, some pries, a story with reolayability. A story or two could hers into accepting multi-hour interactive fiction Jeff es short story format will certainly have an
idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to tie one thought for tying the stories together: there are $N$ er/sister appears in one of the stories as a character; ferences to the sibling in the other stories.) what ? What would the program be called? would it turn off
riven" concepts? (egg. Doctor who, collaborations)
consider? (e.g. sound, $X Z I P$ features)

Level (or mixed) - Time: 12 months designed to play round ten stories ther. The manual story you wanted would probably be to try a lot of oroduet on, or are new genres, some tory or two could eractive fi=tion eertainly have an
ere anyway to tie
ther: there are $N$ s as a character: r stories.) What Would it turn off
laborations)
＊＊＊＊Next Project 米米家
（comments to Steve）

ZQRK ZERJ
Fantasy
probably EZIP
Standard Leve as the name imolies，a praquer to the zork trilogy．it would be set in th Great Underground Enpire，beginning at the time of its collapse（ 883 GUE），an continuing through 948 （the year of the Zork trilogy）．It would certainly en ＂west of a white house．＂There＂d be some story，about as nuch as the Enchante games，but for the most part it would be an intensely puzzle－oriented game yit a huge geography．It would be great to re－assambla the Jriginal Implementor for a design session．

## minute mysteries

Mystery
EZIP
Four mini－mysteries，each set in the same locale，but during different period of tine：one daring the $1910^{\circ}$ s，one during WNII，one during the present，an one at some point in the next century．For the location，I＇m leaning towar a snall cruise shio．（vaturally，I would have to spend several weeks on cruis shios doing research）．Some ideas for the individual mysteries：In one of them it turns out that you were actually the killer，but are suffering from amnesi because of a blow received during a struggle with the victim－－you first thin that the blow was inflicted by the nurderer！In another，you would be the desc endant of a character in one of the previous stories，attempting to prove th innocence of your relative，and getting mixed up in a new murder，and having $t$ solve both．The last story，set in the future，would have some sci－fi elements

## interactive gible

Humor
ELIP
Standard Leve
Est．Dev．Time： 10 month
Inagine the ad campaign：＂fave you always thought that God screwed it up？
it yourself！＂or more simply＂Play the Book．＂It would be a short story forma along the lines of Nordplay．The stories would include：Creation，The Garden o Eden，Voah and the Flood，Moses and the Exodus from Egyot，and Revelations（th last section）．The highlight：a story in which you experience the most contro versial concept ever attempted by interactive fiction：playing the character o Jesus Christ．The text would all be in shalts and begats and haths and sayeths Part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe．

## BLAZING PARSERS

Hunor
ZIP
Est－Standard Leve
The western comedy that Jerry started．A lot of the basic design and a littl bit of the implementation is already done．If you don＇t recall，the basic stor line is a spaghetti western with all the usual characters and situations，an the basic gag is that there are several parsers with different personalitie and degrees of competency that are＝onstantly wandering＂in＂and＂out＂of th game．Another gag revolves around 4r．Smith，who can imitate nearly anything ＂There is a bowling ball here．＂TAKE BDWLING BALL．＂口Ops！It＇s only Mr．Smith doing his famous bowling ball initation．＂Or．．．＂President Rutherford 3．Haye is at the bar．＂PRESIDENT tAYES，taWDY．＂As you begin speaking，you realiz that it isn＇t President Rutherford 8．Hayes after all，but merely Mr．Smith doing his totally awesome President Rutherford Hayes imitation．＂A laugh riot

Est. Dev. Time: 10-12 months oraquel to the Zork trilogy. It would be set in the beginning at the time of its collapse ( 883 GUE ), and the year of the Zork trilogy). It would certainly end There'd be sone story, about as nuch as the Enchanter art it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game with Id be great to re-assambla the Jriginal Imolementors
minute mysteries
Standard Level (or mixed)
Est. Dev. Tine: 12 months set in the same locale, but during different periods $1910^{\circ}$ s, one during WaII, one during the present, and next century. For the location, I'm leaning toward turally, I would have to spend several weeks on cruise me ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of them, actually the killer, but are suffering from amnesia during a struggle with the victim -- you first think ed by the nurderer! In another, you would be the descone of the previous stories, attempting to prove the e, and getting mixed up in a new murder, and having to $y$, set in the future, would have some sci-fi elements.

## INTERACTIVE BIBLE

## Standard Level

Est. Dev. Time: 10 months "tave you always thought that God screwed it up? Try oly "Play The Book." It would be a short story format ay. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden of Moses and the Exodus fron Egyot, and Revelations Cthe ignt: a story in which you experience the most contrompted by interactive fiction: playing the character of uld all be in shalts and begats and haths and sayeths. to offend every person in the universe.

## BLAZING PARSERS

## Standard Level

Est. Dev. Time: 8 months erry started. A lot of the basic design and a little is already done. If you don't recall, the basic story ern with all the usual characters and situations, and re are several parsers with different personalities that are =onstantly wandering "in" and "out" of the es around 4r. Smith, who can imitate nearly anything: here." TAKE BOWLING BALL. "Dops! It's only Mr. Smith, ball initation." Or... "President Rutherford 3. Hayes T tayes, hawDy. "As you begin speaking, you realize Rutherford E. Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Snith, President Rutherford Hayes imitation." A laugh riot.

STU
BY STU:
COMMENTS
(1-10)

Standard Level
Time: 10-12 months would be set in the apse (883 GUE), and would certainly end ch as the Enchanter -oriented game with iginal Imolementors
rd Level (or mixed)
lv. Time: 12 months
g different periods
g the present, and
Inn leaning toward
pal weeks on cruise
es: In one of them,
fering from amnesia
-- you first think
would be the desc-
mooting to prove the
rider, and having to
me sci-fi elements.

Standard Level iv. Time: 10 months screwed it up? Try short story format timon, The Garden of nd Revelations (the ce the most controing the character of hath and sayeths. erse.

Standard Level
Dev. Time: 8 months
esign and a little
11, the basic story nd situations, and erect personalities and "out" of the te nearly anything: Rutherford 3. Hayes
aking, you realize
t merely Mr. Smith,
on." A laugh riot.

I always like mysteries, even with their problems.
Ditto short stories.

Too limiting.
Too offensive.

Good genre.
I hate Mr. Smith.
Parker jokes are very "in". (ie. limited audience)

Fantasy? Conedy?
EZIP
Standard Leve
Est. Dev. Time: 10 month When Marvel Conics asked if we'd be interested in a collaboration I though Steve old baddy old pal, you could think uo alot more interesting and weird an and fun suparheroes than those worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Suc as Farm Stand Man, who can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with vowel. Or Madmoiselle Mozzarella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza defor the box is even ooened! I see this as a Hitchhiker's/Rashomon type gane i whizh you can olay your choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The stor would be slightly different depending on which one you chose. If you elected t portray Ancelid Man (able to communicate with any member of the worm family) you wouldn't command as much respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire eight-lane highways), and the other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readily potential for lots of interesting puzzles. Dossible RPG elements.
"the viable idea"
Experimental
ZIP or EZIP
An idea I oniginally cane uo with as a way to than could nornally be expected, but which I without that need. Sasically, one person Cthe

Standard Level Cor mixed Est. Dev. Tine: 6 month (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" a game -- a cosole of rooms, a few objects with action routines, maybe even character. Working from this, in comolete isolation, five (or so) imos woul write a small nini-game (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around the original core. The Editor yould be responsible for integrating the five idea together, blending the code, making sure that there was 't any gross repetitio in the stories, and, of course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how differen peoole went in different directions fron the sane starting point would nake fo an interesting interactive fiction experience.

## TITANIC

TOA? Docu-drama?
EZIP
Standard Level Cor mixed Est. Dev. Time: 10-12 month It was one of the most dramatic moments in history. The world's largest, mos luxurious, nost technically advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world richest and most fanous peoole, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. 11:40 o.m. on April 14, 1912 an iceberg sideswioed the huge ship, leaving a foot underyater gash. Less than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic gone, taking 1500 people with her. The events of that night are well-recounte in several books.
You are a oassenger on the ritanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise th inportance of your mission: transporting a Masjuffin fron London to New York As the ship opens and you feel a long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship you must begin the prosess of escaping the restricted Third Class sectior retrieving the Macjuffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, surviving the sinking to complete your delivery assignnent. The actual event of those 15 ) minutes between iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I se this as a game of split-second timing, that would require multiply playing optimize your turns in order to solve all the puzzles in the shortest possibl tine. But yos could also ignore all the puzzles and simply wander around th shio as a "tourist," taking in the sights of this amazing event.

Est. Dev. Time: 10 months asked if we "d be interested in a collaboration I thought oal, you could think uo alot more interesting and weiry and than those worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Such who can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with a e Mozzarella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza before ned! I see this as a litchhiker's/Rashomon type gane in our choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The story fferent depending on which one you chose. If you elected to
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## "the viable idea"

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## TITANIC

Standard Level (or mixed)
Est. Dev. Time: 10-12 months st dramatic moments in history. The world's largest, most nically advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world's ous peoole, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. At 14, 1912 an iceberg sideswised the huge ship, leaving a 300 Less than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic was ople with her. The events of that night are well-recounted
on the Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise the ission: transporting a Maçuffin fron London to New York. d you feel a long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship, prosess of escaping the restricted Third Class section, uffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, and to complete your delivery assignment. The actual events between iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I see plit-second timing, that would require multiply playing to in order to solve all the puzzles in the shortest possible ld also ignore 311 the puzzles and simply wander around the taking in the sights of this anazing event.

Standard Level
Time: 10 months
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you as readily.
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Level (or mixed)

1. Tine: 6 months
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tiny "piece" of
s, maybe even a
or so) imps would
oms) around that
19 the five ideas
gross repetition
ing how different
it would make for

Level (or mixed)
me: 10-12 months
y of largest, most
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p, leaving a 300
ole" Titanic was
e well-recounted
to disguise the
don to New York.
hrough the ship,
Class section,
confusion, and
he actual events
bund you. I see
hortest possible
lander around the

7
Sounds like fun.

5
I disagree that it would take less time, due to the problems of integration.

My favointe!
Exciting concept.
" setting.

Mixed genre EZIP

Standard Level (or mixed
Est. Dev. Time: 12 month
A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be jesigned to pla in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten storie on the disk. They would have little or no connection to each other. The manua would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you wante by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably fron several different genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot o interesting ideas which are too exoerimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to become a full story. There could be sone new genres, som conoletely ouzzleless stories, a story uith reolayability. A story or tuo coul be longer, to wean beginners into accepting nulti-hour interactive fictio efforts. The reaction to Jeff"s short story format will certainly have a impact.
Some problens with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to ti the stories together? Cane thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sistar aspears in one of the stories as a character they could nake cross references to the sibling in the other stonies.) Wha would the sackage be like? Nhat would the program be called? Nould it turn of our hard-core fans?

Any pending "manketing-driven" concepts? (e.g. Doctor Who, collaborations)

Any "neu tezhnologies" to consider? (e. ヨ. sound, XZIP features)

THE BEST OF STEVD
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Time: 12 months stories," many or all of which would be designed to play oximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories have little or no connection to each other. The manual f contents so that you could enter any story you wanted number at the beginning. The stories would probably be genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot of are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or are me a full story. There could be sone new genres, some tories, a story with reolayability. A story or two could infers into accepting nulti-hour interactive fiction to Jeff's short story format will certainly have an idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to tie CIne thought for tying the stories together: there are $N$ her/sister appears in one of the stories as a character; references to the sibling in the other stories.) What ke? What would the program be called? Would it turn off
driven" =oncepts? (e.g. Doctor Who, collaborations)

- Restaurant?
to consider? (e. Э. sound, XZIP features)
- Animated war
- Restaurant? (HEE! HEE!)
es)
- Animated words? (SEE MY DEMo.)
＊れます NextProje＝t＊＊＊＊ （ $=0$ moments to Steve）

IRK ZERJ
Fantasy
probably EZIP
Standard Lave As the name implies，a prequel to the Zork trilogy．It would be set in th Great Underground Empire，beginning at the time of its collapse（ 383 GUE），an continuing through 948 （the year of the Zork trilogy）．It would certainly en ＂west of a white house．＂There＂d be sone story，about as much as the Enchanter games，but for the most part it would be an intensely puzzle－oriented game wit a huge geography．It would be great to reassemble the Jriginal Implementor for a design session．

## MINUTE MYSTERIES

Mystery
ELI？
Standard Level（or mixed
Est．Dev．Tine： 12 month
Four mini－mysteries，each set in the sane locale，but during different period of time：one during the $1910^{\circ}$ s，one during WWII，one during the present，an one at some point in the next century．For the location，Em leaning toward a small cruise ship．（Naturally，I would have to spend several weeks on cruis shios doing research）．Some ideas for the individual mysteries：In one of them it turns out that you were actually the killer，but are suffering from amnesic be cause of $\exists$ blow received during a struggle with the victim－－you first thin that the blow was inflicted by the murderer！In another，you would be the desc endant of a character in one of the previous stories，attempting to prove th innocence of your relative，and getting mixed up in a new murder，and having solve both．The last story，set in the future，would have some sci－fi elements

## INTERACTIVE BIBLE

Humor
ELI
Standard Leve
Est．Dev．Time： 10 month
Imagine the ad campaign：＂fave you always thought that God screwed it up？Tr it yourself！＂or more simply＂Play The Book．＂It would be a short story format along the lines of Wordplay．The stories would include：Creation，The Garden o Eden，Voa and the＝loud，Moses and the Exodus from Egypt，and Revelations（th last section）．The highlight：a story in which you experience the most contro versial concept ever attempted by interactive fiction：playing the character o Jesus Christ．The text would all be in shalts and begat and hath and sayeths Part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe．

## BLAZING PARSERS

Humor
ZIP
Est Deva Standard Live
The western comedy that Jerry started a A bit of the implementation is already done．If you don＇t recall，the basic stor line is a spaghetti western with all the usual characters and situations，an the basic gag is that there are several parsers with different personalitie and degrees of competency that are constantly yandering＂in＂and＂out＂of th game．Another gag revolves around ur．Smith，who can imitate nearly anything ＂There is a bowling ball here．＂TAKE BJWLING BALL．＂g ops！It＇s only Mr．Smith doing his famous bowling ball initation．＂Dr．．．＂President Rutherford B．Kaye is at the bar．＂PRESIDENT HAYES，HoWDY．＂As you begin speaking，you realiz that it is net President Rutherford $B$ ．Hayes after all，but merely Mr．Smith doing his totally awesome president Rutherford Hayes imitation．＂A laugh riot

Next Project 紋れ
（ $=0$ moments to Steve）

ZORK ZERo
Standard Level
Est．Der．Tine：10－12 months reauel to the Zork trilogy．It would be set in the beginning at the time of its collapse（383 GUE），and he year of the fork trilogy）．It would certainly end There＇d be sone story，about as much as the Enchanter rt it would be an intensely pazzle－oriented game with d be great to reassemble the Original Implementers

## minute mysteries

Standard Level（or mixed）
Est．Div．Time： 12 months sat in the sane locale，but during different periods $910^{\circ}$ s，one during WWII，one during the present，and ext century．For the location，It leaning toward orally，I would have to spend several weeks on cruise ideas for the individual mysteries：In one of them， actually the killer，but are suffering from amnesia during a struggle with the victim－－you first think d by the murderer！In another，you would be the desc－ ne of the previous stories，attempting to prove the and getting mixed $د$ s in a new murder，and having to set in the future，would have some sci－fi elements．

## INTERACTIVE BIBLE

Standard Level
Est．Deva．Time： 10 months ＂Have you always thought that God screwed it up？Try ly＂Play The Book．＂It would be a short story format $y$ ．The stories would include：Creation，The Garden of

$\rightarrow$ What＇s most intruiying is seeing in different time periods that was one of the best f I don＇t think that＂myst hook，nor＂short mysteries＂ Somehow I think we have tar． （despite coning out with good ya point that the word＂mystery So I＇d like to vote in favus but against the＂mysteries＂

Moses and the Exodus from Egypt，and Revelations（the git：a story in which you experience the most control－ pred by interactive fiction：playing the character of ld all be in shalts and begat and hath and sayeths． to offend every person in the universe．？

## BLAZING PARSERS

Standard Level
Est．Dev．Tine： 8 months ry started．A lot of the basic design and a little is already done．If you don＇t recall，the basic story rn with all the usual characters and situations，and are several parsers with different personalities that are constantly wandering＂in＂and＂out＂of the around Mr．Smith，who can imitate nearly anything： ere．＂TAKE BJWLING 3ALL．＂DODS！It＇s only Mr．Smith， all imitation．＂Or．．．＂President Rutherford B．Hayes Hayes，howDY．＂As you begin speaking，you realize Rutherford B．Hayes after all，but merely Mr．Smith， president Rutherford Hayes imitation．＂A laugh riot．
It's funny here, but I think it would It＇s funny here，but I think it would
get pretty stale pretty fast．I vote no． It＇s funny here，but I think it would
get pretty stale pretty fast．I vote no．

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { A worthy goal; BUT: } \\
& \text { (1) Those of us who do } \\
& \text { ever really read th } \\
& \text { :t, were probably } \\
& \text { game. I would a } \\
& \text { the Bible is seces } \\
& \text { you're sort of } \\
& \text { of } X \text { requires s } \\
& \text { Only a small pe } \\
& \text { find this game } \\
& \text { doubt we can } \\
& \text { so much time dey } \\
& \text { limited appeal. } \\
& \text { (3) The best part } \\
& \text { I think you c } \\
& \text { (aimed directly } \\
& \text { game. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Standard Level
Tine: 10-12 months would be set in the ape (383 GUE), and would certainly end ch as the Enchanter -oriented game with iginal Implamentors

## $\longrightarrow$

ard Level (or mixed) lev. Tine: 12 months gig different periods gig the present, and IT leaning toward aral weeks on cruise es: In one of them, faring from amnesia -- you first think would be the descopting to prove the order, and having to mme sci-fi elements.

Standard Level lev. Time: 10 months screwed it up? Try short story format ation, The Garden of and Revelations (the ce the host contra.ing the character of hath and sayeths. erse.

## Standard Level

Div. Tine: 8 months lesion and a little 11, the basic story and situations, and brent personalities and "out" of the te nearly anything: t's only Mr. Smith, Rutherford B. Hayes baking, you realize t merely Mr. Smith, on." A laugh riot. think it would atty fast. I vote no.


This might be worth
2\$ ma-keting-wise,
25 \$ design-wise,
and $\$ 100$ egn-stroting-wise.
$\rightarrow$ What's most intruiging is seeing the same setting in different time periods (forme, that was one of the best features of AMFV). I don't think that "mysteries" is enough of a hook, nor "short mysteries" (like Moonmist). Somehow I think we have tarnished the mystery genre (despite coning out with good games in my opinion) to the point that the word "mystery" turn's people off. So Ill like to vote in faun of A "minute" part but against the "mysteries" part.

Fantasy？Sonedy？
EZI？
Standard Leve
Est．Dev．Tine： 10 month When Marvel Conics asked if we＇d be interested in a collaboration I though Steve old b」ddy old pal，you could think up alot more interesting and weird an and fur suoerheroes than those worn out boring Varvel Comics suoerheroes．
suc as Farn stand Man，who can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with vowzl．Jr Madmoiselle Mozzarella，who can tell the toppings on any oizza befor the box is even ooened！I see this as a titchhiker＇s／Rashomon type gane i which you can play your choice of any of half－a－dozen super－heroes．The stor would be slightly different depending on which one you chose．If you elected t portray Annelid Man（able to communicate with any member of the worm family） you wouldn＇t command as much respect as Doctor Asphalt（able to devour entire eight－lane highways），and the other super－heroes wouldn＇t obey you as readily Potential for lots of interesting puzzles．Possible RPG elements．
＂the viable idea＂
Exparimental
ZIP or EZI？
An bip oro Dev．Tine： 5 month mon oniginally cane up with as a way to oroduce a game in much lass tim than could normally be expected，bit which i think is an interesting idea eve without that need．3asically，one person（the Editor）designs a tiny＂piece＂o a game－－a coدple of rooms，a few objects with action routines，naybe even character．Working fron this，in comolete isolation，five（or so）imps woul write a small mini－game（a couple of puzzles，ten to twenty rooms）around tha original cone．The Editor would be rasponsible for integrating the five idea together，blending the code，making sure that there wasn＇t any gross revetitio in the stories，and，of course，fixing bugs．I think that seeing how differen Deoole went in different directions fron the sane starting point would make fo an interesting interactive fiction experience．

## TITANIC

TロA？Docu－gnamョ？
EZIP
Standard Level（or mixed Est．Dev．Tine：10－12 month mas one of the nost dramヨtic monents in nistory．The world s largest，mos luxarious，nost tecinically advanced ocean liner，carrying many of the world richest and most fanous peoole，was nearing the end of it＇s maiden voyage． 11：40 p．m．on April 14， 1912 an iceberg sideswiped the huge ship，leaving a 30 foot underyater gash．Less than three nours later the＂unsinkable＂Titanic wa gone，taking 1500 people with her．The events of that night are well－recounte in several books．
You are a oassenger on the ritanic，travelling in rhird Class to disguise th importance of your mission：transoorting a MaeGuffin fron London to New York As the ship opens and you feel a long，drawn out shudder pass through the ship you must begin the process of escaping the restricted Third Class section retrieving the MacGuffin from the purser＂s safe amidst the confusion，an surviving the sinking to complete your delivery assignment．The actual event of those 150 minutes between iceberg and sinking would occur around you．I se this as a game of［solit－second tining，that would require multiply playing t optimize your turns in order to solve all the ouzzles in the shortest possibl tine．But yoj could also ignore all the puzzles and simply wander around th shiv as a＂tourist，＂taking in the sights of this amazing event．

JPER-HERJ LEAGUE OF AMERICA
Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10 months ked if we "d be interested in a collaboration I thought you could think up alot more interesting and weird and those worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Such can turn himself into any vegetable beginning with a ozzarella, who can tell the toppings on any pizza before

I see this as a titchhiker's/Rashomon type gate in choice of any of half-a-dozen super-heroes. The story rent depending on which one you chose. If you elected to able to communicate with any member of the worm family), much respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire and the other super-heroes wouldn't obey you as readily. interesting puzzles. Possible RPG elements.
"the viable idea"
Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Tine: 5 months ne up with as a way to oroduce $\exists$ game in much less time expected, but which $I$ think is an interesting idea even ally, one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" of oms, a few objects with action routines, maybe even a this, in complete isolation, five (or so) imps would (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around that tor would be responsible for integrating the five ideas :ode, making sure that there was t any gross repetition course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how different directions from the sane starting point would make for we fiction experience.

Tough ore. I really like the ho superhero; and the "possible about being "any of a hal rath, be one with all is pretty dull compered powers). But though I not sure how I like then. (Not necessarily bad, just an the RPG stuFF, and I think line with Tom Snyder's stu the grunt work! Yeah, I t with graphics.

I still think this would be very interesting, but given the reluctance of most ot h Imps, I'd have to say if isn't viable.

TITANIC
Standard Level (or nixed) Est. Dev. Tine: 10-12 months dramatic moments in history. The world's largest, most lily advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world's people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. At 1912 an iceberg sideswiped the huge ship, leaving a 300 ers than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic was with her. The events of that night are well-recounted he Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise the Ion: transporting a MacGuffin from London to New York. u feel $\exists$ long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship, cess of escaping the restricted Third Class section, from the purser "s safe amidst the confusion, and o complete your delivery assignment. The actual events tween iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I see -second timing, that would require multiply playing to order to solve all the puzzles in the shortest possible Iso ignore all the puzzles and simply wander around the king in the sights of this amazing event.

Some thoughts, in no order of it 1. I've played another softw on the Titanic. You
2. I hate games with "spli" 3. I'm intrigued by well, I certainly enjoy fatalist: despite the. God/Fute interfered. for this tragedy?" as Towering Inferno or Car earthquake itself buts not caring that the do a seismologist's prodictis mythic as the Trojan on and as O- a trip in December this? In I. F., supposed

Standard Level v. Time: 10 months oration I thought ting and weird and superheroes. Such beginning with a n any oizza before mon type gane in heroes. The story If you elected to the worm family), 'to devour entire ey you as readily. nts.
d Level (or mixed) ev. Tine: 5 months in much lass time eresting idea even a tiny "oieca" of nes, naybe even a (or so) imps would rooms) around that ing the five ideas $y$ gross reoetition eing how different int would make for

Tough one. I really like the humor; the funtasy of being a super-hero; and the "possible RPG"elements. I Jon't know about being "any of a half-dozen super-heroes." I might rather be one with all the super-capabilities (super-worm is pretty dull compared to super-something with super-womm and otle powers). But though I like the humor and the super-stuff, I'm not sure how I like them together. It seems very Mad magarin-ish. (Not necessarily bad, just an observation.) Aetually, get ril of the RPG stuff, and I think you could do something along this line with Ton Snyder's stuff … and you wouldn't have to do the grunt work! Yeah, I think the supe-hero is better off with gruphics.

## I still think this would be

 very interesting, but given the reluctance of most of Imps, I'd have to say it isn't viable.d Level (or mixed) Tine: 10-12 months d's largest, most any of the world's maiden voyage. At hip, leaving a 300 kable" Titanic was are yell-recounted
s to disguise the ondon to New York. through the ship,

Class section,
confusion, and The actual events around you. I see ultioly playing to shortest possible wander around the nt.

Some thoughts, in no order of importanie:

1. I've played another software gane that took place (partially) on the Titanic. Your syropsis sounds more interesting, however.
2. I hate ganes with "spl,t-second timing". 3. I'm intrigued by the Titanic, like nost people. Why? Well, I certainly enjoyed "A Night to Remenber" as a fatalist: despite these nice people doing nothing wrong, God/Fute interfered. (The thrust isn't "who's responsible for this trogedy?" as in some disaster movies, like Towering Inferno or Ear thquake [nobody's responsible for the earthquake itself but several people are guilty of hubris: not caring that the dom is cracked, or not believing a seismologist's predictions, etc.].) The Titonic is as mythic as the Trojan Horse, as epic as the Romon Collseum. ab and as beautifully doomed as and Gand or a trulip in December. Is I.F. the right medium for this? In 1.F., supposedly, you can win. On the Titanic,

Mixed genre ELI

Standard Level Cor mixed Est. Div. Tine: 12 month

A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to ola in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories on the disk. They would have little or no connection to each other. The manuf would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you want by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably from several different genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot interesting ideas which are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to become a full story. There cold be sone new genres, son completely ouzzleless stories, a story with reslayability. A story or tao could be longer, to wean beginners into accepting nulti-hour interactive ficti efforts. The reaction to Jeff's short story format will certainly have imoョet.
Some problems with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to the stories together? COne thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sister appears in one of the stories as a character they could make cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) what
 our hard-core fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" concepts? (eeg. Doctor Who, collaborations)

Any "new technologies" to consider? (egg. sound, XZIP features)

In summary, I'd like to see you (1) do what you do best you do best? Humor, story, and "torching scenes" cone to mind immed As for 'spreading your wings": AMFV was (in my mind) your if's hard to say why. (The "advanced" label? The seriousness? T ث or lac
of its sales performance, I think AMFV is one of the most interest .'f's not sos [same old stuff, or same old shit]. Now, I'm sure 20 good job with it. Maybe flat's reason enough to doit. I think of the years. They're not as "'zany:" but thy are funny, and touching, and and + things maybe the thing I like best is Floyd's death i- it's a beaut killing him off.) As long as you continue to take artistic $r$ isks, $y$
$D A$
Ism not trying to be negative in my comments about your various ideas. I think mystery games are fun and would like to write one myself some day. But right now things seem to be mucked up in the marketplace for us. Dur games aren't selling as well as we thought they would. So I think we have to go with sure fire hits such as Zork zero or Super Heros until we figure out what is going on.

Of course, no one will ever bother to find out why are games aren't selling as well as we expected. So we just have to hang on until someone's head clears.
**** Next Project \%**\%
(comments to Steve)

ZORR ZERJ
Fantasy
probably EZIP
As the name imolies, a prequel to the Zork trilogy. It would be set in Great Underground Empire, beginning at the time of its collapse (883 GUE), continuing throjgh 948 (the year of the Zork thilogy). It would certainly e "west of a white house." There"d be some story, about as much as the Enchant games, but for the most part it would be an intensely puzzle-oriented game wi a hage geography. It would be great to re-assemble the Iriginal Implementor for a design session.

## MINUTE MYSTERIES

Mystery
EZI?

Four mini-mysteries, each set in the sane locale, but during different perio of tine: one dנring the $1910^{\circ} \mathrm{s}$, one Juring WWII, one at some point in the next century. For the location, I'n leaning towa a snall cruise ship. (vaturally, I would have to spend several weeks on crui shios doing research). Some ideas for the individual mysteries: In one of the it turns out that you were actually the killer, but are suffering from amnes because of a blow received juring a struggle with the victim - you first thi that the blow was inflicted by the nurderer! In another, you would be the des endant of a character in one of the previous stories, attempting to prove t innocence of your relative, and getting mixed uv in a new murder, and having solve both. The last story, set in the future, would have some sci-fi element

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Humor
EZIP
Imagine the ad campaign: "tave you always thought that God screwed it up? it yourself!" or more simply "play The Book." It would be a short story form along the lines of Wordolay. The stories would include: Creation, The Garden Eden, Noah and the Flood, Moses and the Exodus fron Egyot, and Revelations (t last section). The highlight: a story in which you experience the most contr versial coneept ever attempted by interactive fiction: olaying the character Jesjs Christ. The text would all be in shalts and begats and haths and sayeth Part of my ongoing effort to offend every person in the universe.

## BLAZING PARSERS

Hunor
2IP We western comedy that Jerry started. A lot of the basic design and a litt bit of the implementation is already done. If you don t racall, the basic sto line is a spaghetti western with all the usual characters and situations, the basic gag is that there are several parsers with different personaliti and degrees of competency that are constantly uandering "in" and "out" of t gane. Another gag revolves around Mr. Smith, who can imitate nearly anythin "There is a bouling ball here." TAKE BDNLING BALL. "OODS! It's only Mr. Snit doing his famous bowling ball imitation." Or... "Dresident Rutherford 3. Hay is at the bar." PRESIDENT tAYES, HJWDY. "As you begin speaking, you reali that it isn't President Rנtherford 3 . Hayes after all, but merely Mr. Smit doing his totally ayesome President Rutherford Hayes imitation." A laugh rio
＊＊Next Project 必必为 （comments to Steve）

## ZORn ZERJ

MINUTE MYSTERIES set in the sane locale，but during different periods 1910＇s，one during WلII，one during the present，and next century．For the location，$I$＂m leaning toward turally，I would have to spend several weeks on cruise me ideas for the individual mysteries：In one of them， e actually the killer，but are suffering from amnesia d during a straggle with the victim－－you first think ed by the murderer！In another，you would be the desc－ one of the previous stories，attempting to prove the e，and getting mixed us in a new murder，and having to $y$ ，set in the future，would have some sci－fi elements．

INTERACTIVE BIBLE
Standard Level
Est．Deva．Time： 10 months ＂Have you always thought that God screwed it up？Try ply＂Play The Book．＂It would be a short story format ay．The stories would include：Creation，The Garden of Moses and the Exodus from Egypt，and Revelations（the ight：a story in which you experience the most contro－ moted by interactive fiction：playing the character of ult all be in shalts and begat and hath and sayeths． to offend every person in the universe．

BLAZING PARSERS
Standard Level
Est．Div．Time： 8 months pry started．A lot of the basic design and a little is already done．If you don＇t recall，the basic story ert with all the usual characters and situations，and re are several parsers with different personalities that are constantly wandering＂in＂and＂out＂of the es around ur．Smith，who can imitate nearly anything： here．＂TAKE BONLING BALL．＂JODS！It＇s only Mr．Smith， ball imitation．＂Or．．．＂President Rutherford 3．Hayes T HayES，HJWDY．＂As you begin speaking，you realize Rutherford 3．Hayes after all，but merely Mr．Smith， President Rutherford Hayes imitation．＂A laugh riot．

Est．Dev．Tine：10－12 months prequel to the zonk trilogy．It would be set in the beginning at the time of its collapse（ 883 GUE），and the year of the Zork trilogy）．It would certainly end There＇d be sone story，about as much as the Enchanter art it would be an intensely puzzle－oriented game with ld be great to reassemble the Original Implementers

Standard Level（or mixed） Est．Nev．Time： 12 months

## Too inside I think．

standard level
: $10-12$ months
10 Perhaps its time hus come. rime: 10-12 months ould be set in the could certainly and
h as the Enchanter
oriented game with
anal Implementors

Level (or mixed)

- Time: 12 months Mice ella, but someone ole could do them. the present, and
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Standard Level

- Time: 10 months rewed it ul? Try
on, the Garden of aud possibly a fig bela, but tim not sure Revelations Che the most contro- what people uncle really prot ont if it in the the character of athos and sayeths. se.
end. Lithe the per rats sake light Leather and romplanid it digit hove enowifh see..
Standard Level
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"the viable idea"
Experimental
ZIP or EZIP
An idea $I$ originally came up with as a way to than could normally be expected, bst uhich I produce a game in muah less without that need. Basically, one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" o a game -- a cołole of rooms, a few objects with action routines, naybe even character. Working fron this, in complete isolation, five (or so) imps woul write a small mini-game (a couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around tha original cone. The Editor would be responsible for integrating the five idea together, blending the code, ma<ing sure that there wasn't any gross repetitio in the stories, and, of course, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how differen peoole went in different directions from the sane starting point would make fo an interesting interactive fiction experience.

TITANIC
TDA? Docu-dnama?
EZI?
It 13 s one of the most dranatic monents in historye
luxuriouso richest and most fanous people, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. 11:40 p.m. on April 14, 1912 an iceberg sideswiped the huge shio, leaving a foot underwater gash. Less than three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic wa gone, taking 1500 people with her. The events of that night are well-recounte in several books.
You are a oassenger on the Titanic, travelling in Third Class to disguise th importance of your mission: transporting a MasGuffin from London to New York As the ship opens and you fael a long, drawn out shudder pass through the ship you must begin the process of escaping the restricted Third Class section ret-ieving the Ma juffin from the purser's safe amidst the confusion, surviving the sinking to complete your delivery assignnent. The actual event of those 150 minutes between iceberg and sinking would occur around you. I se this as a game of split-sesond tining, that لuld require multiply playing optimize your turns in order to solve all the ouzzles in the shortest possibl tine. But you could also ignore all the ouzzles and simply wander around th shio as a "tourist," taking in the sights of this anazing event.

Standard Level
Est. Dev. Time: 10 months wed be interested in a collaboration I thought could think up allot more interesting and weird and e worn out boring Marvel Comics superheroes. Such turn himself into any vegetable beginning with a la, who can tell the toppings on any pizza before see this as a Hitenhiker's/Rashomon type game in et of y of half-a-dozen superheroes. The story depending on which one you chose. If you elected to - communicate with any member of the worm family), respect as Doctor Asphalt (able to devour entire e other superheroes wouldn't obey you as readily. ting puzzles. Possible RPG elements.
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Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Div. Time: 6 months with as a way to produce a game in much less time ted, but which I think is an interesting idea even one person (the Editor) designs a tiny "piece" of a few objects with action routines, maybe even a in complete isolation, five (or so) imps would couple of puzzles, ten to twenty rooms) around that could be responsible for integrating the five ideas massing sure that there wasn't any gross repetition e, fixing bugs. I think that seeing how different actions from the same starting point would make for cion experience.

## TITANIC

Standard Level (or mixed) Est. Dev. Tine: 10-12 months ic moments in history. The world's largest, most advanced ocean liner, carrying many of the world's (e, was nearing the end of it's maiden voyage. At an iceberg sideswiped the huge shio, leaving a 300 han three hours later the "unsinkable" Titanic was her. The events of that night are well-recounted
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## Sounds fucking greet. I always should be doing serial-type

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Standard Level cv. Time: 10 months oration I thought sting and weird and
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No joke hut too dry.



Sounds fucking greet. I always thought we


Not much opportunity lar jokes, well at least tusterlo owns.

THE BEST OF STEVe
Mixed genre
EZ IO
Standard Level (or mixed
A collection of "short stories," many or all of which would be designed to ola in one sitting of approximately an hour or two. I envision around ten stories on the disk. They would have little or no connection to each other. The manual would contain a table of contents so that you could enter any story you want by typing in a word or number at the beginning. The stories would probably b from several different genres. This would be a good chance to try a lot o interesting ideas which are too experimental to risk a whole product on, or ar just too small to become a full story. There could be some new genres, som completely ouzzleless stories, a story with replayability. A story or two could be longer, to wean beginners into accepting multi-hour interactive fiction efforts. The reaction to jeff's short story format will certainly have a impact.
Sone problens with the idea: is it just too disjoint? Is there anyway to ti the stories together? COne thought for tying the stories together: there are siblings, and each brother/sister appears in one of the stories as a character they could make cross references to the sibling in the other stories.) What would the oackage be like? What would the program be called? would it turn of our hard-cone fans?

Any pending "marketing-driven" concepts? (egg. Doctor Who, collaborations)

Any "new technologies" to consider? (egg. sound, XZIP features)
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/sister appears ing the stories together: there are $N$
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iven" concepts? (egg. Doctor who, collaborations)
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Level (or mixed)

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...assam. Dr. Who 81/2
but dent think it is the right time.

Uate: 1 May $19871115-E D T$
From: Srian Moriarty <PRCF at FRED>
Subject: Next Project
TO: SEM
As you're foolish enough to ask for my ooinion:
ZOPK ZERQ. Well, it would be nice to have a big fantasy game next year.
Questions may arise $\equiv s$ to whether this will/should be a "sequel" to BEYOND ZIRK, and whether characters created and saved in BZ should be portable to 20. Also, should it use the az front end consereen maps, etc.)? If so, you'Il have to learn how my new gimmicks work, etc etc.

MINUTE MYSTERIES. See BEST JF STEVD below.
INTERACTIVE BIBLE. As you noted, this game is likely to offend many people, and not just frothing nutcakes, either. A surprising number of reasonable people regard the Book with reverence. They are likely to regard your send-up as superficial and juvenile. They will wonder what qualifies you to poke fun at their (or anybody's) faith. Why do you want to write this? Do you really think it will sell?

BLAZING PARSERS. Could be amusing to the old-timers who know the conventions.

SUPER-HERIES. This sounds like fun. If you used XZIP, you could throw in cartoon graphics of the various heroes.

VIABLE IDEA. So was the Final Solution, and o-rings.
TITANIC. If this had come out this year, we would've cleaned up. But it's an interesting idea anyway, and you'd probably enjoy researching it, too. And who knows? Maybe they"ll be a big controversy when the "pirates" try to dredge up artifacts next spring...

BEST OF STEVD. Need more hard info to comment. Till then, yaun.
MARKETING-LRIVEN CONCEPTS. Well, there's alw 3ys RESTAUPANT, and DIRK GENTLY.










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# ITFOCOM 

August 10, 1987

TO: Chris, Gabby, Gayle, Jon, Mike, Steve FROM: Joel
RE:
Steve's Next Project


I want to confirm the conclusions of Friday's meeting:

1. Steve's next project will be zonk $\varnothing$.
2. Titanic has not been ruled out for some future date (after Zork $\varnothing$ ).
3. Zork $\varnothing$ will make use of static graphics in whatever ways Steve feels are appropriate to the game.
4. With the understanding that we are entering a new technical area, there will be no specific completion date set right now. However, we will proceed to rapidly develop any capabilities needed.
5. We will bring in, as quickly as possible, whatever new resources are needed for the graphics, including an additional Systems Group person and an artist.

JB/ cab
P.S. I think it is fair to add that if Steve happens to have a flash of creativity in the next few days and thinks of some more great ideas for his experimental story product ("Best of Stevo"), nearly everyone in this group would prefer that he do that product.













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CASTLE
DIMWITS
$\checkmark$ Lake
$\checkmark$ Yacht Dock
$\checkmark$ Zoo
Theatre
$\checkmark$ Stadium
$\checkmark$ Chapel
$\checkmark$ Dingible Hangar
$\checkmark$ Mir. (Climbing)
$\checkmark$ Library
$\checkmark$ Orchestra

- Sand Box -Desert
$\checkmark$ Vault
$\checkmark$ Underground
Umbrella Storage Room
$\checkmark$ Steambath /Gym
$\checkmark$ Wardíobe
$\checkmark$ Arch
$\checkmark$ Crypt
$\checkmark$ Laboratory
$\checkmark$ Kennel
$\checkmark$ woods

Printing Plantescribes)
$\sqrt{\text { Tax Collectors }} \begin{aligned} & \text { Fobozlo HQ }\end{aligned}$
movable passage puzzle
Booth $A / B$ get in $A$, turn you into $B$
Hungry. Turn into Newt. Eat vent food.
X-rgy glaser. (Shell game)
Bathyscape.
Camel.
Jester bothers you. Ressurection?
You create gives by filling in bottomless pits.
Scenes of empire $\cdots$ the theif (an aristocrat) always appears, stealing things.

At end of $Z \varnothing$, you become
Dungeon Master, the one who gets relicued at the end of $Z$ III

Bloit-definition changed from king to king.

- Passage Storage Room

Dimwit would never go outside who his umbrella for fear of an ever which would puddle on his head.

Spell pissed down orally from grand Pa - so you don't know,
what homonyms are in it!

Collect something from all
twelve Flatheads, throw into cauldron

You're the grandchild of someone in Dimwit's court Who was there when the curse was cast.

The cursed threw something of his own into the spell? so you have to throw something in

Package Element:
"The Lives of the 12 Flatheads"
GU E News \& Dungeon Report
Bobble fannuccicards
Blueprint Fannuclíghments scrap?
Gravel -raise loved of Elixir in tall namow beaker?
(1) glove bat z2?
(2) monocle gendy crown
(3) Thesquare blueprint compass

(1) glove bat $z 2$ ?
(2) monocle gary crown
(3) T-square blueprint

Fidel
Buffalo Bill Cehghis

Oliver wen de
$\downarrow$
nun
(5) wind instument
$\checkmark$
(6) share of
$\checkmark$
(7) Helescupe Fobozozo stack proxy
(10) painthush
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(10)
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- $V$
(11) quill pen manuscript
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(9) battory

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Shumovist a'flathead
Lucrezia Flathead (12) poison
(5) waind instwement

Hexcope

(10) painthush

3
(11) quil pen panuscript
(8) suard. $\begin{gathered}\text { sadde }\end{gathered}$
(9) battory
$d$ (12) poison

Ursula
William Jennings
william Randolph

IMIT
J. PIERPOINT

STONEWALL
JOHANN SEBASTIAN
JOHN D.
Thomas alva
LEONARDO
LUCREZIA
RALPH WALDO
JOHN PAUL
FRANK LLOYD
BABE
gaudy crown zorkmid bill
lance
vidin
stock certificate
lantern
landscape
flask
quill pen
spyglass
t-square
bat

The 24 Flathead Items (2/23/88)

$8 / 14 / 87$

The

Calso

Legend
o cities or towns

- landmarks 11 mountains





















New Deltar Map 6/15/88



(0) (1) 2 (5) 7
(8) 9 (10 12 (13 15
(16) 17 (21 21 23
(24) 25 (26) 27 (29) 31
(32) 33 34 35 36 37 39
(40) 41 42 43 44 45 47) TOH-95
(48) 49 50 51 52 53 54 55
(56) 57 (58 62 61 63



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\end{aligned}
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SCORING as of $10 / 21 / 87$
getting each of the Flathead items ( $25 \times 12$ )
potting each of the Flathead items in cauldron $(10 \times 12) \quad 120$
$\checkmark$ opening the portcullis (riddle)
$\checkmark$ entering secret passage
$\checkmark \sqrt{\checkmark}$ getting out of the oubliettes
$\checkmark$ entering the East wing
$\checkmark$ getting into the Dirigible Hangar
$\checkmark$ entering Summer Hangar
pushing a yacht button successfully

- pushing tho boulder
e entering Fissure' Edge
getting out of the
getting the jewel Inquisition
entering the oracle room
putting the jewel in the oracle
entering the Great Underground 0
entering tho Great
entering the Crag
entering the Gad
$\checkmark$ entering the Glacier
$\checkmark$ entering the Delta
entering Mine Entrance
s getting fer flower
entering the Secret Room

|  | 35 |
| :--- | :--- |
| eating the flamingo food and surviving | 25 |

/ entering the Plain

| $\checkmark$ getting the hardhat | 25 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\checkmark$ entering the Rubble Room and surviving | 15 |
| $\checkmark$ touching the elixir |  |
| winning the game | 50 |
| 1000 |  |

SCORING as of $4 / 21 / 88$
getting each Flathead item $(12 \times 24)$
putting each Flathead item in cauldron $(5 \times 24)$
opening the portcullis (TIME riddle)
opening the secret passage (snapping fingers) getting the iron key (y riddle)
getting out of the oubliette (TRIPLET riddle)
entering the East Wing
$J$ entering the west wing
winning Reggleboz
entering each Pyramid Room ( $7 \times 3$ )
accessing the Dirigible Hangar (WALNUT riddle)
$\checkmark$ getting the zorkmid coin (BOOKKEEPER riddle)
$\checkmark$ entering Fissure's Edge (actually-opening the toll gate)
$\checkmark$ entering wishyfoo Territory
getting out of the Inquisition room
$\checkmark$ winning Double Fanucci
getting the pit bomb (MIDdLE NAME riddle)

- pushing a yacht button successfully
- pushing the boulder
getting the moly ruby the oracle depression
putting the moby why in
$\checkmark$ entering each Oracle destination ( $10 \times 5$ )
throwing something while on Mirror Laker getting the Zilbeetha flower entering the Smaller Hangar entering the Secret, Room in fenshine
$\sqrt{ }$ getting the hexagonal block (3 ANIMALS riddle)
entering the Iron Mine
eating the flamingo food while hungry
$\checkmark$ entering the Great Underground Oasis
entering the Plain
, getting the hardhat
- entering the Rubble Room and surviving
getting into the Inner Ear touching tho elixir getting the sty key entering the Attic winning the game


(2) witches

Executioner OHo
Jester
yourself

WATER

Upper Ledge
Lower ledge
Delta-1
Delta -2
Delta -3
Delta - 4
Delta -5
Delta -6
Delta -7
Edju of Bog
cliff Bothy
Marsh
River's End
Ocean's Edge
Coast Road
Precipice
Quilbozza Beach
Sandbar
port foozle
West Shore
North Shone
South Shore
East Shore
Lake Flathead
Underwater
Lake Bottom
Great Underground Mountain
Stream
Stream
Parlor

Flathead Fjord (local-global)
11
Swamp (local-global)

Frigid River
Flathead Ocean
II
II

II
11
3
Flathead Laker

| 11 |
| :--- |
| 11 |
| 11 |
| 11 |
| 11 |

Stream
Fish Tank

SIZEs of all takeable objects

$$
6 / 16 / 88
$$



25
treasure chest n.s-passage nu-se-passage

50
cannonball
110 objects average weight:
7.6

1.A 2.B

4•D SeE

Pegglebox winning moves

1) $Q \rightarrow G$
2) $S \rightarrow Q$
3) $H \rightarrow R$
4) $U \rightarrow L$
5) $I \rightarrow K$
6) $T \rightarrow I$
7) $E \rightarrow J$
8) $\mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{G}$
9) $A \rightarrow E$
10) $F \rightarrow N$
11) $M \rightarrow 0$
12) $L \rightarrow J$
13) $P \rightarrow F$
14) $F \rightarrow C$
15) $B \rightarrow D$
16) $D \rightarrow K$
17) $Q \rightarrow G$
18) $E \rightarrow J$
19) $O \rightarrow G$

Peggleboz alternate board

$$
\begin{gathered}
{ }^{B}{ }^{A}{ }^{A}{ }^{G^{C}}{ }^{H}{ }^{I}{ }^{F} N_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& K \rightarrow M \\
& N \rightarrow L \\
& D \rightarrow M \\
& L \rightarrow N \\
& O \rightarrow M \\
& J \rightarrow H \\
& M \rightarrow D \\
& B \rightarrow I \\
& G \rightarrow B \\
& A \rightarrow D \\
& C \rightarrow J \\
& J \rightarrow H \\
& D \rightarrow M
\end{aligned}
$$

ASCII

| $A$ | 65 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $B$ | 66 |
| $C$ | 67 |
| $D$ | 68 |
| $E$ | 69 |
| $F$ | 70 |
| $G$ | 71 |
| $H$ | 72 |
| $I$ | 73 |
| $J$ | 74 |
| $K$ | 75 |
| $L$ | 76 |
| $M$ | 77 |
| $N$ | 78 |
| 0 | 79 |
| $P$ | 80 |
| $Q$ | 81 |
| $R$ | 82 |
| $S$ | 83 |
| $T$ | 84 |
| $U$ | 85 |
| $V$ | 86 |
| $W$ | 87 |
| $X$ | 88 |
| $Y$ | 89 |
| $Z$ | 90 |

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w.W. Rouse Ball and H.S.M. Coxeter

Dover, 1987
(Nim)

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Segment "Joirts"
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Throre R00m <---> secret = Essage
Chadel <---> Crypt
=robczzCo Basement <---> Frotozz Philharmoric Hall
r.reat Hall <---> Lower mall
Exit <---> Erossroads
2oval Z00 <---> West Store
riro++0 ---> Lowest rall
#racle ---> Crag/Glacier/Delta/Foot of Statue/Nine Entrance
*est wing <---> Dirigitle rangar
(ruh amulet) ---) Great Uncerground Mourtain
(arvuhere) ---> (hints)
```


## Kob on Double Fanucci

Let＇s look at the following situation：<br>Teams：North \＆Up，Southwest \＆East<br>Warm Diplomatic Relations：North \＆Up<br>S！Jations：Yugoslavia，Bulgaria，Up，Rumania<br>H．．pss：NORTH：43；UP：976．4；SOUTHWEST：［Classified］； EAST：． 4

| NORTH（vulnerable） | UP（dealing 1st，3rd＊） |
| :---: | :---: |
| 18－4，－2 | 亿P $6,8,84$ |
| Water Molecule，Bromide | ＊（none） |
| $\chi_{\text {multiples of } 11}$ | $\phi$ even，except multiples |
| A 4，8，K | A J，9，Rook |
| $\mathbb{1}_{1}$ Red，Red，GunMetal－Gray | $\mathbb{1}^{3,11}$ ，Off－White，Beet－Red |
| き Bocce，K，Teapot | き 3，Law School |
| \％ $3,3,3,3,2$ | \％o67，3，3，3， 10 |
| SOUTHWEST（dealing across table） | EAST（dealing 2nd，3rd＊） |
| A1097， 2 | K ${ }^{\text {P } 2, ~} \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{~K}$ ，Alan |
| － （none） | TSromium，J |
| do opposite | ¢points within the shaded |
| A 2，4，Bishop，K | \ $3, \mathrm{~K}, \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}$ |
| $\wedge_{1}{ }^{\text {Blue－Gray }}$ | $\mathbb{1}^{\text {T Tangerine－Orange，Black，} \mathrm{Q}}$ |
| ® Melon，5，Granola | へ Cottage，9，Chaise |
| －0 ${ }^{3}, 3,3,3, \mathrm{Q}$ | \％2，3， 3 |

－Note the co－deal Up and East！

This set－up occurred in 904，at the annual Championships at Borphee．Veldran of Aragain and BoBo the Somewhat Misguided played（respectively）North and Up，challenging Hobart the Unmerciful and Snuffie（playing Southwest and East｜．Since the SW－E team controlled＂Alan，＂ they were able to make a deci－ sion．Southwest arcwelded his Q and $K$ to his partner＇s $Q$ and $K$ for a Simpleton．Jazzing，East formed the word＂ANKH＂from various
letters in his possession，to gain control of the gauntlet for three turns．North，hoping for Manhat－ tan，signalled for a $1 \boldsymbol{1}$ switch，and exchanged his -2 for his partner＇s 84，a difference of 86 ． BoBo factored an 11 out of his 77 of $\circ \circ$ ，and formed a straight， which he traded in for an option on the movie rights．North， monopolizing on a distraction in the bleachers，seized his mis－ placed cards and incorporated them into his hand－the



## Cartoon Flow Unabated

The poor；wretched cartoon editor continues to suffer from the incessant barrage of nearly fif－ ty cartoons per week．You haven＇t broken his spirit yet，so keep＇em coming！If you＇d like to submit a cartoon for publication， send it to The Status Line Car－ toons，Infocom，Inc．， 125 Cam － bridgePark Drive，Cambridge， MA 02140.

All cartoons must be in black
on white，unlined paper．Please don＇t fold your cartoon！All sub－ missions become property of In－ focom．If we print your cartoon， we＇ll send you a free game of your choice．Don＇t forget to include your name，address，phone number，the title of the game you＇d like to win，and the com－ puter system you＇d like the game to run on．

Hydronium Ion of and the 4 of of．As North restored himself to his seat，East dealt a round of cards（out of turn）．

Turn two began，and the players revolved．Snuffie，draw－ ing a Red of $\mathbb{A}$ ，mixed it with the Tangerine－Orange and Black of $\boldsymbol{A}$ ，as well as his partner＇s Blue－ Gray，in order to produce a ghast－ ly shade of brown．After a brief pause，the judges raised their placards－a 9.8 ，a 9.77 and a ＂nice job．＂A new championship record！Southwest drew another trebled fromp，therefore control－ ling more 3 ＇s than any other player，and thus was allowed to roll again．Rolling a four，Hobart declared＂Argyle！＂for which he received ten points and a chance at the trip for two to Arulis Map－ tar．Poker－faced，Veldran bluffed， claiming that he had，in fact，won the game several turns ago．Un－ convinced，team SW－E chal－ lenged，winning the judges＇favor． To conserve pride，Veldran ion－ ized his Hydronium Ion and his Water Molecule of -7 ，to form a strong acid．Some cards were ac－ cidentally dissolved in the
resulting confusion．Up passed， to cuddle his $\| \mathrm{s}$ ．
Things looked grim for $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{U}$ ， their combined score so tiny that it was immeasurable since the microscope hadn＇t yet been in－ vented．But，as is customary in tournament play，luck saw to it that the underdog wasn＇t tram－ pled．As Southwest dealt across the table，Snuffie fell over backwards clutching his ham－ string．The medical crew，rushing onto the field，confirmed that he was suffering from a broken wrist，and dragged him to the sidelines．Southwest tossed his cards into the air and unleashed a long string of expletives about elks．After much consultation， both teams agreed to end the game in a draw and order out for pizza，making this the 72 nd year in a row that the tournament closed without a confirmed win－ ner．Nevertheless，the fans swept onto the field and ate the goalposts－a true Double Fanuc－ ci tradition．
［Reprinted with permission from the Borphee Digest，vol． MMCXXI，p．879］

TESTERS SCORE: B18
Your SCORE: 107

$\checkmark$ TRUMP

- OVERTRuMP
$\checkmark$ DISCARD
$\checkmark$ DRAW
- DISPLAY
- muttonate
$\checkmark$ single-play
$\checkmark$ Double-play
- PASS
$\checkmark$ COMBINE
$\checkmark$ IONIZE
$\checkmark$ REVERSE
$\checkmark$ DIVIDE
$\checkmark$ ARC-WELD
$\checkmark$ RESIGN
$\checkmark$ CHEAT

You cant do that... during Mumberlar diving a moon
when foo is on the discard pile on your $\mathrm{N}^{\text {th }}$ turn $N$ turns after King in a 2 -person game under Miznian ales without first playing a volley of plungers


Double Fanucci
Jester's Scone: 828
Your Score: 315


DISCARD
1
2
3
4

| DRAW | TRUMP | SINGLE-PLAY | MUTTONATE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| DISCARD | OVERTRUMP | DOUBLE-PLAY | CHEAT |
| $>$ REVERSE | COMBINE | IONIZE | PASS |
| DISPLAY | DIVIDE | ARC-WELD | RESIGN |

[use the mouse, or type a number from 1 to 4, to select the card
you want to reverse] 4
Bu successfully reverse the 2 lamps into a Granola of Books. The
jester scoffs. jester scoffs. "A poorly-timed Accardi Gambit." 5 points to his scone, [select a move from the menu, using the mouse or arrow keys.]
[select the card you want to muttonate.]
The jester is indignant. "You cant muttonate a trebled from during a Hung y Moon in Mumberbur! "

Probability of the jester appearing



HINTS DONE
including red-herrings and for-your-amusement please read all hints hint-system bugs $\rightarrow$ stu try everything in the for-amusement section

MAPS

- there are 13 of them
- unless you \$delug, only rooms youve been in should appear on map
- you can move around a map by clicking on a neighboring room or by clicking on the compass rose
- if you click on an undisplayed neighboring rom, you should leave the map, go to that new room, $\&$ get a description.
- if you click on the compass rose and it sends you to a room you've never been in, you should leave the Map \& get a description
- if you click on the rose \& it sends you to a room on an adjoining map, that new map should appear over the old map
- when you move from one room to another on the same maplect the rose should update to reflect the new exits AfTER A WAIT of 2 SECONDS. If you more before those 2 seconds are up, counter should begin timing all over again.
- after moving on, then leaving, a map UNDO should return you to the map.

Hints for Snarfem:

1) Have you ever played Nim? Snarfem is just like Nim.
2) You must make the correct move evert turn, or the jester will win.
3) The flowers tell you what the correct move is.
4) You'll know that you've made the wrong move ifany of the flowers are open when the jester is moving.
5) Here's what the flowers do: the flowers on the right...
6) ...tellyou how many pebbles you should pick up...
7) ...and the flowers on the left...
8) ...show you what pile to take them from.
[TMat's all.]

Hints on Double Fanucci:

1) Consult your documentation, specifically the "Lives of the Twelve Flatheads" booklet.
2) Look at the biography of Babe Flathead.
3) You must perform the indefensible gambit. [That's all.]


## Zork 0 Hints

That Pesky Bedbug:

- Re-read the jester's comment; there's a clue in it.
- You need to put the bedbug to sleep.
- How do you get someone else to go to sleep? Like a child, for instance....
- Try singing a lullaby or...
- Try sleeping.

That Darn Squid:

- You need the ruby elsewhere in the game.
- But you can't get the ruby until you get rid of the squid.
- Don't go on until you've explored Port Foozle. Namely, the inquisition. (See those hints.)
- Once you have the squid repellent, you need to get it into the proper area of the lake.
- That waldo on the bathysphere could be handy. (See those hints.)
- Drop the pellet by the bathysphere. Use the waldo to pick up the pellet. Go to the lake bottom. Drop the pellet. Get the ruby.

Returning from the Oracle:

- There are a couple of ways of doing it.
- You can use something from the lake area.
- Don't go on until you've found the amulet. (See Oracle hints.)
- Try touching it.
- What does one do with an amulet?
- Try wearing it.
- Then touch it. You'll be teleported back from beyond the oracle to the Great Underground Mountain.
- The second method involves the pigeon and perch.
- Don't go on until you know how they work. (See those hints.)
- Leave the perch outside the oracle. Take the pigeon with you through the oracle. Teleport back to the perch.

[^1]- The key to stopping the curse is on the scrap of parchment in Megaboz's pocket. (Enclosed in your game package.) Read it carefully.
- Some letters are missing or cut-off; they are as follows: The curse c; except; to ea; *; by tossin; *; th.
- Good luck, Blackbeard.

Winning Double Fannucci:

- There are consistent rules to the game. So, anytime you make a particular play, the resulting score will be the same.
- Anytime you try an illegal move, that move remains illegal. For instance, if you try to ionize the grue and the jester tells you that you can't do that unless it's the first Grues Day following a half moon, you'll have to wait for that particular Grues Day to make that play.
- There are, however, far too many rules for you to ever learn them all.
- You can cheat to your heart's content.
- To win, though, you need an indefensible gambit.
- Sound familiar?
- Read your calendar.
- Specifically the Babe Flathead bio.
- Now that you know an indefensible gambit, wait for your opening and play it!

Snarfem:

- It's a math puzzle.
- The number of pebbles in each pile should be translated to a numeric value: $1=1 ; 2=10 ; 3=11 ; 4=100 ; 5=101 ; 6=110 ; 7=111$; $8=1000 ; 9=1001$ (Math nerds: convert to base 2). Then add the resulting designated numbers (Math nerds: add as for base 10). The total number then needs to be adjusted so that each digit is an even number. Examining the designated values, determine which value can be altered so that totaling the numbers will provide that each digit of the total is an even digit. Next, determine the number of pebbles you need to take in order to convert the desired designated value to its new value. Then take that number of pebbles from the appropriate pile. Repeat this process each time your turn comes around. If you do it correctly, you'll win.
- Here's an example: Pile 1 contains three pebbles; Pile 2 contains five pebbles; Pile 3 contains eight pebbles; and Pile 4 contains six pebbles. So, you convert them as follows: $3=11 ; 5=101 ; 8=1000$; and $6=110$. Now you add them and get 1222. The one is the only odd number. Looking at the designated numbers, you can see that removing all the pebbles in the third pile will change it's designation from 1000 to 0 . If you do that, the resulting number would be 222, all even digits. After the jester takes his turn, you would repeat the process again and again until you win..
- If all else fails and this numeric stuff boggles your mind, look at the screen carefully. There's a clue there.
- Specifically, in the flowers.
- On the left side, there are four flowers; on the right there are nine flowers. They bloom differently every turn.
- The number of blossoms on the left tells you which pile to take from and the number of blossoms on the right tells you how many to take.

 layfer leajs to tha uovor lavels．
＞

 thə southəast．A tall วardュ：an towens Jver the and of the＝ausayay，to the กorthyest．

```
>
Iクフミ「 3ailay
```

 the soath）and the noat．A poang eln gnows by to side of the noat．A causayay leajs ojt ilto tha noat to the רortayest．

## $>5$

ミってーaาこき fヨ11
「his is yherz visitors evter the castle orojar，throagh the yide doony y tha
 Leョs eョst，yest，ald soدth．

## $>5$

G－9ョt＋ヨ11
rhis is the nuge central chanbar of Jinuit＇s eastle．Tha ceiling was loyared


 Dat oni

A o～oclanation qangs on the yall．
pou can see a jevel，an amulat，a b－ass lantarn，a yalqयt，a box，a jlittery




フJマJP こHEST．GET CRJNN，JミWEL，AMJ＿ET，ALL JRBS，WA－NUT，PDSTER，NAND つーวコロミ」。

```
[PLaase Da vatizent.]
[Jləase ba vatient.]
[Plzas3 be jatient.]
[vizase be vatiant.]
[Plaase Dz دatient.]
[Jlease de oatient.]
[Plagse be Jatiant.]
[Plaョsz oz วatiznt.]
[Jlaョse gə コatiznt.]
```



```
jevsl: Yo」 Jic< Jo the jevel.
anslet: Yos pi=< 」o tme anjlet.
glittery ono: rou vic< fo tle glittary orb.
```



```
tiary orb: rou oi=e uo the fiery ono.
mil<y ond: Pou oi=< uo the nilky ono.
yョl\imathut: Yo」 pi=< 」o the walqut.
ojster of J-s^la = Lョthead: rou oi=< up the oostar of Jrisla flatheaj.
```


> I

$>L$
IIme passes...
$>2$
Irme passes...
PANSWER "LUUSIN"
LI don"t know the word "cousin."J
>ANSWER "RIUULE"
LI don"t know the word "riadle."J
>ANSWEK "GEMINI"
LI don"t know the word "gemini."]
>ANSWER "WHUTMEFUCKKNUWS"
LI don"t know the word "whothetuckknows."J
>ANSWER "GETMEIHEFUCKDUTUFHEKEANDJAMYOURRIDDLE"
Ll don"t know the word "getmethetuckoutothereandjamyourriddle."J
>KESIURE
rrom T11e (PS: <L $1 L\rangle$ OUB. L): UU甘. L. IDKay, restored.
Uubliette
rou re trapped in a prison cell accessible only by the unreachable nole in
the celling.
Ine last prisoner in the oubliette must have been a sallor; an old seaman s
cap lies discarded in the corner.
>L AI LAP
lotally ordinary looking seaman*s cap.
$>L$ IN CAP
You can*t look inside a seaman*s cap!
Ine jester appears.
"von"t scream or shout, 1 " 11 get you out! But tirst my thirst tor a riddle must be twiddled!" The jester coughs lightly and begins. "I look just like my brother: we have the same tather and mother! we re identical in every way; we were born on the very same day. I m younger by seconds, but as everyone reckons, $I^{\prime m}$ not a twin, and never have been. What am I?"
$>G E I$ LAP
You plck up the seaman"s cap.
>ANSWER "MY BRUTMEK" B BRUTMER"
LI don"t know the word "brother"s."J
>ANSWER "MY BRUTHEK"
LI don "t know the word "orother."J
>KヒJIUSKE
LI don"t know the word "restosre."J
>KESIURE
rrom Tile (PS: <L L $Z\rangle$ UUS. $Z$ ): SIGH.Z.lukay, restored.
Great Hall
Inis is the huge central chamber ot Dimwit*s castle. The celling was lowerec

## Tyler， $2 / 26 / 88$

$>n$
An Invisible hang seats to stop you 。
The jester horezrs．
＂Ere you $\vDash$ Es to the west，you must first chs this test！show me something which no one has over seen betore，and which no one vil ever see agar！！＂

PUL LINN PANTS
こI don＂t know the word＂cさnさく。＂J
$>N \equiv$
You 5 今の＂t go that way
$>E$
west Hall
The castle＇s newest wing can te found beyond the huge oak Jor which lies open to the west．The only other exit is northeast．
＞ivF
Formal Garden
dimwit designed this garden to match a fairy taie ne enjoyed es a child，anc subsequent kings added their own touchos，crestirg a hugely confusing raze of flowers and shrubbery and statuary and trees ono fountains and cools and brlujes and gazetcs．Now jomewh＝t ovorgrour，the garden is seemingly endless， out you recall that the primary exits i ie to the north，east，and southwest．

You spot a flesh of oink＝monost the flora．I＇＂＝flamingo！

## $>$

Great Hall
This is the huge certra？chamber of Dimwit＂a castle．The ceiling was lowered vt some point ir the pas＊，which helped reduce the frequency of storm clouds forming in the upper regions of the hall．Arched openings lead off ir the four cardinal directions．A wide＝tair leきoミuv to the balcony，and an equally wide cut ominously ark stair louis downward．

You can sea a scrap of parchment here．
＞E
Courtyard
iris open area is caved with marble and surrounded by imposing stone walls． Dimwit would occasionally order carnivals be set un ir this court，or totally cloudless days．At the distart edges of the courtyard，you can see exits to the north，west，and southeast．

〉うに
East Hell
The castles east wing lies through a massive door to the east，which is closed．The coly other exit from the hall is northwest．
＞UNLOCK ODOR WITH KEY
Unfortunately，the steel key does nt unlock the door．
3 NW
County \＃rc
This open area is pəvec with marble and surroundec by imposing stone walls． DImwit would occasionally order carnivals te set un in this court，or totally cloudless days．it the distant edges of the courtyard，you can see exits to the north，west，and southeast．
$>n$
Great tall

```
for all tre fish!" cdd. You"vE nevar zivan the J=ster any fist.
```

>U
Lower ᄂall
Thys large hall, hyrily Lluminztac by your lizht, has seen its better days
sasec on the duzt arc outrie, the lowar lavels of the castle probably haven"t

look carticularly forbijaimy. Passages hezs oft to the nortr, south,
southeast, ena sou+huka+.
$>$ in
You can"t go trat way.
フKURT VINNEGLT
II con't knou the wara "kurt."
$>n$
You can't gotnatway.
35 n
引reat Underjround righway
Thls is the northerr terminus of are of the brzectes of tre Great
Unaerground tithusy syster, one of the ambitious constrisction orojects
conceived ky king nunc=nthrmatenc oxocuted ty the erobozz Nágic Cave Company.
tunnel leads rortheas?
$>5$
Exit
You are se-r山htra zlorg wioe undararcund road which runs north and south.

? 5
Zrossroeds
You stand at the ju-etion of two under-round hizhuays, one north-south and
tha other east-wezt. A si=n hanzs in the center ct the junction.
Tol1 ilisza
You have raached ane cftre nutorgus Great Ünderground Hishway systen tolls.
2 Chosed toll gete skans the pood. The toll tooth seens to be uncccucied,
although the slan rext tc the sate geans to indicate an lexact changell option.
>う
Gissure's =cga
To the south, the rose is rent by a wide fissure, the retincer of a recent
earthquak. Judsing hy trき footprint= in the さust, many travellers have reachec
this point, cnly to turn around any haad back to the porth. The earthauake has
also ofered a narrau crack in the ezstern wall cf the tunne: you might just bs
eole to squeeze into it.
〉
Thght Squeeze
You are $1 n$ a narrow fi三sure whien widers to the west. A cool breeze seems to
biow uson you 'rom bolos.
$>0$
Try 200 m
The air lschilly，an the uslls of this rocm are covered witr ice．Filed high on the floor of tha raor are mary arystol soher＝s of verying 引lzes and color三：nost aben to ha ghaffod or shetterad．Vour light reveals no visible

TRUE TALES OF TESTING


Intrepid adventure abducted by bat under Lake Flathead while recovering jewel. (Good Throb, too - his air was running out.)
la passione di Roma

## FEND

This ad, which I love,
alniays sounds me of Zillectha
(You showid see the $T$ version') Amy



ZCRK ZERD IN PENNANT DRIVE
Nagic Number Now at Nine
As the 1988 implementing season dwindles to a close, Zork Zerc's magic number is recuced to 9. This means that ary combination cf winning features and defeateo bucs totalling nine days will allou Zork Zero to clinch the division.
"However," says the team's recently-hired General Manager, Jce Ybarra, "there are still numerous obstacles tc overcome. We're facins a difficult road series against the cutside Testers, who are always tough at this stage of the season."

Fans, who are flocking in record numbers to watch the team at their Cambridge Park facility, are wondering whether scme of tre ycung players will handle the cressure. For example, two young Batterers, Kurt "Harc Drive" Boutin and "Hamturger" Patti Pizer, have been with the team for less than half a season, and have never teen through a pennart rece before.

Compounding that problem is the recent free-agency of such key players as Jon "Buck" Palace and Gary "Hyphen-Swatter" Srennan, and the surprise unconditional release of veteran Liz Jones, which left holes at several important positions. And although Ybarra remains optimistic, there seems to be little chance of signing any players before the end of the seascn.

Should the team overcome this hurdles and pop the champagne by September 30 , it faces a difficult post-season battle against the Apole II Interpreters, who are weak at the Graphics and Cisk Capacity fositions, but whose leacue-leading Installed Base has gotter them tris far.

One other obstacle to be overcome is the looming personality of team owner sruce Cavis. After throwing a tantrum following a recent delay, Davis send several players to the minor league club and threatened tc hire Billy Martin as Manzger for the stretch run.

PROCLAMATION
The one who can fix the bugs of Zork Zero, and save the schedule from destruction, shall be rewarded with half the wealth of the Empire.

Wurb Flathead Ring of Quendor

The title screen The Day Strings Got Weird:
[Imagine this as a stunning graphic.]
$\qquad$
bubbling, bubbling and churning to smoke churning, actively and emitting puffs of smoke violently churning and emitting huge puffs of smoke

Finish hardhat puzzle
finish glop puzzle
$\sqrt{ }$ encyclopedia entries
RE spice up end-scene (cauldron $\rightarrow$ Perimeter wall)
dirigible puzzle?
$\int$ toboggan puzzle?
/ more jester games
$\checkmark$ revise LIVES of 12 FLATHEADS
$\sqrt{\text { something in Megaboz's hut. }}$
1 rooms toward the port \& beaches
more syntaxes for answering riddles
$\sqrt{ }$ booth puzzle
scoring
$\checkmark$ handle syntaxes for "standing at" trees handle walls/non-knights in Construction mutable stump-juinp directions
"verb noun twice"
"verb noun two times"
handle Inquisition requests more logically. ¿ Impossible List?
jester ask-abouts
$\checkmark$ better handling of plurals?
$J$ talk-to-plants potion
$I$ talking fungus $\rightarrow$ earwax
/ Double Fanucci puzzle?
use straw to snorkel
X Mayor's office alternative elixir solution

New jester-exit:
"...same bat-time, same bat channel!"
Deranged bat fweeps down and deposits you somewhere. New room: Bat's Lair?
Spice up the end-game. Jles-up if you don't get out of the castle within $N$ turns of saying the Sacred Word.
$\sqrt{ }$ Fox - and - Rooster - across - the - lake puzzle? fox turns into a stole if you Zapnerf it.
Novice-nudging stuff in parser; "help mode" in prologue
X Riddle about doctor \& son. (doctor is a woman)
Riddle about men sitting down to play. (they're a band)
Riddle about the ages of the three sisters.
I Nim?
Appointment in Samaria?
$\checkmark$ The Bookkeeper riddle.
fishing puzzle? Norm turns into a piece of rubber.
If previous, a new jester exit:
"so long and thanks for all the fish."
Theme song?
Lower of bozbar: $7 \rightarrow 6$ weights, 2 exits
X Ipylass to read cypher on mountainside?
Scenes of the Empie/Screning Room (thief as aristocrat)

XReward for returning knight to "Real World"
other jester goodbyes:
"Ste you in a while, honey chill"
"Bye bye birdie"
"It's been real"
"Parting is such sweet Sorrow."
Sit us. stand vehicles (i.e. throne vs. booth) (some both, i.e. stump)
$\checkmark$ calendar
If ON-LINE HINTS
$\checkmark$ MANUAL
$\int$ FANUCCI
$\checkmark$ rebus animals
$\checkmark$ Function keys
$\checkmark$ Y-ZIP conversion
$\checkmark$ Chess buts

- parser friendliness features
$\rightarrow$ Music?
$\checkmark$ onscreen mapping
I ENC. ENTRY LIST
- VOCAB, LIST

I CROSSING STREAM PuZzLE
$\sqrt{ }$ NEW. METHOD OF READING ENC.
SUNs \& ADDs for rooms
PRE-LOAD SHRINKAGE
$\sqrt{\text { HANDLE inquisition bette }}$
$\checkmark$ mutable stump jumps
JESTER ASK ABOUTS MORE RIDDLES $=3$ sisters
$\checkmark$ spice-up end game
handle sit better
な

Apt. in Samaria
Fishing Puzzle
Screening Room fishing Puzzle


Entries for Encyclopedia
lathead Fjord
Flathead Mountains
Gray Mountains
Frigid River
Frigid River
flathead Orean/Great Sea
Four Fantastic Flies of Famathria
Fublio Valley
Antharia/Anthar
Granola Granda Mines
Flathead Stadiom
Jester(s)
Double fannoucci
Lake Flathead
Great Underground
" " "

Mountain
Desert
" Savannah
" Highway
Empine
Woods.
Quendor
Froboz2Co (International)
( 12 Flatheads)
Port Foozle
Quilbozza Beach
Gumboz
Korboz
Zorbel lass
Belboz
Battle of Diablo
Frobozz
Aragain falls
FCD \#3
Wands
Alatheadia
Ducan thrax
Gurth City
Polar Gumffbeast
$\operatorname{Min} x$

Frobs
Lond Feepress
Zork
Meretzky
Infocom
Frobozz Phil harmonic Orchostra
" Hall
wurb Flathead
Frigid River Valley
Mithican Chameleon
Egreth
Mumbo III
Bozbo IV
WINCAT
Battle of Ragweed Gulch
Davmar
(calendar saints)
Barbel of Gorth \}enchanter
Berknip $\quad$ enchanter cards
Barsap
Mumberthrax
Phloid
Phoid Oendell Flathead
Borphee
Miznia
Accardi
Michael Flatheed
Inplementors.
Pheebor
Otto
Enchanters Guild
Fenshine
Endless fineo
zilbo III
Bosuell Banvell
Belwit the Flat
Curse Day
Eastlands
westlands
Michgel Flathead
Froblo Park

pg. 2


```
            64 Insertinç ZORKOFREG.XZAP.4 (628 bytes)
            672 Inserting ZOFKODAT.ZAP.1 (53430 bytes)
    5412\overline{z Insertinc ZORKOPUR.ZAF.1 (6732 tytes)}
    60854 Inserting PSTACK.2AP.1 (36 bytes)
    60890 Insertinc FMEN.2AP.1 (104 bytes)
    60994 Insertinc DEFS2.2AP.1 (19 bytes)
    E1012 Insertinc PARSER.ZAP.1 (4286 bytes)
    6529S Insertinc FINC.IAP.1 (1913 bytes)
    67212 Insertinc RECS.ZAP.1 (5792 bytes)
    73004 Insertinc TOP.ZAP.1 (2319 bytes)
    75323 Inserting PRARE.ZAP.1 (4325 bytes)
    7964% Insertinç NISC.ZAP.1 (1478 bytes)
    8112t Insertinc INFUT.IAD.1 (2001 tytes)
    8127 Insertinc VEFES.ZAD.1 (26577 bytes)
109704 Inserting GLEEALS.ZAP.1 (11851 tytes)
121555 Insertinc PIC.2AP.1 (340 bytes)
121895 Inserting PRCLCGUE.ZAF.1 (9197 bytes)
131092 Inserting CASTLE.ZAP.1 (19808 bytes)
15090C Insertinç LIERARY.ZAP.1 (1732 bytes)
152632 Insertinç VILLAGE.ZAP.1 (4667 bytes)
15729S Insertinc LAKE.ZAP.1 (10259 bytes)
16759& Insertinc HIGHWAY.ZAP.1 (9S9O bytes)
17758& Insertinc CRACLE.ZAP.1 (15047 bytes)
192635 Inserting CHESS.ZAP.1 (3763 bytes)
19639& Insertinc JESTER.ZAP.1 (11750 bytes)
20814\varepsilon Inserting FENSHIRE.ZAF.1 (60G4 tytes)
214242 Insertinc CLLES.ZAP.1 (1892 bytes)
215134 Insertinc ZDRKOSTR.ZAF.1 (77898 bytes)
6 0 3 ~ o b j e c t s . ~
226 globals.
it19 word vocabulery.
254032 bytes (288K).
    5 4 1 2 2 ~ b y t e s ~ c f ~ p r e l o e d . ~
    32128 bytes cf impure.
```


# Time trials for ZORK ZERO 

Amiga 1000 (single disk drive)<br>vs.<br>Apple IIe<br>(two drives/5 1/4 disks)

The five fastest Amiga 1000 moves (of the 37 tested) compared to the Apple IIe

|  | Amiga | Apple IIe |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1. $>$ get up $($ from under kings table $)=$ | 2 | 13 |
| 2. $>$ north $($ from start of game $($ after megaboz) $)=$ | 3 | 17 |
| 3. >take all $($ at start of game $($ after megaboz) $)=$ | 2.5 | 16 |
| 4. $>$ take earthworm = | 4 | 4.5 |
| 5. >turn wheel (upper barbican) $=$ | 3 | 6 |

The five slowest Amiga 1000 moves (of the 37 tested) compared to the Apple IIe

|  | Amiga | Apple IIe |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1. >open the south door (in jesters quarters) $=$ | 33 | 60 |
| 2. >take calendar and then read calendar $=$ | 15 | 38 |
| 3. >map (to display map) $=$ | 18 | 28 |
| 4. >north (from castle entryway to outside) $=$ | 14 | 34 |
| 5. >drop memo,package,poster,scrap and calendar $=$ | 8.5 | 26.5 |
| (Apple IIe version did not include the calendar) |  |  |

.The average time per move on the Amiga (including a few graphic puzzle moves): 8.9 seconds

The average time per move on the Apple Ie (for the same exact move performed on the Amiga 1000): 21.25 seconds.

[^2]TO: TAA, Wood
cc: PDL, SEM, Duncan, Rob
From: Jon

## CLARIFICATION

Speaking for Marketing, Rob does not care whether the COLORS command is in or not.* It is much more important that the games ship within the next 10 days or so.

Therefore, if at any time in the days ahead you can save yourselves some effort by killing the COLORS command, please notify the relevant world (at least the people listed above) so the right thing happens.

[^3]
## AMIGA PRIORITIES, 3/20/89

## TOP PRIORITIES

-SCRIPTING (all games)
-Color in SAVE box makes filename invisible (all games) -- Duncan already fixed?
-Reinstall missing pictures (Journey) -- Duncan already fixed?
-Status line needs to be reversed (Shogun) -- PDL can do something about this if Duncan is too busy

MIDDLE PRIORITIES -- not to be addressed until above are fixed

- Flashing (for Shogun)

LOW PRIORITIES -- not to be addressed until above are fixed
-Disable UNDO (and tell user about it) if there's not much memory left (all games)

LOWEST PRIORITIES-- not to be address until above are fixed
-There's a blotch in the status line when playing in text mode (Zork Zero)

Graphics ideas

* illuminated text (flowery letters to start major sections)
* illuminated text (small illustrations within the text of the stony)
* illustrate encyclopedia entries
* one or more mini-maps, or one large map
* illustrate a scene, especially as a reward for solving a puzzle
* something double fannucci-related -
* collect "scraps" of a large illustration which, once assembled, form... a map? a rebus?
* compass rose
* illustrating the Peggleboz board
* " "Tower of Bozbar
" Snaifem (piles of pebbles)
* screen border or side columns


## RE: STATE OF THE ARTISTS

From: Jon Palace
Date $2 / 1 / 88$
Brian Cody: He's shown us a cartoony style (like he used in Fooblitzky) which uses bold primary colors. He's also shown us a much more "photographic" or realistic style. We've also seen a woodcut-style illustration (made up of lots of cross-hatching), and, as we requested, he drew a fantasy illustration in this woodcut style. (I have a copy.) If he did work for us, he would do it here at Infocom, which has its disadvantages (we'd have to provide him with space and a machine) but also has its advantages (we'd probably have more "control" over the final art since we'd see the work-in-progress). He has not worked on an Amiga before, but he has worked with other color paint programs. He would be willing to do both "original" art and "cleanup work"
(post-transfer bit-twiddling). He's asking $\$ 50 / \mathrm{hour}$, and estimates original art on the Amiga would take him 7 to 10 hours per image.

Jim Shook: I met Jim at the BCS Amiga Users Group. When he visited Infocom, he showed us a dozen or more images he's drawn on the Amiga. He's skilled at creating textures: smooth and rough rocks, cracked and peeling paint, wrinkled and aging paper, etc. He also creates and uses type effectively: a "Dream Kitchen" logo that was reminiscent of early-60s AmanaRange or FrigidAire logos, and a "Merry Melodies" title screen that reminded me of the "Loony Tunes" opening. He's clearly capable on the Amiga, and knows how to dither, alias, shadow, and otherwise use the Amiga features. When we mentioned that we were porting images to other machines, he had a good idea: namely, draw the "essential" information (the clue you need to see, say) to the least-common-denominator machine, but on the Amiga version, "max out" the inessential graphics (the background or highlights or whatever). The images Jim showed us were either super-functional (a pie chart for a business application), near-photographic (he frequently incorporates digitized images in his art), or surreal (again incorporating digitized images). Jim prefers to be paid on a per-job basis, but also likes the fee to be based somewhat on the amount of time he puts into it. He estimates he would do 20 images for between $\$ 2000$ and $\$ 3000$.

Glen Johnson: Glen digitizes art, and then frequently tweaks and plays with the colors to achieve interesting results. He believes that drawing original art on the Amiga will be prohibitively expensive. Glen seems pretty new to the Amiga, but like Donald Langosy, he's coming at it from an art background rather than a computer background, so his work is very different and interesting. He suggests buying the rights to use stock
photos or images and digitizing those. I don't know what his fee is.

Donald Langosy: Donald is an artist who can do excellent Japanese-style paintings on paper. We gave him a Mac to play with, and he did well. He has spent a few hours at Infocom trying to learn Deluxe Paint on the Amiga, but he needs some instruction. (The manual isn't great.) Donald is the clear choice for Shogun, but he can only work at home, which means that we would have to loan him one of our Amigas. He's asking $\$ 500 /$ drawing; this is for original art on the Amiga only, so we'd have an additional clean-up expense for the ports. (This "additional expense" will be incurred for all projects, not just Shogun, no matter who the original artists are.)

Mike Goldberg: Mike's "best friend" is president of the BCS Amiga Users Group, which is how he heard that we were looking for computer artists. Mike works at a video production studio, and his portfolio includes several videotapes of computer-generated TV animation: logos for local shows or stations, graphic-and-text images for "coming attractions," etc. Mike was an art director (I think) at Parker Brothers, and he showed us some finished products he designed (the VCR Clue game) and some pencil sketches of new or aborted projects. (I have a copy of some of these.) Mike has worked with many paint programs, and he says he's worked with Deluxe Paint. He does not have an Amiga, and would like us to loan him one of ours. (He did not think it would be practical for him to borrow his friend's computer.) Mike's style tends toward the cartoony, though he showed us some nice things. He's asking $\$ 35 /$ hour, and estimates each image would take him 3 to 5 hours to draw.

RECOMMENDATIONS: To come.









TO: Amy, Carl, Chris, Dave L., Elizabeth, Gayle, Joel, Liz, Stella, and Tim

FROM: Jon

## INFOCOMICS

1. Amy will be the liaison in my absence.
2. The Lane plan: IBM disks were given to Peter this afternoon. Peter will make some minor changes (some requested by Steve) and send the IBM disks to Len (TSP's systems person) on Monday via overnight mail. Len will make an Apple version of Lane and send it to TSP. By Wednesday or Thursday, we should have an Apple Lane. This should be tested for crashes. If there are no crashes, this is the final disk. (Current plan: send the final Apple and IBM disks to XEMAG or whoever on Tuesday, Feb. 16). If there are crashes, we must notify TSP immediately so Len can fix the crashes immediately.
3. The Pit plan: We have scenes 1 through 40 (or so) here. Amy is working on these. We should have the remaining scenes (fewer than 20) by Monday or Tuesday. By Wednesday afternoon, Amy hopes to give IBM disks to TSP, which they might look at quickly and make minor changes. (Amy \& Liz: The IBM version should be thoroughly tested for crashes and typos, and any other bugs we can fix, before it goes to TSP.) TSP will then send the IBM disks to Len, who will make Apple disks. We probably won't get the Apple version before I return, but if we do, test it for crashes.
[Notes to Liz: (1) You can expect Apple Lane late in the week, to be tested for crashes. Check with Amy late in the week to see when to expect Apple Pit. (2) Please DO copy the Apple Pit disk that I bookmarked, crashed, and munged, and see what happens, and get the results to Peter, either directly or through Amy. (3) Try pressing the $S$ key on both the most recent Apple and most recent IBM disks and see if the sound turns off for good. Get the results to Peter and Gayle and Stella.]
[Note to Amy: Remember to put in the new, improved, and Marketing-approved instructions. They can be copied directly from Lane into Pit.]
[Notes to Gayle \& Stella: (1) Please give a copy of the reference card to Peter, who claims not to have a copy. (2) Peter thinks the $s$ key works -- i.e., turns the sound off and on for good. I don't think it does. Liz will tell you for sure. If it DOESN'T work, and you have time to correct the reference card, then make no mention of the $S$ key. It MAY be fixed at a later date, but not now. (3) Peter claims that a joystick can be used with

Infocomics, to fast forward (push the stick forward), rewind (push it back), and jump (press the button). Peter would REALLY like to document this feature if that's possible. Personally, I think we shouldn't document it if we can't test it, and CERTAINLY we can't test it on the $C-64$ version since it doesn't exist yet. Your move.]

## ARTISTS

1. I have called Brian Cody and Mike Goldberg and told them that we have chosen other artists for the current projects. I told them why others were chosen (for Brian it was price, for Mike it was style) but told them I'd be in touch in the future.
2. Joel claims that Activision claims that the standard rate for computer artists is $\$ 25 /$ hour, and a full-screen picture takes anywhere from 13 to 20 hours.
3. Given \#2 above, Joel is hesitant to give the go-ahead to Donald Langosy, who's asking $\$ 500 / i m a g e$. (When I said that Donald may agree to less than $\$ 500 /$ image, Joel was still hesitant.) Joel believes that we could spend a lot of money very quickly, and we had better well be damn sure we know what we want. I believe that Donald's asking price was regardless of the size of the image. (This should be checked -- PDL? Eliz?) If that's true, then maybe we'd get more impact with 20 full-screen images than a mix of full-screen, half-screen, and quarter-screen images. (Of course, there will be space considerations.) If we're going to have quarter-screen images, Joel believes we need many more than 20 to be impressive.
4. Given \#3 above, we should define exactly what we want as best we can: how many quarter-screen images, how many half-screen images, etc., and decide if they "need" to be all the same style and/or level of detail. (Chris mentioned how some books have both fancy illustrations and line-drawing-style illustrations.) This should be done by PDL; feel free to solicit advice (from Liz? Amy?). Once we've defined what we want, we can go back to Donald to discuss price. (If we want less-detailed drawings, or "many more" than 20 illustrations, this will affect the price we're willing to pay.)
5. We still don't know whether images should be drawn in low-res, medium-res, interlace, or high-res mode on the Amiga in Deluxe Paint. Joel claims Tim should know. [Tim, do you know?] It's probably one of the questions that Joel will have to ask Anita when he calls her to get info about graphics compression techniques.
6. We've decided that Jim Shook will be the artist for Zork zero. I called Steve to find out when would be convenient for Jim and Steve to spend a couple of hours looking at the game and discussing graphics ideas. Steve said anytime next week,
preferably in the afternoon. I've called Jim and left a message on his answering machine.
7. Joel and Chris suggested that we may want any given artist to draw a least-common-denominator image on the Amiga first, which we would use for the ports, and then have the artist go back and max out the image on the Amiga. In other words, instead of spending lots of time cleaning up transferred images, spend more time Amigafying AFTER the port.
[Notes to PDL:.(1) Here's my two cents: Despite the two styles of art seen in some books, I'd like to see one style in Shogun. I'd like it to be what we've been discussing all along -- detailed, authentic-looking, and colorful. (I was surprised at how colorful the real McCoy-san is.) And I'd like a mix of sizes -I think it adds variety. Certainly if Donald really charges the same for large images as small images, I'd prefer large images. However, I'm skeptical about graphics compression allowing us to "run wild," and as I say, the variety in sizes is interesting. I'd recommend a third-screen or half-screen image for each chapter opener, and a full-screen image at the climax or resolution of each chapter, plus a full-screen title/boot screen and maybe a full-screen "congratulations-you-won" screen. Joel will call Anita and find out (I hope) about low res vs. med res vs. hi res etc. Pass on any useful information to Donald. (3) Reaction to \#7 above? If you think it's a good idea, mention it to Donald. Tell SEM what you think too.]
[Note to Tim: Read \#5 above and talk to Joel. If you know whether our artists should be drawing in hi res, or low res, or whatever, please also tell PDL.]
[Note to Joel: Call Anita and find out whether she knows whether our artists should be using low res or hi res or whatever with Deluxe paint. If you get the answer, tell PDL.]
[Notes to SEM: (1) Call Jim Shook at 354-1779. Set up a time when you and he can discuss Zork Zero and graphics ideas. (2) Reaction to \#7 above? If you think it's a good idea, mention it to Jim. Tell PDL what you think too.]
[Notes to Eliz: (1) Please apologize to Donald for me. I'm hoping that a lot of the issues will be resolved very soon. Can we have the Mac back if we don't have it already? (3) Please tell Donald to feel free to call PDL to see if anything's new.]
to Jim Shook 2/29/88 Steve

Snarfem - nine piles of pebbles possibly a background (greenhouse)
Letter A - golden age
$y$ - age of decay
both letters in a box medieval style
letters should be $\sim 4$ text lines tall
Tower of Bozbar: 7 weights to 6 weights
Peggleboz - board smaller
letters part of board, not floating
encydopedia - more illustrations
keep solarized effect to mako it look "printed"
compass rose
centered, part of banner
four text lines tall?
the banner on either side should haver room for 2 lines of text:
2 versions .- highlighted \& unhighlighted exits ( $N, N \in, \in$, etc.)


Borders: outdoor (trees(wood/vines?)
indoor (stonework)
jester games (striped, w/banner for gave name)
encyclopedia encyclopedia
$\rightarrow$ cave walls border for underground?
to Jim Shook 2/12/88

1. illuminated " $A$ "
2. " " $Y$ "
3. Compass rose
4. A border
5. $\sim 6$ encyclopedia entries
6. Peggle boz
7. Tower of Bazbar

to Jim Shook 31788
ZORK ZERO
The Revenge of Megaboz
redoing peggleboz -letters on board larger text area for game screens
roughing up logs on outside border
another " $A$ " with the outside pallet
highlighted compass rose

4 snarfem piles

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to Jim Shook 3/28/88
Add $\longrightarrow$
to "arrive via teleport" rooms

Crag
Mire Entrance
Glacier
Foot of statue
Delta (1)

- Brogmoid (flat world)
- new text for jester background
- floral corners for Snarfem (up to 9 blossoms)


REBUS ANIMALS
SERPENT
INSECT (Scorpion, spider...)
LIZARD/GATOR/CROC
FISH
GOOSE
BAT
AMEBOID/SLIME
HALF MAN/ HALF WHATEVER
OWL
LOBSTER
camel
Mermaid
ELF
MOUSE
TOAD

Zork_Zero contains the graphics and graphic elements to be used in the game
file
bytes*

Zork_Zero:



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|  | ```Rebus/sample1 samplez samplenmirror``` |



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Mac B\&W
A: encyclopedia
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title screen
map stuff
compasses
dialog boxes





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|  | － | 36 ？ | 232 | 37 |  |
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|  | － | $1{ }^{4} 7$ | 8 | －9 | TCLICT－3－ryc－LCC |
|  | － | －${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 2 | 40 |  |
| $\sim$ | － | 569 | 3 | 38 |  |
| $\sim$ | － | 373 | 92 | 18 | Sanuccios－cts－ize |
|  | － | 37. | 148 | 31 | Fanduch－？－PTC－1－2 |
| 0 | － | $32:$ | iva | 2F |  |
|  | － | 378 | 418 | 38 | F S UUCCT－- FIC－LIC |
|  | － | ¢7\％ | 1 | 1 |  |
| 0 | － | 173 | 47 | 0 |  |
|  | － | 875 | 3 | 1 | GAvULET－ |
|  | － | $87^{7}$ | 3 | 41 |  |
| $\Gamma$ | － | 871 | $1 \geqslant$ | I2 | ANCYCL～こELTL－EJC－LSC |
|  | － | 318 | 192 | 27 | 8．CYCLCDECTM－TYT－LCS |
|  | － | \＄35 | ：18 | ： 76 |  |
| $n$ | － | 321 | 131 | $\cdots$ |  |
|  | － | 382 | ＊ | $c$ |  |
|  | － | $89 \%$ | 1－4 | $\because$ | 23GICN－LCCに |
| $\Gamma$ | － | i8： 4 | $2 \%$ | 1： 7 | ＝aNUCCI－NENU－LEC |
|  | － | g 3 ， | 20 | 26 |  |
|  | － | Ser， | 2.4 | 19 | Yこサ：－¢ ¢＝＝－L？ |
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|  | － | 3 ¢ | 128 | 5 P |  |
|  | － | 388 | 215 | $\triangle 1$ |  |
|  | － | 176 | ：57 | 21 |  |
|  | － | 189 | 155 | ¢ 8 | 「こなCl－\％－－－－ |
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| － | 4i： | $i^{-}$ | $\stackrel{ }{ }$ | 3－－WNECTEO－EIz！；＂reletivv＂ |
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| － | $+78$ | 37 | 297 | EaNUCCT－：SCAFz－1－0 |
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184 VERTICAL-LEGEND
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193 CCWN-NE-SYMBCL
194 CCWN-NW-SYMBCL.
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1SE CCWN-SE-SYMBCL
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$2 \mathrm{CO} \quad \mathrm{ARCH}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{CCN}$
2C1 RUBBLE-Nh-CDN
202 RUBELE-SE-CJN
2C3 ICONLESS-REON-30X
2C4 YCU-ARE-HERE-SYMECL
205 GCNDCLA-ICDN
206 FEG-ROOM-ICDN
207 WEST-WING-ICDN

| 1e_---11 | TORL (w,h) 135, 44 | Ectr $(w, h)-165,74$ | 208 | GYM-ICON |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| File_-.-- ! | TOFL (w,h) 91.88 | $80 t R(u, h)=121.118$ | 209 | TCRCH-ROCN-ICON |
| File_---- ${ }^{\text {II }}$ | TOFL(w,h) 178,44 | Sctr $(u, h)-208,74$ | 210 | RCOF-:CON |
| File_-_- | TOOL $(w, h) 134,88$ | Eotr $(u, h)-164,118$ | 211 | PARLCR-ICCN |
| File_-.--- | TOFL(w,h) 176, 88 | Eotr $(w, h)-2061118$ | 212 | FCRMAL-GARDEN-ICON |
| File.-.--- | TOFL (w,h) 92,44 | $80 t R(u, h)-122,74$ | 213 | EALCENY-ICDN |
| File_---- | TOFL $(w, n)=261,176$ | Eotr $(u, h)=291,206$ | 214 | GALLERY-ICCN |
| File_--- | TOFL $(w, h)=203174$ | $80+R(u, h)-233,204$ | 215 | THRDNE-RCOM-ICON |
| file_---- | TOFL (w,h) 134,130 | Sotr $(w, h)-164,160$ | 216 | EANQLET-トALL-ICON |
| File_---- | TORL(w,h) 29,127 | $80 t R(u, h)$ - $\left.0^{1}, 15\right]$ | 217 | KITCHEN-ICON |
| File_----- | TOCL $(w, h)-33182$ | $80 t R(u, h)=63,212$ | 218 | WINE-CELLAR-ICDN |
| File_---- | TOFL( $w, h)$ _ 31,83 | Eotz $(u, h)-61113$ | 219 | LIBRARY-ICON |
| File_.-. ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ | TOCL $(w, h) 259288$ | B0tr $(u, h)=289,118$ | 220 | EAST-WINE-ICON |
| File | TOCL (w,h) _31,42 | $\operatorname{Bot} R(u, h)=61,72$ | 221 | CHAPEL-ICCN |
| File_---* | TOLL (w,h) _89,184 | $\operatorname{sotr}(u, h)=119,214$ | 222 | J-QUARTER-ICEN |
| File_.-. | TOCL $(w, h)-1372184$ | Qot R (u, h) -167,214 | 223 | FYRANID-RCOM-ICDN |
| Filesecret-wing-map | TORL $(w, h)$ 467,146 | Botr $(\mu, h)$ 497, 176 | 224 | CIMWITS-RCCM-ICON |
| File_.- " | TOFL $(w, r)$ 417, 53 | $8 \operatorname{ctR}(u, h)$ 44783 | 225 | NAGIC-CLCSET-ICON |
| File...-- | TOFL $(w, h)=517255$ | Eotr $(w, h)=547.85$ | 226 | FARAFET-ICCN |
| File.-.-." | TOFL (w, $n$ ) 516,102 | $\operatorname{ectR}(u, h)-546,132$ | 227 | EASTION-ICON |
| File_.-. | TOFL $(w, h)$ 459,98 | $80 t R(w, h), 489,128$ | 228 | SECRET-PASSAGE-ICCN |
| File.----" | TOFL $(w, h)$ 462,55 | $3 \operatorname{ctr}(u, h) 49285$ | 229 | TEE-ICDN |
| File_.-. | TopL $(w, h)$ 361, 152 | $80+R(u, h)=391,182$ | 230 | TCP-CF-STAIR-ICCN |
| File_-.- | TOCL (w,r) 365,104 | $8 \cot 2(u, h) 395,134$ | 231 | RCT-CF-STAIR-ICON |
| Fil | TOCL $(w, h)$ 368, 53 | Sot $\mathrm{C}(w, h)-398.83$ | 232 | CRACLE-ICCN |
| File_.-. | TOFL(w,r) - 416,100 | $30 t R(u, h)-446+130$ | 233 | CLNGEON-ICCN |
| File_.--- | TOCL $(w, r)=413,148$ | Botr $(w, h), 443,178$ | 234 | CELL-ICDA |
| File villaye-area-map | TOFL (w,h) -211,285 | $\underline{0} 0$ tr $(u, h) 241,315$ | 235 | PERINETER-WALL-ICO |
| File_----- | TOFL $(w, h)=260,239$ | EctR $(w, h)$, 290, 269 | 236 | GARRISUN-ICON |
| sile...-." | TOFL $(w, h) \geq 2072241$ | Botz(u,h)_237, 271 | 2 こ | CLTER-BAILEY-ICON |



TOCL $(w, h)$ 312＿241＿छotr $(u, h) \_342,271$ TOFL $(w, h) \_318,341 \_80+R(u, h) \_348,371$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 317，287＿ $\operatorname{Ect} R(w, h)$ 347，317＿ $\operatorname{TOFL}(w, h) 264,340$ Eot $(w, h) 294,370$ TOCL $(w, h) 264285 \quad$ eot $R(w, h) \_29 y+315$ TOFL $(w, h) \quad 54,283$ BotR $(u, h) \quad 84,313$ TOCL $(w, h)$ 48，329＿$\quad 8 c+R(w, h) \quad 78,359$ TOCL $(w, h)$ 154，333 $\varepsilon$ ot $R(w, h) \_184,363$ TOPL $(w, r)$ IO1＿239＿ $\cot R(u, h) \_131,269$ TOFL $(w, h)=52,239$ EOTR $(w, h)=82,269$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 154，241 Eotr $(w, h)$ 184， 271 TOCL $(w, h) 2_{2} 334$ Bct $(w, h) \_239364$ TOPL $(w, h)$ 156，283 $\operatorname{Bot} R(w, h) \quad 186,313$ TOFL $(w, h) \quad 106,282$ BctR $(u, h) \quad 136,312$ TocL $(w, h) 104,330$＿ $80 \pm R(u, h) \quad 134,360$ TOCL $(w, h)$ 514， 115 Ectr $(世, h)$ 544， 145 TOFL $(w, h)$ 513，62 EOtR $(w, h) \quad 543,92$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 553，24 $80 t R(u, h), 583,54$ TOFL $(w, h)=555,63$ BotR $(w, h)-585,93$ TONL $(w, h)$ 510，24＿Botr $(w, h) \quad 540,54$ TOfL（w，h）＿469，59＿Botr（w，h）＿499，\＄9＿ TOFL $(\mu, h)$＿468，116 Botr（u，h）498，146 Topl（ $(, h), 416,1166$ Botr（ $(\mu, h)-446,146$ TOfL $(w, h), 424,60-80 t r(w, h), 454,90$ TOPL $(w, h), 422,21, ~ 80 t R(w, h), 452,51$ TOKL $(w, h), 466,23$ sotr $(u, h), 496,53$ TOFL $(w, h)=692113$－ $\operatorname{sot} R(w, h) \quad 99,143$ TOCL $(w, h) \_1242111 \_80+R(u, h) \_1542141$＿ TOFL $(w, h)$ 177，111 80tR（u，h）207，141＿ TONL $(w, h)$ 62，65 Sctr $(w, h)$ 92， 95

2き［RAWERIDGE－ICCN

241 CAUSEWAY－ICON
EAREICAN－ICON
LEPER－BAREICAN－ICCN

IANER－BAILEY－ICDN

SHADY－PAFK－ICON
CHURCH－ICCN
CLURTROON－ICDN
FCST－DFFICE－ICDN
FRCBCZZCL－HQ－ICCN

FENTHQUSE－ICCN

## RCOTS－ICEA

EAR－ICON
MOUTH－CF－CAVE－ICCN
LEDGE－IN－PIT－ICON
FASSAGE－STOR－ICDN
VAULT－ICCA
G－U－HIGHWAY－ICDN
EXIT－ICON
KENNELS－ICCN
RCYAL－ZOC－ICCN
LABORATORY－ICON
HCLD－ICAN
LNDERWATER－ICDN
LAKE－BOTTCM－ICON
EAST－SHORE－ICON

| File_._I | TOCL $(w, h)$ J15,66 | $80+8(u, h) 145,96$ | $2 \in 8$ | WEST-SHORE-ICON |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| File_---11 | TOFL $(w, h) \_180,69$ | $\operatorname{cotR}(w, h), 210,99$ | $2 \in 9$ | NCRTH-SHCRE-ICDN |
| File_n | TOFL $(w, h)$ 12, 6 | $80 t R(u, h)$ 4297 | 270 | SCUTH-SHCRE-ICDN |
| File_...ll | TOKL $(w, h) \_23,109$ | Ectr $(u, h) 253,139$ | 271 | LAKE-FLATHEAC-ICCA |
| File_n ! | TOFL $(w, h)=64,23$ | $\operatorname{BotR}(w, h), 94,53$ | 272 | RING-DF-LUNES-ICCN |
| File_ Il | TOFL $(w, h) \ldots 17,22$ | EctR(u,h) 47, 52 | 273 | G-U-SAVANNAH-ICDN |
| File_-n-11 | TOFL $(w, h) 174$ | $80+R(w, h) 204,55$ | 274 | EATS-LAIF-ICDN |
| File_, M | TOFL $(w, h) 226,25$ | $\operatorname{EctR}(w, h) 256,55$ | 275 | EASE-DF-NT-ICON |
| File_-n-------- | TOFL $(w, h) 228,67$ | $80 \pm R(4, h) 258,97$ | 276 | G-U-NDUNTAIN-ICDN |
| File_----11 | TOPL (w,h)_116, 25 | $B 0+R(u, h)-146+5$ | 277 | STABLE-ICCN |
| File_---- | Topl $(w, h)=14+111$ | E0tR(u,h) 44, 141 | 278 | SHRINE-ICDN |
| File_.- I! | TOCL $(w, h)=320,23$ | BctR $(w, h)-350,53$ | 275 | CACTUS-PATCH-ICDN |
| File_--------- | TOPL $(w, h)-321+106$ | EotR $(w, h) \quad 351,136$ | 280 | TALL-DUNES-ICON |
| File_..\|l | TOFL $(w, h) 320,62$ | EctR $(4, h)-350,92$ | 281 | G-U-CASIS-ICCN |
| File foole=-nenshine-map | TOFL $(w, h), 481,70$ | Botr $(w, h)=519,100$ | 282 | WHARF-ICCN |
| cile_-_- | TOCL $(w, h) 496,118$ | $80 t R(w, h)-526,148$ | 283 | FISH-VILLAGE-ICON |
| File_-or- | $\operatorname{TOFL}(w, h)-442,159$ | SotR (w,h) - 4 I2, 189 | 284 | EEACH-ICCN |
| File_- | TOFL (w,h) 499160 | $\operatorname{ectR}(w, h)=530,190$ | 285 | h ARNING-RCOM-ICDN |
| File_..-11 | TOPL $(w, h) 48727$ | SotR(w,h) 517,57-- | 286 | FISHY-ODCR-ICON |
| File_.-.-- | TOCL $(w, h)=541,28$ | $\operatorname{EctR}(u, h)-571,58$ | 287 | 3-OOLRS-ICCN |
| File_n_ ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ | TOFL $(w, h) 442,115$ | $8 \operatorname{ctR}(u, h)-472,145$ | 288 | FCRK-ICEA |
| File_n | TOFL $(w, h)$ 440271- | $\operatorname{Eot} R(w, h) 470,101$ | 289 | WISHYFOO-ICON |
| File_..n | TORL $(w, h)=440,28$ | EctR $(w, h) 470,58$ | 250 | REST-STOF-ICEN |
| File_or- | TOFL $(w, h)=388,159$ | EotR $(4, h)$ 418,189 | 251 | CROSSROACS-ICON |
| File_. 11 | TOFL $(w, r) \ldots 394,111$ | $30+2(u, h)-424,14]$ | 292 | TCLL-PLAZA-ICON |
| File_---- | TOKL $(w, h) \_395,73$ | $\operatorname{Bctr}(u, h) 425103$ | 253 | FISSURES-ECGE-ICCN |
| File_---------- | TOKL $(w, h) 396,27$ - | EotR $(w, h)$ 426,57 | 294 | CRE-RDOM-ICDN |
| File_n II | TopL $(w, h)=37,33$ | $\operatorname{Bot} R(w, h) 67,63$ | 255 | RUINED-HALL-ICON |
| File_- \|| | TOFL $(w, n) 40,77$ | EOtR $(\mathbb{H}, h)=70,107$ | 296 | SECRET-RECM-ICDN |
|  | TOFL (w,h) 101, 33 | Eotr $(u, h), 131,63$ | $2 ¢ 7$ | HCTHCUSE-ICON |




TOFL $(w, h)$＿ $81,158 \operatorname{Bot} R(4, h) \_111,188$ TOFL $(w, h)$＿193， 160 ＿Botr $(w, h) \quad 223,190$ TOFL（w，r）＿36，89＿Botr（w，h）＿96，147 TOFL $(w, h) \quad 103,89$＿ $\operatorname{sctr}(u, h)-163,147$ TORL $(w, h) \quad 170,89$＿Bctr $(w, h) \_2302147$ $\operatorname{TORL}(w, h)-36,154 \_\operatorname{BotR}(w, h)-96,212$ TOFL $(w, h) \quad 103$ IS4＿ $\operatorname{sot} R(u, h), 163,212$ TOFL（w，h）170 $154 \operatorname{sotR}(w, h) \quad 230,212$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 36，219＿Botr $(w, h)$ ． 96,277 TO\＆L $(w, h) 103,219 \operatorname{sotR}(u, h) 163,277$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 250， 87 ＿BOtR $(w, h) \quad 310,145$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 317， 87 ＿ $\operatorname{Sotr}(\mu, h)$＿377 145 TOFL $(w, h)$ 384，8＿＿Botr $(u, h)$＿ 4444145 TODL $(w, h) 250154 \operatorname{BOtR}(u, h), 3102212$ $\operatorname{TOFL}(w, h) \quad 317,154 \_\equiv O t R(u, h)-377212$ TORL $(w, h) 384,154 \operatorname{sot} R(u, h), 444212$ TORL $(\omega, h)$ 250， 220 Sotr $(\mu, h) \quad 310,278$ TOKL $(w, r)$ 317，220＿ $\operatorname{sot} 2(\mu, h), 377,278$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 103，278 $\operatorname{got} R(\mu, h)-158,333$ TOPL $(w, h)$ 390， 278 Botr $(u, h), 4442333$ TOFL $(w, h)-187,331$ Botr $(4, h), 237,361$ TOOL $(w, h), 484,280$ Botr $(u, h) \quad 514,299$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 267， 319 TORL $(w, h)=6,85 \quad B 0+R(w, h), 73,141$ TOFL $(w, h)$ 351， 182 BctR（ $(, h), 418,248$ TOFL $(w, h)$＿89，34＿BotR（w，h）＿115，125 TOFL $(w, h)$ 59， 239 日otr $(\mu, h)$＿ 74,289 TOFL $(w, h), 228,3$＿ $\operatorname{Bot} R(u, h) \_294,126$ TOFL $(w, h)$｜30， 115 ＿ $\operatorname{sot} R(\mu, h)$＿ 156,141 TOAL $(w, h)$＿221，41＿Sotr $(u, h)$＿280， 90

## 328 AERIE－ICCN

329 ICKY－CAVE－ICDN
$330 \quad N A P-N-H L$
321 NAP－NE－HL
322 NAP－E－HL
333 MAP－SE－HL
$334 N A P-S-H L$
$335 N A P-S W-H L$
$326 \quad N A P-W-H L$
$337 N A P-N W-H L$
338 NAD－N－UNFL
$335 N A P-N E-U A H L$

340 NAP－E－UNHL
341 NAP－SE－UNトL 342 MAP－S－UNHL
$343 N A P-S W-U N H L$
$344 N A P-W-U N H L$
$345 N A P-N W-U N H L$
346 LSEBY－DFFICE－CON
347 FENTHOUSE－CDN
348 LOW－HALL－CON
349 WISHYFDO－FCRK－CDN
350 GLACIER－NIRRCR－CCN

351 CELTA－6－7－CON
352 CELTA－1－3－CON
353 CELTA－5－E－CON
354 CELTA－2－ミ－CON
355 CELTA－1－4－CON
35 © CELTA－3－5－CDN
440 TELEFRRT－LETTER
"INVISIBLE" FICTLRES:
$(w, h)=24,12] 357$ FILE-1-PIC-LCC
$(w, h)$ 134, 12]_ 358 PILE-2-PIC-LCC
(w,h) 244,12]_ 359 PILE-3-PIC-LCC
$(u, h)=353,127 \quad 360$ FILE-4-PIC-LCC
$(\omega, h)$ OLO 361 L-FLCWERS-PIC-LOC
( $w, h$ )_299,O $3 \in 2$ R-FLCWERS-FIC-LDC
$(w, h)=49,58363$ BCZBAR-1-L-FIC-LOC
( $w, h$ ) 182.73_ 364 ECZBAR-2-C-PIC-LOC
$(w, h)$ 31S,88_ $3 \in 5$ QO23日R-3-R-PIC-LCC
$(w, h)=0,103$ BEG ECZ3AR-4-PIC-LOC
(w,h) O, 118 B67 ECZBAR-5-FIC-LOC
$(w, h)=133 \quad 368$ EOZBAR-6-PIC-LDC
$(w, h)=40,53$ _ 369 -OISCARE-PIC-LOC
$(w, h)-13825310 \quad F-1-F I C-L C C$
$(w, h)-21453$ - 371 F-2-FIC-LCC
$(w, h)$ 290,53_ 372 F-3-EIC-LCC
(w,h)-366,53-373 F-4-FIC-LCC
(w,h)_3,21 374 F-RANK-PIC-LDC
( $\omega, h$ ) 48,64 375 F-REV-RANK-PIC-LCC
(w,h)_6, 4 E-SUIT-PIC-LEC
$(w, h)$ 50,78_ 377 F-REV-SUIT-PIC-LCC
$(ש, h)$ 65,33. 378 ENC-FIC-LEC
$(w, h)$ 296, 33 ENC-TXT-LEC
$(\omega, h)$ 168,240 380 ENC-TXT-hINDCW-SIZE
$(\omega, h)=210,381$ COMOASS-FIC-LCC
( $w, h$ )_32_- 382 HERE-LCC
( $w, h$ ) 446, 383 REGICN-LCC
$(w, h)=30,176384$ F-MENU-LCC

$(w, n)$ 336,38 386 YOUR-SCDRE-LCC
(w,h)_61,59 387 TEXT-WINCOW-FIC-LOC
(w,h)_284298-388 FEOZ-H-LCC
$(\omega, h)=1742 \underline{120} 389$ FBCZ-I-LEC
$(w, h)=218,120 \quad 390$ FBCZ-J-LCC
(w,h)_262,120 391 peOZ-K-LCC
(w,h) 306, 120 PSOZ-L-LCC
$(w, h) \log 142393 \mathrm{FBCZ}-\mathrm{N}-L C C$
$(w, h) \quad 152,142394$ FBCZ-N-LCC
$(w, h) 196,142395$ PBCZ-L-LCC
$(w, h) \geq 240142 \quad 396$ FBCZ-P-LCC
$(w, h) \leq 842142 \quad 357$ PBOZ-Q-LCC
(w,h) 328, 142 398 PEOZ-R-LCC
(w,h) 372, 142 399 FBOZ-S-LCC
$(w, h) 130,164$. 400 FBCZ-T-LCC
$(w, h) 350,164401$ FBCZ-U-LEC
$(w, h)_{-} 18,221$ FBCZ-SPLIT
(w,h)_20,12- $4 C 3$ NAP-TEP-LEFT-LOC
$(w, h)=41,41$ _- 404 NAP-EASIC-ELT-SIZE
(w,h)_31_31-- 405 NAP-EOX-SIZE
$(w, h)$ 10,10 406 NAP-SPACE-SIZE
$(w, h)=0,146$ G 407 GONOCLA-AT-FLATHEADIA-LDC
(w,h)_-9,-408 5-FUCGE
(w,h)_0,63- 409 GONDCLA-AT-FENSHIRE-LCC
$(\omega, h)=0,15 \quad 410 \quad A R C H-N-C C N-S I Z E$
$(\omega, h)=2525411$ RUBBLE-CCN-SIZE
$(w, h)$ 15, $0 \quad 412 \quad 2-3-C C N-S I Z E$
$(w, h)$ 25, $0 \quad 413$ 3-5-CON-SIZE
$(w, h)$ _2G, 414 5-S-CON-SIZE
(w,h)_66,

| $(w, h) \ldots 0^{31}$ | 416 | TELEFORT-ARREW-SIZE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(w, h) 0_{2} 186$ | 417 | hISHYFDO-ICCN-LOC |
| (w,h) - 48, | 418 | EAR-ICCN-LDC |
| $(w, h)=5152$ | 419 | F-OISCARC-LEC |
| $(w, h) 170,152$ | 420 | F-CAFD-1-LCC |
| $(w, h) \quad 76,0$ | 421 | F-CARC-SFACE |
| $(w, h) 16,220$ | 422 | F-SPLIT |
| $(w, h)=16,5$ | 423 | F-BCRDER-BCTTCM |
| $(w, h)-18,1$ | 424 | FBCZ-BDRCER-8CTTCN |
| $(w, h)=20,2$ | 425 | SN-BCRLER-ECTTOM |
| (w,h) _21,3 | 426 | ECZ9AR-3CRDER-80TTOM |
| $(\omega, h)=20,218$ | 427 | SN-SFLIT |
| $(w, h) 2_{21} 179$ | 428 | ECZBAR-SPLIT |
| (w,h) 175,0 | 429 | L'RS-ICON-LEC |
| $(w, h) 27410$ | 430 | CCURTRQQM-ICEN-LEC |
| $(w, h) 204207$ | 431 | NAIN-FLOCR-TITLE-LOC |
| $(w, h) \ldots 17,32$ | 432 | FBCZ-A-LCC |
| (w, h) 2603,32 | 433 | FBCZ-8-LCC |
| (w,h) 240,54 | 434 | FBOZ-C-LCC |
| $(\omega, h) 2_{18,} 76$ | 435 | PSCZ-C-LCC |
| (w,h) 262,76 | 436 | FBCZ-E-LCC |
| $(w, h) 196,98$ | 437 | FBOZ-F-LCC |
| $(w, h) 2^{40} 98$ | 438 | FEOZ-G-LCC |
| $(w, h)$ 287, 120 | 439 | LAKE-TITLE-LCC |
| $(w, h)=0,41$ | 441 | SECRET-WING-TITLE-LOC |
| (w, h) 2052 | 443 | NAP-RCSE-LCC |
| $(\omega, h){ }_{2} 210,10$ | 444 | NAP-COMPASS-FIC-LOC |
| $(w, h) 6_{2} 2_{2} 2^{3}$ | 470 | 80X-1-LOC |
| (w,h) 38, ${ }_{2}$ | 471 | SNARFEN-REX-SPACE |
| (w,h) 44,50 | 472 | FBLZ-RESTART-BOX-LOC |

$(w, h)$ 44,66_ 473 FBOZ-SHOh-NOVES-ECX-LOC
$(\omega, h)$ 44, 82 - 474 PBCZ-EXIT-BCX-LOC
$(w, h)$-136_30_ 475 TCWER-UNCC-3CX-LEC
$(W, n)$ 262,30 476 TOWEF-EXIT-EEX-LCC
(w,h)-6,6.- 477 EXPANC-HCT-SPDT
( $w, h$ )_-2, 478 ICCN-CFFSET
$(w, h) 184,26-482 \quad U-B O X-L O C$
$(w, h)$ 280,26 $483 \quad c-8 D X-L D C$

Rebos.
Border@ 1,1
camel @ $y=91, x=129$
mouse @ $y=105, x=68$
slime (@) $\quad \begin{aligned} & y=15, \quad x=161 \\ & y=25 \\ & x=53\end{aligned}$
gove
fish
side $\quad \begin{array}{ll}y=28 & x=53 \\ y=38 & x=33\end{array}$
smake @ $\quad y=52 \quad x-178 \checkmark$

$$
\begin{gathered}
5 \\
\frac{7}{49} \\
\hline 338
\end{gathered}
$$

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- T
normal "border" screen


$$
\begin{aligned}
& x=192 \\
& y=2
\end{aligned}
$$



jesters seore

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
x=24.5 & \text { your slore: } x=235 \\
y=29 & y=29
\end{array}
$$



if card is (a) $x, y$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { A) Suit goes @ } \quad x+3, y+1 \\ \text { B) } & y+3 \\ \text { C) reverge-suit goes @ } & x+1, y+12 \\ \text { C } & y+32, y+51 \\ \text { 1) reverse-rank goes (c) } & x+29, y+41\end{array}$



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## InFOCOM

June 8, 1988
TO: Russell Lieblich
FROM: Jon Palace (via Christopher Erhardt)
RE: Music for Zork Zero
The game has a feeling of classicism and antiquity (it takes place long ago, in a castle, where wizards and mythical beasts are common) but it also has a feeling of wit and playfulness (a rhyming court jester poses riddles, for instance). Ideally, we'd like the music to be both classical and witty or playful.

The game starts with drama and grandeur (the Empire is collapsing, a King has died, a mighty curse has befallen the lands, and the end of dynasty approaches). Thus we'd like to open with a big, dramatic fanfare -- nothing subtle or delicate, but something grandiloquent. (The opening fanfare of Bach's Preludium, or the opening of Grieg's Piano Concerto, or the opening of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto \#l, are almost cliches now, but they are dramatic. These fanfares are on side $B$ of the Maxell tape.)

After the opening, the melody should be recognizably classical and maybe even familiar. Again, nothing dainty or slow, but something like the main theme in the First Movement of Beethoven's Seventh. There's a moment, about 3 or 4 minutes into the first movement, which is ideally dramatic, starting with a fine crescendo and continuing into the main theme. (In fact, we'd be happy to have your orchestration or re-creation of that theme. This music can be found on the labelled side of the Infocom/Cornerstone tape.)

The disk contains the title screen graphic of Zork Zero, which is what the player will see when the music starts. The graphic can be seen on an Amiga with Deluxe Paint.

Please feel free to call me or Steve Meretzky (the author of Zork Zero) if you'd like to discuss these or other ideas. Thanks!
cc: Sherry Whitely, Christopher Erhardt, Steve Meretzky









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* not used in picture

|  | NEW Z¢ PICS | $3 / 21 / 89$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | PIC NAME | SEGMENT | CO-ORD |
| 486 | CASTLE-SEGMENT-PIC | CASTLE | 0,0 |
| 487 | VILLAGE-SEGMENT-PIC | VILLAGE | 0,0 |
| 488 | SECRET-SEGMENT-PIC | SECRET | 0,0 |
| 489 | EAST-SEGMENT-AC | EAST | 0,0 |
| 490 | WEST-SEGMENT-PIC | WEST | 0,0 |
| 491 | LOWER-SEGMENT-PIC | LOWER | 0,0 |
| 492 | FOOZLE-SEGMENT-PIC | FOOZLE | 0,0 |
| 493 | LAKE-SEGMENT-PIC | LAKE | 0,0 |
| 494 | FENSHIRE-SEGMENT-PIC | FENSHIRE | 0,0 |
| 495 | ORACLE-SEGMENT-PIC | ORACLE | 0,0 |

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DISTRIBUTION;
Curtis
Joel
Chris
Gabby
Liz
Steve
Jon
Hollywood
Angela
Elizabeth
Carl
Cynthia
Stuart
Mike
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## CREATIVE FOCUS FOR ZORR ZERO

## DESCRIPTION:

Zork Zero, prequel to the Zork Trilogy, is an interactive fiction story enhanced with on-screen hints and GRAPHICS -illuminated letters, visual puzzles, and illustrations.

During the story's prologue set in 789 GUE, you play a servant in the court of Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive. During a large banquet, an angered wizard named Megaboz appears and casts a curse on the Twelve Flatheads (Dimwit and his siblings) and on the Great Underground Empire. Megaboz departs, leaving a large, ominously-bubbling cauldron.

Dimwit's court magicians study the curse and succeed in casting a counter-curse which delays the collapse of the Empire for 94 years. However, they are unable to stop the curse against the individual Flatheads, and the prologue ends with Dimwit expiring, face down in his plate of food.

Following the title screen, we jump 94 years later to the final days of the Empire. The current king, Wurb Flathead, has offered a huge reward to anyone who can stop Megaboz's curse. The Empire's capital, Flatheadia, fills up with every crackpot treasure-hunter in the kingdom, all hoping to break the spell and get those piles of zorkmids.

You play one such treasure-hunting peasant, except you've got an advantage. An ancestor of yours (the person you played in the prologue) was present when the curse was cast and learned a valuable bit of information: the curse can only be stopped by finding an item belonging to each of the Twelve Flatheads and throwing all 12 items into the mighty cauldron which still churns in Dimwit's banquet hall.

As the main body of the game opens, you wake up in the castle on what is believed to be the last day before the curse falls. Everyone with half a brain has fled the Eastlands. The only people around are you, the court jester, and a few Inquisition-like religious fanatics.

You now must explore the castle and environs, searching for artifacts from each of the Twelve Flatheads: the quill pen of Ralph Waldo Flathead, the wooden baseball bat of Babe Flathead, and so forth. There are the usual Zorkian obstacles and puzzles: locked doors, strange creatures, magic, logic, and whimsy. Some of the puzzles include piloting the royal dirigible to the summer castle, using a long-hidden oracle to teleport to distant corners of the Empire, and obtaining water for a pair of witches from the Great Underground Oasis.

The main "other character" in the story is the jester, who will alternately help and hinder you in your quest. He will supply you with many useful items and bits of information, but usually only after you solve a riddle or win a game of some kind. He hinders you by playing little tricks, which can range from a slightly annoying to life-threatening.

There are currently around 200 rooms, and more puzzles than in any previous game. It wouldn't be too much of an exaggeration to think of Zork Zero as roughly equivalent to the entire Zork Trilogy in terms of numbers of locations and puzzles.

Once you have succeeded in finding all twelve items and throwing them into the cauldron, the castle begins to collapse around you. If you make it to the gate of the castle in time, you witness the entire castle shrinking...changing... until you find yourself "West of House," the opening location of Zork I.

Megaboz, long thought to be dead, appears and commends you for saving the Empire. He tells you that the white house will stand as a reminder to the future rulers about the excesses of the Flatheads, and appoints you to be Dungeon Master, to watch over the kingdom after Megaboz passes onto a new plane of existence, which he proceeds to do immediately.

To summarize, Zork Zero is rich in the Zorkian tradition. In fact, it offers answers to many of the questions that weigh heavily on the minds of all Zork fans (ie. Where do grues come from? How did the Great Underground Empire collapse? What is the white house in the clearing?). Zork Zero also has the same type of puzzles and the "treasurehunt" format that made Zork I so popular. But Zork Zero adds visual puzzles (like the Bozbar Tower, where you move stone weights from one peg to another, following certain guidelines) and riddles (which the jester doles out to you).

Most of these puzzles and riddles are whimsical and humorous in a very Steve-Meretzky-ish sorta way. Steve's unique humor is also carried over into the descriptions/explanations of objects, locations, and characters. The result is a highly entertaining story with a character (the jester) who's every bit as enjoyable and memorable as Floyd of Planetfall fame. And, as if all this weren't enough, Zork Zero has got a mouse interface (enabling the player to move via compass rose), on-screen hints, a new parser (to help novices), and pretty pictures that will knock your socks off!!

## MARRETING STRATEGY:

Current situation -- Infocom's interactive fiction is failing to draw new members to its audience. But judging by the success of our competitors' "storytelling" products, the potential is still there. The major roadblocks with our past titles seem to be their difficulty and their lack of snazzy graphics or other enhancements. In the three cases where we made the stories easier to play by adding on-screen hints, we seemed to fail to communicate to or convince people that those particular products were different, easier, and worth another look.

Our current audience has dwindled greatly too. But given that Beyond Zork was relatively successful in comparison to Plundered Hearts or Nord and Bert, we can make some educated guesses as to why. First, subject matter that is more traditionally Infocom (ie. Zork, fantasy, traditional puzzles) is apparently preferred to more experimental subject matter (ie. romance, word play). On the other hand, a new, less traditional format (ie. mouse interface, graphic enhancements, on-screen mapping) seems to be more attractive than the standard, all-text format.* Research from warranty cards and TSL reader polls seems to back up these points. Although the research indicates that many of our loyal customers have bought into the graphics-should-be-stuck-where-the-sun-don't-shine theory, the majority of our customers seem to accept graphics (if not welcome them) if:

1. They are good.
2. They work as part of the story.
3. The size and richness of the story isn't sacrificed due to any memory constraints the graphics may impose.

Target Audience -- Males and females of all ages who own or have access to a computer with disk drive. Primarily those who are not Infocom fans; either they have never tried interactive fiction or they have lost interest in Infocom. Secondarily, those who currently are Infocom fans. (The packaging should be targeted primarily at non-Infocom fans because that's the hardest sell. Infocom fans will probably buy this product on its name alone, no matter what the package looks like.)

[^4]Fact -- Zork Zero takes Infocom's best and adds graphics, a new parser, and on-screen hints, thereby increasing its appeal and accessibility to the market in general.

Claim -- Zork Zero is the beginning of something old (the Zork Trilogy) and something new (new format with graphics). You've got to take a look at it.

Strategy -- Promote as a new and improved Zork and make it believable; back it up by clearly communicating the differences - graphics, on-screen hints, humor, easy to use.

Additional supportive --

* It's a Zork. In fact, it's the premier Zork; it's where it all began; it's the history of the Great Underground Empire.
* It's got graphics. The graphics work as part of the game in the form of graphic puzzles. The size and richness of the story are in no way lessened by the presence of the graphics.
* It's big. Even with graphics, it's our biggest game yet; roughly equivalent to Zork I, II, and III combined.
* It's easy to use. The on-screen hints (and hopefully onscreen mapping?!) help you through the rough spots without spoiling the story. The new parser helps the novice communicate with the computer. (I don't think we should mention the parser by name. Its effect on general play is subtle, and I think we should avoid lingo that isn't familiar to the average computer owner.)
* It's got a mouse interface so you can move by pointing at a compass rose.
* It's got humor.
* It's got the jester.
* It's got riddles.
(Don't let the brevity of these three points mislead you. I think it's these final four aspects that make this product my new favorite!)
* It's written by Steve Meretzky, author of so many sensational, witty, entertaining works of interactive fiction that $I$ don't know where to begin.... So I won't.

Character/Tone -- Fun, light-hearted, fresh, new-lease-onlife feel. And of course, this product like all its predecessors should be portrayed as being superior quality, state of the art, highly entertaining.

## PACKAGE EXECUTION:

* Zork Zero is the final title, not just the working title. And it's "Zork Zero" as opposed to "Zork 0."
* Package cover art, logo, AND SPINE (unfortunately our products are. too often displayed spine out) should be "impactful" and stand out on a crowded store shelf to grab the consumer's attention.
* The package as a whole (cover art, internal and external copy) should reflect the marketing strategy and convey the subject matter of the story.
* The package should clearly communicate that Infocom has taken a new direction. Therefore, we need to break away even further from our current line look (ie. pinstripes, white back with 3 columns of copy and photo, etc.). The new look should be far less restrictive than our past designs. We will need flexibility when marketing future products that have all sorts of new and different features. (If we do another no-graphics interactive fiction game, as we're planning with "Restaurant," then I'd argue for putting it in the pinstripe design.)
* The package will be of the same construction as our current packages.
* A tag line is needed that conveys the marketing strategy.
* Space must be allowed for compatibility labels and ISBN/UPC stickers.
* Screen shots are needed on the back.
* There will be no photo of the feelies on the package.
* Steve's name should be on the cover.
* "On-screen hints" (and "mapping," if we have it) should be prominently displayed on cover.
* The Infocom logo should be on the cover, the back, and the spine.
* When talking about the graphics, let's be sure to play it up as a big, BIG positive and not make excuses to our fans who are anti-graphics. But be sure to make it clear that the graphics are integrated into the puzzles and the richness and size of the story has not been sacrificed.
* We've learned that messing too much with the established Zork logo is "messing with the Bible," to use Carl's analogy. But let's mess with it enough to let everyone know this product is different. I would like to look into a photographic treatment for this package (and for future packages, too). Our strongest packages have photographic covers. And how about some reference to the jester on the cover? I think that would say it's different, it's humorous, and bring some new interest/curiosity to an old subject.
* Internal package elements are needed. Currently some proposed feelies are:
- Scrap of paper left by Megaboz when casting curse.
- Pack of Double Fannucci cards.
- Copy of "GUE News and Dungeon Report."
- A blueprint of Rockville Estates (anti-piracy).
- A copy of "The Lives of the Twelve Flatheads" with illustrations of the Flatheads. (This piece has all sort of necessary information. Anti-piracy.)
Of course, cost will not allow us to do all of these. Creative, inexpensive solutions for providing the necessay information is what we should be striving for. Also, the kind of feelies that people and press talk about (ie. Scratch 'n Sniff card, peril-sensitive sunglasses) are a big plus.
\# Zork Zero Creative Focus Revision:



## MARESTIMC STRATEGY:

Current situation -- Infocom's interactive fiction is failing to draw new members to its audience. But judging by the success of our competitors' "storytelling" products, the potential is still there. The major roadblocks with our past titles seem to be their difficulty and their lack of snazzy graphics or other enhancements. In the three cases where we made the stories easier to play by adding on-screen hints, we seemed to fail to communicate to or convince people that those particular products were different, easier, and worth another look.

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1. They are good.
2. They work as part of the story.
3. The size and richness of the story isn't sacrificed due to any memory constraints the graphics may impose.

Target Audience -- Males and females of all ages who own or have access to a computer with disk drive. Primarily those who are familiar with Zork but they have lost interest in Infocom. Secondarily, those who familiar with interactive fiction, but have never tried Infocom interactive fiction because of its difficulty and/or lack of graphics. (The packaging should be targeted at these nonInfocom fans because that's the hardest sell. Infocom fans will probably buy this product on its name alone, no matter what the package looks like.)

[^5]＊I think we should mヨke an effort to avoid the term＂greohics，＂and instead use the term＂1llustrations．＂I think it has iess regetive connotations， especiヨlly among our fans uho＇ve been raised on our enti－graphics propagenda，and $i$ t sourds classier．
＊It＂＝＂Tower of Eoztar，＂not＂Eozbar Tower．＂
＊Riddles aren＇t uniaue to Zork Zero：there have been ricdles in numerous gares，including Zork II．
＊I defiritely wouldr＇t put the jestor in the same class with floyd ミs a character．He isn＇t oresent nearly as ruch of the time，he doesn thave as much of a developed personality，and he isn＇t particularly endearing． （At the risk of ruininc the ending for you，I should point cut that at the end of the game you discover thet the jester is Mesaboz in discuise． Dor＇t mention this to ミny testers，clease．）
＊I＇f fut the mouse／corp rather thar definite．
＊Rather thar saying th $3+$ Tork Zero is about＂the history of the Great Undergrounc Emklre，＂I＇d sey that it＇s about＂the ristory cf the fell ot the Great Undergrourd Erpire．＂
＊I don＇t think it＇s bao to rention the new farser by nare：I thinks enough people have hesrd the term over the years；you＇ll＝ttrect more people than you＇ll turn off．＇wouldn＂t make a biz dea！abcutit，thougr，since that山ould raise exfectatiors．

＊Although the title ls set，the issue of a subtitle is still up in the aır．I lear toward having a subtitle，in order to have more continuity wıth Zorks－II：．A cood subtitle，one that sounds exeiting and says ＂fミntasy＂，would make $\begin{gathered}\text {＂tag line unnecesョry．}\end{gathered}$
＊No photo of feelies！Hew do you knou what＇s inside？
＊I＇t a little worried trat we micht make too big a ceal of the illustrations． There probebly won＇t be that many of them： $90 \%$ of the time the screen will look exactly likき one cf our＂old feshioned＂all－text ミames．
＊Cnanging tre logo（and package look）to tell ceople＂this croduct is different＂right be a tistake．Even witr the illustretions，Zork Zero is much cleser to the Zork Trlloqy that Zeyond Zork，and it should look it．Eecause of geyond Zork（RDG elements，new screan appearance， more a sequel to Spelltreaker than anything else）tany will expect less of a Zork ZerolZork Trilocy relaticn．Zork Zəro is a close relative of the trilogy in style，in jeography，anc in story chronology．Ergo，if the Zcrk Zero logc／cover locks less like the Zork Trilozy than even zeyord Zork，it will send the wrong ressege！！！
＊I think you should poirt out somewhere that Zork Zero can te olayed wlthout any knowledge from／experiencewith the other Zorks．In fact， with the illustrations，on－line hinis，friendiier parser，and easy eミrly ouzzles，it should be ThE entry jame for novices！（A role once
played by Zork I, छnd now flayed perhaps by wishbringer, or perhaps by nothing.)

# Now see where it all began!  







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ZORK ZERO -- front cover tag lines -- 3/3/88
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A whole new way of looking at interactive fiction. New from the ground up.

You've never seen anything like it. Going underground was never like this.

A new look, a new challenge, a new style.

Zork Zero back package copy -- first draft -- 3/4/88

NOW SEE WHERE IT ALL BEGAN!
The Great Underground Empire is in its heyday. Upscale condos crowd the massive caverns. Vast underground highways speed travelers from Aragain to the Fublio Valley. And no adventurer has yet set foot in the open field west of the white house.

But all this is about to crumble. A wizard's curse has already disposed of the royal Flathead family. Now it threatens to destroy the entire kingdom -- unless you can stop it.

You'll need to collect a variety of objects ranging from the absurd to the sublime, and learn how to use them. The quinette jester will test you with games, riddles, and tricks. And the immense Flathead palace and its environs offer a multitude of surprises.

Zork Zero combines the best of the legendary Zorkian universe with the latest technology in interactive storytelling. Communicating with the story is easier than ever, with a new parser, mouse interface, and on-screen hints at your disposal. Author Steve Meretzky, whose award-winning stories include Sorcerer, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, and Leather Goddesses of phobos, lends his characteristic whimsy to the tale.
photo caption: Breath-taking graphics complement and enhance the story.
photo caption: You'll find clues to the puzzles in many of zork Zero's vivid illustrations.

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$\because$ don．t thirk we ought tc mantion treT ot $>11$ ，since that＇s one of the


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The Lives of the Twelve Flatheads
    (oackage element for Zork Zaro)
                    4irst draft
                    9/30/87
                        corments to SEM
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THE LIVES UF THE TNELVE FLATHEADS
    by 80swell Sarwell
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The flatread dynasty had already ruled the land of frobozz for a century when Mumberthrax Flathead, ミon of Phlcid, ascanded tre throne of Quendor. Like almost all the members of the Flathead dynasty, Mumberthrax was a king ot little accompli三hrent. In fact, he did only two things of any significance during his fifteen-year reign.

The first of these was his decree that made gouble fanucci the National Soort of Quendor. Legends say that Jouble Fanucci was invented by Zilbo IIT, the exiled king who was the last member of the Entharion dynasty which was displaced by the Flatheads. Couble Fanueci Championstios had been an annual event since 671 GUE, and Mumberthrax's 2roclamation of 757 simply gave the sport official royal acoroval.

Mumberthrax"s second, and more significant clace in history, was in the one area where the Flatheads tended to excel: orocreatior. Me sired twelve amazing chilcren: twelve offspring who would transform the kingdom. As these siblings grew in notoriety, they became known as The Twelve flatheads. These are their stories.

```
    CIMNIT FLATHEAD
excessive ruler of the empire
    (723-799)
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Dimwit, as Mumberthrax*s firstborn, grew up as heir apparent to the throne of Quendor. A notoriously spoiled brat, little Jimwitwas fond of torturing his nannies in the castle dungeon, and also enjoyed commandeering vehicles from the Frotozz Magic sulldczer Company and razing neighboring castles.

Dimwit spent most of his late youth and early adulthood vacationing (along with four hundred thousara attendants) in the newly-disccvered eastlands on the other side of the Great sea. Dimwit despised the outdoors* and was enthralled by the eastlands, which lay mostly in underground tunnels and caverns.

When, to the unspoken horror of the populace, Jimuit became king in 770 GUR, he immediately moved the capital of quendor to the eastlands, to a small village called Aragain, which he renamed Flatheadia. He also decreed that Quendor be called "The Great Underground Empire" and that the Great Sea be henceforth known as "The Flathead Dean." (Nowadays, all these names are used interchangeably.)

His outlandish coronation ceremony (which lasted ore-and-a-half years and consumed over ten times the kingdom's annual GNP), quickly earned him the nickname Lord Eimuit Flathead the Excessive.

Dimwit's grandiosity knew no bounds. On a whim, in 783, he ordered the construction of Flood Control $こ a m$. a massive underground project whose uselessness was exceeded only by its cost. He ordered that volcanoes be hollowed out for his own amusement, and had enormous granola smelters built near the Antharian Granola Mines, despite a kingdomwide aversion to granola.

One of Dimwit's biggest follies was his castle, which covered 8 sol square blots, and which housed, at one time, over ninety percent of the empire s population. Che legend hints that the castle was even larger, with a vast hidden section that dimwit would enter by mounting one of his thrones and snapping his fingers.

Dimwit's last great project was the erection of a nine-bloit tall statue of himself in the Futlio Valley, which necesitatod the deforestation of nearly halt a million acres. At the time of his death, there were reports that Dimwit was planning his most grandiose scheme ever: the construction of a new continent in the center of the flathead ocean: a continent whose contours would have been a vest reproduction of his own features.

Dimuit.'s death, in 789, has always been shrouded in mystery.
*Dimwit hated the open sky because he mistrusted umbrellas and was deathly afraid of rain, which would puddle embarrassingly on his level pete. This gave rise to rumors that his head was not merely flat, but even slightly concave.
$G$
[A portrait show 人 f imit sitting on a golden throne, completely dwarfed by lis immense size. He is holding a jeweled sceptre and wearing a gaudy crown. The crown rests in the center of his clateau-like head.J

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    J. PIERPDIN' ELATHEAC
rutrless barker and financier
    (725 - 787)
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As a child, J. Pierpoint demonstrated both the flair for capitalism and the ruthlessness which would make him the most successful banker in all of Quendor. He opened $\exists$ lemonade stand in the center of flatheadia and used the royal militis to force citizens to buy lemonade. At spearpoint, most people were willing to pay even J. pierdoint's exorbitant price of 300 zorkmids per glass. (Ice was extra).

He used the rilitia to stamo out $E v e r y$ other lemonade stand in the city, and later to shut oft all other beverage sources as well. As the prices at his lemonede stanc soered into quadruble digits, J. Pierpoint quickly realized the benefits of monopolies.

In 744 , at tre age of $19, \mathrm{~J}$. Dierpoint became a clerk at the Eank of Zork. Six weeks later, fcllowing a rash of unexplained disappearances by his successive bosses, J. Pierpoint became the Chairman of the Board.

As Chairman, he used ris royal connections to eliminate all competing barks, increasing the 马ark of Zork's market share from $99.2 \%$ to $100 \%$. (He was later able to increase this number to $131 \%$ by requiring many customers to deposit their money several times.)

He also supervised the installation of the latest macic-based security techniques to guard the tark's famous vault and security deposit box areas. For unkrown reasors, J. Pierpoint exclusively hire gnomes to fill all his teller positions.
J. Pierpoint Flathead served as Chョirtan of the Board until his odd disappearance in 789 GUE, when he ontered one of the bank's vaults and never re-emerged. Although gone, he is not forgotten; reproductions of his portrait still hang in every branch of the aark of Zork.
[A portrait shows the flEt-topped banker, nattily dressed in a silk pin-striped suit and tie. He sits behind a gleamino desk, empty except tor a oen, a rubber stamp wnich reads -- in nirror image, of course -"foreclose," and a VERY tall stack of crisp zorkmid tills.J

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JCHANN SEEASTIAN FLATHEAD
    musical genius
    (728-789)
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In 732 GUE, the frobozz philharmonic Orchestra was formed. Because of the woeful lack of orchestral music in existence, the =PC usually settled for playing baroque versions ot old folk tunes and popular dance numbers.

Seven years later, the FFD performed their first symphony. Though the piece was not musically excellent, it was notable because of the age of its author, e precocious 11-year-old name Johann sebastian flathead.

As he matured, Johann's symphonies did not increased in quality, but they certainly increased in length. His Symphony $\$ 981$, the so-called Infinite Symphony, contained over sixty -thousand movements: over the course of its only performance, several members of the orchestra retired and were replaced by their children or grandchildren.

Dimwit recogrized a kindred spirit in his younger brother, and appointed him official court composer in 771. He spent his latter years composing music for ever more grandiose instruments, such as his concerto for woodwinds anc 'waterfalls.

Johann was killed in 789 when a mishap occurred during a rehearsal of his Minuet for Violin and Volcano.
[Johann is portrayed wearing a curly wig of white hair, which does absolutely nothing to conceal the fact that his head lacks the slightest curvature. He is standing e music stand overflowing with sheets of music. Next to the stand is a quill pen ir an inkwell. Johann is holding a handsome violin. In the background, understated, are three elephants and a volcano.l


> JCHN D. FLATHEAD
> cartain of industry
> $(730-789)$

King Duncanthrax formed the Frobozz Majic Construction Company in 567 GUE to enlarge tre undergrourd ceverns of the Eastlands. Affiliated compenies, such as the Frobczz Maaic Oirt Disoosal Company, and the frobozz Magic Underground Sewer Installation Company, soon followed. The next year, frobozzCo International uas formed as a parent comoany for the burgeoning subsidiaries.

Ey 748 , there were more than twelve thousand subsidiaries in frotozzCo. That same year, a young entrepeneur named John $D$. FI=thead graduated from the venerable Borphee Business School.

By the age of twenty-two, Jorn 0 . was owner and oresident of flathead Industries, e company with an annual income of thirty million zorkmids. FI's business was lnventing other companies, which it would then sell to FrobozzCo. Eventually, the conglomerəte decided to buy FI, turring it into the Frotozz Magic Comoary Comoany. John D. became one of Frobozzco*s thirty-two trousand vice-presidents.

It didn't take John D. long to parlay his business acumen and royal connections into the chairmanship of FrobozzCo. Years of heady growtr follcwed. When John D."s older brother Dimwit became king, FrobozzCo received every contract tor Dimuit's incredible frojects. Hundreds of new subsidiaries were formed aaily; in 781 a huge $400-s t o r y$ heajauarters opened in flatheadia.

John D. "s long time goal was for frobozzCo to control ever single dollar of commerce in the Great Underground Empire. The lone holdout, a small rutabaga tart in Mithicus, finally sold out to FrobozzCo in 789. John $D$. never heard the news, houever. He disadpeared, छlong with a huge entourage, while touring the factories of the Frobozz Magic Snowmaking Equicment Company in tre Gray Mountains.
[John [. is portrayed seßted at the head of a long, gleaming table of the sort that a corporate board might meet around. He is cheuing or a cigar, and clutching a stock certiflcate in his hande serind hir are one or more charts showing jagged erofit lires moving dramatically unwards. J

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    THCMAS ALVA FLATHEAO
invertor extraordinaire
(730-789)
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Many have mastered the megical arts; few acpliec the magic arts for the creation ot pratical devices as masterfully as the great inventor Thomas Alva Flatheac.

Thomas Alva, the sixth scn in his family, was being constantly tormented by his siblings. No sooner would he get a toy to play with, than some older brother would snatch it away. Thomas Alva auickly remedied the situation by inventing pcwerful steel traps which, at first glance, looked exactly like toy koats or stuffed dornbeasts.

As an adult, Thoras Alva oroduced a seemingly endless stream of inventions from his laboratory, Froblo park. His most famous inventions include the magic rocm scinner and the magic comoressor, but he is probably most well-known as the irventcr of the battery-powered brass lantern.

A11 of these inventions were marketed by frobozzCo International, and Thomas Alva received generous royalties, but he spurned wealth, living in a small room behina his laboratory and sleeping on an unfinished wooden board. Thomas Alve died in 787 GUE from a severe case of splirters.
[In his portrait, Thomas Alve is poring over a workbench, wearing a smock, a pencil behind his ear. In the workbencr are a mouse, a candle, a batterypowered brass lantern, a screwdriver, and a thick book opened to a table of figures.J

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    LEDNARDI ELATHEAD
artist and scientist
    (731 - 737)
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Little notice was taken of Leonardo ョs a child．He was shy and auiet，and quite overshadowed by his agressive older brothers．It wasn t until his arrival at Golepath University that his genuis blossomed and the world began to take notice．

While at the University，Leonardo wrote several major treatises which revolutionized．scientific thcught．The most famous of these treatises disproved the hoary myth that the world sits on the back of a giant turtle，proving instead that the world actually rests on the head of an enormous troll．

After his University days were over，Leonardo turned from science to art． He became the most famous cainter in the land，and noblemen would come from every province to implore Leonardo to paint the peortraits．His most famous work，reprocliced for this volume，were the tuelve portraits of himself and his siblirgs，painted over a severteen year span beginning in $7 \in 6$ GUE．

During his later years，Leonardo became quite serile，and his painting style deteriorated．He took to flinging paint at his canvasses in much the same way that a Eorphee b छker would fling bits of dough into a hot oven to make Frobolli Cakes．His studio became caked with layer upon layer of solattered paint．It was during this period that his famous incomplete work， ＂Obstructed View of Fjord，＂was lost．

Leonardo made a final，feeble attempt to recョpture his former greatness by moving into other media beside oaint，but these efforts led to his tragic end．In 789，while workinc on a large statue to rise above the harbor of Antharia，he plunged into $\ni$ vat of molten granola．
［Leonardo＇s self－portrait shows what is obviously a mirror．In the mirror， we see the back of an easle．A canvas，blank on the side facing the mirror， rests on the eミsle．Leonardo，holding a cing－oong－caddle－sized spatula in nis hand，is peering－uith difficulty－－ground the corner of the carvas．l

With none of the other =latheads is it more difficult to separate history trom lezend thar with Lucrezia. The only sister to elever aggressive brothers, even here detenders would admit that Lucrezia was rore thar slightly warped.

At the tender age of sixteen, Lucrezia married a very rich but very old nobleman from Gurth, Marcus 3zart-Foodle. Fact: Ten End e half-months later, he died in bed with his tride. Not confirmed: azert-Foodle's doctor had warned Lucrezia that, due to her husband's weak heart, she should avoid "exciting" him in any way.

Lucrezia's second husbanc, a wealthy land baron from wareilon named Iddzoe Glorb III, was found dead just five weeks after the wedding, hls body mangled by hellhounds. Not confirmed: A week later, a librarian reports that the widowed Lucrezia returned a multi-volume hellhound training manual.

Just three months later, Lucrezia married a third time, this time to the Governor of Antharia, Hirax Mumbleton. Fact: Three days later, Antharia was without a governor. Hirax was discovered in his office, smothered under a ton of rew granola. Not confirmed: Lucrezia was her school's all-time champion granola shoveler.

Several of Lucrezia's uncles and cousins all died in mysterious ways, always with some connection to Lucrezia. Her growing notoriety was an embarassment to the royal family. After Lucrezia's next fifteen husbends all died on their wedding nights, her elder brother fimwit wes finally torced into action, throuing her into a cell in the dungeon where she languished for the remairing tifteen years of her life. Curing this period, some 1800 prison guards were mysteriously poisoned. Some legends say that her own death, in 7 g9, was selt-induced.
[The accompanying picture of Lucreziz should show e beautiful but darkly evil woman, her head as tlat as any of her brothers. She is holding a fan in one hand and a flask of vaporous liquid in the other. The flask should be marked with a skull and crossbones. A knife, a cobra, and a large soider should be partially concealed on her persch. Dther murder implements should be visible in the backround.]

RALPH WALDO FLATHEAD
the poet of the empire (737-737)

An unspoken Flathead tam lily motto was "quantity over quality," and no one demonstrated th st tenet tetter than Ralph Waldo. During his forty -plus
$\sim$ years of putting pen to parchment, he wrote mine hundred and twelve novels, tour thousand short stories, and an incredible eighty-seven thousand sonnets.
( - alph waldo spend eleven years at Antharia University, collecting a chestful of degrees, including three coctorates: Doctor of Idyllic poetry, Doctor of Excellent Elegies, and Doctor of Detameter Ides. He was very proud of his

- academic accomplishments, and would always sign his name "Ralph waldo Flathead, D.I.P., D.E.E., D.D.D."

Ralph Waldo urote a whole burch of neat stuff, to be described in more detail eventually.

C Later in life, he developed $\exists$ tendency to get stuck in ruts. Witness his last tour sonnets, discovered next to his death bed:

Sonnet 437,177 "Ide to a Tiny Moist Avocado Pit"
Sonnet \#己7,178 "Side tc a Another Tiny Moist Avocado Pit"
Sonnet $\$ 87,179$ "Ide tc Two Tiny Moist Avocado Dits"
Sonnet \#37,180 "I gee tc Two Still-Tiny-Eut-Less-Moist Avocado Dits"
Ralph Waldo died in 789 EUE. An autopsy revealed that the cause of death was an overdose of avocadoes.
[ralph waldo s cortrait shows him sitting at a wooten writing desk, pages from a manuscript spread before him. He is digging a quill den in an inkwell. A black crow is perched on his shoulder and a globe -- picturing the lands of Quendor, not Earth -- sits on a pedestal next

All the Flatread aunts ard uncles guessed early on that John paul would find his destiny at sea. He loved boats; he ordered the royal carpenters to produce a flotilla of fourteen hundred vessels for his bathtub. (His bathtub had to be consequently enlarged; a large inland sea resulted.)

As an adventuring adult, John paul's feats ranged from courageous (he was the first person to traverse the Great sea ir a cne-man ship) to the trivial (he set a new record for most circumnavigations of Anthria on a raft towed by groupers).

In $7 \in 6$ QUE, $\begin{aligned} & \text { et the } \\ & \text { age }\end{aligned}$ was the ranking admiral; by 773 , every ship in the navy tad been sunk or lost at sea. John paul retired shortly thereafter.

He spent his latter days touring the worlds oceans, collecting curios and unusual pets from every corner of the world. Among the most interesting: a large blue toad named "Ito" who was known for his extraordinary appetite and his curmudgeonly personality.

John Paul died during a vaction in Gruboo-by-the-sea, when his old nemesis, the great white jellyfish, finally caught up with him.
[John paul portrait dericts him on the bridge of a wooden sailing ship, one hand on $\varepsilon$ typical ship's steering wheel, the other holding a nautical spyglass. He is wearing a button which reads "Hello, Sailor". A suckered tentacle is undulated across the deck toward him.J

All the Flatread siblings, as cnildren, adored flaying with blocks. (Many even had tears of slaves whose exclusive job it was to move the larger blocks.) However, only Frark Lloyd would draw plans before buidling.

Frank Lloyd got his tig break at the tender छge of 17, when his father, King Mumberthrax, commissioned him to design a new wing for Castle Egreth. The resulting wing was breatrtakingly impressive. As Frank Lloyd himself wrote, "the conjunction of space and time seems to interface in a pre-sutjected instantiation of the underrepresented whole." Frank Lloyd became, overnight, the hottest architect in the Kingdom. (The fact that the new wing of Egreth collapsed two years later, killing over four thousand royal guests, never seemed to dim Frank Lloyd's reputation.)

His reputation established, Frank Lloyd desicned virtually every important Quendorian building during nis three decades as Dfficial Court Architect. Althougn his buildings renged from vacation chalets in the Gray mountains to the Great Meeting 4 all of the Enchanters Guild in Borchee, Frank Lloyd is best known for his most armitious work: the four-rundred story frobozzCo Internation horld Headquarters in Flatheadia.
a
Despite exayerations such as "on a clear day you can see the frobozzCo zuilding trom anywhere in the world," it was the most ambitious building designed before or since the era of Frank Lloyd Flathead. An office address in the FrobozzCo Building was most presti gous, and Frank Lloyd took a penthouse office, until a slight case ot acrophotia forced him to relocate to the nineteenth story.

The carcinogenic chericals that were used in the eighth century to create blueprints finally caught up with Frank Lloyd, and he died in 733 GUE.
[The portrait of Frank Lloyd shows him sitting at 尹 drafting table. An ornate T-square hancs from a hook $\exists$ the side of the table. Frank Lloyd is holding a pencil and template. The template, of translucent green clastic, has several ordinary symtols -- a circle, a compass rose, a toilet bowl -- and several completely bizarre symbols as well. Behind him are several models of castles.J

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    SASE FLATHEAD
athletic sunerstar
    (748-789)
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Dften called the flattest of the Flatheads, the youngest of the twelve was born witr an aptitude for sport. He demonstrated his dexterity ard coordination early by throwing baby blocks at his older siblings with lmpressive sceed and accuracy.

As a youth, he was alway cantain of the Little League teams, thanks in part to pressure applied by his uncle, Mayor fiorello flathead. Even as a teenager, re was sometring of a ladies man and a party animal, and his older brother Dimwit would frequently have to bail the sabe out of jeil tollowing one intraction or another. By all accounts, Babe and Dimmit, despite their 25 year age ditference, were the closest of all the flathead siblings.

When he reached college age, Babe selectec Mithicus Province University trom amongst many eager suitors. At MPU, Sabe was a forty-three letter man, leading nis team to championships in every existing college sport and several non-existent ones as well. (Many experts feel that eabe s teams would have won these charpionshics even ifevery competing school had NOT had their FCAA membershics revoked.)

Throughout the Ezte"s orotessional soorts career, he excelled in everything he tried: bocce, team tag kayaking, full-court furbish. There was only one exception. Try as hard as he could, 3abe could not master Double Fannucci. Even the unexplained disappearences of three hundred and thirty-nine leading Double Fannucci olayars failed to get babe into the championships.

By 782 GUE, the Eabe was such a phenomenal drawing card that Dimwit constructed the kingdom's largest soorting arena, Flathead stadium, in his honor. It was there that the youngest of the Tuelve flatheads met his end, during the shark-wrestling semi-finals in 789 GUE.
[The Babe is shown wearirg a bizarre combination basketball shorts, tootball shoulder cads, and a racing car helmet (flat-topped, of course). He is carrying a baseball bat, a tennis racket, a soccer ball, and several other pieces of comoletely fantastical sporting goods.J

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { The Livas of the tiolve Fi } \text { thoads } \\
& \text { (faokage } \text { elomert for Zork Zero) } \\
& \text { secono oraft } \\
& \text { 2/24/88 } \\
& \text { comments ta SEM }
\end{aligned}
$$

THE LTVES JF THE TWELVE FLGTHEACS by ミosuell Sarwell

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Wuendor had Elready known the benevolent rule of the noble Flatheads for a
century, wher Humberthrax Fl三thead, son of phlol_, ascenced the throre.
Like most of the kincs of the Fiathead dynasty, Mumberthrax u`s a ruler
of little accomplishment. In fact, he diz only tuo things of signiflcance
durznghis fifteen-yezr reign.
The first of these <as his decrep th\nit made Double F=nrucci the Naticnal
Sjort of iuerdor. Legends say th\equivt Double Farnucci wes imvented by Zilbo
III, the last kirg of the Enthझrion dynasty. Double Fannucci Champiorshics
had been an arnual event since bSl J|E, and Mumberthrax"s froclamation of
757 sirply Эave the spcrt official roy\geqslantl approv=1.
Mumeerthmax's second (arc more signiticant) cl=ce in history was in the
one area where the flatheads tended to excel: crocreatior. He sired twelve
amazing cnilcren; twelvo offsprin` whc would tr\equivnsform the kingdom. As these
Tagnificent siblings #ngu in notcriety, छs their vast achievoments became
lejendary, trey became kroun as The T&elve flatheads. These ere their stories.
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CIMWIT FLATLEAD
excezelveruler of the emoire
（72？－789）

Clmuit，Es Mumberthrミx＂s firstborn，झrow JE as heir coserent to the throne of wuender．A tad spoilez，Iit＋le fimrie was fond of torturing his nanries in the castle dungeon，ard also onjoyed commandeerinç vericles from the Frobozz Magic aulldozer Company and razing neignboring castles．

Clmuit spent most of his late youth ヨñ early adulthood vミcョtioning（along with four hundred thousard atterdarts）in the newly－discovered eastlands across the Great Sea．Eivuit，who despised the outdoors＊，was enthralled by the underground tunnels छrid Gaverns of the eestlards．

When King Nurberthrきx at iast felt the touch of death＇s icy hand，in 770 GUE，Jiruit bȩan ris always－vitrant reign．He immediately moved the $c \equiv p+t a l$ of alendor frot Egretn，in tre westlends，to Arapain，in the eastlands．Aragain，up tc that time a small viliaje，was transformed and renatied Fletreadia．Cimuit also deareed that Guendor be called ＂The Great Underground Etpire＂and that the Great Sea be hencetorth known as＂The Elathead Ecean．＂（Nowadays，all these names are used interchanzeatly．）

415 wondrous coronation cerきrony（which lasted one－and－a－half yeers and consumied over ter tites the kincdom＇s annual GNP），quickly earned hit the nicknate Lord Jimuit Flathead the Excessive．
ilmwit＂s grardiosity kneu no bouncs．Sn a whit，in 7\＆3，he ordered the construction of Flood cortmol Cam \＆＝massive underground croject whose Uselessmess end extrere cost could nct conceal itsmajnificence．He ordered that volcanoes be holloued out for his oun amuserent，and had enormous granola smelters built near the Antherien cranola mines，


Some bittar，un玉ppreciative chroniclers have described Jimwit＇s castle as his oiggest folly．It coverad g600 square bloite，and housed，at one time，over ninety percent of the empirés cofuleticn．Qne legend hints that the castle was even larger：thョt Dimwit could make छ secret cassage to a hidden wing appear，by mounting one ot his thrones and sngofing his fingers．

כ1mwit＇s last great croject was the erection of a huce statue of himself in the Fublio Valley．Nire bloits tall，it necessitated the deforestation of nearly fourteen hundrea square bloits．Curing this ceriod，it was rumored that that Dimuit uas plennirc the construetion of a new continent in the center of the Flathead Zcean：a continert whose contcurs would have been a vast reproauction of tis own fe3turas．

Sadly，Uimuit＇s passed auey in TQG Defore he could realize tris incorparable goal．His death has al山eys beon shrouded in mystery．
＊Jimuit hated open sky because he wミs deathly ョfraid of rair，which uould fudale embarrassingly on his level pato．This ？ f ve rise to rumors thet his head was not merely fi三t，but in tact slightiy concave．
［A portrait snows bitwit sittincon a golden throne，completely dwarfed by its immense ミize．he is rolding g jeweled scectre and wearing a gaudy crown．The crown rests ir the center of ris platoau－like head．I

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                        J. =1EKOLTNT EL\triangleTHEAS
rutriess banker and financier
    (72E-72引)
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$\dot{A}$ : a child, J. Plerpoint $\quad$ aemonstrated poth the flair for caritalism and
the rutnlessress which wculj make him the most successful barker in all
of Guendor. te opered z lemon ade stand in the center of flatheadia and
uspa the royel militia to forcecitizens to ouy lemonade. At spearpoint,
most peopie uere willing to say oven J. Pierpoint's exortitant price cf
300 zorkTids per glass. (Icewss extra).
He uミed the rilitie to quash the other lemonade stands ir the city, and
later to shut off all ather teverace sourcas a三wəll. As the prices ミt
nis lemonade stand soared intc quadruple digits, J. Piercoint auickly
realized the tenefits of monofolies.
In 744, at treage of 17 , J. Pierpoint became a clemk at the eank of
lork. SIx wetkミ later, fcllowirg a rash of disヨppearances by ris
successive bosses, J. Fierpoint beczme the youngest Chヨirman of the
Zoarc in the bark's history, a testarent to his financial acuren.
As Chairman, he used his royel connections to eliminate all competing
banks, ircreasing the Zark of Zork's rarket shョre from 99. $2 \%$ to $100 \%$.
CHe was later able to increase this number to $131 \%$ by encour引gina
customers to deposit their money sover尹l times.)
He also supervised treirstallation of the latest macic-basec security
technlaues to guard the tank's vault and depcsit box areas. For unknown
reasons, J. ciercoint exclusively hiref cnomes to fill all his teller
and security positions.
J. Pierpoint Fiathead served as Chairman of the aoard until ris odd
disapjearance in 7 E9 SuF, when he entered one of the bank's vaults
and never re-emerged. Althouch yone, he is not fornotten: reproductions
of his portrait stil! harg ir every branch of tre park of Zork.
[h portrait shows tre tlet-toprec banker, nattily dressed in a silk
pin-stripeg suit and tie. The tie is gray, with little green zorkmid
("zm") si引ns. $4 \in s i+s$ berand ヨ yleaming desk. empty exceft for a pen,
ヨ rubber stamp which reacs -- in mircor itage, of course -- "foreclose,"
and a VERY tミ1l stack of crıミo zorkmid bilis.J

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STCNENALL FLATHEAC
    milit#ry hero
    (725 - 789)
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T．J．＂jtoneuell＂＝iathpad recelved his celetrated nicknミme uhile gerving as a Squire in the Royal Army durinき the famcus Eattle of Tre Stonewzll in 747 UUE．

The Stonewall wミs ヨ stratezically vital lccale，conmミnding the two mcst important caverns of the eastlands．When reports came in that retellious natives had captured The Storewall，T．J．Flathead and his garrison uere assicned the mission of retaking it．

After 引 battle lastırg seven weeks，during wrich T．J．© men suffered a casuaity rate of nearly $75 \%$ ，the garrison storted the stonewall．Ince in command of it，they discovered that the reports had beer erroreous： The fitonewall wes corrletely undefented，and the supfosecly rebellious notives yere actually all vacationinc in the Gray Mountains． Nevertheless，T．J．＇s tactics and strategies during the battle were orilliant，ard he would renceforth de knoun as stonewall＝lathead．

Stoneuall cerformed equally well in subseauent engajements，usually astride his frized uricorn，wilma．He rose quickly trrough the ranks， and in 755 GLE he became General of the Royal Army．

During his 34 years ir commana，he sauelched three provincial rebellions and over twelve thousend tax riots．Fortunately，his unlimited conscription pow rs helpec mitipate the $\mathrm{h}^{\circ} \%$ casualty rates his ermy suffered durirg these difficult battles．

Stonewall diec in 789 GUF wnen he was shot by one of his own ten during ョ battle，possibly aceigentally．
［In his portrait，stonєuミll is appicted estrido a musculer unicorn， carryinj a pcinty lance．The uricorn＇s sझadle is marked＂Wilra．＂He is wearinz a sult of 引rsy armor；although his head is ridoen within the armor＇s relmet，the top of the helmat is flet \＃s aboard．［n the shoulders of his armer are ppaulets like e Letin dictator；dinned to the chest of the armor is a medal consisting of a metal＂Z＂dangilig from a ribbor． 3

> THCNAS ALVA ELATHEAD
> Irvertor Extraoroinaire (730-729)

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Many have mastered the m\equivgic=l artミ; fe山 \equivoclied the magic erts for the
creation of cractlcal devices as masterfully as the groat inventor Tromas
Alva Fla*neac.
Thomas Alva, the sixth scn ir has familyy, 山əs beinc constantly tormerted
by nis sidlings. No sooner woula he cet m toy to Dlay with, than some
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looked exactly like toy tos:c or stuffed dornbeasts.
As ä \nidult, Thoras Alva frocuced a ceemingly endless stream of invertions
from his labcratory, Froclo Fark. His most f=mous inventions include
the magic rocT sfinner \equivrd the magic comfressor, but he is frobably most
well-known as the inventcr of the bzttery-nowered bress lantern.
Thomas Alva ミi三c meむe ヨ rumber of breaktrrouchs in tre area of
sersonally-1rgested macic. His most famous invention in this area was
s yellowish-greer fotion whach alloweo huTans to talk to plarts.
A1l ot these iqventions uere merketed by FrobozzCo International, and
Thomes Alvミ received generous roy`lties, but re spurned wealth, livirg
in a smell room behind his lebor\equivtcry and slpeping on En unfinished
wooden boarc. Thomas Alv\equiv Jied ir 7BY GUS from a severe case of splirters.
[In hi\equiv Dortrai+, Thomas Alva is poring over a workbench. wearing a.smock,
a pencil behind his ear. Un the workbemch \equivre ョrouse, a cancle, a bミttery-
powered brass ientern, \exists screwdriver, and a thick bock opened to a table
of figures.J
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    LEONAROD =LATHEAC
artist and sclentist
    (731-729)
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Little notica was toker of Leonardo as a child．He w ss shy and quiet，ヨnd quite oversh＝oowed by his agressive older hrothers．It wesnot until his errival at Gelep $\begin{gathered}\text { Eth University that his genuis blossomec and the world }\end{gathered}$ began to take notice．
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Curing his leter years，Leonarjo becョme quite senile，and his cainting style deterior ated．He took to flinging naint at his canvasses in ruch the same山ay that ヨ Borfhee baker would fling bits of doush into a hot oven to make ＝robolli cakes．His studic becamecミked with layer upon layer of splettered paint．It was during this cerioo that his famous incomelete work， ＂ubstructec view of＝jore，＂was lost．

Leonardo made ginal，feebie Ettemot to recepture his former greatness by moving into other megia beside feint，but these efforts led to his tragic end．In 78今，whilsworking on a lミrge statue to rise ョbove the harbor of Antharia，he plungad into a vat of molten granola．
［Leonardo＇s self－portrait shous uhat is obviously a mirror．In the mirror， we see the bミck of an zasle．$厶 ~ c a n v a s, b l a n k$ on the side facing the mirror， rests on the eミsle．Leonardo，holdin＝oing－pong－raddle－sized spatula in hıs hanc，is peering－uith difficulty－－ョround tho corner of the canvas．J

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    LGKREITA ELATHFAD
criminal mEstermind
    (735-789)
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Cf all the Tuelve Flotreミds，it is most difficult to sederate history fromi iegeng uhen ミtutying Lucreziョ．The only sister to elever aggressive brothers，detractors havecruellytriet to claim that Lucrezia had a warped mind．

At the tencer age of sixteen，Lucrezia married g very rich but very cld nobleman frot Gurth，Marcus Ezart－Foodle．Ten and $\equiv$ half－months later，he dled in bed with hi三brice．Afterward，Ezart－toodlés doctor could not recall whether he hac uarnea Lucreziz to avoia over－exciting her hustand＇s weak heart．

Luerezia＇s second husbanc，a woalthy land baror from Mareilor nared Cadzce Glort III，wヨs found dead just five weeks ヨfter the wedding， his body mangled by nellrcuncs．It was quite understandabie that Lucrezis had ter multi－voluma nelinounc training manual removed from the rouse at once：the sight of $i^{t}$ must heve brouaht tack tracic memories．

Just five days later，Lucrezia，msrried a third time，to the Governor of Antharia，Hirax Numbleton．Tuo dэys ister，Anthぁriauas witrout a governor． Hirax was ciscovered in ris office，smotrered under a ton of raw grarola． A sobbing wicow immediztely，and undarstandatly，cancelled aelivery cf her daily trucklasas of sranole，in orfer to avoidary similar tranedies．

After her next，fifteen husbends，all wealthy lords，died on their wedding nights，elder brother Litwit $u \equiv s$ finミlly forced into action．He rad rer put into a $\quad$ efllin the dungeon．Presutejly．she was so distr引ught by her trajic string of bad luck thミt she uミs becoming dミngerously suicidal，and had to de locked up for rer own eafety．She ianyuished ir thet cell for the remaining fifteen years cf her itfe．Quring this pemiod，ミome lyoo prison guards were tysteriously wolsoned．Some lejends say that mer oun daath，in 789，was selt－incuced．
［The accompanying ficture of Lucrezif shows a beautiful tut derkly evil womer，her head 引s flet ミs any of her brothers．She is holdirg g delicヨte paper fan．A flask of vəcorous liajid（narked with a skull ard crossbones）， a knife，a cobra，ミnd a large spider shoulf all cepartially concealed on her cerson．Lther murder implements shoula be visible in the background．l

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { RALPH WALDT FLATHEAC } \\
& \text { the POEt Ot the eTFire } \\
& (737-799)
\end{aligned}
$$

An unspoken $=1 a t h e a d$ femily motto 山as＂quaniity over quality，＂and no one demonstrated that teret better than falph weldo．Curing his forty－plus years of putting pen to fanchment，ne urotき nine hundred and twelve rovels， four thousョna short stories，and en incredideleighty－sever trousand sonnets． His essays heve never been successfully counted．

Qalpr Waldo spent eleven years at Antheria University，collecting a chestful of degrees，including three coctorates：roctor of Idyllic Doetry，Doctor of Excellent Elegies，ard Dcctor of SEtameter fdes．4e was very proud of his acagemic accerplishment：，and would alway s sign his name＂qalph waldc Elatread，［．I．＂．，D．E．E．，E．I．E．＂
＝resh out of collece and flush with the enthusi $\begin{gathered}\text { gsm of youth，Ralfh weldo }\end{gathered}$ wrote a serles cf lengthy esszys which he hoped would uclift the humen spirit．Sadly and inexplicably，these ess＝ys lifted little other than the profits of the Frodozz Megic writing Paper company．The essays from this perioo incluoe＂In the Eenefits of keering Ears Clear＂ard＂Why Doorknobs are Necessary．＂Dlso duranz this period，he wrote＂ロr the Juscoloration of Roadside Slush，＂but the manuscrint was lost before it could be putlished，leaving Ralnh nalco disconsclate for years．

Zurıng nis midJle yeミrs，Qalzt waldo enent nearly half a decede living in the grancis mines of Antharia．it was during this feriod that he wrote his longest work，a sixiy－thcusand verse poic about the varieties of moss that one finds in grarola mires．

Later in li＊eg he develored a tancency to get stuck in ruts．witress his last four sonnets，discovered next to his Jeath bed：

Sonnet＊B7，17T＂Lce tc a Tiny 101st Gvocado pit＂

Sonnet $\# \varepsilon 7,179$＂ude to Two Tiny Moist Avocado pite＂
sonnet zyT，ie＂Lae to Two Still－T1ny－Eut－Less－Moist fvocado Pits＂
Ralph Waldo diec 1 त 789 fUE．Ar ヲutorsy revealef that the cause of death was an overdose of avocavoes．
［Ralph waldo＇s portrョit shows nim sittingat a wooder writing desk，fages from a manuscript spreac before rime He is diccing a auill den ir an irkwell． A black crow is cerchez on his shoulder 3nc a globe－－oicturing the lands of wuencor，not Earth－sits on a pedestal next to nim．Or perraps it shculd be a brcgmoia holding up a flat $\pi \equiv$ e？J

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JIH: DAUL FLATHEAS
se=mシr きつを explorer
    (738-705)
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All the Flathead aunta Bna uncles guessed early or that john paul would find his destiny $\equiv t$ eea．he loved bosts；he ordered the royal carinenters to produce a flotill of fourteen hunared vessels for his batrtub．（his bathtub had to be consequently enlarzed：a larse inlend sea resulted．）
from an esrly ヨye，John paul suffered from ar inferiority corplex derived from Deing the second＂Jchn＂ミitlinjamong the Flathead children．（ir his biografhy，vumberthrax explains that when he named John paul he＂simply forgot about john $\mathrm{f}^{\prime \prime}$＂）Tris complex made Johr paul determined to become a world famous seafaring sdventurer．

At sea，has featc margeg trot courggeous（he wos the first person to traverse the Great Sea ir ョ one－man shio）to the trivi引l（he set a new record for mcst circumnavigations of intraria on ヨraft towed by groupers）．

In $76 \in$ GUE，at the aze of 25 ，John paul joined the royel navy：by i7l，he wヨミthe ranking ミdiirヨl：bv 773，every shic in the ravy rad been sunk or lost at sea．Johr Gaul netired shortiy thereafter．

He scent his latter days tourlng the worlys oceens，collecting curios and unusual feis from overy corner of the world．Among the most interesting： a large blue toad nミmed＂ctec＂uno was known for nis extraordinary appetite and ris curmudzeonly personality．

John Paul died curinc a vaction in Grubbo－by－tre－sea，when his old nemesis， the great white jellyfist，flnally cauzmt up with him．
［John zaul＇s fortrait deficts hit on the bridge of a wooden sailing ship， one hand or $=$ tyFlcal shif＇s steering wheel，the other holding a nautical sfyjlass．He ls wearing Eseミman＇s cap and a buttor which reads＂Hello， jailor＂．A suckered tentミcle is undulョted across the deck touard him．J

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E2ANK LLEYN =LATHEAD
    royal ョrchitect
    (741-7@9)
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All the Flothead siblin？s，as children，fcorft claying with tlocks．（Many even hac teats of slaves utose exclusive jot it was to move the larger blocks．）However，only frank Lloyd would jrau nlans before building．
 Mumberthrax，comnissioned hir to design a neu winy for castle Egreth．The resulting wing w s s breatrtakincly impressive．As Frank Lloyd himself urote， ＂the conjurctior of space こnc time seems to interface in a ore－subjected instantiation of the unjerrenresented whole．＂Frank Lloyd became，overnicht， the rottest architect in the kinadom．（The f三ct that the now uinc of Eareth collapsed two years later，killing over four thousand roỷl guests，rever seamed to dit Frank Lloyd＇s recutation．）

His resutation established，Frani Lloyd desicned virtually every important Quendorian building durirg his three decades as gfficial Court Architect． His designs ranged from his vacation chalet in the Gray Nountains to the Breat Meeting Hali of the Encrenters Guildin Zorchee，but Frank Lloyd is best known for his most embitious work：the $400-s t o r y=r o b o z z C o$ guilcing in Flatheadie．

Iverlooking exəggerヨtions such as＂or a clear day you can see the frebozzCo auilding fror anywhere ir the worla，＂it was still the rost ambitious building ever designec or built．A FrebozzCo Euilaing address w es most cresticous，and Frank Lloyd took a centhcuse oftice，until a slicht case of acrophotia forced him to rəlocete to a nireteerth story office uith p cleasant southerr excosure

The carcinogenic chemicals thət were usec in the eighth century to create olueprints tinミlly cミught uo witr Erark Lloyd，and he died ir 789 GUE．

EThe portrait cf Frark Lloyd shows hir sitting इt ヨ dreftinc table．An ornate T－square hanss from a hock Et the side of the tatle．Frank Lloyd is rolding a pencil and template．The template，of translucent green olastic，has several ordinary symtols－－ecircle，a compass rcse，引toilet bowl－－and several completely bizarre symbols as weli．Eehind nim are several models of castles and skyscrapers．．

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    EAEE FLATHEAO
athletic sucerster
    (748-799)
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Iften called the flョttest of the Fl三theads，the youncest of the twelve山as born witr $3 r$ jptitude for sport．He demonstrョted his dexterity ard coordina＊ion early by throwlng bヨby blocks at his older sitlings with impressive sfeed ard accuracy．

As a youth，rewas always cartain of the Little League teams，thanks in part to pressure applied ty his uncle，Mayor fiorello flathead．Even as a teenager，hew as sometrang of a iadies man anc a perty aniral，and his older brother Dirwit would freauently have tc bail the きebe out of jeil following one infractior on another．Ey all ミccounts，ヨabe ヨnd cimuit， despite their 25 year aje difference，were theclosest of all the flathead slolings．

When he reached college gye，Eabe selected mithicus frovince University from amongst many eacer suitors．At MFU，Ezbe wes a forty－three letter man，leading his teat to champiorshirs in every existing college soort and several non－existert ches as well．（Many experts feel that Eabés teams woulc have won these championshics ever if every comceting school had NDT hed their fCAA membershifs revoked．）

Throughout the jabo＇s rrctession＝l sports career，he excelled in every－ thing he trled：bocce，teミm tag kayaking，full－court furtish．There uas only one exception．Try $\bar{s}$ ．herd as he could，bebe could not mester Soudle Fannucci．Fver the unexplaired sisacpearances of three hundred and thirty－nine leadiñ こouble＝annucci clayers failad to get Eabe into tha champlonsrips．
ay 78 ：GUË，the ？abe was such a whenorenal drawing card that Eimwit constructed the kingdor＇s larझest sportingaren a，＝lathead stミdium，in his honor．It was there trat the younzest of the Twelve flatheads met nis end，ouring the shシrk－urestling seri－tinals in $79 G$ GUE．
［The babe is shown weariry abizjrre combinatior of basketball shorts， football shoulder facs，ミnd aracinjcar helret（flat－topped，of course）． Heis carrying a basetall bat，a tennls racket，a soccer ball，a set of weights，ang several other pieces of comoletely fant三stical sporting goods．l

As every student of history knows, the Twelve Flatheads were the greater part of the Thirteen Significant Accomplishments of King Mumberthrax the Insignificant.*

In the immortal words of Boswell Barwell, the royal biographer:
Mumberthrax's place in history was secured by the one thing at which the Flatheads tended to excel: procreation. He sired twelve amazing children; twelve offspring who would transform the kingdom. As these magnificent siblings grew in notoriety, as their vast achievements became legendary, they became known as The Twelve Flatheads.**

In 783 GUE, the coronation of Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive, Mumberthrax's firstborn, began at Flatheadia. This calendar, brought to you under the auspices of the Flatheadia Chamber of Commerce and the Frobozz Magic Calendar company, celebrates the centennial of that memorable occasion.

Reproduced for this calendar are Leonardo Flathead's famous portraits of the Twelve Flatheads.*** Leonardo brilliantly captured the varied personalities of the siblings on canvas over a span of seventeen years, starting with his own self-portrait in 766 GUE (see Jelly) and finishing with his Coronation Portrait of King Dimwit in 783 GUE (see Estuary).

We are grateful for permission to reprint the accompanying excerpts from Boswell Barwell's exhaustive biography, "The Lives of the Twelve Flatheads."****
*The thirteenth accomplishment was a decree that made Double Fanucci the National Sport of Quendor. Legends say that Double Fanucci was invented by Zilbo III, the last king of the Entharion dynasty. Double Fanucci Championships had been an annual event since 691 GUE, and Mumberthrax's Proclamation of 757 simply gave the sport official royal approval.
**From the introduction to "The Lives of the Twelve Flatheads."
***The originals can be seen in the gallery at Flatheadia Castle. Acknowledgement is gratefully made to Winifred Booblort of the Flatheadia Castle Preservation Society for her invaluable help.
****Copyright 804 GUE, Frobozz Magic Biography Publishing Company.

## DIMWIT FLATHEAD

Excessive Ruler of the Empire

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(723-789)
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Dimwit, as Mumberthrax's firstborn, grew up as heir apparent to the throne of Quendor. A tad spoiled, little Dimmie was fond of torturing his nannies in the castle dungeon. He also enjoyed commandeering vehicles from the Frobozz Magic Bulldozer Company and razing neighboring castles.

Dimwit spent most of his late youth and early adulthood vacationing (along with 400,000 attendants) in the still mostly unpopulated Eastlands across the Great Sea. Dimwit, who despised the outdoors*, was enthralled by the underground tunnels and caverns there.

When King Mumberthrax at last felt the touch of death's icy hand, in 770 GUE, Dimwit began his always-vibrant reign. He immediately moved the capital of Quendor from Egreth, in the Westlands, to Aragain, in the Eastlands. Aragain, up to that time a small village, was transformed and renamed Flatheadia. Dimwit also decreed that Quendor be called "The Great Underground Empire" and that the Great Sea be henceforth known as "The Flathead Ocean."**

His wondrous coronation ceremony*** quickly earned him the nickname Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive.

Dimwit's grandiosity knew no bounds. On a whim, in 783, he ordered the construction of Flood Control Dam \#3, a massive underground project whose uselessness and extreme cost could not conceal its magnificence. He commanded that volcanoes be hollowed out for his own amusement, and had enormous granola smelters built near the Antharian Granola Mines, courageously ignoring the kingdomwide aversion to granola.

Some bitter, unappreciative chroniclers have described Dimwit's castle as his biggest folly. It covered 8,600 square bloits, and housed, at one time, over 90 percent of the empire's population.

Dimwit's last great project was the erection of a huge statue of himself in the Fublio Valley. Nine bloits tall, it necessitated the deforestation of nearly 1,400 square bloits. During this period, it was rumored that Dimwit was planning the construction of a new continent in the center of the Flathead Ocean; a continent whose contours would have been a vast reproduction of his own features.

Sadly, Dimwit passed away in 789 before he could realize this incomparable goal. His death has always been shrouded in mystery.
*Dimwit hated open sky because he was deathly afraid of rain, which would puddle embarrassingly on his level pate. This gave rise to rumors that his head was not merely flat, but in fact slightly concave.
**Nowadays, these names are used interchangeably.
***The ceremony, which took thirteen years to prepare and lasted eighteen fun-filled months, consumed over ten times the Kingdom's annual GNP.

Captain of Industry
(725-789)
King Duncanthrax formed the Frobozz Magic Construction Company in 667 GUE to enlarge the underground caverns of the Eastlands. Affiliated companies, such as the Frobozz Magic Dirt Disposal Company, and the Frobozz Magic Underground Sewer Installation Company, soon followed. The next year, FrobozzCo International was formed as a parent company for the burgeoning subsidiaries.

By 743, there were more than 17,000 subsidiaries of FrobozzCo. That same year, a young entrepreneur named John D. Flathead graduated from the venerable Borphee Business School.

At age 22, John D. founded Flathead Industries. FI's business was inventing other companies, which it would then sell to FrobozzCo. Within three years, FI had an annual income of 80,000,000 zorkmids. Eventually, the conglomerate decided to buy FI, renaming it the Frobozz Magic Company Company. John D. became one of FrobozzCo's 39,000 vice-presidents.

It didn't take John D. long to parlay his business acumen and royal connections into the chairmanship of FrobozzCo. Years of heady growth followed. When John D.'s older brother Dimwit became king, FrobozzCo received every contract for Dimwit's incredible projects. Hundreds of new subsidiaries were formed daily; in 781 a huge 400-story headquarters opened in Flatheadia.

John D.'s long-time goal was for FrobozzCo to control every single dollar of commerce in the Great Underground Empire. The lone holdout, a small rutabaga farm in Mithicus, finally sold out to FrobozzCo in 789. John D. never heard the news, however. He disappeared, along with a huge entourage, while touring the factories of the Frobozz Magic Snowmaking Equipment Company in the Gray Mountains.
T. J. "Stonewall" Flathead received his celebrated nickname while serving as a Squire in the Royal Army during the famous Battle of The Stonewall in 747 GUE.

The Stonewall was a strategically vital locale, commanding the two most important caverns of the Eastlands. When reports arrived that rebellious natives had captured The Stonewall, T. J. Flathead and his garrison were assigned the mission of retaking it.

After a battle lasting seven weeks, during which T.J.'s men suffered a casualty rate of nearly $75 \%$, the garrison stormed The Stonewall. Once in command of it, they discovered that the reports had been erroneous: The Stonewall was completely undefended, and the supposedly rebellious natives were actually all vacationing in the Gray Mountains. Nevertheless, T.J.'s tactics and strategies during the battle were brilliant, and he would henceforth be known as Stonewall Flathead.

Stonewall rose quickly through the ranks, and in 755 GUE he became General of the Royal Army.

During his 34 years in command, he squelched three provincial rebellions and over 12,000 tax riots. Fortunately, his unlimited conscription powers helped mitigate the $98 \%$ casualty rates his army suffered during these difficult battles.

Stonewall died in 789 GUE during the Battle of Ragweed Gulch, when he was accidentally shot by one of his own men.

Musical Genius
(728-789)
In 732 GUE, the Frobozz Philharmonic Orchestra was formed. Because of the woeful lack of orchestral music in existence, the FPO usually settled for playing baroque versions of old folk tunes and popular dance numbers.

Seven years later, the FPO performed their first symphony. The piece was notable because of the age of its author, a precocious eleven-year-old named Johann Sebastian Flathead.

As he matured, Johann's symphonies increased in length, while his audiences mysteriously decreased in size.* His Symphony \#981, the so-called Infinite Symphony, contained over 60,000 movements; over the course of its only performance, several members of the orchestra retired and were replaced by their children or grandchildren.

Dimwit recognized a kindred spirit in his younger brother, and appointed him official court composer in 771. Later that year, he wrote his famous "Flatheadia Overture for Rack and Pendulum" to celebrate the dedication of Dimwit's new dungeon.

He spent his latter years composing music for ever more grandiose instruments, such as his Concerto for Woodwinds and Waterfalls. Johann was killed in 789 when a mishap occurred during a rehearsal of his Minuet for Violin and Volcano.
*No reasonable postulation has been made to explain Johann's lack of popularity. It is the belief of this author that the short attention span of the general public precluded it from sitting still for the whole of one of his symphonies.

## J. PIERPOINT FLATHEAD

Dauntless Banker and Financier
(730-789)
As a child, J. Pierpoint demonstrated both the flair for capitalism and the resourcefulness which would make him the most successful banker in all of Quendor. The enterprising eight-year-old opened a lemonade stand in the center of Egreth Village, using the royal militia to force citizens to buy lemonade. At spearpoint, most people were willing to pay little J. Pierpoint's exorbitant price of 300 zorkmids per glass.*

He also used the militia to quash the other lemonade stands in the city, and later to shut off all other beverage sources as well. As the prices at his lemonade stand soared into quadruple digits, J. Pierpoint quickly realized the benefits of monopolies.

In 749, at the age of nineteen, J. Pierpoint became a clerk at the Bank of Zork. Six weeks later, following a rash of disappearances of his successive bosses, J. Pierpoint became the youngest Chairman of the Board in the bank's history, a testament to his financial acumen.

As Chairman, he used his royal connections to eliminate all competing banks, increasing the Bank of Zork's market share from 99.2\% to lo0\%.** He also supervised the installation of the latest magic-based security techniques to guard the bank's vault and deposit box areas. For unknown reasons, J. Pierpoint hired exclusively gnomes to fill his teller and security positions.
J. Pierpoint Flathead served as Chairman of the Board until his odd disappearance in 789 GUE, when he entered one of the bank's vaults and never re-emerged. Although gone, he is not forgotten; reproductions of his portrait still hang in every branch of the Bank of Zork.
*Ice was extra.
**He was later able to increase this number to $131 \%$ by encouraging customers to deposit their money several times.

## THOMAS ALVA FLATHEAD

Inventor Extraordinaire

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(730-789)
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Many have mastered the magical arts; few applied them to the creation of practical devices as masterfully as the great inventor Thomas Alva Flathead.

His brilliance was evident even in childhood. Thomas Alva, the sixth son in his family, was constantly tormented by his siblings: no sooner would he get a toy to play with than some older brother would snatch it away. Thomas Alva quickly remedied the situation by inventing powerful steel traps which, at first glance, looked exactly like toy boats or stuffed dornbeasts.

As an adult, Thomas Alva produced a seemingly endless stream of inventions from his laboratory, Froblo Park. His most useful inventions include the magic room spinner and the magic compressor, but he is probably best-known as the inventor of the battery-powered brass lantern.

Thomas Alva also made a number of breakthroughs in the area of personally-ingested magic. His most famous invention in this area was a yellowish-green potion which allowed humans to talk to plants.

All of these inventions were marketed by FrobozzCo International, providing Thomas Alva with generous royalties. But he spurned wealth, living in a small room behind his laboratory and sleeping on an unfinished wooden board. Thomas Alva died in 789 GUE from a severe case of splinters.

## LEONARDO FLATHEAD

Artist and Scientist
(731-789)
Little notice was taken of Leonardo Flathead as a child. He was shy and quiet, and quite overshadowed by his aggressive older brothers. It wasn't until his arrival at Galepath University that his genius blossomed and the world began to take notice.

While at the University, Leonardo wrote several major treatises which revolutionized scientific thought. The most famous of these disproved the hoary myth that the world sits on the back of a giant turtle, proving instead that the world actually rests on the head of an enormous troll.

After his University days were over, Leonardo turned from science to art. He became the most famous painter in the land: noblemen from every province were escorted to his studio by Dimwit's personal militia to have their portraits painted.

Unfortunately, during his later years Leonardo became quite senile, and his painting style deteriorated. He took to flinging paint at his canvasses in much the same way that a Borphee baker flings bits of dough into a hot oven to make Frobolli Cakes. His studio became caked with layer upon layer of splattered paint. It was during this period that his famous incomplete work, "Obstructed View of Fjord," was lost.

Leonardo made a final, feeble attempt to recapture his former greatness by moving into other media beside paint, but these efforts led to his tragic end. In 789, while working on a large statue intended for the harbor of Antharia, he suffered a fatal plunge into a vat of molten granola.

## LUCREZIA FLATHEAD

## Legendary Murderess or Innocent Widow?

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(735-789)
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Of all the Twelve Flatheads, it is most difficult to separate history from legend when studying Lucrezia, the only sister to eleven aggressive brothers. Showing a total lack of understanding for her delicate position, detractors have cruelly tried to claim that Lucrezia had a warped mind.

At the tender age of sixteen, Lucrezia married a very rich but very old nobleman from Gurth, Marcus Bzart-Foodle. Ten-and-a-half months later, he died in bed with his bride. Afterward, Bzart-Foodle's doctor could not recall whether he had warned Lucrezia to avoid over-exciting her husband's weak heart.

Lucrezia's second husband, a wealthy land baron from Mareilon named Oddzoe Glorb III, was found dead just five weeks after the wedding, his body mangled by hellhounds. It was quite understandable that Lucrezia had her multi-volume hellhound training manual removed from the house at once; the sight of it must have brought back tragic memories.

Five days later, Lucrezia sought consolation in a third marriage, to the Governor of Antharia, Hirax Mumbleton. Only two days after that, Antharia was without a governor. Hirax had been discovered in his office, smothered under a ton of raw granola. His sobbing widow immediately cancelled delivery of her daily truckloads of granola, in order to avoid any similar tragedies.

After her next fifteen husbands, all wealthy lords, died on their wedding nights, royal insiders reported that she was so distraught by her tragic string of bad luck that she was becoming dangerously suicidal. Elder brother Dimwit was finally forced into action, and had her locked up in a cell in the dungeon for her own safety. She languished in that cell for the remaining fifteen years of her life. During this period, some 1,800 prison guards were mysteriously poisoned. Some legends say that her own death, in 789, was self-induced.

## RALPH WALDO FLATHEAD

The Poet of the Empire

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(737-789)
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An unspoken Flathead family motto was "quantity over quality," and no one demonstrated that tenet better than Ralph Waldo. During his 40 -plus years of putting pen to parchment, he wrote 912 novels, 4,000 short stories, and an incredible 87,000 sonnets. His essays have never been successfully counted.

Ralph Waldo spent eleven years at Antharia University, collecting a chestful of degrees, including three doctorates: Doctor of Idyllic Poetry, Doctor of Excellent Elegies, and Doctor of Octameter Odes. He was very proud of his academic Flathead, D.I.P., D.E.E., D.O.O."

Fresh out of college and flush with the enthusiasm of youth, Ralph Waldo wrote a series of lengthy essays which he hoped would uplift the human spirit. Sadly and inexplicably, these essays lifted little more than the profits of the Frobozz Magic Writing Paper Company. The essays from this period include "On the Benefits of Keeping Ears Clean" and "Why Doorknobs are Necessary." Also during this period, he wrote "On the Discoloration of Roadside Slush," but the manuscript was lost for years.

During his middle years, Ralph Waldo spent nearly half a decade living in the granola mines of Antharia. It was during this period that he wrote his longest work, a 60,000 -verse epic about the varieties of moss that one finds in granola mines.

Toward the end of his life, Ralph Waldo specialized in exploring related themes, as brilliantly demonstrated by the four sonnets found by his deathbed:

> Sonnet \#87,177 "Ode to a Tiny Moist Avocado Pit"
> Sonnet \#87,178 "Ode to a Another Tiny Moist Avocado Pit"
> Sonnet \#87,179 "Ode to Two Tiny Moist Avocado Pits"
> Sonnet \#87,180 "Ode to Two Still-Tiny-But-Less-Moist Avocado Pits"

Ralph Waldo died in 789 GUE. An autopsy revealed that the cause of death was an overdose of avocados.

JOHN PAUL FLATHEAD
Seaman and Explorer
(738-789)
All the Flathead aunts and uncles predicted early on that John Paul would find his destiny at sea. He loved boats so much that the royal carpenters were ordered to produce a flotilla of 1,400 vessels for his bathtub.*

From an early age, John Paul suffered from an inferiority complex derived from being the second "John" among the Flathead children.** This complex made John Paul determined to become a world-famous seafaring adventurer.

At sea, his feats ranged from the courageous (he was the first person to traverse the Great sea in a one-man ship) to the curious (he set a new record for the most circumnavigations of Antharia on a raft towed by groupers).

In 766 GUE, at the age of 28 , John Paul joined the royal navy; by 771, he was the ranking admiral; by 773, every ship in the navy had been sunk or lost at sea. John Paul retired shortly thereafter.

He spent his latter days touring the Flathead Ocean, collecting curios and unusual pets from all corners of the world. Among the most interesting: a large blue toad named "Otto" who was known for his extraordinary appetite and his curmudgeonly personality.

John Paul died during a vacation in Grubbo-by-the-Sea, when his old nemesis, the great white jellyfish, finally caught up with him.
*His bathtub had to be consequently enlarged; a large inland sea resulted.
**In his autobiography, Mumberthrax explains that when he named John Paul he "simply forgot about John D."

## FRANK LLOYD FLATHEAD

Royal Architect
(741-789)
As children, all the Flathead siblings adored playing with blocks.* However, only Frank Lloyd drew plans before building.

Frank Lloyd got his big break at the tender age of 17 , when his father, King Mumberthrax, commissioned him to design a new wing for Castle Egreth. The resulting wing was breathtakingly impressive. As Frank Lloyd himself wrote, "the conjunction of space and time seems to interface in a pre-subjected instantiation of the underrepresented whole." Frank Lloyd became, overnight, the hottest architect in the Kingdom.**

His reputation established, Frank Lloyd designed virtually every important Quendorian building during his three decades as Official Court Architect. His designs ranged from his vacation chalet in the Gray Mountains to the Great Meeting Hall of the Enchanters' Guild in Borphee, but Frank Lloyd is best known for his most ambitious work: the 400 -story FrobozzCo Building in Flatheadia.

Overlooking exaggerations such as "on a clear day you can see the FrobozzCo Building from anywhere in the world," it is still the most ambitious building ever designed or built. A FrobozzCo Building address is most prestigous, and Frank Lloyd himself had a penthouse office, until a slight case of acrophobia forced him to relocate to a nineteenth-story office with a pleasant southern exposure.

The carcinogenic chemicals used in the eighth century to create blueprints finally took their toll on Frank Lloyd, and he died in 789 GUE.
*Nanny Beeble, governess to the children, recalls that many had teams of slaves whose exclusive job it was to move the larger blocks.
**The fact that the new wing of Egreth collapsed two years later, killing over 4,000 royal guests, was credited to a miscalculation on the stonemason's part. He was summarily executed.

## BABE FLATHEAD

## Athletic Superstar

$$
(748-789)
$$

Often called the flattest of the Flatheads, Babe, the youngest of the twelve, was born with an aptitude for sport. He demonstrated his dexterity and coordination early on, throwing baby blocks at his older siblings with impressive speed and accuracy.

As a youth, he was always captain of the Little League teams, thanks in part to pressure applied by his uncle, Mayor Fiorello Flathead. Even as a teenager, he was something of a lady's man and a party animal, and his older brother Dimwit would frequently have to bail the Babe out of jail following one infraction or another. By all accounts, Babe and Dimwit, despite their 25-year age difference, were the closest of all the Flathead siblings.

When he reached college age, Babe selected Mithicus Province University from amongst many eager suitors. At MPU, Babe was a 43-letter man, leading his team to championships in every existing college sport and several non-existent ones as well.*

Throughout the Babe's professional sports career, he excelled in everything he tried: bocce, tag-team kayaking, full-court furbish. There was only one exception. Try as he might, Babe could not master Double Fanucci. Even the unexplained disappearances of the 339 leading Double Fanucci players failed to get Babe into the championships. Fanucci experts believe that Babe's difficulty with the game could be traced to one weakness: his failure to remember that three undertrumps after an opponent's discard of a Trebled Fromp is an indefensible gambit.

By 782 GUE, the Babe was such a phenomenal drawing card that Dimwit constructed the kingdom's largest sporting arena, Flathead Stadium, in his honor. It was there, during the shark-wrestling semi-finals in 789 GUE, that the youngest of the Twelve Flatheads met his end.
*Many experts feel that Babe's teams would have won these championships even if every competing school had NOT had their FCAA memberships revoked.

# REUISED DIMWIT COPY - <br> FLATHEAD CALENDAR <br> $4|21| 88$ 

Excessive Ruler of the Empire

$$
(723-789)
$$

Dimwit, as Mumberthrax's firstborn, grew up as heir to the throne of Quendor. A tad spoiled, little Dimmie was fond of torturing his nannies in the castle dungeon.

Dimwit spent most his early adulthood vacationing (with 40,000 attendants) in the sparsely populated Eastlands across the Great Sea. Dimwit, who despised the outdoors*, was enthralled by the underground caverns there.

When Mumberthrax felt death's icy hand in 770 GUE, Dimwit began his vibrant reign. He immediately moved the capital of Quendor from Egreth, in the Westlands, to Aragain, in the Eastlands. Aragain, a small village, was transformed and renamed Flatheadia. Dimwit also decreed that Quendor be called "The Great Underground Empire."**

Dimwit's grandiosity knew no bounds. His wondrous coronation ceremony*** quickly earned him the nickname Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive. On a whim, in 783, he ordered the erection of Flood Control Dam \#3, an underground project whose uselessness and cost did not diminish its magnificence. He also had huge granola smelters built near the Antharian Granola Mines.

Some bitter, unappreciative chroniclers have described Dimwit's castle as his biggest folly. It covered 8,600 square bloits, and housed, at one time, over $90 \%$ of the empire's population.

Dimwit's last great project was the erection of a huge statue of himself in the Fublio Valley. Nine bloits tall, it necessitated the deforestation of 1,400 square bloits.

It was rumored that Dimwit was planning the construction of a new continent in the Flathead Ocean; a continent whose contours would have resembled his own features. Sadly, Dimwit passed away in 789 before he could realize this incomparable goal. His death has always been shrouded in mystery.
*Dimwit was petrified of rain, which puddled embarrassingly on his level pate.
**Nowadays, these names are used interchangeably.
***The ceremony took thirteen years to plan and lasted eighteen fun-filled months.

SEM'S COMMENTS ON ILLUSTRATIONS - 3/11/88
I definitely think that there should be other items pictured besides the "right" ones, and that the "right" ones should be any more emphasized than the "wrong" ones. I would say that four or five distinct items (2 "right" and 2 or 3 "wrong") in each illustration would be good.

In "Lives," I have sometimes listed just the two "right" items, and sometimes I have included some "wrong" items as well. Feel free to make up "wrong" items where needed, but clear them with me before giving them to the illustrator. For example, we couldn't include a hammer, because there IS a hammer in the game but it isn't a Flathead Item, and that would confuse people.

Here are the 24 Flathead Items:
Dimwit: sceptre and crown
Babe: dumbell and baseball bat
Lucrezia: flask of poison and hand-held fan
Frank Lloyd: t-square and scale model of the FrobozzCo Building John Paul: seaman's cap and spyglass

Stonewall: lance and saddle
Ralph Waldo: quill pen and manuscript
Leonardo: painting and easel
Thomas Alva: brass lantern and screwdriver
Johann Sebastian: violin and metronome
John D: stock certificate and diploma
J. Pierpoint: zorkmid bill and silk tie
comments of Lives of the Twelve flatheads pencil sketches:

IMWIT:

JOHANN:

LEONARDO:

JOHN D:

STONEWALL:

FRANK LLOYD:

BABE:

He could look stupider, less noble.

The metronome MUST be pictured!

Please emphasize the easel a little bit more.

Change "1 share" to "...000,000 shares"

It's not really clear enough that the saddle is a saddle. (The word "Wilma" can be left out, if that helps.)

I think that the right-hand wing of his scale model looks a bit too modern.

The bat shouldn't have a hole. The hockey club could have the hole, if you like.

THOMAS ALVA:

The lamp is wrong. I talked to about a dozen people (the lamp has been in every Zork game) and everyone has a mental image of the lamp that's sort of like this (with the battery concealed internally):


Known Dates
selbor battle

Dimwit's Belay

- Devil's Buy

St. Foobus - (fly) more St. Leap Week


Fun facts
659 - Duncanthrax overthrew Zibo III end of Entharion Dynasty

Mon - fading in and out
Phases of wheat
Formation Froozzco 668 (arb).

691 - First D.Fanuci Champion shes
Movement from Egreth to Flatheadia 771
Coronation Day - 783 - $100^{\text {th }}$ annwersary
Grand Riots
Wurb - 881
Time travel spells - 927

Snow burrowing Finds
(hay Mes.) Goth lit crofts fair

Marble Pageant begins (Artharias
zuchini Festival wield

Anniversary of curse (Death of Twelve flatheads) (60 of Flutheadia) July $4^{\text {th }}$ -


2 blank pages: - ad from sponsoring company


Estuary
This Calendar is excepted from contained within are the portraits of his family by leonardo
winds day
Entharion

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\frac{11}{8} \cdot \frac{7}{1}=\frac{77}{8}= \\
-6.25 & x \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{XII} /
\end{array}
$$

XIV

ROTGRUB DAY-
comes out from under rock - . if it sees it's shadow, month ends that day.

St. Zorbak's Day, we think.
cencyc. says "patron saint of people who anent sure of things"
Frob Day is a trademark of the Frobozz Magic Day Company
$3 / 17 / 88$

THIS IS A ROUGH FIRST DRAFT OF THE CALENDAR PORTION OF the "lives of the twelve flatheads" THAT WILL BE IN THE YORK ZERO package.
note that the final calendar WILL BE ABOUT HALF THIS SIZE.

PLEASE GIVE YOUR COMMENTS TO steve.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL HOLIDAYS \& ANNIVERSARIES ARE WELCOME, AS are any other IDEAS.

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Bir thday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Entharion Day | 2 | $3$ <br> nom's bitador | 4 | Dimwit's Birthday Obsurved | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 <br> Dinwit's Birthday cbserved | $13$ | 14 |
| 15 | 16 <br> Granola Riots ( 865 GUE) | 17 | 18 | 19 <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | $31 \quad 0$ | DID U KNOW? Dimwit's Birthday, now associated with big sales at U-Mart and J.C. Zorkmid's, was once a day when everyone in the kingdom was required to give the king a present. |  |  |  |

$\varepsilon 88$ 人 $\forall \forall \cap \perp S \exists$

$\varepsilon 88$ HJYV

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {™ }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { TID BITZ } \\ & \text { Coronation } \\ & \text { have been } \end{aligned}$ | This year is the $100^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of the original Day. Since Dimwit's coronation, all subsequent kings crowned on Frobuary 25 th. |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | $3$ <br> King Wurb's | $4$ <br> 芜 <br> 5r. Foobus' Day | 5 | $6$ | 7 | $8$ |
| 9 | 10 | II | 12 | $13$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | $17$ | 18 | 19 | $20$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 21 | 22 <br> rir <br> Coronation Day |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | $26$ | $27$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 28 | $29$ <br> dimno at the Boybois |

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| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 11 | 2 | 3 | $4$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 5 | ( 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Mage Day | 9 | 10 |  | 12 | 13 |
|  |  |  |  | Dimwit's Birthday observed |  |  |
| $14 \bigcirc$ | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
|  |  |  |  | Dimuitise Birthlay |  |  |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  | $26$ | 27 |
|  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dimuit's birthday } \\ & \text { observed } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | QuIckie quiz who was the first king in the Flathead Dynasty? |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 5037110 g 24. xou |  |

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| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | Star Day |
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| KRAZY KW "A good la husband. | OTES <br> Wyer is mu -- Lucrezia | better th a Flathead | n a good | 1 <br> Dimuit's Birthday Observed | $2$ | 3 |
|  | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 9 | 10 |
| $11$ | 12 | 13 | $14$ <br> Capital Moved to Flatherdia (771) | 15 <br> Dimwit's firthday observed | 16 | 17 |
| $18$ | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 <br> Dimwit's birthday obsenved | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 <br> Dimuit's Birthday Observed | 30 | 1 |

$\varepsilon 88$ WVI

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Bir thday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $-5 \Rightarrow$ | TID BITZ The great Thaumatorgist, Davmar, spent six years of his life as a zucchini farmer, but was allergic to zucchinis and could not eat them himself! |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | 3 <br> Double Fanucci becrame National spert of aepidor $(761)$ | 4 | 5 | 6 <br> Dimwit's Birthdar observed | 7 | 8 |
| 9 |  | II | 12 | 13 <br> Dimwits Birthday observed | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | $19$ | $20$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | $27$ | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | St. Quakko's Day |  | Dimuit's Birthday Observed | . |  |

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| 97 | S2 | $\bullet Z$ | $\varepsilon 乙$ | ZZ | 12 | 02 |
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| 5 | Now ${ }^{\text {nuws }} \quad \rightarrow$ | panasao hopytigsit!mw!d | $Z$ | 1 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { ANSWER: Port Focz } \\ \text { u! spu } \\ \text { s! foym } \end{array}$ | le <br> itsog $2 y+$ tsaisng ayt |
| top lots | Kog 90y | ropyt+!g | hog spura | kog sang | hoo pnw | kog puos |


| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue＇s Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {m／}}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FUN FAX could acc sitting on fingers． | Some exper cess a sec his favo | ts claim tha et wing of ite，thron | hat Dimwit <br> his cast <br> e and snapp | Flathead e by ping his | 1 | $2$ <br> Time Travel Spell invented（927） |
| 3 | $4$ <br> TWC MCONS <br> Leisure Day | 5 | 6 | $7$ <br> Dimwit＇s Birthday Observed | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | II <br> Double Fanucci Championships | 12 | $13$ | 14 <br> Dimwit＇s Birthday observed | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | $21$ <br> Dimwit＇s birthlay observed | $22$ | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | $26 \underbrace{}_{\text {WERD }}$ | 27 | 28 <br> Dimwits Birthday Observed | 29 | 30 |

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| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $2$ | 3 | 4 | 5 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $16$ <br> St. Wiskus' Day | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | $10$  | 11 | $12$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | TID BITZ Antharian cave-dwelling witches can sometimes be summoned by coughing. |  |  |  |

$\varepsilon 88$ y $\because 80 \perp 10$

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DID U KNow? Some silly people actually believe that the Empine will Collapse on Curse Day this year. |  |  | 1 | 2 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | $9$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 10 | 11 |
| $12$ <br> bave for Flatheavia | 13 | $14$ Curse Day | 15 | 16 <br> Dimwits Birthday observed | 17 | 18 |
| $190$ | 20 | 21 | $22 \text { S్sut }$ | $23$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | $24$  | 25 |
| 26 | $27 \nabla$ | 28 | 29 | 30 <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | KRAZY Kwo "I ain't not a hellhound | OTES othing but nd." lvis Flathead |

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$\varepsilon 88$ JngWヨWSIJ

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {m/ }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| quickie quiz who said "A home that's cut in half usually falls over." ? |  |  |  |  | 1 | $2 \overbrace{0}^{N}$ |
| 3 |  |  | $6$ |  | 8 | 9 |
| $10 \quad \bigcirc$ | 11 | 12 |  | $14$ | 15 |  |
| 17 | $18$ | 19 | 20 |  | 22 | 23 |
| 29 <br> 31 <br> ming fintased | 25 | $26$ $\qquad$ | 27 |  |  |  |

Here's the revised calendar. The basic differences:
(1) all "trademarks" have been changed to "traderunes"
(2) all "TM" have been changed to "TR"
(3) approx. 10 mores holidays \& historic anniversaries have been added.
ESTUAKY 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{T R}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Entharion Day | 2 | $3$ <br> momistand | $4$ | 5 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | II | 12 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $13$ | 14 |
| 15 | 16 <br> Granola Riots ( 865 GUE) | 17 | 18 <br> Endless fire starited ( 773 GVE ) | $19$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 20 | 21 |
| $22$ | 23 | 24 | 25 | $26$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 <br> Flud Control Dam \#3 dedicated ( 783 cue) | $31$ | DID U KNOW? Dimwit's Birthday, now associated with big sales at U-Mart and J.C. Zorkmids, was once a day when everyone in the kingdom was required to give the king a present. |  |  |  |

Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobez Magic Day Company
FROBUARY ${ }^{\text {TR }}$

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{T R}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FUN FAX called Fidoo by the Fr 817 GUE. | Frobvary ${ }^{T R}$ was shiary until bozz Magic Mor | criginally was purchase Company in | 1 | $2$ <br> Dimuit's birthday observed | $3$ <br> undergroundhog's | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | $9$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 10 |  |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | $20$ | 21 | 22 | $23$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| 33 | 34 | 35 | Start of Leap Week (Antharia only) | Dimwist's Birthdar coserved |  |  |

[^6]| Sand Day | Mud. Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { KRAZY KWOTE } \\ & \text { "why pay le } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ESS } \\ & \text { ess?" } \\ & \text {-- Dimwit } \end{aligned}$ | Flathead | 1 | $2$ <br> Dimwit's birthlay observed | $3$ | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | $9$ <br> Dimuit's Birithday observed | 10 | II St. Balhu's Day |
| $12$ | 13 | 14 | 15 | $16$ <br> Dimuit's Birthday observed | 17 | 18 |
| 19 <br> Frobozz Magic Cave co. founded (668) | 20 | $21$ | 22 <br> Royal Museum dedicated ( 777 GUE) | $23$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | $30$ $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dimwitt's Birthday } \\ & \text { observed } \end{aligned}$ | 31 |  |

Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozr Magic Day Company
ORACLE 883


[^7]JAM
883


[^8]JELLY 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{T R}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $-5$ | TID BITZ The great Thaumaturgist, Davmar, spent six years of his life as a zucchini farmer, but was allergic to zucchinis and could not eat them himself! |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | $3$ <br> Double fanucci secame Nationa | $4$ <br> Filfre Day | 5 | 6 <br> Dimuit's birthdar observed | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | $10 \quad 0$ | II | 12 | $13$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | $20$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 - | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |  |  | Dimnit's Birthday Observed |  |  |

Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company
AUGUR 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QUICKIE QU the busiest the Eastlan | 2 What is seaport in ds? <br> oon tlo : YJMSNH | 1 | 2 | $3$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 4 smul mex | 5 |
| 6 St. Bovus' Day | $7$ <br> GNusTo spell invented ( 769 GUE) | 8 | 9 | $10$ <br> Dimwit's Birthda observed | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \\ & \text { dentist }: 50 \end{aligned}$ | 16 <br> First Zorkmid minted ( 699 GUE) | $17$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | $22$ | 23 | $24$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | $28$ | 29 | 30 | 31 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | FUN FAX BC are the seco cause of dea flatheadia. | Bottomless pits cond-leading eath in |

SUSPENDUR 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FUN FAX could acces sitting on fingers. | Some exp cess a sec his favor | ts claim tha et wing of ite thron | hat Dimwit his castle and snap | Flathead e by pping his | 1 | $2$ <br> Time Travel Spell |
| 3 | $4$ <br> Leisure Day | 5 | 6 | $\sqrt{7}$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | II <br> Double Fanucci <br> Championships | 12 | $13 \square_{\text {wit } x \text { A }}$ | $14$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | $21$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | $22$ | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | $26 \underset{\text { ween mew }}{ }$ | 27 | $28$ <br> Dimwit's Birthdey observed | 29 | 30 |

[^9]Frob Dey is a traderne of the Fribuzz Magic Day Company
MUMBERBUR 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grue's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DID U KNo } \\ & \text { actually be } \\ & \text { will collap } \\ & \text { year. } \end{aligned}$ | w? Some sill lieve that bapse on Corse | ly people <br> the Empino <br> se Day this | 1 | $2$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | $3 \bigcirc_{n=0}$ | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | $8=0$ | 9 <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 10 | $11$ |
| leave foo | 13 | $14$ <br> Curse Day | 15 | $16$ Dimwits Birthday <br> Observed | 17 | 18 |
| $19$ | 20 | 21 | $22$ | $23$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $24 \equiv \square$ | 25 |
| 26 | $27$ | 28 | 29 | $30$ bserved <br> Dimwit's Birthday | KRAZY Kwo "I ain't no a hellhound | nothing but n." d. Elvis Flathead |

[^10]DISMEMBUR 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues's Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob | Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QUICKIE QUIZ Who said "A home that's cut in half usually falls over."? |  |  |  |  | 1 |  | $2$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | $5$ | 6 | $17$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed | 8 |  | $9$ <br> Unnatural Acts ( 672 GUE) |
| $10$ | 11 | 12 | 13 | $14$ <br> Dimwit's Biethday observed | 15 |  |  |
| 17 | $18$  | 19 | 20 | 21 Observed $\begin{gathered} \text { Dimwit's Birthday } \\ \text { Observed } \end{gathered}$ | 22 |  | 23 |
| $24$ <br> 31 Beginning of Flathead | 25 | $26$ | 27 | $28$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday observed |  | $\because$ |  |






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PHOTOTYPESET FOR QUALITY

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FUN FAX Frobuary ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ was originally called Fidooshiary until it was purchased by the Frobozz Magic Month Company in 817 GUE. |  |  | $1$ | 2 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 3 <br> Undergroundhog's Day | 4 |
| $5$ | $6$ | 7 | $8$ | 9 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 10 | $11$ |
| $12$ | $13$ | $14$ | $15$ | 16 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $17$ | $18$ |
| $19$ | $20$ <br> FULL MOON | $21$ | $22$ | 23 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $24$ | $25$ |
| $26$ | $27$ | $28$ | $29$ | $30$ | $31$ | $32$ |
| $33$ | $34$ | $35$ | Start of Leap Week (Anthania only) | Dimwit's Birthday Observed |  |  |

Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.
Frobuary is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Month Company.
"Antharia"

[^11]| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KRAZY KWOTES <br> "Why pay less?" <br> -Dimwit Flathead |  |  | 1 | $2$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $10$ | 11 <br> St. Balhu's Day |
| 12 | 13 | $14$ | $15$ | 16 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $17$ | $18$ |
| 19 <br> Frobozz Magic Cave Co. founded (668) | $20$ | \|21 <br> EMPTY MOON | 22 <br> Royal Museum dedicated (777 GUE) | $23$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $24$ | $25$ |
| 26 | $27$ | 28 | $29$ | Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 31 |  |

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Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.

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| WRIGHTSON TYPOGRAPHERS • W72870 |  | GALLEY 5 - PROOF 1 |  |  |  |  |
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PHOTOTYPESET FOR QUALITY

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KRAZY KWOTES <br> "A good lawyer is much better than a good husband." <br> -Lucrezia Flathead |  |  |  | 1 <br> EATEN MOON <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 <br> Treaty of Znurg (474 GUE) | 6 | 7 | 8 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 9 | $10$ |
| $11$ | $12$ | $13$ |  | 15 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $16$ | $17$ |
| 18 | $19$ | $20$ | $21$ | 22 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $23$ | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | $27$ | $28$ | 29 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 30 |  |

Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.



| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QUICKIE <br> the busiest Eastlands? | $Z$ What is port in the | 1 | 2 | 3 <br> Dimuit's Birthday Observed | $4$ <br> SMALL MOON | 5 |
| $6$ | Gnusto spell invented (769 GUE) | $8$ | 9 | 10 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $11$ | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | $15$ | 16 <br> First Zorkmid minted (699 GUE) | 17 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $18$ | 19 |
| 20 | $21$ | $22$ | $23$ | $24$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $25$ | 26 |
| $27$ | $28$ <br> LARGE MOON | $29$ | $30$ | 31 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | FUN FAX Bottomless pits are the second-leading cause of death in Flatheadia. |  |

Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.
Answer: Port Foozle $\begin{aligned} & \uparrow_{\text {upsich }} \text { down in } \\ & \text { Quickie Quiz bor }\end{aligned}$
PHOTOTYPESET FOR QUALITY

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FUN FAX Some experts claim that Dimwit Flathead could access a secret wing of his castle by sitting on his favorite throne and snapping his fingers. |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 <br> Time Travel Spell invented (927) |
| 3 | 4 <br> TWO MOONS <br> Leisure Day | 5 | 6 | Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 <br> Double Fanucci Championships | $12$ | $13$ <br> ONE \& A HALF MOONS | 14 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $15$ | 16 |
| $17$ | $18$ | $19$ | $20$ | 21 <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | $22$ <br> MISSING MOON | $23$ |
| 24 | $25$ | 26 | $27$ | $28$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 29 | 30 |

Frob Day is a tradernne of the Frobozz Magic Day Compony.
PHOTOTYPESET FOR QUALITY


PHOTOTYPESET FOR QUALITY




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## ESTUARY 883 FF

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# The Flathead ralendar ${ }^{\text {® }}$ 


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## THE TWELVE FLATHEADS

As every student of history knows, the Twelve Flatheads were the greater part of the Thirteen Significant Accomplishments of King Mumberthrax the Insignificant.*

In the immortal words of Boswell Banvell, the royal biographer:
Mumberthrax's place in history was secured by the one thing at which the Flatheads tended to excel: procreation. He sired twelve amazing children; twelve offspring who would transform the kingdom. As these magnificent siblings grew in notoriety, as their vast achievements became legendary, they became known as The Twelve Flatheads.**

In 783 GUE, the coronation of Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive, Mumberthrax's firstborn, began at Flatheadia. This calendar, brought to you under the auspices of the Flatheadia Chamber of Commerce and the Frobozz Magic Calendar Company, celebrates the centennial of that memorable occasion. Reproduced for this calendar are Leonardo Flathead's famous portraits of the Twelve Flatheads.*** Leonardo brilliantly captured the varied personalities of the siblings on canvas over a span of seventeen years, starting with his own self-portrait in 766 GUE (see Jelly) and finishing with his Coronation Portrait of King Dimwit in 783 GUE (see Estuary).
We are grateful for permission to reprint the accompanying excerpts from Boswell Banvell's exhaustive biography, "The Lives of the Twelve Flatheads."****

1 *The thirteenth accomplishment was a decree that made Double Fanucci the National Sport of Quendor. Legends say that Double Fanucci was invented by Zilbo III, the last king of the Entharion dynasty. Double Fanucci Championships had been an annual event since 691 GUE, and Mumberthrax's Proclamation of 757 simply gave the sport official royal approval.
" "From the introduction to "The Lives of the Twelve Flatheads."
**The originals can be seen in the gallery at Flatheadia Castle. Acknowledgement is gratefully made to Winifred Booblort of the Flatheadia Castle Preservation Society for her invaluable help.

* . . "Copied right in 804 GUE by the Frobozz Magic Biography Publishing Company.


## DIMWIT FLATHEAD Excessive Ruler of the Empire (723-789)

$\rightarrow$ mwit, as Mumberthrax's firstborn, grew up as heir to the throne of Quendor. A tad spoiled, little Dimmie was fond of torturing his nannies in the castle dungeon.
Dimwit spent most of his early adulthood vacationing (with 40,000 attendants) in the sparsely populated Eastlands across the Great Sea. Dimwit, who despised the outdoors," was enthralled by the underground caverns there.
When Mumberthrax felt death's icy hand in 770 GUE, Dimwit began his vibrant reign. He immediately moved the capital of Quendor from Egreth, in the Westlands, to Aragain, in the Eastlands. Aragain, a small village, was transformed and renamed Flatheadia. Dimwit also decreed that Quendor be called "The Great Underground Empire."**
Dimwit's grandiosity knew no bounds. His wondrous coronation ceremony ${ }^{* * *}$ quickly earned him the nickname Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive. On a whim, in 783, he ordered the erection of Flood Control Dam \#3, an underground project whose uselessness and cost did not diminish its magnificence. He also had huge granola smelters built near the Antharian Granola Mines.
Some bitter, unappreciative chroniclers have described Dimwit's castle as his biggest folly. It covered 8,600 square bloits, and housed, at one time, over $90 \%$ of the empire's population.
Dimwit's last great project was the erection of a huge statue of himself in the Fublio Valley. Nine bloits tall, it necessitated the deforestation of 1,400 square bloits.
It was rumored that Dimwit was planning the construction of a new continent in the Flathead Ocean; a continent whose contours would have resembled his own features. Sadly, Dimwit passed away in 789 before he could realize this incomparable goal. His death has always been shrouded in mystery.
-Dimwit was petrified of rain, which puddled embarrassingly on his level pate.

- "Nowadays, these names are used interchangeably.
.. *The ceremony took thirteen years to plan and lasted eighteen fun-filled months.


# ESTUARY 883 

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthay | ${ }^{\text {Frob Day }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1$ | 2 |  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | $12$ <br> Dimuit's Birthday | $13 \bigcirc$ | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | $18$ <br> Eancrifigite | $19$ | 20 | 21 |
| $22$ $\qquad$ | 23 | 24 | 25 | $26$ | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | $30$ | 31 O | DID U KNOW? Dimwit's Birthday, now associated with big sales at U-Mart and J.C. Zorkmids, was once a day hen everyone in the kingdom was required to give th ing a present. |  |  |  |



## JOHN D. FLATHEAD <br> Captain of Industry (725-789)

King Duncanthrax formed the Frobozz Magic Construction Company in 667 GUE to enlarge the underground caverns of the Eastlands. Affiliated companies, such as the Frobozz Magic Dirt Disposal Company, and the Frobozz Magic Underground Sewer Installation Company, soon followed. The next year, FrobozzCo International was formed as a parent company for the burgeoning subsidiaries.

By 743, there were more than 17,000 subsidiaries of FrobozzCo. That same year, a young entrepreneur named John D. Flathead graduated from the venerable Borphee Business School.

At age 22, John D. founded Flathead Industries. FI's business was inventing other companies, which it would then sell to FrobozzCo. Within three years, FI had an annual income of $80,000,000$ zorkmids. Eventually, the conglomerate decided to buy FI, renaming it the Frobozz Magic Company Company. John D. became one of FrobozzCo's 39,000 vice-presidents. It didn't take John D. long to parlay his business acumen and royal connections into the chairmanship of FrobozzCo. Years of heady growth followed. When John D.'s older brother Dimwit became king, FrobozzCo received every contract for Dimwit's incredible projects. Hundreds of new subsidiaries were formed daily; in 781 a huge 400 -story headquarters opened in Flatheadia.
John D.'s long-time goal was for FrobozzCo to control every single zorkmid of commerce in the Great Underground Empire. The lone holdout, a small rutabaga farm in Mithicus, finally sold out to FrobozzCo in 789. John D. never heard the news, however. He disappeared, along with a huge entourage, while touring the factories of the Frobozz Magic Snowmaking Equipment Company in the Gray Mountains.

## FROBUARY 883



# STONEWALL FLATHEAD Military Hero <br> (726-789) 

T.J. "Stonewall" Flathead received his celebrated nickname while serving as a Squire in the Royal Army during the famous Battle of The Stonewall in 747 GUE.
The Stonewall was a strategically vital locale, commanding the two most important caverns of the Eastlands. When reports arrived that rebellious natives had captured The Stonewall, T.J. Flathead and his garrison were assigned the mission of retaking it.

After a battle lasting seven weeks, during which T.J.'s men suffered a casualty rate of nearly $75 \%$, the garrison stormed The Stonewall. Once in command of it, they discovered that the reports had been erroneous: The Stonewall was completely undefended, and the supposedly rebellious natives were actually all vacationing in the Gray Mountains. Nevertheless, T.J.'s tactics and strategies during the battle were brilliant, and he would henceforth be known as Stonewall Flathead.

Stonewall rose quickly through the ranks, and in 755 GUE he became General of the Royal Army.

During his 34 years in command, he squelched three provincial rebellions and over 12,000 tax riots. Fortunately, his unlimited conscription powers helped mitigate the $98 \%$ casualty rates his army suffered during these difficult battles.

Stonewall died in 789 GUE during the Battle of Ragweed Gulch, when he was accidentally shot by one of his own men.


# ARCH 883 

| Sand Day | Mud Da | Grues Day | Wand Day | Birthay | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {ma }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KRAZY KWOTES "Why pay less? Dimwit Flathead |  |  | 1 | $2$ | $3 \bigcirc$ | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | $9$ | 10 |  |
| 12 - | 13 | 14 | 15 | $16$ | 17 | 18 |
| 19 mannaacicix | 20 | $21 \bigcirc$ | $22$ | $23$ | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |  | 31 |  |



JOHANN SEBASTIAN FLATHEAD Musical Genius<br>(728-789)

In 732 GUE, the Frobozz Philharmonic Orchestra was formed. Because of the woeful lack of orchestral music in existence, the FPO usually settled for playing baroque versions of old folk tunes and popular dance numbers.

Seven years later, the FPO performed their first symphony. The piece was notable because of the age of its author, a precocious eleven-year-old named Johann Sebastian Flathead.

As he matured, Johann's symphonies increased in length, while his audiences mysteriously decreased in size*: His Symphony \#981, the so-called Infinite Symphony, contained over 60,000 movements; over the course of its only performance, several members of the orchestra retired and were replaced by their children or grandchildren.

Dimwit recognized a kindred spirit in his younger brother, and appointed him official court composer in 771. Later that year, he wrote his famous "Flatheadia Overture for Rack and Pendulum" to celebrate the dedication of Dimwit's new dungeon.

He spent his latter years composing music for ever more grandiose instruments, such as his Concerto for Woodwinds and Waterfalls. Johann was killed in 789 when a mishap occurred during a rehearsal of his Minuet for Violin and Volcano.

## ORACLE 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthay | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {ma }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TID BITZ This year is the 100 th anniversary of the original Coronation Day. Since Dimwit's coronation, all subsequent kings have been crowned on Oracle 22nd |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | $3$ <br>  | 4 | 5 | $6$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 7 | 8 O |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 <br> pmanab Bimatar | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | $20$ $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dimwit's Birthday } \\ & \text { Observed } \end{aligned}$ | 21 | $22$ |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | $27$ | 28 |  |

[^14]
## J. PIERPONT FLATHEAD <br> Dauntless Banker and Financier (730-789)

As a child, J. Pierpont demonstrated both the flair for capitalism and the resourcefulness which would make him the most successful banker in all of Quendor. The enterprising eight-year-old opened a lemonade stand in the center of Egreth Village, using the royal militia to force citizens to buy lemonade. At spearpoint, most people were willing to pay little J. Pierpont's exorbitant price of 300 zorkmids per glass.*

He also used the militia to quash the other lemonade stands in the city, and later to shut off all other beverage sources as well. As the prices at his lemonade stand soared into quadruple digits, J. Pierpont quickly realized the benefits of monopolies.
In 749, at the age of nineteen, J. Pierpont became a clerk at the Bank of Zork. Six weeks later, following a rash of disappearances of his successive bosses, J. Pierpont became the youngest Chairman of the Board in the bank's history, a testament to his financial acumen.
As Chairman, he used his royal connections to eliminate all competing banks, increasing the Bank of Zork's market share from $99.2 \%$ to 100\%.** He also supervised the installation of the latest magic-based security techniques to guard the bank's vault and deposit box areas. For unknown reasons, J. Pierpont hired exclusively gnomes to fill his teller and security positions.
J. Pierpont Flathead served as Chairman of the Board until his odd disappearance in 789 GUE, when he entered one of the bank's vaults and never re-emerged. Although gone, he is not forgotten; reproductions of his portrait still hang in every branch of the Bank of Zork.

-Ice was extra.
**He was later able to increase this number to $131 \%$ by encouraging customers to deposit their money several times.

# MAGE 883 

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wand Day | Birthay | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {² }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 1 | 2 ( | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| conay | Morobu |  |  | Dimambemimu |  | Ambin Matic |
| 7 | $8 \bigcirc$ | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|  |  |  |  | Dimabimindy |  |  |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
|  |  |  |  | Dimisishindey |  |  |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
|  |  |  |  | Dimicminide |  |  |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |  | QUICKIE QUIZ Who was the first king in the Flathead Dynasty? <br>  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $p_{0}$ |  |  |  |



THOMAS ALVA FLATHEAD<br>Inventor Extraordinaire<br>(730-789)

Many have mastered the magical arts; few applied them to the creation of practical devices as masterfully as the great inventor Thomas Alva Flathead. His brilliance was evident even in childhood. Thomas Alva, the sixth son in his family, was constantly tormented by his siblings: no sooner would he get a toy to play with than some older brother would snatch it away. Thomas Alva quickly remedied the situation by inventing powerful steel traps which, at first glance, looked exactly like toy boats or stuffed dornbeasts.

As an adult, Thomas Alva produced a seemingly endless stream of inventions from his laboratory, Froblo Park. His most useful inventions include the magic room spinner and the magic compressor, but he is probably bestknown as the inventor of the battery-powered brass lantern.

Thomas Alva also made a number of breakthroughs in the area of person-ally-ingested magic. His most famous invention in this area was a yellowishgreen potion which allowed humans to talk to plants.
All of these inventions were marketed by FrobozzCo International, providing Thomas Alva with generous royalties. But he spurned wealth, living in a small room behind his laboratory and sleeping on an unfinished wooden board. Thomas Alva died in 789 GUE from a severe case of splinters.

JAM 883


Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.

# LEONARDO FLATHEAD <br> Artist and Scientist <br> (731-789) 

Little notice was taken of Leonardo Flathead as a child. He was shy and quiet, and quite overshadowed by his aggressive older brothers. It wasn't until his arrival at Galepath University that his genius blossomed and the world began to take notice.

While at the University, Leonardo wrote several major treatises which revolutionized scientific thought. The most famous of these disproved the hoary myth that the world sits on the back of a giant turtle, proving instead that the world actually rests on the head of an enormous troll.

After his University days were over, Leonardo turned from science to art. He became the most famous painter in the land: noblemen from every province were escorted to his studio by Dimwit's personal militia to have their portraits painted.
Unfortunately, during his later years Leonardo became quite senile, and his painting style deteriorated. He took to flinging paint at his canvasses in much the same way that a Borphee baker flings bits of dough into a hot oven to make Frobolli Cakes. His studio became caked with layer upon layer of splattered paint. It was during this period that his famous incomplete work, "Obstructed View of Fjord," was lost.
Leonardo made a final, feeble attempt to recapture his former greatness by moving into other media beside paint, but these efforts led to his tragic end. In 789, while working on a large statue intended for the harbor of Antharia, he suffered a fatal plunge into a vat of molten granola.


## JELLY 883

| Sand Day | Mnd Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TP }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -5 奢 | TID BITZ The great Thaumaturgist, Davmar, spent six years of his life as a zucchini farmer, but was allergic to zucchinis and could not eat them himseli! |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| $2$ WHITE MOON | $3$ | $4$ | 5 | $6$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday Observed | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 O | $11$ | 12 | $13$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | $20$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |  |  |  |  |  |

[^15]

## LUCREZIA FLATHEAD. Legendary Murderess or Innocent Widow? (735-789)

Of all the Twelve Flatheads, it is most difficult to separate history from legend when studying Lucrezia, the only sister to eleven aggressive brothers. Showing a total lack of understanding for her delicate position, detractors have cruelly tried to claim that Lucrezia had a warped mind.

At the tender age of sixteen, Lucrezia married a very rich but very old nobleman from Gurth, Marcus Bzart-Foodle. Ten-and-a-half months later, he died in bed with his bride. Afterward, Bzart-Foodle's doctor could not recall whether he had warned Lucrezia to avoid over-exciting her husband's weak heart.

Lucrezia's second husband, a wealthy land baron from Mareilon named Oddzoe Glorb III, was found dead just five weeks after the wedding, his body mangled by hellhounds. It was quite understandable that Lucrezia had her multi-volume hellhound training manual removed from the house at once; the sight of it must have brought back tragic memories.

Five days later, Lucrezia sought consolation in a third marriage, to the Governor of Antharia, Hirax Mumbleton. Only two days after that, Antharia was without a governor. Hirax had been discovered in his office, smothered under a ton of raw granola. His sobbing widow immediately cancelled delivery of her daily truckloads of granola, in order to avoid any similar tragedies.

After her next fifteen husbands, all wealthy lords, died on their wedding nights, royal insiders reported that she was so distraught by her tragic string of bad luck that she was becoming dangerously suicidal. Elder brother Dimwit was finally forced into action, and had her locked up in a cell in the dungeon for her own safety. She languished in that cell for the remaining fifteen years of her life. During this period, some 1,800 prison guards were mysteriously poisoned. Some legends say that her own death, in 789, was self-induced.

AUGUR 883

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wand Day | Birthay | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {R }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QUICKIE QUIZ What is the busiest seaport in the Eastlands? әzoon hod :гамsu |  | 1 | 2 | $3$ | 4 samusex | 5 |
|  |  | 8 | 9 | $10$ | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | $15 \text { devisit } 50$ | $16$ | $17$ | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | $24$ | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | $28$ | 29 | 30 | $31$ | FUN FAX B are the secon Flatheadia. |  |

## RALPH WALDO FLATHEAD

The Poet of the Empire
(737-789)
An unspoken Flathead family motto was "quantity over quality," and no one demonstrated that tenet better than Ralph Waldo. During his 40 -plus years of putting pen to parchment, he wrote 912 novels, 4,000 short stories, and an incredible 87,000 sonnets. His essays have never been successfully counted.

Ralph Waldo spent eleven years at Antharia University, collecting a chestful of degrees, including three doctorates: Doctor of Idyllic Poetry, Doctor of Excellent Elegies, and Doctor of Octameter Odes. He was very proud of his academic accomplishments, and always signed his name
"Ralph Waldo Flathead, D.I.P., D.E.E., D.O.O."
Fresh out of college and flush with the enthusiasm of youth, Ralph Waldo wrote a series of lengthy essays which he hoped would uplift the human spirit. Sadly and inexplicably, these essays lifted little more than the profits of the Frobozz Magic Writing Paper Company. The essays from this period include "On the Benefits of Keeping Ears Clean" and "Why Doorknobs are Necessary." Also during this period, he wrote "On the Discoloration of Roadside Slush," but the manuscript was lost before it could be published, leaving Ralph Waldo disconsolate for years.
During his middle years, Ralph Waldo spent nearly half a decade living in the granola mines of Antharia. It was during this period that he wrote his longest work, a 60,000 -verse epic about the varieties of moss that one finds in granola mines.
Toward the end of his life, Ralph Waldo specialized in exploring related themes, as brilliantly demonstrated by the four sonnets found by his deathbed:
Sonnet \#87,177 "Ode to a Tiny Moist Avocado Pit"
Sonnet \#87,178 "Ode to Another Tiny Moist Avocado Pit"
Sonnet \#87,179 "Ode to Two Tiny Moist Avocado Pits"
Sonnet \#87,180 "Ode to Two Still-Tiny-But-Less-Moist Avocado Pits"
Ralph Waldo died in 789 GUE. An autopsy revealed that the cause of
 death was an overdose of avocados.

# SUSPENDUR 883 




JOHN PAUL FLATHEAD
Seaman and Explorer
(738-789)
'All the Flathead aunts and uncles predicted early on that John Paul would find his destiny at sea. He loved boats so much that the royal carpenters were ordered to produce a flotilla of 1,400 vessels for his bathtub.*

From an early age, John Paul suffered from an inferiority complex derived from being the second "John" among the Flathead children." * This complex made John Paul determined to become a world-famous seafaring adventurer. At sea, his feats ranged from the courageous (he was the first person to traverse the Great Sea in a one-man ship) to the curious (he set a new record for the most circumnavigations of Antharia on a raft towed by groupers).

In 766 GUE, at the age of 28, John Paul joined the royal navy; by 771, he was the ranking admiral; by 773, every ship in the navy had been sunk or lost at sea. John Paul retired shortly thereafter.

He spent his latter days touring the Flathead Ocean, collecting curios and unusual pets from all corners of the world. Among the most interesting: a large blue toad named "Otto" who was known for his extraordinary appetite and his curmudgeonly personality.
John Paul died in 789 GUE, during a vacation in Grubbo-by-the-Sea, when his old nemesis, the great white jellyfish, finally caught up with him.
-His bathtub had to be consequently enlarged; a large inland sea resulted.
" In his autobiography, Mumberthrax explains that when he named John Paul he "simply forgot about John D."

# OTTOBUR 883 

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthay | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {Im }}$ | Star - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $2 \bigcirc$ | 3 | 4 | $5$ | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 ( | 11 | $12$ | 13 | 14 |
| $15$ $\qquad$ | 16 | 17 | 18 | $19$ $\begin{gathered} \text { Dimuit's Birthday } \\ \text { Observed } \end{gathered}$ | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 涣 | 24 | 25 |  | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 污 | TD BITZ Antharian cave-dwelling witches cansometimes be summoned by coughing. |  |  |  |

[^16]
## FRANK LLOYD FLATHEAD <br> Royal Architect <br> (741-789)

As children, all the Flathead siblings adored playing with blocks.* However, only Frank Lloyd drew plans before building.

Frank Lloyd got his big break at the tender age of 17 , when his father, King Mumberthrax, commissioned him to design a new wing for Castle Egreth. The resulting wing was breathtakingly impressive. As Frank Lloyd himself wrote, "the conjunction of space and time seems to interface in a pre-subjected instantiation of the underrepresented whole." Frank Lloyd became, overnight, the hottest architect in the Kingdom.* *

His reputation established, Frank Lloyd designed virtually every important Quendorian building during his three decades as Official Court Architect. His designs ranged from his vacation chalet in the Gray Mountains to the Great Meeting Hall of the Enchanters' Guild in Borphee, but Frank Lloyd is best known for his most ambitious work: the 400 -story FrobozzCo Building in Flatheadia.

Overlooking exaggerations such as "on a clear day you can see the FrobozzCo Building from anywhere in the world," it is still the most ambitious building ever designed or built. A FrobozzCo Building address is most prestigious, and Frank Lloyd himself had a penthouse office, until a slight case of acrophobia forced him to relocate to a nineteenth-story office with a pleasant southern exposure.

The carcinogenic chemicals used in the eighth century to create blueprints finally took their toll on Frank Lloyd, and he died in 789 GUE.
*Nanny Beeble, governess to the children, recalls that many had teams of slaves whose exclusive job it was to move the larger blocks.

* "The fact that the new wing of Egreth collapsed two years later, killing over 4,000 royal guests, was credited to a miscalculation on the stonemason's part. He was summarily executed.



# MUMBERBUR 883 

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthday | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {TR }}$ | Star Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DID U KNOW? Some silly people actually believe that the Empire will collapse on Curse Day this year. |  |  | 1 | $2$ | $3 \quad \bigcirc$ | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 三 | $9$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday | 10 | $11$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & 12 \\ & \text { leare fro } \\ & \text { flostredian } \end{aligned}$ | 13 | $14$ | 15 | $16$ | 17 | 18 |
| $19 \ominus$ | 20 | 21 | 22 | $23$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday | 24 ○ミ | 25 |
| 26 | $27 \underbrace{}_{\text {Riv wow }}$ | 28 | 29 | $30$ <br> Dimwit's Birthday | KRAZY KWO "You ain't not hellhound." | OTES hing but a <br> Elvis Flathead |

[^17]

BABE FLATHEAD
Athletic Superstar
(748-789)
Often called the flattest of the Flatheads, Babe, the youngest of the twelve, was born with an aptitude for sport. He demonstrated his dexterity and coordination early on, throwing baby blocks at his older siblings with impressive speed and accuracy.

As a youth, he was always captain of the Little League teams, thanks in part to pressure applied by his uncle, Mayor Fiorello Flathead. Even as a teenager, he was something of a lady's man and a party animal, and his older brother Dimwit would frequently have to bail the Babe out of jail following one infraction or another. By all accounts, Babe and Dimwit, despite their 25-year age difference, were closest of all the Flathead siblings.

When he reached college age, Babe selected Mithicus Province University from amongst many eager suitors. At MPU, Babe was a 43 -letter man, leading his team to championships in every existing college sport and several non-existent ones as well."

Throughout the Babe's professional sports career, he excelled in everything he tried: bocce, tag-team kayaking, full-court furbish. There was only one exception. Try as he might, Babe could not master Double Fanucci. Even the unexplained disappearances of the 339 leading Double Fanucci players failed to get Babe into the championships. Fanucci experts believe that Babe's difficulty with the game could be traced to one weakness: his failure to remember that three undertrumps after an opponent's discard of a Trebled Fromp is an indefensible gambit.

By 782 GUE, the Babe was such a phenomenal drawing card that Dimwit constructed the kingdom's largest sporting arena, Flathead Stadium, in his honor. It was there, during the shark-wrestling semi-finals in 789 GUE, that the youngest of the Twelve Flatheads met his end.
"Many experts feel that Babe's teams would have won these championships even if every competing school had NOT had their QCAA memberships revoked.

# DISMEMBUR 883 

| Sand Day | Mud Day | Grues Day | Wands Day | Birthay | Frob Day ${ }^{\text {m }}$ | Star Dav |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QUICKIE QUZZ Who said "A home that's cut in half usually falls over?", <br>  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 20 |
| 3 | 4 |  | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 -'¢ | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 慮 |
|  |  |  |  | Dimatismatien |  |  |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | $21 \doteqdot$ | 22 | 23 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | $29 \div$ | 30 |
| 31 Ratat |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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\begin{aligned}
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& \text { OUT } \mathbb{N} \text { LOT } \phi \text {. } \\
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\text { THE NExT IdE }
\end{array} \\
& \text { oUT THERE. } \\
& \text { THANK, }
\end{aligned}
$$

I LeFT MY HARDHAT
OUT $\operatorname{NLDT}$ L
PLEA E PICK TM E YOU RE
THE NEWT THE OUT THERE.
THERE

QuIRE.


Work still to be performed in Phase Two:

- Removal of temporary passages
- Installation of emergency exits
- Installation of sprinkler system
- Construction of Concierge apartment

| Froboz Magic Construction Company | 1 of 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| RockVille EstateS <br> Phase Two, showing gll work <br> completed through 29-Mum-880 |  |
| scale 1:1440 diawn by S. Fzortbar |  |




This is the first draft of the sample transcript for the ZORK ZERO manual.

Please April give me any coonments
by 25 .
Especially worth thinking about: are there any unusual syntaxes, interactions, or features in ZORK ZERO which should be included in the transcript but which aren't?

SEM 4/19188

```
\WALK WEST
Edqe of Chasm
    You are standing at the precipice of a gaping chasm, which is spanned
bv a tramway. The tramway hangs from the cavern roof above the chasm.
Tunnels lead north, northeast, and east. On the south wall in an
unlabelled black button.
    You can see a tram car and a jar of tomato sauce here.
>EXAMINE THE TRAM CAR
There's no one in the tram car.
>TAKE ALL
tram car: You ve got to be kidding!
iar of tomato sauce: Taken.
>PUSH THE BLACK BUTTON
A smiling Dungeon Imp appears. "Hear ye the Riddle of the Chasm! Answer incorrectly, and the Chasm shall collect your bones! Here goes...
"A boy was hurt and brought, unconcious, to a hospital. The doctor on duty, Doctor Manson, said 'Oh, my! This is my son!' and proceeded to treat the boy.
"Later, the boy awoke and Nurse Lanolin bustled to his side. It was her first day at the hospital, and she was trying hard to do everything riaht. She glanced at his medical chart, which included a message from Doctor Manson to take good care of my son!" Nurse Lanolin told the boy, -Your father, Doctor Manson, treated you himself!. The boy looked ouzzled. "Doctor Manson isn't my father!"
"Assuming that neither the boy nor the doctor are lying, who is Doctor Manson?"
>ANSWER "HIS MOTHER"
The Dunqeon Imp looks disappointed. "Correct. The chasm isn t going to be hadov. that's for sure. Maybe we can fool it with some hellhound bones..." Mumblina to itself, the Imp vanishes, and a passage opens to the soutn!
```


## >SIUTH

Meat Closet
This is a chilly room for the storage of meat and meat by-products. The only exit is north.

A pepperoni is hanging here.
>NORTH
Fdae of Chasm
>NDRTH
Qare's Room
This is a large and ugly room, most of which is taken up by a large and ualy ogre. The ogre sits next to a tunnel to the north. Dther oassaces lead east and south.

## >INVENTORY

You are carrying a rusty lamp (providing light), a guidebook, and a jar of tomato sauce. You are wearing a magic shawl.
>EXAMINE THE GUIDEBIOK
The is a field guide to the wonders and dangers of the underground orovince of Gruntburg.
>READ ABOUT QGRES IN THE GUIDEBDOK
"Jares are strong, ill-tempered, and stubborn. They range in size up

```
to 25 feet tall, have hair over most of their bodies, and adore
oeoderoni pizza."
>NQRTH
The oare stops you with a flick of his little finger. "I"m hungry.
And nobody passes by me when I'm hungry. Nobody."
\EAST
Kitchen
    This is a tiny kitchen equipped with a small brick oven. Waves of
heat come from the oven. There are doors to the west and southwest.
    Sitting on the counter is some dough.
>PUT THE TOMATD SAUCE ON THE JQUGH
You'll have to open the jar first.
\OPEN THE JAR. PUT THE TOMATO SAUCE ON THE DOUGH
Qoened.
You soread the tomato sauce over the surface of the dough.
\trianglePIIT CHEESE ON OQUGH
ryou can't see any cheese right here.J
\SMIITHWEST
Fdoe of Chasm
    You can see a tram car here.
>GET IN THE TRAM
You are now in the tram car. There are some simple controls that you
should probably examine.
>LDCK AT THE CONFRDLS
rI don"t know the word "confrols."J
\IOPS CONTROLS
The controls consist of a large red lever which can be push to the
oast or west.
\PUSH LEVER WEST
The tram car moves along its track in a graceful arce reaching the
middle of of the chasm.
>WAIT
Time passes...
    The tram car descends, reaching the far side of the chasm.
Far Edge of Chasm, in the tram car
    The western side of the chasm is almost identical to the eastern side,
making you wonder why anyone went through the trouble of building the
tramway.
    You can see a pile of cheese here.
>TAKE THE CHEESE
You can't reach the cheese from the tram car.
>GET DUT IF THE CAR. PICK UP THE CHEESE. GET IN
You get out of the tram car.
Taken.
```

```
You are now in the tram car.
\PUSH LEVER WEST
Nothing happens.
\PUSH LEVER EAST
The tram car moves along its track in a graceful arc, reaching the
middle of of the chasm.
\GET DUT DF THE TRAM CAR
You step into thin air, plunging down into the rock-filled chasm.
```



```
Do vou wish to RESTART, RESTQRE, UNDO or QUIT? \UNDO
[undone.I
\WAIT
The tram car descends, returning you to the eastern side of the
chasm.
Edae of Chasm, in the tram car
\GET QUT DF CAR
You aet out of the tram car.
>SIUTH
Meat Closet
    A pepperoni is hanging here.
\TAKE
[the pepperoni]
Taken.
    The rusty lamp appears to be getting dimmer.
\INVENTORY
You are carrying a rusty lamp (providing light), a guidebook, an empty jar,
a Dile of cheese and a pepperoni. You are wearing a magic shawl.
>NORTH.NDRTHEAST.PUT THE CHEESE ON THE PIZZA
Edae of Chasm
Kitchen
    Sitting on the counter is some dough. Sitting on the dough is a jarful
of tomato sauce.
You sprinkle the cheese across the dough.
 PPUT THE PEPPERONI ON THE PIZZA
You slice the pepperoni into pieces and scatter them across the surface.
\TAKE THE PIZZA
Taken.
\WEST
Mare's Room
>GIVE THE PIZZA TO THE DGRE
```

The ogre looks disgusted. "This pizza"s uncooked!" He looks hungrily at you, as though considering you as a pizza alternative, but ultimately restrains himself (with apparent difficulty).
>EAST. OPEN THE LVEN. PUT THE PIZZA IN THE QVEN.CLOSE IT
Kitchen
Doened.

The dizza is now in the oven.
You can ${ }^{\circ}$ close a pizza!
>CI DSE THE DVEN
r.lnsed.
>WAIT
Time oasses...
>DPEN THE IVEN
Qoening the oven reveals a bubbling pepperoni pizza.
>TAKE PIZZA
Qucn! You pick up the pizza, but burn your fingers in the process.
DEAST
Dare 's Room
The ogre smells the pizza and begins slobbering.
>GIVE THE PIZZA TO THE GGRE
He suallows the pizza in a single gulp, and begins dozing.
>NコRTH
LobbV
You are in on the ground floor of the building which house the National Ggre Institute, a public relations and governmental lobbying aroup. A stair leads up, there are exits to the south and east.

You can see a tube of burn cream here.

This is the first draft of the sample transcript for the ZORK ZERO manual.

Please April 25 the
by any comments
Especially worth thinking about: are there any unusual syntaxes, interactions, or features in ZORK ZERO which should be included in the transcript but which aren't?

What about the syntaxes needed for the brogmoid's ear and fungus puzzlefor talking to them?
Syptaxes for the vials - ( 9 -group) - 1 had problems with FILL, POUR OUF, EMPTY, etc. That's not a hard concept, however.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Planetfall } 7415 \\
\text { Lop } & 7863
\end{array}
$$

```
                    PREFACE TO THE STORY
                    (for Zork Zero manual)
(first draft -- 4/27/88)
    (comments to SEM)
```


#### Abstract

rif vou ve played Zork Zero, please let me know if this intro is faithful, and if it leaves out anything important. If you haven 't olayed Zork Zero, please let me know if there's any part of this intro you found confusing, and whether or not it makes you want to olay the game. Thanks.]


93 years have passed since the great wizard Megaboz cast the Curse which destroyed Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive along with the other members of the ruling family, the Twelve Flatheads. Now, the Curse threatens now to bring down the Great Underground Empire itself! Wurb Flathead, the current occupant of the throne, has sent a clarion call to the remotest corners of the Empire: half the Empire s riches to the person who can allay the curse. From every province of Quendor, courageous adventurers, scheming charlatans, and wild-eyed crackpots have streamed into the Imperial Capital of Flatheadia.

You, a peasant from an unheard-of village in an obscure orovince, are one such treasure-seeker. However, you have an important advantage: An ancestor of yours was a servant in Dimwit's court, witnessed Megaboz casting the curse, and obtained a small scrap of wizardly parchment from the mage's pocket.

This parchment scrap has been passed down from generation to qeneration, and is now in your possession. Thanks to it, you know something that none of the other would-be cursebusters knows: To stop the curse, you must find items that once belonged to each of the Twelve Flatheads, and throw them into Megaboz's cauldron!

You arrive in Flatheadia to discover that most of the oooulation, including all figures of authority, have already fled to distant provinces. And when you awake on the hard floor of the castle on Curse Day, you find that even the looters and the most

Dersisent adventurers have departed.
In fact, as you begin your desperate quest to find the relics of the Twelve Flatheads, your only company is the court iester, who spins rhymes for your amusement. Always appearing when vou least expect him, the jester will confront you with riddles and games, spring some deadly tricks, and give you helpful nudges in the right direction. And throughout, he seems to be laughing at some tremendous joke which you can t begin to fathom... Zork Zero is the sequel to the Zork Trilogy, among the best-loved computer games ever written. Zork Zero takes to back to the age of the Flatheads, and allows you to glimpse the Great Underground Empire during its heyday, and to witness its monumental fall.

In fact, as you begin your desperate quest to [find the $\epsilon$ Do you relics of the Empire you need to] stop the Curse, your only company is the court jester, who spins rhymes for your amusement. Always appearing when you least expect him, the jester will confront you with riddles and games, spring some deadly tricks, and give you helpful nudges in the right direction. And throughout, he seems

- to be laughing at some tremendous joke which you can't begin to fathom...

Zork Zero is the prequel to the Zork Trilogy, one of the

- most popular, best-loved computer games ever written. Zork Zero takes you back to the age of the Flatheads, where you can glimpse the Great Underground Empire during its heyday, and witness its
$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { army } \\ \text { hews } \\ \text { copy }\end{array}\right.$ monumental fall.
**xtt Although 9 know the Some wind this mane with it w o wonder if Som people Streaming in to the then suddenly swemons sons. 9 think ot this point saying Dan, suse the most $s$ down toward Curse crackpots begin to doubt and wildest-Ened crash. Along with the viNes of Stere, they begin to lees by the hims yon chive in most of the population...

Then the fret that yorire besicel males mon sense.

In your desperate quest to [find the $\epsilon$ Do you want to tull them
d to] stop the Curse, your only company
ins rhymes for your amusement. Always
sect him, the jester will confront you
ing some deadly tricks, and give you
direction. And throughout, he seems
endous joke which you cant begin to
duel to the Zork Trilogy, one of the
neuter games ever written. Zonk Zero
the Flatheads, where you can glimpse
during its heyday, and witness its Up font the this is whet
the must do the must do - or let them figure it out from the parchment? \& vote for the detsclius method, esp. since checody made a tentelizir reference to the puchment

Very nicely put. this should hews besom on the pachas copy!
9) know the some and this mons sense to ms, ms of someone Unformilicr, with it wand $\partial$ be confess $\partial$ ency susryone gone. $?$ think you need another 升 point saying some thing like. As the days count and Curse Dan, Even the most scheming Charlatans the bes, $b$ in to long lew the capital, one by ans, droves. By the hims yon chive in Flathe. dice, the population...
 mon $s$ sense.

* Do you want to tell them Up front that this is whet the must do-or let them figure it out from the parchment? \& vote for the detrclius method, Esp. Since you checdy made a tentelizing reforence to the puchment.

Very nicely put. this should hews beEn on the pectase copy!
this manes sense to ms,
with it wand be confuse $\partial$
s in to the powvitaler capital,
ing like "Assr need another 升
the most scheming chuletems holocaust / ceteclysm the vivesers and $h$ ends the copitel, one by ore,
yon chive in Flathe. die,
mire basicel, coons
In fact，as you begin yd ．esperate quest to find the relics of the Empire you need to stop the Curse，your only company is the
court jester，who spins rhymes for your court jester，who spins rhymes for your
amusement．Always appearing when you least expect him，the jester will confront you with riddles and games，spring some deadly tricks，and give you helpful nudges in the right direction．And throughout，he seoms to be laughing at some tremendous Trilogy，one of the most popular，best－loved computer games ever written．Zork Zero takes you back to the age of the Flatheads， where you can glimpse the Great Under－ ground Empire during its heyday，and
witness its monumental fall．
> ．范 the instructions on your screen．The hints generally progress from a gentle nudge to a complete answer．
Don＇t let the presence or absence of hints In fact，fake hints have been included to discourage this．
We strongly recommend that you look at only one hint at a time．Avoid the tempta－
inevitably spoils，or at least lessens，the fun of solving a puzzle．
If you have no will power，and can＇t stop yourself from looking at the hints too often， you can type HINTS OFF．This will deactivate the on－line hints（unless you RESTART or RESTORE to an earlier
 About the Author pots have streamed into the Imperial scheming charlatans，and wild－eyed crack－ can allay the Curse．From every province
of Quendor，courageous adventurers， remotest corners of the Empire：half the the throne，has sent a clarion call to the You are one such treasure－seeker，a peasant from an unheard－of village in an


 Megaboz casting the Curse，and obtained a
small scrap of wizardly parchment from the mage＇s pocket．
This parchment scrap has been passed
down from generation to generation，and is down from generation to generation，and is know what none of the other would－be Cursebusters know；you alone know what must be done to stop the Curse！ By the time of your arrival at Flatheadia，
most of the treasure－seekers have given up and returned to their homelands．In fact，
you discover that most of the population， and returned to their homelands．In fact，
you discover that most of the population，
including all figures of authority，have fled to distant provinces．And when you awake on the hard floor of the castle on Curse Day，you find that even the looters and the
most persistent adventurers have departed． Day，you find that even the looters and the
most persistent adventurers have departed．

## SECTION： ABOUT ZORK ZERO

Preface to the Story
 great wizard Megaboz cast the Curse which destroyed Lord Dimwit Flathead the the ruling family，the Twelve Flatheads． Great Underground Empire itself！ ј0 〕uednoso јuәuns әч＇peәцрен qinM riches of the kingdom to the person who
can allay the Curse．From every province ＂play＂during a brief prologue），witnessed including all figures of authority，have fled to distant provinces．And when you awa most persistent adventurers have depat



$\exists$
Nㅡㄹ $\pm$ $\because$ $\stackrel{\square}{2}$ $\stackrel{-}{-1}$

*CREDITS - You will get a complete list of who worked on Zork Zero.
*DEFINE - This command allows you to change the settings of the function keys. 4 See the "Function Keys" section on pag DIAGNOSE - Zork Zero will give you a report of your physical condition. *HINT - If you have difficulty while playing the story, and you can't figure out what to directions at the top of your screen to read the hint of your choice. INVENTORY - Zork Zero will list what you
 ate INVENTORY to I .

LOOK - This will give you a full description of your location, and the room's icon (if it has one). You can shorten LOOK to $L$
*MAP - This will show you the on-screen map which contains your current location.
See "Mapping" on page 4.
*MODE - If you desire to turn off the त restore these graphics at any time by typing MODE a second time. *NOTIFY - Normally in Zork Zero, the game will notify you whenever your score changes. You can turn off this notification feature by using the NOTIFY command.
Typing NOTIFY a second time turns the feature back on.

## Special Commands

 Jo 1SOW 'spuxumos piom-әuo jnjosn these commands appear in all Infocom

 prompt ( $>$ ) and press the RETURN (or ENTER) key.

AGAIN - This will repeat your previous
 then typing AGAIN would be like hitting the croquet ball twice in a row. You can abbreviate AGAIN to G .

 you enter it. On subsequent visits, Zork Zero will tell you only the name of the location and any objects present. Zork告 VERBOSE or SUPERBRIEF commands.
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*COLOR - This allows you to customize the foreground and background colors of
the text portion of Zork Zero.

## Function Keys

As described elsewhere in this manual, many commands have abbreviations: you can type N instead of NORTH, for in-

With function keys, you can use a single keystroke as an abbreviation for whatever you choose. You can use a function key to abbreviate a long word that you don't like to type (like HIPPOPOTAMUS), or to abbreviate a commonly used command
 STAIRS).

You start the story with the function keys aiready set to commonly used commands. To see what the function keys are function keys, type DEFINE at the prompt function keys, type DEFINE at the prompt
$(>)$ and press the RETURN (or ENTER) key. Then use your mouse or up and down arrow keys to highlight the setting(s) you want to change. The vertical bar (I) or abbreviation for the RETURN (or ENTER)


 function key. Note: Only one RETURN
(or ENTER) can be included in each function key definition. Anything typed after the first RETURN (or ENTER) will be disregarded.
 of the function keys by highlighting the of the function keys by highinghting the
RESET DEFAULTS command and pressing the RETURN (or ENTER) key. You can save any changes you make by highlighting the SAVE DEFINIT ONS definitions you wish to RESET DEFAULTS, or save a new set of definitions, you may retrieve your previous definitions save by highlighting the RE-

 the EXIT command and press the RETURN
(or ENTER) key.

## Mapping

Mapping
Zork Zero contains an on-screen mapping
feature. When you want to see the map,
type MAP. The map will show only those Locations will be identified by the icons which appear the first time you visit a room (or when you type LOOK).

The map shows only your general Zork
vicinity, not the entire geography of Zork will blink. If you have a mouse, you can move around the geography by clicking on an adjacent room. If anything interesting happens while you are moving around in returned to the story.

You may still want to draw your own map to keep track oble to look at the entire Zork Zero geography at once.

To remove the map from the screen and return to the story, simply hit any key.

Graphical Puzzles
There are a number of graphical puzzles in Zork Zero. The interface for them is different from the full sentence input elsewhere in Zork Zero. Instructions will accompany each of these graphical puzzles

Other puzzles include full-screen illustrations. Once you have viewed these,
simply hit any key to continue the story. If You Have a Mouse If you have an Apple IIgs or Macintosh, an Amiga, an Atari ST, or an IBM PC with a Microsoft-compatible mouse, you can take advantage of several Zork Zero features. (which appears in the center of the status line at the top of your screen) to move from location to location. Just click on the appropriate point of the compass rose. move around while using the on-screen mapping feature, and for solving many of the graphical puzzles. (See "Mapping" and
＞PUSH THE BLACK BUTTO． A smiling Dungeon Imp appears．＂Hear ye the Riddle of the Chasml Answer incor－ bones！Here goes．．．
＂A boy was hurt and brought，unconcious， to a hospital．The doctor on duty，Doctor Manson，said＇Oh，my！This is my sonl and
＂Later，the boy awoke and Nurse Lanolin bustled to his side．It was her first day at the hospital，and she was trying hard to do everything right．She glanced at his medical chart，which included a message from Doctor Manson to＇take good care of my sonl＇Nurse Lanolin told the boy，＇Your father，Doctor Manson，treated you himself！ The boy looked puzzled．＇Doctor Manson
isn＇t my father pather the boy nor the doctor is lying，who is Doctor Manson？＂ ＞ANSWER＂HIS MOTHER＂
The Dungeon Imp looks disappointed．
 happy，that＇s for sure．Maybe we can fool it
 itself，the Imp vanishes，and a passage opens to the south！

MSOUTH
This is a chilly room for the storage of meat and meat by－products．The only exit is north．
A pepperoni is hanging here．
This is a large and ugly room，most of
 The ogre sits next to a tunnel to the north． Other passages lead east and south．
sample Transcript and Map
 Infocom＇s interactive fiction works．It

 in capital lesents the terrain in the sample map represents the terrain in the sample
transcript as you might have drawn it．

LS 3 M ㄱㄱ $\forall M<$
e ןo өo！dipend eपl le bu！̣puets өie no人
 tramway．The tramway hangs from the cavern roof above the chasm．Tunnels өut uo＇tsee pue＇iseөчนou＇чдоu pee

म＇$\theta$＇ey del e pue res wedf e e日s ueo nol ＇eones ofewol fo
＞EXAMINE THE TRAM CAR
＞TAKE ALL
tram car：You＇ve got to be kidding！
jar：Taken．
yıOZ SII puewmoo s！̣LL－－－ヨiggay
SUPERBRIEF－This command
Zero to give you the sparsest level of description．See BRIEF above．
＊UNDO－You can use this command to
＂back up＂one move．Suppose，for ex－ ample，that you found a package but didn＇t
know what was in it．You might type OPEN THE PACKAGE and be told destroy－ ing all your possessions．＂You could then
 move．Your possessions would be intact， and you could try giving the package to an enemy，or leaving it alone，or something else．Note that the UNDO command works only on certain computers with enough

UNSCRIPT－This tells your printer to stop
making a transcript．
VERBOSE－This command tells Zork
0
0
0
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$\vdots$
$\vdots$
$\vdots$
0
0
3
0
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0
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0
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0
0 scription．See BRIEF above．

VERSION－Zork Zero responds by showing you the release number and the
serial number of your copy of the story． Please include this information if you ever report a＂bug＂in the story．

WAIT－Causes time in the story to pass． Since nothing happens until you type a
sentence and press RETURN（or ENTER）， sentence and press RETURN（or ENTER），
you could leave your computer，take a you could leave your computer，take a
bath，go for a jog，slip into a coma，and then return to the story to find that nothing has changed．You can use WAIT to make time pass in the story without doing anything．For example，if you met a will
 carpet，you might WAIT to see where it carpet，you might abbreviate WAIT to Z ．
oops－If you mistype a word，such that
Zork Zero doesn＇t understand it，you can
correct yourself at the next prompt by
typing OOPS and the correct word．For
example，if you typed HAND THE
CHAINSAW TO GARNDMA and were told
＂I don＇t know the word＇garndma＇＂］you
could type OOPS GRANDMA rather than
retyping the entire sentence．You can
abbreviate OOPS to O．

QUIT－This lets you stop．If you want to save your position before quitting，follow
he instructions in the＂stage 11．You can
abbreviate QUIT to Q．
＊REFRESH－This command clears your screen and redraws the display．

RESTART－This stops the story and starts it over from the beginning．

RESTORE－This restores a previously on page 11 for more details．

SAVE－This puts a＂snapshot＂of your
current position on your storage disk．You can return to a saved position in the future
using the RESTORE command．See
＂Starting and Stopping＂on page 11 for
SCRIPT－This command tells your printer to begin making a transcript of the stor． necessary，and will work only on certain necessary，anders．Read your Reference Card for details．

SCORE－This command will show your
 on that score．
>WAIT
The tram car descends, returning you to the
eastern side of the chasm.
Edge of Chasm, in the tram car
>GET OUT OF CAR
You get out of the tram car.
>SOUTH
Meat Closet
A pepperoni is hanging here.
>TAKE
the pepperoni]
Taken.
The rusty lamp appears to be getting
dimmer.
>INVENTORY
You are carrying a rusty lamp (providing
light), an elvish sword, a guidebook, a jar, a
pile of cheese and a pepperoni. It seems
that the jar is half-full of tomato sauce. You
are wearing a magic shawl.
>NORTH.NORTHEAST.PUT THE
CHEESE ON THE PIZZA
Edge of Chasm
Kitchen
Sitting on the counter is some dough.
Sitting on the dough is four gloops of tomato
sauce.
You sprinkle the cheese across the dough.
>PUT THE PEPPERONI ON THE PIZZA
Using your sword as a knife, you slice the
pepperoni into pieces and scatter them
across the surface.
>TAKE THE PIZZA
Taken.
>WEST
Ogre's Room
PI

>INVENTORY

| >INVENTORY | >UNDO <br> You are carrying a rusty lamp (providing <br> light), an elvish sword, a guidebook and a <br> jar. It seems that the jar is full of tomato |
| :--- | :--- |
| sauce. You are wearing a magic shawl. | >POUR FOUR GLOOPS OF TOMATO <br> SAUCE ONTO THE DOUGH <br> You pour four gloops of the sauce onto the <br> sough, spreading it evenly across the |
| >EXAMINE THE GUIDEBOOK | surface. |
| This is a field guide to the wonders and <br> dangers of the underground province of | >PUT CHEESE ON DOUGH <br> Gruntburg. |
| [You can't see any cheese right here.] |  |

Saving and restoring: It will probably take you many days to complete Zork Zero the story at a later time without having to start over from the beginning, just as you can place a bookmark in a book you are reading. Even if you aren't about to stop playing, it's useful to SAVE before (or

 the story, you can return to your saved
position.

 saving and restoring on your Reference
 a disk with data on it (other than Zork Zero saves) may result in the loss of that data, depending on your computer. You can save Buisn Kq ә्र!! noK se uәjo se uoṇisod moर additional blank disks.
 position, just type RESTORE at the prompt $(>)$, and hit RETURN (or ENTER). Then
follow the instructions on your Reference
 your save. You can type LOOK for a description of where you are.

[^18]I can't understand that n....y nouns with but it can't understand so many noun
 recognizes SKIP but not SKIP THIS PART

You can't see any right here!
The object that you referred to is not
visible. It may be somewhere else, or it may be present but in a closed container.

You can't use more than one object at a
time with " ". You can use
multiple objects (that is, nouns or noun
 the word ALL only with certain verbs, such as TAKE, DROP, and PUT. For example, objects; you couldn't say EXAMINE ALL or EXAMINE THE BOWL AND THE SWORD.

There isn't anything to $\quad$ Y You used the word ALL, but there aren't any appropriate objects visible.

Kes esceld 'puełssepun l, uop I inq 'Kısos that another way, or try something eise. The syntax (sentence structure) you used is not among the hundreds of syntaxes that
 annou dlys pue $\exists \exists 丬 \perp \exists \mathrm{H} \perp$ YヨaN

 amount of space in the program, so syntaxes that are less common or not useful aren't included. Try rephrasing the sen-

[^19]7. There are many possible routes to the puzzle, move on to another. Some puzzles have more than one solution; other puzzles don't need to be solved at all. Sometimes you will have to solve one puzzle in order to obtain the item(s) or information you
8. Play Zork Zero with a friend! Different people may find different puzzles easy and can often complement each other.
9. If you really have difficulty, you can
type HiNT. The screen will then show you a list of questions to which you can get נе suopionnsu! әц моІІ the top of your screen to see the hint of your choice.) You don't need to use the hints to enjoy the story, but it will make solving the puzzles easier.
10. Read the sample transcript on page 7
to get a feel for how interactive fiction works.
11. You can word a command in many different ways. For example, if you wanted to make a wish, you could type in any of
>DROP THE COIN DOWN THE WISHING WELL THE COIN INTO THE WELI
>TOSS THE COIN INTO THE WELL
>PUT COIN IN WELL
If you type a sentence that Zork Zero doesn't understand, try rephrasing it or
 understand, you're probably trying something that isn't important for completing
the story.

SOUTHEAST, SOUTHWEST, UP, and
DOWN) plus $\mathbb{N}$ and OUT.
2. EXAMINE all objects you come across in the story.
3. TAKE as many things as you can carry. Most objects that you find are important
solving the puzzles that you'll run into.
4. SAVE your place often, so that if you mess up or get killed, you w. See page 11 start over from the beginning. See page 11 for instructions.
5. Read the story and documentation
carefully! There are often clues in the de-
scriptions of locations and objects.
6. Try everything you can think of - even strange or dangerous actions are fun and may provide clues; you can always save your
>GIVE THE BASKETBALL TO THE LION
The lion takes an experimental bite out of
the basketball but spits it out. It continues to gnaw on your leg.

Thus, you discover that maybe giving
something more edible to the lion (that slab
of raw meat?) might save your leg.
 4. Your tells you your current location, your score, and the number of turns you've
5. You can pick up and carry many of the items you'll find in the story. For example, if you type TAKE THE TUBE Type
you will then be carrying items you have.
INVENTORY to see what items
6. When you want to stop, save your place in the story, or start over, read "Starting and
7. If you have trouble, refer to the specific section of the manual for more detailed instructions.

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\end{aligned}
$$

To: JD
Mike
Tom
Curtis
Steve
Steve
From: Stella
Date: November 1, 1988
Re: Zork Zero Apple II disk labels

Please return this with comments/changes by Thursday, November 3.

## Zork Zero Disk Labels

## Zork ${ }^{(\mathrm{R})}$ Zero

Apple (R) II Series
Program Copyright (c) 1988 Infocom, Inc.
All rights reserved
ProDOS 1.4 (c) 1988 Apple Computer, Inc.
Apple is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. TD-IZ9-1-O4

## Zork ${ }^{(\mathrm{R})}$ Zero

Apple (R) II Series
Program Copyright (c) 1988 Infocom, Inc.
All rights reserved
ProDOS 1.4 (c) 1988 Apple Computer, Inc.
Apple is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. TD-IZ9-2-O4

## Side 3

Other side is side 4

Side
Other side is side 2

```
To: JD
    Tom
    Mike
    Curtis
    Steve
    Steve
From: Stella
Date: November 3, }198
Re: Zork Zero Apple II System Sticker
    Rev 2--Please disregard previous version.
```

Please return this with changes and corrections to me today or to Hollywood by Monday, November 7. Thank you.

# Zork Zero Apple II System Sticker 

WITH<br>ON-SCREEN<br>HINTS<br>AND SPECTACULAR<br>GRAPHICS

## Software for your <br> APPLE II SERIES

Ile, IIc, IIc+, IIGS(in lle mode)
(Contains 5.25 inch disks; requires 128 K of memory.
Requires 25.25 inch disk drives, 13.5 inch disk drive, or 1 disk drive and any large capacity storage device.)

TD-844-46

## APPLE II SERIES


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4 $\square$


Number of games Tested 4


Number of games Tested: 2

6



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Number of games Tested: ${ }^{\circ}$ Sub tints $C$ lad
Would like - copent ride command

9

Number of games Tested:

10


Number of games Testeci: O


Numter of games Tested: o

[^20]$911 / 88$
Here's a version of
Zork Zero in which strings are untangled (pardon the pun). In particular, hints should be easier to read now.

As Joe mentioned on the phone, use $\Rightarrow$ ANSWER WHATEVER, without quotes, to answer a riddle.
sorry about those bugs in V. 242 !

## Phew!

That exclamation from an ardent and long-time fan carries with it a double meaning: it most obviously is an understated reaction to the deliciously massive scope of this game, but more significantly it represents a sigh of relief. Just when I was beginning to think that my "Info-tainment" had reached its nadir with an offering like Journey, along comes Zork Zero. Thank God for Steve Meretzky.

I haven't had this much fun since Zork II, and that's saying a lot considering the plethora of fine products you've put out over the intervening years. While I would normally have some nitpicking little criticisms of some kind with any game I play or test, there isn't a thing I can knock about Zork Zero. My only regret is now that the legend of the GUE has come so wonderfully full-circle, where can you possibly go from here?

I had the pleasure of playing part of Zork Zero on a Mac II at work. Wow! The graphics were a knockout, and I'm sure your black and white version will be almost as impressive. The way in which you utilized the graphics to frame and highlight the story (as opposed to letting the graphics dictate the limits of the story as in Journey's case) should silence the harshest of critics who claim graphics would just water down your games.

The use of visual puzzles was a particular delight, especially since most were familiar ones which weren't too demanding (the last time I tackled the "Towers of Hanoi" was on my old 8K Commodore PET!). I was also pleased by the liberal sprinkling of red-herring objects throughout the game... a welcome return to the "olden days" where you never knew what items might be useful in solving the game (I'm still trying to get that friggin helicopter started in Planetfall).

But it is the dogged faithfulness to the Zork legends that provide the most delight in Zork Zero. From the missing stamp on the package to the final explanation of the White House, Mr. Meretzky has concocted a Zork-lover's feast of delight, and has added numerous classic touches of his own to the legends of Quendar.

The puzzles were clever and well-crafted, yet none were overly taxing (। must admit, however, that the addition of on-line hints would probably make even Spellbreaker seem a breeze). Some were familiar puzzles packaged in a new and entertaining fashion (the Borphbelly Stew, for example). Others were wonderfully original with some real
head-scratching complications (the hardhat puzzle in particular). All, however, were worthy of the Zork moniker.

Most of my testing time was spent just finishing this epic, and therefore I didn't spend as many hours as I would have liked pounding away on it, looking for problems... so excuse the relatively few bug sheets. I did have reams of them until you sent out the recompiled version, then almost all of those disappeared.

In my testing report on Leather Godesses Of Phobos, I mentioned to Steve Meretzky that here in Hollyweird we're always on the lookout for creatively warped talent such as his. If he's ever out west, my invitation to "do lunch" still stands. Maybe NBC is ready to follow up Cosby with "The Flatheads On Parade".

The best of luck with Zork Zero. Any reviewer giving this little gem anything less than five mice deserves a swift kick off Aragain Falls.

This is the best game of yours that
Ire tried. (And favorite would be Infidel)
It is also the most difficult one Ide tried. I had the most trouble with the hardhat/chessman puzzle.

The graphics are a nice touch but not what most would consider mac II quality.

One of the best features of this game is the mapping

Also writes:
Graphics seem very "chunky" (like IBM CGA),
Graphics on 2 bit B\&W display as dithered colors. Much better than MacPlus/SE with same screen depth.

I had never played any Infocom game before so I did not know what to expect. The graphics 1 believe make the game more playable especially the special graphic puzzles - Double Fanucci, Snarfem, Tower of Bozbar. The title screen is also a nice surprise, once you get through the prologue.

I had problems with Double Fanucci, and could not figure it out after hours of play. 1 also encountered trouble with Snarfem. The game was hard for me since 1 did not know what to expect, but 1 feel it will be challenging to any one who has a mind for this kind of a game. The hints also come in very handy. I did not get as far a I would have liked because when I get frustrated with a game, I like to set in down for a few days. But because of the deadline 1 did not and became more frustrated. 1 also think that the wand should have one or two more uses in it.

I enjoyed the logical puzzles such as the room with three doors (it should be a special graphic puzzle showing each door and what each says), and the Inquisition. The riddles were also enjoyable and show what challenging. 1 also liked the large playing area, the many secret passages, transporting with the amulet, and the gondola ride. The ability to save, restore, and undo is also helpful. Enjoyed the joke about Michael Flathead and the Flathead five.

The first copy 1 received was full of bugs, but the second was very playable, and no problems with dialogue. I included on the trouble sheets some minor problems that 1 found. 1 enjoyed being a tester and hope that 1 have some help to you. I am looking forward to seeing your product in the store. If there is anyway I can help you out in the future, let me know. Thank you for the opportunity to test Zork Zero and 1 wish you good luck in marketing it.


The Zork Trilogy has always been my fauorite Infocom games, and much of the flair of the first three exists also in Zork Zero. However, in creating such a large game, some of impact of the original games has been diluted. It seemed there were fewer pitfalls, substituting puzzles instead. This eliminates much of the sense of danger which made the earlier games exciting. find some of the puzzles seemed tedious (such as obtaining the sim gloops of water and especially the towers of Bozbar, which wasn't difficult, merely extremely tedious). I liked the hiding of important in- formation in the calendar. I would have liked to see more disguising of objects or events in the story, though.

I played Zork Zero on the Mac Plus, and though I liked the idea of the maps, performance seemed to lag. The same holds true for the hints section and drawing new screens, as well as setting up the puzzles. Perhaps this can be optimized in the final release.

Unfortunately, due to time considerations, I needed to resort to the hints section more than I would have liked. There were two MAHINTS numbers that were displayed (and only two, no matter what I did), which were 12 and 20. Also, an interesting comment of "[Debugging info: PMEM 31 Left!l" appeared in the game. I assume you'll know what this means.

There were not a lot of bugs that I ran into, but I'm enclosing the ones I found. One thing that proved less than obvious to me was that the picture of the brain in the rebus meant "mind". This could merely be a deficiency on my part, however.

Favorite problems: getting little toe fungus, passing the inquisition, obtaining the elisir (I liked this, although the solution seemed obvious), zilbeetha, getting the hardhat, and getting the rusty key.

Promising problem (but not developed fully): Entering Wishyfoo territory (why couldn't we meet a llishyfoo <ghost?> and learn information by talking with him?).

Least liked problems: Playing towers of Bozbar, getting the flys to Otto to obtain the spyglass.

In summary, I liked the storyline (but nest story, include more danger and empower the player to battle his "nemesis"). The best fir you could do, in my opinion, would be to optimize the speed of some of the new features you have included in this game.

Work Zero Tester
Cited on a Mac il with 5 meg memory, a run tron 40 meg Lard drive. No caching, maltitioder off (system series 5.0)

Testing Summary
I was unable to solve double Fanneci, Starter and how to some ot ${ }^{2 t}$ the Flamingo into the lab. Unfortunately. these were some the few hints that were unavailable, (int writes)

The hints, for the most part, were excellent and right on target. Some hints were very long and consequently "ran oft the page." See the testing rets. I tried to solve most of the puzzles without the hints by saving the game before the puzzle and restoring the game it I tailed. this method worked a lot, but I still found myselt going to the hints quite a bit to avoid trustration.

The best puzzle was the excentioner (although I dile't finish the gone and solve anything at the Delta or the "sir flop in vince flops vial." Some of the puzzles were old hat (Tower of bozbar, Pegjlaboz, tox poster and worm.) but they were Gan anyway. Double Fane;
Erould take too inch time to solve, I really didn't try it. SNarfed may be beatable, but i never coal beat anybody or thing at it. Personal wall guess. (over)
(2)

Overall I was really impressed with this game. I didn't think I would like text advertare ganes, but this owe got captivating. I'm also wot a very good typist.

The only ir cons istency that I found, and again 'I lidn' + finish (795/1000 pts.), was the correlation between the amulet's eyes and your destination upon entering the oracle's month. (see Test report torn o script hor que 4.) Sometimes scripting dido 4 wack nutil yon gave it a direction, the it would list any thing correctly, Screen refreshes should be autoantic instead of having a type refresh alter DIAs or Pye! wipe ont part or all of your screed. For some reason Border, Item Background, and selection colors created by the Kolor CDEV get charged by this game. Possibly it is because of the colors your screens use + the 256 color limit. All colors revertback to their original whew yon restart the machine.

Thaulss for letting ne play.
P.S. Send some hicks on Suerten, Double Fanucci, and the Flamingo. My wand stopped working. \&l

From:


To:

## Infocom

125 CambridgePark Drive Cambridge, MA 02140

Thank you for letting me test Zork Zero. I have a few comments I would like to make here which do not "fit into" the bug report form. First I would like to say that I am a little disappointed with the graphics of the game. I understand that the updating and so on are not supposed to be working in the version you sent me, but I thought that is why you needed people with Mac IIs. How can one test for Mac II compatibility if the updating in the program doesn't even work yet? Conflict checking against the palette manager, DAs, MultiFinder, etc., assume the application at least tries to update correctly. Anyway, I guess the game you sent me was just not in those stages of testing...I hope.

The beginning of Zork Zero was great. I really like the idea of an interactive introduction. (Excuse me for saying that if all your games begin the same way!)

Since I am not working for Infocom I really have not had as much time as I would liked to have had to play Zork Zero. The past couple of weeks were especially bad for me. In fact I think I can honestly say that I did not even come close to finishing the game (181 points in 617 turns). It's big! One suggestion to "solve" this "problem" would be to have saved games set up to send out on the test disk. This way everyone would get a chance to test the game in general but you could assign people to specifically concentrate on a particular section of the game. If they manage to get their on their own, fine, but if they cannot and time is running short they could open saved game X and go from there. What do want for nothing? A Rubbbberrrr biscuit?

Thank you again for letting me be a tester. I hope my comments and bug reports help you in some way along the road to perfection. I eagerly await the next challenge...


Oh yes, I almost forgot, MAXINTS went up to 24 but was usually 12 or 20.

Having never plaves anv of the Zork games brare, I have to sav that I really ensived Zrk Zero. It was also nered difficuer as a whole, due To ThE GENERAL SIZP IP TWE GANP.

THE GRAPMICS PUZZLES, WHTA ONP PXCEPTION, WARE JUST RIGAT. THE EXCEPTIQN WAS PEGGLEBOZ. I've PLONRD A LIVE VERSIEN of A SIMILAR BV BASVER SCPNARIC BEFRRS ANS STIL TAKEN POREVER TO SOLVE IT, $S_{\text {I I I WENT STRAGUT TO DGE WINT. AS IS, }}$ I DON'T TKINK TOO MANY PRPPLE WHULD WANE GLAE PATIENCE To socve if.

TAE SESTER WAS QK, BUT GOT OLD AROUAD TUE PANUSANDTK TURN OR SQ. TWO R ThREP NOSRS IS RUNNY, MORR GETS ANNOING. AWP SPCALCNG OP ANNCNNG, I NEUER DID FIND ANY WAV TO DERP SIX THE BEDBUG, OTMAR TKKN TC RESTORP, I REALIN WAPED GoIng UP 19 FLOCRS IN TWE FREBRZZ BUDG. DND GETTINC BUCK DOWN TR TVE SRCEND PLOAR AND TRAN KAVING AN INSEOS WTPR IT OUT.

TAE ONE NON-GRAPBAC DUZZLE I THOUGV WAS A LIMLR TOO WARS WAS The FINAX STRP NPREXPD TO GRD PLAP ADRDAAT, I DIDNT SPE ANH PARTICULARLY GMPELING DRELT PVIDENCE TO SUGGRST A CONNEGION BETWREN TKE CAESS PLAN AND TWE GONSTRUCTON ARSA, WAV SKNULD A KNVGUT JUMPING TWROUGLA NOTANG an TWE PLAN RP ABLE TO JUM THROUGH WALLS?

The ane suggestlen I'd make no improve phe game is te ado a not-SnSNSTLE HINT LS in TWE USEFULNESS OP TWR ENCYCLPPRIA. APTER MV FRST GUPLE OF
 IT, MAVNG SOWE TWINGS TOUCAER TWA THAY SWOUS WANE BERN. MAVBE AAD SCNE DRSCRDIIN TO TKE CALRNDAR, SINCR ITS AN OBVINUS PLARE FRR CLVES.

THR GRAPAICS PUZZLES, WTH ene EXCEPTINN, WARE JUST RIGNT. THE EXCEPTIEN WAS PEGGLRBOZ. I've PLONRD A LIVE VERSION \& A SIMILAR BV BASIER SCPNARIO BRFRRE ans sTll PakRn porever to solve ir. So I went stralght to Tue kint. As is, I DoNit Thank ton masy prople whuld wane que patience to solve it.

TAE SESTER WAS OK, BUT GOT dD AROUND PUE PAANSANDTL TURN RR SO. TWO RR Threr noses is punny, MRRE GETS ANNOVING. AND SPCAVZNE op ANNMNG, I NEVER DID FIND ANY WAY TO DEPS SIX TWE BEDBUG, THER THKN TE RESTRRE, I REAWV WARED GOING UP 19 FLOCRS iV twe Frabozz BULG. AND GETTINC BICK DOWN TN TLE SECQND PLOR AND THEN KAVING AN INSECT WTPO IT OUT.

TWe ONE NON-GRAPALC PUZZLP I THOUGLA WAS A LITLS TOO HANS WAS The AHAL
 DRELT
PVIDENCE TO SUGGEST A CONNEGION BETWREN TKE CMESS OLAN AND TWE GUNTRUETON
 JUMP THROUGK WALLS?

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## Report on Zork Zero, Beta version

Overall impressions: This is a very successful game. It manages to keep the flavor of Zork while simultaneously having a more interesting and involving plot. It's very rich, and that adds a lot. And, of course, it's funny.

The graphics are OK, though I can't say I think they add much to the game. I also hate on-line hints - for the same reason you always advised people not to buy the Invisiclues books simultaneously with the games - but I realize that's a marketing decision. It's well enough implemented, but the interface could be better.

I finished the game in two nights and one day of intensive playing (and when $I$ say intensive, I mean staying up till 4 in the morning). It's absorbing and challenging.

Now all we need is a game where you have to be one of Dimwit's courtiers...

Major problems: SCRIPTing does not work at all on my system (a Mac Plus with an original Imagewriter), which is why $I$ have enclosed no transcripts with this report. When I turn SCRIPTing on, the printer responds, but nothing is ever printed, and I get no response when SCRIPTing goes off. Yes, I checked that I was using the right printer driver, and my printer is functioning fine.

I presume it's too late to do this with Zork Zero, but it would be nice if in addition to the compass rose there were some indication of the ability to go up and/or down.

As I mention on page 5 of my bug sheets, there's a problem with the graphics when you boot from a saved game.

The game slows down oddly at some points, particularly when you use a word it isn't sure it knows or it has to ask you a question. Also unfortunate is that after you look at a graphic screen (e.g. the rebus), when you come back to the game, all prior text is gone from the screen. In the future 1 would love to see this changed, or, even better, some scralling back over previous text allowed.

Other notes and suqqestions:

- The game of Snarfem really needs its interface improved. Often, I accidentally hit the wrong number key when choosing a pile, and there's no way to cancel that choice and hit the right key. There also ought to be a way out of the game if you don't want to play it at the moment.
- It would be a good idea to put some subtle indication in the game that the wand has a limited number of charges, in its encyclopedia entry or something. I used mine up once, testing to see what the wand did and zapping the bedbug, and when it $r$ an out, I had to go back and replay hours worth of work. That was one of the most frustrating aspects of Hitchhiker's Guide, and I hated to see it reappear here.
- The games are of widely varying challenge and interest. The Towers of Bozbar (or whatever it was) is, of course, an old game, and while there's some interest in doing it once, even if you know the solution, having to do it two, or more likely three times 《if you do it before going through the other door in the room), gets very tedious.

Snarfem, also an old game, gave me a lot more trouble. I was stuck there, frustrated as hell, for a long time. My husband finally worked out a system for me, but I discovered later that the pattern of distribution of the stones changes radically.

I always hated $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Q}$, so of course 1 hated the peg game. After a couple of desultory attempts, I just called up the hints and imitated the moves. "That's why I don't like on-1ine hints, of course,)

Double Fanucci, on the other hand, was very clever, though it took me an embarrassingly long time to figure out the trick (it had been a while since I'd read the calendar bios). The jester's statements and actions are hilarious, and there are enough different ones that it doesn't get too tedious.

[^21]- The memo in the FrobozzCo building mentioning teleportation tokens is an annoying red herring <unless there really is a token in the game and $I$ just missed finding it). I wasted a lot of time searching for one before deciding that it didn't exist.
- Another red herring is the birch (I think) tree outside the mine where you find the sapphire. It's described in such detail, and described anew each time you enter that room <even in BRIEF mode), that I presumed it must have some importance, but 1 couldn't find a single use for it. If there is one, it's too well-hidden.
- One place where there aren't enough red herrings is in the clues. I realize the clues are only partly done, but there should be plenty of fake headings and long, useless answers like in the clue booklets.
- You asked testers to report MAXINTS values. I'm not sure what you meant by its maximum value, but I got the values 12,16 , and 20 , depending on how high my score was when 1 quit or got killed. I never got anything lower than 12 or higher than 20.
- I love the comfy chair.
- I loved the problem of the chess pieces. It's clever and well implemented, not terribly easy but quite amenable to logic. The one thing I regret is that you can't watch a piece destroy another piece whose space it lands on ssince it gets there before you do).
- The ending is funny and satisfying. I also like the touch that if you get caught in the castle when it collapses you turn into the rug in the living room. Delightful.

Howdy! Here's the report for Zork Zero, Beta Release, Versions 242/243 from (A.K.A. "Soooper Geeeenius")
(Warning: this report is disjointed, poorly written and just plain silly.)

This has got to be one of the best games I've played in a helluva long time (if not my new favorite Infocom). The map's enormity played a big part in that, but the main reason for my mega-enjoyment is the puzzles. The mix of adventure type puzzles with more traditional problems (ie, Tower of Bozbar, Peggleboz, riddles, stew) is fantastic.

I dan't know how hard you intended to make this game, but just to give you an idea of how hard I found it, I'll give you my gaming stats. I first received this game on Wednesday, August 31. By Friday I had about 650 points without using any hints. I finished on Tuesday, September 6 (and barely played at all for 2 days). Overall I needed hints for 3 puzzles. My max MAXINTS was 24.

The hunger spell had me stuck. Then I came exceedingly close to solving the Rockville puzzle, but I didn't come up with bringing the knight into the construction site. I kept trying to mirror moves or something along those lines. The last hint I used was finding the tie. I had no idea where it was. In fact, that is my only real solid puzzle complaint. I don't like it's discovery. It's too hit or miss. If you get it, great, but if you go through that room and miss it, due to the BRIEF feature, you'll probably never find it. Maybe if you see the nest each time you walk through even in BRIEF mode.

My only other problem with puzzles is that maybe the Rockville puzzle seemed a bit thin. I came close, but (and maybe it's me) I never
considered bringing the pieces down to Flatheadia. (By the way, I did see the stuff about that puzzle in the encyclopedia.)

Well, as long as we're talking about puzzles, I may as well critique puzzles right and left. I really liked some of the riddles. They weren't hard, but it was good to see a new cleverness in your games. The hardest one had to be the musician one. Still, it didn't take too long to solve. I didn't like not being able to cross the stream afterward, however. I could have sworn there was something besides the diploma over there.

The Inquisition was great! The stew was good. The fungus was great.
Snarfem could have smaller flowers. I got it too quickly. To be honest, I didn't want the answer to be given away. I enjoy working out the puzzles and, although Joe tells me it took him 3 hrs , I would almost rather have an easier puzzle that you solve instead of just figure the trick to.

The whole damn game was really good. Not too hard but significantly harder in its second half than the first. That fact really allows you to run through what looks like an easy game just to be faced with some really tough problems. Nice. The oracle areas were much harder than running around the castle. One really good thing about the puzzles was that they weren't all in order. You could pretty much do it all in whatever order you wanted. That's important. It lets you get into the geography in whatever order you want. I didn't feel confined by an order in which to solve the game. One thing sbout getting the candle though: once I got it, there was so much territory to cover I didn't have time to do it in one sitting. A LARGE portion of the game revolves around the candle - the candle accessible only with the packaging. I like it.

Next is the rapid fire random stuff that makes these reports such a pain to read (enjoy!):

The cursor is present in all the graphic screens, and it detracts from the picture. That damn little vertical line kept grabbing my attention. Also, the mouse pointer wouldn't go away if the mouse was unused. For instance, I would use the mouse for restoring my game and then have to shove it off the screen so 1 could read again.

I noticed in the reference card that no system folder would be provided with the sale copy. The finder I used had only the fonts that came with my computer. Bluntly, the text for the status line and the hints looked awful; I did not have the 14 point Geneva you used installed on my system disk. And I don't think that many people do. Will people who have just gotten a Mac or who don't know how to use it's utilities be able to find/install/use this font size? Are you planning to include this font with the game? It would be a mistake not to. While instructions as to how to install a particular font would be helpful, by not including the font itself you are going to make the game ugly. Mispraportioned fonts are not fun to look at.

I love encyclopedias in games. I tinkered with the Sorcerer one forever, and $Z$-Zero's one didn't impress me as being as big. It didn't have words like "guano," "Mumberthrax," "Zilbo," "Fenshire," "Granola" (although it did have "granola riots"), the month hames, "Zorkmid," any of Lucrezia's $x$ husbands, "guano," etc. Also you can look up "ear fungus" but not "toe fungus."

I'm not even going to mention the black and white graphics. You know it, I know it, my dog knows it. The graphics aren't, ahem, good. Yes, I know they aren't finished yet, but, woo, do you have a ways to go. The icons are nice, functional, simple and clean. (Although the back alley icon in the village takes a while to focus properly on. I thought it was a weird
vase at first.) The maps and the encyclopedia entries and the game sceens, however, need some serious work. I took Joe's advice one day and went down to a local Mac dealer to see what the completed color graphics look like and I am impressed. Though the resolution wasn't what I expected (at all), the drawings themselves were very good. And speaking of the resolution, is it so low on the Mac II because of disk storage limitations? The disk is already pretty full and it looks like you only used a fourth of the graphics potential of the II. Just wondering, because you might end up with some disappointed II owners out there.

Though it would be neat to impress my friends with, you should probably removed the " $\$$ skip" command. (Ask Liz how I knew about that!) Also, don't forget to remove the "parser notes" at the end of each game.

I don't know if you care about this or not, but when restoring the game Z-Zero also accepts saves from the following games: AMFV, Enchanter, Sorcerer, Infidel, Seastalker, and possibly more. They all of course cause a system error if loaded.

Why do the "LOOK" and "INVENTORY" commands take a turn? They never have before and I hope they don't in the release version.

One problem I had was one I had with another application. I have Pyro 1.0 (o screen saver) installed on many of my disks, and it gave me a problem. (When playing an Infocom they come in handy when I walk around the room to think.) Well, Pyro kicked in and when I turned it off, I was rewarded with a totally blank screen. I blindly typed REFRESH and that worked fine. But come on, it was a blank screen. Very sloppy.

How about a secondary solution to getting off the mirror in the Gray Mountains? You could drop the gravel on the mirror and stand on it for traction.

While checking the dates of everything I could find looking for mistakes, I noticed that no work has been done on Rockuille Estates for 3 years. The dam was built in only 1 year; just thought l'd point it out. One thing I'm not crazy about in the hints was that after you see a hint, it stays on the screen. For some reason it just doesn't appesl to me. I would rather "uncover" them each time. Also, how will the player see the first hints in a long list that scrolls off the bottom?

I noticed the fanucci hint hasn't been written yet. You could write something like the clues to answer Belboz in the Spellbreaker Invisiclues. They were well done and applicable here.

The hints concerning the jester shell game say that you shouldn't read on unless you have been in the Secret wing. The goggles are in the East Wing but the key to the East wing is in the Secret Wing. I didn't know which you were refering to. Was that intentional?

Did you guys notice that even though you are walking around a HUGE castle with rooms so big you have to rest half way across, climbing mountains, crossing deserts, and ballooning that this game all takes place in 1 morning. I spent nearly 3000 moves one game just to find it was the same day.

I don't know if this problem is still relevant or not, but in version 242 I typed the word "shit" on two different occasions and was rewarded both times with file errors. This was not the case in v. 243 .

The docks are really annoying. "Get on dock. Get on boat" and "Get off get off" are a pain and I don't really see the use.

While playing with the mirror I found a few items without interesting reflections that I thought should have some. They were the ring, the scrap of parchment, and both passages.

When you don the cloak, should the world continue around you? I got in the balloon and, while flying, put on the cloak. When I removed it several moves later, the balloon hadn't moved. I don't know if that was intentional or not.

Could you add a description of some sort when you put on the glove. I had no idea it made me more dexterous until I tried to get a fly and the description mentioned $i t$. Also, by the time I was ready to try to open the vault, I had been wearing the glove for so long, I forgot I had it on. I takes no room to store, so I just left it on and forgot about it. In other words, the vault puzzle is a little silly. The light source to get to the vault is in the secret wing, the glove is in the secret wing. Of course the player will have the glove when they are ready for the vault.

While playing with the perch I found the following: "Drop perch out of dirigble" works fine, but "Drop perch out of gondola" doesn't. "Throw perch" does the same thing as "Drop perch" even if you are in the gondola, and zapping to the perch after dropping the perch from the gondola gives a pretty boring description. It could be much more colorful depending on where you drop it.
l like the death when you point the wand at yourself. Getting buried under tons of shit is a great way to go.

Once or twice in version 242 the jester would appear in the West Wing before I tried to pass him to tell me I couldn't go west. I didn't see it in 243 but I thought I should mention it in case it was by chance.

Before I realized 0tto's name I typed "Toad, tell me about name." He responded with something like "I'm not ugly." Was that because he is paranoid or because the game though I typed "Ugly toad, tell me ..." If it was a joke, it was wasted on me. I thought it was a bug until I noticed the
ugly reference in the encyclopedia; then I just got confused.
What is the deal with the word "object?" At the Outer Bailey I typed " X root" and it said I didn't see any "root object" there. There were other "object" references about the game. Very computerized sounding. Not smooth.

If you drink the potion twice in rapid succession, your ears tingle after the first and then, a few moves later, your ears tingle again. Why the delay? It's totally unwarrented. They should tingle, then tingle again right away and start the countdown of hearing anew as soon as the second drink is taken.
 Zork Trilozy has b 2comp the tect－sellinje and best－lcved，serips of lnteractve s：orios．Sinco then，countlesミ fミns hミve besged for さork IV．＊＊ iow，intocom＇s stove Meratzky，ty doing exactiy the opoosite，$\quad$ jives you something ever tetter，t＝kins you back to the hefore beqinninge Nearly 18 months in the making．Intocom is proud to reveal it siost ambiticus project ever：Zork Zero！

Epic in both size ard scape，this oreauel covers a cpntury of time and explores the collapse of the Great Underground Empire．Strairing our neu ＂Y＂system to the limit，Zork izro is our largest gare ever，with nore than $\hat{\sim}$ Trilogy combined！To top it otf，Zork fero shatters one of computerdorts most sacred tarriers ty featuring the first true graphical enhancemerts to an Infocom story！

Our diehard fans эre probably mourning tre passing of an ara：but take heart at the words of juthon hisretzky：＂zork zero has everythirg you ve come to expect from Infccom：lots of descriptive prose，a tor of puzzles， Jepth and 3ttention to jet＝il，a well－tested ana polished orcduit，ard all served uf in a fun，randsome aackage！The praphics simply add one more Ievel of oxcellence．I tries ：o use them ir difterentuey；rather than illustrate locations，the grachics are intearated into the cuzzles themミelves．I＇m really zleased with theresult．＂

Those graphics，by computer artist James shock（see separヨte story），made possiole suih graphical fuzzles os ofegzlezoz，jrartem，the Tower of eozbar， ミnd Jouble Fanucci．

Suotitled＂The Feverae of megaboz，＂亡ork zero takes you tack to the last d尹ys of the Empire． 2 ulizej＇s curse has destroyed the rullng Flethesd famliy，and has thrg尹tened thekinzdomitself．Although you are tut one of many fortune hurters uho have floosod the csoital city of flatheadia to try and claim the huইe reuary for stemming the curse，a carefully gußrced family sacrat olves ycu a bic advantage！

As you cegin your guest，you＇li meet the court jester，whose rhymes w11．Ieave you laughing，whose tricks will lo jve you cursing，and whose reduses and raddles will \＆eave you scratcrina your heade you＊ll travel to every correr of tha kinjdom，visiting exo：ic loceles from the glaciers of the oray Mountains to the swamps of Fenshire，from the olacid shores of Lヨke FIatheac to the searing ne＝t of the Great Underground Cesert， from the defolia＋eJ Fublio Valley to the granola mines of Antharize

Zork Zero arswers many of the auestions thet have tormented zorkers for ayes：Nhat was Dimwit Flethegd＇s castle like？what is it ilke to play Double Fanucci？How did the Great Underground Emcire collopse？Where did grues come from？And finelly，most compelling of all，whet is the origin of the white touse where zork I begins？

Eut dait－－trere s more！Zork zero abounds with exciting new features！ It mark the introduction of infocom＇s newest generation eerser（the pert of the program that＂digests＂your input）．This is our friendliest parser ever，makıng it eacier for a novice to get started，but orovitinn more power for the experienced nliyer．

Zork Zero continues our recent and very dopular trenc of incorporatirg on－lire hints．Howevor，in a develozrent tade possible by our new graprical system，Zork zero also includes complete or－line macping！ The puzzles themselves rengefrom sinole to boggling，but with on－line
hints, no one need ever found their heads on e wall again! finally, Zork Zero is laced with th $\equiv$ f famous Meretzky humor -- the special brand of zaniness that you loved so much in olanetfall, Hitchhiker's Guide, and Leather Codessas of Rhodos.

The packaging lives Lo to the usual Infocom standards. you'll start with a scrap of parchment containing $\exists$ spell from the secret notebooks of the great magician Negaboz. Then, add a construction blueprint from Rockville Estates, the cave-hound condo complex that" ternetad for young Underground Professionals. And top it off with h handsome calender, featuring excerpts from, "The Lives of the tuelve Flatheads" and illustrations by the great painter, Leonardo $=1 \exists$ ahead. This calendar is from the year 883 GUE, but (by an incredible coincidence) it is also perfectly usuable as a 1988 AD calendar!
=rom the exciting prologue, where you'll come face to face with lord Jimuit Flathead the Excessive, to the climactic epilogue, where you'll m meet the most powerful wizard to ever set foot on the soil of Quendor, Bork Zero has something for everyone, and promises to be the best offering yet from the master story tellers at infocom!

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { * Of course, many Intocom aticiandos consider "Enchanter" } \\
& \text { to be "Zork IV." }
\end{aligned}
$$

Tuesday, July 19, 1988

Although we are slated to begin at $7: 00 \mathrm{pm}$, we will 7:10 or 7:15 to allow for latecomers.
I. Introduction by Joel

This will be a very important part of the press conference. Joel will introduce each product and explain how the "Tamara" theme fits in with our presentation. Joel will then talk about how each game represents a new direction for us. It is crucial that Joel explain why we are adding graphics and entering other categories in a manner that does not sound defensive (i.e., we're catching up to the rest of the market). This will be important for Dave, Marc, Steve and Christopher to remember as well when presenting each game. We should go with the idea that we simply have been waiting for the right time to include graphics in a way that would work most effectively in our games. As for getting into role-playing games, we should stress the fact that we will not be abandoning the level of quality that is found in our interactive fiction (similar to what Elizabeth's talked about in the Status Line article).

Question: Do we want to talk about the new development system in Joel's introduction?
II. Presentation of new titles by Steve, Marc, Dave, and Christopher. Each presentation should be about 7 minutes. A computer screen of each game will appear as each person is speaking.

At this meeting, we should establish:

1) A "theme" common to each presentation that ties in what Joel has just talked about with what each game is about -- i.e., each game should be an indication of which direction Infocom as a company is going. We should stress how each graphic is used differently in each title.
2) In which order we want to present each game.
III. Wrap-up by Mike, who will cover packaging aspects as well as how all of these revolutionary and radically new things are leading us into all sorts of strange and wonderful directions. This should include an explanation to
some extent of what these directions are and then a general discourse on what the future holds for Infocom. Mike will then invite everyone to look at the demos.
IV. Demos of each game. Four computers will be set up. Steve, Marc, Dave, and Christopher will man each computer and talk about each game in more detail.
V. Play begins at 8:00 pm. The buffet is served at 9:10.

## San Francisco Press Conference Agenda

Thursday, July 21, 1988

We will begin the press conference at $6: 30$. The actual press conference will take place in a theater inside the exploratorium. Steve will be working on a skit (explained below) that we will rehearse a few times here. I would like to be able to get into the theater on Wednesday, July 21, to run by the skit a couple of times. I have not received word yet as to how early will be able to get in. We should all plan on arriving in San Francisco on Wednesday in the event that we will be able to rehearse. I will let everyone know as soon as I receive word.

The idea for the skit is as follows:
The entire press conference will be a news broadcast, with Jon Palace as the anchorman. It will begin by Jon saying, "welcome to the 7:00 new's," and then highlighting the top stories, which will be brief descriptions of each game. We will have backdrops to set the scene for each game, in front of which Dave, Marc, Steve and Christopher will "report on" each game in a news-like manner. Each backdrop will be spotlighted as each "reporter" speaks.

After the last presentation, Joel and Mike will talk as outlined in the NY Press Conference Agenda.

Four demos will be set up in the theater.
At this meeting, we need to:

1) Brainstorm on ideas as to how the skit will take shape.
2) Determine when we will run the computer-projected video display (during Joel or Mike's presentation?)

At approximately $7: 15$, a buffet will be served in the mezzanine of the Exploratorium.

## Expected Press Questions

1) Is interactive fiction a dying art? Will Infocom put out another interactive fiction title ever again?
2) Do your graphics really take the place of the imagination?
3) How many more role-playing games will you be coming out with?
4) Do you think you "sold out" to a) Mediagenic or b) market demand by adding graphics?
5) How much of a role did Mediagenic's acquisition of Infocom play in Infocom's decision to enter all of these new categories?
6) Will you be targeting all of your future products to a more mass-market audience?
7) Do you have any CDI plans in the future for any of these titles?
8) How do you plan to compete with other role-playing sof tware publishers?




## Steve Meretzky <br> To: All Going to Press Conference <br> From: Nancy <br> Re: Travel Itineraries

Please look at the attached itinerary to make sure that I have not made any mistakes. If you see any changes that need to be made, please come see me A.S.A.P. Thanks!


THIS INVOICE REPRESENTS AN IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM OUR AGENCY TO THE PARTICIPATING CARRIERS UPON ISSUANCE OF TICKETS. YOUR PROMPT REMITTANCE WILL BE APPRECIATED.

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JUN：LJOC きVคning，anc welcome to the Infocom Evering News．I＇m Jon palazo，\＃nd hurき ミre tonizht＇s tof storios：［slide of elty a band of travellprs is set．Cc loヨve the cosstミl village of Lendros to ster the Grest Ev」l uhich has blizhted the land．こslife of sarurai warrior İ J apar．．．．Cslide of meg彐bozコ And，in Flatheadia， thousznds floe as the freat Underground Fmpire seems or the verge of collirse．Rut first，this messege．
［jpotlight off Jon．Light on Christorher，stageriant．Christopher，wearing uniform，does＝minute lor commercial for some fattletech－related piece of €qu＿cment．＿isht off Christocher．Light on Jon．J

JU：jtave Mare＊zky le standiry by at the flathead castle with the latczt reus or the 1 mminert collajse of the creat Underground


SLight of f Jch．Ligrton Stev＝，stage left，in front of a simcle backgroc of a crumolinj $c=\varepsilon+1$ e．j

STEVE：Jon，theréミ flll－scalo otnic rere in flatreacia，as just about evpryone who isn＇t locked まu7y in the castle duncpons is in the mldst of tlefinミto the westlan〕s．As you know，the curse of the
 the rmpire to rubble and bringinjunfethomable jetth ene chacs in it：uzke．$\Delta$ Ithounh Kinn wurt Flathead has offered half the wealth oftry kingdom to anyone who can ster the curse，itis expected that by geybreak tomorrcu．this crovircs will be comolately deserted－－ excezt for झhandful of oravo or foolish fortune zeekers．

LLight oft Steve．Lighten Jon．J
JuN：Travellers fleging the Great underground Enpire are warned that all shif routes छcrosi the Fl ¥thead Ccean are cotoletely booked； autnor：ties＝re ミdvisina Flatheadians not to leave hore without confirmed trミvel cians．
［Jon turns a page on the aesk in front of him．］
Juv：In mejizval J＝esn．．．
［Light off Jen．Līhton Zave，staneright．Zave is in front of gimple background with e Jacantse thoma，sLch as a Jananese archway．］

DAVE：A 11 of kyoto 25 Ruzzing．．．
ELight off Davi．Light or Jon．］
JuN：In ar unrelatad story，a $C$ alifarnia corbany ras announced that it Has cevelonet a crocass for making chocolate－co三tod sushi．

ZJon turnミ a case．］

Jロッ：
 reports ther continu？ERISK Gales of ：nfo $20 \mathrm{~m}^{\circ} \mathrm{S}$ LEATHER GCDDESSES
 system－wide shortages cf aeverヨl pozuler ョrota＝．

EJon turns a page．J
JJN：Dur roving report Marc ミlank is in the tiny coagtil town of Lendros， where a Great Evil has been ravaginf the land．sut now，apparently， the townspeorle zre dcing something about it．Mark？
［Light off Jore Light on Marc，stafe lett．Marc stands before a simple Dackdrop of a cluster of huts and a cluster of elves．Tne of the elves is waving at the＂camerき．＂Another is，perhaps，holdin？a sign which reaas＂ri，Yor！＂」

MARC：In a descarate attomet to locete the Evil One and halt the freat ミvil which has revaged this strange and tesutiful countryside， the town of Lendros has sent forth a narty of four brave compariors：＝wizard，a doctor，searerter，and a food merchant． This farty hooes to cross the hazarsous iands hetween Lendros and Sunrize Mountair，ir order to consult the crest wise hermit， astrix．The hooe is tnat $4=t r i x$ will shoy these mhe－bodied
 Astrix resily foesess this knowleoge？Cnly time will tell．
［Light stayミon＂arc，and comes on Jor．］
JUN：Marc，zar you hejr me？
Mmí：［tolchinghisear छs touch pr\＆ssincin an earpiece］Jon，yese
JON：Marc，hou ミre tha tounsfeoole holding up unger the yoke of the すreat Eviさ？

MARC：It＂s affected almost everyono，Jon．The crops are blighted，the water is contaminetet．．．in the caverns，the arcs have been stirred inさo a near－frenzy．．．and ヨlmost everyone here has a friend or relative in the town of $Z$ an，which is now completely in thrall to the Evil ane．

JON：Well，it sounds eretty serious there Narc．
［Marc nods．Light off Mョrc．］
JuN：We＇ll betack with an ex fiting live intorview，but first，this．
 another commercial for $\exists$ difterznt piece of fattletech pquicmert．Light off Christopher．Light on Jon．J

JJN：Now here＂s＂Erazy Boris＂ヨolinsky with a review cf tra latest Infocorı＝，Zarkquest IT．soris？

こjpotlight jhifts ：o the left，where goris is geatef at a chair，wearing a funny hat．hha will ol三y soris？tmmm．．．J

BORIS：I just loo 000 ve these intocomics，Jon．And this one is the test one yet！As you know，these zre the nes lire of interactive cotic books．
the rozt fun I＇ve avir hझd without wearirya rubhor suit．．．the only
 ふкyciving at thE s玉mp tıme．．．thrge relons．．．a shéf．．．
［Spotalght shifts back to Jom．？
JoN：That wミs Cryzy Goriswith jreviaw of zorkauestil，the newest Infocolic．
［Jon turns a paミe．］
JJ：We have as a juest ir our studios Joal Berez，the presigent of Infocom，an эuard－winnirg entertainmert softw＝re comonny locsted in Cambridje．MA．「Sootlight enlarges to show Joel sitting at the fesk to jon＇s right．J Joel，welcare．

JJEL：Thank you，Jon．
JJN：Joel，Irfocom has always beer known for＝very soecific type of computar entertainmert，isn＊t that so？

JQEL：why yes，jon．Sver th yearミ，Infccot＇s name nas pecome alrost synonymous wlth all－textinteractive fiction．

JUN：And now．．．
JuEL：$k$ ¹1，Jon，wére wlenning to contanue our strannlehold on thョt Jenre while tranchana off into a whole sletrore of computerized etory－teiling cetejories．

JUN：Could you give me an example？
JQEL：Jure．Tझke s look at Journey，our new interactive Electronic Role－Fままyint＝sntasy jtory－Tallirg Jame．［Monitor lichtsup benind Joei and Jon，showing Journey ready tc be demoed．j This is $\quad$ totally rew zenrewrich blends the best of if and role－playing games．And，as you can sep，it＇s stunnincly illustrz＋uith ミtシte－of－the－ョrt graphics．［Sevoral moves of Journey demold．Screen goes dark．

JON：This locks ilke it＇ 11 be amother big winner for Infocom！but will we aver see interactive fiction again？

Jコニ：Certalnly！Qur next croduct，sheduled for release in 1ate septemper，is IF．In fact，it＇s a prequel to our first and rost popular work ot intarヨctive fiction．

JJN：You＇re talking about Zonk Zero，right？
JコEL：Yes，and it＇s the biagest and best Zork pame ever！
JUN：Coulc we seesome of it？
JJEL：My pleasure！EMoritor coteson，etc．j

Jडv：Sow a userd from Infocom e Creative services cenartnent－the people wnc do the bast Feck zges in the softwarp industry！

```
ELight off jon and Jov?. Ligmt an Makey, stage Ieft.?
MIkE: If you liked our zorkrids and sundisls and glowing rocks and 3-0
    comles, you'l! love the aэckegos that'll be coming your way this
    fali! Starting with Zork Laro, you'll fe* this profusely lllustrated
    calardar w2th dztes of thegreミt Ungerミround smpire end biograchies
    for evfry member of the slathead femily...
```

ILight off vike．Light or Jon．］
JN：In sports，tre Flathoadia Jungeon vasters were sliced to ribtons by tre ickyo samur＝is in this rorning＇s Couble Finucci semi－finals． Judges ere still poring ovar the rules dook，looking for anything that こovars this evertuヨlity．

Cjon turns page．？
JUN：Well，thझt＇s the nous for todsy．Stay tunad to this channel for ASK THE ALHHERS，where the ミucienco gets to ask questions of lts favorite comfutar Game uriters and storytellers．Tonight＇s gueミtラ＝re J＝va Letling，Steve Meretzky，and Marc Elank．
［Laghts out，tneme music，etr．］

## Contact: Eileen Milauskas

 (617) 492-6000
## ZORK Zero: A New Beginning

(New York, NY .- July 19, 1988) -- In the beginning, there was Zork, history's best-selling entertainment software product which sold nearly one million copies. But wait! Was Zork really the beginning? This is a question that has been weighing heavily on the minds of all ZORK fans since the year 1 GUE.

Well, Zork fans, your wait is over. Infocom has finally spilled the magic Frobozz beans. Steve Meretzky, the hilarious author of the famed Leather Goddesses of Phobos, has finally brought you back to before the beginring. Zork Zero, the prequel to the Zork Trilogy, tells all (well, almost all) in truly uproarious Meretzkian style, but with several new twists.

Epic in both size and scope, this prequel covers a century of time and explores the collapse of the Great Underground Empire. Straining our new development system to the limit, ZORK Zero is our largest game ever, with more than 200 locations, and as many puzzles as all three games of the Zork Trilogy combined! To top it off, while ZORK Zero has everything you've come to expect from Infocom, it also features the first graphical puzzles to appear in an Infocom title!

In ZORK Zero you will slowly uncover the history of the empire. Here is your chance to learn the answers to many of the questions that have tormented Zorkers for ages: What was Dimwit Flathead's castle like? What is it like to play Double Fanucci? How did the Great Underground Empire collapse? Where did grues come from? And finally, most compelling of all, what is the origin of the White House where Zork I begins?

Subtitled "The Revenge of Megaboz," Zork Zero takes you back to the last days of the empire. Megaboz, an evil wizard, has cast a spell that has destroyed the ruling Flathead family, and has threatened the kingdom itself. Although you are but one of the many fortune hunters who have flooded the capital city of Flatheadia to try to claim the huge reward for stemming the curse, a carefully guarded family secret gives you a big advantage!

When the main body of the game opens, the Flathead family has already been destroyed. Your challenge is to save the rest of the kingdom from the fated curse that Megaboz has cast. And, there is only one way to stop the curse. . .

As you begin your quest, you'll meet the court jester, whose rhymes will leave you laughing, whose tricks will leave you cursing, and whose rebuses and riddles will leave you scratching your head. You'll travel to every corner of the kingdom, visiting exotic locales from the glaciers of the Gray Mountains to the swamps of Fenshire, from the placid shores of Lake Flathead to the searing heat of the Great Underground Desert, from the defoliated Fublio Valley to the granola mines of Antharia.

But wait -- there's more ! ZORK ZERO abounds with exciting features ! In addition to all of the traditional Zorkian puzzles and obstacles, you will come across some new graphical "games within games" that will absolutely knock your socks off. Try your hand at such brain teasers as Peggleboz, Snarfem, the Tower of Bozbar, and Double Fanucci. Plus, Zork Zero marks the introduction of

Infocom's newest generation parser, a mouse interface, and on-screen hints as well as an on-screen map.

By combining the best of the legendary Zorkian universe with the latest technology in interactive storytelling, ZORK ZERO has taken the best of ZORK and made it even better. ZORK ZERO gives the game player MORE; more puzzles, more graphics, more game, and...MORE FUN. From the exciting prologue, where you will come face to face with Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive, to the climactic epilogue, where you'll meet the most powerful wizard ever to set foot on the soil of Quendor, Zork Zero has something for everyone, and promises to be the best offering yet from the Master Story Tellers!

Zork Zero will be available in mid-October for the Macintosh and Apple IIcompatible versions. Apple IIgs and IBM versions will be available in November. Atari ST and Amiga-compatible versions will be available in early 1989, Commodore 128 versions in the spring of 1989. The suggested retail price is $\$ 49.95$ for all systems.

- GOOD OMEN!
- convened original imps - chinese rest. WHY PREQUEL?
- most popular title ever, almost $l$ million
- prequel would be welcomed by rabid fans
- but also - perfect for now comers DISCOVERING I. F. TOR fIRST TIME
- careful to make zork zero suitable FOR INFOCOM-NOVICE AND HARDCORE zORKAHOLLC

FEATURES?
You are about to plan
a great adventure.

- In zonk tradition, fantasy story WITH EMPHASIS ON PURPLE PROSE \& PUZZLES
- Tying together the ZORK \& ENCHANTER UNiverse, Dork zeno takes you BACK TO THE DAYS BEFORE THE COLLAPSE OF THE 6. U. E. \& LETS YOU WITNESS THAT COLLAPSE FIRST HAND.
- the most humongous
I. F. ever WRITTEN, IT HAS AS MANY LOCATIONS \& PUZZLES IRK AS THIN COME COMBINED!
- new, friendlier parser, on-line hints, ONSCREEN MAPPING, MEAN EVEN MOST INEXPERIENISED PLAYER WONT GET FRUSTRATED
- but still plenty of tough puzzles for fanatics
- finally, as joe alluded to, A MAJOR DEPARTURE FOR INFDCOM-THE INTRODUCTION OF GRAPHICS.
USE OF GRAPHICS
- in a way theyive never been used in in. F. Before
- ADD To story \& puzzles, NOT DISTRACT
Where into THE FABRIC OF THE PUZZLES, NOT JUST 1 SURFACE GLOSS. RESULT, I THINK, IS THAT Z CONTAINS EVERYTHING YOU'VECOME TO EXPECT IN AN INFOCOM GAME-- ANA THEN SOME. LET ME SHOW YOU

SEE 2 THINGS--

- STILL PRIMARILY a text-based story
- but graphical enhancements
- illuminated letter
- decorative border \& status line
- COMAS ROSE
- SHows Exits
- MOVE AROUND USING MOUSE
- ICON TO IDENTIFY ROOMS

MIKE IS RUNNING THROUGH PROLOGUE, WHICH IS SET.O.
BY THE TIME YOU FINISH THIS* PROLOGUE, A MERE 7 TURNS INTO ZORN ZERO, YOU REALIZE THAT A WHOLE NEW DIMENSION HAS BEEN ADDED, AND THAT INTERACTIVE FICTION WILL NEVER BE THE SAME.
:WY Zn IS A BREAK THRU GAME FOR INFOCOM \& I.F. - INTRODUCE LESS


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THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1987

TAMARA, a living movie from Moses $\mathrm{Znäim}$-" er; written by John Krizanc; conceived by Richard Rose and Mr. Krizanc; directed by Mr. Rose; associate director, Phil Kir choreography-fight direction, Gary Mascaro; costumes, Gianfranco Ferré, assistant director, Georg Rondo; associate costume designer, Diana Eden; production stage manager, Bruce Kagel; lighting designer, Brian. Presented by Mr Znaimer Lawrence son. Presented by Mr. Znaimer, Lawrence Regiment Armory, 643 Park Avenụe, at 66th Street.
Tamara de Le
Tamara de Lempicka.................. Sara Botsford Luisa Baccara .............................. Lally Cadeau Carlotta Barra ............................................Cynthia Dale Emilia Pavese ............................Roma Downey Gian Franceso de Spiga ..........Patrick Horgan Aelis Mazoyer ........................... Marilyn Lightstone Dante Fenzo ..............................Leland Murray Gabriele d'Annunzio ................. Frederick Rolf Aldo Finzi ............................................................ Wetherall
Mario Pagnuti the dialogue, which is often thunderstruck, as in Mr. Wetherall's exclamatory, "No one is innocent in Italia!" To their credit, the actors are undeterred by the fact that they are surrounded by a gaggle of theatergoers. They act to each other and to thin air. For the production, the director, Richard Rose, has assembled a spirited company with a teamlike sense of community. As for d'Annunzio, his mind always seems to be on romantic conquest, although occasionally his

 "Aelis, get me some zucchini." The plots collide. Return visits to the play line could be regarded as foreshadow-
are encouraged, but it is possible to

| Dykun and Barrie Wexler. At Seventh Regiment Armory, 643 Park Avenụ́e, at 66th Street. |
| :---: |
| Tamara de Lempicka................ Sara Botsford |
| Luisa Baccara ........................... Lally Cadeau |
| Carlotta Barra ...........................Cynthia Dale |
| Emilia Pavese .........................Roma Downey |
| Gian Franceso de Spiga ..........Patrick Horgan |
| Aelis Mazoyer ................... Marilyn Lightstone |
| Dante Fenzo ............................Leland Murray |
| Gabriele d'Annunzio ................ Frederick Rolf |
| Aldo Finzi .......................August Sche |
| Mario Pagnutti ........................Jack Wetherall |

the dialogue, which is often thunderstruck, as in Mr. Wetherall's exclamatory, "No one is innocent in Italia!"
To their credit, the actors are undeterred by the fact that they are surrounded by a gaggle of theatergoers. They act to each other and to thin air. For the production, the director, -म!ds e parquasse sey 'əsoy p.eyoty
 of community. As for d'Annunzio, his mind always seems to be on romantic conquest, although occasionally his
 kitchen, I overheard him demand, "Aelis, get me some zucchini." The -моречsәлој se papıesiəл әq pinoo әu!! ing. Shortly thereafter, the action stops and the audience has a buffet supper in d'Annunzio's elegant dining room. Food and champagne are included in the price of admission (from $\$ 85$ for matinees to $\$ 135$ Saturday evening) - and there is no stinting in quality.
 show as the play itself, as couples try hard to follow separate tracks of the story and, to their surprise, find themselves in the same boudoir or ballroom. Sometimes theatergoers talk back to the actors and, at intermission, the actors willingly respond in kind.
The play is intended as a commen-
 the 1920's and, in the chauffeur's words, on the conflict between "love and duty." There are references to politics and also to art of the period,
 seriously. It is basically a clever, di-
 sedentary theatergoers who are accustomed to sitting in the dark and watching actors do all the work.
For almost three hours, "Tamara" keeps us on our feet and on the alert - looking, thinking (trying to piece ious plot) and rushwith d'Annunzio - poet, playwright, politician and legendary lover - and with Tamara de Lempicka, the Polish artist who has come to d'Annunzio's villa to paint his portrait. But around trigue and good-natured decadence.
 several staircases and in various passageways of the armory, part of which has been redesigned for the octaneously, which means that theatergoers choose what they think they want to see. One can follow a single character or proceed tag-style from character to character. Periodically, plots collide. Return visits to the play are encouraged, but it is possible to comprehend "Tamara" in one standwith especially if one communicates mands an openness on the part of the audience.
The nimble actors run from floor to . atink of that as no ound the corner, something else is happening. A would-be prima ballerina is feverishly dancing, a pretty maid is hiding a revolver in the chauffeur's basement bedroom,

 villa who has not yet succumbed to his charm.
The audience is almost as much a show'as the play itself, as couples try hard to follow separate tracks of the story and, to their surprise, find themselves in the same boudoir or ballroom. Sometimes theatergoers talk back to the actors and, at intermission, the actors willingly respond
The play is intended as a commentary on the rise of Fascism in Italy in the 1920's and, in the chauffeur's words, on the conflict between "love and duty." There are references to politics and also to art of the period, but "Tamara" is not to be taken too seriously. It is basically a clever, diverting whodunit.
It comes to New York from Los Angeles, where it is still running after more than three years. Though the true "Tamara" could probably only be presented on location in Italy, Mr.
 tion designer, have made a stylish ap-
 wood and brass to remind one that the armory also plays host to antique
 are a lavish enhancement, making it easy to separate the actors from the theatergoers, who are, in fact, ense 'pinous pue) dn ssəap of pəşıños
 gunshot, leaving several plot strands" untied - enough for "Tamara Two." Again, the audience gathers to compare notes. "Tamara" is, and will be, a stimulating conversation piece.
ing, especially if one communicates with other theatergoers. The show demandence.

The nimble actors run from floor to floor with the audience in hot pursuit.
 when a door is closed, we do not at tempt to open it. Think of that as dead end; around the corner, som-be prima ballerina is feverishly dancing, a pretty maid is hiding a revolver in the chauffeur's basement bedroom, ¢! 'erewel suiseyo s! olzunuuy, p villa who

John Krizanc's play must be 10 . times longer than the one we see. No scenes are repeated, although many overlap. "Tamara" is labeled "a living movie," but it is a movie in which each theatergoer does the editinewithout ever seeing the rushes. Eyewitness accounts differ. As a guide to said that neither d'Annunzio (a bald, swaggering Frederick Rolf) nor Tamara (a tempestuous Sara Botsford) is really the principal character. That role may well belong to Mario, the mysterious chauffeur. The play might more appropriately be called "Mario," but then some people might confuse it with a more recent political cliffhanger ("Waiting for Mario' in Doonesbury)

Mario is far more than a chauffeur, and, as played by Jack Wetherall, he is the fastest runner in the villa. He include, notably, Roma Downey, Leland Murray and Patrick Horgan) have all mastered the art of high intensity acting. This is in keeping with

## By EILEEN BLUMENTHAL

 'M DEVELOPING A NEW THEORY of 'Tamara,' " says the 31-year-old Canadian playwright John Krizanc. "It's all about the second law of thermodynamics - it's about entropy." Riding his metaphor, he continues: "It's a high-entropy situation - there's an apparent randomness, apparent chaos. We're used to theater where there's a tremendous amount of order. Of course, there's an order to 'Tamara' as well. It's a question of perception.""Tamara," which opens Wednesday at the Seventh Regiment Armory on Park Avenue, is a multi-track environmental work about decadence and the dawn of Italian Fascism. Conceived by Mr. Krizanc and the director Richard Rose, it combines elements of a satin-and-cocaine whodunit with the spirit of an amusement-park haunted house, all infused with strong political undertones. The action is freely based on 1927 diary entries of the housekeeper at Il Vittoriale, the villa of Gabriele D'Annunzio not far from Milan. Renowned as a poet, novelist, womanizer, nationalistic adventurer and general loose cannon, Italy's narcissistic Italian cultural hero was under high-style house arrest by Mussolini at the time. The diary's characters, and the play's, include II Commandante D'Annunzio plus several of his discarded, current and potential mistresses, among them Tamara de Lempicka, the glamorous Art Deco painter, who had been invited to Il Vittoriale supposedly to paint her host's portrait.

What makes this show unique is that events occur simultaneously all over a recreated Il Vittoriale - as many as nine scenes at a time, in 13 rooms and hallways on three floors of the Armory. Each spectator chooses which character to follow, and so sees only a fraction of the play's hundredplus episodes. Since viewers can switch their subjects whenever two characters meet, there are, in principle, several hundred thousand possible plays to see.

All the permutations are facets of a single story - which Mr. Krizanc describes as a

[^22]
## The audience, too,

goes upstairs and
down in a play at the

## Seventh Regiment

## Armory set in

## Mussolini's Italy.

"tale about the mass psychology of Fascis sexual and political impotence." The und thodox form of "Tamara," he says, suppor the theme: "Fascism is a desperate attem to bring about order. Our premise was th the best way to write a critique of Fascis was to give people more freedom the they've ever had in the theater." The stru ture of "Tamara" also allows the audience experience the paranoia the characters fe living in a police state, where no one knov who might be an informer. "The very natu of it is, 'What the hell's going on in the ne room?' D'Annunzio tried to seal himself in vacuum and deny the politics around him which you can't do."

The simultaneity and hiddenness of even reflect not only direct political danger b also a general, escalating apprehension uncertainty. Playing again with the physi analogy, Mr. Krizanc says, "There are these parallel worlds happening - but sin we have only one body, we can only expe ence one. We have an inkling that the othe are there - well, it's more than an inkling the play, because we can hear peop screaming all over the house."
"Tamara" is about responses to uncerta ty, to the loss of control. "John and I ke referring to [the psychologist] Wilhei Reich," Mr. Rose says, "to people discove ing their own impotence and trying to fil power in the face of it." Following vario characters, he explains, spectators "see t same themes from different points of view the society." Upstairs, Mr. Krizanc quir "it's all art and madness" while the servan downstairs have more directly political co cerns. But he quickly corrects this over schematic description: After all, one arist crat in the play "doesn't go mad and has

## 「amara' 'rom the round Floor Up

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leen Blumenthal teaches theater at RutUniversity and is the author of "Joseph ikin: Exploring at the Boundaries of ater" (Cambridge University Press).

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"tale about the mass psychology of Fascism, sexual and political impotence." The unorthodox form of "Tamara," he says, supports the theme: "Fascism is a desperate attempt to bring about order. Our premise was that the best way to write a critique of Fascism was to give people more freedom than they've ever had in the theater." The structure of "Tamara" also allows the audience to experience the paranoia the characters feel living in a police state, where no one knows who might be an informer. "The very nature of it is, 'What the hell's going on in the next room?' D'Annunzio tried to seal himself in a vacuum and deny the politics around him which you can't do."

The simultaneity and hiddenness of events reflect not only direct political danger but also a general, escalating apprehension of uncertainty. Playing again with the physics analogy, Mr. Krizanc says, "There are all these parallel worlds happening - but since we have only one body, we can only experience one. We have an inkling that the others are there - well, it's more than an inkling in the play, because we can hear people screaming all over the house."
"Tamara" is about responses to uncertainty, to the loss of control. "John and I keep referring to [the psychologist] Wilhelm Reich," Mr. Rose says, "to people discovering their own impotence and trying to find power in the face of it." Following various characters, he explains, spectators "see the same themes from different points of view in the society." Upstairs, Mr. Krizanc quips, "it's all art and madness" while the servants downstairs have more directly political concerns. But he quickly corrects this overly schematic description: After all, one aristocrat in the play "doesn't go mad and has a


Sara Botsford as Tamara de Lempicka and Frederick $R$
heavy political thing," and another upstairs character "has a religious dilemma." Moreover, "as the valet says in the play, servants don't just serve, but also service their masters, so there are a lot of cross-connections."

Even after several viewings a spectator will not know all the strands of "Tamara." (At productions in Toronto and Los Angeles, about 20 percent of the show's business have been returnees.) But, Mr. Krizanc says, "you can follow anyone and have a sense of a complete story. On a proscenium stage, you can explore your protagonist in depth, but there will always have to be secondary characters. Here, each actor is the star of his own story."

Directing several interlocking stories at once has its complications. Mr. Rose describes various "traveling techniques" he uses to keep viewers from getting lost during the movement between rooms and to hold their attention while their fellow spectators
are catching up. ing a corner, a something or tur turn a corner Sometimes the a to keep pace. " M longest cross," from Tamara's which is 25 feet 0 D'Annunzio's be er, especially w always running down three fligh the servants' qu into the kitchen from his bedroot

## "Jack [Weath

 Shouldn't you pi athletes should

The New York Times/Peter Freed
Sara Botsford as Tamara de Lempicka and Frederick Rolf as Gabriele D'Annunzio in "Tamara,"opening Wednesday
reavy political thing,* and another upstairs haracter "has a religious dilemma." Morever, "as the valet says in the play, servants lon't just serve, but also service their masers, so there are a lot of cross-connections." Even after several viewings a spectator vill not know all the strands of "Tamara." At productions in Toronto and Los Angeles, bout 20 percent of the show's business have een returnees.) But, Mr. Krizanc says, "you an follow anyone and have a sense of a comlete story. On a proscenium stage, you can xplore your protagonist in depth, but there vill always have to be secondary characters. lere, each actor is the star of his own story." Directing several interlocking stories at nce has its complications. Mr. Rose decribes various "traveling techniques" he ses to keep viewers from getting lost during he movement between rooms and to hold heir attention while their fellow spectators
are catching up. For example, "before turning a corner, a character stops and says something or turns to the audience. When you turn a corner you can really lose them." Sometimes the audience has all it can do just to keep pace. "Mario [the chauffeur] has the longest cross," Mr. Krizanc says. "He goes from Tamara's bedroom to Finzi's office, which is 25 feet or something, then upstairs to D'Annunzio's bedroom - the stairs are a killer, especially when you're running, and he's always running - then he goes all the way down three flights of stairs to his bedroom in the servants' quarters, and then he goes right into the kitchen, which is the farthest point from his bedroom on the servants' floor.
"Jack [Weatherall, who plays Mario] said, 'Shouldn't you put it in the program that only athletes should follow me?' He always has a
core audience of healthy types." The reverse of this problem, Mr. Rose says, is signaling viewers to consider staying in a room when some characters are going out but others will remain behind: "We start the new action before the other characters have left. We show the audience that something's going to happen."

Sometimes dozens of spectators clamber after one or two people, while other characters - heading for equally interesting encounters - have only a couple of people trailing them, or even no one at all. "It's often true," Mr. Rose says, that the audience thinks, 'I've got to follow the masters of the household.' In a Chekhov play, you don't follow Dunyasha. But when people discover that there's equally as much intrigue - and sex - downstairs, the servants get followed too."

And as sections of the audience get wind of Continued on Page 32




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The Time: 1927

The Place: Il Vittoriale degli Italiani (The Shrine to Italian Victories): an extravagant country villa in Northern Italy.

The Story: A lovely young Polish painter, Tamara de Lempicka, visits the house of an eloquent and lascivious poet in war uniform. He's Gabriele d'Annunzio, the celebrated writer / patriot / politician / soldier. She thinks she's there to paint a great man's portrait. He, however, can think only of her seduction.

Such is daily life in Il Comandante's preposterous villa cum brothel cum mausoleum.

Outside, Mussolini's Fascists are developing strength. Were he to test it, d'Annunzio would find himself under house arrest. Tamara's arrival amid the political and sexual intrigues of this complex household has explosive results.
"A Living Movie ${ }^{\text {Tw" }}$ : A walk-through soap opera, a voyeur's dream come true.

The Best 'Seat' In The House: Only 170 guests are privileged to spend 3 hours in the tumultuous household of Gabriele d'Annunzio. You play voyeur and co-conspirator with the cast who conduct dangerous liasons in and out of the Palazzo's many rooms.

When You Arrive: Free flowing champagne and cocktails by Seagram. At intermezzo, wine, cocktails plus a sumptuous banquet buffet*, presented by Le Cirque, New York's legendary four star restaurant. Designed by Chef Daniel Boulud and catered by Remember Basil. Fabulous Creme Brulee and coffee with cast when it's all over*.
('except matince performances)
Substantial Discounts For Repeat Visits: Come again and follow different characters for a different story. $25 \%$ off 2nd visit, 3rd $35 \%$, 4th $45 \%$, 5th $50 \%$. After your fifth visit, return as often as you with at a charge of $\$ 50.00^{*}$.
('All prices subject to change without notice. Some restrictions may apply.)
"A Spectacle That Leaves Theatregoers Gasping!".. People Magazine
"Brilliant! An event no theatre lover should miss!"...UPI
"Sizzling! Stylish fun!"... U.S.A. Today



TO: Steve, Dave, Mike, Stuart
FROM: Eileen
RE: Monday, August 15 editorial interviews
DATE: August 12

The following is the address and phone number for the Westing Plaza Hotel:

The Plaza Hotel
5th Avenue at 59th Street
(212) 759-3000

We will be in the White and Gold Room C.

Stuart, Steve, Dave and I will be at the Marriott Hotel at Laguardia Airport on Sunday night. We will meet Mike at the Plaza Hotel on Monday morning. Marriott tael $\#$ : 718-565-8900
One Mac II and one IBM will be set up to demo all five games. Stuart will demo Battletech and Quarterstaff; Dave, Shogun; Steve, Zork Zero; and Mike, Journey. I will help out with demos as much as possible.

The following is the schedule for one-on-one interviews:
9:00 am Paul Carroll - Wall street Journal
10:00 am Annie Katz, Joyce Worley
11:30 am Marshal Rosenthal - Amiga World (Lunch)
1:00 pm Scott Marley, Bert Hochberg - Games Magazine
2:00 pm Mike Davila, David Allikas - Ahoy!
3:00 pm SCORPIA!!!
CALL
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See y'all there and thank you for your support.

## imFocom

## New graphics. New directions. Two new first-rate stories from Infocom.

## B^TTILETECII゚

## BattleTech@: The Crescent Hawk's

Inception ${ }^{\text {m }}$ is the ultimate RPG. Set in the 31st century in a universe at war, the player battles for his life. Wars are fought in BattleMechs, 30foot tall robots that weigh 20 tons and are operated by a MechWarrior inside.

As Jason Youngblood, son of a famed MechWarrior, the player gains skill as a MechWarrior when he fights other 'Mechs of various shapes, speed, and firepower. At the heart of this game is a quest to find Jason's father and a means to flee this besieged planet. Chock-full of tactical combat, intriguing characters, and a wide array of weaponry, BattleTech requires both skill and strategy to complete.

## Action Outtakes

The animated game sequences are in the style of Japanese "Monga" graphics.

## The Arena

The Arena is a gladitorial combat module for honing skills and winning money.

## 3 Combat Modes

The player can choose computer-controlled, computer-guided, or player-controlled combat.

## 4 Million Locations

BattleTech has the largest RPG universe ever created.

## ZORK ZERO

The game that started it all has a new beginning! Zork Zero is the graphic interactive prequel to the Zork Trilogy, the best-selling entertainment software product of all time.

Over 90 years have passed since the great wizard Megaboz cast the Curse, which now threatens to bring down the Great Underground Empire. It's up to the player, who's become privy to Cursebusting information, to squelch it. All throughout the game, a curious jester offers puzzles, paradoxes, and plenty of fun as objects ranging from the absurd to the sublime are sought. Zork lovers will get to glimpse the Great Underground Empire during its heyday and finish up "west of a little white house".

## Graphic Puzzles

Graphic puzzles, integral to game solution, are included along with interactive fiction puzzles to make ZORK ZERO a breakthrough game.

## More Graphics

Illustrated mapping and an illustrated Zorkian encyclopedia make Zork Zero visually appealing. And the color on the Mac II is dazzling!

Enhanced User Interface
An even-friendlier parser, on-screen hints, programmable function keys, and mouse option add to game-play.

## Marketing Support

$\square 2$ million copies of our prominent four－color，eight－page foldout ad featuring BattleTECH and Zork Zero will be carried by major industry consumer magazines in holiday and winter issues．
$\square$ Enclosed is the latest issue of our newsletter，which features Zork Zero and BattleTech and is now being mailed to over 200，000 active Infocom fans．
－Two self－running demos（BattleTech IBM／Tandy and Zork Zero Macintosh，which also allows some player interaction）are now being mailed to over 2，200 active dealers nationwide． These demo disks are being made available to distributors and retailers through MEDIAGENIC．
$\square$ Scheduled exhibition of Zork Zero and BattleTech at upcoming consumer shows will allow end－users to experience the games hands－on．
$\square$ All key publications have received press releases announcing BattleTech and Zork Zero．

## Special BattleTech Marketing Support and Cross－Sell Information

－A product－launch promotion features a cus－ tom－designed Crescent Hawk cloisonne pin in the first 10,000 copies of Battletech shipped．
－A bounce－back consumer promotion features a custom－designed Ral Partha lead miniature ＇Mech from the game．
－＂The Battle Beast＂BattleTech video is a professionally produced piece that features game action against high－powered music．It will continue to be run at consumer shows and conventions．
－A full－page ad has been printed in the latest BattleTech novel published in September． This ad will also run in two more novels to be released this month and in February．
－BattleTech is licensed from FASA，the creators of the BattleTech universe，who have sold over 300，000 copies of the basic BattleTech board game．
－There are over 40 different SKUs in the BattleTech line，sales of which total over 1 million units．
－Ral Partha，a premium lead miniature manufacturer，currently sells over one hundred different lead miniatures from the BattleTech universe for use in BattleTech games．
－Six paperback novels to date have been pub－ lished from the BattleTech universe and two more are on their way．

## －アヘTTルにTにご－I゚

ZORK ZERO

| Macintosh | N／A |  |  | AVAILABLE NOW！ | $\$ 59.95$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| IBM／Tandy | AVAILABLE NOW！ | $\$ 49.95$ | Ships February | $\$ 59.95$ |  |
| Commodore 64／128 | Ships January | $\$ 39.95$ | N／A |  |  |
| Apple II series | Ships April | $\$ 49.95$ | Ships January | $\$ 49.95$ |  |
| Amiga | Ships May | $\$ 49.95$ | Ships May | $\$ 59.95$ |  |
| Atari ST | Ships August | $\$ 49.95$ | N／A |  |  |

Contact your MEDIAGENIC Sales Representative for Infocom product and product information．

## $\$ 2.50$

The Monthly Magazine of Third Floor Technologies


The Year In Review
The Best and Worst


Richard Brandow Remains Unincarcerated The guy who started all this? Richard Brandow, publisher of the Canadian MacMag magazine, with his "message of world peace" virus. That touched off a snowball effect: once it made the news, others were spurred to spread their own viruses, which created yet more publicity. Happy New Year, Richard.

## Memory Gets Short

The DRAM shortage of 1988 caused prices of RAM upgrades to go up and availability to go down-especially bad when combined with our next item.

## Applications Get Greedy...

As programs got more feature-laden, they began to require more and more memory, both disk space and RAM. A megabyte was barely enough for programs like Full Write Professional and Illustrator 88, and with MultiFinder this was even more of a glaring problem.

## ...And Apple Follows Suit

We were under the impression that as new technology was created, prices on the old technology were supposed to go down, but Apple had other ideas. The Cupertino gang decided, a few months ago, to raise the price of the Mac SE, II, and various other machines and peripherals. Even more perplexing were the seemingly random particulars of these price hikes.

The System Gets an Upgrade... and Another... and Another...

Apple's idea was to eliminate the confusion caused by different versions of the System and

Finder by uniting them into one package, which would have its own version number. The new System software release was to be 6.0. After a lengthy wait, it was released. Unfortunately, it had a lot of bugs, so Apple hastily upgraded to 6.0.1. Unfortunately, it had a lot of bugs, so Apple hastily upgraded to 6.0 .2 . This was all within the space of a few weeks. There were still some incompatibilities, but it was up to third-party software companies to fix their own products. Time will tell how many more minor updates we'll see, but hopefully it won't be too many.

## And the NeXT?

We debated at length about whether to mention the new NeXT computer, the brainchild of former Apple persona Steve Jobs, under "Best" or "Worst" of 1988. The dilemma is this: The NeXT has been heralded as an incredible advance in technology, which will revolutionize the computer industry as much as the Mac did. If this were true, it would certainly be in our "Best" section. Unfortunately, it isn't. While the NeXT has some definite advantages over the Macintosh, and may even be a better workstation than the Mac II, the hype far exceeds the reality. It's still a 68000 -based, mouse-driven, black-and-white machine; while the Mac was a quantum leap above what had come before it, the NeXT is quite Mac-like in general operation. Furthermore, it's not yet available to anyone but educational institutions, and it is rather expensive, although the price includes a lot of extra peripherals and software, such as the excellent Mathematica and WriteNow. To be on the safe side, we're sticking it here, in neither the "Best" nor "Worst" sections. We'll just have to wait and see.

## The Editors' Picks: The Best Macintosh Software of 1988

Here are our selections for the best software released in 1988.

Best New Word Processor: FullWrite Professional Although it took forever to be released, hasn't immediately garnered the popularity it was expected to, and requires a lot of memory to run, one thing is hard to deny: FullWrite has all the power you could ever want.
Best New Flat-File Database: FileMaker II (née 4) The old standby, after a lot of improvements, is still the best.
Best New Relational Database: 4th Dimension Despite speed problems, a comprehensive, flexible, and expandable program.
Best New Business/Math Program: Mathematica Number-crunching with an incredible array of capabilities.

Honorable Mention, Business/Word Processing/ Database: WordPerfect Macintosh, FoxBase+/Mac, Quicken
Best New Desktop Publishing Program:
PageMaker 3.0
While other programs have more flash and more features, PageMaker just keeps getting better, more powerful, and more reliable, without losing its ease of use.
Best New Color Painting Program: Modern Artist You name it, Modern Artist does it-a must for Mac II owners who are artistically inclined.
Best New Black-and-White Painting Program: Cricket Paint
Cricket Paint has everything any of its predecessors
had-and quite a bit more.
Best New PostScript Graphics Program: FreeHand FreeHand combines Illustrator with Cricket Draw and comes out a winner.
Best New Graphics Program, Other: Super 3D Finally, ease and power combine in a 3D graphics program.
Honorable Mention, Graphics: MacDraw II, Digital Darkroom, ImageStudio, DeskPaint 2.01 DeskDrawo
Best New Utility: Symantec Utilities for the Macintosh
SUM is a necessity for anyone who cares about their data.
Honorable Mention, Utilities: Stuffit, Suitcase II, On Cue, SuperClock, QuicKeys
Best New Strategy Game: Tetris
A simple yet unbelievably addictive game from the Soviet Union.
Best New Action Game: Beyond Dark Castle It was hard to believe they could top the original, but they did it.

Best New Sports Simulation: World Class Leaderboard
Golfers and non-golfers alike should love this one, which blows MacGolf out of the water.
Best New Simulation: PT-109
A PT boat is a perfect thing to translate to a computer, and it's done very well here.
Best New Adventure Game: Zork Zero A late entry from Infocom, the latest in the series makes use of color and graphics.
Best New Game, Other: The Fool's Errand A unique and enjoyable set of graphic and logic puzzles with a fantasy storyline.
Honorable Mention, Games: Shufflepuck Cafe, Arkanoid, Fire Brigade, Continuum, Moebius, Crystal Quest/CritterEditor
Best Musid/Sound Program: MacRecorder
This audio digitizer and its SoundEdit software makes it seem easy.
Honorable Mention, Music/Sound: Jam Session, M

## Suitcase II

## By Ben Dollar

If you're a user of Suitcase, you know how much more convenient it makes using different fonts and desk accessories. Once you start using it, you wonder how you ever lived without it. Now Suitcase II (the latest version is 1.2.2) gives you access to uninstalled fonts, DAs, and FKEYs more conveniently than ever. It also lets you display names in a Font menu in the corresponding fonts, offers control over sounds, and includes utilities for compressing fonts and sounds and "harmonizing" font files.

Suitcase II, like the original version, is based on an INIT startup file that loads when you start your Macintosh, opening certain font and DA "suitcase" files. Until you reboot, you can use the fonts and DAs in these files just as if they were installed in the System.

Suitcase automatically opened files in certain folders within the System Folder. Suitcase II doesn't do this; rather, you have to open each file once, but it will be re-opened every time you restart, regardless of what folder it's in. This is ultimately more convenient. There's also a check box that lets you open files temporarily, if you don't want them automatically opened every time you start up.

The way you control Suitcase is through a "DA"-it's not actually a DA, but the INIT installs an item in the Apple menu, so it seems like one. The

DA displays a list of all the items of a certain type that are currently available-DAs, fonts, FKEYs, or sounds. In the DA list, you can open a DA; in the font list, you can display a font in various sizes and styles, typing sample text to test the font. Sounds


The Suitcase "DA" dialog, the program's center of operations.

# Zork Zepo 

By Frank Antonopolis

Hold on to your hats, adventure gamers: Infocom, the premier maker of computer adventure games, has released a whole new line of adventure and role-playing games, which feature graphics, color, sounds, and a host of other advances. In this issue we review Zork Zero, the "prequel" to the series that started it all. Look for reviews of the other new Infocom games in coming MacReview issues.

First there was Zork, the fantasy adventure game that spawned an entire genre. Then came the sequels Zork II and Zork II, and another series, Enchanter, Sorcerer, and Spellbreaker. All of these took place in the same strange magical world, half surreal and half medieval. They were followed, more recently, by Beyond Zork, a role-playing adventure that was the first Infocom game with any sort of graphics (albeit only maps).

Now comes Zork Zero, which is set hundreds of years before the Zork Trilogy-in the time of the Flathead Dynasty. The time-release curse cast by the wizard Megaboz 94 years ago, which killed Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive and his family, is about to take effect and destroy the entire empire-unless you can stop it. As you awake at the beginning of the game (after a short prologue in which Megaboz casts his curse), you find that you are the sole human inhabitant of the kingdom, everyone else having fled. You have to wander the deserted castle and its environs, and find the relics of the Twelve Flatheads which will stop the curse. A sardonic court jester is your chronic companion, at times helping you, at times turning you into an alligator, and at times being in charge of the puzzles and games you have to contend with in order to complete your task.

The look of Zork Zero is completely different from other Infocom text adventures. The text area is surrounded by a decorative border, which reflects what type of terrain you're currently incolumns for indoor locations, foliage for outdoor locations, etc. At the top of the screen, along with your status (moves, score, the current room), is a compass rose. You can move around by clicking on one of the directions on this compass, or on "up" and "down" arrows. The directions in which there are no exits from the room you're in are greyed out on the compass. Beside each room's name in the text is an icon that represents that room.

At certain points in the game, you will
encounter actual puzzles that have to be solved. The screen becomes a display of that puzzle, and you can use the mouse to solve it. For instance, there's a "Towers of Hanoi" puzzle, where you have to move a stack of blocks, one by one, from one place to another. There's a strange card game called Double Fanucci, and a game called Peggleboz where the object is to eliminate pegs on a board. If it weren't for the graphics, these puzzles would certainly not have been in the game; a Towers of Hanoi puzzle that had to be solved by entering text commands would be impossibly tedious and confusing. The graphical puzzles also serve as a nice change of pace from the rest of the game.

Graphics also come into play at a few other points: there's an Encyclopidia Frobozzica where


## Graphics Galore

> Above, the Zork Zero interface, much less drab than previous Infocom games. Top, one of the graphical puzzles that are sprinkled throughout the game.
you can look up various things，some of which have graphical entries；and a rebus that you need to solve， which is displayed on the screen．However， graphics by no means dominate Work Zero；for the most part，it＇s a text adventure．

Another graphical feature is the on－screen map： type＂map＂and you＇ll see a map of the immediate area（only the places you＇ve been，of course），with each room represented by its icon and the current room＇s icon blinking．to signify where you are．The graphics are in color on a Mac II，which should greatly enhance the experience for those gamers who have a II and a color monitor．The color pictures are not just＂colorized＂versions of the regular ones；they＇re very nice full－color drawings． You can customize the text and background color， too，and with a black－and－white Mac you can choose from black on a white background or white on a black background．

Work Zero is huge．There are hundreds of locations and scores of puzzles．There are quite a few logic puzzles，including the aforementioned graphic puzzles．You＇ll encounter some riddles，and several logic puzzles you may or may not have seen before，such as one where you have a 9 －unit vial and a 4－uinit vial，and need to obtain 6 units of water； and the one about the executioner who will hang you if he can grant your last wish，and behead you if he can＇t．These puzzles are implemented in subtle ways，so that even if you＇re familiar with them you might not realize the connection until you＇ve thought about it for a while．

As far as the more conventional adventure－game puzzles go，they range from the fairly easy to the hopelessly obscure．However，there are on－line hints，which is a good thing，since with the sheer number of things that need to be done to solve Work Zero，even the most expert and clever gamer will probably need to resort to at least a few hints．The hints are very well－organized，always giving you a clue before an outright answer．

The package includes an elaborate calendar for the year 883 GUE，with each month containing a picture and bio of one of the Twelve Flatheads． Several puzzles involve finding facts from the calendar and applying the information．Also included are a blueprint and a scrap of parchment （obtained by your ancestor on the day Megaboz cast his curse）with clues as to the goal of the game．

One problem with the large size of Work Zero is that getting around becomes a challenge in itself． There are several modes of transportation，including a yacht，a dirigible，and a homing pigeon that will teleport you from place to place；if you＂strand＂the yacht or the dirigible by using the homing pigeon to get back to the castle，you＇re in trouble．Also，with a game this big，it can be a nightmare to realize that you＇ve done something wrong and have to start from a previous saved game．Once you do a few things to open access routes to certain areas，the game is very open－ended and can be overwhelming． Some of the puzzles，as I said，are pretty bizarre； many of them don＇t relate to the plot in any way， and this detracts from the game．

Despite these problems，and an anticlimactic ending，Infocom fans should definitely play Work Zero．Its not for beginners，although the on－line hints can help less experienced players．Infocom＇s usual excellent parser and prose are present，with an incredible range of humorous or appropriate responses to unusual situations you might get into． The graphics，the mouse－driven interface，and the on－line hints make the game more fun and easier to play．Even if the scenario doesn＇t hold your interest （a common complaint with the Work games），the puzzles will．

Work Zero，\＄49．95
Infocom，Inc．
125 Cambridge Park Dr．
Cambridge，MA 02140

## 漛 Crystal Quest with CritterElitor

By Kevin Shay

Crystal Quest is one of the best action games for the Mac．Its huge number of whimsical sounds and characters，and its indefinable addictiveness，make for hours upon hours of fun．What more could you ask for？Well，now you can customize every aspect of the game，with the Crystal Quest CritterEditor from Greene Inc．

The CritterEditor works on copies of Crystal Quest．It stores all the customizations you program
into a copy of the application，and when you run that copy，your changes will be present．It can also use＂parameter files，＂files that cannot be accessed by Crystal Quest but store all the editing information． They take up less room on disk，and if you want to use one you can simply load it into Crystal Quest using the CritterEditor．Parameter files can also be uploaded legally to bulletin board systems，whereas copies of Crystal Quest cannot be．
about role-playing games. Hlease, programmers, make more of them like this.

Now what can we do about lobsters?
-Burt Hochberg

## ZORK ZERO

## infocom, \$50-60

The Zork trilogy, maybe the most popular computer games ever, sent you on a quest through the remains of the Great Underground Empire, which at the peak of its power was ruled by Lord Dimwit Flathead the Excessive. But one question remained tantalizingly unanswered: What evil power brought the Great Underground Empire to its ruin?

Computer adventurers have been asking another question for years: When dreary computer games become bestsellers because of their dazzling graphics, how long do these clowns at Infocom think they can get away with these brilliantly written but entirely unadorned text adventures?

Zork Zero-the prequel to Zork I, II, and III-answers both questions at once. Here you will learn of the curse that doomed the Empire, and here you will see the very first illustrations ever to grace an Infocom story.

In a brief prologue, a servant watches as the great wizard Megaboz casts the Curse which destroys Lord Flathead. (It seems that Lord Flathead's new and enormous statue of himself is casting a shadow on Megaboz's garden.) Peeking out from under a table, the servant grabs a piece of parchment that falls from Megaboz's pocket.

Now, 90 years later, half the riches of the kingdom will go to whomever can keep the curse from finishing off the entire Empire. You are a descendant of that servant, and have inherited the scrap of paper-your only hint of how to fight the curse.

The graphics are sparse, but pretty. The hilariously loony text is surrounded by a decorative border. The library contains a copy of the Encyclopedia Frobozzica, and many of its entries are beautifully illustrated. When you play the legendary-and impossibly compli-cated-game of Double Fanucci in Port Foozle, you'll get to see the layout of the cards as you play.

Still, the occasional pictures are just for show, rarely necessary to the story. Zork Zero has other features that are much more helpful, if less dazzling.

Like the built-in hints, for example. If


## Zork Zero

you get stuck on a difficult puzzle, you can get a hint right away.

A new "undo" command means that if, say, you drink a mysterious potion and it turns you into a warthog, you can back up a move and offer it to an enemy instead. (This only works on computers with enough memory, though.)

And you don't have to waste any more time drawing and redrawing maps. At any time you can see a map of the area, showing what places you've visited and which directions remain unexplored.

All these friendly features make Zork Zero the most enjoyable game yet in the Zork series.

Some advice: Take the time to read very carefully through the Flathead calendar included with the game; it contains many facts you'll need to solve the puzzles. Jot down every unfamiliar word, name, and thing you come across and look them all up in the Encyclopedia Frobozzica when you're in the library. You'll get a lot of background about the Empire, and more important, you'll learn a thing or two that you'd otherwise have to find out through lengthy trial and error.
-Scott Marley

## COLF AND MINIATURE GOLF

It's hard to imagine now the mania created by that Roaring Twenties phenomenon, miniature golf. From private layouts for swanky sophisticates to a chain of Tom Thumb courses for the common folk, everyone, in the words of a popular song of the day, went "goofy over miniature golf."

Even today, the game still occupies a special place in popular culture. So it's only natural that the software companies would try to recreate the special cachet of the game.

Mini-Putt (Accolade, \$30-40) offers just about everything the demanding putter would want. You can select four different courses, ranging from traditional to challenging. The holes feature all the beloved ramps, tunnels, windmills, and barriers, as well as some new
twists. There is a cannon that will shoot your ball down to the pin, and a fantasy castle with a tricky drawbridge and some curious entrances and exits.

The game is easy to play, as befits its subject. Position the cursor over the spot you'd like to shoot the ball toward. Click the joystick button to start your mini-golfer swinging. Try to click the button again when the power bar reaches the desired oomph (measured in feet) and yet again when the putter is about to hit the ball. Clicking too soon or too late causes the ball to go the wrong distance or veer to the left or right.

The eccentric greens are marked with arrows to indicate dips and dives, and there is an overview map so you can see where you're headed-the hole is not always in sight.

Zany Golf (Electronic Arts, \$40), designed by Will Harvey, is a more out-landish-and more challenginggame. The graphics are state-of-the-art,


## Mini-Putt

and each hole is wackier than the next. There is, for example, a hamburger hole where you have to get the buns jumping to reveal the hole. All the while, a plastic ketchup bottle squirts at the green.

Unlike Mini-Putt, here you move an $x$ to where you'd like to place the club head. This sets direction and strength of your swing. Then fire away. It's closer to the way the real game is played, but harder to control than Mini-Putt.

Zany Golf gives you five strokes to begin the game. You have to use those strokes, plus whatever is par for each hole, to play. Run out of strokes, and it's


# When Is $\mathbf{A}$ Zero Not A Zero? 

# Infocom's "Zork Zero" 

by Dave Arneson

More than 90 years have passed since the great wizard Megaboz cast the curse which destroyed Lord Dimwit Flathead "The Excessive" along with the ruling family, the Twelve Flatheads. Now, the curse threatens to bring down the Great Underground Empire itsel!!

Wurb Flathead, the current occupant of the throne, has sent a clarion call to the most remote comers of the Empire: half the riches of the kingdom to the person who can allay the curse. From every province of Quendor, courageous adventurers, scheming charlatans, and wildeyed crackpots have streamed into the Imperial Capitol of Flatheadia.
In Zork Zero, the player's character is a peasant from One Hut Village in Nowhere Province. He is special. In times past, an ancestor, who happened to have been a servant in the castle, observed Megaboz casting the curse. This ancestor "just happened" to obtain a scrap of wizardly parchment from the mage's pocket during the creating of the curse. Passed down through the generations, it conveniently contains the clue needed to end the curse.
Be forewarned, however, that upon your character's arrival in Flatheadia, the other treasure hunters will have gone home. Those in authority, as well as the population in general, have departed for parts unknown. Now, the quest begins. All have left and the player's character is practically alone in the castle on CURSE DAY. (Insert evil sounding music here).
Only King Wurb's court jester accompanies the character. The jester is, unfortunately, as full of deadly tricks as he is of riddles and games. Players should watch out for him as he gives helpful nudges in the right direction and pops in and out of the quest at his own whim.

## Getting Zorked

So, you don't like text games and don't like puzzles? I don't either. I like watching the critters bash each other. Puzzles I can't figure out become humiliating when the "All too obvious" solution is revealed. Well, Zork Zero might just change all that for you, just like it has for me.
This game is well thought out, thorough, and covers a large area. Really large! It is not only fun to play, but is also neither too difficult nor a piece of cake.
Zork Zero has no animation. The few pictures are all static pictures. Hence, it is strictly a text game with only a few graphics. The manual is very complete and does a good job of presenting the vocabulary used in the game. This is impor-- Circle Reader Service \#31
tant because the game uses a large library of words. Even better news, though, is that when a command is refused, the program explains why it does not like the command. This reduces guessing quite a bit.
In addition, the game comes complete with two "clues" and a calendar. The first clue is a parchment piece which is necessary for solving the last puzzle and the other is a blueprint that is vital for the later stages of the game. The calendar is a compendium of clues. The illustrations of the twelve Flatheads contain, at least, one good hint on each page and players will find themselves consulting it on several occasions during the game.
The game program contains almost twenty screens of hints. These are quite useful in keeping the game moving. This is quite helpful when one considers that there are over twenty items that must be found and returned to their proper places in order to complete the quest. For those that have trouble, the game's extensive on-line hints will provide a list of the items, including a designation indicating which of the Twelve Flatheads originally owned it and where the item can now be found in the game. For example, a listing might read, "Silk Tie ( J . Pierpont): in the nest in the Aerie." The tie is the same one being worn by Pierpont in his picture on the calendar for the month of "Mage."


Points are scored in several ways. The list of points in the on-line hints section comes in four parts. The hints tell players what actions will increase their scores and the number of points to be received. For example, a player can earn

| TITLE: | Zork Zero |
| :--- | :--- |
| SYSEM: | Macineosh |
| FPLAMERS: | 1 |
| PRIIE: | S59.95 |
| DESIINER: | Steve Merezky |
| PUBUSHER: | Infocom, Inc. |
|  | Cambridge, MM | twelve points for finding a Flathead item and five more points when that item is placed in the right place. Five points can be lost if the player puts the wrong item in a given location.

As one would expect, problem solving also scores points. For example, solving the "walnut riddle" nets twenty points for a player while simply winning the game only nets thirty points. There is certainly more to the game than simply "winning," since there are one thousand possible points to be earned and one can win with less.
A turn plays quite easilyl Players who are familiar with text games will have no problems with Zork Zero. Even inexperienced players will be swept right into the flow of the game via the opening sequence. One of the extremely nice features of this text game is that players can have their computers print out a "script" of their adventure. This provides not only a nice reference, but it can also be used to impress friends or compare notes.

## To Map or Not to Map

The mapping system in Zork Zero is easy to use and well illustrated. Each location has its own special icon to show


Leonardo Flathead


Lucrezia Flathead


Stonewall Flathead
where characters have been and where they can go. The map can be called up at any time and may keep the player from getting repeatedly lost. (Note: If the game is not saved prior to calling up the map, any information currently on the screen can be lost.)

## Hints or Hindrance?

For denser players, such as myself, there is a useful system of hints. Because of the hierarchical nature of the hint system, the first hint does not automatically reveal all information. In fact, there may be as many as a dozen hints for a given situation. Not that I would ever need to use hintsl ha! Since the player only gets the information needed to help him solve the puzzle, players can utilize some of the hints and still have the satisfaction of solving a puzzle themselves. It is also possible for those players with absolutely no willpower to toggle off the game's hint feature so that it is unavailable unless one restarts or restores.

## Itemized Deductions (Strategy Notes)

Players should not be too quick to discard items they find or too eager to utilize an item's magic. The temptation, for example, is to throw the "Lobster" away or not even take it in the first place. Keep it! It's necessary! Again, the "Magic Wand" is found early in the game, but needs to be used judiciously since it is needed to open areas of the maze during the latter portions of the game.
There is much to do in the game and there are, of course, a few red herrings. Players should keep that final goal in mind and success will follow. It is fun, however, to do some silly things as well. Since the game is both non-linear and has no time limit, there is no reason not to save the game and go nosing about having a good time.

## Puzzled Looks

Some of the puzzles are good. Some are strange. Some are dumb!
In the strange category, one finds the rebus puzzle. This shows six "flattened" animals on it. It is one of the few pictures encountered in the game. (Warning: Hint to follow) Players solve it by figuring out that pressing the button that makes strange animal noises is the key to the puzzle. Until the animals are removed, the puzzle cannot be read.

Another weird puzzle is reading the writing on the "magic" glove. (Hint follows:) We found a way to "Read Glove on Glove," but that seems extremely odd.
On the "dumb" side is the puzzle about the stack of six disks. Some of it seems obvious, but part of it will make players thankful for
the hints. On the "plus" side, the card game is rather neat.

One recurring problem is that the hints often make references to the rulebook when they actually mean the calendar. Failure to provide the correct response will result in the game insulting the players and calling them pirates.

## Jester Closer Walk (Problems)

The continuous presence of Pester, the court jester, is a nuisance! He can be a helpful companion, but there are many times when players will have the urge to "Dispense with his services." Players are urged to restrain themselves because his presence is ultimately useful to the quest and it is impossible to get rid of him permanently, anyway. Admittedly, the puzzle where the player's character is transformed into an alligator (and must eat a worm as the antidote) only costs time and does no harm to the final quest, but really! This is a matter of personal taste, but I must protest that the court jester seems simply too much at times.
Of more significance is the fact that the program only requires one megabyte of memory on the Macintosh. However, players who only have 1 MB of RAM in their computers need to realize that the game plays much slower than on 2 MB machines.
Those who use the slower machines won't have time to get a cup of coffee while waiting for a move to be processed, but there is plenty of time to reflect.
Another nagging detail is that the game is set up to use only a half-screen window with no provision for anything else. This is odd, since the manual refers to full-screen illustrations. All of mine came up on partial screens. Hopefully, other versions will use larger windows since a partial screen on the average Macintosh is pretty small.

## What Do You Really Think?

Zork Zero is a very well documented and user friendly game. Overall, it is a worthy addition to the Zork series and is, by far, the best one to date. Players who like text games will definitely love this game. Even those who don't usually like text games or are "not sure" about them will probably be pleasantly surprised with Zork Zero.
Frankly, Zork Zero is probably the best text adventure out there. It is a lot better than many animated ones. Few animated games have Zork Zero's size and depth.
"When is a zero not a zero?" asks the jester.
"When it is Zork Zerol" you answer.
"Right1" says the jester as he turns you into a rutabaga.

## GAMES $_{\text {rerroun }}$ AMIGA

## PREVIEWS

ZORK ZERO, SHOGUN, JOURNEY Infocom<br>125 Cambridge Park Drive Cambridge, MA 02140<br>617-492-1031

Mfirst hands-on experience with a computer was playing the original Zork. Since then, I've seen more software than I even like to contemplate without ever finding another title that held as much appeal for me. Beyond Zork tried hard, but somehow didn't have quite the same flavor as the original series. With Zork Zero, I've come full circle. All the wit, charm, and delight are back, along with the delicious snottiness and cheerful rudeness.

Steve Meretzky, Zork's author, has done a superlative job of elaborating on areas of the Great Underground Empire we've not yet explored. And that's the strongest point of the game: it connects and intertwines perfectly with what has gone before, while adding graphics, other modern conveniences, and letting us in on more of the lunatic history of the realm of Lord Dimwit Flathead and the fall of the Empire. What graphics are present are unobtrusive, consisting mainly of beautifully drawn borders around the text, illustrated entries in the Encyclopedia Frobozzica, and some nicely done versions of classic board games (like the Tower of Hanoi and a peg-jump game). Thankfully, there are no actual pictures of the locations; I think everyone who has played Zork has his own personal view of the landscape and I, for one, would rather not see someone else's idea of what is so clearly drawn in my own imagination.

With Shogun, I have a slight philosophical difference of opinion. James Clavell's book and the miniseries made from it are among my favorites, and for that reason, I have some doubts about the ultimate satisfaction of the game. Since I already know where the plot, which is set in feudal Japan, is going, getting to that end seems to me something of an exercise in anti-climax. On the other hand, I find that I do enjoy playing it and interacting with the characters I know so well. It's rather like meeting old friends again. The look of the game is considerably different from previous Infocom games, with illustrations appearing along with the text. The same look is found in Journey, a new fantasy adventure which uses graphics in the same manner as Shogun.

Don't let the pretty faces of these new games fool you. The parser is still the best in the business, and the addition of online hints make playing less frustrating and time-consuming than it used to be.
I feel, somehow, that this is a wonderful, unexpected gift, a serendipitous surprise for all of us who thought we'd already played the last of a classic series. With Zork Zero, we now have the absolute pleasure of another one.

- Tom Malcom


## The Revenge of Megaboz

## Zork Zero

By Steven Payne

Zork Zero? Let me see...wasn't he the masked vandal who used to ride around Old Mexico carving his initial everywhere and harassing Sergeant Garcia? Or was it thai recent novellfilm of druggedout yuppie angst, starring Joe McCarthy and Morton Downey, Jr.?

No, my foolish friend! Zork Zero is the latest creation of Steve Meretzsky's fertile (and slightly fevered) brain, a "prequel" to Infocom's all-time classic adventures, the Zork Trilogy. This entry seems bigger (and for my money better) than all the other Zorks put together, though it's probably too daunting for most novice players.

Picture this: Flatheadia, 789 G.U.E. You begin as a lowly servant in the court of Lord Dimwit the Excessive, waiting tables at one of his regular budgetbusting 369 -course banquets. Suddenly the wizard Megaboz appears, angered that his favorite grove of shade trees has been demolished to make way for a colossal statue of His Lordship. Megaboz invokes a dreadful curse on Dimwit's life, family and castle, then disappears.

The court magicians quickly gather around the churning cauldron left in Megaboz's wake and announce they have managed to postpone the curse's effects on Castle Flatheadia (though not on the Royal Person) for 94 years. As the smoke clears and Dimwit expires before your eyes, you are able to retrieve a precious scrap of parchment that falls from the wizard's cloak and proves crucial to lifting the curse. All of this is merely prologue, in the first dozen moves!

## 94 Years Later...

Then the game really begins. Ninetyfour years later to the day, you awake as a young descendent of the servant in the prologue and find yourself alone in the thoroughly looted castle. Everyone in Flatheadia has fled in fear of the en:roaching doom. Well, not quite everyone! You soon encounter the current royal jester, who reappears throughout the game and poses riddles, puzzles, clues and a variety of tricks to alternately encourage and annoy you. As you begin

to explore the surroundings, you find a kingdom of gigantic proportions (Castle Flatheadia at one time housed $90 \%$ of the local population-they didn't call its ruler "The Excessive" for nothing!), a land literally littered with various objects.

The most important items are those that once belonged to Dimwit and his siblings, the famous "Twelve Flatheads" (no, not Dopey, Sneezy, Doc and the others, but Lucrezia Flathead, Babe Flathead, Johann Sebastian Flathead, Leonardo Flathead, and so on-all outstanding figures in culture, sports, science, business, the military and the arts). Guided by clues from a parchment scrap (inherited from your ancestor and included in your game package), you must collect these items and perform the secret rites necessary to lift the curse. Doing so will kick you into an endgame that brings you to... well, I shouldn't reveal any secrets, but if you know Zork I you can probably guess where you end up!

In fact, there is much here that will remind Zork fans of the earlier (or should I say later?) installments in the series. Like the other Zorks, not much changes, and there is little plot or character development. Basically, you have to explore, discover and collect a lot of objects, then place them in the right container, as in Zork I.

The only reason the game takes so long to complete is that the terrain is vast, and some of the two dozen items you're after are often hard to find! My one bit of advice here is to master the use of the homing pigeon early on to save yourself a lot of wasted travel time. The jester fills much the same function the Thief from Zork I and the Wizard of the "f-words" in Zork II. Along the way you'll encounter several semi-mazes, visit the famous Granola Mines of Antharia and play a mean hand of Double Fanucci.

## Graphics in a Zork?

What's different about this Zork is its use of graphics. The full-screen illustrations are few and far between, consisting mainly of pictures in the Encyclopedia

Frobozzica that look disappointing on the Mac (though probably better on machines with color). The text screen, though, is no longer an endless sea of words, for it includes a graphic border on the top and sides that changes as you move to different regions of the game. You can travel about by clicking on the compass rose at the top of the screen.

Auto-mapping and On-line Hints

Room descriptions are often preceded by an appropriate icon representing that location on the automatic map, which you can toggle on and off. And from time to time you come across self-contained strategy games embedded in the adventure, which are handled by using the familiar "point and click" method with your mouse. Finally, in keeping with Infocom's new policy, extensive online hints are available-though many are deliberately misleading, to keep you from relying on them too heavily.

The game package includes the usual documentation, the aforementioned scrap of parchment (fortunately not crumbling with age!), and an 883 G.U.E. Calendar of the Twelve Flatheads. The calendar is really crucial to the game: its pictures show the items you'll need to collect, and the text contains essential clues. This is the only copy protection scheme, since you would have a hard time finishing without knowing the right Double Fanucci strategy, for instance, or how to enter the secret hall.

My one complaint about the game is that some aspects of the plot and puzzles don't seem too well thought-out. Without help, I doubt I would ever have figured out the "chess piece" puzzle, or unlocked the safe, for example. And what are those flattened animals doing on the rebus? And if the jester knows so much, why doesn't he save the kingdom from Megaboz's curse ? (Well, this question is answered, but only at the game's end.) The on-line hints make up for such problems, however, since they allow you to move quickly through puzzles that seem unfair. Conclusions: This is a historic game. Zork $I$, commercially released in 1980, was among the earliest all-text computer adventures and remains one of the most popular. Zorks II and III continued the saga with further refinements of style and

Continued on page thirteen

# The Twilight Zone Continued from page 4 

yright notifications. It is supplied on ....e 5.25 " diskettes that are not copy protected. Files can be easily transferred to a hard disk, increasing speed and eliminating repetitive disk changes.
Conclusions: This was not one of my favorite games of the year. It starts out well, but none of the middle game added anything to the overall plot. Less time should have been spent on randomly changing from scene to scene, more on the the television show's unique oddness.

Skill Level: Intermediate
Protection: None
Price: \$29.95, C-64; \$39.95, others
Company: First Row

## Zork Zero <br> Continued from page 6

plot. More recently, Beyond Zork added some limited role-playing elements. Now Infocom brings the series full circleback to the original "explore and collect" scenario, while at the same time stepping out in a new direction with graphic features they once ridiculed in their ads.

The mix is not altogether successful. . ext screen borders are nice but purely decorative. The automatic mapping, while elegantly done, is rarely needed. All the clues in the Encyclopedia Frobozzica are textual rather than visual. The three or four graphic puzzles seem like intrusions, old standards from the local novelty shop inserted randomly into the game; the "Towers of Bozbar," for example, is just a souped-up version of the public domain program "Towers of Hanoi," available on nearly any BBS. The only onscreen picture truly integral to Zork Zero is the rebus. Evidently, Infocom still needs practice perfecting the marriage of text and graphics. Still, the game stands on its own, with or without pictures, as an excellent addition to the series, and I really enjoyed it. And it is their largest one yet-over 200 locations and more puzzles than in all three Zorks combined. So, Zork lovers, get set for a treat! The only question is, where does the series go from here? Zork Minus One? Zork Square Root of Minus One? Maybe an imaginary number is the only appropriate sequel...

[^23]
## No Parties at CES! <br> Continued from page 7

Quest III: The Pirates of Pestulonrevealing they had originally called it "Pirates of Pustulon," but the title grossed out too many people at Sierra. As the inevitable Roger Wilco, you have to rescue the Two Guys themselves, who have been kidnapped by ScumSoft and forced to design mindless arcade games like Astro Chicken.

This was the first time I got to hear Sierra's new stereo music pumped through a Roland sound board and a pair of Bose speakers, and it was like being in a theater. Speaking of which, PR Maestro Kirk Greene then showed a video of those Two Guys, dressed as a very weird version of two well-known film critics.

Afterwards we all went to lunch, ate barbequed chicken pizza, drank wine that came in a bottle with a real cork in it and spent the afternoon recalling the funniest lines from Spinal Tap. (Duffy didn't know what he was missing.) Somewhere along the way, I must have accidentally hit the "record" button on my tape recorder, because upon returning to Tucson I discovered I had interviewed those Two Guys-look for it in a future issue of this very Journal.

## Origin's Game Plan

Back at the West Hall, I managed to tracked down Origin at the Broderbund booth, where Tangled Tales (Apple and C 64 now, IBM soon) was tangling tales on an IBM monitor. A novice level game offering a "lighthearted look at traditional fantasies," it uses dual windows for display, menus for character interaction with over 50 people, excellent art and an icon interface. Space Rogue is due in the fall (Apple, C 64), and Moebius II is underway. Origin has also packaged Garriott's first three games as an Ultima Trilogy ( $\$ 59.95$ for Apple, C 64, IBM).

Back at New World's booth, I was two steps away from solving Might \& Magic II when Duffy stumbled in, knocked over the monitor and started raving about how he'd spent the past four days and nights looking for a party, only to find that not a single computer game company had thrown one. Duffy has always rated CES (and the status of the games industry) by the number of parties at the show and the size of the shrimp at the best party.
(Electronic Arts won last year.) "On a scale of one to ten," he summed up this year's Winter CES, "what we have here is a zero-and I don't mean a Zork Zero."

> Waiting for Duffy Duffy climbing a pyramid at Chichén Itza, so write these people if you can help.

Ultima 5: How do I get through Dungeon Hythloth to Underworld? Where's the Sandalwood Box? How do I get out of first room in Shame? P. Gardner, 2038 New York Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11210. Same questions, plus will playing harpsichord help me? R. Loveland, 7721 Sundial Lane, Orlando, FL 32819

Neuromancer: Where is Commlink 4, what are passwords for Chiba Tactical Police and SEA? P. Meehan, 2555 Giant Oaks Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

ChronoQuest: Help!!! T. Page, 96 Haddon Pl, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043

M \& M 2: Can't get ouf ot Dawn's Mist Bog Cavern with element orb! Where's "long one?" What's Molecular Chamber (Lux's Dungeon, lvl 2) good for. Beliaeff's? Wizardry 5: What's the Playhouse Mystery Theatre about? Jigsaw Bank \& Trust? Where's the Loon? S. Kunz, 211 E Ohio \#610, Chicago, IL 60611

King's Quest 4: How do I get bridge for unicorn? Get out of whale? What to do after the five ghosts? About Oge? D Bartram Jr, Box 2398, APO NY 09009

Wizardry 3: Desperate help needed for level 6, especially the riddle. P. Tayco, 3569 Boston Ave, Oakland, CA 94602

Original Adventure: Need help in Plover Room, Mirror Canyon, window pit, green dragon, reservoir. Christopher Dox, 975 Laurel Ave, St Paul, MN 55104

Fool's Errand: How do I capture the flying question mark in the Three Ships section? M. Groff, 279 Topaz Way, San Francisco, CA 94131

Emerald Mine: How do I complete or get past level 4? Turn a diamond into a rock and you can't get past it. E. Gooch, 1703 E 10 Mile Rd, Madison Hts, MI 48071

Bureaucracy: How do I get past gate 3 houses south of my own? Do with weirdo in farmhouse? Norm Lowrey, 170 Stephenson Lane, Springfield, IL 62707

## ZORK ZERD

When ZORK wes released in 1982, it erchanted and mystified us with its crose, fuzzles, and sense of rumor. As sequels (ZCRK II and III) were deled cut, Infocom founc the gare-playirs public clamoring for rore. Socr, the ENCHANTER trilogy -- a supposed cortinuation of the lork trilogy -- graced our computer screens as well. The last gare in eact of these trilogies attempted tcerd the magic we d all come to lcve and expect from an Infocom offering.

Then care a hiatus uhen none of Infocom's games contained any fantasy. Instead, we received scenarios based on the future (STATICNFALL, HITCHHIKER © GUICE TC THE GALAXY, etc.). Trey uere fun and enjoyable, but they sll lacked tre rystioue of the ZCRKs. In 1987, BEYONC ZORK was released, and we uere cnce again romping through the Great Underground Empire in search of the enigmatic Cocorut of Guencor. But the joy of ciscovery seemed to te missing from tris ende evor: Dnce more, the ZGFK saga seemed destined to end. Another dry spell hit as Infccom olaced its scenarios in the cresent erd future.

Obviously, Infocom realized the public uantec more ZaRK, but what wculd they call their latest effort? The cnly thing they could: ZCRK ZERC!

Autrored by steve Meretzky (LEATHER GODCESSES DF PHCBDS), ZCRK ZERO is the prequel to the ZCRK trilcgy. (This revieu is based or the Macintcsh version.) You begin the gare as a lowly scullery servant -- the aris, legs, and beast of burden of Lord Dimwit Flethecd -- delivering napkins, wine, end food tc cne cf his outrageously excessive benquets. Suddenly, the dreaded wizard Meçabz appears and levels a curse at Cimwit and all his successcrs (the Twelve Flatheads) for his hevinc demolished Megaboz's private sanctuery for the construction of cne of Dimuit's typically enormous projects. As the sircke clears, the cnly thing left terind by Megaboz is a bubbling ceuleron and a scra of parchment. Quickly tuckinc this piece of carchment into your jerkin, you return to your duties while all the court buzzes with alerm as Dimwit quietly dies. Tire passes....

It s 90 years later, and you ve come forth in response to a call frer the current ruler of Flatheadia, Wurt Flathead, to try tc lift tre curse of Megatoz The only thirg you heve to helf you in your quest is a scrap of worn farchment handed down from an âncestor who was a scullery servent to tre great Lord Dirui Flathead. Thus begins ZORK ZERC.

This game is a celight for the eyes and senses. Though rostly text, there are graphic puzzles (a la FDCL'S ERRAND) which will frustrate ano give ycu a sense of triumph when you've sclvec them. You'll play couble fanucci, feggleboz, anc The Tower of eozbur to ocen hidden docrs and gain valuable items and clues. Throughout tre game, the Court jester appears to cose ricdles, cause you mischief, give you help, and spout poetry.

ZORK ZERD is huge! The score you re aiming toward is 1,COO, and there are literally hurdreds of locations, items, and treasures. Tre puzzles are remiriscent cf the ones encountered in the original ZORKs -- tough, tut fair. The same is totally non-linear, but this can lead to protlems early cn. I've gotten my score ell the uay up to 505 points, but nou I rave to restcre the gan. back to a point uhere I rave a measly 38 points due to a mistake I mede at the beginning of the game. Tris doesn t bother me, though; I can play all those rarvelous grephic games egair!

ZORK ZERJ comes packagec with an instruction manual, the piece of perchment, tluefrint of the Rockville Estates Construction site, the uscel oletrora of
order forms, a computer-specific reference card, end the terribly furny flatheac Calerdar. Although tre germe isn't copy-protected, you wor t te able tc solve it unless you have all the items from the garme package at hard. The Calerdar is rife with clues and rints for ploying anc wirning the various graphic gares. It's also very cleverly "revised" (the months June ard July are called Jam and Jelly), and ras the ristcries cf the Twelve flatheads - one for eacr month of the year. The blueprint is required for finding your way in Rcckville Estates and to help you place sone loose passages that weren t installed durirg the original construction prccess. The parchment is necessary to discover how to lift Megaboz's curse.

Infocom has expandec on its "on-screen mepping" idea by constructing on one of your game disks a maf of the places you ve been to. ey typinc MAF, tre map is accessed and displayed or your screen. Each location is identified by en icon. The rice thirg about this is that once ycu ve been te a location, you can returr to trat location by simply oringing up the mep, pointing to tre icon you wish to return to, ard clicking the rouse button. Zap! You"re there!

I'm claying ZORK ZERE or a Nacintosh 512 K with a $40 C K$ disk driveg but the gate comes on a single 800 K diskette. In order to use the 400 K drive, you 11 rave to find an 800 K drive and copy the original diskette to 400 K diskettes. If you re not able to cet access tc an $800 k$ drive, Infccom uill copy the disk for you for a cherge of $\$ 5.00$. Although there are feu 400 K drives still cut there, it would ve saved both Infocom and us aggravation and money to rave shipped the game on two 400 K diskettes to begin with. I can just imagine the ill will this right gererate.

Online hints are once açain available in ZORK ZERD. While sore ceople appreciate them, I resent their presence. Indeed, I ve erased the hirt file fron my disk so that $I$ won't te tempted to use it. In my opiniong it rakes playing the game less of a challenge. I prefer agonizing over a fuzzlei it such more satisfying tc solve it myself than to have the answer handed to me with the mere press of a key. No tranks, Infcccm.

System requirements for the Macintosh version of ZOFK ZERO are $512 k$ and a system disk (or eny disk on uhich you have a system folder) for tooting purposes. The Mac II owner with a colcr monitor will be rappy to learr that $2 C R \mathrm{f}$ ZERD plays ir glorious cclor. While I ve not seen the gare on a Nac II, the tack of tre game tox ras scenes from the Ariga version, ard trey re beautiful!

Steve Meretzky end Infocom shculd be proud cf ZDRK ZERD. It's a masterful, aggressive gerfe well worth the price of admission. Bravo!

ZORK ZERD is publisted ty Infocom, Inc. and distributed by Mediagenic.
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accuracy, fuil zoom capabilities, pius poiygon editing toois. No cutting or pasting is required, since art can be added to your work by dragging it from a iibrary window. And, Drawing Tabie comes with extensive cilp-art libraries with building biocks for maps, landscaping, interiors, ietterheads and more.
Certainiy If you're in the market for a good drawing program, Drawing Table is worth a serious look.

Movie iovers who enjoy watching Errol Flynn or Tyrone Power wleid their swords in adventure epics iike The Sea Hawk or The Black Swan, wiil be in computer game heaven when they play The Ancient Art of War at Sea.
Similar in approach to the ever-popuiar The Ancient Art of Wat this new entry by Dave Murry and Barry Murry has you waging navai engagements against the likes of John Pau Jones and Blackbeard, the pirate. Each opponent has his own unique combat strategies. Commanding a fleet and giving or ders to Individual vesseis, you'll chase your enemy's ships, fire cannon shots across their bows, then finaily zoom in on the boarding parties for hand-to-hand combat.
Players can re-fight some of history's greatest naval battles, such as the Spanish Armada, changing such eiements as wind and weather. Or, with the program's powerful game generator, you can create entirely new batties of your own. To help you achieve victory, the package inciudes a fascinating iliustrated guide to navai strategy and tactics.
Recommended for ail adventure iovers.

HJC Software
P.O. Box 51816

Durham, NC 27717
(919) 490-1277

## Virex (\$99.95)

Considering ail the disturbing news about computer viruses that we've been reading lately, this is the piece of software that every Mac owner shouid own.
Virex detects and repairs the three known computer viruses with just the ciick of your mouse. it's that simpie, and If you stiil get stuck, there's even on-iine heip. The program works on individual fiies, a singie disk or on a hard disk. The manual is concise, easy to foilow and informative.
Incldentally, we just finished checking our own hard disk with Virex and we're happy to report that it came through with a clean bill of health.
Strongiy recommended.


INFOCOM, inc.
125 Cambridge Park Drive
Cambridge, MA 02140
(617) 492-6000

## 1.) Quarterstaff <br> (\$49.95)

We reviewed Quarterstaff back In November of 1987 when it was first released by its developers, Simuiated Environment Systems. At that time, we found it to be an intriguing new entry in the dungeons and dragons genre' of roie playing games: innovative in its sound effects, graphics and mapping capabilities, yet aiso a trifie verbose.
Recentiy acquired by iNFOCOM, Quarterstaff has been greatiy improved in Its latest version. The text is less wordy, the piay itself is smoother and there are now onilne hints shouid one get stuck. In other words, with this editlon of Quarterstaff, buyers can now expect the same top quality product that has made iNFOCOM the leader in text adventure games.

## 2.) Zork Zero

(\$59.95)

The Zork Trilogy is probably is most popular series of text adventure games ever reieased by INFOCOM. Yet we've never reviewed them...primarily because, as we've often stated in these pages, dungeons and dragons is not our favorite kind of entertainment.
Recently, the friendiy pubiicity peopie at INFOCOM talked us into taking a look at Zork Zero, the newest in this series. We're giad that they did, since we've found it to be a thoroughly engrossing diversion.
Zork Zero is, in fact, $a^{\text {" }}$ prequel" to the other Zork adventures. The narrative takes you back to the final days of the Great Underground Empire, and reiates how a wizard's curse destroyed the ruiing Fiathead family, threatening the very kingdom itself. it's your job to travel the kingdom and stem the curse.
The game marks the introduction of a new generation parser from INFOCOM, and features graphic enhancements (inciuding mapping) and on-screen hints.
A must for Zork aficionados.

## MICROSOFT CORPORATION

16011 NE 36th Way
Box 97017
Redmond, WA 98073-9717
(206) 882-8088

File 2.0 (\$195.00)
We've been working with Eile 1.0 ever since we purchased our first Mac...well over two-and-a-haif years ago. it's served our particular needs well, even though we wished it was a littie faster and that we didn't have to use a key disk every time we wanted to use it.

# New age for Zork, but not for games 

Several years ago, computer game author Steve Meretzky went to a Chinese restaurant and opened a fortune cookie with the words "You are about to plan a great adventure" on it.

The result, Zork Zero: The Revenge of Megaboz, was introduced recently by Infocom, along with three other new games at a lavish press conference in New York. The bash was held at Tamara, an innovative play


## DAN <br> GUTMAN

COMPUTING in which the audience follows the actors and actresses from room to room in a converted Italian villa.

Meretzky's Zork Zero is a prequel to Zork, the best-selling computer game of all time. The new adventure takes place 100 years earlier.

Zorkaholics will be pleased to learn that Zero is filled with as many rooms and puzzles as all the other Zorks combined. It also has something the other Zorkslack - pictures.

Inforom made its reputation and fortune by producing superior all-text "interactive fiction" games. Basically, participatory novels. Now, the novels are being illustrated.
"Everything you'll see from now on will have graphics," says Infocom president Joel Berez.

Adding graphics to interactive stories may open up Infocom's audience to new gamers who didn't want to plod through all-text games.

Here are other new games introduced by Infocom:

Journey: This is a fantasy in the tradition of J.R.R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings. The game is a combination of interactive fiction, role-playing and traditional fiction - what Infocom calls "role-play chronicles." The game was created by Mark Blank, author of many Infocom games. According to Blank, Journey is for people who like the idea of interactive fiction, but have never gotten into the games themselves. "I tried to take away all the frustration," he says. "You can virtually play for hours without coming to a dead end."

Shogun: Dave Lebling collaborated with James Clavell, whose novel of the same title sold over seven million copies. You play the role of sea pilot John Blackthorne as you guide your ship through the treacherous reefs of Japan while scurvy eats at your body. The graphics mimic traditional 16th Century Japanese style.

- BattleTech: The Crescent Hawk's Inception: A role-playing game that boasts four million locations to explore. The designers have added "emotive outtakes" - reaction shots to significant events.

The new games will sell for $\$ 50$. They will be available in mid-October for Macintosh and Apple II, November for Apple IIGS and IBM, and early next year for Atari ST and Amiga.

While the new games look good, they're still plain old computer games. I was expecting that Infocom would take advantage of the magic of $T a$ mara to debut a new entertainment technology, such as the long awaited "compact-disk-interactive," which progressive software publishers are busily working on.

Manipulating realistic video images is the next natural step for interactive entertainment, and attending Tamara whet my appetite for it.

Contest: This time, Mindscape's new PowerPlayers joystick is up for grabs. It's a real slick stick, and will work with Atari, Commodore 64/128 and Amiga computers. To win, send a postcard with the word "JOY" on it to me at the address below.

You can send Dan Gutman electronic mail via CompuServe (70007,3263), GEnie (D.GUTMAN), QuantumLink (DanGut) or the Source (PUBO22), or write to him in care of The Miami Herald, Electronic Home, 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla. 33132.




















## File Edit










## \& File Edit




The Flathead Ocean

Calso called
 The Great Sea)


Legend

- cities or towns

- landmarks

11 mountains $x y$
$y_{y} y$
$y$ swamp
$\longmapsto 50$ blots中\& $+\dot{\phi}$ jungle



OLD AND NEW
Head Crackers, Patience Provers and Other Tactile Tessers

This is the first exhibition to examine puzzles as they relate to a variety of disciplines including decorative arts, mathematics, psychology, and anthropology. Its aim is to explore the history, meanings, and design of mechanical puzzles.

PUZZLES OLD AND NEW is organized according to thetypes of mechanical problems the puzzles pose, or according to the object of the puzzle. The classification of puzzles is a complex and unresolved quandary itself, and some fall into more than one category. While the puzzles shown here are clearly physical objects, involving spatial as well as conceptual logic, puzzles in general can be defined to include picture, word, and mathematical problems, riddles, and dilemma tales such as the Uncle Remus stories. Puzzles can also be related to recreational objects such as games, toys, and magic tricks. The process of puzzling entails thought and imagination, play and serendipity, trial and error, knowledge and observation.

For the purposes of this exhibition, a mechanical puzzle is a device composed of one or more parts which involves a problem for one person to solve by manipulation, using some combination of logic, insight, luck, patience, and dexterity.

Display cases feature various mechanical puzzle types and offer some historical information. For example, puzzle jugs predate the Industrial Revolution by centuries, and the 1976 Rubik's Cube is shown with the many versions and new puzzles it inspired. We are often limited by the documentation available to us, for relatively few existing puzzle objects are known to be over 200 years old, and only a small number of types are known to have been invented before 1700. Most of the ones shown here were made after 1850 . Some mechanical puzzles may be looked upon as adaptations of older mathematical, picture, or other problems. In some instances it can be assumed that similar ideas found in different locations at different times were the result of independent invention; in others, it is more likely that puzzles were distributed through cultural exchange. There is, however, more to history than the evolution of types. Just as the evolution of literacy cannot be reduced to the development of book-making and the printing press, so the history of puzzles is not limited to the appearance of various types, as important as these may be.

Puzzles are made to be handled and those exhibited here show signs of use. To avoid the frustration of having these provocative objects behind glass, touchable puzzles are provided. Each visitor is encouraged to experiment and experience the congenial, engaging world of puzzles, and to make new discoveries in the process.


## THE ART IN PUZZLES

Folk art, craft, and industrial design come together in puzzles. They are homemade, or skillfully handmade, or produced in quantities by machine. Traditional designs survive over centuries; surface decoration reflects cultural taste and symbolism. Form responds directly to puzzle ideas and may be visually striking even in the simplest versions.

Aside from the beauty of fine craftsmanship, puzzles frequently require careful fitting of parts or exact matching of dimensions. Some seem connected to workers in a particular craft: puzzle locks and the impossible joinery of wooden trick objects, for example. However, ingenious designs like those of Akio Kamei are highly valued for the combination of innovative ideas with careful construction, beautiful finish, and clever presentation.

Decoration and design serve to stimulate and engage people in the visual and tactile pleasures of working a puzzle. Decorative motifs, intricate carving or inlay, elegant materials, and intriguing shapes lend aesthetic value to these objects. Paper puzzles, puzzle boxes, and books of puzzle problems are beautifully printed with words and pictures, much as Chinese ivory puzzles are carved with scenes and symbols, giving lively narrative to abstract puzzle ideas. Puzzles manufactured of plastic or potmetal are made attractive with whimsical shapes or brilliant colors. Inscribed patterns conceal the true nature of turned ebony balls, making it more difficult to get inside, but also inviting touch and examination.

Puzzle enthusiasts have described a kind of aesthetic satisfaction derived from inventing or solving a demanding puzzle. There occurs an interaction between eye, hand, and mind in which sophisticated arrangements of shape and volume, patterns of movement, or logic systems are understood. Systems and patterns can be enlightening when they are unexpected or deviate from previous experience. Puzzle solving is a creative process with its own rewards.


Secret-opening balls, ca. 1860-1890, England; turned ebony, one with inlaid ivory; 2, 2112 , and
3 inches in diameter; L. Edward Hordern collection

## THE SOCIAL EXPERIENCE

A most puzzling feature of puzzles is precisely what makes them of such enduring fascination. Some, like the tangram, puzzle jugs, and Chinese rings, have traveled great distances and have been widely played for centuries. Indeed, there is not a society known to us which does not value the acts and arts of puzzling, whether these are associated with the practices of storytelling, magic, religion, or science.

Whereas in games people play against one another, and other players influence the outcome of the game, in mechanical puzzles one is face to face with the problem, pitted as an individual against these mechanical odds. When working on a puzzle, the player may imagine exploring the North Pole and battling the elements depicted there. But no other person is privy to this battle. An important dimension of interest in mechanical puzzles is the lure of privacy.

Puzzles do nonetheless enter into competitions, networks of communication, and group entertainment. There have been international contests among players trying to solve Rubik's Cube in the shortest amount of time (a matter of seconds at the highest levels). In 1889, American newspapers carried accounts of the latest sensation, Pigs in Clover, a simple dexterity puzzle. It obsessed everyone from Wall Street bankers to office boys, from ministers to society belles.

Puzzles are purchased, owned, used to gauge ingenuity or prowess, talked about by friends. Ancient Greek and Medieval European puzzle vessels were probably brought out by prankster hosts to mystify or embarrass guests. Selling puzzles in boxed groups, beginning with the Chinese-made Sunday Boxes and continuing today, reflects interest in group pastimes. Puzzles link up with social styles; like clothing, they are susceptible to vogues and irrational whims.

Puzzles have always been associated with folklore and storytelling. Some mechanical puzzles, such as The Goat and the Cabbage, depend on a story to pose the mechanical problem. Legends describe the origins of some puzzles. There are several stories about Chinese rings, for instance, in China and in Finland, where they were later introduced. According to legend, Napoleon invented peg solitaire during 'ais imprisonment at Elba. In the late 19th century, puzzle desigreer and author of popular magazine articles, Sam Loyd, concocted an elaborate, pseudo-scholarly history of the tangram. His fake account succeeded in fooling many people for years, including another prominent puzzlist, H.E. Dudeny. Other puzzles simpiy were packaged with exotic or enticing stories to generate interest.


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PUZZLES OLD AND NEW is funded in part by generous grants from Citicorp/Citibank, California Arts Council, and California Council for the Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

We are also grateful to The Graphics Studio, J. P. Advertising and Taurus Typography for contributing their graphics services.

## Curatorial team:

Organizing curator: Sharon K. Emanuelli
Research curator: Jerry Slocum
Exhibition designer: Jack Botermans
Researcher: Joan Benedetti
Exhibition assistant: Ellen Ireland
Consultants: Benjamin Kilborne Martin Gardner
Brochure text: Sharon K. Emanuelli and Benjamin Kilborne, with science section by Martin Gardner

The exhibition is accompanied by the book PUZZLES OLD
AND NEW: How to Make and Solve Them by Jerry Slocum and Jack Botermans; published by Plenary Publications International bv, De Meern, The Netherlands, and ADM International bv, Amsterdam; and distributed in North America by University of Washington Press, Seattle.

## Lenders to the exhibition:

| Allan Boardman | Nobuyuki Yoshigahara |
| :--- | :--- |
| Lt. Cdr. Laurie Brokenshire | and |
| Stewart Coffin | The Panhandle-Plains |
| Solomon W. Golomb | Historical Museum, |
| Richard Hess | Canyon, Texas |
| L. Edward Hordern |  |
| Sabu Oguro |  |
| Eileen Scott |  |
| Jerry Slocum |  |

## Exhibition tour:

Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, California
November 26, 1986-February 22, 1987
The MIT Museum, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, October 20 - January 3, 1988

The Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, New York
July 22 -September 27, 1987
The Ontario Science Center, Toronto
January 25 - March 13 , 1988

## PUZZLES IN THE INDUSTRIAL AGE

The modern history of puzzles parallels industrialization. The Industrial Revolution in Europe and the United States dates roughly from the late 1700 s with the first machinery for spinning thread and weaving cloth, the invention of steam engines, and experiments in mass production. Lifestyles changed rapidly. Rural life and handwork were forsaken for the lure of growing cities and factory employment. World trade had been conducted by land and sea for centuries, but communication and trade were profoundly affected by the advent of the railroads that linked nations in Europe and helped unify the United States after the Civil War. Newspapers became highly profitable enterprises and their circulation grew many times over. With increased literacy, advertising boomed and the concept of public opinion emerged. The Industria/ Age was celebrated in 1851 with the First Great International Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in London. Such international fairs signaled the existence of mass markets.

Individual accomplishment and invention dramatically affected the way things were done by many. Man's needs became problems to solve; discoveries of new solutions succeeded one another at increasingly rapid pace. The Eiffel Tower, built in 1889, symbolized the enormous potential of mechanical engineering, stimulating popular interest in construction. In the 19th century science became an increasingly prominent social force. Even within the 20th century, we have gone through several radical changes in our perception of the universe.

Although puzzles had intrigued people in ancient times, by 1800 Georg H. Bestelmeier, a German, was issuing catalogs of puzzles and toys for sale to a popular market. Most likely, Chinese puzzles first made their way to the West in significant numbers by ship in the late 1700s. By 1820, ivory and wood puzzles were handmade in China, packaged as sets in decorative lacquered boxes, and distributed in Europe and North America. There were numerous European and American puzzle companies with international markets by 1890 . Japan was exporting quantities of wooden figure puzzles and secret-opening boxes by 1930 .

Puzzle ideas increased in direct proportion to invention and scientific discovery. Puzzles also became popular means of advertising products and commemorating events, an indication that mass production, cheap technology, and newspaper cartoons had affected their packaging, distribution and, consequently, their popularity. Perhaps, too, since the rise of machines and the broader influence of science placed emphasis on discovery, analysis, and problem-solving, mechanical puzzles mirrored more of common experience than in previous times.

## PUZZLES IN EDUCATION

Also contributing to the proliferation of puzzles was a growing interest in education in Western countries. Inspired by such 18th century writers as John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau, educators sought to use children's natural curiosity and playfulness to teach both moral wisdom and practical knowledge. The first jigsaw puzzles, made around 1760, were maps glued to wood and cut apart. They were promoted as entertaining ways to learn geography and were related to a whole genre of Victorian board games with instructional intent. The mid-19th century kindergarten movement, begun by Friedrich Froebel in Germany, made use of educational toys with which small children could learn while they played. Years later, a friend of Froebel's convinced industrialist $F$. Adolph Richter to make better quality building blocks. His Anchor blocks and puzzles were sold internationally between 1882 and 1965 .

In Italy, in the early 20th century, Maria Montessori made use of puzzles in nursery schools, stressing the importance of trial and error to learning. Teachers acted as guides to the youngsters' own investigation to encourage development of thinking skills as well as physical coordination and perception. More recently, Erno Rubik invented his rotating cube to give his architecture students more experience with three-dimensional objects. Puzzles are frequently associated with educational research and testing for stages of mental development. However, despite the commonly held idea that education is concerned with logic, clarity, and reason, puzzles remind us that equally important (some would say more so) is the mental activity of puzzling itself.


Circular Puzzle (Anchor Puzzle No. 7), 1891-1899, F. Ad. Richter \& Co., Rudolstadt, Germany; kaolin clay, printed paper, cardboard; 5/8×31/2×31/2 inches; Jerry Slocum collection

## PUZZLES AND SCIENCE

It should not be surprising that many top mathematicians and scientists are fascinated by recreational puzzles. What is math if not the solving of abstract puzzles, or science, if not the solving of puzzles posed by nature? The challenge of the puzzle is, in fact, an important part of what drives the scientist on. A Nobel Prizewinning physicist, Richard Feynman, feels his great contributions to quantum mechanics are a result of a lifelong passion for puzzle solving. "During high school", he writes in his autobiography, "every puzzle that was known to man must have come to me. Every. crazy conundrum that people invented, I knew."

The great mathematician and philosopher, Gottfried Leibniz, who with Isaac Newton invented the calculus in the late 17th century, wrote about his pleasure in working on peg solitaire problems. Topology and graph theory had their origins in Leonhard Euler's 18th century analysis of a popular puzzle about traversing the seven bridges of Koenigsburg, Germany, without going over the same bridge twice. The marvelous textbooks of computer scientist Donald Knuth bristle with puzzle exercises. One could make a long list of eminent mathematicians whose work on seemingly trivial play problems led to some of their greatest discoveries.

Although puzzles are invented mainly to entertain, they also instruct. The concept of parity, dividing a mathematical structure into two parts that can be identified with odd and even numbers, is essential in both mathematics and physics. There may be no better way to teach it than to give a student Sam Loyd's famous 14/15 Puzzle. And there may be no better way to teach group theory, a branch of modern abstract algebra, than by way of Rubik's Cube; or the binary gray code, a basic computer notation, than by showing how neatly it solves the Tower of Hanoi and the Chinese Rings.

Puzzles of the sort you see in this display have another important use today. Experts in cognitive psychology, trying to understand how human minds work, and experts in artificial intelligence, trying to build computers that think like humans, have found traditional puzzles indispensible in their research on creative thinking.

Philosopher-logician Raymond Smullyan tells of a phone call from a friend whose son was enjoving one of Smullyan's puzzle books. "He loves your book," the friend said in a conspiratorial tone, "but when you speak to him, don't let him know he's doing math. He hates math!"

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## PUZZLE CLASSIFICATION

1. PUT-TOGETHER PUZZLES: Putting the object together is the puzzle.
a) Two-dimensional assembly puzzles
b) Three-dimensional assembly puzzles
2. TAKE-APART PUZZLES: Opening or taking the object apart is the puzzle.
3. INTERLOCKING SOLID PUZZLES: Disassembly and assembly are required to solve the puzzle.
a) Figures
b) Geometric objects
c) Three-dimensional jigsaw puzzles
d) Burr puzzles
e) Keychain puzzles
4. DISENTANGLEMENT PUZZLES: The puzzle is to disentangle and re-entangle the parts of the puzzle.
a) Cast iron and sheet metal puzzles
b) Wire puzzles
c) String puzzles
5. SEQUENTIAL MOVEMENT PUZZLES: The puzzle is to move parts of the object to a goal.
a) Solitaire puzzles
b) Counter puzzles
c) Sliding block puzzles
d) Rotating cube puzzles
e) Maze and route puzzles
6. PUZZLE VESSELS: Filling the vessels, or drinking or pouring a liquid without spilling, is the puzzle.
7. DEXTERITY PUZZLES: Manual dexterity is required to solve the puzzle.
8. VANISH PUZZLES: The puzzle is to explain a vanishing or changing image.
9. IMPOSSIBLE OBJECT PUZZLES: The puzzle is to discover how the object is made.
10. FOLDING PUZZLES: The puzzle is to achieve a specified goal by folding.


[^0]:[^1]:    Goal of the Game:

[^2]:    * All above shown times are in seconds. This number was calculated by starting the stop watch as soon as return was pressed and stopping the stop watch as soon as the prompt reappeared.

[^3]:    *It is of course a time-honored tradition to make the back-package photos inaccurate. Even recent screen shots are misleading: the Battletech package show 4 mechs in the screen shot, yet one can't get 4 mechs at once. Besides, as Rob points out, anybody who buys the games solely for the COLORS option is a moron.

[^4]:    *For what it's worth, I have a theory that curiosity is a big factor in the purchasing decision. If someone goes into a store planning to buy one game, s/he wants to check out the latest innovations and enhancements and will buy the one that promises the most along those lines. When they consider Infocom, it isn't so much that they don't like it as much as they know exactly what to expect. Other than Beyond Zork, our products haven't offered anything new and different enough to have piqued people's curiosity.

[^5]:    *For what it's worth, I have a theory that curiosity is a big factor in the purchasing decision. If someone goes into a store planning to buy one game, she wants to check out the latest innovations and enhancements and will buy the one that promises the most along those lines. When they consider Infocom, it isn't so much that they don't like it as much as they know exactly what to expect. Other than

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    GUE, if noom
    Answer: Abraham Flathead $f^{\prime}$ in Qide dowith
    in Quickie Quiz bx
    Frob Day is a tradenune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.
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[^16]:    Frob Day is a traderune of the Frobozz Magic Day Company.

[^17]:    Frob Day is a tradenune of the Fmbnzz. Mnaic Inmi Comban"

[^18]:     start over from the beginning, type RESTART and press the RET RN (or this command.
     and press RETURN (or ENTER). Once again, Zork Zero will ask to make sure is really what you want to do.

    Remember: when you RESTART or
    QUIT, you must SAVE if you ever want to return to your current point in the story.

[^19]:    beg your pardon? You pressed the
    RETURN (or ENTER) key without typing anything.

[^20]:    Number of games Tested:

[^21]:    - Another spot that stuck me was the Mirror Lake - getting off it, that is. I had to have recourse to the hints, and probably shouldn't have, since I took physics at MIT. I suspect lots of people will get stuck there.

[^22]:    Eileen Blumenthal teaches theater at Rutgers University and is the author of "Joseph Chaikin: Exploring at the Boundaries of Theater" (Cambridge University Press).

[^23]:    Ill Level: Advanced Protection: In Packaging Price: Apple, $\$ 49.59$; others, $\$ 59.95$ Company: Infocom/Activision

