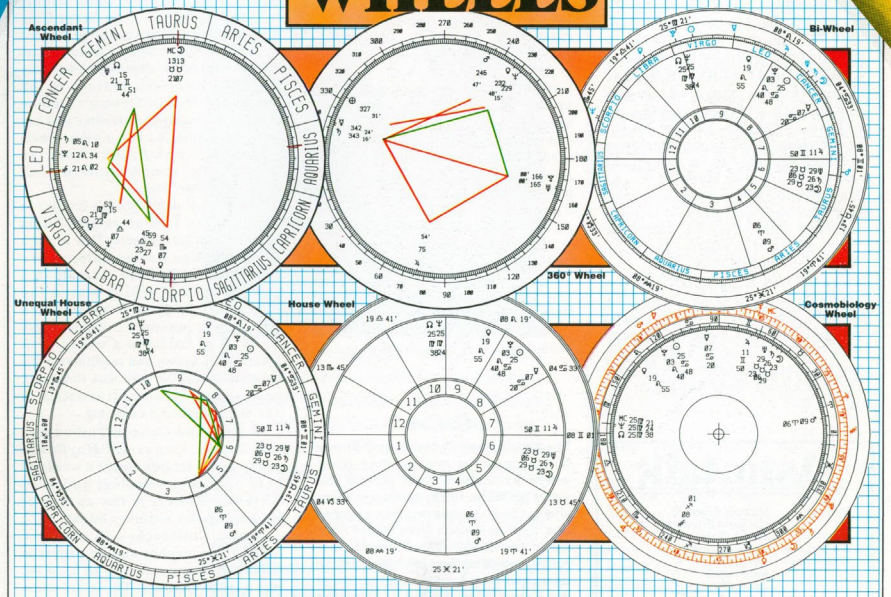
Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Two, No. 5 Nov/Dec '85

Astrotalk

COLOR WHEELS



Announcing Matrix Color Wheels for IBM Blue+Star users with Houston Instruments 4-color plotters (models 595 or 695). The Color Wheels package includes a variety of chart wheels including those shown here. Also included are aspect grids and user-defined text placement capability. Available now! Price: $100.

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Astro*Talk Newsletter

1983-1993

Edited By

Michael Erlewine

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ASTRO*TALK MAGAZINE

A little later down the road we created Astro*Talk, a non-technical newsletter for our customers. They liked it and it even won a ‘Silver Award” from ‘InfoWorld” newsletter columnist John Dvorak, not connected to astrology.

Astro*Talk is filled with Matrix news, interviews, conference reports, photos, and all kind of things. Here is a pretty complete run of the newsletter.

-- Michael Erlewine

Astro★talk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix software
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Here is your first issue of ASTRO*talk, the bi-monthly newsletter for MATRIX customers and the astrological community in general. As you will see when you look this issue over, there is more to ASTRO*TALK than just computer/software news. Our goal is to provide you with news and information on a variety of topics of interest to astrologers. In fact, we would like to make ASTRO*TALK one of the only publications you have to read in order to keep up with the advances on a variety of fronts. Here are some of the features of our newsletter that we are keeping to:

COMPUTER HARDWARE Of course you can expect information concerning the fast moving world of computer hardware and utility software. I go thru a pile of computer magazines about one foot high every two weeks. I would not wish this on anyone. I will try to pass on to you the important new information that appears in the magazines as soon as I can verify it. ASTRO*TALK will reach you every two months. That should be often enough to keep you well in touch with the marketplace.

STREET PRICE INDEX We can provide you with the current (average) prices on the more popular computer systems as they exist in the larger cities. This will give you a better idea as to what you might be paying for computer equipment.

ASTROLOGICAL SOFTWARE Of course one of the goals of this newsletter is to let you know what is happening in the way of astrological software from our company. We will keep you up to date as to what MATRIX programs are available and on which machines, new programs in the works and the like.

SCIENCE NEWS We subscribe to a variety of science and research oriented magazines like Scientific American, Science Digest, Science, Science News, Cycles and so on. We will continue to monitor the happenings in these journals and report to you on any information that should be brought to the attention of the astrological community -- as best we can.

ASTROPHYSICS In a similar vein, ASTRO*TALK will keep you in tune with new discoveries in astronomy and astrophysics. Any area of the sky (star, Pulsar, etc.) we report on will include Zodiac Coordinates so that you can check this area out in your chart work.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR A calendar of major astrological conferences and events. We also will provide some follow-up coverage as to how these events turned out.

JOURNAL CONTENTS Ever wish you had a table of contents of the articles in the major astrological journals and magazines. This you now have in every issue of ASTRO*TALK -- to help keep you aware when articles appear that you should be reading.

BOOK REVIEWS Reviews of important new books in our field by well known reviewers like Richard Nolle and others.

MATRIX DATA EXCHANGE Be sure to read about our new data exchange service elsewhere in this issue. This new Data Exchange column will keep you up-to-date with chart information... whether desired or available.

RESEARCH NOTES A column devoted to news and information in the field of astrological research. Here is the place for you to communicate with the community about your research needs and results.

ASTRO-PRO Sounds a little like the latest arcade game. This column is devoted to the day-to-day business of being a professional astrologer. Many astrologers have trouble making a living. We want to hear from you as to how you have become more professional, what are the ways you have found to make money. Of course, we will report on how to use computers as part of your business ... but we would like this column to be a place where we can share with one another the methods we have found to be successful. We will start out by reporting on some of the MATRIX customers who are using computers in their work in interesting ways. How about some of your more experienced professionals sharing some of your business knowledge with the rest of us?

SELL & SWAP Here is the place for you to sell or swap your used computer equipment, special services and so on. If you are looking to buy equipment, this will be the spot to let others know about it.

RESOURCES A column devoted to the astrological community as a resource that can be accessed by any member. Here you will find descriptions of special books, services and where to find them. Where is the best place to purchase inexpensive chart forms? Who is offering a free service? What astronomy books should you be considering for your permanent library? RESOURCES will help to keep us in touch with the wealth of information and services scattered thruout the worldwide astrological community.

ASTRO*CHRONOLOGY This column will serve as a reminder of major astrological events coming up in the near future.

These are some of the many regular features that you can expect to find in ASTRO*TALK. There are more. These feature columns will appear as we have information to fill them. We want to keep you informed on everything that is happening and of interest in the astrological community. Readers are more than welcome to contribute news and information too.

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group · Premier Issue · Nov/Dec '83

Astro★talk

Welcome to our first issue!

I want to take some editorial space in this first issue of ASTRO*TALK to share with you my feelings about what we propose this newsletter to be about. It has taken much longer to get this first issue to you than planned. Our appologies to all of you M-65 owners who have not received a copy of M-65 USER NOTES for a long while. Your updates are included with this issue. ASTRO*TALK is going out to all MATRIX software customers. You can expect a copy of the newsletter every two months. We are organized (finally!) to make this schedule. We hope you like it.

The summer of 1983 and this fall seem to herald change in the lives of many people that I have spoken with. I know that I have experienced a re-ordering of some of my priorities. I find myself taking a different tack and pointing in a somewhat different direction now as contrasted with that of a year ago. As director of MATRIX Software, I have been concerned with programming, programs and computers over the last six or seven years. Altho I operated a school of astrology in Ann Arbor MI for many years, I have not found time to offer classes of late, I have not done more than a few Readings in the last several years.

But this summer has brought with it signs of change. For one, I have been reminded of the great need for information to be communicated within our field on a more frequent basis. I had been looking outside myself among the many fine editors in the field of astrology for an individual to start up a magazine. I have often spoken with Noel Tyl, John Townley and others on this theme.

cont. on page 2

IBM's PEANUT: TRICK OR TREAT?

Just as we are going to press we receive the news that the IBM Home Computer (code named the 'Peanut') will be available (no fooling!) as of Halloween -- or the day after which is November the first.

The particulars of the Peanut fall short of my hopes, but 'what's new?'. The trick is that altho IBM is releasing two versions, a $695 64K computer with a keyboard and a $1295 version with 128K RAM and one 360K drive... only the more expensive unit will be much supported.

Still a 128K computer with a built in 360K disk at $1295 puts APPLE to shame as regards performance and price. How the Peanut will affect Commodore 64 sales remains to be seen. The C-64 offers one heck of a lot of computing power for $200 bucks. The IBM is a lot more expensive. It remains to be seen whether the name IBM will carry with it improved reliability and performance to outweigh the obvious price advantage of the Commodore 64 (64K computer and one disk for about $400!).

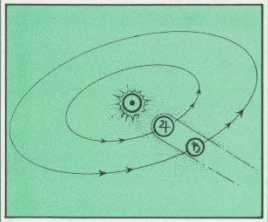
The Peanut will come with a cordless keyboard that communicates with the computer using infrared technology. Apparently IBM's offering of the $695 (cassette?) model is not too in earnest since they recommend dealers order 9 enhanced ($1295) systems and one entry system ($695) for every ten ordered. I would tend to agree with their suggestion that most users will go

cont. on page 7

SATURN IN JUPITER'S MAGNETIC FIELD

The most interesting science report I have come across of late is that it appears that Jupiter's magnetic field extends all the way to and even beyond Saturn! For those of us who may not be up on the mechanics of all of this, let me set the scene for us:

That great ball of fire, the Sun does more than just shine. A high wind of hydrogen blows all night and day thru our solar system. It emanates in all directions from the Sun and rushes past



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Welcome... cont. from page 1

To make a long story short, this summer brought with it an experience or illumination (call it a mini-vision) for me that I should go ahead and do myself what I was asking others to do -- create an information exchange of some sort. This had not occurred to me because I have been so very busy these last years. Since I try not to ignore any insight or visions I get, I take it as a sign that I am to re-organize my schedule and `make time` for communicating. I have done just that and here is ASTRO*TALK.

ASTRO*TALK is not intended as a full-blown magazine or any thing similar. It is my attempt to follow my star -- so to speak-- and provide our customers with all of the information (and more) that we monitor here at MATRIX. One of my tasks has been to sift thru a pile of magazines each week and glean the facts and trends of the computer industry of interest to our field. I had been in the habit (several years ago) of monitoring science and astrophysical journals... not to mention astrological ones.

The central impulse or insight that came out of this summer's vision was that I should provide to the astrological community the results of all of my information sources. Since I subscribe to a lot of periodicals and special reports, it takes up not only a lot of my time but also a lot of money. The idea was to communicate in a concise form what I had found scattered thru dozens of publications. In addition, I could serve to consolidate information within our community and pass it on to those interested.

There you have the central impulse behind this newsletter. You will have to decide whether this newsletter or bulletin is, in fact, useful to you in your astrological work. I will do the very best job I can to bring this information and news together and get it out to MATRIX customers (and any one else who wants it). I am going on faith at this point that such an information service is needed. You can help too. As the issues of ASTRO*TALK arrive and you see that we are determined to push forward with this newsletter, please help us get in touch with still more information. Perhaps you monitor periodicals or a job scene and come across news that would interest astrologers. Send me a zerox of what you find or your own feedback and comments. I, in turn, will put information received in the newsletter and pass it on to the entire group.

ASTRO*TALK has been created as an information vehicle for astrologers. We are sending it to MATRIX customers because this is our mailing list but it is not only concerned with computers as you can see by reading it. The staff here at MATRIX feels the need to be part of a larger collective and exchange... to be more than just a business. Of course we are working to make our business successful. Beyond that, however, we want to reach out and share in the larger community of astrologers around the world. It is hoped that ASTRO*TALK can be one of many new information utilities that will spring up to raise our consciousness beyond that of separate groups functioning alone and help to put us in touch with the larger group frame of reference that we know is, in fact, there. We want to experience that group consciousness more often and to keep it in mind all the time. Thanks for your patience in reading this.

Michael Erlewine

Michael Erlewine
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Astrotalk

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by MATRIX Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the U.S. & Canada is $7 per Year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by bost and $14.50 shipped by AIR MAIL. ASTRO*TALK is Copyright (c) by MATRIX Software 1983.

PROBLEMS! PROBLEMS! PROLBEMS!

MATRIX is getting more efficient and able to provide better and better service all the time. Going from being a full time counseling astologer to becoming a businessman has not been an easy transition for me. I know a number of you may have had some rocky times with MATRIX service in the past. It seems we have had more than our share of growing pains. I want you, our customers to know, that if you are having (or have had) a problem with service from MATRIX or are unsatisfied for some reason, please let us know about it. We want you to be happy with us. Pick up the phone, and ask to speak with me personally- Michael Erlewine. I will do my best to get you some satisfaction on current or past problems right now. I will do right by you and make up for any inconvenience you may have had. Please call.

Matrix Video Profiles

STALKING THE WILD ASTROLOGER

MATRIX Video. Sound new? It is. We have been hard at work this summer putting together the first four video tapes in our new video library of major astrologers. Each tape in this series will present a well known astrologer in great personal detail. The finished tapes will be made available to interested individuals and qualified groups for viewing. The entire series is part of an effort here at MATRIX to stimulate the flow of information thruout the astrological community. The video tapes will enable astrologers all over the world to see and hear the major forces in our field in an "up close and personal" context.

The series is not lecture oriented -- altho there is some lecture material embedded in the interview. The attempt has been to present an in-depth interview of each astrologer complete with many personal details as well as a review of their major contributions. So far, we have put together some very good material.

We have completed video taping of Theodor Landscheidt, Charles Harvey, Michael Munkasey and John Townley. Landscheidt is one of the premier theoreticians in our field. He has only visited the U.S. twice in the last decade so opportunities to see him in person have been few. Harvey is the president of the Astrological Association of Great Britain and is a major force in modern astrology. He, along with John Addey and James Williamsen, formed the now famous Cambridge Circle group specializing in research on Harmonics. Harvey relates in our interview how he met Addey and how the Circle was formed.

John Townley has long been recognized for his work with cycles, composites and relational/sexual approaches to astrology. He has edited any number of astrological, numerological and sexological magazines. John provides a warm and personal interview. Michael Munkasey is widely recognized for his research and computer skills. In the interview, he discusses his major research contributions, astrological perspective and even his End Time philosophy.

All of the above interview tapes are filled with fascinating material and should make excellent viewing. We are now at the editing stage and hope to have these four tapes available to interested groups shortly after the turn of the year. We have a variety of other astrologers who have expressed interest in being filmed. These include Buz Meyers, Charles Jayne, David Black, Ray Merriman and others. We are asking astrologers who are interested in being taped to include a stop at MATRIX as a leg of their next workshop tour. Feel free to contact us about video astrology.

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Calling For Additions To The

Matrix Monograph series

This past summer saw the beginning of a new series of monographs on astrology from MATRIX Software. The monograph series came to be in response to a decision not to keep all issues of MATRIX Magazine in print. There are 10 issues of the magazine and the cost of keeping all ten always in stock has become a financial burden. We had been offering back issues of MATRIX Magazine at the same price as current ones. Instead, we have decided to continue to make the complete set of back issues available but at a substantially higher cost -- one that reflects the actual cost of duplicating, packaging and shipping them. Since not everyone will choose to afford the higher priced back issues, we want to make most of the major articles in these back issues available in reprint form. Hence the MATRIX Monograph Series.

We are in the process of preparing a variety of articles from the early MATRIX Magazine as well as articles by your editor that have been out-of-print for several years. A call is also being issued to astrologers in the community who have articles of a technical or theoretical nature that are no longer available. Keep in mind that the goal of this series is to keep in print seminal articles that have, for one reason or another, become unavailable. Another group of articles included in the series are those that have not been able to find publication due to their highly technical nature. Larger publishers tend to be interested in articles for whom there will be a wide readership. For whatever the reason, there is a fair sized body of literature that is now unavailable but is worthy of publication. Here is our plan:

We will make these articles available as part of our monograph series providing you submit the articles along with a letter stating that we have permission to offer this article as part of our series on a non-exclusive basis. In other words, we don't want exclusive re-printing rights to your article. However, we do need to be assured that we have the author's permission to reprint plus the permission of any magazine or book where it may have first appeared.

If we accept the article as part of the series, we will undergo the typesetting and layout expense. The finished article will be made available as part of the monograph series for a low price -- enough to cover our production and shipping costs. Each article is reproduced on 11x17 paper folded to make and 8 1/2 x 11 folder. Articles are typeset in columns and keylined so that the finished article has a clean and attractive look.

We have completed a number of Michael Erlewine's earlier non-computer astrology articles and have started on some of the more important articles from MATRIX magazine. If you have or know of an article that is out-of-print or that has never been published ... and that you feel should be available, please write us and tell us where we can get in touch with the author for a copy. MATRIX Monograph Series exists to help salvage worthwhile articles on astrology that would otherwise remain unavailable. If we can get enough support on this project, this monograph series could become an important archive for the astrological community. Give us a hand.

Articles in the MATRIX Monograph Series now available or currently in preparation include:

#1 COSMIC ORGANISMS, Theodor Landscheidt
#2 THE DETERMINATION OF PLANETARY VELOCITIES AND RETROGRADE MOTION, James Neely
#3 ON VECTORS, MATRICES AND COORDINATE TRANSFORMATIONS, James Neely
#4 ASTRO*SYNTAX AND ASTRO-SEMANTICS, Lee Wayne Holt
#5 TECHNICAL PROBLEMS IN SPIRITUAL ASTRONOMY, David B. Black
#6 SYMBOLIC PERCEPTIONS OF ASTROLOGERS: A SURVEY, Doug Pierce
#7 AISAR: ANALYTIC INTERPRETIVE SOFTWARE FOR ASTROLOGICAL RESEARCH, Doug Pierce
#8 TRUE SECONDARY & TERTIARY PROGRESSIONS, Lawrence Ely
#9 THE ASTROLOGY OF LOCAL SPACE, Michael Erlewine
#10 LOCAL SPACE: RELOCATION TECHNIQUES, Michael Erlewine
#11 THE SUN IS SHINING: HELIO ASTROLOGY, Michael Erlewine
#12 OUR ROOTS IN THE SUN: HELIO ASTROLOGY, Michael Erlewine
#13 THE VALUE OF THE GEO/HELIO COMPARISON, Michael Erlewine
#14 BASIC CHART TYPES (HELIO), Michael Erlewine
#15 SOME PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON THE INTERPRETATION OF COSMIC STRUCTURE, Michael Erlewine
#16 THE COUNSELOR: MIDWIFE OF THE SPIRIT, Michael Erlewine

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Just a note to remind readers that the 3rd bi-annual ASTROLOGICAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNIQUES or ACT (as it is called) is in the works. For those who have missed the first two ACTs, here are the particulars: ACT was formed in the late 1970s by astrologers Charles Jayne and Michael Erlewine in collaboration with a group of technically oriented astrologers from all over the world. The purpose of ACT is to provide a forum and a meeting place for astrologers concerned with some of the more technical aspects of astrology.

ACT is held at the bi-annual AFA (AMERICAN FEDERATION of ASTROLOGERS) convention. The AFA is kind enough to provide ACT with a meeting room and to schedule ACT activities as part of the larger AFA convention. The AFA allows ACT complete control over who is selected to participate in ACT -- they do not have to be AFA members. The first ACT was held in 1980 in New Orleans, the second in 1982 at Chicago.

The upcoming third ACT will again be held in Chicago as part of the AFA Convention there in the late summer of 1984. We hope that many of you will try to be there and to take part in the workshops. Each workshop consists of a panel of participants and a panel moderator. The workshop consists of a open discussion on the selected topic. Members of the audience too are invited to participate as well. The goal of each ACT workshop is to encourage open exchange among interested professionals on various technical subjects. ACT workshops are seldom crowded because they tend to be concerned with the more technical concerns of modern astrologers. However, those who do attend are treated to a lively and timely experience.

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Astro*talk

NEW: MASS MARKET ASTRO-PROGRAM

ASTRO*TALK, the name of this bulletin, is also the name of a new software package from MATRIX.

The new ASTRO*TALK program from MATRIX Software represents our first attempt to enter the general computer market with an astrological program. Bob and Sara Cooper commented to us that they felt that ASTRO*TALK was the most important computer program that they had yet seen and immediately offered to help us produce and distribute it (which would be a real help to us). Richard Nolle (computer software reviewer for the AFA Bulletin) had this to say upon receiving his copy: "Thank you for the ASTRO*TALK package you sent, which arrived by UPS this afternoon. As you know, my disk drive is down right now, so I haven't even tried loading the program. But if the electronics end of the package is half as nice as the graphics (documentation), you have a sure fire winner on your hands! This is a truly impressive production, something MATRIX and the astrological community can be proud of". Richard got his drive back and let us know that he likes the program as much as the documentation. And last, but not least, Mark Lerner -- editor of the new publication WELCOME TO PLANET EARTH -- had this to say about ASTRO*TALK: "It is an extraordinary little program, a magnificent achievement! ... One marvel is the speed of the calculations for the planets & angles. Fantastic! And all the amazing other features -- student guide, Menu, interpretations, etc. etc. ... Again many congratulations on one heck of a program. P.S. The booklet is superb as well. Great!"

Yes, we are proud of it. We have it available (in compiled form) on the IBM PC, APPLE II and Commodore PET & CBM-64. ASTRO*TALK is intended for the non-professional astrologer. In particular, it is geared to help the lay person who likes Sun Sign astrology take the next step into real astrology. The program calculates a complete set of natal positions and house cusps. It goes on to display on the screen a complete set of interpretations (Planets in Signs and Houses, all major aspects) on a chapter by chapter basis. In addition, a special student ASTRO-GUIDE allows the beginning student in astrology to ask the program a variety of astrologically oriented questions like: What does Taurus Rising mean?, What does Moon conjunct Venus signify? ... and so forth.

The program is also fast in operation. For example, on the IBM PC, the entire set of planets (and house cusps) are calculated in well under two seconds! An extensive set of HELP screens provide additional details on birth date entry, the meaning of astrology and the like. The complete set of interpretations were provided by astrologers David & Gina Cochrane during their stay at MATRIX Software. The program documentation booklet is (as Nolle points out) very well done and includes lots of illustrations and even a table of Longitudes & Latitudes of major cities. The entire packages retails for $39.95 and comes in a nice shrink wrapped container for display in computer stores.

Of course we hope ASTRO*TALK catches on and is a success. Considering the expense we have undergone to develop it and the cost of the documentation, disks, the display package in general plus the fact that computer distributors can demand as much as 60% off the top ... it will probably not be a money maker for MATRIX. What we hope will happen is that ASTRO*TALK will reach outside of the astrological community into the general populations and draw new members into our community.

Nor do we imagine that ASTRO*TALK in any way measures up to a Reading by a professional astrologer. We do hope that this program will serve to bridge the gap between Sun Sign astrology and that practiced by professionals. We hope that program might serve to process some of those Sun Sign readers and turn them into students of astrology. ASTRO*TALK can calculate an accurate natal horoscope in the Tropical Zodiac and then proceed to interpret it in typical cookbook fashion. As the user learns a little astrology, he or she can ask the interpretation data base a variety of astrological questions. The program also includes options for Helio planets and the Western Sidereal Zodiac. Altho this type of interpretation is crude by professional standards, it is a great improvement over what appears in the newspapers.

Astrologers have been turning the general populace onto astrology on a one-by-one basis for centuries. ASTRO*TALK, and similar programs, have the capacity to process great numbers of people and re-orient them towards a more modern vision of astrology. This astrological processing (while somewhat crude from professional standards) leaves behind it an individual much more open to the art of the experienced astrologer. We have learned this from our experience with the written report writers (ASTRO*TALK'S big brother). Bill Keenan, who markets written MATRIX horoscope interpretations in Oregon, has pointed out that about 50% of those who elect to purchase the written (cookbook) astrology reports return for in-person astrological counseling sessions.

There has to be some way to re-orient the general population away from what they find in the newspapers and towards what the professional astrologer can provide. We feel that ASTRO*TALk and related programs can help to do the job.

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Street Price$:

Almost all computers and their peripherals are currently being sold at a discount. Check with your local appliance store, K-Mart, or TOYS-R-US stores for the best buys. This column attempts to provide current price information on the some of the more popular systems. These prices reflect what these systems are selling for in some of the larger cities. Keep in mind that altho your local computer stores may charge you more, they may also be able to provide you with additional service that makes up for the difference in price over purchasing the same item from a discount house. On the other hand there is not much point in paying top dollar for a computer like the CBM-64 since all companies have to send them off to the same place for repair anyway. There are many Mail Order Discount Houses retailing computers and peripherals. See any of the computers magazines like BYTE, etc. for their advertisements. Call MATRIX if you need the names of a few.

Apple IIe (64K, 40-col) $1285
Apple IIe (64K 80-col), 1 Disk Drive & Controller, Apple III Monitor $1995
Apple IIe (64K 40-col), 1 disk Drive & Controller, Joystick $1795

Commodore VIC 20 $100
Commodore 64 $200 (or less)
CBM-64 ($189), 1 Disk Drive ($239), Printer ($219) Total $647

Radio Shack Color Comp $239.95
Radio Shack Model IV $799
Radio Shack Model IV, 2 drives, etc. $1999

Epson MX-80FT $450
Epson FX-80 Dot-Matrix Printer $600

IBM PC, 2 double sided drives, monocrome monitor and 256K $3848

OSBORNE Computers are in bankruptcy, so be aware.

The 'Best' buy is still the CBM-64 system with 64K computer, 1 disk drive and dot-matrix printer for around $650. For those with plenty of money, the IBM PC has a great future. The new IBM 'PEANUT' home computer should be announced any day.

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SALES SUPPORT FOR REPORT WRITERS

Thanks to our new art department, we are working on a variety of specially designed graphic aids for those of you who are using and marketing MATRIX Report Writer (M090, M-91, etc.).

The first in this series will be a set of very attractive folders or book covers for your MATRIX Report Writer output. You will be able to order these covers in quantity direct from MATRIX. Each cover is expertly designed and printed to provide a more professional appearance to your report writing service.

Also in the works, are a set of advertising layouts that you can use to help advertise your own report writers and chart services. We know from hard won experience how difficult it is to lay out quality advertisements without expensive equipment. We have purchased this equipment and have a staff artist to use it. We will be able to offer you an advertisement kit capable of being used in a variety of situations (newspapers, posters, etc.). All you will have to do is to insert your own business name and logos. We can even typeset that for you -- if needed.

ASTROLOGICAL
Community News

in the journals:

TRANSIT: The Magazine of the Astrological Association, Issue No. 42, August 1983, 24 Birchington Court, West End Lane, London NW6 4PB, England.

Capitalism and Astrology, Barry Lynes
A Natal Astrologer's Guide to Horary, Olivia Barclay
Mundane Notes, Nick Campion
The Feminine in Mythology, Lee Knight
Computer Update, Colin Miles

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THE ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL, Vol. XXV, No. 2, Spring 1983, C/O Zach Matthews, 'Oakfield', Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England

The Galactic Centre and Beyond: Signposts to Evolution, Charles Harvey
The Uranus-Jupiter Conjunction of 1983: Part 1, Andre Barbault
Astrology and the Metal Market, Daniel Pallant
A New Approach to Natal Interpretation: Part 1, Terry Dwyer
Students' Section: The Composite Chart, Georgina Kerr
Princess Grace of Monoceo, Dymock Brose
William Harvey and the 'Motion in a Circle': Part 1, Dylan Francis

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ASTROLOGY WEST, Issue No.5, Summer/Fall 1983, Astrology For Professionals, Suite 120, 9560 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland, OR 97219

Review: Essays On Astrology by Robert Hand, Marion Rogers
Dialogue/Interview with Jeff Green
The Uranus/Pluto Conjunction Generation, Erin Sullivan-Seale
The Return of the Gods, Marc Robertson
Your Money Management Strategy for 1983, Richard Rogers
Astrology and Astrologers Through History

CYCLES: BULLETIN OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF CYCLES, 124 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburg, PA 15206

An Analysis of the Terrestrial Magnetic Correlates of Venus/Jupiter Critical Angles 1868-1980, E. Stanton Maxey

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Buena Park, California. 10th Annual SWAC Conference, November 17-20, 1983, ASTROLOGY: A MULTI-DIMENTIONAL PERSPECTIVE. For deteils, contact Margaret Mason at (714) 826-7617. MATRIX representatives Vance Smith and Gasper Ferlazzo will be there.

How about helping us to enlarge this column by sending in the names of major conferences, weekend seminars and the like?

THE FRATERNITY NEWS, The Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers, Boc 4924, Station E, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5J1

Ingress Chart, Liz Swaboda and Inge Lohse
Effective Counselling, Marilyn Waram
Presenting Canada Past, Stephanie Walker
Vantage Points, Dennis Elwell
A Challenge to Astrologers, R.J. Vahsholtz
In Conversation: Jim Lewis
Cosmobiology, Geraldine Mickie and Inge Aach
From My Files, Erin Sullivan-Seale
Data Bank, Brian Clark
The Did You Know?s of Numerology and Astrology, Karen David-Novotney
Book Reviews, Donna Van Toen

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TAPE AND BOOK CLUB BULLETIN, RKM Publishing, P.O. Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123 (216) 261-2610

Ancient Egypt: The Great Pyramid (Part 5 in a series), Victoria Peltz
The Uranus/Pluto Conjunction Generation, Erin Sullivan-Seale

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ASTROLOGY '83, The New Aquarian Agent of the National Astrological Society, Fall Equinox 1983, 205 Third Avenue, 2A, NYC, NY 10003

The Ninth Harmonic, David Hamblin
Lilith Validation, Delphine Jay
Cosmic Clocks, Michel Gauguelin
The Outer Planets & Their Cycles (excerpts), Lix Green
The Significance of Dreams, Dane Rudhyar

WE'RE NOT THE ONLY NEW ASTROLOGICAL PUBLICATION!

Many of us were sorry to see ASTROLOGY NOW fold several years ago. Whatever criticisms we may have had of this magazine were outweighed by it's obvious value and the spot it filled in our field. Your editor has spent a good deal of time over the last couple of years trying to encourage a variety of editors (Tyl, Townley, etc.) to start up a new magazine. No luck.

Don't give up! A new magazine from Oregon, ASTROLOGY WEST, looks to be the answer to your need and spiritual heir to ASTROLOGY NOW. Edited by Marian and Richard Rogers, ASTROLOGY WEST, has all of the ingredients we have been missing of late. It is typeset, has an attractive lay out and is filled with articles of the same general type or level as the Tyl publication.

Altho still a new publication with some rough spots and a definite need for subscribers, it has great promise. Any readers interested in subscribing should send $15.00 (4 issues per year) to ASTROLOGY FOR PROFESSIONALS, Suite 120, 9560 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland, OR 97219.

Here is a chance to fill that void left when ASTROLOGY NOW folded. These people are doing a great job and, so it seems to me, going on faith at this point that there is a readership out there. They could use our support now.

AND ANOTHER...

Another new publication worthy of your inspection is WELCOME TO PLANET EARTH or WPTE -- as it is called. Here is a tabloid sized monthly publication printed on newsprint and especially devoted to astrology. WTPE is (to use the publisher's description) "A journal of the New Astrology in the Contemporary World".

The newspaper is produced by Mark & Isha Lerner and Christopher Guilfoil and published by THE GREAT BEAR PRESS, 2122 Allen Boulevard, #1, Middleton, WI 53562, Phone (608) 238-2654. I am sure you could get a free sample copy by requesting one from the above address.

WTPE contains a variety of interesting articles by astrologers like Barry Lynes, Doug Smith, and others. The publication has a particular focus on world events, political perspectives as they affect astrology and even foods and recipes! One year subscriptions are $12 for 12 issues. You will want to check this publication out.

machine talk

There are now over 800 home computer systems available according to industry sources. You would think that this fact would keep those of who have to keep track of new systems busy enough. However, the actuality is that the sheer number of systems currently available is so enormous that it is having the opposite effect one might expect. After six years with no industry standard during which we have had a free-for-all on almost all levels, IBM has managed to exert enough influence to cause the rank and file to get in line.

In fact, right now there are two companies who have taken control of both the high and low ends of the market: IBM and Commodore International. IBM has had a profound effect on the high end of the home computer market while Commodore has maneuvered to almost dominate the low end. Since many of you reading this already have a system, these details may not have much effect on you personally. However, you may wish to pass this information on to those who have not yet purchased a system.

The Commodore 64 has fallen in price until (as of October 20, 1983) they have been selling for under $200. At least one discount house in Florida has offered them for $150 — Cash & Carry! And we have not even reached the Christmas reduction rush. The CBM-64 is a very fine system — especially at that price. Considering that our M-65 System runs on it ... in its entirety... with all the bells and whistles, it is an ideal small home computer system. A complete CBM-64 with disk and printer can be had for under $700 in many places.

On the upper end, the IBM PC is a superb machine that is receiving unparalleled support from all sides. There is no longer any question whatsoever about who is the leader. All companies that wish to survive will have to consider implementing an IBM PC mode in their next generation machines.

To give you two very strong examples of how IBM is dominating the market, Radio Shack recently introduced the TRS-80 Model IV which amounts to a warmed over Model II with a number of very fine improvements ... the most notable of which is the new 'clock rate' which allows the Model IV to run programs at twice the speed of the Model III. This puts the Model IV roughly in the same ball park where CBM and APPLE have been for years. Radio Shack also finally gave up on their industrial grey plastic cases. The Model IV is an attractive, white color. When I first heard this news, I was pleased. In fact, we considered the fact that we might re-open TRS-80 development once again here at MATRIX. The following rumor soon squashed those thoughts:

Several sources indicate that Radio Shack is about to announce a Model V. This new machine will be as close to a perfect IBM clone as is possible. No more TRS-DOS (Radio Shack's own Disk Operating System -- not liked). In fact, this announcement by Radio Shack guarantees that the new Model IV is dead in the water. What Radio Shack is saying here is that it wants to provide IBM computers for the masses thru its chain of blue-collar electronics stores. By producing an IBM clone, Radio Shack can draw on all the great support for that machine while providing customers with local service, etc. This is a very smart move for Radio Shack. It is, however, the end of the road for the Models I-IV development.

The staff here at MATRIX feel sorry that we cannot afford to better support our TRS-80 M-65 owners. We have only about 40 of them out there. We will provide an incentive for Radio Shack owners to sell your systems while they still have value. TRS-80 owners who want to get out of that system and into one of the systems we support (CBM, APPLE, IBM) can get their M-65 transferred to your new system for a very small handling fee. You then would be able to run the research system, screen module and other modules.

Another large company who has announced IBM compatibility is Ateri. Their high end home system will be able to run most IBM software. Commodore has acquired rights to MS-DOS (same as PC-DOS on the IBM) so we can expect to see a CBM machine running IBM stuff real soon. Last , but not least, APPLE has announced IBM compatibility on the APPLE III.

The Japanese computer companies are introducing IBM compatible machines right and left. So far, most Americans are electing to pay the extra bucks and have the IBM label (and true compatibility) on the machine. That is my advice too. If you can afford the big bucks ($3000-$4000) for a full blown IBM PC, go for it. You won't regret it. ●

COMPUTER ACCESSORIES SOURCE

Where is the best place to buy Floppy Disks, tapes and other computer accessories at a discount? We get asked this question a lot. There are dozens of firms who specialize in discounted accessories advertised in the major computer mags such as BYTE, CREATIVE COMPUTING and the like.

Here is the name of one company that we have been in touch with since 1978. It is a reputable firm and it's prices are good. They sell disks and what-not at a considerable discount:

A B COMPUTERS
252 Bethlehem Pike
Colmar, PA 18915
(215) 822-7727

OSBORNE DECLARES BANKRUPTCY

1ST OF MANY?

Osborne Computers recently filed Chapter 11 and sought shelter from creditors in bankruptcy court. Adam Osborne, president of the company, resigned. It is generally thought throughout the computer community that the demise of the quite successful Osborne company is only the first in a string of similar failures that will take place over the next few months. In other words, a shake-out is in progress.

A variety of industry newsletters are fingering the following firms as also being in trouble: Fortune Systems, Victor Technologies and Vector Graphics. Both ATARI and Texas Instruments have taken a terrible beating in the home computer market in the last year.

The big winners (most stable sales) include IBM on the high end, APPLE II in the middle and Commodore 64 at the low end.

In the topsy turvy world of computer marketing, IBM has been the single most stabilizing force. It has created a standard where before there was none. This 'standard' making function of IBM brings with it both Good News and Bad News. The Good News is that at last we have a real standard to gather around and to support. The Bad News is that this same standard provides the first real avenue for the Japanese to work off of. The Japanese are expert at out-marketing the U.S. once a new market has been established.

Industry rumors also suggest that IBM may be readying a real crushing blow for its competition— both American and Japanese — in the form of a proprietary operating system. The IBM PC currently uses the MS DOS (Disk Operating System) produced by the Microsoft company. Recent court decisions that appear to favor software protection may also point to a move on IBMs part to bring out their own (non-Microsoft) operating system. This operating system would be the sole property of IBM and would not have to be licensed to other hardware companies as MS-DOS currently is.

The bottom line here is that if IBM were to bring out such an operating system... and if it were upward compatible with the existing MS-DOS (all current software would run under it)... but it included new and important features that would cause all IBM PC owners to buy a copy... THEN IBM would cut out all of it's competition (IBM look-alikes, work-alikes, portables, etc.) in one fell swoop. By not licensing the new operating system, IBM would be able to insist that only it's hardware could be used.

Today, this is only a rumor but an interesting one. ●

Matrix Rep Network

We have been at work creating a network of local representatives for MATRIX Software. At the end of this note you will find a current list of MATRIX Representatives. Hopefully there may be one in or near your area.

We have held two rep training sessions here in Big Rapids over the last summer. Our reps are there to help you answer software and hardware questions, take your orders and, in general, represent our company in your area. Please feel free to call them.

Steve Cozzi
2615 W. Cornell
Denver, CO 80236
(303)-761-7572

Gasper Ferlazzo
P.O. Box 11669
Santa Ana, CA 92711
(714) 241-1032

Dick Eadington
177 Webster ST. Suite A441
Monterey, CA 93940
(408) 375-8328

Pat MacManus
12375 High Meadow
Dallas, TX 75234
(214) 243-5045

Paul Hewitt
1973A Yonge St. Suite 1
Toronto, ONT Canada M4S 1Z6
(416) 485-2837

Susie Cox
Potter Place No. 9
Tucson, AZ 85719
(602) 327-5309

Hank Friedman
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Berkeley, CA 94706
(415) 525-3399

Vance Smith
P.O. Box 6209
Buena Park, CA 90620
(714) 761-9663

Lynn Dalton
471 W. Lake Samish Dr.
Bellingham, WA 98255
(206) 676-0306

Jeanette Oswald
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Philadelphia, PA 19152
(215) 742-4152

Shawn Porter
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(505) 455-2744

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Rudolf Smit
12 Rockcliffe St.
Eltham Victoria
3095 Australia

Roland Skoglovist
N. Fogelbergs 1
41128 Gothenburg
Sweden

Claude Weiss
Seminarstrasse 25
8042 Zurich
Switzerland

IBM's PEANUT: TRICK OR TREAT?

cont. from page 1

for the computer with the 128K RAM and the built-in disk. You may be asking where is the 'Treat' I promised you. Well, wait a minute. I'm not done with the Trick part yet.

The worst news is that IBM has brought out a new Disk Operating System (DOS 2.1) that is incompatible with some earlier versions. They have personally seen to it that most serious software out today (Asynchronos Communications, BASIC Compiler, BPI Accounting, UCSD, etc.) will not run on the Peanut. They are obviously seeing to it that Peanuts cannot in reality replace the larger (and more expensive) IBM PC. This is really unfortunate. If IBM had brought out a 256K, one disk system that could run IBM PC software, they would have devastated APPLE and all mid-sized systems. As it stands now, the advent of the Peanut will only decimate all close competitors.

Options for the Peanut (at extra expense) include: include an internal modem, parallel printer interface, joystick, keyboard cord, TV connector, color adaptor, carrying case, serial printer interface and compact printer. For the record dealer costs for the Peanut is $486 for the entry level and $864 for the enhanced model> That is a 30% margin for the entry and a 33% margin for the higher priced model.

As for the 'Treat' of the Peanut, if it's as nice a machine to work with as it's big brother (IBM PC), that's a treat in itself. The Peanut is not all it was cracked up to be now that it is out of the shell. It is more expensive than we were led to believe, and making it incompatible with most serious IBM PC application software is a deliberate attempt to limit the machine -- which is not sporting to say the least. I am sure we will all grow to love the peanut since it is a child of IBM. Love at first sight it's not. But given time (and a fertile market), it is sure to grow on us. MATRIX has software for the Peanut by the time you will read this. IBM is only making about 800,000 Peanuts next year so they will be hard to get.

A.F.A.N.

THE A.F.A. NETWORK

I expect that most of you are already aware of AFAN or the AFA NETWORK which was formally voted into existence at the 1982 AFA convention in Chicago. It is, in effect, a caucus brought into existence to assist the larger AFA body to better achieve it's own goals. The stated purpose of the AFAN is "to create a network among the members [of the AFA], and to improve communications between membership and the Board of Directors of the AFA."

Your editor is an AFAN Coordinator, on the Advisory Council and is responsible for suggesting that the name of the group (AFA NETWORK) be adopted at the second large meeting in Chicago on August 31, 1982 (officially formed at 11:52 P.M. CDT). AFAN produces a very attractive quarterly newsletter edited by Jim Lewis of San Francisco. Readers interested in learning more about AFAN and receiving this newsletter should contact Jim Lewis, 191 Frederick St., Apt. 41, San Francisco CA 90035.

As you can perhaps imagine, AFAN membership consists of astrologers who have come to work together for a wide variety of reasons. I perceive many different forces at work within this new organization. These range from the very political and radical types who want to de-throne the current AFA Board of Directors (at once or sooner) to those individuals who are lonely for astrological company and information exchange and want to see some enhancement of communication among professional astrologers. I favor this second type myself.

Here at MATRIX, our support of AFAN has taken the form of investigating the possibility of group health insurance (Doug Pierce has worked on this) and information exchange. We see a great need to improve the quality, quantity and promptness of information circulation within the astrological community. This ASTRO*TALK newsletter is an attempt to address this need within the community of MATRIX software users. I believe we will see many other vehicles of communication springing up in the months to come. It is time.

The future of AFAN, like the future of the AFA itself, will depend on it's ability to provide needed services to our community. Your editor's comment to the AFAN leadership (and to himself) made in a conference call after the new group was formed was that we must ourselves do or show the AFA what it is that we feel is lacking in their approach to astrology. And, if I may be permitted an editorial comment: As astrologers, it is not enough to only 'Read' the signs of our times. Occasionally, each of us may be called upon to give or show a sign. ●

M65 RESEARCH SYSTEM & CHART SERVICE

A number of you have written asking for a concise description of the existing modules for M-65 and an indication as to which machines they are now available on. Here it is along with an easy to read table that summarizes this information.

M-65-A CHART SERVICE $300

All M-65 owners have this. This is the heart of the system and consists of the basic M-65 Chart Service and file storage system. Without this (or Blue STAR 10), all other modules are of no use. This is where one begins with the system.

M-65-B RESEARCH QUERY SYSTEM $250

This module allows the user to implement an extensive query system based on M-65 files. You can store both astrological and user-defined categories and retrieve any information on either or both types of data. A sophisticated series of programs that allows users to set up and perform tests on batches of data. Questions like "How many charts in my collection have Mars in the Fourth House in square aspect to Venus" and the like are what M-65-B is made for.

M-65-C SCREEN MODULE $100

A series of 6 linked and auto-loading programs designed to allow the user to interact via screen with your collection of M-65 chart files. Includes sophisticated sorting, midpoint and synastry techniques. Produces attractive Data Screens that can be viewed, changed and dumped to the printer -- if needed. Much more. Here is a quote from a review of M-65 in the RAMC magazine (number 3) by magazine editor Glen Murray of Canada. "The M-65-C Screen Module which works with the M-65 and definitely turns a good system into a far better one ... I'd say this module enhanced my appreciation of M-65 a full 100% ... it gives you the general feeling of a spreadsheet/modeler like VisiCalc except that you are manipulating astrological data and testing it in various ways".

M-65-D URANIAN MODULE $50

Adds automatic generation of the eight Transneptunian or Uranian planets to M-65. Once installed, the module is invisible to the user. You select when you want Uranians along with the standard planets and the module takes care of the work.

M-65-X PROGRAMMER SUPPORT $50

This program allows users who are also active programmers to easily access M-65 Chart Files from their own programs. In essence, it enables the user to read and write M-65 files.

M-65-69 ONE-PAGE PRINTER $100

A printing module that can be added to the M-65 Job Menu for outputting charts. It produces a seven inch wheel, planet positions, aspect grid and sorted midpoints -- all on a single page for compactness.

M-65 BLUE STAR 1 PRINTER $100

A printing module that produces the two page output of the professional MATRIX **BLUE STAR 1** program. This includes the standard 7 inch wheel with tabled planetary positions, etc. and a second page with aspects, midpoints and the like that can be sorted in a variety of ways.

M-65-14 TRANSIT SEARCH MODULE $100

An adaptation of the M-14 transit search program to the M-65 file format. In addition, the planet calculations have been replaced by a machine language version of the same which speeds up the program by about a factor of 2. Previous owners of M-14 may have this upgrade for an upgrade fee of $30.

M-65-90 CHART WRITER $600

The popular written interpretation M-90 has been adapted so it can read M-65 files. Files may be calculated by M-65, and then read into this module for output in M-90 Reports. This module is available as part of the 2-disk/Wheel M-90 featuring text by Charles & Vivia Jayne.

M-65 INSPECT-A-FILE UTILITIES $25

A powerful utility that is part of M-65-C or can be purchased alone. It allows the user to retrieve any chart into memory for video viewing. In addition, it contains a small on-screen chart wheel, aspectarian etc. A neat program for picking thru a batch of interesting charts.

The disk contains a number of other file support utilities depending upon which computer you own. Typical built-in functions include Clear a Data Disk, Format a Data Disk, Transfer charts from one data disk to another, Single Drive Disk Back-Up and so on. The programs on this disk are linked together thru an auto menu that takes care of all loading, etc. A great and handy tool.

M-64 TO M-65 FILE CONVERTER $15

Converts charts stored in the older M-64 disk systems to 100% M-65 compatible chart files. You indicate which charts in the m-64 format you wish to transfer and the program retrieves then and processes them into the new M-65 file format.

M-65 BLUE STAR 10 $200 ($100 TO M-65 OWNERS)

Here is a new and powerful program that includes most of the features of M-65 yet is powered by a very fast (but less accurate AA2) machine language planetary routine. The program has our newest easy-to-use menu and it writes chart files to disk that are 100% M-65 compatible. This module is for those of you who want the ultimate in fast processing of charts. Includes output.

M-65-A DOCUMENTATION $75.00

The documentation for M-65-A is now available to registered M-65 owners. This consists of line-by-line remarks for modules: M000, M001, M002, M020, M021 and M022. These are the major part of M-65-A. The user will receive a listing of each module along with a duplicate listing containing the same line numbers but with remarks instead of code.

Documentation for other modules is now in preparation along with overall system comments. This documentation is available using Microsoft BASIC and the Commodore computers. There are some variations between the APPLE , CBM, Radio Shack and IBM versions of M-65 but these variations are not extreme enough to affect the remarked documentation. Users may wish to list their version for comparison with the M-65-A documented listings. Available now.

M-65's modules & the systems for which they're currently available:				
			M-65-A	Main Program
	N/A	N/A	M-65-B	Research System
	N/A	N/A	M-65-C	Interactive Screen Module
	N/A	N/A	M-65-D	Uranian Module
N/A	N/A	N/A	M-65-X	Programmer Support Module
N/A	N/A	N/A	M-65-E-69	One Page Printer
N/A	N/A	N/A	M-90	Report Writer
N/A	N/A	N/A	M-14	Transit Search Module
N/A	N/A	N/A	M-64 to M-65 File Converter
N/A	N/A	N/A	Inspect-a-file Module
N/A	N/A	N/A	Blue Star 10 Module

M-65 SYSTEM IN "C" LANGUAGE

We are pleased to announce that the M-65 System will soon be available in the 'C' programming language. There is general agreement that the programming language 'C' is the most important computer language for the near future. Not only is it a compiled language (giving it great speed) but, more important, it is considered to be the most portable system available on home systems.

The MATRIX 'C' version of M-65 is being designed and primarily implemented by Gary Duncan of California. As many of you already know, Duncan is one of astrology's most experienced programmers. Among other things, he is

cont. on next page

the first astrologer ever to use computers. He has programmed as part of the NASA space program, etc. It would take a letter longer than this one just to present Gary Duncan's credentials.

MATRIX is very glad to include Duncan as a member of the MATRIX staff and the new code for M-65 is already being developed. The MATRIX 'C' M-65 will be first introduced on the IBM PC. Versions for IBM look-alikes and other machines will follow. The first copies of the new program should be available in 1984. The MATRIX 'C' M-65 will be a superset of the current system.

M65 RESEARCH SYSTEM & CHART SERVICE ON THE IBM PC

The M-65-A Chart Service is now up and running on the IBM PC with 2 double-sided drives, 256K and a line printer. While the IBM version of the M-65 is in most ways identical with the 8-bit versions (CBM, APPLE and Radio Shack), it does include several features that take advantage of the increased speed and power of the 16 bit machine. For one, most of the system comes in compiled form which means it runs very fast compared to the 8-bit versions. BASIC source code is available for those interested in programming the M-65 on the IBM PC.

The IBM version of the system also includes a built in 'Flash' or 'RAM' Disk -- as they are called. In effect, this provides a third disk to the system except this disk is entirely located in RAM memory rather than on diskette. What this means for the user is that all file generation access takes place in memory (at lightning speed) rather than on disk. In fact, the entire batch job processing takes place in RAM. The user has the option to write these files out to a real disk at the end of the session or to erase them should they not be essential.

Another built in feature of the new system is the automatic astrological glyph and graphic character generation on the Epson printers. Plug in an Epson with Graftrax and you automatically have enhanced printed output.

M-65-A is in the final testing stages here at MATRIX and will be available for shipment sometime in late November or early December.

LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER!

Matrix Chart Data Exchange

Most astrologers have a real interest in collections of chart data whether these be sets of earthquake dates and the like, groups of individuals or even personalities. At least two staff members here at MATRIX have been working in this area since the 1960s. Stephen Erlewine's CIRCLE BOOK OF CHARTS is well known and he has been collecting and updating information of this type since his book's publication. Your editor has also assembled a large collection of chart data.

Altho I am interested in almost all kinds of astrological research, I am sufficiently old fashioned enough to enjoy perusing my collection of charts for interesting combinations of aspects and what-not. When I get that flash of inspiration, I seem to make all kinds of connections and want to check these thoughts out against known charts.

One of the reasons we put together M-65-B RESEARCH MODULE was to make this process of asking questions of a chart collection a lot easier. M-65-B takes some learning to use. It is not for everyone, but it is one heck of a lot easier than doing the same kinds of searching by hand.

We have also been working over the last several years to help establish a world-wide data base of personalities and events. Your editor (along with Charles Jayne) set up a workshop at the ACT Conference (Astrological Conference on Techniques) in 1982 as part of the AFA convention on just this subject: World-wide Personality Database. It was well attended and useful but like so many events that take place at these large conferences, there were more promises made than there were carried out. We have not heard much on this subject of late from those interested at the time.

Therefore, we are taking the initiative ourseives and establishing an astrological Chart DATA EXCHANGE via MATRIX Software. This type of computer service might be better off on a large mainframe computer. There had been some talk of this taking place but nothing has come of it -- to our knowledge. Instead of waiting, we will make available as much chart data as possible for the smaller home computers. Here is what is happening right now:

We have designed a standard format for storing the basic information necessary to calculate a natal horoscope. As you might assume, this format is 100% compatible with the M-65 chart data parameters. In designing this format, we have been careful to insure that even those individuals who do not use M-65 or, for that matter, any MATRIX software or who have different computers or disks that we support can access this chart data collection.

We have implemented this data collection using the very popular (and powerful) DBASE 2.5 data base program from Ashton Tate. We are using the IBM PC altho this does not mean that the data cannot be accessed and used on APPLE IIs and so forth. The entire chart data collection will also be made available as standard ASCII sequential files that can be accessed by almost every known home computer on the market. What this means is that should you not have one of the computers that MATRIX supports (Commodore, APPLE, IBM, etc.), you can still use the chart data collection via these standard ASCII sequential files. If all else fails, we can pipe the files to you via modem across the phone lines. Your computer (and your data base program) can receive them and set them up in a form (random access files, etc.) that is convenient for your computer to use.

For those of you who are less technical, we will make different subsets of the data collection available as M-65 chart files -- ready to analyze, print-out, do research on and so forth. You have the basic idea. Now for some more details. The MATRIX data collection will have at least three main parts:

(1) WORLD PERSONALITIES & OCCUPATIONS This part of the data collection should be obvious to all of us. We each probably have a smaller version of this kind of collection stashed away in a file cabinet or notebook. This collection will be much larger of course. Aside from the CIRCLE BOOK OF CHARTS (1000+ CHARTS), we are including THE GAUQUELIN BOOK OF AMERICAN CHARTS (1400 CHARTS) and AN ASTROLOGICAL INDEX TO THE WORLD'S FAMOUS PEOPLE (5000+ charts) and others too. All data entries will have several cross reference keys. For example, you would be able to ask for a listing of all musicians ... or all popular musicians or all blues musicians and so forth. MATRIX will be able to perform searches for you and provide you with a printed copy of the search matches. For some computers, we will be able to send you the matches pre-calculated as M-65 chart files. Of course, those of you who really want to get into this can have the whole collection for use with your computer's data base program.

(2) SELECTED SETS OF DATA This part of our service will include all the various sets of data we can collect or that you, our readers, care to submit to us for sharing with the general community. Sets might include Cancer patients, earthquakes, accidents, marriage dates and so on. We can provide these as a printed list and, in some cases, as M-65 chart files. You will be able to swap collections you have made for ones you want. See below for our policy on data set swapping.

(3) ASTRO*CHRONOLOGY DATA BASE Here is something a little new that we are very enthused about. We hope you will like it too. A complete data base that includes all major astrological events (aspects, etc.) but cross indexed with a world chronology of events for all time. To give you a better idea of what this could mean, here are a few types of questions that you will be able to ask the ASTRO*CHRONOLOGY data base:

What events happened on or around my birthday over the centuries?
Give me the dates and Zodiac positions for all Jupiter Trine Uranus for 300 years.

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tech talk

TECH-TALK is a column devoted to the more technical concerns of the computing astrologer. If this column is too technical for you, ignore it for now and save it for the rainy day when you may really need the information it contains. Each month, tech talk will focus on one or more very specific issues. This month, the Commodore 64 is the focus of TECH-TALK.

COMMODORE 64

There is no doubt that the Commodore 64 remains the best buy for your money, but there are some problems that people encounter with it. Some of the problems are due to the high percentages of first-time users learning about computers with nothing but Commodore's documentation to go by. Some problems are due to Commodore's quality control which does allows some defective units to reach the market, but most problems are involved with adding disks, printers or other peripherals to the system. Many problems come from adding non-commodore peripherals to the 64, some of which simply do not work correctly and others which interfere with the normal operation of your computer. And yet, many of Commodore's own peripherals haven't worked correctly -- which is harder to understand. Here is a breakdown of major problems and areas to watch with care:

THE 1525 PRINTER

This printer is low cost, easy to attach to the 64, and has been known to work. This is the most that can be said for it because, on the whole, it is a terrible printer. It is incredibly slow, diffieult to feed paper into, and painful to listen to. These features could be endured because of its very low price if it weren't for the fact that it also contains an operating bug that makes it impossible to use with more advanced programs. If you have two 1541 disk drives and this printer, then soon or later you will experience the disk locking up for no apparent reason -- usually at the beginning of a load. You could take your disk in for repair with no results because the problem is with the printer and not with the disk. When things start moving too fast for this printer it locks up the serial bus so no device is able to use it. If you turn the printer's power off and then back on you usually can continue with your job, but not always. Our M-91 program which is constantly accessing both disk drives and the printer will simply not work with this printer, tho most of our other programs will operate satisfactorily with it when using only one drive (tho we can't guarantee that it won't screw things up sometime or another).

NON-COMMODORE PRINTERS

Since Commodore cannot offer a decent printer for the 64, most users are buying non-Commodore printers to work with the 64. The Geminis and Epsons (which apparently are identical as far as graphics and glyphs go) are currently the most popular and MATRIX does offer astrological glyphs with these printers, also any future hi-resolution graphic programs produced by MATRIX will probably only be available for printers with Epson compatible bit image graphics. (We may, at some time, offer the graphics for the NEC/PROWRITER style of graphics but are not promising it.) Currently the best bet for the 64 owner seems to be either a Gemini or an Epson printer.

PRINTER LINE FEEDS

Note that Commodore printers supply their own line feeds with the 64. That is, when you send a line to the printer the 64 sends a carriage return (CR) at the end of the line but it does not send a line feed (LF) which advances the paper. It expects the printer to supply this. Most printers have a switch to enable this feature marked something like 'CR' and 'CR & LF'. For the Epson, it is SW2-3, if position 3 on Switch Two is ON then a line feed will occur with every CR, if it is OFF it will expect a life feed to be sent from the computer. Get familiar with this switch. Usually you will want the LF ON but some software may want to control this itself and you would need to turn it off while running those programs. (Usually you will need to turn the printer OFF & ON when changing these switches.)

PRINTER INTERFACES

If you get a non-Commodore printer you will also need to get an interface to use it with the 64. Many many companies are now making these in one form or another and not all of them are worth having. Some of them use up memory that you will want for your programs and others make the printer operate in a manner differently than most of your programs would expect. Here are the features to watch for in an interface:

SERIAL-TO-PARALLEL: Most printers have 'Centronics Compatible' Parallel ports. The 64 runs its printer and disk drives thru its serial port. You want to be able to plug your printer into this port or into the back of one of your disk drives, this will ensure that you do not need to use memory or change the operating system to drive the printer. Avoid any interfaces that plug into the User Port or the Game Cartridge Port.

NO PET-ASCII TO ASCII: Some interfaces will translate the Commodore ASCII character codes to Standard ASCII codes, and while this can be a nice feature, most programs have allowed for this already and this will wreak havoc with any graphic codes being sent. MATRIX programs do not want the interface converting characters it receives. If an interface has this feature, make sure that it can be turned off.

ALL 8 BITS: The letters & numbers in the standard ASCII character set only need 7 bits of the possible 8 for each byte. This is fine for standard text programs and for most of the MATRIX programs, but if in the future you want the possibility of using hi-resolution graphics then you will need to be able to send all 8 bits thru to your printer. Make sure that your interface can do this. Ideally, you would have a switch setting it for 7-bit more or 8-bit mode.

DEVICE #4: The interface should be pre-set or be able to be set to device #4, the standard device number for Commodore printers.

PASS A CARRIAGE RETURN: Some interfaces (Notably the CARDCO & STAR) refuse to pass a carriage return by itself to the printer. Since one of the simplest ways of printing lines is simply a 'PRINT#4', if the interface causes this to be ignored then it will screw up paging and line feeding. To check an interface for this problem, simply type: OPEN4,4 : PRINT#4: PRINT#4: CLOSE4 <RETURN>. If the printer does not feed the paper twice, then the interface will cause problems. (Be sure that the linefeed switch is set on the printer.)

The interface that we recommend is the MW-302 from Micro-World Electronics in Colorado (303) 936-4407. (This interface does demand that you make a minor modification within Epson printers -- instructions are included. It meets all of the above features. AVOID the CARDCO Interface!

DISK DRIVES

The 1541 disk drive has had its share of troubles as well, tho once you get a working one, it usually performs well. A batch shipped around the end of the summer (1983) had to be recalled by Commodore because of various problems, most notably they were unable to load large programs. If you suspect that you have one of these, contact your dealer. The last drives, which began being shipped in Oct. 1983, appear to be the best ones so far.

There seem to be physical limitations to these drives. Our M-91 program which needs two of them and can run them continuously for up to an hour if calculating and printing a year's worth of transit interpretations, sometimes begins misreading text in the seventh or eighth month. This does not happen for every one but when it does happen it appears to be the disk drive malfunctioning and we suspect that it may be an over-heating problem. Because of this we don't recommend that you attempt to run more than six months of transit interpretations at a time with M-91 -- tho the program is capable of it. Instead, do two six month runs. (Perhaps the new editions of the 1541 will not have this problem).

The main difficulty that users report with the 1541 is when they are using two of them (with one set to device #9). When running with two drives, it is imperative that the proper power-up procedure is followed when turning on your equipment to avoid having the serial bus lock up. This is the proper power-on procedure, turn everything on in this order:

1) TV or MONITOR
2) PRINTER
3) DISK DRIVE #8
4) COMPUTER
5) DISK DRIVE #9

If, while running, you turn the power to your computer off, you can properly reset the drives by using this procedure:

PRESS 'RUN/STOP' & 'RESTORE' (Simultaneously)

One of the drives will reset and begin flashing its light. Then type:

'OPEN15,8,15,"UJ" <RETURN> (if light on Drive #8 is flashing) or type:

'OPEN15,9,15,"UJ" <RETURN> (if the light on Drive #9 is flashing).

DEVICE #9

To use two drives you must change one of them to use a device address of 9 (they come with it set to 8). These are instructions in your Commodore disk manual but where they refer to a 'jumper' it is not actually a wire. It is (instead) a small metal circle printed on the board itself that looks somewhat like a screw-head. There is a fine line that crosses what would be the slot of the screw-head and it is this line that you scratch away with a sharp instrument to CUT the jumper. If you ever have to restore it to 8, you can drop solder over the slot. If you are unsure of your abilities to do this, find a technically inclined individual to do this for you -- like a computer technician.

BACKING UP DISKS

The only way to make backup copies of disks with the 1541 is by using a program from Commodore called '1541 BACKUP'. Sometimes you might find it on the disk included with your drive, but more often you won't. You might be able to get a copy from a Commodore dealer, or you can get a copy from MATRIX by asking us to include it on a disk at the time you are ordering something else (or we can send it by itself for the cost of a disk, shipping and labor ... about $10). We include this program with M-65 on our FILE SUPPORT DISK and sometimes on other disk programs when we can fit it on. The program offers you two types of BACKUPS: BAM SELECT which copies only those sectors that hold information, and DIRECT BACKUP which copies every sector regardless of whether it contains information or not. You must give a NAME and ID number for the new disk and then you have to follow the prompts closely and switch disks when it tells you to. It's not always quick, but it does work and it's the only way of making exact backups of your disks -- which is important.

The 'COPY/ALL' program that Commodore does send will only work if you have two drives and then it won't copy Relative files.

IEEE & 64

There are several devices available for using IEEE Disk Drives & printers with the Commodore 64. The only one worth getting and the only one that seems to work with MATRIX programs is the 'BUS CARD' from Batteries Included. We haven't tested it ourselves (we are waiting for our card to arrive) but one user is running M-65 with it. We are not certain if the printer interface included will pass all 8 bits for graphic use, but otherwise it seems to meet all specifications.

There you have an overview of some of the possible problems and considerations to be kept in mind when working with the Commodore 64 and its peripherals. Next month we will take a look at the APPLE II.

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Chart Data Exchange... cont. from page 9

I want a list of dates for all airplane accidents this century or I want a list of Saturn Conjunct Neptune aspects and the events that occurred within a given period of time around those dates.

The possibilities of the ASTRO•CHRONOLOGY data base are limited only by our needs to combine world events and astrological events in significant ways. MATRIX has been working with astrologer/historian Larry Ely to acquire the best world chronologies and data collections possible. In addition, this data collection is compatible with the World Personality data base mentioned above so that the two can be accessed, if needed, at once.

Science Briefs

ACTIVE VOLCANOS ON VENUS

Aside from our Earth, the only object in our solar system that is known to be volcanically active right now is Jupiter's moon Io. However, there is increasing evidence that the planet Venus also supports active volcanos. Altho scientists have no conclusive evidence, a variety of pointers have been accumulating (ranging from radar screens of areas resembling volcanic regions on earth to measurements of lightning discharges that seem concentrated over these same areas) that would appear to indicate that venus, like earth, is prone to volcanic eruptions.

Recent reports show that the amount of sulfur dioxide at the top of the Venus clouds has declined by more than 90% over the last half decade or so. In addition, the amount of fine (sub-micron) haze particles seen above the clouds have also declined. Scientists are beginning to believe that major volcanic eruptions, decades apart, have taken place on the surface of Venus. Eruptions on Venus are said to have occurred as recently as the late 1950s. Such eruptions appear to be much more energetic on Venus as compared to those found here on Earth -- up to ten times as intense. Experts now feel that volcanic activity on Venus is not only possible, but likely.

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MORE INFO ON THE FULL MOON

Recent research continues to support the idea that the Full Moon should be an important factor for physicians to keep in mind. A recent study of the phases of the moon in relation to diseases done at the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago and reported in the **JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION** shows the following:

Preliminary data from 38 patients indicate that ulcers are more likely to bleed just before the full moon. Sixty-four percent of angina pectoris attacks experienced by 88 patients occurred between the full and last quarter of the moon.

MEDICAL TIMES magazine suggests the following (which should interest astrologers): that these phenomena may be explained by gravitational and electromagnetic filed changes. While no one has pinpointed a precise cause-and-effect relationship between the moon and human physical and emotional processes, it is known the moon's magnetism affects the earth's magnetic field. Thus, the magnetic interaction between the earth and the moon may be involved in some human physiological and psychological changes.

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SATURN IN JUPITER'S MAGNETIC FIELD

cont. from page 1

the earth at some 400 km per second out into inter stellar space. It sweeps like a cosmic broom gases that have evaporated from planets and meteoritic dust. Among other things, the Solar Wind (as this emanation is called) is responsible for the outer regions of the Van Allen radiation belts, for the aurora in the Earth's atmosphere and for terrestrial magnetic storms -- perhaps even the general weather pattern. The Solar Wind has a similar inter-action with the other planets too.

The planets have, for the most part, magnetic fields. These 'aura-like' fields are blown by the Solar Wind straight back or away from the direction of the Sun. The magnetic field of each planet, like a head of long hair, is blown out and away from the side of the planet facing the sun. In other words, each planet has a long tail that is blown out behind itself towards the edge of the solar system and inter stellar space. This has long been known and understood.

What is new and very interesting indeed is that (at least in the case of Jupiter) the 'tail' of Jupiter's magnetic field is so long that it extends all the way to and beyond the orbit of Saturn — nearly five times as far apart as the Earth is from the Sun. Scientists were at first slow to accept this conclusion, but more and more evidence is piling up to confirm this as what, in fact, is the case. The net effect of this fact is that every 20 years (Jupiter Saturn conjunctions) the planet Saturn actually passes within and thru the electromagnetic domain of the great Jupiter. During the time that Saturn is within the 'tail' of Jupiter, it is cut off from it's normal interaction with the Solar Wind particles. It really is 'under' the influence of Jupiter.

Who knows what we astrologers can understand from this new fact, but it sounds right up our alley — does it not? We have long made much of the great Jupiter/Saturn conjunctions. It appears that we have company.

Astro☆talk

FIRST CLASS

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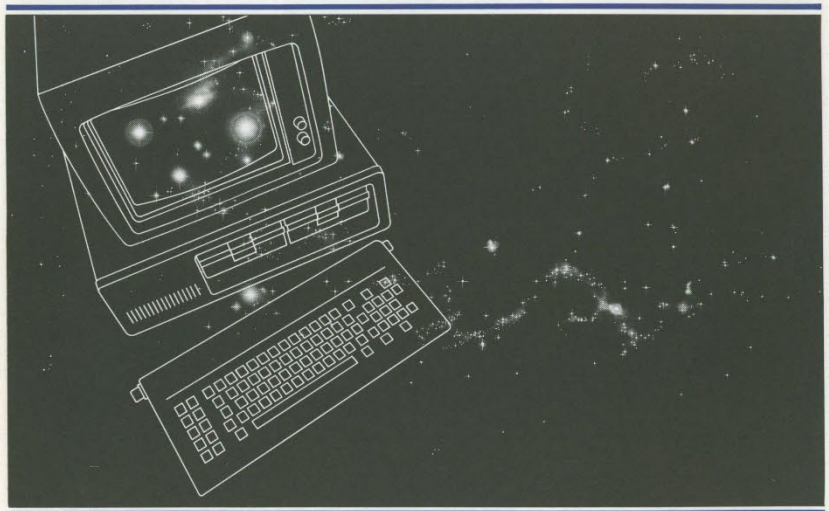

Matrix Rep Network

We have been at work creating a network of local representatives for MATRIX Software. Here is a current list of MATRIX reps. Our reps are there to help you answer software and hardware questions, take your orders and, in general, represent our company in your area. Please feel free to call them.

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Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.One#1 Jan/Feb'84

Astro☆talk

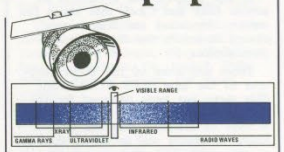
IRAS: new light on deep space

The big news in astrophysics has to do with the results of the Infrared Astronomy Satellite or IRAS (as it is called)) that have been released in the last month or so. For those of you who might wish a little backround information on this topic, let me set the stage.

Much of what we know about our Galaxy and, for that matter, deep space in general has come from what our eyes have shown us either directly or thru the various kinds of telescopes we have developed. In other words: visible light and the optical portion of the electromagnetic or light spectrum.

As most of you know, the visible light portion of the electromagnetic spectrum is but a window (and a very small one at that) into the cosmos. Advances in technology over the last 30-40 years have widened that window until we can now 'see' in a very much larger portion of the light spectrum. We now see with the eyes of machines far beyond the more narrow optical portion of the spectrum. Here is a diagram of the electromagnetic spectrum. It shows how very little of our window into space is available to us in the visible — thru our eyes and optical telescopes. How much more of a view we get via machine 'eyes' should be clear at a glance.

Many people fail to realize that the tremendous advances in astro-



physics (black holes, quasars, pulsars, etc.) have been made possible by what our machines have been able to tell us — what they 'see'. We stopped learning much about our universe optically almost halfway thru the century. This greatly expanded non-optical window has almost totally changed our conception of near and deep space in the last 20 years. This is not the place for a detailed presentation of modern astrophysics. The writer has published a book and several articles on the subject. (See Footnote #1)

The infrared (IR) part of the extended light spectrum has, until now, been less productive than the radio and X-ray windows. The chief cause for this poor IR window is due to the fact that IR radiation cannot properly be received from IR telescopes based on the Earth. Water in Earth's atmosphere absorbs IR light so that very little gets thru. The answer to this problem is to put the IR telescope in a satellite in Earth orbit. This is what IRAS is and the results have been magnificent.

Continued...See IRAS, Page 8

More on the AFA/AFAN Network

We ran a short article in our last issue on the AFA/AFAN controversy. For those of you who may not be up on this, the AFA is of course the American Federation of Astrologers while the AFAN is the AFA Network — a caucus or group of AFA members who want to (at the least improve) and (in some cases) 'reform' the AFA. I can assure you, judging from the letters and phone calls I received, that this is not a dead issue. What was a surprise to me, is the interpretations I received as to my own bias.

I received calls from AFA members (some very influential) making it clear to me that they felt that I was taking the side of the AFAN Network group. I also received plenty of calls and letters to tell me that it was obvious I was on the side of the AFA in this matter. Conclusion: There is no lack of feeling about this whole

See AFA/AFAN, Page 4

New at Matrix:

Welcome to ASTRO*TALK! — The bi-monthly bulletin for the MATRIX Software User's group. Thank you for subscribing. Those of you who are reading a complimentary copy, we hope you will decide to subscribe (See our masthead for subscription details). We cannot afford to send out any more free copies of ASTRO*TALK. I wish we could, because we are serious about providing our customers and the entire astrological community with the best news bulletin possible. We have priced ASTRO*TALK to cover our costs. The bulletin is not a profit-making venture on our part. It is intended as an information service linking all of us together in a useful communication network.

We do need your support. We hope you approve of ASTRO*TALK and will contribute to it by subscribing and sending news items, articles, comments, what-have-you? Tucked away in the pines of northern Michigan, we appreciate being in touch with other astrologers thru this bulletin. We hope you will join us and make this publication part of your astrological life. Thanks! Here is what's new around MATRIX.

VIDEO ASTRO-PORTRAITS

We have just finished video-taping the 5th in our on-going video cassette series. Charles Jayne flew in for several days for the film-interview. It went well. We have over 5 hours of footage with Charles covering a wide variety of subject matter ranging from his Prenatal and Unknown Planet work thru Progressions and Directions (of course) and even dipping into his own personal initiation experiences with his teacher. We are **very** pleased with what we got on tape.

We now have video interviews of Michael Munkasey, Charles Harvey, Theodor Landscheidt, John Townley and of course Charles Jayne. We are still working on some of the technical details connected with film titles, color, etc. We have our editing equip-

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Matrix News

(Cont. from page 1)

ment functioning and hope to have some major editing sessions early in the New Year.

The finished Astro-Portraits will be made available to the community. We are not sure whether to rent them, sell them or both. Any suggestions? Also, we are interested in making more of these. How about letting us know who you would like to see on video tape.

M-65 ON THE IBM

The M-65-A Home Chart Service is up and running on the IBM PC. We are beta-testing it right now. It is much improved over the 8-bit versions of M-65 on the APPLE, Radio Shack and Commodore computers. For one, it is a good deal faster. It is also available using our new integrated BLUE STAR MENU described below.

Also, our M-65-A program in the 'C' programming language is coming along very rapidly. Master programmer Gary Duncan has coded all of the calculation routines at this point. We are starting work on the file handling. M-65-A in 'C' will mean that we can provide this very powerful system on a wide range of computer systems. The 'C' language is very portable and very fast. More details on this in my next letter.

'BLUE STAR' MENU

Our most exciting and radical recent bit of programming has just been completed. A major innovation in program handling, the BLUESTAR Menu which should be available on the IBM PC compatible machines by the time you read this. It represents a real break-thru as regards convenience and ease of operation.

BLUE STAR menu is designed to handle almost all MATRIX disk-based programs including M-65-A (in it's entirety), all of the MATRIX Report generating programs, and even smaller programs like M-30 Natal Package. It is a high level job processor with a variety of built-in special features for the user. Altho it is still in Beta testing at the time of this writing, here are some of it's main features.

1) Sophisticated input routine supports batch processing to a wide range of output programs (M-65-A, M-90 Report Writer, etc.) at the same time. Each job can be edited and re-edited right on the screen and all jobs entered are 100% editable — even at the last moment.

2) This input routine allows the user to maintain all of their most frequently used charts files (your own, your family, etc.) in memory — ready to be used for a job at the press of a button.

3) Program accesses a built-in Atlas of frequently used geographic Longitudes & Latitudes. This list comes with the system but can be modified by the user to include local cities and towns. The program also has certain Daylight-Savings time tables built in as well.

4) Each Chart File or job to be processed can have multiple options appended to it. For example, let's say you want to send a chart to printer to produce a wheel. You can request more than one option from the Wheel Printing program without re-keying that job. You could ask for a helio chart, a geo chart, a helio chart with the open-wheel style and so forth — all at the same time.

5) The program has a built-in on-screen Date and Clock that keeps the current Ascendant and Midheaven always on-screen for the place of your choice.

These are some of the major features of the new BLUE STAR Menu. This menu has been designed for the busy professional who may have a number of MATRIX programs and wants to access any or all of them at the same time. The program is designed to remain in the computer during the day. It's built in clock and alarm system can remind you of important appointments, etc. It does support a hard disk.

The initial release of BLUE STAR MENU is on the IBM PC in late January 1984. If the program is well received, versions may appear on the Commodore 64 and the APPLE II. We cannot promise this, but we are looking into it. Disk and memory size on the smaller 8-bit machines may make it difficult to get a smooth version of this Master Menu up and running.

The most important feature of BLUE STAR menu is that the same menu will work with a whole line of MATRIX programs. No need to learn a different menu for each program. BLUE STAR can run them all.

ASTRO*RELATE!

This is our new report writer with text by John Townley. John told us when he submitted this text that he felt that here was some of the very best material that he has ever written. After reading a few of these reports, we have to agree with him. It's outstanding!

Originally designed to indicate a person's potential to relate to other people, the actual finished reports read like a natal report with a modern in-depth view of the psyche. It is some of the best text I have ever read. I even read my own report with keen interest.

ASTRO*RELATE is available on the Commodore, APPLE, Radio Shack and IBM PC machines.

$MONEY TALK

by Iaen Sullivan

Now that we have your attention; let's look briefly at some factors in your chart which indicate your earning potential in professional astrology.

First, we can use a formula for success indicators that applies to any chart. MC + Mars - Jupiter = ? You can run this kind of formula on the screen version of M-65 (M-65-C) or do it mathematically using longitudes of the planets. Using the editor's map (Michael Erlewine, Jul 18, 1941, 5:03 PM EDT, Lancaster PA) as an example, we find MC+MA-JU= 23 Cancer which is conjunct his Vertex, Sextile Moon & Sesquiquadrate the Ascendant. All of these are within 1.5 degree orb. These planetary pictures (also called Arabic Parts) can be reshuffled to "flesh out" the interpretation. When we use MC+JU-MA= 28:30 Scorpio... which is opposite Uranus. Both formulae indicate success and the second is very succinct in pointing out astrology and technology.

MA+JU-MC= 25:30 Sagittarius conjunct EP, square MC, Node, Neptune, inconjunct Sun, sextile Moon, Saturn. The potentials are very strong in all of these. It is wise to also check the midpoints of these formulae.

In Uranian methods, the Uranus/-Appolo midpoint is the astrology axis. In this chart, it is conjunct the Vertex... the point of productivity, among other things.

In future issues, we will explore the financial axis, formulae for specific types of astrologers and ways you can create a more abundant reality for yourself and for clients.

Astrotalk

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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ASTROLOGICAL
Community News

After the Conference

A report by Steve Cozzi on the **JUPITER-URANUS WORKSHOP** by the **New Center of the Moon** in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

This conference, in my opinion, was lacking in only one area, and that was the number of people who should have attended by didn't. Those that were fortunate enough to attend were treated to a healthy variety of astrological delights. Tom Brady, the principle organizer, wanted a conference in which interactive workshops were the norm rather than the exception as in most "cafeteria" type astrology meetings.

I'm sure most of the people in attendance share my feeling that the conference was an overwhelming success and time well spent. There was continuous evidence of dedication and sacrifice on the part of the teachers and organizers and most of the participants were very enthusiastic, serious and more than ready to learn. I noticed very little idle talking in the classes, people were simply too busy taking notes and asking questions.

The interaction between the teachers and those in attendance was very pronounced due to the volume and insightfulness of the questions. One teacher commented that he had over 75 people in his class in another conference yet they remained quiet and generally unresponsive, but "here they have asked the best questions and everyone seems really interested". People's neurons were really being stimulated and this produced a marvelous electricity in the air. This stimulus helped everyone in expanding their awareness of astrology, including the teachers — who were challenged to see their subject matter in a somewhat new and perhaps unique way.

The people who put on the conference planned and worked on it for months in advance, and they even worked harder during the time that it took place. In spite of the hard work, I never heard a single complaint. You could see in their faces that many of the organizers were very tired, yet all the jobs got done and it seemed that there was always someone more than willing to volunteer their time and energy when it was needed. One of the workers and organizers, who has a keen interest in Astrology, elected to spend every night of the conference in his sleeping bag within the church park area as a deterrent to thievery. Because of this action, he was not able to attend the majority of the evening activities. When you witness this type of devotion over and over, it really produces a wonderful feeling inside. To be honest, everyone was having so much fun that few realized they were getting tired.

There were about ten teachers involved including Robert Hand, Bill Nolan, Ingrid Naiman, Gary Christian, Barbara Schermer, Dr. Vasant, Doug Pierce, Michael Helius, and Steve Cozzi.

Gregory Hanses and Dan Chaleen presented the **Celestial Circus** — a tent planeterium. This planetarium was part of the outdoor **THEATER OF PLANETARY MEMORY.** Participants submitted their birth data and then walked thru 12 separate compartments. Each of these represented a different Zodiacal Sign. After going thru the signs, they entered the tent planeterium where the Astrodrama group gave each person a brief dramatization of the birth chart.

I came back to Denver from Sante Fe completely exhausted but filled with new ideas. It was a good tired -- like after working in the garden or swimming. I slept with a smile on my face.

coming events:

Lucerne, Switzerland. **Second Astrology World Congress,** April 19-23, 1984. Contact: Haloli Q. Richter, P.O. Box 927, McLean, VA 22101 (703-790-5500)

Melborne, Australia. **Federation of Australian Astrologers International Convention,** Jan 27-30, 1984. Contact: Elaine Knoche, 5801 West 44th Ave., Denver CO 80212 (303-433-2526)

Carson, CA. **ISAR Symposium,** March 16-18, 1984. Contact: ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038

ASTRO*CALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric. Note the Neptune Sextile Pluto aspect.

January 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
6	11:40	00SC00	PLU/Scorpio *H
10	20:40	14SC43	SAT SSQ NEP
17	21:47	09SC41	JUP SSQ PLU *H
19	17:43	00CP01	JUP CNJ NEP
21	11:44	00CP24	JUP SSQ SAT
29	19:26	02CP08	JUP SXT PLU

March 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
8	05:28	16SC15	SAT SSQ NEP
16	11:39	29SA28	JUP CNJ NEP *H
27	03:05	01CP25	NEP SXT PLU
30	07:39	00SC36	JUP SXT PLU *H

New Journal: "Considerations"

A new, high quality, journal has appeared called **'CONSIDERATIONS'.** Edited by Ken Gilman and Axel Harvey, the new journal is a class operation. It is well laid out with an attractive glossy cover. Ken Gilman is considered by Charles Jayne to be the formost statistician in the field of astrology. Axel Harvey will be familiar to all readers of the Astrological Journal. He contributed very fine articles to the **CORRELATION** section of that publication and to MATRIX magazine.

CONSIDERATIONS has a friendly tone and the articles it contains have a sholarly feel to them. The U.S. astrology scene has been without this kind of publication for many years.

CONSIDERATIONS is a quarterly with an annual subscription rate of $20.00 (U.S.). Write to P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, New York 10549.

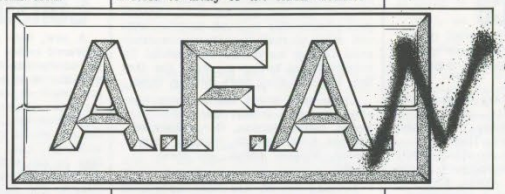
New Sidereal Newsletter

The **WORLD SIDEREAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION** newsletter by the indefatigable John Van Zandt is published four times a year at $5.00 per year. Siderealist publications have been at a low ebb in recent years and it is good to see Van Zandt's newsletter helping to keep siderealists in touch with one another. John writes "I do not want Sidereal Astrology to die and I am not yet willing to give up the fight. I will probably continue to publish the newsletter even if the monetary response is slim". How about it siderealists... ready to cash in your Zodiac? If not, send news, comments, articles and/or money for a subscription to: **WORLD SIDEREAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION,** C/O John Van Zandt, 24 Colorado, Highland Park MI 48203

AFA/AFAN Network

(Cont. from page 1)

issue. I don't want to devote too much space in ASTRO*TALK to politics, but let's spend a little time and space on this subject. I will try to present my feelings on this topic. Be sure to understand that this is only my opinion. I offer it because I would like to hear your opinion. I am tired of being bullied by radicals from either extreme who feel I must take sides in this issue. I would very much appreciate hearing from some of you who are not on one side or the other on this matter.



Just for the record, and I don't mean this in an arrogant way, I am on the side of Astrology. It looks to me like I am devoting my life to the subject — and I know that I am not alone. Many of our readers are doing just that as well. I have never been too great on joining groups. Most organizations I have witnessed in my life tend to choke on their own internal politics. If there is anything I have learned from my experience in astrology over the last 20 years, it is that: if I want to get something done, I will most often find myself doing it. No person or group is likely to come along and do my work for me. Each professional astrologer reading this will know what I mean when I say that we each have had to make our own way in the astrological world.

I am a member of the AFA. They have my full support. I have tried to work within the hierarchy of the AFA on a variety of projects including the new Research Section. I have also made a number of efforts to improve the content and look of the monthly AFA Bulletin — which I feel is too drab and not enough devoted to communication. I am very appreciative of the existence of a national organization like the AFA. I feel the dues are very inexpensive compared to any number of publications that I subscribe to. I enjoy the conventions a lot and always return home from them with a sense of their being worthwhile — also a little worn out. I must say that my conservative tendencies are a little shocked at the show-biz-like appearance of the Starlight Reception extravaganza. Yet, I can't say that I have not enjoyed them. These are my personal opinions. I am not trying to inflict them on you, just attempting to give you a sense of how I view the AFA, the Bulletin, Convention, etc. I assume that all of you reading this have your own opinions on the subject. Right?

I am also a member of the AFAN or Network group because I have a deep commitment to information exchange and to communication in general. I support the trend in that group to improve communications within the astrological world.

I am not, however, interested in the heavy politics that AFAN gets involved in. I have phoned and written letters to many of the AFAN leaders making it very clear how I feel about this issue.

I don't think the AFA is perfect. Not by any means. I can see many areas where improvement can be made. Bob Cooper knows this well for I have phoned, written letters and drafted proposals which he has received — on all kinds of issues. I especially resent some attacks I have witnessed on the part of AFAN members on the character of Bob and Sara Cooper.

I have worked with Bob and Sara for a number of years in relation to computers, software, etc. and have had plenty of opportunity to see how they work. Both Bob and Sara are very hardworking and dedicated astrologers. The Cooper's brought the AFA from the brink of bankruptcy and set it back on its feet. We all owe them our Thanks!

This is not to say that the AFAN group is not doing an important service. The Sunderbruch Defense Fund, Project Alexandria, and the AFAN Newsletter are all worthwhile contributions to the community of astrologers. Some of our finest astrologers are members of AFAN. Many are my friends.

The point of reciting all of this is to issue a call for astrologers to remember that we are astrologers first and foremost. It is astrology that has brought us to join the AFA and/or AFAN... not to mention NCGR, NASO, ISAR, and all of the other fine groups and conferences that exist.

I don't think it is unpatriotic for AFAN to put some pressure for change on the AFA Board of Directors. The board can handle it. I feel change is good. If I have any complaint about the AFA, it is that they tend to be more conservative than I would be. I would like to see more information exchange, more communication among astrologers around the world. I want to feel that Aquarian group unity that we all talk about — more than I presently do. On the petty side, I would like to see a new cover on the AFA Bulletin, more illustrations, more and different columns. That is how I feel. It does not mean that I will necessarily get all the changes that I want. I keep trying.

Bob Cooper has assured me that the AFA Directors will be available to AFAN (and any other group) at the upcoming AFA convention to discuss any topics they find necessary. I believe the minutes of any meeting between the AFA and AFAN should be recorded and made available or published if needed. I expect the Board of Directors to respond to the AFAN requests with suggestions as to how this group of AFA members can be satisfied. AFAN, in turn, should limit their rhetoric to the subject at hand. Outright condemnation of the Board of Directors or of Bob & Sara Cooper are not, in my opinion, reasonable.

Just to inject a little humor into all of this: I recently requested to be allowed to listen in on the conference calls that the Steering Committee of the AFAN Network held and was told that these were closed meetings to which I could not have access. It sounds all too familiar and exactly like some AFAN complaints of the AFA Board — no access to the goings on. So what's new?

Organizations seem to have certain intrinsic problems. I take it as a matter of faith, that if I want something the way I like it, I'm going to have to do it myself. Let's all work together to create better communication among astrologers. I applaud the AFAN Newsletter and the changes that are beginning to come about in the format of the AFA Bulletin. It is hoped that ASTRO*TALK is filling a communication gap too.

It is sad to see our fellow astrologers squaring off with one another, being defensive, or even hostile. I have seen no sign that, if the steering committee of AFAN were suddenly to replace the AFA Board of Directors, I would be better off than I now am. The meetings of both are closed to me.

It appears to me that AFAN is in the process of forming the same kind of hierarchy they feel is oppressive in the AFA. They are now careful what they say where before they blurted out their feelings. They have created a variety of groups, each less central than the next. They have their Steering Committee of 12, their AFAN Coordinators (couple dozen) and now their Advisory Committee (50 or 60). Let's face it, they have become conservative in their fashion. Once you have something, you have something to lose.

And while I am taking pokes, here is one for the AFA Board of Directors. It seems that your response to many suggestions is that: in order to preserve your non-profit status, you cannot do this or that. I am sure that I am, from a business and tax perspective being naive, when my gut feeling asks me why then do we have to keep this non-profit status? I know my good friend Bob Cooper is not going to like that one. Sorry Bob. What I care most about is having an organization that is free to carry out whatever may be required in the way of services to the community. I, for one, don't like to have to pussyfoot around to please the government. Enough said.

At any rate, I hope there are others out there who don't feel compelled to be in any one camp at the exclusion of what has merit in another. I am not suggesting we ignore the controversy. I am suggesting that we insist on the right not to be forced to either side by any person or group. I vote for the best parts (whatever has excellence) of any side.

For AFAN to expect me to be naive enough to believe that there is nothing excellent about the AFA or for the AFA to suggest the same about AFAN is ridiculous. I feel that AFAN should voice it's complaints and the AFA should attempt to accommodate the AFAN requests — issue by issue. The net result should be a more vigorous AFA — an American Federation of Astrologers. What is your opinion?

M:65 Made Easy

Here (at last!) is something for M-65 users who have had trouble digging their way thru the standard manual. 'M-65 Made Easy' is a booklet containing the most frequently asked questions pertaining to the M-65 Chart Service System along with detailed, step-by-step answers to these questions. Altho written for the beginning user of the M-65 System, M-65 Made Easy should be of interest to anyone who is having trouble getting into the more advanced features of the program. Here is an example of the type of Question and Answer you will find in the booklet. This is about the most difficult operation I could find.

Q: How do I get a Secondary Chart from disk and output it on a print wheel?

A: (1) Make sure you are in the COMMAND MENU (you may have to press "]").

(2) GET-A-CHART from the Disk directory.

(3) Select 'O' for obtain the OUTPUT MENU.

(4) Select '!' to view a list of the secondaries on file, <RETURN>

(5) Select the # next to the name of the secondary chart (Progressed, Transit, Return, etc.) you are after.

(6) Press 'O' to re-enter the OUTPUT MENU

(7) Press '2' to select PRINT WHEEL, <RETURN>

(8) Select # of Auto-Option (1 thru 7) you wish.

(9) Exit & Process in the noraml way.

The booklet contains about 67 complete step-by-step procedures along with a cross index for easy reference. The cost of M-65 Made Easy (postpaid) is $3. Copies are now available thru your local MATRIX representative or direct from MATRIX.

sell&swap

Here is the place to sell or trade your used computer equipment. If you're planning a move to a larger system, make your old system available to others thru this column. Address all inquiries to the MATRIX address.

For Sale: APPLE Graphics Tablet (also called digitizer, bit-pad, etc.) complete with all documentation. Almost brand new. Has had very little use. Sells new for $795. Will sell for $450 (includes shipment)

GAMBLING RESEARCH. Anyone working in the area of astrology-/gambling who would like to correspond, contact: Bob McKnight, 1820 N. Whittier Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85006

review:

'The Watchers of the Horizon'

This is just a quick note to pass along a few words about an item of possible interest to readers of **ASTRO*TALK.**

One is a newsletter called **The Watchers of the Horizon** published by Barry Lynes at P.O. Box 15247, Springfield MA 01115.

WATCHERS is a thoughtful astrological journal concentrating on world political and spiritual developments, with a special emphasis on forecasting trends in these areas.

Publisher Barry Lynes, author of **Secret Astrology, Astro-Economics, The Next 20 Years** and **Astro-Science,** is an accomplished student of foreign affairs and history — to name only a couple of areas in which he excels. He may also be the foremost living interpreter of the national horoscopes of America and Russia, and the struggle between these two superpowers is a frequent topic in his newsletter.

It's controversial, always thought provoking and well done. Subscriptions for this monthly publication are $21 for six months (payable to Barry Lynes). The November 1983 issue ran twelve (8 1/2 by 11) pages, and the topics included **"Creating the New World", "The New Nuclear Reality"** and **"The Pluto Transformation".**

Another item of possible interest is Barry Lynes' new book **AstroScience,** which is a 28-page (4 1/4 x 5 1/2) booklet detailing the taboo on astrology in the American press and scientific establishment. It reports in some detail on the attempts by CSICOP to suppress independent confirmation of the Gauquelin research, and gives examples of the forbidden science's ability to shed light on major political events — including the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, the imposition of martial law in Poland and the Soviet downing of the KAL 747 jetliner. **ASTROSCIENCE** sells for $3.98 — $2.98 to the **WATCHERS** subscribers.

Richard Nolle

machine talk

In our last episode, dear readers, we left off at the point where the newborn IBM 'Peanut' was about to be left on the doorsteps of the major computers dealers on November 1st. This never happened.

According to the best sources I can find, IBM simply changed their minds. Federal Express did deliver a box on the 1st of November, but the box was empty — or almost empty. Instead of the long awaited 'Peanut' or PCjr (as IBM has labelled it), each box contained some descriptive literature on the IBM plus a reminder to the dealer of their non-disclosure agreements with IBM. What had IBM angry was the fact some details of the PCjr had been leaked to the press — including a picture. Heaven forbid!

Perhaps there were other reasons why IBM held back on delivery. IBM is not saying. What they did say is that they would not deliver any product until the first quarter of 1984. They did, however, send one demo unit of the PCjr to each dealer in December 1983. I have seen one, run my fingers up and down the controversial keyboard, and do have a report for us.

IBM was also kind enough to make available technical specifications on the PCjr so it appears that the 'Open Architecture' attitude of the IBM PC will carry over into the PCjr. This means that the machine will get fantastic support from outside hardware and software companies.

Now that the dust is beginning to settle around the introduction of PCjr, how large a success will it be? It looks to me that it will be a very large success despite the inflated price tag and poor keyboard.

Yes, the keyboard is not great. Until I actually got my hands on one, I kept hoping that IBM had come up with a 'chicklet' style keyboard that actually worked well. No one else ever has. They didn't. They keyboard is acceptable but frustrating in that there is not the freedom of movement that you find in a standard keyboard. The keys kind of stick a little or push against the side of the chassis or something. Go to your nearest dealer and try one for yourself. At least the keyboard is large enough so that it has the general feel (placement wise) of a real keyboard. It is disapointing at worst, passable at best. For kids, games and many non-commercial operations... it will do fine.

The overall effect of the PCjr system is that it is a little smaller than we are used to seeing in home computer systems. It has kind of a sense of 'tiny' about it. However, IBM has warranted each machine for 1 year instead of the usual 90 days, so you can bet that it is made to last.

Which leads we to the obvious statement: it will undoubtedly be a huge success. People will be happy to pay $1295 or so for a 128K PCjr with one disk drive knowing that they have purchased an IBM and that it will get more support than they could ever use. With other low-end machines dropping like flies, the PCjr looks like a good safe place to put your money.

Mark Pottenger writes concerning the PCjr: "From what I've seen, the IBM PCjr looks like an even bigger rip-off of consumers than the PC. It is a deliberately limited system rather than being conservative like the PC."

I disagree. In my opinion, the PCjr will give you a lot of bang for the bucks. The computer hacks may not like the PCjr because it is not all the machine IBM could have given us. But then again, neither was the IBM PC. Don't forget that the PC was almost universally panned by every major magazine and critic as being a lack-luster, non-state-of-the-art machine. Look how it turned out. I use one every day (right now for example) and I am very pleased with it.

What IBM provides with each machine that can't be measured in dollars or in extra features is a sense of direction in the marketplace. IBM has given us the first real standard in the industry, and all developers (hardware and software) must breathe a little sigh of relief for that. It means that we small companies don't have to spread our staff across a dozen machines. We can produce programs for the standard and know that our material will run on a wide range of mach-ines.

Also, the software compatibility between the new PCjr and the IBM PC looks better than what the rumors had suggested. Most software will run 'as is' on the PCjr. This includes the BASIC Compiler from Microsoft.

A major drawback is the fact that IBM has limited the PCjr to one disk drive. Outside hardware companies are all busy looking at the problem and I am sure extra drive capabilities will be forthcoming. Many of our C64 customers use only one drive, and a lot can be done using just one. One drive is more a hardship for the software producers than for the customers. Several companies are already working on alternate keyboards for Jr and memory can be expanded up to a whopping 640K by the addition of an add-on box of some kind.

So, as far as I can tell, I suggest that the IBM PCjr is an excellent bargain for the money. Don't buy the $695 cassette version which will not be supported. Buy the $1295 one-disk version with 128K. A sure winner.

TI-99/4, ATARI

Now, let's review the rest of the marketplace. Texas Instruments has withdrawn the TI-99/4. It claims it is out of the lo-end computer market. ATARI has totally confused consumers by bringing out too many different models and not delivering many of them in quantity at that. I feel that they are in real trouble. People are tired of taking chances with computers.

COMMODORE

Commodore has overcome their delivery problems and people were able to get C-64s and disk drives for Christmas. I purchased a 1541 disk drive here in Big Rapids at my local K-Mart store and I know others who have been able to get them too.

The Commodore C-64 with one 1541 disk drive and an Epson RX-80 printer is still (by far) the best deal around. The new shipment of 1541 disk drives work great, so Commodore apparently has managed to ride out the tremendous rush for its products. Keep in mind that you can get an entire Commodore C-64 system for around $700 (computer, disk & printer). Altho there has been some quality control problems, once you get a system that works you are all set. There are signs that Commodore equipment is getting more reliable as time goes on.

This is as good a place as any to bring up an important point. MATRIX is not the only source of computer hardware review information. There is RAMC magazine, Mark Pottenger, Richard Nolle, not to mention the non-astrological sources. Pottenger has published a column called COMPUTER SHOPPING that has appeared in RAMC and other places. Altho Mark and I agree on many things, computer hardware is seldom one of them. He has been a strong adherent of the outdated CP/M operating system, the very limited Osborne computer, etc. As you can see, we disagree. I received the following comment on our review of the problems with the CBM-64 in the last issue of ASTRO-*TALK:

"I'm afraid we still tend to disagree about computer shopping, but that looks like a matter of personal tastes that will never converge, I don't understand why you recommend the C64 if it takes a whole page to list its most obvious drawbacks (and you don't even mention some I've read about elsewhere)."

We recommend the Commodore C64 because it is a very fine machine for a very low price. As for problems, all computer systems have them. Take a look at our review of APPLE this month. This kind of review of possible problems is not intended to encourage you not to buy the computer under review. Not at all. Instead, it is hoped that by understanding where the problems can occur, you will be able to sidestep them. Overall you may be able to have a more 'trouble free' computer experience by knowing where to look for problems.

The problems of a machine like the C64 do not outweigh its merits. Without blowing our own horn, I would like to point out that the opinion of the MATRIX staff is based on continuous experience with these machines since their introduction in 1977. We have owned every major brand and usually all models. We have programmed them in BASIC and at the machine level.

MATRIX has had a very good record for calling the shots on computers. What we wrote back in 1978-79 in MATRIX Magazine still stands today. It seems that everyone has some kind of axe to grind. Because we supported Commodore during the years before it was a popular machine, we are accused of only loving that machine. Not true. We like good machines of all kinds. Most of our staff programs on the IBM machine at this point.

We have been criticized for not supporting the CP/M operating system. I have never liked the CP/M operating because it is a throwback despite claims that it is the most used of all operating systems. It may run on more machines but most of those machines many of us have never heard of. It, by no means, is the most popular by sheer numbers. Commodore DOS, APPLE DOS and MS-DOS are all more popular.

What grates me is that MATRIX critics love to reduce hardware differences to a matter of personal bias or opinion. Of course we have opinions about computer hardware here at MATRIX, but they are informed ones. Our recommendations are based on hard experience using a wide variety of computers every day for years. No we don't recommend all of the strange CP/M based computers. Yes, we do recommend APPLE, IBM, COMMODORE and Radio Shack machines -- and for very good reasons. You will be able to get service and support on them. I have seen too many companies fail. I have been left machines that I could not get serviced... that were not worth selling.

APPLE II NEWS

APPLE has been lowering the APPLE II price tag trying to get in on the PCjr rush. They have been making a fortune for a long time by overpricing their machines. Dealer cost on the APPLE IIe is now $895 for the basic computer (down $45 from the previous price). APPLE now sells their starter system for $1145. Industry sources suggest there is no reason that an APPLE IIe could not sell for the same price as a C64 ($200 retail). The manufacturing costs should be similar. The CBM-64 is a better computer at a very much lower price. The biggest hype in the business is that APPLE II has the largest number of programs available for it.

This may be true, but have you seen them? There are not that many programs that most of us need for our computers. A word processor, perhaps a cross-reference filing system and maybe a spreadsheet. A game or two. But this kind of software is available on almost all major systems. Apple's large software base has no claim to fame, as I see it. Everyone knows that most of the state-of-the-art programs are being written on the IBM PC and many companies don't even plan on releasing an APPLE version.

Don't get me wrong. The APPLE is a good machine. It is just that it is overpriced and out of date technically. Not to mention that it is a 'bear' for programmers to work with.

APPLE'S MACINTOSH

The new computer from APPLE that is about to be released (code named MacIntosh) is causing a lot of flurry. Due to be announced as early as January, the Mac has APPLE enthusiasts in high hopes. Based on the 16-bit Motorola 68000, MAC is sure to be fast. Pricing rumors have it that MacIntosh will be a more powerful computer than the IBM PC at a lower price. I have a feeling that APPLE is going to be successful with this one. APPLE has not had a real hit since the APPLE II. The APPLE III and LISA are dogs as far as retail sales go.

COMMODORE TO THE FORE

Commodore continues to crank out rumors by the yard. Here are some of the latest: A C64 with 128K, a VIC II at $49.95, VIC will be dropped from the line, an MS-Dos computer, etc., etc.

About the only rumor that I feel might have some juice in it is that Commmodore will field a 16-bit computer with the Zilog Z8000 chip using the UNIX operating system. Commodore has a history of confounding the more conservative hardware companies by sensing a need and filling it. The C64 is an example.

Only Commodore (and APPLE) could dare to leave the now standard (IBM introduced) Intel 8088 umbrella and support another 16-bit chip. The only reason why Commodore might do this is that by introducing an inexpensive machine with the UNIX operating system, they would steal a long march on IBM, APPLE and all the rest of the vanguard. For those of you who may not be familiar with UNIX, it is said to be the operating system that will be dominant over the next few years. Developed by AT&T, written in the 'C' language, UNIX is the darling of all near-future gazers. If Commodore came out with a computer that ran UNIX for under $1000, even IBM would be worried.

RADIO SHACK TANDY COMEBACK

Radio Shack has finally done something new that will be very successful. And I don't mean the overpriced Model 100 notebook computer. They also changed the name on their computers. At the recent COMDEX show in Las Vegas, Radio Shack tore down their 'Radio Shack' signs and replaced them with 'Tandy' signs — in full view of the crowds. They went on to announce their Tandy 2000 MS-Dos computer which is an IBM type computer altho it is not fully compatible. It is what is called 'MS-DOS' compatible.

Smart of Tandy to want to sell what amounts to an IBM computer thru their large chain of computer stores. But they have added a lot of value to their product over the comparable IBM PC. For one, they use the much faster 186 chip running at 8 MHz. It is about twice as fast as the IBM PC's 8088. The 186 is a true 16-bit chip with a 16-bit data path. Each of the Tandy disk drives holds 720KB as compared to 360KB on the IBM-PC. That's 1440 K on a two drive system (more than a megabyte of storage). The Tandy has a better keyboard layout and graphics resolution of 640x400 with 8 colors (IBM PC has 320x200, four colors).

That's the good news. And there is no real bad news except that the machine is not really 100% IBM compatible. We are checking to determine whether MATRIX software for the IBM PC will run on the Tandy 2000. It's nice to see a good machine out of Radio Shack!

MISC NEWS ITEMS

Seiko plans to introduce the first wristwatch computer in January 1984 for around $230.

Coleco's Cabbage Patch dolls are getting great reviews. My daughter Anne loves hers. Coleco's Adam computer, however, is kind of floundering around in the marketplace. There were some, but not many, on the shelves for the Christmas rush. Rumors everywhere about the Adam ... most bad. I Hope to have a more detailed report next issue.

TIMEX has all but vanished as a force in the computer scene. The TIMEX 1000 is a washout at this point and their newer machines haven't caught on. I can't say I'm sorry having tried to work with them. A mess.

That's about it for the hardware news. I would welcome any reports from readers out there. I am doing my best to gather news items, but I could sure use your help.

Fold at (>) to fit 741 Envelope.
Use with PRODUCT 741-1 or PRODUCT 9685-1 Envelopes
Window width = 34 characters, #10 to #49 spaces from perf.

(Cont. from page 1)

The IRAS results discussed in the remainder of this article will make more sense if we understand just what infrared (IR) radiation is.

Our eyes respond to electromagnetic or light waves that radiate in the visible portion of the spectrum. Yet, the light spectrum is very much larger — as we have diagrammed above. Higher frequency waves (shorter, more intense) like those in the Ultraviolet, X-Ray and Gamma Ray portions of the spectrum extend beyond the visible on the one side while lower frequency (longer, less intense) Infrared and Radio waves extend on the other. This enlarged concept of light (the entire electromagnetic spectrum) is very important to grasp if astrologers want to begin to find correlates between the discoveries made in space via this new light and self discoveries made during this same time period.

almost invisible to optical telescopes -- so obscured is it by dust and gas. IR to the rescue.

IR radiation (unlike visible light) can travel thru dust and gas by bending around the particles and continuing on. It keeps right on shining thru the haze — so to speak. Thanks to IR radiation we can feel around the obscuring matter in space and perceive a real picture of the Galactic Center and other areas once closed to us.

Previous to IRAS, the best we could do was to send IR telescopes up in high-altitude balloons for a quick peek at what's out there.

The IRAS satellite is a joint effort of the U.S. and The Netherlands. The 2,249 lb. satellite has been circling the Earth for 10 months at an altitude of 563 miles while it moved from pole to pole every 103 minutes.

IRAS

NEW LIGHT ON DEEP SPACE

Astrologers have already committed to interpreting heavenly events in terms of life here on Earth. Science has just opened a great curtain revealing more information than has ever been known before about our universe. We are suffering from we can agree to call 'interpretation lag'. Right?

Infrared or IR radiation is just below the visible spectrum yet above the radio portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. A hot stove, for example, is radiating strongly in the infrared. It may not look hot, but we know it is the moment we put our hand on it. In fact, IR radiation stems from bodies that are warmer than empty space but not hot enough to burst into light as stars do. Our body and the entire world are warm bodies and radiate at IR wavelengths. The problem facing the infrared astronomer has been described as "comparable to that of an optical astronomer working in a lighted dome with a luminescent telescope". The objects of IR study are relatively cool and dim — the cold objects of the universe. This includes those stars and bodies that are dying out or cooling off plus those young stars that are in formation and just getting up to heat. Also planets, asteroids, comets and the dark, dusty clouds where stars are born.

In fact, there is so much gas and inter stellar clouds in the galaxy that we can't see (using visible light) very far in certain directions. In particular, the heart and center of our galaxy is

It's 22.4 inch mirror and electronic sensors have been chilled by liquid helium to about 4 degrees above absolute zero (-459.7 F) so that their own heat will not interfere with observations. IRAS ran out of liquid helium on November 21, 1983 and thus ended it's light gathering mission.

However, during it's operation it did succeed in mapping almost 99% of the entire sky at IR wavelengths and sent down 700 million bits of information a day to receiving stations here on Earth. So much information has been gleaned from IRAS that scientists are pleading with the government for more funds to analyze the immense amount of data collected. Even the preliminary findings of IRAS (which we will present here) are changing (to a marked extent) the way we look and feel about the Cosmos. IRAS is an important event in the history of modern astrophysics. Here is a list of some of the main IRAS findings:

RINGS IN THE ASTEROID BELT

IRAS has shown that the dust which continually drifts thru the solar system on the way to the Sun has formed several distinct layers or rings within the asteroid belt. One of these rings is centered on the ecliptic or Zodiac belt itself. The others are on either side (above and below) the Zodiac at about 8 to 10 degrees. The 165 to 200 K temperature of the dust rings put them in the vicinity of the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Since no zodiacal dust particles can long resist the forces that drag them toward the sun, this banded structure of dust distribution could not survive more than a few tens of thousands of years without being replenished. Scientists suggest that the renewal of the dust most likely comes thru collisions between asteroids whose orbits are inclined to the Zodiac by about 9 degrees.

INTRA-MERCURIAL BODY

IRAS has located a body (called minor planet 1983 TB), in orbit around the sun, that plunges from the asteroid belt past Earth and mercury to within 20.7 million kilometers of the Sun's surface. This is the closest known approach of a body to the sun beating the old favorite Icarus by 5 million km. Minor planets that cross the orbit of the Earth belong to a group of asteroids called the Apollo Asteroids. More important, 1983 TB's orbit exactly matches the stream of debris which gives rise to the Geminid meteor shower visible between Dec. 12-15 each year. Meteor showers are caused by small particles of dust from decaying comets entering Earth's atmosphere and burning up as 'shooting stars'. All main meteor showers have been associated with a parent comet which shares the same orbit except (until now) the Geminids!

Minor planet 1983 TB may not be an asteroid but a severely-decayed comet whose repeated passages to the sun have driven off all the volatile gases which typically form the large nucleus or head of an active comet. Scientists have long been suspicious that the Appolo asteroids might be extinct comets.

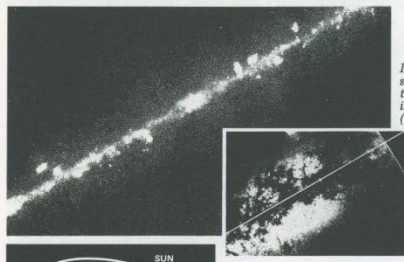
1983 TB is now at a distant part of its orbit, but it can come dangerously close to Earth. In 2115, the body will pass closer to Earth than the Moon. There is even a small chance that the asteroid might hit either the Earth or the Moon. Since its diameter is about 1 kilometer wide, that could be a major tragedy.

IRAS LOOKS AT VISIBLE STARS

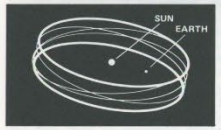
IRAS discoveries also involve a lot of new information about visible stars. The IR survey shows that the red supergiant Betelguese (Zodiac Longitude of 28 Gemini 03 minutes), long famous for shedding material at a prodigious rate, has a series of expanding dust shells or rings around it. The rings are very symmetrical and all extend to the north — in a single direction. Scientists suggest that these rings are like what we see at the 4th of July fireworks display — in the grand finale: The remains of sudden explosions or 'bangs' that are being gently blown away from the star by the prevailing inter stellar winds.

After examining the 9000 brightest visible stars, IRAS concluded that about 50 of them might be candidates for having their own solar system. In particular, the star Vega (Zodiac Longitude of 14 Capricorn 37 minutes) has a ring of solid particles orbiting it. Here is the first direct evidence for a possible solar system outside our own. However, solar systems may not be all that rare. If IRAS were orbiting the near star Alpha Centauri (4.5 light-years away), it would notice nothing unusual about our Sun.

IRAS
Infrared
Astronomy
Satellite



IR emissions reveal stars in the galactic plane that are nearly invisible in same view optically (dark band across inset).



The broad dust ring between the orbits of Mars & Jupiter appears as twin rings on either side of the plane of the Zodiac. Particles continually swinging from side to side spend more time at the edges than the center, producing the double-ring effect.

GALACTIC AND EXTRA-GALACTIC

Beyond the solar system and our portion of the galaxy, IRAS has just as much to tell. One of the strangest findings is the presence of blank or empty areas in the sky survey. These areas are probably extra-galactic since their location is uniform in distribution. Scientist are perplexed as to what these empty patches could be and say these areas may represent something totally new to us.

Also documented are huge and extensive clouds of gas and dust both near and far in the galaxy and beyond. Mysterious background emissions showing up only as a subtle asymmetry have been located in the 100-micrometer IRAS scans. These emissions appear to represent a large component of galactic material of an unknown nature. This could be the single most important IRAS finding considering that so much of our galaxy appears to consist of 'missing' mass. The galaxy is rotating much too fast for the visible stars to hold it together gravitationally and there must be a great deal of invisible material making up the difference.

IRAS also mapped some 20,000 external galaxies. Most were spiral type galaxies (like our own) since the dust and gas found in this type of galaxy shows up well in the infrared.

In summary then, IRAS has provided significant information both in the near (solar system) and far reaches of space (galaxy and external galaxies). It has provided us with a clear and detailed view of our own galaxy's center — an area that we have long wanted to see more clearly. IRAS has, in general, enhanced our total view of the cosmos.

What this means to astrologers has yet to be determined. We do know that all of these recent findings are taking place in the infrared or beneath the visible portion of the spectrum of which we are conscious. Infrared radiation is sub-conscious in this respect. We could expect to observe an enhancement of our own subconscious sense. If there is a correlation between what has just been discovered out there in space and what's happening in here with us, we can look for it in our more intuitive, psychic and feeling areas. Anyone getting any break-thrus in these areas? Write us about what you are experiencing and we will share it in ASTRO*TALK.

Every new discovery on the outer should bring with it an inner correlate. Let's start to communicate and share our findings on these things.

Street Price$:

This column tries to save you money by letting you know what you should be prepared to pay for some of the more popular computer systems. These prices are what the systems are going for in major cities. Almost all computers are sold at some discount. It can be advisable to pay more money for a machine at your local computer store and get more support in return — in some cases.

On the other hand, there is no point in paying more for machines such as the Commodore 64 (C64) since they all go off to the same place for repair anyway. Also, you can go in and swap your C64 for a good one if it does not work at stores like K-Mart, Toys-R-Us, etc. but your local computer store may not have enough stock on hand to swap. Also Mail Order Discount Houses are available. Check computer magazines at your local newstand. Call us if you have other questions.

Commodore 64 less than $200
1541 Disk Drive $249
Epson RX-80 Printer $299
Commodore VIC 20 <$100
APPLE IIe (64K) $1285
APPLE IIe (64K) System with one disk drive $1495
APPLE IIe (64K) with 2 disks and APPLE II Monitor $1595
Radio Shack Color Comp. $160
TRS-80 Model 4, 2 drives, etc. system $1999

IBM PC, 2 Drives, Monitor and 256K @$3600
Epson FX-80 printer $600
Epson RX-80 printer $300

Recap: Best computer system for least money is **Commodore 64** with one drive and an inexpensive dot-matrix printer. If you have the money, do yourself a favor and get an **IBM PC** with two drives, 256K, etc. The new IBM Peanut or **PCjr** is a good buy. The Epson printers are still the best supported and about as inexpensive as any other. Call us, if you need help.

tech talk

Due to lack of space, we have had to hold our TECH*TALK column until next issue. At that time, TECH*TALK will focus on some of the technical problems involved with working with the APPLE II/IIe computers. See you there.

NEELY'S CORNER

by James Neely

Michael Erlewine asked me to consider having a column which would be a permanent feature of the new ASTRO*TALK bulletin. It appears that there are increasing numbers of people with microcomputers who want to do their own programming but who do not know how to do some of the computations or where to find appropriate formulas. If this is the case, then perhaps this column can be of some service. Please write the bulletin with your questions. We'll make this your column. If you've got a better method, let me know and we'll publish it here. And if your need is urgent, send a SASE and I'll reply personally as soon as possible. In the meantime here are some quickies:

Q1. How do you compute the perihelion and aphelion distance of a planet?

A. Perihelion (denoted by r_{min}) is the planet's closest distance to the Sun and aphelion (denoted by r_{max}) is it's furthest distance from the sun. It is common to let 'a' denote the semimajor axis and 'e' denote the eccentricity of a planet's (osculating elliptical) orbit at some instant of time. The formulas are:

$$r_{min} = a(1 - e) \quad \text{...and}$$

$$r_{max} = a(1 + e).$$

For example, The **Astronomical Almanac** (AA) for 1983 states that the osculating elements for Mercury on 1983 May 26 are a = 0.387099 a.u. and e = 0.466700. From these we find that r_{min} = 0.307498 a.u. and...

$$r_{max} = 0.466700 \text{ a.u.}$$

Q2. What is an a.u.?

A. The astronomical unit is abreviated a.u. At one time the astronomical unity was defined so that the Earth's mean distance from the Sun was exactly 1.0 a.u. Because astronomers now find it more convenient to use an exact number to define the gravitational constant, the Earth's mean distance from the sun is 1.00000023 a.u., which is close enough to 1.0 for all except high accuracy computations. If you don't like to use astronomical units, then you can use other units. For example since

1 a.u. = 149,500,00 kilometers = 92,900,000 st. miles, r_{min} for Mercury is 45,970,936 km or 28,566,555 st. mi.

Q3. How do you compute the mean distance of a planet?

A. There is no need to compute. The mean distance is given by $(r_{max} + r_{min})/2$. If you use the formulas above, you will find that the mean distance is equal to 'a', the semimajor axis of the planet.

Q4. How do you compute the distance value?

A. I'll only answer part of that question now. The astrological distance value, d.v. is defined so that d.v. = 0 when the planet is furthest away and d.v. = 100 when the planet is nearest. The formula

$$d.v. = 100(r - r_{min})/(r_{max} - r_{min})$$

gives the heliocentric distance value. But usually astrologers want to know the geocentric distance value, which is 100 when the body is closest to the Earth and 0 when the body is furthest from the Earth. We'll save the geocentric distance value for another issue.

Q5. How do you compute the speed of a planet at perihelion and aphelion?

A. The square of the orbital speed of any planet around the Sun is given by the formula

$$V^2 = K^2\mu \quad (1/r - 1/a),$$

where k = 0.01720209895 $(a.u.)^{3/2}$ /day is the exact value of the gravitational constant (the thing that keeps the mean distance of the Sun from being exactly 1 a.u. in Question 2), $\mu = 1 = m_p/m_S$, m_p is the mass of the planet, mS is the mass of the Sun and r is the distance of the planet from the Sun. Because the mass of a planet is much smaller than the mass of the Sun, it is common to give the mass of the planet in 'reciprocal mass units' or m_S/m_p.

For Mercury, m_S/m_p = 6,100,000 (1961 value), so that $\mu = 1 + 1.64 \times 10^{-7}$ or, for our purposes, it is accurate enough to take $\mu = 1$. Using $r = r_{max}$ (from Question 1) we find that $V_{min} = V = 0.02244$ a.u./day. Using $r = r_{min}$ we get $V_{max} = 0.03406$ a.u./day. As is well known, planets move faster when close to the Sun than they do when further away, thus Vmax occurs at perihelion and V_{min} at aphelion.

Actually, the true speed of a planet in orbit is not too useful for astrologers. A more meaningful measure is the number of degrees traveled per day (denoted by n). Compute $n = 180V/(Pir)$.

For Mercury, $n_{max} = 6.346$ degrees/day and $n_{min} = 2.755$ degrees/day in orbit around the Sun.

in the journals:

RAMC Magazine, 3rd Issue, Spring 83, C/O Paul Hewit, 1973A Yonge St., #1, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4S 1Z6

Commodore by Glenn Murray, **Word Processing in Astrology** by Glen Murray, **Binary Yin-Yang on the Hexidecimal Piano** by Glen Murray, **Programming From the Start** by Ron Henry, **APPLE** by Murray Souva, **Notes on the Vic & C-64** by Glenn Murray, **Which Computer to Buy** by Paul Hewit, **Reviews** by Don Borkowski.

RAMC Magazine, 4th, 5th Issue, Fall

Commodore by Paul Hewit, **Utilize Your Computer For Good Astrology** by Don Borkowski, **Computer Shopping** by Mark Pottenger, **M-65 System** by Murray Souva, **Plain Talk About Precision** by Pat White, **Subroutines - Houses** by Murray Maloney, **Hardware** by Paul Hewit.

CONSIDERATIONS, Premier Issue, November 1983, C/O P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, New York 10549

Half-Past Autumn by Ken Gillman, **Fire Over the Skies** by Axel Harvey, **Contest, Horoscope in Azimuth** by Axel Harvey, **Are Astrological Characters Egyptian** by Cammille Pelland, **Henge** by Noah O'Dhaniel, **Gandhi & the Septenary** by Ken Gillman

COSMOBIOLOGY INTERNATIONAL, August 1983, Cosmobiology Research Foundation, 2780 Heather Road, Golden, CO 80401

Thatchers Landside Victory by Eleonora Kimmel, **The Cardinal Key** by Iaen Sullivan, **The Karmic Horoscope of Azaria** by Pamela Rowe, **Graphic Ephemerides 1981-1992** by Reinhold Ebertin, **Test Tube Twins** by Airdrie Porter, **Fererico Pena - Denvers Mayor** by Martha Brummett, **What are the Chances for Ronald Reagan in 1984?** by Eleonora Kimmel, **The Transneptunian Planets**

THE ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL, Autumn 1983, The Astrological Association, Editor: Zach Matthews, 'Oakfield'. Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England

The Chronometric Compass by Ronald Harvey, **Doctor Maurice Nicoll** by Ronald Davison, **Our Mathematical Moon** by Nick Kollerstrom, **The Sixth House and the Domestic Animal** by Robert Stephen Parry, **Victims and Saviours** by Howard Sasportas, **The Vertex and Draco** by Donald Stallybras, **Technology and the Uranus Cycle** by Paul Wright

CHRISTOPHERS JOURNAL, Alpha-Omega Alliance, 9842 Hibert Street, Suite 114, San Diego, CA 92131.

bTime: A New Representation by Christopher, **The Chain of Things** by Manfred Kyber, **The Metaphysical Significance of Chiron** by Chrisopher, **Letters to the Editor, Questions and Answers.**

Cont. At Bottom Of Next Page

ScienceBriefs

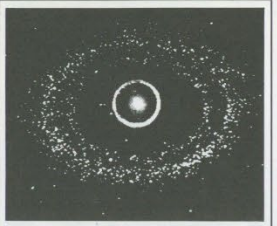
A.I. Makes A Showing

The Fourth **World Computer Chess Tournament** was held late in October 1983 at the **Association for Computing Machinery** annual meeting in New York city. It featured 22 of the world's best chess-playing computers including Bell Laboratories 'BELLE' — the first computer recognized by the U.S. Chess Federation to hold a national master rating.

Of course, all of the computers went at it and a new champion emerged — the CRAY Blitz (Cray makes one of the world's fastest large computers). But this is not what moves me to write this note. What was inter-esting this year was not so much the winners as the "also ran's". The University of Alberta in Edmonton fielded a program named 'AWIT' which did very well in the competition altho it was not at the top of the heap.

What is interesting about 'AWIT' IS the fact that AI (artificial intelligence) methods were used instead of the the traditional exhaustive search methods for evaluating positions and moves. Perhaps this is a sign that AI technology is beginning to come into it's own and with a few more years research will emerge as powerful as scientists have been telling us are sure it must eventually be.

This is of interest to those astrologers among us who are working towards the day when AI techniques can be used in computer assisted chart interpretation to provide dynamic approaches. Today, for the most part, we are still using the static cookbook type delineations for computer generated reports. The fact that AI is beginning to show some practical results in many areas of research is stimulating.



Sun's Dust Rings Confirmed

The above computer-enhanced image of IR-radiating dust (infrared) encircling the sun is the first photographic proof of a phenomenon that was originally suggested in 1927. These results were presented by Shizo Isobe of the Tokyo University and Toshinori Maihara of Kyoto University at a meeting of the Japanese Astronomical Society in Mito City, Japan in late October 1983.

The IR spectra were detected in June during a solar eclipse in Indonesia by a video equipped high altitude balloon. Similar experiments at the University of Colorado's High Altitude Observatory in Boulder in 1967 had detected part of the ring.

The dust is presumed to originate in the outer solar system and, attracted by the sun's gravity, takes 10 million years to form a sphere near the surface where it glows and emits IR waves before vaporizing.

The enclosed 'photo' is a two-dimensional image constructed from composites of data. It is a computer generated image. It appears that the dust forms a thin 'eggshell' like layer around the sun.

ASPECTS, Winter 1983-1984, Aquarius Workshops, Inc. P.O. Box 556-Dept. B1, Encino, CA 91426

Galactic Centre and Beyond by Charles Harvey, **Lunar Parallax** by Alan Archer, **A Verification of an Earlier Incarnation** by Finn Thorson, **Planetary Symbolism in Natal Astrology** by Danni Herman

Astrology West, Issue 6/7 1984, Astrology For Professionals, Suite 120-B, 9560 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland OR 97219

Astrology in Burma by Barbara Cameron, **Dialogue/Interview with Erin Sullivan Seale, Pluto in Scorpio: A Phoenix Comes Home to Roost** by E. S. Seale, **Geopolitical Warfare & Solar Flares** by James Jason Francis, **Planetary Symbolism in Natal Astrology (parts 1 & 2)** by Danny Herman, **Heliocentric Analysis of the Stock Market** by Alan Richter, **Astrology & Beyond** by Swami Prem Kabir, **1983 Washington State Astrological Convention** by Sandy LaForest

Heart Center School Of Astrology Reopening

MATRIX Software is now opening it's own school for astrological studies. In fact, what is happening is a re-opening of the **Heart Center School of Astrology** which was closed in 1980 when MATRIX relocated to Big Rapids from Ann Arbor Michigan. Michael Erlewine was the director of the Heart Center School of Astrology from 1972 until 1980. Classes, seminars and the like were held on a continuous basis during those years. Much to the joy of the staff at MATRIX, Michael has decided to teach again and re-open the school here in Big Rapids. Michael worked with thousands of students while in the Ann Arbor area. However due to our more remote location, the day-to-day operation of the school will be different. Here is how it will work.

Students (of all levels) wishing to study at the school must submit written requests to Michael Erlewine. Upon approval, the student will be provided lodging here at the MATRIX house. The shortest stay that will be considered will be one week. Each student will be required to work half a day on various MATRIX projects in exchange for lodging and instruction. These projects will most often have to do with the Matrix Data Exchange or one of a number of public service type of projects of value to the extended astrological community. Students will be responsible for their own food. Kitchen, bathing, and laundry facilities are available at the site — if needed.

Class will be given each day with an opportunity for instruction and dialogue with any of the three teachers working at the school: Michael or Stephen Erlewine and Doug Pierce. The focus of the instruction will be astrological rather than computer — in nature. Computer instruction is available by special request. Michael Erlewine will work with students on whatever level they require starting from the basics thru techniques such as Heliocentrics, Cosmic Structure, Local Space and so forth.

More details in the next issue of ASTRO*TALK. We would all be glad to have you visit and study with us here in beautiful northern Michigan. We are ready when you are.

Astro★talk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix software
315 Marion Avenue
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
(616) 796-2483

Astronaut Neil Armstrong speaking of the first landing on the moon:

"We landed on the Sea of Tranquility, in the cool of the early lunar morning, when the long shadows would aid our perception.

"The sun was only 10 degrees above the horizon. While the Earth turned through nearly a full day during our stay, the sun at Tranquility Base rose barely 11 degrees—a small fraction of the month-long lunar day. There was a peculiar sensation of the duality of time—the swift rush of events that characterizes all of our lives—and the ponderous parade which marks the aging of the universe.

"Both kinds of time were evident—the first by the routine events of the flight, whose planning and execution were detailed to the fractions of a second—the latter by rocks around us, unchanged throughout the history of man—whose 33-billion-year-old secrets made them the treasure we sought.

"The plaque on the Eagle which summarized our hopes bears this message:

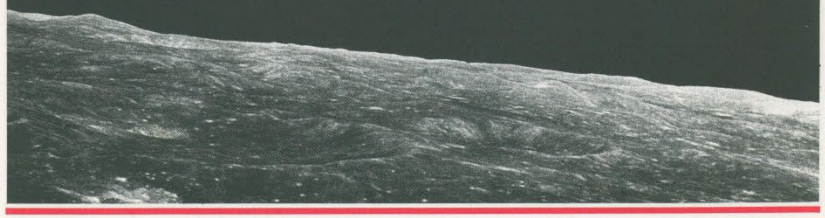
'Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon July, 1969 A.D.'

"We came in peace for all mankind. Those nineteen hundred and sixty-nine years had constituted the majority of the age of Pisces, a 12th of the great year that is measured by the thousand generations the precession of the Earth's axis requires to scribe a giant circle in the heavens.

"In the next 20 years, the age of Aquarius of the great year, the age for which our young people have such high hopes, humanity may begin to understand its most baffling mystery—where are we going?

"The Earth is, in fact, traveling many thousands of miles per hour in the direction of the constellation Hercules—to some unknown destination in the cosmos. Man must understand his universe in order to understand his destiny."

From the Congressional Record of the House of Representatives—9/16/69.
Thanks to Larry Ely of Amherst, MA for sending this in.



Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.One#2 Mar/Apr'84

Astro★talk

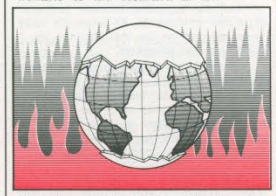
FIRE OR ICE?

What you are about to read is very sobering altho, at first glance, it might look like the scenario for a first rate video game or, at the least, a grade B science-fiction movie. I don't usually fall for the doomsday plots but this one has managed to grab me. I would like the astrological community to take a look at it and see how you feel about it.

I have worked with esoteric and occult theories for about 20 years and have been exposed to dozens of Doomsday theories, apocalypse threats — you name it. In addition, political and global showdowns between the various superpowers have left me aware that "anything" could happen at almost any time. Most of us were brought up in this kind of atmosphere. The following theory and facts have a ring of truth to them that I cannot ignore. Unfortunately, the details of this report are somewhat complex and require attention and maybe even study to grasp. I will do my best to explain the basic idea and to provide sources for further reading (at the end of this article). Please believe me, it is worth your every effort to understand and respond to what is being presented here. I am grateful to astrologer Barry Lynes for first bringing it to my attention.

I have read many articles over the last decade concerning the long-range outlook for the Earth's weather and temperature. Some authors have found that the Earth is becoming increasingly warmer and that we can expect much warmer winters in the years to come. I tend to favor these reports because winters are very cold here in northern Michigan. On the other hand, are the reports that the Earth is growing colder day by day and even entering into another ice age. These articles have always left me feeling chilly. The truth is that I tend to hold the opinion as stated in whichever article I happened to have read last. All of these various arguments for warming or cooling have seemed reasonable to me yet none were compelling.

There has been talk of the "wobble" in the tilt of the 23,000 year precession cycle as affecting our weather or the variation in the



Obliquity of the Ecliptic (the tilt of the the Earth's axis to the plane of it's orbit) and so forth. My astronomy background allowed me to understand such theories but darned if I could tell who was right. I had no gut feeling about the subject. No so with the Hamaker-Weaver theory that will be presented below. It got my attention right off if only because it of its comprehensiveness. This theory seems to include most other theories I have read, while pulling them all together into a very believable scenario. See for yourself. Here is some background material that you may find useful.

It is a proven fact that glaciers advance and retreat across the surface of the Earth in 100,000 year cycles while the interglacial periods (relatively warmer times) only last from 10,000 to 15,000 years. Science has documented this cycle in great detail. From the above numbers, it should be plain that the earth spends the great majority of its time in the colder glacial climate. In fact, the last glacier extended all the way south to Indiana before its eventual retreat.

See Fire/Ice, Page 4

New at Matrix:

We have a lot of program news here at MATRIX. Big news and little news. Here are the main items:

MATRIX Programs running under CP/M

No, you didn't read the above wrong. After much too long, MATRIX has decided to field a series of programs for CP/M users. MATRIX CP/M programs will be available for a wide variety of CP/M machines and disk formats. Our Report Writers M-90, M-91 and M-94 are now ready. Our CP/M version of M-65 is in the works. Please let your CP/M friends know that we have something for them.

IBM PC Programs 'A Plenty'

We have really forged ahead on our IBM PC and MS-DOS compatible machines. Aside from Blue*Star 7, Astro*TALK and the M-14 Transit program, we now offer most of our larger packages.

M-65 on the IBM PC is our best effort yet. Fast and powerful, this version of M-65-A Chart Service is up, running and supports Epson, Gemini, Paper Tiger, Pro-Writer and Okidata printers with astrological glyphs. M-65 is really at home on the IBM PC and takes advantage of the increased disk size and general speed advantage of the PC. For example, the entire M-65 is compiled and run times are very fast. Aside from the two drives of the IBM-PC, MATRIX has provided its own Flask or RAM Disk as part of M-65. A RAM disk operates as a third drive on the IBM PC except that it is entirely in RAM or memory. What this means is that files are written to RAM ratter than disk during chart calculation with a tremendous savings of disk wear & tear and great speed! In short, M-65 on the PC is a super system.

Our entire series of Report Writers too is available including M-90 Natal Report, M-91 Transit Report, M-92 RELATE!, M-93 Alphanumerology, the M-197/198 Lucky Day/Lottery Report, and M-94 Biorhythm Interpreter.

See Matrix News, Page 2

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Matrix News

(Cont. from page 1)

IBM PC Jr

Don't forget about PCjr. Look for him in there too. We have programs available now for Jr with more in the works.

M-65-Time Change Atlas (M-65-T)

As automatic as our computers are, we are still chained to our Longitude & Latitude books — not to mention the intricacies of the Time Change tables. Those days are passing! thanks to M-65-Time Change Atlas.

MATRIX is now completing a project that we know you professionals out there will appreciate: built-in Longitude, Latitude and Time Change files. They work automatically and with great accuracy. Best of all, you can add your favorite cities and towns to the files complete with the exact time changes for 100 years.

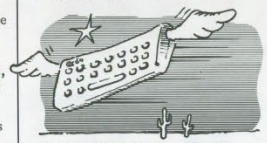
The MATRIX Time Change Atlas will be available in several sizes depending upon the size of your computer's disk drive. Our initial release will include 1200 cities in the U.S. and World complete with 100 years (1900-2000) of Time Change information (Daylight Savings Time, War Time, Double Summer Time, etc.). You may select any city at the touch of a button and have it's longitude, latitude, Time Zone and time changes (if any) automatically handled for you.

The best part of the whole thing is that the time change material included in these files is exact. There has been no compromise in accuracy. Our files are as accurate as any books available on the subject. Better yet, you can add cities of your choice to the list complete with their time changes. Or, should new discoveries be published or found by you concerning particular years, you can modify our files to reflect these changes.

Everyone using the MATRIX Time Change system will be able to add or replace cities in the file system. This allows you to include all of the small towns in your locale that would not appear on our list since we have only included the largest cities.

The MATRIX Time Change Atlas system is now available on the IBM PC as part of our new BLUE*STAR Menu. It will soon be available for M-65 Users on computers that have the disk space. Machine capable of using the system include the IBM-PC and MS-DOS computers, the CBM-64 and the APPLE II.

We feel this is a major step forward for our professional customers. It makes the laborious job of city coordinate and time change searching automatic and instantaneous. While 1200 cities may not seem a large enough number, keep in mind that approximately 80% of all births take place in metropolitan centers. M-65 Time Changes will help keep your textbooks on the shelf. It is also easy and fun to use.



Speed Breakthru on CBM-64!

Thanks to a programming breakthru, we can now offer our Commodore 64 users much faster versions of our very best programs including the entire M-65, Blue*Star 7, M-90 Report Writer, M-14 Transit Search and more. Some programs using this new format run up to 3 times faster. That's three times faster than what you are now using! In fact, all of our larger programs on the CBM-64 are now available (or in process) in the new compiled format. Let me give you an idea as to what we have been able to do on the CBM-64 to speed up our programs.

MATRIX has a variety of important astrological routines programmed on the C-64 in 6502 machine language — the ultra fast code that the machine itself speaks. These routines include planetary places, aspects, sexagesimal arithmetic, disk packing and many others. In addition, we have been able to compile some of our CBM-64 BASIC programs into a form that will run much faster than the same programs run under the standard interpreted BASIC that comes with the CBM-64. Our problem has been that our compiler has been unable to compile the really large programs like M-65 and Blue*Star 7 and link these compiled programs to our machine language routines.

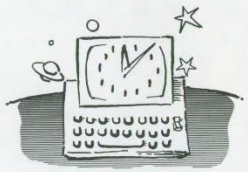
Thanks to a programming breakthru and lots of hard work by our staff, we have developed the ability to compile even the largest programs and to link them to our machine language planetary and other routines.

The resulting compiled programs run much faster than previous versions and make the Commodore 64 and even better buy than it already is. Those of you now using the CBM-64 who would like to upgrade to these new versions are encouraged to do so. We are offering an upgrade (not an update) to all CBM-64 users. Our upgrade policy is inexpensive and we are anxious for you to get the benefit of the increase in speed that is now available to you — if you feel you need it.

Most programs should be adapted to the new format by the time you read this. The upgrade fee is $25 per program for one disk programs. For programs requiring more than one disk, add $10 for each additional disk. The charge includes making up and testing, mailer & postage costs for each disk plus postage fee.

Two Drive M-65 on the C-64

The entire M-65 system is now available configured for either a one or two disk drive system on the CBM-64. One system does double duty. You the user can decide whether to use M-65 in a single or a dual drive mode. For details on upgrade policy, contact MATRIX.



M-65-H Horary Astro*Clock

A new member of the M-65 system, our Horary Astro*Clock is now available — initially on the IBM PC and PCjr. Not a program that everyone will want, but for those of you who need it, a real help. First, let me tell you what M-65-H Astro*Clock consists of and how it works.

Astro*Clock is designed to be used when you are not using your computer for anything else. It will be of special interest to those of you involved in counseling or who do horary work. Astro*Clock sets up and maintains a tiny wheel on the screen for the present date and time.

On the IBM PC, this wheel is updated every 18 seconds complete with new planets, houses, Angles, etc. The whole works. It also maintains an on-screen table of Longitude & latitude (R.A. & Declination — if needed) plus the Horizon Coordinates Azimuth and Altitude. If you have never worked with Azimuth and Altitude in relation to planets positions, you have a neat experience coming. These coordinates allow us to see just where the planets are in relation to several astrological parameters including culminating planets, planets to the East, North, West or South, and planets exactly conjunct the horizon.

Astro*Clock keeps track of these and even signals to us when a planet triggers one of these areas. In fact, the IBM-PC version has a series of audible and visual alarms that go off to signal special events. You can set alarms to tell you when a planet is culminating or on the Ascendant or Descendant, etc. The alarms even provide audible sounds that vary depending upon the planet. Thus Pluto's tone is deep and slow while mercury's is high and light. You can be in another part of your office and tell from the sound what kind of event is taking place.

I have written programs for many years. I like programs. But I have had more fun with this program than any I can think of — in recent times. When I don't need the computer, I set Astro*Clock running and kind of keep an eye on it. When my phone rings or something happens, I glance at the screen to see what the MC or Ascendant is and what else is going on. The program also has a feature where I can capture splits for events by touching a button. The moment I press the button, that moment is captured and the program begins a chart based on it.

I am sure you get the idea. Ideally, this program would be of most use to the horary astrologer or to those who might want to leave it running during a counseling session to observe transits and events. But I have learned a lot just watching it. In particular, seeing how the different planets come to the Horizon and Compass points (due East, etc.) has been fascinating. The program also has an alarm that the user can set to remind them of an appointment.

The program is available now on the IBM PC at $50. Versions for some of the other machines are in the works for the future.

New on the Apple II & CBM-64

Our M-93 Alphanumerology and M-94 Relate! Report Writing programs are now available on the Apple II and CBM-64. In addition, the M-65-D Uranian Planets module is available for these same machines. Also read about M-65-Journal in the Data Exchange article.

That's the news. The CBM-64 is the still the machine most requested here at MATRIX. IBM PC and PCjr are coming on strong. See you next issue.

Astrotalk

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.

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Coming Events:

Carson, CA. **ISAR Symposium,** March 16-18, 1984. Contact: ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038

Seattle, WA. **1st Annual North Wesern Astrological Conference** (NORWAC), March 21-25, 1984. Contact: Astrology Et Al, 4728 University NE, Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 525-6365

National Network Astrological Weekend (AFAN), March 23-25, 1984. AFAN Fundraising. Contact: The AFA Network, 8306 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 537, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Lucerne, Switzerland. **Second Astrology World Congress,** April 19-23, 1984. Contact: Haloli Q. Richter, P.O. Box 927, McLean, VA 22101 (703-790-5500)

Toronto, Canada. **Medical Astrology Intensive,** May 21-25, 1984. COntact: Toronto Branch Fraternity For Canadian Astrologers, 60 River Street, Apt. 34, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4A 5G5

Berkeley, CA. **The Neptune In Capricorn International Astrology Conference,** Nov. 23-26, 1984. Contact: Julie Pickerill, P.O. Box 20850, Reno NV 89515 (702) 358-2850

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

April 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
25	07:11	12SC49	MAR CJN SAT *H
26	04:36	12CP57	JUP SES URA
29	03:36	29SA44	MAR SSQ NEP *H

May 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
5	15:35	12CP54	JUP SXT SAT
12	19:19	12SC22	SAT SES URA
27	12:45	11CP47	JUP SES URA
29	00:45	29SA54	MAR SES NEP *H
29	05:01	00SA00	MAR/Sag *H

What's In The Journals?

Mutable Dilemma, Vol. 7, #1, Sagitterius 1983, C/O CCRS, 5953 W. 86th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90005

Aspects of Life by Maritha Pottenger, **Social Security and the Bank Bill** by Zip Dobyns, **New Asteroids Anyone?, The Eastpoint and the Anti-Vertex** by Zip Dobyns, **Middle East Challenge** by Zip Dobyns, **More Presidential Contenders** by Zip Dobyns

The Occult Review, Vol. 2, #2, Hermetic Research Center, 475 Kaplan Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601

Materia Medica: An Astrological Look At Disease — Cancer, Mystery Hill by Lawrence Sands, **Vocational Astrology** by Kathleen DeMarco, **The View from Above** by John Costa, more.

The Seattle Astrologer, Aquarius 1984, 9259 Sixth Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117

On The State Of The Art: California's Astrology Laws by John E. Daniel, Book Reviews of **12 Signs, 12 Sons** and **Recent Advances, Hypothetically Speaking — Hierarchal Man** by Dale Huckeby, **Avatar Of Aquarius?** by Lina Accurso, **Madness In The Fast Lane** by Philip Bishop, more.

Kosmos, Vol. XIII, #1, Winter 1983-84, ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038

Karmic Astrology Involving The World Situation by Zip Dobyns, **The Next 20 Years** by Barry Lynes, **Five Years with 70 Mass Murderers** by Victoria Shaw, **SWAC Conference Report, Aquarian Direction Signals A New Age For Astrology** by Claire-France Perez

Astrology '84 — The New Aquarian Agent of the National Astrological Society, Spring Equinox 1984, 205 Third Aveue, 2A, New York, NY 10003

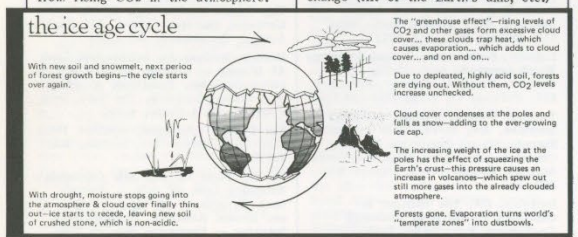
Astrology As A Revolutionary Science by Robert Hand, **Is There Life After Failure** by Mary Vohryzek, **Venus/Mars & Romance** by Doris Hebel, **Recollections of Barbara Watters: In Memoriam** by Martha Taub, **1984: The Astrology of George Orwell's Famous Year** by Leyla Rael-Rudhyar, **Books Revisted** by Brian Emo

(Cont. from page 1)

FIRE OR ICE?

In general, when we take a look at long cycles like this nothing is immediate to the point of disturbing us. Usually, any calamitous event is some hundreds or thousands of years out in front of us. Not something that we have to worry about in our lifetime ... this lifetime. Even this warm interglacial period could have hundreds or even a couple of thousand years left to it. Plenty of time for humanity to respond — aided by whatever fantastic technology we can pull together in the intervening years. Right? Not this time say authors John Hamaker and Don Weaver. And here is where it gets very interesting.

Hamaker's thesis is that the glacial climate and cycle is not primarily related to any of the astronomical factors we mentioned above, but instead to the CO_2 cycle. He claims that, yes, we are in a warming trend created by the increased cloud cover from rising CO_2 in the atmosphere.



However, this trend will result in increased cloud cover moving greater and greater quantities of water from the equator regions to the poles where it will then precipitate as snow and ice — triggering an ice age much sooner than nature (without man's help) would have wanted.

Hamaker's time scheme is now — within our lifetimes. He says an unrushing and irreversible glacier will be well underway by 1995, fueled by the increased CO_2 and the warming 'greenhouse' effect. He claims we will have (for the time being) hotter and drier summers and colder and harsher winters along with droughts, violent storms, wind, eroding farmland, dying forests and always more and more ice. "There is hard evidence that the temperate zone will become part of the subartic zone in approximately 15 years. Somewhere in that time period, we will stop eating." What is compelling about Hamaker's presentation is the way his theory weaves most of the prior ones together into one fabric. Hamaker's theory also fits the facts of the crazy weather we have been having these last years. Inventor and scientist Buckminster Fuller said; " I will tell all those inquiring of me about matters relevant to our survival that they had best read Hamaker's book **The Survival of Civilization.**" Most of all, my intuition or gut feeling has been moved by these thoughts — something previous theories never reached.

Hamaker's theory is much more extensive than I have mentioned so far. It also describes in great detail why the glacial periods happen just as they do. Scientists have been pretty much in the dark about this and most of them have tried to link the glaciers with some astronomical change (tilt of the Earth's axis, etc.) of one sort or another. Hamaker claims it is as simple (or complex) as a CO_2 cycle that creates and destroys itself on a very regular basis.

The theory points out that the onset of one of these glacial periods is heralded by a collapse in the world's forests and vegetation. Hamaker claims that the forward and backward motion of the glacier grinds stone like some great mill and re-mineralizes the soil — removing the heavy acidity that tends to accumulate. Each retreating glacier leaves behind it an enormous amount of crushed and powdered rock. This is no theory, but an accepted fact.

During the interglacial period this added mineral aids vegetation and re-forestation. In time, the soil becomes leached and eroded, leading to the retreat and collapse of the forests and the restart of another glacial period.

Hamaker goes into vivid detail making it clear that "If we could see a satellite movie with pictures taken at 1000-year intervals, we would see that the earth has all the rigidity of a ball of jello. Under its paper thin crust there are only fluids and plastic materials. Its shape at any one time depends on the forces acting on it." He shows how the ice build-up at the poles changes the shape of the earth, forcing fluids thruout the tectonic system resulting in increased volcanic activity which further increases the CO_2 and cloud/dust content in the atmosphere and binds us into the glacial periods. After very many thousands of years, the CO_2 is absorbed, the whole process turns around resulting in the retreat of the glaciers, a lessening of pressure on the earth's crust, a decrease in volcanic activity and the advent of another interglacial warm period — and so on.

In fact, the process is a little more complex than what I have presented here and some of you may want to order some of the source material for study. John Hamaker is a retired mechanical engineer with very little access to the scientific establishment — who tend to treat him as a crank. For ten years he has been warning us that the world's soils are running out of minerals with the inevitable result that glaciation must soon follow.

He points out that man, in many ways, is forcing the earth into this early ice age. He provides extensive documentation on just how the soil and forests are being degraded at an ever increasing rate. He points out many things that you and I will have already noted such as a steady increase in volcanic activity, rising sea levels, acid rain, etc. and etc. To read thru his carefully documented material is not to be encouraged about what man is doing to the environment.

Hamaker goes on to point out how we could take steps to forestall and even prevent the coming ice age. Most suggestions have to do with caring for our soil and vegetation — taking steps to revitalize the soil thru mineralization and forestation projects to cut back the rising CO_2 curve. However, he makes clear that we are probably already past the point of no-return and that the ice-age is already getting locked into its cycle.

The worst part is that " We have a chance to save ourselves, but we won't do it because we are awaiting absolute scientific proof, so we will wait for all the studies to be in and we'll probably be dead". The next few years will bring us proof as to whether this country's breadbasket is drying up, bringing us into another 'dust bowl' era. Preliminary findings point to this being a fact.

The above is a very abbreviated version of the theory. Hamaker presents it in great detail and documents the very many signs that now exist to point to his conclusion. He makes clear that scientists are also working on some of this material but are unwilling to draw any conclusions altho nothing that they have come up with contradicts Hamaker's theory. Politicians are even less interested in taking a long range look at what is happening.

What is frightening about this whole thing is that all of the eroding conditions (soil de-mineralization, forests disappearing, etc.) that are perceived as somewhat unconnected now will re-enforce each other in but a few more years. At that time, the result will be a drastic reduction in the earth's ability to support food and the onset of severe climate changes. Before I close, here are two examples taken from the Hamaker-Weaver material. Two out of many dozens of carefully documented facts.

A 1980 study showed that 60% if the fir trees in Baden Wuerttemberg were healthy; two years later only 2% of the trees were healthy. The situation is so dire in Germany that the **Environmental and Nature Protection League of Germany** calls it an 'ecological holocaust'.

Rain Magazine (December 1982 January 1983) reports: " If we exclude tundra, polar and high mountain regions and consider what percentage of potentially usable land has become desert during the last century, the figures are as follows: In 1872 about 14% was desert; in 1952 this had risen to 33%; and by 1977 it was a staggering 55%. Now in 1982, almost two-thirds of the usable land on earth has become dry and barren. The UN estimates that at the present rate of cropland loss and population growth, there will be half as much cropland available to feed each person by the year 2000."

Check this out for yourself. Hamaker's book **The Survival of Civilization** is available for $8 from Hamaker-Weaver publishers, P.O. Box 1961, Burlingame, CA 94010 or P.O. Box 457, Potterville, MI 48876. In addition, the **Solar Age or Ice Age? Bulletin** (4&5) is available for $3. from the above addresses.

MONEY TALK

by Iaen Sullivan

There are many charts of successful people readily available. Studying them will uncover patterns indicative of success, in general.These will apply to astrologers more specifically if the patterns involve Uranus, Venus, Mercury, the personal points and the Sixth House.

The East Point (correctly termed the Equatorial Ascendant) is one of the first places to look. It appears to be part of a person's financial indicators. The ways one gains money and invests it (as opposed to the negative idea of spending) can partly be seen in the EP. Transiting aspects to the EP are very interesting in financial dealings. This area needs more research and you are invited to contribute findings.

Aspects and midpoints of the Vertex are also significant as the point of outflow, sharing or production. It is one of the components showing where abundance can come from. With M-65, you can quickly, painlessly evaluate any number of charts.

M-93 Alphanumerology, a MATRIX program, can be of great help in using this next principle. Money is said to be attracted by the number 8. You may want to use a bank signature with this energy. It simply involves changing the signature card; no legal procedures. This is reported to begin manifesting in about 4 months for most people.

Recap: AFA/AFAN

Our article on the AFA/AFAN flap interested most readers. Thanks for all of the letters and notes that you sent on the subject. In general, you appreciated hearing about the controversy from a middle-of-the-road viewpoint. You also showed concern that ASTRO*TALK not turn into a political rag. It won't happen. It may be important to keep you updated on the political situation but we will not make it a regular feature. O.K.?

We did receive two letters from ex AFA officials objecting to one statement of mine in the AFA/AFAN piece: "the coopers brought the AFA from the brink of bankruptcy and set it back on its feet". I had heard this said so many times that I automatically wrote it down — without questioning. I do want to retract this statement. I received documentation to the effect that the AFA was not only solvent when Bob Cooper took over as executive secretary but had considerable assets and cash. Sorry folks! It was not my intention to publish anything inaccurate.

Since the AFAN has elected to remain part of the AFA rather than to form their own professional organization, we must all work towards resolving the differences between these two groups of fine astrologers. At this time of increasing world crisis, it would be good if we could overcome this division. The end result has to be some sort of re-unification of the two groups with enhanced awareness and greater understanding on both sides. AFAN is about to have their first real elections — a test for any organization. I urge all of us to participate in this election.

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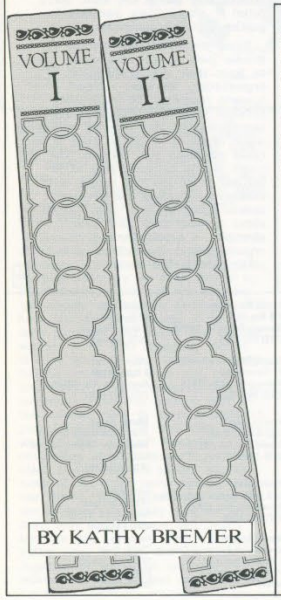
PROJECT ALEXANDRIA



BY KATHY BREMER

Project Alexandria was named after the famed Egyptian Library that burned down to the ground centuries ago with the result that ancient scrolls were lost forever. Today, modern technology is drawing together all of the books, textbooks, encyclopedias, research reports and other written materials into one computer system and creating what they refer to as the "Great Comprehensive Encyclopedia".

Astrological literature is scattered all over the world. According to Dr. Geoffrey Dean in **Recent Advances,** there have been approximately 10,000 books and as many journals published on serious astrology in Western languages between 1900-1981. Many articles have been written and published by Astrological groups and Organizations in their newsletters, magazines, journals and periodicals.

Unfortunately, most of this material is only accessible to a few of us. Needless to say, it limits our field from producing any satisfactory conclusive results in the area of research, but also wastes the valuable time of some who unknowingly concentrate in areas that have already been explored. In order to enhance our field and earn a respectable reputation as a serious professional study, we have to work more cooperatively internally and seriously concentrate on giving a stronger base to our educational system.

Project Alexandria's purpose is to inspire, encourage and globally network together the Astrological community to retrieve, collect and record our literature and other astrological data. The eventual goal is to abstract the materials, organize a central data bank and create our own "Great Comprehensive Electronic Encyclopedia" of astrology. With the aid of computers and copy machines, we can preserve our Astrological literature and also make it readily accessible for use. Hence, our written materials do not have to be lost to all of us — as were the ancient scrolls of Alexandria.

There are several Astrological collections in our field. Some noted ones are the following:

1. The 45 year old **AFA (American Federation of Astrologers)** has a library in Tempe Arizona that members are allowed to visit. It is said to have the largest Astrological collection in the world, according to Dr. Geoffrey Dean who has visited and toured many collections. At this time, the AFA Library is unorganized (uncataloged; books and other written materials stacked in boxes and shelves), therefore, the contents are not clearly known and inaccessible for use.

Recently, after receiving consent from Robert & Sara Cooper of the AFA, Neil Michelsen and Lillian Huber (AFA members), plan to go to Tempe and help organize the AFA Library. This job will entail a lot of work and time and will need the support of the AFA and its membership to see it through.

2. **Recent Advances** and **Recent Advances II** in Western Australia, contain many rare and serious astrological books and materials. Geoffrey Dean has analyzed the materials on the shelves of his RA and RA II libraries and also the Astrological Association Library in London in a report entitled: 'Simple is Beautiful'. He is sharing his findings with other noted individuals involved in Library work in our field and is in the process of updating this report.

3. The **Library of Congress** in Wash. D.C. contains a rough estimate of 3,000 books on astrology and has a Xerox machine available.

4. **ISAR,** Los Angeles CA, is in the process of card indexing their **KOSMOS** collection — putting emphasis on research. There are other materials and books in this library that are made available to members.

Two libraries in our field are paralleling the work envisioned in Project Alexandria: the **IAO Research Centre** in Toronto, Ontario and the **Astrological Association** in London England. Both are in the process of computer cataloging their collections and have plans to give a photocopying service to the astrological community.

The **IAO,** a library of 8 to 10 thousand books, volumes and publications on astrology, mysticism, the divining sciences, yoga, religion and other related subjects has been receiving a tremendous amount of world wide support and recognition from astrological groups and organizations in the past few months. Astrological books and publications are currently being donated to this library.

The **IAO** plans to provide other services which will include the Astrologer's Registry, speaker lists and listings of where future seminars, classes and lectures will be sponsored. Robin Armstrong of the **IAO,** plans to set up a telecommunications system in the near future and is currently in the process of linking up the **IAO** Library with other libraries in our field. A newsletter updating the progress of the **IAO** will be published soon.

Other noted work connected with computers, research and education will prove to be of valuable use for research and educational means. **ISAR** of Los Angeles, CA is engaged in an ongoing birth-data base project. Also, MATRIX of Big Rapids, MI has started a birth-data base of famous personalities plus sets of research data. In addition to this, MATRIX is also storing data on the chronology of historical events and correlating them with astrological events! Contributions of information are welcome.

It is important to understand, that in order to organize a central data bank, information, books and publications have to be collected and stored by at least one good source or by several who are cooperatively combining their efforts, sharing and exchanging information and/or copies of materials and books with each other. This project will not succeed nor achieve its goal to the fullest without the astrological community working together. This is a project that is long overdue and needs the active support of the entire astrological community.

What can you do to support it? Since the **IAO** is the only center in North America that has plans to give this service to the astrological community at this time, I advise Northern American astrologers who have access to collections of books and publications (especially those that are out of print) to donate copies to the **IAO** or send them there to be copied. As funds are needed for equipment, upkeep, the tremendous work involved, housing and other expenses, this too, can be donated to the centers engaging in computer, library, and information projects. Another way you can help is to pass the word onto others thru your publications, meetings, etc... The more active support this project receives, the greater the chance it will have in expediting its progress and materializing its goal. Thank you!

The IAO Research Centre, P.O/Box 5265, Station "A", Toronto, Ontario. (Include self-addressed and stamped envelope).

Alexandria is an A.F.A.N.-supported project.

Editor's Note: I want to clear up a question that Kathy Bremer suggested in an earlier version of this article that was circulated among astrologers regarding the AFA library and that some of you may have read. In that version of the article their was reference to the fact that the AFA has a salaried librarian and yet a library that is unorganized and inaccessible. I called and talked to Sara & Bob Cooper to find out what, in fact, was the status of the AFA library. Here is what they said:

The AFA library consists of duplicate copies of AFA publications, donations of book collections left to the AFA (mostly containing AFA publications and a few sets of astrological magazines like **Horoscope Magazine** and **American Astrology.** It is not a comprehensive library. The AFA does not have a salaried librarian. 25 years ago the designation for the job Sara Cooper now has was coined: "Librarian of Services". This was a standard and accepted term for someone who handled all of the various organizational chores of running the day-to-day work of the business. People have misunderstood the term librarian and have assumed that someone was taking money for a job that was never done. No one has been taking money for working on the AFA collection of books. Bob pointed out that he would like to find the time to better organize the existing collection but added that it was not in any sense a complete or comprehensive collection.

In other words, the collection may not be worth the effort and money expended to organize it. As far as it's being inaccessible: I know that is not true because when Geoffrey Dean stopped by in Big Rapids for a visit, he had just come from the AFA library. The library can be accessed by AFA members — in person. It is not a lending library and there are no facilities for loaning books out by mail. If it is not organized, then this may amount to inaccessibility. Physically, it is accessible.

My next phone stop was with Lilian Huber who apparently is one of the few individuals who has cared enough about the AFA library to actually schedule and make a visit to inspect it. Here is the gist of her report:

She called Bob Cooper, asked to visit the library and was told to come ahead. The library is housed in what appears to be a conference room. A large conference-type table fills the center of the room and the walls are shelved. On the shelves were piles and boxes of books. The books were not in any very obvious order. Lilian spent about 30 minutes in the book room and confirms that there are mostly duplicates of the AFA publications and back issues of several of the pulp astrology magazines like bAmerican Astrology and **Horoscope.** She went on to add that "If they have 5 old books in there, I would be surprised".

My last phone call on this issue was to Neil Michelsen who, along with Lilian Huber, was asked by the AFAN Network to look into possibly organizing the AFA library. Neil had three conversations with Bob Cooper on the subject and has drawn up a plan (The AFA Library Project Proposal) for organizing the library which he has sent to Bob Cooper.

Space does not permit me to include the entire text of Michelsen's proposal. In essence, it encourages all astrological organizations that have book collections to cooperate in cataloging their collections. Michelsen goes on to suggest a method for ordering the books on the shelves, for cross-referencing titles, sharing materials between libraries and more. It amounts to an outline for action.

In addition, Michelsen has volunteered to go to AFA headquarters and assist in getting this project underway. He plans to donate a week of his time and pay for his own expenses. His proposal closes as follows:

"It is envisioned that there is sufficient interest in this project by the astrological community that it would be staffed by voluntary workers over the life of the project, which could be several years. A lead team would provide the initial impetus, and based upon their experience, the procedures could be developed and documented so that there would be a continuity of effort even though many people would participate.

"The question of whether the astrological community would support such a project is best answered by starting the project. If it moves forward, the answer is yes. If it dies for lack of volunteers, the answer is no.

"The willingness of astrologers to participate and the availability of computer technology to support such an effort point to early 1984 as the time to begin. Let's get started!"

As Neil points out, it's really up to us how much we care about all of this. How much effort and/or funds are we willing to donate to an international library project? ASTRO*TALK welcomes your opinions and comments on this topic.

ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) at the 1984 AFA convention will have one workshop devoted to the Library project. I have already spoken to Kathy Bremer who will make every effort to be there. In addition, Neil Michelsen, Lillian Huber, Sara or Bob Cooper, Robin Armstrong and others will be invited to participate on the panel.

Let me share with you some internal changes I have been going through. I can't be sure how many of these changes are just my own personally and how many describe a general condition that many of us in astrology are experiencing.

Michael Erlewine

On the theory that I don't want to throw the baby out with the bath water, please forgive the personal element in the following.

I found myself doing something unusual during the holidays. Right after Christmas, my wife, myself and our three children packed a suitcase and headed out across the country on what turned out to be a kind of spiritual pilgrimage. 2800 miles in some of the coldest weather of the year. It was so cold in Toronto that we couldn't see out of the car windows except for what we could keep clear by constant scraping.

For the most part, the stops we made on the trip were non astrological. We visited a number of established spiritual communities plus selected individual practitioners from related disciplines. As I look back on the trip, what stands out is the dedication and rigorous day-to-day practice of the individuals we met. That plus the accent on working with spiritual friends or teachers made a strong impression.

In great part, this trip was motivated by a growing feeling of restlessness and dissatisfaction on my part with the apparent extreme secularness of much of modern astrology. I admit that I am as much to blame as anyone else. After running the Heart Center School of Astrology in Ann Arbor from 1972 to 1980, I closed the school when we relocated to the small northern Michigan town where we now live. I was too busy programming, etc. There were many reasons.

Also, these have been years when the technical side of astrology has been busy catching up with the 20th century. Very important too. But not the whole ball of wax.

The anxiety I had been feeling all Fall about astrologers, and astrology -- with all the inherent bickering, gossip, and politics of any organized group — culminated in our car trip after Christmas. I found myself reaching within myself, beyond myself for something more — for new direction.

The trip was not an easy one either physically (5 people in a small car in extreme cold weather for 11 days) or psychologically. I had to take a long hard look at many parts of myself. Above all I felt that astrology lacked the kind of organized discipline that I witnessed in many of the groups we visited. The sense of cooperation and above all the feeling for lineage — teachers and students working together for the future of the work they were devoted to.

I know that most of us in astrology have worked hard both as teachers and counselors. I know I have. Even still, it seems to me that we lack the sense of lineage and transmission (outer planets that span more than one lifetime) that I saw at work during my travels. We need that quality if we are to endure and build a tradition that reaches beyond our individual lifetime. I feel great changes are in the wind... not just for me as a person... but for all of us.

The changes I feel coming are drying up the old water holes of my past insights and forcing me to look to the present moment for guidance. Even my most profound past moments, moments of great light and strength, appear to have little to offer me now as regards the future. What can this mean? I find myself asking.

We seem to be in a time of new experience, a time that, like some great wave, is washing us beyond the shores of the past and sending us toward a future that is not yet clear. My overall impression is that I am unprepared for what is happening, that is: I cannot seem to draw upon my past experience for insight into this present time. The stars and landmarks of accomplishment set deep in my past now seem like islands vanishing in the swelling tide of the present changes.

At the same time I am thrilled that here is new and fresh experience — a new time! Here is freedom from a future that I thought I had mentally counted out to the last day. Not to be — and I'm just as glad. Instead, I find myself treading water once again — in over my head and learning how to swim with the tide of the current changes.

I don't have a whole lot of information to share with you. I am still trying to get a handle on it myself. It is a time for major change. We would have to go back into the 1960s to find a star as bright and steady as what is coming. Something inside me tells me that this is a time I have been always waiting for. Perhaps all of us were born for what is now beginning to occur.

Let me share a thought with you. I came of age in the sixties and have ever after been looking in each transaction and group get-together for a sense of community and sharing. Yet the communes that I have been in touch with almost always have turned out to be a mess. "Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds" sort of thing. The bottom line is that some group experience or sense of community part of me has remained unfulfilled.

Is it possible that the experience I have been looking for and never found was not so much a place to find in this world as it was a time that was to come. It could well be that all of us who have been trying to live all these years with an ear to the Spirit have felt with our minds into the future to this time I am now mentioning. A time when we will experience much more sharing and a greater sense of community. I cannot say as to whether this will be something that comes from within us — such as a group recognition or new light that makes it easier to work more closely together — or instead, something forced upon us by a series of world circumstances. I know a lot of air time has been given to the later thought. I do feel very confident that this coming experience, whatever it's origin, will scratch that itch that has been within me for more integral community experience.

All of this is now unrolling like some vast script or scroll. While only a little seems to be revealed (to me) at the present, it is enough to tell me to stop looking back into my past for light and rules for living. My past, like flypaper, has me stuck on it. This new surge is telling me to let go. It is saying get ready for a new experience of living, for new light and new stars to see to live by. Stars that will burn and shine in the firmament of our lives.

What to do about this? I have spent many sleepless nights on this one. I am surrendering much of my identification with the past and using that energy to listen to what the present is beginning to say about my future. Each new sign that appears or comes across tells me more. When groups or sets of signs all point or lean in one direction, I can see trends or the drift of things. I am like an archeologist at a dig but here we are unearthing the future — moment by moment. I try to adjust and change my life as fast as I can see what it is I am to do.

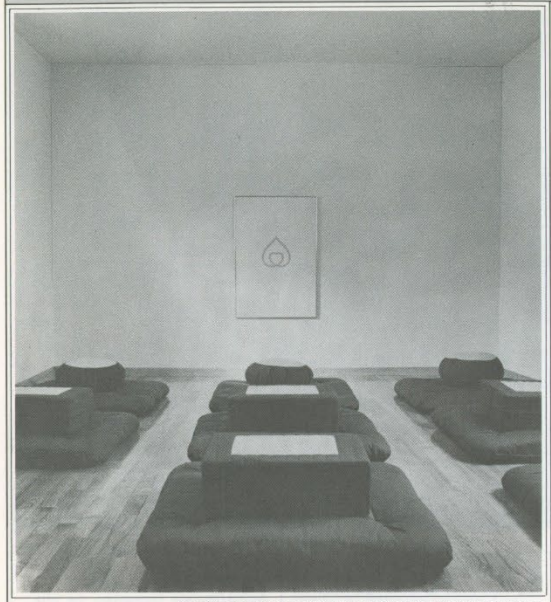
I have been shown that what I know to date, astrologically and otherwise, will not serve to guide me much into what is coming. It lacks the kind of comprehension that will be needed. I can accept that. Altho I was, at first, grumpy and even frightened at having my life upset and disturbed by these changes, I am more and more thrilled by the opportunities and possibilities they present. To be alive and learning again is great.

All of this building to the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction the 19th of January seems to fit. These windows of the mind open and close. While they are open we can see a little further into our self or essence then otherwise. Since this essence is what we are all about, we see a little into our own future. Altho we each will respond to these changes in a different way, I know that many of you reading this can serve as a witness to the changes I am indicating. You have felt them too. Here is how I am interpreting them, how I am changing my life to fit the changes.

Aside from a general reformation of my personal and family life, we are re-opening the Heart Center School of Astrology here in Big Rapids. We are offering classes in beginning and advanced astrology plus computer instruction — if requested. Since we live in a tiny town in Northern Michigan you may ask: Where are your students going to come from?

The answer to that question depends on you. Those interested in studying at the center will have to find a way to travel to Big Rapids. The center will provide students with

Our library and conference room provide reference material and a good place to read.



A spot for meditation or quiet study here at the Heart Center School.

lodging, kitchen, bathing and laundry facilities. At this time, there is no charge for either the instruction or lodging. However, every student will be required to contribute about 4 hours of work per day to the center. Most of this will be on community astrological projects like the Data Exchange and so forth.

Students interested in studying at the center should write telling us when you would like to come and for how long. One week will be the shortest stay that we will consider. Teachers in residence include Michael Erlewine, Stephen Erlewine and Doug Pierce. All students will have an opportunity to work with me on a one-to-one basis. And of course, any of you are welcome to visit the center when you are in our area. All are welcome.

In addition, we are preparing a correspondence course. There is no substitute, however, for one-to-one work with a qualified teacher. The Heart Center School of Astrology is dedicated to providing all interested students with comprehensive astrological training. The accent here is on establishing a direct working relationship between teachers and students. We hope to see some of you here in Big Rapids!

Thank you for your patience in reading this. I would like to bring this to an end by describing the fundamental idea behind the re-opening of our school of astrology. I cannot forget my own initial struggle to find myself in and thru astrology. I needed to be recognised and to have my interest and ability in astrology confirmed by someone outside of myself. All of you who have grown up in astrology will understand what I am saying here. I looked for some kind of welcoming committee who would be glad to see me alive and living in this century. Kind of an astrological welcome wagon. I needed the attention and care that a concerned teacher or more experienced practitioner is capable of. It was a hard road, for modern astrology is not exactly geared up for this sort of thing.

I now intend to attempt to do for others what I wish could have happened to me — in greater abundance. It's the Golden Rule all over again: Do unto others what you would have them do unto you. Only this time, I know what it means. I want to spend the rest of my life working with students to create a tradition of astrology that is strong in practice. One that can be communicated and handed on to the next generation. It is the long term cycles of Neptune and Pluto that represent the schools of thought that extend thru and beyond any one lifetime. I want to help create a living tradition or lineage within astrology — a literal Chain of Friends.

P.S. The Heart Center School was opened at the exact moment of the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction on January 19, 1984. We have finished building our library, conference room and meditation hall (see enclosed photos). More important, since writing the above article, we have started work on the courses for the Heart Center. As of March 5th, a new staff member will join MATRIX here in Big Rapids.

Martin Wolf is an astrologer and published poet with several degrees in English, a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, etc. etc. He has a firm background in esoteric astrology and Eastern philosophies — not to mention his expertise in oriental cooking (when dignitaries from mainland China visit the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Marty is called in to cook for them).

Marty and myself will be working to build a series of thru-the-mail and in-person courses for beginning and advanced astrologers. The emphasis will be on the personal supervision of each student.

Our goal will be to confirm students of astrology in their vocation and to provide them with the recognition and assistance that they might need to become working professionals. The life of a counseling and teaching astrologer is much more involved and dynamic than any particular set of astrological techniques. Our primary goal with the school is to establish a relationship with each student and to help prepare him or her for the trials and rigors of professional practice. This is aside from any technical instruction. The keyword here will be 'Practice'. More on the school in another issue.

Data Exchange Update

The MATRIX **Chart Data Exchange** was introduced in the premier issue of **Astro*Talk** in November, 1983. Most astrologers have a real interest in collections of chart data, whether these be charts of mundane or political events like earthquakes or elections, or of illustrious individuals, occupational groups, medical studies, and the like. We at MATRIX have been involved with this type of data collection for some time, notably through Stephen Erlewine's **CIRCLE BOOK OF CHARTS.** Also of note, Michael Erlewine and Charles Jayne organized a workshop for the 1982 **ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques)** convention, entitled "World Wide Personality Database". It was well-attended, but we have not heard much more on this subject since that time.

We have recently added a data entry person to our staff, who will be doing the mundane, time-consuming part of this venture — actually getting all that information into a computer. This represents one of the most substantial commitments on our part to getting something done with this data exchange.

We are gearing up to computerize large collections of natal chart data, using a file format that is compatible with our **M-65 Chart Service** system. This format includes all the basic information necessary to calculate a natal chart, with codes that contain information about source and accuracy of birth information, similar to those in M-65.

We have discussed a variety of ways of coding the various pieces of information that one might wish to include with each chart (occupation, medical diagnosis, event information, and so on). There seems to be no coding system that could ever come close to pleasing a majority of users. Therefore, we are not attempting to reduce this type of information to codes. Instead, we have written a keyword indexing facility that allows the user to enter information in whatever form is desired (keywords spelled out in full or coded). This indexing facility uses a B-tree algorithm very similar to that used by powerful database programs such as **DBASE II.** It permits very rapids interactive access to a chart data disk, by single or multiple keywords. And the above system is available to you too.

We have prepared the first of several programs for the use by those of you interested in the exchange of chart data — the M-65 Journal program. This module should be available on the Commodore PET, CBM-64, Apple II+/IIe and the IBM PC and PC compatibles by the time you read this article. M-65-J uses the B-tree index described above and may be accessed either by date or by keyword. It provides a reasonable amount of room for keywords for each journal entry, and is ideal for recording event information for a chronological record. Let me describe M-65-Journal.

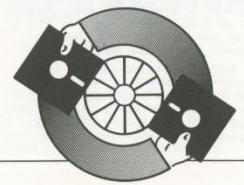
M-65-Journal (Cross-Reference Utility)

The above title does not do justice to what this little program designed by MATRIX staff programmer Doug Pierce can do. You may just find that M-65-Journal is something you've been waiting for. In fact, it is so flexible and has so many potential uses, that I find it difficult to know where to begin in describing it to you. Let me start by telling you some of the things that M-65 Journal can do.

Have you ever wanted to organize all of the events in your (or a client's) life into one unified file? We often have to do this when we prepare to rectify a chart with an unknown birth time. The M-65 Journal allows us to create an event file and to cross reference that file using keywords that we can designate. Later, we can access parts of our file using any keyword we might need. Here is an example.

02-01-1984 04:21 *Olympic *Gold Medal *Downhill Bill Johnson

The above entry for Bill Johnson's Olympic downhill rush for the Gold could be accessed by time, date, or the keywords Gold, Olympic and Downhill. In fact, you have up to 75 characters per event (not including the Date and Time) to store your keywords and the description of the event. Keywords are preceded by and asterisk '*' — nothing could be easier.



Imagine the many uses that you could put this program to. Altho designed to keep track of chronological data in conjunction with program generated time hits (Transits & Progressions), Journal will do for any data that you might like to store and retrieve by means of dates and/or keywords. A personal tickler file is an obvious use. A customer or client list would be easy to put together that could be accessed by such things as birthdate (for birthday card reminders), next appointment, interests, etc.

M-65-Journal also operates in another mode, that of standard chart data entry. You can use M-65-J in Data Entry mode to store any amount of chart data for your own purposes for sharing with others thru our Chart Data Exchange. Our 'Grass Roots' research project with Gary Duncan will make use of this data entry mode for large scale research projects involving the astrological community.

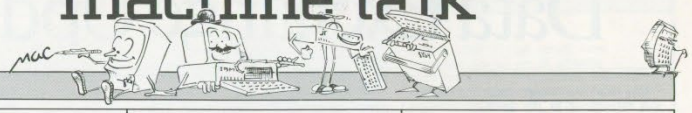
M-65-J is another addition to the M-65 Astrological System. It is not for everyone, but we hope you will be glad that it is there should you find a need for it. M-65-Journal is now available on the CBM-64. Versions on the Apple II and the IBM-PC/PCjr are almost ready. Price to M-65 users is $50. Non M-65 user price is $75.

Another area of future development is in standard 'templates' for the M-65-B Research Module. This is something like using spreadsheet programs such as VisiCalc, where users make heavy use of pre-designed templates for most applications. If you have a set of research questions and/or search phrases that you have found useful for your special applications, we would like to hear from you.

The National Network Astrological Weekend
March 23-25, 1984

AFAN is sponsoring an Astrological Weekend as part of a fund raising drive. Astrologers from all over the country are offering small workshops, conferences, etc. and donating part of the proceeds to help fund AFAN projects. Support your local project, or for more details contact Fran Rosen, 24451 Lakeshore Blvd. #1014W, Euclid, OH 44123.

machine talk



The big news is the Apple MacIntosh. Its out and its GREAT! I have never been that impressed by the Apple II — despite its popularity. This is not the case with the Mac (as it is called). Before I launch into a deluge of Mac superlatives, let me digress long enough to put the advent of the Mac into perspective.

In the spring of 1977, two companies introduced home computers at the same time and at the same show. A small company named Apple brought out the Apple II which was a vast improvement over the earlier Apple I. I can remember waiting 15 minutes for BASIC to load into the Apple I from cassette and so on. The other (and much larger) company at that show was, of course, Commodore and the PET computer made an indelible impression on me. For one, it was an integral unit complete with its own very sharp video screen. It had everything then that most systems have today. While the Apple II only had its Integer BASIC in ROM, the PET had a full version of Microsoft BASIC complete with the floating point math astrologers need to produce planet positions. It had all kinds of things that cost extra on the Apple — when they were available at all. The PET had lower case letters, a real-time clock, two built-in ports for printers, disks, etc. and so on. It was years ahead of its time. It had its problems too. Very early PETS had too small a keyboard, etc.

The point I'm getting at is that when I first saw the PET, I knew I was seeing the first real and complete home computer system. The Apple was, from my point of view in 1977, a hardware hobbyist computer that had been upgraded towards being a home computer. The PET was nothing else but a home computer like I had been dreaming of. The rest is history. Commodore neglected to do any U.S. advertising for several years, Apple did a lot. Apple rose to great heights while Commodore took many years to establish itself. Which brings me back to the Mac.

The MacIntosh gives me the same feeling (goosebumps and all) that I had when I saw the first Commodore PET. My gut feeling tells me I am witnessing the birth of a classic computer system — the beginning of a new era in home computer use. I urge all of you to go out and test-drive the MacIntosh. You are going to love it. Here are the details:

The Mac is not inexpensive. You might as well know that right off. At $2500 for the basic system, it is less expensive that the IBM PC but very much more expensive than the CBM-64 or even the Apple II. And the truth is that even that $2500 price is not real. The MAC has been designed so that you really do need its special printer too. That's another $500 and so forth. In fact, the MacIntosh starter system that dealers have put together weighs in at a hefty $3500 or so. This includes the Mac, the special Imagewriter printer, a box of disks, some special programs and even a carrying case and some spreadsheet program (Multiplan). In effect, they make you an offer you can't refuse. So it begins to sound (money-wise) like what it takes to get into the IBM system. The answer is Yes and No — mostly No. It is less expensive. Let me explain why.

Apple has done something quite daring on their part. They have decided what you and I really need in a computer and given us that but no more. I believe that they are right and that they made the correct decision for us.

One of the problems involved with purchasing most computer systems is something we can agree to call the 'You've come this far, why not go all the way' syndrome. For a certain amount (usually the maximum one can afford), the dealer will put us in a system. Once we are committed, that's when the extras begin. Things like: "Well yes, you **can** hook it to your T.V. but you really ought to have a video monitor" or " It comes with 64K built in but no one makes software for anything less than the 128K or 156K system. Get the extra memory." Sound familiar?

With the Mac, Apple has really taken steps to discourage this add-on problem. For one, by providing you with a first rate video screen, there is no question about hooking the system to your T.V. or a video monitor or a composite color monitor or an RGB monitor. Everyone with a Mac will have the same (great) screen. That is the idea.

Apple has carried out this idea in many other ways, too. The Mac is not expandable. There are no extra slots to snap in this or that hi-tech board. The Mac is a Mac is a Mac. Everyone will have the very same machine. All software written for Mac will run on everybody's Mac. Apple has limited the MAC to 128K of RAM with a promise that you can swap out these chips by Fall to raise the amount to 512K. Apple has provided Mac with the new 3 1/2" cartridge type disk drives from Sony. No one else really has them. They are state of the art. In a similar way, Macs I/O (output to printers, modems, etc) is the new IEEE-422 standard. Again, state of the art.

Let me sum this up. Apple decided it knew more about what we want than we do. It could see that we were being nickel and dime'd to death by add-ons and decided to give us a closed machine. The result is a limited, but very powerful, environment for running software. I am amazed at their brass but I cannot say they were wrong to do it. In fact, I too am relieved to see a limit set to the system. As a software developer, it means that MATRIX won't have to have umpteen different versions of a program for the Mac. One ought to do it.

The Mac is, above all, a breakthru for **you** — the user. It is a graphics or visual machine. No more weird computer-eze like 'DA COPY A: B:'. Mac speaks in graphic images more often than in words. Its screen is filled with small pictures called 'icons' that (like traffic signs) give you an idea as to what they do. Most operations are really easy on the Mac. You can see what to do.

Just as striking is the presence of the mouse — forcing the traditional keyboard into the background. A computer mouse is a little rollaround thing that fits in the palm of your hand. It is much like the 'track balls' you find in video arcades. As you roll the mouse around on the table, a little pointer or cursor moves around on the screen. If you want to move the cursor to the left, you roll the mouse to the left and the cursor moves too, and so forth. With the mouse it is easy to point to the different picture icons on the screen and do things with them. In fact, the mouse lets you drag the icons around the screen.

The Mac has what is called a bit-mapped (rather than a character mapped) screen. What this adds up to is a very clear hi-res screen that supports all kinds of graphics. Pictures, type styles, etc. I am afraid you really have to see a Mac in motion to understand what I am talking about. Do it. It's worth the effort.

The fancy graphics and the mouse are kind of cemented together by two programs that come with the Mac called (as you might expect) MacPaint and MacWrite. MacWrite is a nifty little word processor and MacPaint is the very finest graphics drawing package I have ever even thought of. It is incredible. A breakthru.

There is not space here for me to get too carried away in my enthusiasm for MacIntosh. We've got one and we are working to get our programs up and running on it. With its 16/32 bit 68000 microchip, programs will run faster than any home micro out there. Go and see one. Remember before you buy one that it will take some time for developers (like MATRIX) to get programs up and running on it. Mac has a very great future but most of it still is just that — in the future.

IBM PC and look alikes.

As complete as the Mac appears to be (and this goes for any new computer system), it lacks one important item and that is: support now. If you told me that I could have any one computer system, I would pick the IBM-PC (or the CBM-64 — depending on my pocketbook) rather than the Mac. The reason is that the IBM PC and it's clones are here now, well supported and very powerful. We have already gone thru all of the testing, heartache, breaking-in and getting used to with this machine. The PC is in its stride right now. No waiting.

The IBM PC and its various MS-DOS look alikes such as the Compaq, Corona, Columbia, Sanyo, Texas Instruments Professional, etc. continue to sell like hotcakes. IBM can't make them fast enough. We are starting to see lower and lower priced look alikes. IBM has just announced a portable version of the the IBM-PC that sells for less than $3000. Leading Edge has a fine IBM work-alike for even less. A whole wave of PC compatibles is coming from Japan and you can bet that they will be budget priced. And although the PC does not have the state-of-the-art touch of the MacIntosh, it is a first rate machine.

The PC machines run fast (We have complete planetary routines on the PC that run in less than 2 seconds). That's not slow. MATRIX has M-65 A, Bluestar 7, M-14 and all of our Report Writers available on the IBM at this point. These programs will also run on almost all of the compatibles. So don't count the PC out just because Mac is on the horizon. For many serious (business) applications, the PC will remain the first choice for where to put your big bucks for a long time to come.

PCjr Hits The Street

After the Mac, even the brand new PCjr appears a little shopworn. At any rate, PCjr is available and in stores. We have programs up and running on it and are working on some larger packages. As we mentioned last issue, only the $1295 disk version of Jr is worth getting. We won't be supporting the cassette version. No one is.

At $1295 and a full year's warranty, PCjr is a fair deal for the money. The keyboard is not great but the disk is super. Word Processing PCjr users will be happy to note that full sized keyboards are already available for the machine from outside suppliers. PCjr is going to be very popular and well supported. IBM could have given us more, but the PCjr is a solid computer. Once the grumbling subsides, you can count on seeing a lot of good software available for this machine. PCjr runs circles around the Apple for about the same price.

Apple II News

The price of the now aging Apple II continues to slide downward — bit by bit. It is rumored that Apple is about to bring out a portable version of the Apple II with one built in disk drive for around $1000. That could be a nice machine and would compete with the IBM PCjr at that price. However both PCjr and the CBM-64 (with compiled MATRIX programs) run a lot faster than Apple.

And The Commodore

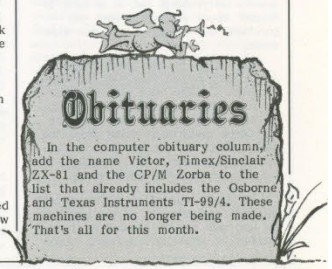
Commodore continues to sell the CBM-64s at an unprecedented rate. Quality control problems that appeared in earlier CBM-64 and disk drives now seem to be under control. These latest machines are more reliable.

Also the new portable SX-64s are out. At less than $1000, the SX-64 is a CBM-64 with one drive and a small color monitor built into a convenient carrying case. We have one here at MATRIX and it's a great machine for getting around with. All of the CBM-64 software runs on it as is. The SX-64 is a well designed and attractive addition to the growing line of portable computers.

Commodore has announced but not delivered two new machines the CBM 264 and CBM 364. These are 128K machines with some improvements over the C-64 but no sound or hi-res graphics and at twice the price. **Don't buy them.** Stick with the C-64s. I would not be surprised if Commodore never delivers them since no reviewer I have seen likes them.

The Commodore 64 is still the best deal out there and astrologers are buying this system at three to four times the rate of any other computer. The C-64 is one heck of a bargain, a lot of computer for the dollar. Its not just a 'cheap' computer. It is a fine computer and compares with almost any computer at two and three times that price. Our latest breakthru in compiled CBM-64 programs (see article elsewhere this issue) makes this machine an even better deal.

As much as I love the new Mac and the IBM PC, the CBM-64 is still my first choice for those of you who want to get into a good machine with the least damage done to your pocketbook.



In the computer obituary column, add the name Victor, Timex/Sinclair ZX-81 and the CP/M Zorba to the list that already includes the Osborne and Texas Instruments TI-99/4. These machines are no longer being made. That's all for this month.

tech talk

The Apple remains the computer that has been on the market essentially unchanged for the longest period of time. Its claim to being the first computer can be disputed (Commodore introduced the PET at the same time and show as the Apple II), but it is definitely becoming the oldest. The Apple IIe is virtually the same as the Apple II+, adding features that Apple II+ owners have been buying from non-Apple sources for years.

There can be certain advantages for Apple users from this longevity via the quantity of software and peripherals that are available, but this overabundance of plug-in cards and miscellaneous devices can be a real problem for first-time users. The Apple can be confusing for its new owner and it is usually important to have good dealer-support or a knowledgeable friend to help you set it up, get it running properly and select the best software. For all computers, manufacturer and dealer support is a very real and tangible selling feature. When buying a Commodore 64 for $200 at your local K-Mart, you can't expect much in the way of dealer support, and you must look to friends, user-groups and magazines for the answers to some of your questions. But when you're paying six times as much for an Apple, you have a right to expect some dealer support in getting your system running. This is usually no problem but it is best to inquire about support before you purchase the computer and not vice versa.

This article is for the average Apple user rather than the hardware 'hacker'. Trouble with any machine is no fun. When something goes wrong, we tend to panic and can only see our large investment going down the drain. When we are not able to use our computer for what we bought it for, it can be very discouraging.

The Apple can at times be a very difficult computer to locate problems on and this is compounded by the number of different expansion cards that can be plugged into it. The Apple IIe appears to be identical with the Apple II in its ability to run MATRIX software. We have as yet discovered no compatibility problems. We did have one customer that was having difficulty with the Research Module of M-65 on an Apple IIe. The chart service disk ran without difficulty but various disk operations in the research routines would hang up the Apple completely at random times with no consistency. No other Apple IIe user was reporting the same difficulty so she had her disk drives checked out at her service center and they were found to be functioning properly. She was on the phone with us and we went back and forth testing different ideas with no success. She might still be having this difficulty if she hadn't had a friend who was an electrical engineer. He said that the Apple IIe was using low-quality RAM and replaced her RAM chips and the problem disappeared. This, however, is the only instance I've heard of in which the Apple RAM has been defective.

The bulk of the problems with running our software on the Apple have been with add-on expansion boards or interface cards. MATRIX software is written to run on the standard 'stock' Apple with a parallel interface card for a printer in slot #1 and one or two disk drives attached to the card in slot #6. If you have anything else plugged into your Apple, you should know what it is, what it does, and any potential changes it may make to the operating system. If you ever have trouble running any software, the first thing that you have to do is ensure that your Apple is in a standard 'stock' condition and this may mean physically removing extra boards unless you know for sure that they are not interfering. At the least, know what boards are plugged into your Apple and what they are there for. Keep any documentation on them and know how to insert and remove them. (Power off! So you don't blow out your Apple). Don't be talked into buying special-feature boards for your Apple if you don't really know what they do or how you might use them. Do you really need 128K for your Apple when BASIC itself can use only 64K of it? If you are writing software for your own use and you can see a way of using any of these features, then you may want them. But remember, most software companies are going to be writing software for the 'standard' configuration because they are not interested in limiting their market.

There are too many different cards being made to keep track of them all but here are a few things to watch out for. No 80 column board will run with MATRIX software — they must be disabled. Some can be disabled while remaining in their slot and others have to be removed completely. Some older lower-case adapters for the Apple II+ have done strange things with the screen but didn't actually cause any program malfunctions. The 16K Softcard-type of expansion that brings the Apple II+ to a full 16K does not present any problems that we are now aware of.

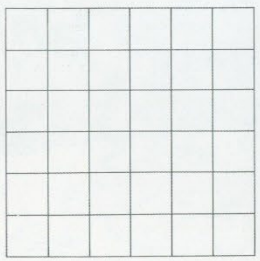
Our programs use machine code, and some of that code directly accesses the Apple DOS routines. If anything in your system interferes with the memory-mapping of your Apple, or changes DOS you may very well have difficulties. We use the DOS Read/Write Track & Sector routines to make the maximum use of the Apple disk. This usually means that there is difficulty using non-Apple style drives.

The most difficulties encountered are simply with the printer interfacing. The Apple does not offer any form of printer support as it comes out of the box. You have to buy a separate interface card to be plugged into slot #1 that the printer cable may be plugged into. All that is needed here is a simple 'dumb' parallel interface with no buffers and no fancy commands. Unfortunately, every company wants you to buy their card so they stick in any feature that they can dream up and at times these features interfere with the normal operation of the printer. Any card should work as a straight ASCII interface and all programs are available in ASCII versions with no glyphs. If you have a printer that handles graphics, the interface you select becomes important. Some Matrix programs can be ordered to print astrological glyphs. These are available for the Epson/Gemini style graphics and the IDS Paper Tiger 445 & 460. For these programs, you can't have the interface interfering with the control codes being sent to the printer. Many of these fancy interfaces do just that. The original Grappler interface which was sold as a 'graphics' interface for the Epson printers would not pass along the standard Epson graphic controls. It would accept and pass its own special graphic codes but this is not much good for commercial software written to use any interface. The Grappler+ has since corrected this problem but there are new companies all the time making the same mistake that the original Grappler did.

Another problem concerns printer buffers. Buffers are similar enough in concept — being a place to hold the characters being sent to the printer while the printer is too busy to receive them. They free the computer to go on with other tasks instead of waiting on the printer. Of course, once the buffer is full, the computer has to wait anyway. Some interface cards have built-in buffers and some buffers are designed to be placed between the interface and the printer. In theory, a buffer should not affect the printing operation, but in fact, many of them do. Again, most of the problems arise when manufacturers wish to include special features and to do this they have the buffer watch for special codes and, codes are passed as part of graphic information, then the buffer doesn't pass them and may even do something unexpected.

Some buffers may also interfere with printer line-feeding. The most common error here occurs only when printing a full 80-column line. Because the standard printer line length is 80 characters, some buffers will automatically send a line to the printer after it has received 80 characters, complete with carriage return and line feed. If however, it has received a line that is exactly 80 columns from the computer, the computer has also sent a line feed, the buffer should suppress this extra line feed or you will get an extra blank line following the 80 column line and your paging will be screwed up. Many buffers don't have the correct logic here. For some of them, you can turn this auto-line feeding function off. If you are writing a program yourself, you can usually get around this problem by using a control string of "82N" instead of "80N" when setting your column width after your "PR#1" but this wont help if you are counting on this auto-line feeding to keep your output legible.

So, the key idea for Apple users is to keep your system standard and keep it simple. Don't buy a lot of peripheral boards before knowing what they do and why you want them. Always ask if the board or interface is returnable, not only because it doesn't do what it was promised but also if it does something that you never expected (like disable all your current software). Next time we will concentrate on problems with the IBM PC and its look-alikes.



NEELY'S CORNER

by James Neely

Q. Recently Mercury, Venus and Jupiter were in heliocentric conjunction. How can I determine when and where this configuration will occur again within an orb of 4 or 5 degrees?

A. First, find the orbital period of each of the planets in question. From a table of planetary data, TM= 87.97046 days, TV = 224.70545 days, and TJ = 4332.6795 days (TM denotes the orbital period of Mercury, TV denotes the orbital period of Venus, etc.). Next, determine the synodic period of each pair of planets. The synodic period is the time between successive heliocentric conjunctions and can be computed from the formula

1/SIO = 1/TI - 1/TO,

where SIO denotes the synodic period of inner body I with outer body O. Using this formula we find that SVJ = 236.9968 days, SMV = 144.56755 days and SVJ = 89.79363 days. From SVJ we see that Venus and Jupiter have heliocentric conjunctions about every 237 days.

The following procedure is not mathematically elegant, but it is simple and easy to do with a pocket calculator that can keep a constant additive factor. Prepare a table as shown below. In the table, put the planets with the longest synodic period in the second column. The columns prefixed with a N denote the number of synodic periods and those prefixed with an S denote the number of days in N synodic periods. Put the synodic period of Venus and Jupiter in the constant storage of your calculator and keep adding the period to itself to obtain the figures in column 2 — the numbers in the first column (NVJ) are each one less that the number of times SVJ is added to itself. Make the table just as long as you want. Next, enter the synodic period of the next most rapidly occurring conjunctions in your calculator (Mercury & Venus). Add this number to itself repeatedly, and place the result in column 4 when it is sufficiently close to the one in column 2. Although not really not required, you can repeat the procedure for the final pair, Mercury and Jupiter, as a check and place the results in column 6. Any time you have numbers in columns 2, 4 and 6 which are close (the closer the better), you have a candidate for a triple conjunction. The last three columns contain the range of longitudes for which the conjunction can occur.

In line zero, I have arbitrarily assumed that the first triple conjunction is exact and occurred in zero degrees of Aries. Line 3 shows the first potential candidate for a triple conjunction which could occur after 3 synodic periods of Venus/Jupiter in a minimum of 711 days or after 5 synodic periods of Mercury/Jupiter in a maximum of 723 days. The daily motion of any planet is 360/T, thus the daily motion of Mercury is 360/87.97046 = 4.09228 degrees/day. In 711 days Mercury travels 2910 degrees or is at a longitude of 30 degrees (subtract 360 repeatedly from 2910 until the result is less than 360), or 0 Taurus. Similarly, Venus and Jupiter are at 59 degrees (29 Taurus). After 723 days these planets are at 79, 78 and 60 degrees, respectively. This is not a particularly exciting conjunction. By checking the positions for each day from 711 to 723, we find that after 719 days Mercury and Jupiter are 8 degrees apart, Mercury and Venus 10 degrees apart, and Venus and Jupiter about 12 degrees apart.

There are other configurations that can be examined. The tightest conjunction is found on line 25 where the three planets are within 4 degrees of each other after 5926 days.

	NVJ	SVJ		NMV	SMV		NMJ	VMJ	LM	LV	LJ
	0	0		0	0		0	0	0- 0	0- 0	0- 0
	1	237	(	2	289		3	269)			
	2	474	(	3	434		5	449)			
*	3	711		5	723		8	718	30- 79	59- 78	59- 60
	4	948	(	7	1012		11	988			
	/	/		/	/		/	/			
	10	2370	(	16	2313		26	2335)			
*	11	2607		18	2602		29	2604	208-229	209-217	216-217
	12	2844	(	20	2891		32	2873)			
	/	/		/	/		/	/			
†	22	5214		36	5204		58	5208	56- 97	57- 73	72- 73
	/	/		/	/		/	/			
*	25	5925		41	5927		66	5926	127-135	132-136	132-132

All of the foregoing computations assume circular orbits and hence uniform motion. Adding eccentricity only makes matters more difficult. Without the aid of a computer, it would be extremely tedious to try to find the time of triple geocentric conjunctions, even assuming circular orbits. The geocentric situation is complicated by the fact that bodies can be retrograde as well as direct.

Astro☆talk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix software

315 Marion Avenue
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
(616) 796-2483

An Ephemeris For Halley's Comet

With our sincere thanks to James Neely for providing this to the readers of Astro☆Talk.

DATE	LONG	LAT
1984 MAY 1	29GE51	-10 08
MAY 7	00CN14	-10 00
MAY 13	00CN39	- 9 53
MAY 19	01CN07	- 9 47
MAY 25	01CN37	- 9 41
MAY 31	02CN09	- 9 35
JUN 6	02CN43	- 9 31
JUN 12	03CN19	- 9 27
JUN 18	03CN55	- 9 23
JUN 24	04CN33	- 9 20
JUN 30	05CN11	- 9 18
JUL 6	05CN49	- 9 17
JUL 12	06CN27	- 9 16
JUL 18	07CN05	- 9 16
JUL 24	07CN42	- 9 16
JUL 30	08CN18	- 9 17
AUG 5	08CN53	- 9 19
AUG 11	09CN26	- 9 21
AUG 17	09CN57	- 9 24
AUG 23	10CN26	- 9 28
AUG 29	10CN51	- 9 32
SEP 4	11CN13	- 9 37
SEP 10	11CN31	- 9 43
SEP 16	11CN45	- 9 49
SEP 22	11CN55	- 9 56
SEP 28	11CN58	-10 03
OCT 4	11CN56	-10 11
OCT 10	11CN47	-10 19
OCT 16	11CN32	-10 28
OCT 22	11CN09	-10 36
OCT 28	10CN38	-10 45
NOV 3	09CN58	-10 54
NOV 9	09CN10	-11 03
NOV 15	08CN14	-11 11
NOV 21	07CN09	-11 18
NOV 27	05CN55	-11 24
DEC 3	04CN34	-11 28
DEC 9	03CN06	-11 31
DEC 15	01CN33	-11 32
DEC 21	29GE55	-11 30
DEC 27	28GE15	-11 27
1985 JAN 2	26GE34	-11 21
JAN 8	24GE55	-11 12
JAN 14	23GE18	-11 02
JAN 20	21GE45	-10 49
JAN 26	20GE19	-10 35

DATE	LONG	LAT
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FEB 7	17GE49	-10 03
FEB 13	16GE47	- 9 46
FEB 19	15GE54	- 9 29
FEB 25	15GE10	- 9 11
MAR 3	14GE35	- 8 53
MAR 9	14GE09	- 8 36
MAR 15	13GE52	- 8 19
MAR 21	13GE42	- 8 03
MAR 27	13GE41	- 7 48
APR 2	13GE46	- 7 33
APR 8	13GE58	- 7 18
APR 14	14GE16	- 7 05
APR 20	14GE40	- 6 52
APR 26	15GE08	- 6 40
MAY 2	15GE41	- 6 28
MAY 8	16GE19	- 6 17
MAY 14	16GE59	- 6 07
MAY 20	17GE43	- 5 58
MAY 26	18GE30	- 5 48
JUN 1	19GE20	- 5 40
JUN 7	20GE11	- 5 32
JUN 13	21GE04	- 5 24
JUN 19	21GE59	- 5 17
JUN 25	22GE54	- 5 10
JUL 1	23GE50	- 5 03
JUL 7	24GE47	- 4 57
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JUL 25	27GE35	- 4 39
JUL 31	28GE30	- 4 34
AUG 6	29GE22	- 4 29
AUG 12	00CN12	- 4 23
AUG 18	00CN59	- 4 18
AUG 24	01CN42	- 4 12
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SEP 5	02CN52	- 4 01
SEP 11	03CN16	- 3 54
SEP 17	03CN31	- 3 47
SEP 23	03CN34	- 3 38
SEP 29	03CN21	- 3 28
OCT 5	02CN47	- 3 16
OCT 11	01CN47	- 3 01
OCT 17	00CN11	- 2 42
OCT 23	27GE45	- 2 17
OCT 29	24GE08	- 1 43

DATE	LONG	LAT
1985 NOV 1	21GE45	- 1 22
NOV 3	19GE53	- 1 05
NOV 5	17GE46	- 46
NOV 7	15GE22	- 25
NOV 9	12GE39	- 02
NOV 11	09GE36	+ 24
NOV 13	06GE10	+ 53
NOV 15	02GE21	+ 1 25
NOV 17	28TA06	+ 2 00
NOV 19	23TA28	+ 2 37
NOV 21	18TA27	+ 3 15
NOV 23	13TA07	+ 3 55
NOV 25	07TA34	+ 4 33
NOV 27	01TA54	+ 5 09
NOV 29	26AR16	+ 5 42
DEC 1	20AR47	+ 6 11
DEC 3	15AR33	+ 6 35
DEC 5	10AR39	+ 6 55
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DEC 9	01AR58	+ 7 22
DEC 11	28PI13	+ 7 31
DEC 13	24PI50	+ 7 37
DEC 15	21PI47	+ 7 42
DEC 17	19PI02	+ 7 45
DEC 19	16PI34	+ 7 46
DEC 21	14PI21	+ 7 47
DEC 23	12PI20	+ 7 48
DEC 25	10PI30	+ 7 48
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JAN 22	24AQ12	+ 7 23
JAN 24	23AQ15	+ 7 19
JAN 26	22AQ18	+ 7 14
JAN 28	21AQ20	+ 7 08
JAN 30	20AQ22	+ 7 02

DATE	LONG	LAT
1986 FEB 1	19AQ23	+ 6 54
FEB 3	18AQ23	+ 6 46
FEB 5	17AQ22	+ 6 36
FEB 7	16AQ22	+ 6 25
FEB 9	15AQ21	+ 6 13
FEB 11	14AQ20	+ 5 59
FEB 13	13AQ19	+ 5 44
FEB 15	12AQ19	+ 5 28
FEB 17	11AQ19	+ 5 10
FEB 19	10AQ20	+ 4 50
FEB 21	09AQ21	+ 4 29
FEB 23	08AQ23	+ 4 07
FEB 25	07AQ25	+ 3 42
FEB 27	06AQ27	+ 3 16
MAR 1	05AQ29	+ 2 47
MAR 3	04AQ29	+ 2 17
MAR 5	03AQ29	+ 1 44
MAR 7	02AQ26	+ 1 08
MAR 9	01AQ19	+ 29
MAR 11	00AQ09	- 14
MAR 13	28CP54	- 1 01
MAR 15	27CP32	- 1 53
MAR 17	26CP01	- 2 51
MAR 19	24CP20	- 3 55
MAR 21	22CP26	- 5 08
MAR 23	20CP16	- 6 30
MAR 25	17CP45	- 8 03
MAR 27	14CP48	- 9 50
MAR 29	11CP19	-11 51
MAR 31	07CP10	-14 09
APR 2	02CP11	-16 44
APR 4	26SA12	-19 33
APR 6	19SA04	-22 30
APR 8	10SA43	-25 23
APR 10	01SA18	-27 53
APR 12	21SC13	-29 43
APR 14	11SC04	-30 42
APR 16	01SC31	-30 51
APR 18	23LI00	-30 21
APR 20	15LI43	-29 25
APR 22	09LI37	-28 17
APR 24	04LI36	-27 05
APR 26	00LI27	-25 53
APR 28	27VI03	-24 46
APR 30	24VI14	-23 43

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.One#3 May/Jun'84

Astro☆talk

CONSTANT COMET
HALLEY'S IS BACK IN TOWN

The coming return of Halley's comet is eagerly awaited. In fact, astronomers have been searching the skies for that first glimpse of the body for years. The Roman author Seneca wrote "Comets are said to bring misfortune to countries ruled by the sign in which they are first visible... and also those countries ruled by the signs through which the comets pass while still visible." This return of the Halley comet was first noted on October 16, 1982, and it was then at 18 degrees and 26 minutes of the sign Cancer. Many thanks to James Neely for his excellent comet ephemeris which has been printed on the last page. This might be a good time to say a few words about comets from an astronomical and astrological perspective.

The ancient authors like Ptolemy, Seneca and others are not too encouraging when it comes to the comet. "The comets are very cruel and threaten us with the worst of mischiefs. They bring with them, and leave behind them, the seeds of bloodshed and slaughter" writes Seneca. Often the kind of effect predicted for a particular comet was derived from the color of that comet's head as it burned slowly across the sky. Thus a ruby-like color pointed to a Martian influence, a bluish-tint to Uranian and so forth.

Modern writers have been more kind to the comet as regards what it portends for man and the Earth. The great English occultist Dion Fortune writes "The comet in its orbit takes souls to the outermost bounds of the cosmos wherein there are no influences to which they can react, and the cosmic atom-images which go to the building of their component parts cease to be reflected.

"That is the 'unknown death'. Such units cease to be completely and there is no reincarnation or fresh start. Even their karma is disintegrated and touches not the group spirit. It is said of such that they exchange their planet for a comet. The elect to go far and fast, but they go too far and fast for their forces of cohesion, and the comet to which they have yoked themselves when it returns again to the sphere of our solar system is found to be without them."

And last, but not least, Dane Rudhyar writes in New Mansions For New Men "Comets have been related to ominous messages of destiny. But they should not be considered evil. The irrational is not the evil. It may disturb our intellectual and traditional self-complacency; but we should welcome its visitations, for it brings, at least to the strong, a breath of the beyond. And we need that beyond, that we may learn to laugh at our littleness and our pompously ordered interpretations.

"For comets and all celestial visitors which glow thru our skies, should not symbolize the servants of our conscious faculties, but instead the fiery sparks welling from the depths of unconscious being and setting the consciousness aflame, for brief moments, with inspiration."

That was but a sample of what astrologers have written on the comets. The modern day inter-

See Halley, Page 6

JOIN IN ACT'84!

See page 4 & we'll see you in Chicago!

New at Matrix:

Pictured on page two is a look at the new Report Writer covers now available from MATRIX. These cover/folders are part of an ongoing effort on the part of MATRIX to help our users market written interpretations and natal charts. I wish you could see these in color. They are really nice. These bright covers provide a much more professional appearance to MATRIX reports or chart calculations.

The covers are easy to use. No expensive binding process or holes to punch. Just place the finished report inside the right-hand cover, staple at the top, and your material has a professional touch. These bright three-colored covers add value to all MATRIX reports and natal charts.

The covers are not inexpensive because we have not opted for an inexpensive look. We are using the best heavy card stock and full three-color printing. The covers cost .90 each in quantities of 25. 25 covers are $22.50 plus 1.50 postage. This cost of the covers should be easy to recover compared to the added value you are providing your customers. And the covers might be used in many ways. Aside from report writers, you may want to give each client a folder containing their natal chart wheel and other calculations you have prepared for them. Or provide a MATRIX report stapled to the inside of the folder and the natal wheel on the inside of the front cover. The covers are perfect for that special customer or when you want to add a touch of class to some options in your catalog.

What we are trying to say here is: 'We got covers!'. Many of you have written asking for this kind of support. Now they are here.

The new covers are a part of our increased MATRIX System support. Next in the works are a series of newspaper ad 'slicks' to help you advertise the report writers and other

Continued on page 2

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Matrix News from page 1

MATRIX materials in your area. We hope to have these ads ready for you by the AFA convention. They will consist of a series of ready-made different sized ads that you can add your name and address to and use in newspapers, magazines, and what-have-you?.

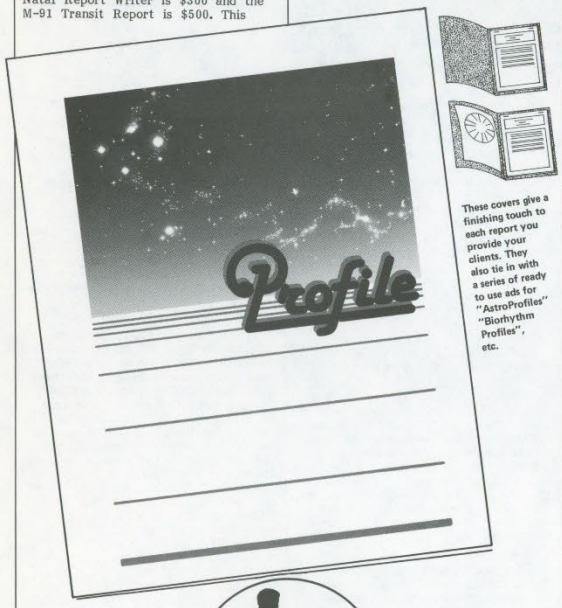
Report Writer Special

To help launch our new Report Covers, we are offering a special price on two of our most popular Report Writers: M-90 Natal Report and M-91 Day-By-Day Transit Report. Both of these Report Writers include text by Charles & Vivia Jayne — two experts in the field. They are our best sellings reports. Starting June 1, 1984, the new price of the M-90 Natal Report Writer is $300 and the M-91 Transit Report is $500. This represents a large price reduction and we hope it will help to encourage more of you to add a Report Writer or two to your computer services.

The new Report Covers, the special price on M-90 & M-91, and the forthcoming ad slicks are part of an effort on our part to provide added support to your MATRIX System. Note our new MATRIX System logo.

New Catalog

We are finishing a new 40 page catalog of MATRIX Software. It should be ready sometime in June. There will be no charge for it. Drop us a card and ask for one.



These covers give a finishing touch to each report you provide your clients. They also tie in with a series of ready to use ads for "AstroProfiles" "BioRhythm Profiles", etc.

MATRIX SYSTEM

EDITORIAL

As regards AFA/AFAN: the situation appears to have very much worsened. The rift is deeper. Tempers are short. People are being asked to take up sides. I have received a number of warnings (some threats too!) that I had better get on the 'right side'. There is talk of court battles, petitions, demonstrations, and so on.

Is this what we want to be doing? The whole thing saddens me. I, for one, don't see the need to pit astrologer against astrologer.

It is my opinion that the AFAN (Network) should, at this time, become independent of AFA and stand on its own feet as a separate organization. This new organization could concern itself with the very real needs of practicing professional astrologers. Perhaps it could be called the Association of Professional Astrologers (APA) or something like that.

Forty thousand children die of starvation each day! The fertile areas of our world are fast turning into desert. How many of us are even aware of these facts? It seems that we are like sleepwalkers — unable to awaken and respond to a world filled with real change and challenge. We all somehow must sense this. The changes are coming fast and can already be felt. As astrologers, all of us have a unique opportunity to play a decisive part in society over the next few decades. We have been born for this. Now, more than ever, astrology needs solidarity and togetherness. Of course, we are bound to have our differences. Let us work them out in an even handed manner and concentrate on our common interest: bringing astrology to a world that needs it right now.

MONEY TALK

by Iaen Sullivan

When we talk of money, we must consider ethics from several points of view. The first & most necessary is your personal, selfish motivation. Why are you involved in astrology on a professional basis? Are you charging enough for your services?

You will not be respected if you do not respect yourself. As a professional, you should be on the most intimate terms with your MC & 10th house. Who is living there? How do they relate to the 2nd & 8th? Saturn in the 10th is a warning to be very responsible & reverent. There is danger of being manipulated into "proving" or "scientific testing."

What kind of astrology suits you best? Financial?Counseling? Projections? Writing? Teaching? Research? Your chart will tell you just as it shows your success potential.

A very quick & easy clue can be seen in the Numerology of the birthdate & name. See MATRIX ALPHA-NUMEROLOGY for example: A birth path #3 has the keyword "communication." A Soul Urge #7 has a keyword "study" This duo might indicate writing & research. It may incline toward computer programming. The great variety of just these two factors is a rich guide to the horoscope. A further clue: Where are the Zero degrees of the Cardinals? The houses & aspects will point toward your links with the world in general.

Astrotalk

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ASTRO•TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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ASTROLOGICAL Community News

Coming Events:

New York, NY. **World Economic & Business Cycles Seminar,** May 17-20, 1984. Contact: Mary B. Downing, 78 Hubbard Avenue, Stamford, CT 06905 (203) 357-7041

Toronto, Canada. **Medical Astrology Intensive,** May 21-25, 1984. COntact: Toronto Branch Fraternity For Canadian Astrologers, 60 River Street, Apt. 34, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4A 5G5

Chicago, IL. **1984 American Federation of Astrologers Convention,** July 27-August 1, 1984. Contact: AFA, PO Box 22040, Tempe AZ 85282 (602) 838-1751

Chicago, IL. **ACT: Astrological Conference on Techniques,** July 28-August 1, 1984. Held as part of AFA Convention. Contact: Michael Erlewine, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307 (616) 796-2483

Exeter University, Devon, England. **Astrological Association Annual Conference,** Sept. 7-9, 1984. Contact: Brenda Miller, 'Applewell', Commons Lane, Ringmore, Shaldon, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 0HN. Phone Shaldon 3702

Berkeley, CA. **The Neptune In Capricorn International Astrology Conference,** Nov. 23-26, 1984. Contact: Julie Pickerill, P.O. Box 20850, Reno NV 89515 (702) 358-2850

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

June 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
08	11:09	10CP39	JUP SXT SAT
10	13:22	06CP25	MAR SES JUP *H
13	12:18	00CP00	NEP INTO CP *H
20	09:38	28SA55	MAR CJN URA *H
25	20:49	03CP40	MAR SES SAT *H
28	13:31	06CP40	MAR SSQ PLU *H

July 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
08	08:54	00CP09	SAT SSQ NEP *H
18	21:38	29SA20	NEP SXT PLU
23	12:40	00CP14	MAR CJN NEP *H
24	00:21	09SC48	SAT SES URA
24	05:40	10CP10	MAR SSQ SAT *H
27	00:11		JUP @ South Ecliptic Node *H

What's In The Journals?

Kosmos, Vol. XIII, #2, Spring 1984, ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038

President's Message 1984 by Carol Tebbs, **The Emotional Roots of Illness** by Maritha Pottenger, **A New Slant on Stress in the Horoscope** by Ingraid Naiman, **Eclipses in Action** by Robert Jansky, **Book Reviews.**

Astro-Psychological Problems, Volume 2, No. 1, Dec. 1983. Contact: Francoise Gauquelin, B.P. 317, F-75229, Paris Cedex 05 France

Extraversion and Sun Sign by Prof. A.G. Smithers, **Research on Astrological Factors Between Married Couples** by Thomas Shanks, **Moon Results with a Projective Test** by Francoise Gauquelin, **The Problem of the Time in Previous Centuries** by Angelo Libranti, **The Summertimes in Poland** by Marius Karlinski, **The Planets of the Astrologers** by Marie Schnwider, **Letters.**

Cycles: Bulletin of the Foundation for the Study of Cycles, April 1984, Vol. 35, No. 3, 124 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburg, PA 15206

The 18-Year Period in Sunspot Data by J. B. Blizard

The Astrological Journal, Spring 1984, Vol. XXVI No. 2, The Astrological Association, Editor: Zach Matthews, 'Oakfield', Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England

Thank God for Astrology by Karen Brewer, **Astro*Radionics** by Tad Mann, **Cycles in Mundane Astrology: A Case Study** by Charles Harvey, **Science and Astrology: The Anatomy of a Philosophical Conflict** by Laurence Cassidy, **The Zodiac and the 12 Tones of the Musical Scale** by Michael McMullin, **Alcholism in the U.S.A.** by Ann E. Parker, **Some Astro-Economic Indicators (part 1)** by Nick Campion, **Will a Missile Explode in Our Country?** by Olivia Barclay/Derek Appleby, **The Magic of Mid Points** by Suzanne Harvey

The Mutable Dilemma, Vol. 7, No. 2, Pisces 1984, LA-CCRS, 5953 W. 86th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90045

Research Week by Zip Dobyns, **More on the Presidential Contenders** by Zip Dobyns, **Challenge Corner** by Zip Dobyns, **A Hope and a Let Down** by Zip Dobyns, **Aspects of Life** by Maritha Pottenger

JOIN

1984 is an AFA convention year. From July 27th through August 1st, thousands of astrologers from all over the country (and world) will meet in the Marriott Hotel in downtown Chicago, Illinois to share ideas, get re-acquainted and generally update themselves on what is happening in the field. There is no other astrological gathering quite like the American Federation of Astrologer's bi-annual convention. Everyone agrees that the AFA really knows how to hold a convention.

There is, however, another conference that is held along with the AFA convention that you might like to know more about, the Astrological Conference on Techniques or ACT Conference (as it is called). ACT is a part of the larger AFA convention program schedule and is held in the same building. Registration for the AFA Convention automatically provides you access to all ACT workshops and seminars. Here at MATRIX, we are very involved in working with ACT and feel that it could represent a new trend in astrological meetings. Here are some details.

The idea for ACT came about during a series of visits Charles Jayne made to the Heart Center School of Astrology in Ann Arbor during the late 1970's. Both Charles and myself enjoy getting together and sharing ideas on a wide range of subjects — some of them very esoteric. We were aware for example, regarding some of the topics we discussed (i.e. Cosmic Structure), that we were among the few astrologers in the world interested in the subject. Wouldn't it be great, we thought, if there could be a conference for technically oriented astrologers from all over to come together to share ideas and meet each other in person. They could meet on selected technical matters and topics that might not draw much of a crowd. A 'no meeting is too small' sort of thing. Even if only two people show up, that is o.k. We were both aware that most astrological conferences could not afford to offer on subject matter of such limited appeal.

In some technical areas of astrology, there are only a handful of experts in the whole world — sometimes only one or two. We felt that these subjects and these experts needed a place to get together, share ideas, meet each other and generally have a chance to communicate. In fact, some of the subject areas were so esoteric that only the experts themselves might turn up to discuss them. Not enough time had gone by for there to be any audience or students of the subject.

Charles and I kicked the idea around for several years. At one time, there was the possibility that Noel Tyl and Llewellyn Publications might sponsor a series of this type of conference in different cities around the country. But the idea fell thru when Astrology Now folded. I then approached Bob Cooper of the AFA about holding ACT as part of the bi-annual AFA convention. He was very enthusiastic and put it before the Board of Directors. They agreed and ACT had a home. Robert Hand joined Charles and myself in helping to organize the conference.

The first ACT conference was held in New Orleans during a very hot and steamy week in August as part of the 1980 AFA Convention. It was a decided success which loosely translates to: We had a ball. The arrangement with AFA worked out great too. The were a great host. They provided us with meeting rooms and left us to do our thing.

ACT speakers and participants came from all over this country and the world. What fun! I found myself working in close contact with some of the best technical astrologers in the field. People like John Townley and Charles Jayne were in the hotel room next to mine. Robert Hand, Noel Tyl, Axel Harvey, David Black and many other fine astrologers were there too — just walking around in the halls as live as they could be. It was in New Orleans that I met David Cochrane in person. He later came and worked with us here in Big Rapids. I also remember meeting one tall fellow who had driven all night from South Carolina to speak on Dynamic Computer Horoscope Interpretive Techniques — then an esoteric subject. This was none other than MATRIX staff member Doug Pierce. I met him for the first time there in New Orleans. We became good friends.

That week in New Orleans was unforgettable. Living right in the heart of the French Quarter was fantastic in itself. Add a thousand or so astrologers and you have a real event on your hands. You have an AFA convention. And the ACT conference was great. ACT workshops saw dozens of astrologers interacting with one another on topics that only an astrologer could love. We loved it.

IN!

And it was more than just the workshops. There were the dinners, and late night get togethers, the impromptu group discussions in the halls and lobby. The whole thing was alive with exchange and friendship. That was just the beginning.

The ACT conference took place in Chicago in 1982 as part of the AFA convention. Another great convention. In this second ACT conference, we moved even further away from the traditional straight lecture format. ACT 1982 was almost all groups and panels. Each ACT workshop consisted of a panel of experts (on the topic up for discussion) that interacted with each other. It got hot at times. But that was not the end of it. There were large signs posted in the ACT meeting room inviting the audience to participate in all discussions. And participate they did.

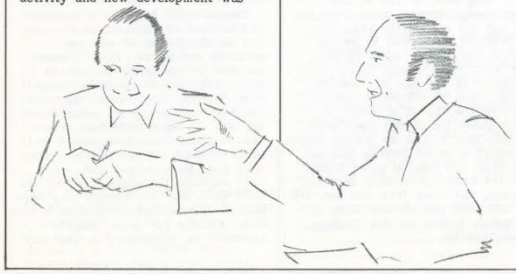
ACT tries to invite experts on the subjects up for discussion. But there is no way that we can know everyone who may be knowledgeable on a given topic. Here is where the audience participation is of great value. Each conference brings response from audience members we have never met. They interact with the panel members. They meet. Next time, many are invited as speakers. It is a very democratic and flexible method.

Let me say a few more words about what happened with ACT in Chicago in 1982. And this is the kind of thing that is hard to put into words. Our focus on the extreme technical softened a bit. Where at first we tended towards computer and computer-like techniques, now we found ourselves equally interested in any and all areas of astrology where activity and new development was taking place. Not only were there many interactive discussions, but also a number of the panels made attempts to organize activity that would go on during the two year interval between ACT conferences.

However, the most important outcome of the 1982 ACT convention had to do with how we felt about one another. We discovered that we shared a common spirit. It was like a great many smaller streams flowing together to make a river. We amazed ourselves at our own sense of confidence. Instead of a group of isolated individuals, we knew ourselves to be a force within astrology — for the first time. It was a very special and unforgettable time.

Day after day, the same group of people would turn up in the ACT conference room. We ended up eating meals together and staying up till all hours of the night. ACT had one hotel room that no one slept in. It was open day and night as a place of refuge where ACT participants could meet.

Perhaps, I am giving too much detail about the spirit in which the ACT meetings were held. It seems important that readers understand the energy and friendships that were being forged during this time spent together. The ACT panel discussions and interaction seemed to point to a new way to cooperate and exchange information.



ACT'84
ASTROLOGICAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNIQUES

The 1984 ACT Convention in Chicago

The upcoming ACT Conference will take place this summer in Chicago at the same Marriott Hotel as the last one. The dates are July 27 thru August 1, 1984. Once again, we are grateful to be part of the AFA convention. We have our best turn out yet with over 55 panel speakers and participants taking part in ACT. This year too, all ACT functions consist of a panel of experts that interact with each other and with the audience. Below is a list of this years topics and some of the panel participants.

We do hope to see some of our readers in Chicago this summer. Come and visit the ACT conference room. Please contact AFA headquarter (Phone AFA 602-838-1751) for registration details. You will need to register thru the AFA for both your rooms (if you are staying at the Marriott) and registration fees. Call me if you have any questions. Look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

1984 ACT Program Schedule

Saturday Morning July 28 (session one)

Networking Data: New Concepts in Personality Data Base and Data Exchange. Renewed interest and activity in chart data exchange throughout the astrological community makes this meeting a much needed event. Moderator is Doug Pierce with Marion March, Roger Elliot, Michael Munkasey, Stephen Erlewine, Arthur Blackwell, Thomas Shanks, Mark Pottenger, Mark Urban-Lurain, etc.

Saturday Morning July 28 (session 2)

ACT Gambling & Astrology Round-table. The use of astrology with various kinds of gambling will be the topic. Panel led by Roger Elliot with Edith Custer, Michael Munkasey, more.

Saturday Afternoon July 28 (session 3)

Making A Living as an Astrologer in the 20th Century. A panel of professionals discuss how to be and not-to-be successful in the 1980s. Moderator is Angel Thompson with Erin Sullivan-Seale, Jayj Jacobs, Buz Meyers, Pat Esclavon, Jeff Jawer, Ann Parker and others.

Continued from page 1

HALLEY'S IS BACK

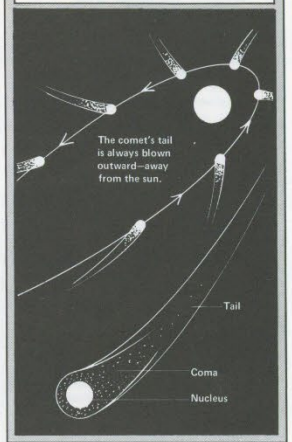
pretations tend to be more balanced and less threatening. Now let's examine just what a comet is.

Comets were once feared (as we have seen from the older quotes above) and considered omens of disaster because of their erratic and eccentric ways. They were thought to be unwelcome strangers who had wandered into our Solar System by mistake. Now we know them to be actual members of the system — tiny balls of ice and dust that spend almost all of their lives riding highly eccentric orbits thru the frozen spaces — far beyond the reach of Pluto. There may be billions of them out there, 3000 times farther than Pluto and halfway to the nearest star, and still the orbit of each of them ties them permanently to our Sun. Yes, they are wanderers who have chosen to 'go far and fast', who have hurried away from our center until they have reached incredible distances — lost in outer space. They reflect no light out there, these specks of ice and dust lost in a frozen wasteland. It is only as they begin to come home that they gain any significance.

Comets are "the nearest thing to nothing that anything can be and still be something" and they are visible only because the conditions in space allow their very tenuous material to glow with great efficiency. A comet, as it reaches the orbit of Jupiter or Mars on it's return journey, begins to warm and grow excited by the nearness of the Sun. As it melts, it emits the gas and dust that it has held trapped for centuries. This dust forms a gigantic head and a long fiery tail. In fact, the word comet comes from the Greek and means 'long-haired'. This refers to the long hair-like tail each comet has trailing after it. As comets approach the Sun, they let their hair down.

A major comet, when it expands, becomes for a time the largest body in the Solar System — much larger than the Sun. A major comet may be bright enough to be visible in daylight and to cast shadows at night. The long tail can stretch 150 degrees across the sky, yet it weighs almost nothing. If all of the gas in the head of a brilliant comet and in its 100 million mile tail could somehow be compressed to the density of the Earth's atmosphere, it would fit comfortably inside the average living room. Now that is 'much ado about nothing'.

Altho it has little density and not much substance, a comet covers an enormous amount of space. A comet, typically, has four distinct parts. The head, roughly spherical and typically ten times the Earth's diameter, is



made up of very tenuous gases — thinner than the 'vacuum' in a radio tube — plus some fine dust particles. This is the comet's brightest part and may be all that ever becomes visible — even thru a telescope. In the brighter comets, there is also a tail made up of even thinner dust and gases that may reach over 100 million miles in length. This is more than the distance from the Earth to the Sun.

The 'long hair' or tail of the comet always streams away from the head but not necessarily away from the direction the comet is moving towards. The tail is blown by the Solar Wind which always moves from the center of the Sun out towards the far edges of the Solar System. Therefore the tail of a comet is always blown (or points) away from the Sun. This is true no matter where the comet is in its journey into or away from the Sun. In other words, when the comet is heading back out to space, and away from the sun, the Tail will then precede the Head of the comet. Please see the diagram for clarification.

In some comets, there is a third part which consists of a huge invisible envelope, made of hydrogen gas, several million miles in size and surrounding the much smaller (but visible) head and some of the tail as well. This is the Coma.

In addition, comets are believed to have a fourth part which consists of a tiny nucleus (only a few miles across). This tiny center made of frozen gases mixed with dust is said to generate the other three parts — head, tail and coma. The nucleus would be the comet's most substantial part.

We mentioned earlier that comets were bound to the Sun in long elliptical (cigar shaped) orbits. They are way out there. They spend, by far, the majority of their time in the deep reaches of space. Perhaps once in 5 million years, a comet will move in along its enormous orbit to the inner part of the Solar System and have its brief day in the Sun. After passing near the Sun, it will then begin its long parade back into obscurity shedding its light and tail as it disappears. Astronomers speculate that there may be as many as 100 billion comets sitting out there waiting to come in!

Halley's comet is one of the few known comets to return on a frequent basis. In the next few' years, astrologers will have the opportunity to experience a major comet as it makes its circle around the Sun. By now, you should have some idea as to how comets work. Now, for the more difficult question: what do they mean?

For astrologers, comets have traditionally always been difficult to interpret. They are unknown messengers coming from the Unconscious — far beyond Pluto. It is uncertain how these messages will be received. Will they have to fight the natural resistance to change and bring death to existing kings/institutions or will they be welcomed and recognized and result in the birth of a new ruler/concept? Or both.

Comets could be seen to issue a call-to-home to those of us who are lost on the fringes of our own eccentric orbits, who have followed our own private paths to such an extent that our hearts have frozen over. Perhaps we have lost sight of the heart and center of ourselves — the Sun. To those individuals who have isolated themselves, who have followed their own private interests until they have become lost, who have explored the abstractions of the mind until, like the comet, they have become a head existing without a real body. Perhaps for these, comets represent an opportunity to find new

life, new warmth and a renewed purpose. Halley's comet could be a call to all of those on the edges, to those who can still hear... a call to come home, to return and reveal themselves — to shine. All the outriders being called in.

Perhaps this comet will mark a major light and change in our heavens — a herald of a new era. Could it signal a massive centering across the world, a time to lose our obsession with the alienated individual and pull all humanity into a real cooperation?

There is something strangely beautiful about the comet. Note how it gains in stature and brilliance as it nears the Sun in its slow and stately progression across the skies. It comes from out of nowhere. As it approaches its master, the Sun, it dons a brilliant and shining face. And after this rendezvous, it sheds that light and form and vanishes back into the depths from which it came. Our own brief lives are not dissimilar. We are born, take on the cloak of form, rise and shine to a fullness and finally let that cloak pass from us. Kind of mushy? Perhaps. But also kind of beautiful.

ACT '84 ASTROLOGICAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNIQUES

ACT '84 Schedule cont. from page 4

Saturday Afternoon July 28 (session 4)

Astrological Businesses & Publishing Panel. Leaders from some of the major corporations within the field meet to share ideas and experiences. Moderated by Michael Munkasey (Faith Publishing), with Neil Michelsen (Astro-Computing Services), Robert Thibodeau (Mayflower Books), Buz Meyers (RKM), Mark Lerner (Welcome To Planet Earth), Michael Erlewine (Matrix Software), Richard Nolle (editor, reviewer), Astrographics, Eric Bloom (RKM), Jayj Jacobs (Experience Astrology), Jim Lewis (Astro*Cartography), Steve Hines (Microcycles), an AFA rep. and others.

Sunday Morning July 29 (session 1)

Chart SYNTHESIS: Possible Approaches To Whole Chart Analysis by Computer If astrologers can do it, why (or why not) can't the computer? Panel moderator is Doug Pierce with Thomas Shanks, Ken & Joan Negus, Gary Duncan, Roger Elliot, John Kahila, Pat Esclavon, John Townley, Mark Urbain-Lurain, Michael Munkasey, and Tim Smith.

Sunday Morning July 29 (session 2)

ACT Stock Market Roundtable - Leading experts on astrology and the stock market meet to discuss the current state of the market and what they see for the future. Moderated by Sam 'Arch' Crawford with Norman Winsky, Charles Jayne, Bill Sarubbi, Michael Munkasey, Bill Whisenent, Ray Merriman, Roger Elliot, Neil Michelsen, Pat Esclavon, etc.

Sunday Afternoon July 29 (session 3)

The Next Twenty Years. A panel on political and Earth changes that can be expected from now thru the beginning of next century. Moderated by Barry Lynes with a panel selected by Lynes that includes various well-known futurists, political figures, etc.

Sunday Afternoon July 29 (session 4)

Astrology & Music Performance: The Music of the Spheres . A panel discussion plus a musical experience with live performances by John Townley, Michael Heleus (synthesized music), chart delineation on the Koto by Gerald Markoe, Noel Tyl on piano, more.

Monday Morning July 30 (session 1)

Project Alexandria: Worldwide Astrological Library & Resource Centers. The creation, coordination and networking of existing libraries of astrological materials will be the topic for this workshop. Panel moderator is Robin Armstrong with Neil Michelsen, Lilian Huber, Gary Christen, Richard Nolle, Sara Cooper, and Tim Smith.

Monday Morning July 30 (session 2)3

The Art of Training of Astrologers: The State of Course work & Examinations in Astrology. The latest news on astrological schools, courses, examinations and teaching methods are discussed with a look to cooperation. Panel moderated by Ken & Joan Negus with Gary Duncan, AFA educational representative, Lilian Huber, Michael Erlewine, Buz Meyers, Velma Chatham, Jayj Jacobs and Tim Smith.

Monday Afternoon July 30 (session 3)

Computers In Astrology: An Update and Roundtable Discussion. What's new? The major astrological computer software companies discuss current projects with an eye to cooperation and standardization. Panel moderator is Michael Erlewine of MATRIX, with Gary Duncan of MATRIX, Robert Hand and Doug Kellog of AGS, Neil Michelsen of ACS, Claude Weiss of Astrodata, Steve Hines of Microcycles, etc.

Monday Afternoon July 30 (session 4)

Relocation Astrology: The Latest Techniques Moderated by Michael Erlewine with Jim Lewis, Charles Jayne, Steve Cozzi, Charles Emerson, Steve Blake, Neil Michelson, Zip Dobyns, etc.

Tuesday Morning July 31 (session 1)

'Grass Roots' Research Project: Networking Research. A realistic plan whereby any home computer users can participate in large scale research projects. Moderated by Gary Duncan with Roger Elliot, Charles Emerson, Doug Pierce, John Kahila, David Black, Mark Urban-Lurain.

Tuesday Morning July 31 (session 2)

Astrology & Religion Panel: How Close Are They? Is astrology a religion? If not, why not? If so, how so? Moderated by Robert Hand with David Black, Michael Erlewine, Bob Thibodeau, Richard Nolle, Thomas Shanks, Bill Whisenant, Zip Dobyns, Mark Lerner, Doug Smith, Erin Sullivan-Seale and Tim Smith.

Tuesday Afternoon July 31 (session 3)

The New Heliocentric Astrology. More popular everyday, this powerful technique is discussed by a panel of experts moderated by Michael Erlewine with Edith Custer, T. Patrick Davis, Robert Hand, Barbara May, Thomas Shanks, Ann Parker, etc.

Tuesday Afternoon July 31 (session 4)

Astrological Research Results: The Big Zero. Why have many recent research attempts resulted in no significant statistical results. What does this mean about astrology or our approach? Panel moderator is Thomas Shanks with Gary Duncan, John Kahila, Richard Nolle, Roger Elliot, Charles Emerson, Carole Yawney and Tim Smith.

Wednesday Morning August 1 (session 1)

The Zen of Astrological Research: Does our attitude and energy of our approach effect what kind of results we find? panel moderator is David Black with Robert Hand, Bill Whisenant, Zip Dobyns, Doug Smith.

Wednesday Morning August 1 (session 2)

ACT Good-bye Party & Planning Session. ACT speakers and participants meet to discuss the series of workshops and make plans for the future. All AFA members are welcome. A good-time farewell party for this conference.

machine talk

Kind of dull on the computer front this issue. Not a lot has happened since the last time we met. Some small amount of news. Here it is.

The IBM standard continues to gain momentum and force. The new IBM portable PC has been well received and it, along with most PC look alikes, is reported to be selling well. More important, we have seen the first signs of a dramatic price breakthru as regards IBM PC clones or look alikes. Japan appears to be making its long awaited move with the introduction of inexpensive IBM PC compatible machines. We have been working with the Sanyo 555 machine, which comes with 256K and dual double-sided drives at a retail price of under $1600. That is very good news for computer buyers because the IBM standard is the best out there at this time.

It appears the Sanyo is only the first of many inexpensive PC compatibles that we can expect to see on the market this year.

And the American Japanese (as Commodore likes to refer to themselves) have done it too. Commodore introduced an IBM PC compatible portable at the Hanover fair in West Germany recently. There is no doubt that this is a sign that Commodore intends to get into the IBM action in a big way. For one, Intel has granted Commodore a license to manufacture the 8088 microprocessor chips that are used in the IBM PC. Also, Commodore has acquired all of the support technology they need to manufacture an IBM PC compatible from Hyperion Computers of Canada. Hyperion produced an IBM compatible machine that didn't do much in the sales department.

Commodore likes to manufacture all parts of any machine they produce. Now that they have the 8088 license and the Hyperion technology, they are ready to bring out an IBM look-alike at rock-bottom prices. It could mean a real price break for computer users. The IBM software we have is dynamite and very fast. The bad news is that Commodore appears to be in no great hurry to bring the machine to the U.S. They are going to hit Europe first since IBM has a much more tentative hold there and a commanding presence. Also, they are probably gearing up to produce the 8088 chips in-house. At any rate, we can expect a lo-cost IBM look alike from Commodore in the not too distant future.

PCjr has been taking its knocks. Reports have it that sales are down, altho IBM has not fully acknowledged this fact. No one is happy about the keyboard; and there are signs that IBM may be prepared to do something about it. A new keyboard may be in the works. Several good keyboards have been announced for Junior by non-IBM companies.

In spite of PCjr's difficulties, my feeling is that the machine will do well for IBM in the long run. The new keyboard may have to appear, and it wouldn't hurt sales to lower the cost some, but Pcjr is a good machine for the money.

Apple news is typical. They have just introduced their new Apple IIc computer — a one piece unit containing computer, keyboard and a built in disk drive. Once again, Apple could not resist jacking up the price to get the last dollar out of our pockets. The new IIc system weighs in at a hefty $1300 or so — not a price breakthru. Apple has yet to pass on any of their success to their customers in the way of reduced prices. Had Apple brought out a spartan version of the Apple II for around $600-$700 within the last year, they would have had a landslide of orders. They have been very successful, so what do I know anyway? There is a possibility that the Apple IIe may be reduced, now that the IIc has appeared.

Any way you spell it, the introduction of the IIc means renewed life for Apple. We have lots of software for the Apple, so you might want to keep your eyes open for a good deal on an Apple. My only caution is that programs run a lot slower on Apple that on the IBM type machines.

The Commodore 64 continues to be the most popular choice among astrologers looking for a new computer. We get more calls and orders for C-64 software than for any other computer out there — by far. The IBM standard is gaining ground on the C-64, but slowly. When the price comes down on the IBM, it will get much more popular. Right now Commodore is king. It also appears that Commodore has been getting its act together in the quality control department. Users have been reporting far fewer mechanical failures than was the case six months or a year ago.

Our new compiled programs for the Commodore C-64 have received an enthusiastic reception. M-65 runs 2-3 times as fast as it used to. Thanks for all your letters. Glad you like it!

That's about all she wrote for this issue. IBM fanciers may want to read more about the PC standard in next month's TECH TALK. Commodore C-64s have been seen selling for as little as $139 altho, in most places, the price still hovers near $200. Apple's Mac is doing well. We are working on software for it, but it is slow going. See you next issue.

When you have questions, or need assistance with an order, your nearest Matrix Rep is there to help you out. Just call.

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(604) 383-9184

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Livonia, MI 48150
(313) 464-1691

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Allen Erdheim
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(212) 861-2835

Anders Ekstrom
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Claude Weiss
Seminarstrasse 25
8042 Zurich
Switzerland

A Matrix Rep Report

by Dick & Nancy Eadington

It all began a few years ago, at our weekly Astrology class, when Steve showed up at the door exclaiming, " I did it!, I got a computer! "We stood there in awe as he placed the oversized typewriter, with a Cyclops-like screen, on the table. He plugged it in and turned it on. The message "Ready" and the blinking cursor appeared. At this point, my knowledge of computers was limited to knowing that they were something I had seen at Radio Shack. Well, as you can guess, the night wound on into the early morning hours, and I was hooked.

Suddenly the prospect of all of the hours doing math and the stacks of tables, seemed to begin to vanish. Well, next came the hours of reading about computers, and the expected confusion. Finally it was time. "Shop around" was something that never entered my mind as I eagerly plunked out four hundred and something dollars for a VIC-20, a tape player, and an 8-K expander. But finally I was off and running! The next two weeks dragged on as I formed a close relationship with the UPS driver, while waiting for M-1 to arrive. My heart pounded as I loaded the program. Suddenly my worst fears were confirmed as screen filled with an odd assortment of characters with no meaning. PANIC! Ah Ha! I forgot to plug in the expander! The first of a long string of human error problems, that would sharpen my computer skills, had arrived.

Soon friends were calling me at odd hours, requesting charts.

They had learned very quickly that the next best thing to owning a computer was to know someone that owns one! It didn't take me long to figure out I might be able to start a small business doing charts.

This time the investment would be much more than the VIC-20, and I was determined to have my eyes open when making my purchases of equipment. I think it is a really good idea to choose the software first and the equipment second. My choice was the 4032 Commodore, 4040 disk drive, and the 4022 printer. The M-65 System was my software choice. Since my computer work was to be primarily Astrological work, this was the system for me.

I checked out all the local laws concerning raising the dead, fortune telling, etc., and got the needed paperwork. Next we spent several months putting together our brochures, advertising ideas, and contacting the local professional Astrologers. Everything came together nicely.

We started advertising in the local newspapers, and placed literature in all the "Metaphysico" hang-outs. The response was not nearly as great as I had expected. As with any business, I had not considered a good market strategy, nor how to penetrate it. So we dropped back five yards, and re-examined our situation. It became apparent to us that because of the low population in our area, that perhaps there were not enough of the general public interested in Astrology.

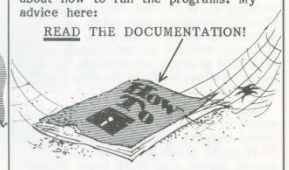
So I hit the pavement, and began to contact the professionals in earnest. I set each Astrologer up with his own data file, and custom M-65 options to meet his (or her) needs. Well, that was the ticket. Well, the trend line shot up like crazy! Almost every day I am greeted by the blinking light on my phone machine, requesting charts. To my surprise, word of mouth began to bring lay people to me, requesting charts also.

It was at this point that I began to pursue the idea of rep-ing Matrix's software in California. As more Matrix programs filled my library, I felt secure in my ability to promote them. Things started off slowly with the software also. But with the help of Doug Pierce and the Matrix Staff, (publishing our name in "**Astro*talk**"), we are now doing a rather brisk business in software sales.

We try first to determine the real needs of the customer, and then recommend the appropriate software. Not everyone needs M-65, although we always make each customer aware of it's incredible flexibility.

As part of our service, we offer help with our customers questions about how to run the programs. My advice here:

READ THE DOCUMENTATION!



At this point I have received several requests to attend local Astro-gatherings to demonstrate software. I have declined to do this at the present, because of the inconvenience of moving my equipment. We are seriously considering getting a more portable system for this purpose. (probably a CBM-64) This is the next step.

We are now, basically, limiting our work to doing charts for Professional Astrologers and promoting software sales. I have found that by recommending casual chart buyers to my professional clients, that business is generated all around.

We are looking forward, in the future, to expanding our business, and we feel we are on the right team. Thanks Matrix!

NEELY'S CORNER

by James Neely

Several people have asked for a brief history of Halley's Comet and an ephemeris. Since a complete ephemeris is too lengthy to print here, a 4-day, midnight ephemeris for 1984, along with a calendar of events, is included. A 1985 ephemeris will be printed in a subsequent issue of Astro*talk.

Halley's Comet was named in honor of Edmund Halley (1656-1742), not because he discovered the comet--for the first recorded observation of the comet was by the Chinese in 240 B.C.--but because he successfully identified previous appearances of the comet and successfully predicted its return in 1758.

Halley's Comet has an average period of about 77 years; the shortest period between perihelion passages was 74.42 years (1835-1910) and the longest period was 79.25 years (451-530), from 240 B.C. to 1986 A.D. there have been 29 recorded apparitions (only the 164 B.C. apparition was not recorded). The The longest recorded tail length is 150 degrees (20 May 1910). On 10 April 837 the closest approach of Halley's Comet to the Earth occurred (0.033 AU or a little over 3,000,000 miles).

G. Edward Danielson and David C. Jewitt of the California Institute of Technology recovered Halley's Comet on 16 October 1982 using the 200-inch Hale telescope on Mount Palomar. The next perihelion passage of Halley's Comet will occur on 9 February 1986. A brief calendar of events, such as the location at the time of recovery and of perihelion passage as well as the time the comet crosses the orbit of the various planets, is given in the table.

Halley's Comet - A Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Dist	Long	Lat
Recovery	16 Oct 1982	11.043	18CN26	-12 47'
Saturn's Orbit	19 Jun 1983	9.530	09CN21	-10 59
Jupiter's Orbit	8 Jun 1985	5.203	24GE38	-11 11
Mars Orbit	28 Nov 1985	1.524	29AR05	5 26
Earth's Orbit	1 Jan 1986	1.000	05PI13	7 45
Venus's Orbit	21 Jan 1986	0.723	24AQ41	7 25
Perihelion	9 Feb 1986	0.587	15AQ07	6 10

Owner's of the MATRIX M-47 Comet Ephemeris program may compute their own ephemeris of Halley's Comet using the following osculating orbital elements for epoch 1986 Feb. 19.0 (E.T.):

Perihelion Passage: 1986 February 9.45175 (E.T.)

Perihelion Distance (Au): 0.5871047

Eccentricity: 0.9672760

Argument of Perihelion 111.84809 degrees

Longitude of the Ascending Node: 58.14536 degrees

Inclination: 162.23928 degrees

References:

1. "The Comet Halley Handbook - An Observer's Guide", 2nd Edition, 1983, Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402

2. "International Halley Watch Amateur Observers' Manual for Scientific Comet Studies", Part II, Ephemeris and Star Charts.

3. "Comet Halley Found", Sky & Telescope, December 1982, page 551.

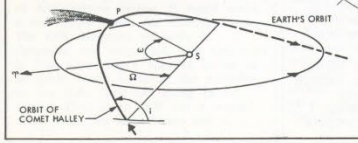


Fig. 1. Angular Elements of the Orbit of Comet Halley. For Comet Halley, the orbital inclination *i* is 162°, the longitude of the ascending node Ω is 58°, and the argument of perihelion ω is 112°.

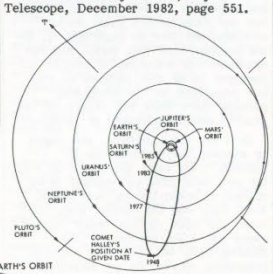


Fig. 2. Ecliptic Plane Projection of Comet Halley's Orbit (1910-1986) Within the Solar System. The planetary positions are indicated for the time of the comet's perihelion passage.

Drawings from The Comet Halley Handbook

Thanks for all the support on our new Heart Center School of Astrology project. Over 115 of you have expressed interest. Thank You!

We thought you might like to see some photos of the staff and some of our current projects. That's us clowning around in cooks clothing. We are celebrating the opening of our new kitchen here at the center. Note the large restaurant-type stove. Thanks to Marty & Katie Wolf, we have had some really good meals — as of late.

For starters, we now have a community lunch for MATRIX staff members, students and various guests. Each day at noon, there is some kind of soup, salad and home baked bread. Also, chef Marty is perfecting our new no-sugar MATRIX cookie. Don't laugh. A cookie that tastes good and is not filled with sugar is no mean trick. Our cookie is delicious and contains only fruit sugar. It has a raison filling. Marty is threatening to make a thousand or two and bring them to our booth at the AFA convention. You can try them for yourself. We have also been having some cookie bakes for staff children. A lot of fun.

Also very popular is our Friday night (T.G.I.F.) supper. Each Friday at 5 P.M., we have a sit-down dinner for MATRIX staff, attending students and invited guests. Every week we have a different menu. Getting together is fun and gives us a chance to unwind after a week of work.

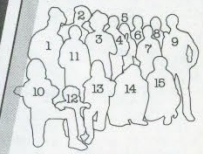
A lot has been happening with the Heart Center School too. Students are arriving for in-person study. We are working them hard too. There is so much to do around here. Many of you have written and are planning a visit during the summer. All are welcome.

Our correspondence courses are coming along too although progress here is somewhat slower. We will be showing some of the course materials at the MATRIX booth at the AFA convention. We hope to launch the thru-the-mail courses in the Fall. Your editor has been working to develop an illustrated series of astrological teaching aids. These will be part of a reference volume for students. Every major astrological concept (house systems, terms, etc.) will be presented and illustrated for easy understanding. More about this next issue.

What's Cooking at the Heart Center?

The main focus here has been to develop a greater sense of community and sharing. Eating, cooking and working together is good. We are not a commune. We all have separate private homes. What we are attempting to do is to develop a more cooperative working environment. Making good bread and good cookies doesn't hurt either.

Who's Who?



1 Martin Wolf
2 Michael Erlewine
3 Margaret Erlewine
4 Katie Vandenberge
5 Sandra Barnes Norton
6 Doug Pierce
7 Ellen Fowler
8 Kevin Fowler
9 Tim Deady
10 Anne Erlewine
11 Iotis Erlewine
12 May Erlewine
13 Phyllis Erlewine
14 Stephen Erlewine
15 Tom Erlewine

Astro*talk

FIRST CLASS

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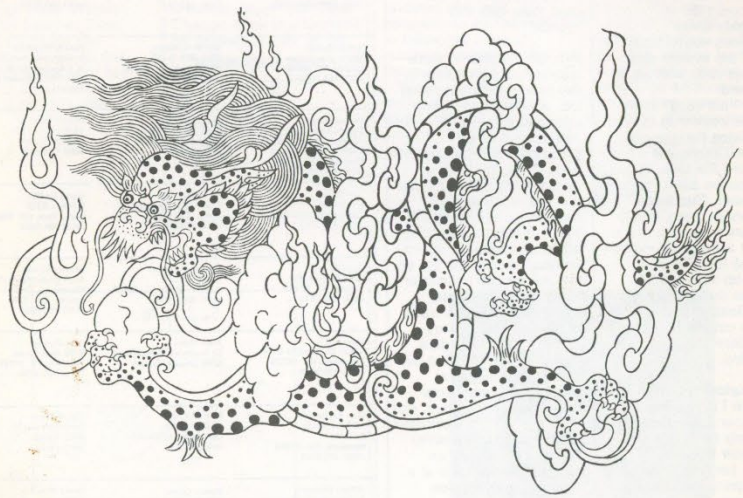
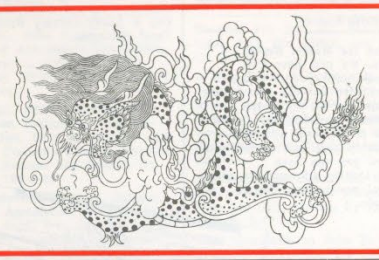
In this issue:

TIBETAN ASTROLOGY



Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.One#4 Jul/Aug'84

Astro*talk



TIBETAN ASTROLOGY

A BREAKTHROUGH

The latest issue (released June 1984) of **Geocosmic News** is fantastic! This is the double issue (vol. 9, #3 & 4, Fall/Winter 1983) of the newsletter put out by NCGR (National Council for Geocosmic Research). They may not be able to get their newsletter out on time; but the content is among the best I have seen in astrological journals in years.

Most importantly, the issue contains two articles on Tibetan astrology and its' initiations — a subject of great importance to astrologers at this time. To my knowledge, these articles represent the most in-depth material published to date in English on this topic.

The articles are on the Kalachakra Tantra itself and a particular Kalachakra Initiation that was held in Madison Wisconsin in July of 1981. The Kalachakra Tantra is that portion of the Tibetan Buddhist canon that is of most interest to astrologers since it concerns itself with time — exoterically (astrological calculations) and esoterically (correspondences between macro and microcosm). The word Kalachakra itself means wheel or cycle of time. The Kalachakra Initiation is the ceremony whereby the essence of the texts is presented in full (made present) and transmitted to students — in which it will continue to work.

Very little has been written in English concerning the Tibetan Buddhist theory and practice of astrology. There may be several reasons for this. For one, most of the tantric texts and their commentaries have never been translated into English. In addition, the Tibetan lunar calendar and method of handling dates is quite complex compared to our Western Gregorian calendar. Few people understand how to translate dates from one calendar format to the other. Last but not least, there is the fact that the Kalachakra tantra and its initiations are, for the most part, one of the more difficult to access in tantric Buddhism. Only advanced students are introduced to it and they often are bound by strict vows of silence on the subject.

And yet, astrology is an integral part of Buddhism as practiced in Tibet. The dates for almost all important ceremonies in Tibet are arrived at astrologically. Astrological charts used in Tibet include astrological birth charts, charts for important events, annual charts and their own form of progressed charts. In addition, astrology is often used to determine the exact moment of the re-birth of Tibet's great spiritual leaders or tulkus. The concept of the 'Tulku' or re-incarnating Saint is worth some comment.

Cont. on pg. 4

New at Matrix:

There is so much news this issue that I don't know where to begin. First of all, we hope we see some of you at the AFA/ACT convention in Chicago at the end of July. Most of our staff will be there at our booth in the bookroom. Please come and spend some time with us.

Our new full catalog is out. Be sure to send for your **free** copy. It is typeset, illustrated and contains all kinds of screen photos, sample reports and general information. We have included a few sample catalog pages on some new products in this issue of Astro*Talk. Those of you attending the AFA convention may want to check out these new M-65 modules in person. The M-65 Astrological System is available from Matrix on Commodore, IBM, Apple and Radio Shack computers.

Our new disk ephemeris is completed. It can be used to create M-65 chart files as well as power our new Transit Master module. Although the disk ephemeris will be made available in several formats, the standard release will cover almost 3000 years on a single disk! And that means an accuracy of better than 1 second of arc on the planets Jupiter through Pluto. The inner planets are accurate to within a second or so for recent history... slightly less in the distant past.

Speaking of our M-65 Transit Master, here is a program we know you will like. It can handle both static and dynamic transits as well as generate complete aspectarians, ephemerides, interpretations — you name it. The M-65 Transit Master is the most powerful dynamic transit program on the market. More details inside.

Another new release at the convention: M-65 Designer Wheels. These hi-resolution chart wheels will run on the Epson FX-80 and RX-80 dot-matrix printers. We feel they are really good looking. Several style

Cont. on pg. 2

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Matrix News

wheels are now available on the IBM PC type computers and more are on the way. These include the Standard Wheel of Houses, Open Zero Aries Wheel and even a 360-Degree Wheel that places the Ascending Sign at the left. All of the open wheels also are self-aspecting. They automatically draw and label aspects in the center of the wheel. In addition, we have a special wheel for Cosmobiological and Uranian work that can take plastic wheel overlays. See sample wheels in the pages that follow.

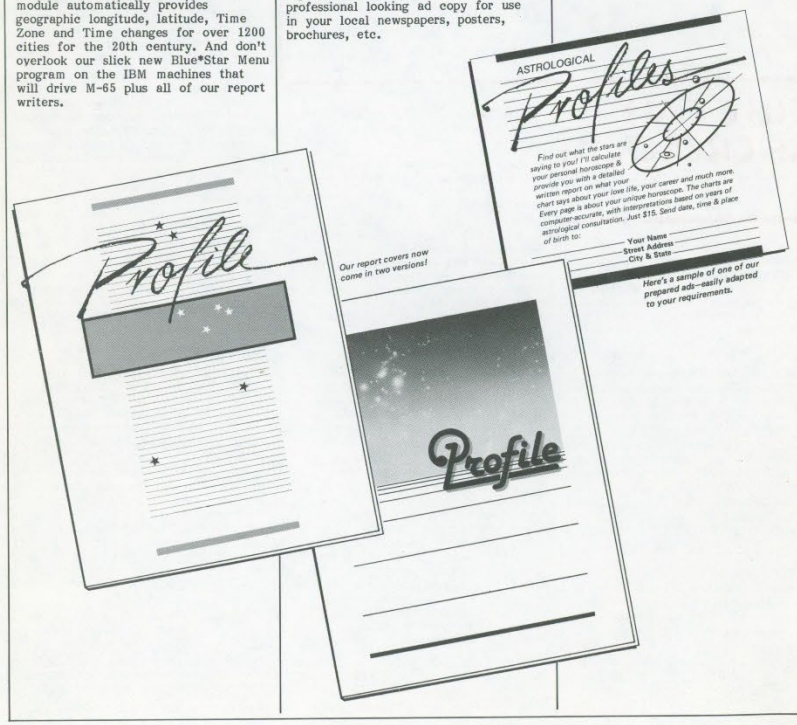
There is not enough room here for details on all of the new products just out. Our M-65 Statistics module offers the most complete univariate statistics package ever offered to astrologers. The M-65 Time Change module automatically provides geographic longitude, latitude, Time Zone and Time changes for over 1200 cities for the 20th century. And don't overlook our slick new Blue*Star Menu program on the IBM machines that will drive M-65 plus all of our report writers.

Not much room to tell you about M-65 Tracker (our user cross-reference file system), M-65 Astro*Clock (fancy horary program), and M-65 Midpoint Special (alternate print wheel module). And then there is our new Synastry Report Writer with interpretations by Lenore Cantor, our Tarot Report Writer by Kootch Daniels, and more. Of course, all of this is in our new catalog. Get your copy at our convention booth or drop us a postcard and we will send you one.

M65 Report Writer Special

Good news for Matrix Report Writer users. We now have two Portfolio covers for you to choose from. Shown here are the two covers now available for use by Matrix Report Writer customers. Also shown is a sample of the new ad slicks that are available to help you market the reports. Now you can have professional looking ad copy for use in your local newspapers, posters, brochures, etc.

More and more astrologers are learning how to benefit from the trickle-income provided by one or more Report Writers. Reports can be run off on the computer while you are doing something else. More important, they fill a need on the part of potential customers who are not yet ready for a sit-down consultation but have outgrown newspaper astrology. All of our Report Writers are in the $300-$500 range and we have : Natal, Transit, Synastry, Relating Potential, Alphanumerology, Biorhythms, Lucky Day & Lucky Lottery Numbers and Tarot packages.



ASTROLOGICAL
Community News

Coming Events:

Chicago, IL. **1984 American Federation of Astrologers Convention,** July 27-August 1, 1984. Contact: AFA, PO Box 22040, Tempe AZ 85282 (602) 838-1751

Chicago, IL. **ACT: Astrological Conference on Techniques,** July 28-August 1, 1984. Held as part of AFA Convention. Contact: Michael Erlewine, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307 (616) 796-2483

Exeter University, Devon, England. **Astrological Association Annual Conference,** Sept. 7-9, 1984. Contact: Brenda Miller, 'Applewell', Commons Lane, Ringmore, Shaldon, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 0HN. Phone Shaldon 3702

Los Angles, Ca. **SWAC Conference,** Oct. 18 to 21, 1984. Contact Magaret Mason, Phone (714) 826-7617.

Berkeley, CA. **The Neptune In Capricorn International Astrology Conference,** Nov. 23-26, 1984. Contact: Julie Pickerill, P.O. Box 20850, Reno NV 89515 (702) 358-2850

Miami Beach, Fla. **National Astrological Society 14th Annual Conference.** COntact: B. Somerfield, 205 Third Avenue, 2A, New York, NY 10003.

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

August 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
12	03:57	01SC33	MAR CJN PLU *H
20	06:40	16SC28	MAR SXT SAT *H
22	17:30	12SA31	JUP INC URA *H

September 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect
07	20:38	12SA43	MAR SSQ URA *H
11	13:10	00AQ00	MAR/AQUARIUS *H
12	10:20	00CP32	MAR INC NEP *H
14	10:48	01SC47	MAR SQR PLU *H
24	20:24	13SC43	SAT SSQ NEP

What's In The Journals?

Kosmos, Vol. XIII, #3, Summer 1984, ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038

A New Look at Retrograde Planets by Terry Lamb, **ISAR Research Group Report** by Lois Rodden, **Professional Astrology Discussion, Advanced Interpretations of Transits and Progressions** by Carol Tebbs, Book Reviews.

The Fraternity News, Vol. 6, Issue #2, Spring 1984. Contact: Morgan Macleod, P.O. Box 161, Station F, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2L5

Chez Gauquelin by John Dowdell, **Effective Counselling** by Marilyn Waram, **From My Files: Lunar Links** by Erin Sullivan-Seale, **The Dance of the Elements: Quincunx and Yod** by Bernadette Brady, **Peace: Where do We Start?** by Beth Richards, **Presenting Canada's Past** by Stephanie Walker, **Neptune and the Void of Course Moon** by Dona Spano, **An Introduction to Indian Astrology** by Peter Carruthers, **Humanizing Uranus, Neptune and Pluto: Planets and Social Change** by Ken McRitchie, **Brief Review of Project Responses** by Susan Borland, **Pluto** by Barbara Wallens, **Comet Kohoutek** by Elisabeth Austin, **Book Reviews** by Donna Van Toen.

Astrology West, Issue #8/9, Summer Double Issue, June 1984. Astrology for Professionals, Suite 120-B, 9560 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland OR 97219

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Astro*talk

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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TIBETAN ASTROLOGY

Cont. from pg. 1

Unlike most western religions where Saints or Holy Men are long dead, Tibet's Saints are forever to be numbered among the living. The major Tibetan Saints are always incarnate and, like guides, accompany humanity throughout the endless cyclic process of life. No sooner does one of these incarnate lamas or Tulkus die, then astrology (among other methods) is used to determine where and when that Saint will be reborn (usually within a few years). And sure enough, in a short time the Saint is rediscovered in a new body and that child is giving a very special training.

The idea of living Saints is not as weird as it might at first sound. If nothing else, it is very practical. After all, in the Catholic religion a holy man must be dead at least forty years before being declared a saint — long gone as regards those of us living. The living Saints of Tibet each embody one or more spiritual qualities, such as love, compassion or a diamond-like mind. These living saintlike beings exist in this world like shining or guiding lights to surround and accompany humanity through its trials.

In Tibet, there is not such a large gap between the secular and the sacred as in the West. It is indeed remarkable that the Tibetan people are able to find these eternal principles or ideas incarnate — living and walking among them as persons. These guiding lights are as lamps that may dim but never fail as the spirit is passed from body to body thru time.

When they find a child with these exceptional spiritual gifts, there is great rejoicing. Most often the child (and its parents) are taken into a monastary where the infant is given (as we mentioned) very special training. There is an incredible symbiosis between the child-Saint and the general populace. The child is cared for and protected by the people, and the people benefit from the light and wisdom radiant in the child.

Just for general information, many of these Tulkus (Tibetan Saints) are now living in this country after fleeing from Tibet during the Chinese invasion. Chogyam Trungpa tulku is in Boulder, Colorado... Bardor Tulku is in Woodstock, New York and so on. To meet and experience these persons can be a real eye opener. One of the most important Tulkus and head of the entire Kagyu lineage, the Gyalwa Karmapa, died in Chicago in 1981. There is speculation that the next Karmapa may be born in this country. The United States has been designated as one of the great birthing grounds for the growth of Buddhism in the West.

Western occult scholars have long been aware of the importance of Tibetan Buddhism to the modern esoteric tradition in the West. Tibet inherited the age-old Sanskrit texts from India and managed to preserve them through an unbroken line of living teachers. Along with the actual written texts, spoken instructions have been handed down by teacher to pupil for century after century.

After a lifetime of studying different religious traditions, Catholic monk/poet/scholar Thomas Merton concluded that nowhere was the world's ancient spiritual tradition more pure or intact than in the living practice lineages of Tibetan Buddhism. Tibet has long been considered by experts to be the world's primary spiritual reservoir. With the occupation of Tibet by the Chinese and the subsequent outrush of Tibetan refugees from their homeland, Tibetan Buddhism has been spread throughout the world. In particular, the United States has become the home of many Tibetans monks. There are dozens of Tibetan Buddhist centers in the U.S. When the Sixteenth Karmapa, one of the most eminent of the incarnate tulkus, was asked why had he come to America, he replied: "If there was a lake, the swans would go there". In truth, the U.S. seems a natural place for the advanced psychology of Tibet to find a home. We are ready for it. We need it.

Although much of the Tibetan Buddhist tradition has been transplanted to the U.S., the Tibetan form of astrology has not yet been made available. Astrology very much needs the grounding and root knowledge that typifies Tibetan Buddhism in day-to-day practice.

It is important to understand what is so special about the secret teachings of Tibet. We have mentioned the fact that Tibet has preserved the ancient teachings as received from India. Due perhaps to Tibet's isolation from the rest of the world, these teachings were maintained where elsewhere they deteriorated or were lost altogether. Every bit as important is the fact that Tibetan Buddhism has concentrated on the Pysche and everything psychological. Where modern psychology is less than a century old, the inner workings of the human psyche have been understood by Tibetans — in elaborate detail — for many centuries.

Astrologers, in particular, are in a position to appreciate what a treasure such teachings could be at this time for the western mind. The teachings of the Kagyu and Nyingma lineages of Tibetan Buddhism are remarkable in the absence of elaborate theory and the presence of very down-to-earth and practical insights. These teachings seem able to cut through much of the analytical bent so popular in the West and provide real nourishment and grounding on the day-to-day level of living. The emphasis is on practice and the practical — grounding. This pragmatic quality must carry over into the Tibetan astrological system. More than anything else, modern astrology lacks this very practical and down-to-earth quality. The door to Tibet's astrological system is now ajar. With any luck, much of this material can be made available to astrologers in the West over the next few years.

The staff here at Matrix has been very active in attempting to learn as much as possible about the Tibetan Buddhist practice and astrological methods — with limited success.

Our time of wait may be over. The work of author/translater John Myrdhin Reynolds is in the process of rectifying this condition. Reynold's article in the recent Geocosmic News represents a giant step forward in elucidating the Tibetan astrological tradition; and this is just the beginning. We look forward to Reynold's forthcoming book on the astrology of Tibet with great eagerness.

Our congratulations to Geocosmic News editor Neil Marbell for a fine job on this issue. Our thanks also go out to astrologer and Asian scholar Shelley Jordan for her part in organizing the Reynolds article. Any readers wishing for more details on Tibetan Buddhism and its astrological techniques: contact Matrix.

Notes: Geocosmic News, The NCGR Newsletter, 4536 Thurston Lane, Madison, WI 53711

machine talk

Lot's happening in the hardware news department. None of it too radical, but almost all of it is interesting and worth noting.

IBM & the Look Alikes

IBM Lowers Prices, ups RAM. IBM caused perhaps the largest stir when it simultaneously lowered the price of the PC and raised the minimum memory configuration (on the mother-board) to 256K. That's correct: IBM dropped prices on almost all models of the popular PC by up to 23 per-centage points. The price changes were effective as of the middle of June.

The result is that a 256K-byte version of the PC with one drive will be available for $1,995. A two-disk version is $2420. The price of the IBM Portable PC with 2 drives is $3020. The IBM PC-XT now sells for $4395, and the PCjr with 1 drive is now $999. Quite a reduction.

Needless to say, this has caused quite a flap among the IBM com-patible makers who have (for the most part) been forced to lower their prices. The big winner seems to be IBM. More and more people I talk with are not messing with the compatibles. Instead, they are purchasing an IBM PC — which they know is compatible.

IBM has indicated that they will release a new version of the PC in the fall that will run at twice the speed as the current machine. A plug-in microprocessor that will double the speed of the current IBM PC will also be available.

The one IBM compatible that is the exception to this is the Sanyo 555-2. At about $1595, the Sanyo 555-2 provides 256K of RAM, two double sided drives and a whole pile of software for an amazing $1595! The software includes: Wordstar, Calcstar, Easy Writer, Spell Star, Mail Merge, Info Star, Basic and MS-Dos 2.11. At $1595, this has to be the best deal going. The Commodore 64 and the Apple IIc are less expensive, but with the Sanyo you have a State-of-the-Market machine for about 1/2 the going price. We have the address of one dealer who has them in stock at that price. Feel free to call us for that information.

AT&T PC Compatible

To further confuse (or clarify?) the situation, mammoth AT&T (formerly Ma Bell) has introduced an IBM PC compatible machine of their own. At the time of this writing (early July), AT&T has indicated that their price will be about 5% than Big Blue. However, with the recent price reduction by IBM... who knows what the AT&T price tag will be.

The AT&T machine differs from the IBM in only a few areas. For one, it uses the 8086 microprocessor instead of the 8088 that is in the IBM PC. This means that it runs about twice as fast as the IBM PC. In addition, the 8086 (unlike the 8088 IBM chip) is a true 16-bit chip. The AT&T machine is also rumored to have a local-area network (LAN) — something IBM has yet to release. AT&T is the only company that can really mount a challenge to IBM in the marketplace.

Mac News

The new MacIntosh or Mac (as it is called) continues to find many supporters. The only snag so far is the fact that there is not enough memory left available in the current version of Mac to do much serious programming. About 24K of RAM is all that is available for programs in the Mac. However, Matrix does have some very fine Mac astrology software ready now including full sized wheels, progressed hits etc. However, the full M-65 System will have to wait until the new 256K RAM chips become available. At that time, the Mac will have a big 512K instead of the 128K now available. So Mac fans: we have software if you need it now. More and larger programs when the memory upgrade becomes available.

Our sources indicate that the forward momentum of IBM and the look alikes has somewhat stunted interest in Mac. Not that Mac is not a great machine. So much is happening right now on the IBM-type machines that, despite its drawbacks, the IBM PC is where it is 'at'. The lack of memory on the Mac coupled with the expected software delay for a new machine have cut into Mac's impact. In a word, there is less interest right now in the bells and whistles the new Mac offers and more interest in staying with the forward rush of IBM. Right now, the IBMs have it.

Apple IIc

The Apple IIc is being sold in large quantities. The Matrix M-65 System has been checked out on the IIc and runs fine. If an Apple is what you need, our software runs fine on the IIc. The IIc is not a new machine. Instead, it is the 7 year old Apple in a new case.

Commodore News

The big Commodore news is not from Commodore. Although no longer with Commodore, Jack Tramiel (creator and power behind the original Commodore) has purchased enough stock to take over the computer portion of the Atari computers and video portion of Warner Com-munications. This has to be good news for consumers. Tramiel is a genius at mass marketing. If anyone could turn around Atari's lackluster machine and offer a challenge to the Commodore 64, it has to be Jack Tramiel.

The Commodore 64 continues to be the best selling machine (by far) on the market. We have more new cust-omers on this machine than on all others combined. At $700-800 for a complete computer system, the 64 offers a powerful computer for a small investment. Our new compiled programs on the C-64 have made this machine an even better one for the money.

Commodore is talking about a new and improved version of the C-64 to be introduced in the fall. I can't wait.

Also, Commodore has still not shipped the new 264 (364) machines that they introduced some months ago. Our advice: stick with the C-64. Stay away from the 264 type machines.

Commodore IBM PC

Commodore has introduced an IBM PC compatible portable machine in Europe. There is no timetable as to when the machine will debut here. Most sources say that Commodore will wait a while before bringing the machine to the U.S. When they do, expect to find IBM power at a very low price.

Cont. on pg. 6

Cont. from pg. 5

machine talk

Printers

Epson has announced the JX-80, their color printer. It will be available this fall. We expect that this machine will be the one to support with hi-resolution color graphics. There are many other machines on the market, but Epson is the one we are betting to be number one in color printers.

Laser Printers

A new laser printer mechanism has been introduced by Canon. It is available now in one form from Hewlett Packard for around $3500 or so. Rumors have it that IBM and Apple will introduce their version of the Canon soon for around the same money.

What is wonderful about lazer printers is that they can produce typeset quality output using one (or several) fonts. Whole books can be printed on a laser printer — ready for binding. The printer runs like an office copier, except the output is better. Hi resolution maps, etc. are possible using this technology. In the long run, this is where printers are heading. Right now, the price is still high at $3000-5000. They used to be $125,000!

The Bottom Line

The market is changing fast. The Commodore 64 is still (and by far) the best bargain in town. If you can pick up an Apple II at a real discount, that might be the way to go. Remember that machine is now 7 years old.

Be sure to read about the new software that we are introducing. The fact is that many of the new Matrix programs are going to need more memory than either the Apple or the C-64 have. 16-bits are here to stay and larger memory use has become the norm rather than the exception.

If I were going to purchase a computer system, I would buy an IBM PC with 2 disk drives and 256K of RAM. If I could not afford that machine, I would get the Sanyo 555-2 system (described above). If that was still too much for my pocketbook, I would immediately go out and get the Commodore C-64 computer with one drive and an Epson RX-80 printer.

Using the Research Module

by Richard Nolle

When I first learned of the existence of Matrix's M-65 system it was the research capability that made it the software of choice for me. Once I had my system up and running, I was (and still am!) awed with its possibilities for advancing the state of the astrological art. And yet, after talking with some of my colleagues and fellow M-65 users, it seems to me that the vast potential of the Research Module is still virtually untouched. What does it take to make the Research Module live up to its potential?

Cooperation and communication are the missing keys to M-65-B, as far as I can tell. We users need to let Matrix and each other know what we are doing, and what we'd like to do, with the Research Module. Knowing what others are doing or have done can free us from needlessly repeating work that has already been done. This could save each and every one of us a tremendous amount of time by avoiding the pointless duplication of effort. Sharing data and techniques we have found useful can help all of us move ahead with greater speed and confidence, and may stimulate someone to make a breakthrough that either would not have happened at all or would have come much later.

Everyone knows how precious time is, and that has always been one of the M-65 system's greatest virtues: its speed and power give us so much more time to use as creatively as we wish. Let's make the most of this opportunity, by communicating and cooperating with each other through ASTRO*TALK! Write in, let the rest of us know how you're using M-65 to keep track of your clients, mundane charts or whatever; what kind of research you're doing or would like to do. Share your findings, your tips and techniques, etc. Let your fellow M-65 users know of any chart files you've put together on disk for your pet project— someone else may have need of just the collection you've put together!

What I'm calling for here, in essence, is an M-65 Research Cooperative—more consciousness, more collaboration, more fellowship. It sounds fine in the abstract, I think we'd all agree. But what does it mean in practical terms? Here's one example:

I've been doing research on yod configurations for some time now, and have assembled a collection of some 2100 Tropical/Placidus/True Node charts on disk (Commodore 8050 format) for this purpose. One subset of this collection is a group of 375 athletes, which I have tested for Mars house distribution and conjunctions to ASC and MC—paralleling the Gauquelin research in some ways. I have donated the athlete collection to Matrix, in the hope that someone else may be able to do something with this sample—maybe you. (Those 375 charts would take you several days' work to calculate yourself—if you have a Commodore 8050 system, Matrix will let you have this collection at a nominal charge for duplication.) For the record you may be interested to know that Mars conjunct ASC and MC is a statistically significant factor in the athletes charts, by the way.

As for the larger yod project, I'm not ready to report the results yet, although I plan to have a workshop on this subject at the AFA Convention this summer. But here's a search phrase you can set up using the "Astro-Select" program in the M-65-B module, to test charts for yods yourself. This search phrase looks for all yods with the Moon at the focal point with a three degree orb all around. (To look for yods with other planets at the focal point, substitute the planet of your choice for the Moon in this phrase. And note that the CR in this phrase is the Circle function, while EQ(3@ is the Equals function, set to longitude and a three degree orb. Note also that it takes both of these phrases to do the job.

PHRASE 1: EQ(3@(CR((ANY)MO))=150)

PHRASE 2: EQ(3@(CR((ANY)MO))=210)

The same basic phrases could also be used to search for any T-Square with the Moon at the focal point, by changing 150 to 90 and 210 to 270. Or you could look for any Grand Trine containing the Moon by changing 150 to 120 and 210 to 240. And, as with the yod phrase itself, you can substitute other planets for the Moon in these phrases. Grand Crosses and other complex patterns can be built around these phrases as well, by changing the angle values and adding additional lines as needed.

I've shared a bit of what I'm doing with M-65—now let's hear from you!

NEMESIS

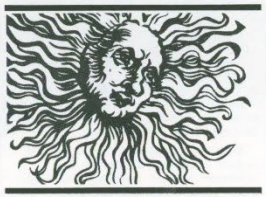
Our sun has a small dark sister star circling it. This deadly sister periodically sends comets hurtling through the solar system, some of which strike the Earth, causing enormous eco-disasters, eliminating up to 95% of all the species of plant and animal life on earth.

The plot for the next Lucas-Speilberg movie? The revelation of a Los Angeles Street Corner prophet? No, A new scientific theory being put forth by a group of respectable scientists, including a Nobel Laureate. This star, which would be a black or brown "dwarf", a star too small for its core to have ever ignited, would be invisible to the naked eye. It has been named Nemesis, after the Greek goddess who persecutes the excessively proud, rich and mighty.

The idea that catastrophes periodically happen to our planet is not a new one. Noah's flood, as reported in the Bible, is the best known example. The Babylonean epic of Gilgamesh also has a flood in it. Norse epics end the world with a fiery Ragnarok, which almost nothing survives.

The Hindus even propound a whole series of long ages or Kalpas, some of which have already occurred, and some of which will occur in the future. The work of Immanuel Veilokovsky gives evidence for such an event in comparatively recent times. So it may come as no shock to you that scientists have found good hard evidence for this kind of event. To answer your next question, they think that this disaster happens about every 27 Million years, and we are about 15 Million years from the next one, so it is nothing to worry too much about.

The idea of Terrestrial evolution being influenced by extra-terrestrial causes first came to respectability through the work of Nobel Laureate Luis Alvarez, of Berkeley Labs in Berkeley, Ca. He discovered that the thin layer of clay which seperates the Cretaceous period from the Tertiary period has an amount of Iridium in it many thousand times the amount found anywhere else on earth. Iridium is a metal, similar to platinum, which is very rare on earth, but quite common in some extra-terrestrial objects. He speculated that about 65 Million years ago, a large extra-terrestrial object struck the earth,



causing a huge dust cloud, which, along with the other effects of the impact, caused the eco-disaster which wiped out 75% of the species of life on earth. It was one of the largest known mass extinctions, and the most famous, for the dinosaurs were among the victims. This theory also raised a huge cloud of dust, but subsequent testing and challenges have left it intact.

Until now, this event was seen as singular, not part of an organized pattern of events. Last October, David Raup and John Sepkowski of The University of Chicago distributed preprints of an article on Marine Fossil Families. This article, described by Steven Jay Gould of Harvard, as "The most consistent and complete data set on extinctions ever developed", states that periodically, a large percentage of the species of life on Earth are wiped out. This happens about every twenty-seven million years. The two scientists could offer no suggestion for the cause of this periodic catastrophe other than an extra-terrestrial one.

Alvarez and Raup recently invited a group of scientists to Lawrence Berkeley Labs to discuss possible cosmological causes for these extinction cycles. Working independently, two groups of scientists represented at this conference had come up with a nearly identical hypothesis. Daniel P. Whitmire of U. of Southwestern Louisiana and Albert Jackson of Computer Sciences Corp. in Houston, and Marc Davis and Richard Muller of U.C.Berkeley and Piet Hut of Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, N.J. both advance the idea that our star has a sister. "We both came across what we believe is the only plausible model", says Muller.

This sister would be a small black or brown "Dwarf", It would orbit the sun in an elongated ellipse that brought it closest to the sun at an interval of about 26 million years. At this point, it would enter the Oort dust cloud, a band of cosmic debris on the edge of the solar system, and dislodge a rain of comets, one or more of which might strike the earth, causing this periodic eco-disaster. They named this hypothetical dark sister star Nemesis, and informally call it the death star.

To further test this hypothesis, Walter Alvarez and Davis examined the major craters on earth to see if they were also formed in cycles. They used a list of 88 major craters formed in the same time period as Raup and Sepkowski's work, the last 250 Million years. They came to a similar conclusion. The craters also fall into a cyclical time pattern which mirrors that of the extinction cycles.

Astronomers are now looking at catalogs of known stars, and scrutinizing the data from IRAS, the Infrared Astronomy Satellite, which observes the heavens in the infrared spectrum, a portion of the electromagnetic spectrum whose wavelengths are longer then visible light. This is the kind of radiation such a star would be expected to emit. "We believe that if it's there, we can find it within a year" says Muller.

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NEMESIS

Since the Nemesis theory has come forth, other theories have begun to emerge. The main problem with the Nemesis theory is that we have to find Nemesis, and until we do, the extinction mystery will remain a mystery.

Roman Smolchowski, of the University of Texas at Austin, has come up with a provocative alternative theory that does not demand the presence of a hypothetical disturbing body to send comets shooting out of the Oort Cloud toward the earth. It had been previously suggested that The sun passing in and out of the region of cosmic dust clouds in the middle plane of the galactic disc could trigger the comets. Smoluchowski agrees that this is possible, but points out the clouds do not lie flat in the midplane, but in a fluffy distribution, above and below it. The sun never really leaves this region, so it could trigger comets at any time, and thus, it would probably not produce a periodic cycle.

What the strong gravitational field of the galactic plane does undoubtedly do is produce a peculiar sort of motion for stellar objects, they are attracted to it, but their own momentum carries them through it, then, their momentum is slowed, and it attracts them back through in the opposite direction, "like sewing", Smoluchowski says; or like a cosmic Yo-Yo. Our sun passes through this plane every 33 million or so years because of this.

Smoluchowski suggests that the directional gravitational field peak as we pass through the galactic plane would itself be enough to give objects in the Oort cloud an increase in velocity of 30 to 40 meters per second. That is enough of a perturbation to send them flying through the solar system.

If we find Nemesis, it's presence will speak for itself. If we do not, this theory, though less dramatic, might well be the answer to some of the puzzling questions about periodic extinction cycles of life on earth.

MONEY TALK

by Iaen Sullivan

We are going to shift to a more Saturnian focus encompassing ethics, management and other practical how-to methods.

You need innate self-discipline to be in a private practice. Not only must you decide how to work; but when, where and when NOT to work. Sounds very simple, eh?

WHERE? Do you have a room suitable for books, files (less need for this with computers), computer & peripherals, you and clients? If not a separate room, at least a "territory" that can be easily made exclusive? This is important for you as well as others to distinguish these energy boundaries. If these areas are not respected; you will soon find other activities invading & and fragmenting. The astrology gets watered down.

Some enhancements would be: an outside entrance, access to a bathroom without entering the main living area, telephone and good ventilation. Aside from lending a more professional atmosphere; these very simple factors will help your mind set and focus. Taxes may be deducted for a portion of a house used in business, percentage of utilities, etc. You can see how much advantage there is to a clearly defined area.

It can also eliminate family hassles and confrontations due to vague guidelines.

The next thing is letting the world know you are available. First check local laws to see where you stand legally. You can avoid much trouble by purely being an astrologer; not a psychic, not a card reader, minister or unrelated practitioner. be very cautious in the use of the word "counselor" or "therapist". CONSULTANT may be a more descriptive title.

You will need a brochure to describe what you do and what it costs for you to do it. It makes people feel secure to see an address on paper. You won't be gone tomorrow. In it, give a brief description of the types of charts you offer with prices stated. It is wise to state your hours, "by appointment only" if you don't want to operate like a store and if your reports are not computer generated —allow (6) weeks for delivery" This gives you some flexibility and stops a lot of nuisance calls.

We all want instant results, and clients always think they are the only one. That is as it should be. In seeing clients in person, learn your energy patterns and pace yourself. If they have paid for an hour: 60 minutes is theirs. More time needs agreement.

I suggest you require payment (at least partial) in advance to pay for any preparations you make. In a personal session you may get stood up after setting aside time as well. Look upon it as an artist regards a commission.

A business card with a professional appearance, your logo and a distinctive color will make it easy to find as well as keeping you in the client's awareness. Here again, you may want to omit your address to eliminate "drop-ins" and people expecting a bookstore.

Matrix

COMPUTER-ASSISTED ASTROLOGY

Matrix software

CATALOG

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Our new catalog is ready!

If you haven't gotten your free copy of the new illustrated Matrix Catalog, now's the time. Just let us know, and we'll send you one right away. This catalog has more than just a new look—there are new products from Matrix in there, too.

To introduce both the catalog and the new products it lists, we've reproduced several of its pages here in Astro*Talk...

Key:

Available on these systems when marked	Cassette	5¼" Disk	8" Disk	Printer	Screen Dump	Glyphs
Commodore PET		●	●	●	●	●
Commodore 64		●	●	●	●	●
Apple II+, IIe & IIc		●	●	●	●	●
TRS-80 models 1,3 & 4		●	●	●	●	●
IBM-PC		●	●	●	●	●
IBM-PCjr		●	●	●	●	●
VIC-20		●	●	●	●	●
CP/M machines		●	●	●	●	●
ATARI		●	●	●	●	●

Available on cassette
Available on 5¼" disk
Requires two disk drives
Requires a printer
Features a built-in screen dump
Will output astrological glyphs on certain printers—see page 33

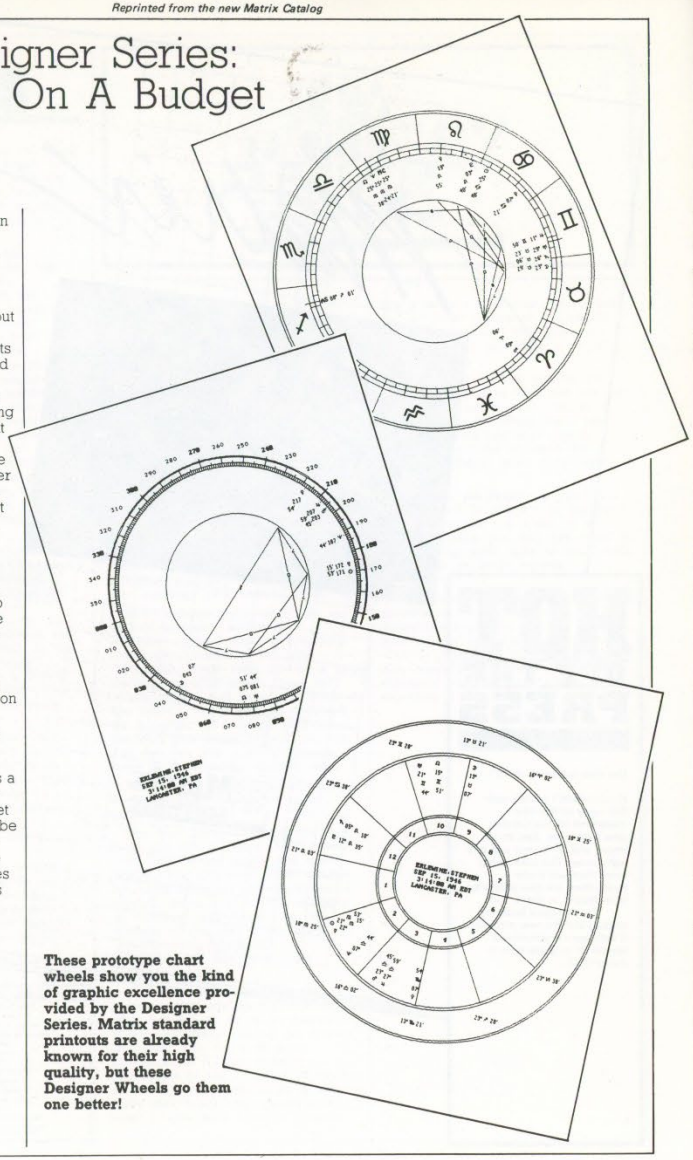
M65 Designer Series: "Hi-Res" On A Budget

With the introduction of our Designer Wheels at the 1984 AFA Convention, Matrix has started production on a new series of programs that really get the most out of your printer. These "high-resolution" printouts raise computer-generated charts to a new level of excellence. We've been perfecting these for a long time, and they're worth it as you can see.

Designed as part of the M65 System, the Designer Series programs will encompass more than chart wheels. Next in line will be aspect sheets produced with the same meticulous detail. Keep your eye on all of these, because they're going to have a big impact on the look of chart printouts to come. The Designer Wheels currently available are for use on the IBM-PC with the Epson RX-80 and FX-80—two very affordable printers that have earned their widespread popularity.

The Designer Series is a fast-moving area of program development, so let us know if you'd like to be using this sort of quality graphic output—we'll be glad to send you samples from the latest programs in this line.

	TRS	IBM	PC jr	VIC	ATARI
		•	•	•	•



These prototype chart wheels show you the kind of graphic excellence provided by the Designer Series. Matrix standard printouts are already known for their high quality, but these Designer Wheels go them one better!

Blue*Star M65: It's SuperMenu!

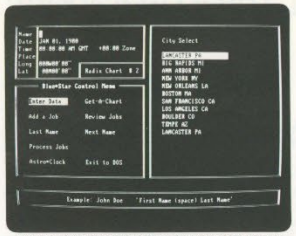
Blue*Star M65 is the newest addition to the Matrix System—a power menu that runs the complete M65 System as well as all the report writers, Transit Master, etc. It's fast and easy to use and includes many features of interest to both professional and amateur astrologers. For example, Blue*Star has a built-in calendar clock that provides you with the current date, time and chart angles (ascendant, MC, vertex, etc.). And of course, our new M65 Time Change Atlas works with Blue*Star, too.

The Blue*Star menu features a "bullet proof" method of data entry that's both flexible and easy to use. You can enter dates using any of several formats and correct your entries to your heart's content. Blue*Star is 100% compatible with M65 files, and uses the same powerful file name directory.

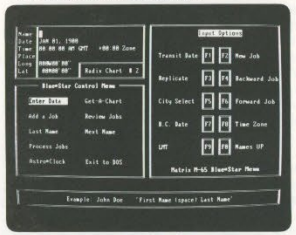
Job selection couldn't be easier. No lengthy selection, and no limit to the number of jobs Blue*Star can handle in a batch. You preset your favorite options only once—Blue*Star remembers how you want things. You can select solunars, progressions, transits and such without having to re-enter any data. How about 10 years of secondary progressions? Need a year's worth of lunar returns? Set Blue*Star up any way you want it.

Blue*Star also interfaces with other M65 System modules such as the M65 Clock or our Tracker cross-reference system. The Blue*Star menu works as the heart and director of the entire Matrix System.

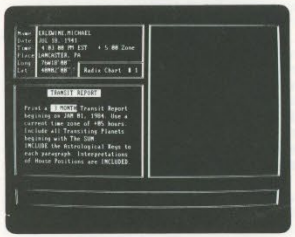
Available now on the IBM-PC, Blue*Star is included in our M65A program at no charge. IBM owners now using M65A may upgrade to Blue*Star for just $25.



Instant relocation: 10 of your favorite cities always available at the touch of a button.



Data entry is easy with Blue*Star.



Instant review of all jobs.

A mini Astro*Clock always on-line.

M65 Transit Master With Interpretations

Transit Master is the first M65 module to use our newly-developed disk ephemeris. This gives it a level of accuracy never before achieved in transit analysis programs. We're also offering an optional report-writing version of Transit Master to provide printed interpretations of transit activities. This type of printed report has proven itself through the popularity of the M91 transit report—a real income-producer for our customers.

Transit Master has more features than any transit program we've ever offered:

☐ Reads natal & secondary charts from M65 chart files. Can scan transits for most types of M65 charts, such as solar & lunar returns, progressions and relationship charts.

☐ Performs transit searches for any time span covered by the disk ephemeris you're using. The standard package covers the years 1700-2050.

☐ Disk ephemeris positions are accurate to within one second of arc. For some applications, inner planets are computed from scratch. Contact Matrix for details on accuracy and time periods available for all planets.

☐ You can specify the active points. Choose to search transits of all planets (including the moon) to all natal planets and house cusps for a week or a month. Or just as easily search out Saturn's transits through the houses for a lifetime—or the interaspect cycles of the outer planets for a century.

☐ You specify the transiting aspects as well as the orbs. Dexter and sinister aspects can be treated separately if you like.

☐ All searches include point of entering and leaving orb.

☐ Transits to midpoints and midpoint oppositions are available as options.

☐ Transit contacts in your choice of harmonics are available.

☐ Gives dates & times of transiting contacts along with the involved points, positions and type of contact.

☐ Performs dynamic (transit-to-transit) and static (transit to natal) searches.

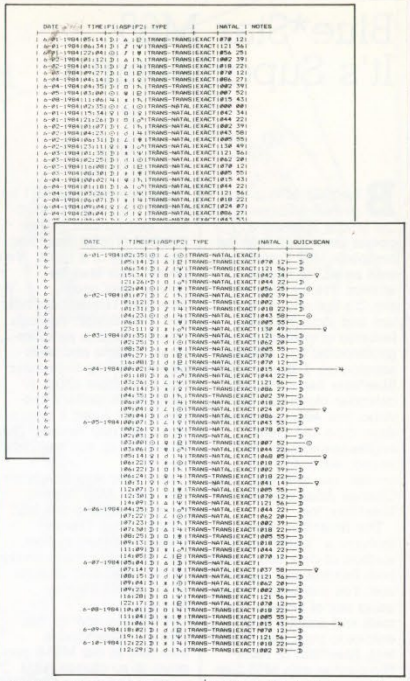
☐ Your choice of Tropical or Sidereal Zodiacs as well as precessed Tropical positions.

☐ Select either Geocentric or Heliocentric ecliptic longitude.

☐ Right Ascension & Declination—transiting parallels and contra-parallels.

Custom output features. Transit Master's output options allow you to customize your finished reports: You may choose the interpretive written forecast mentioned earlier, or you may want to output transit contacts directly to screen or printer. You may store these transits on disk for later access by custom printout options.

You may have transit contacts ordered in the sequence that's most convenient for you: look at each planet or type of aspect individually, or have a straight chronological listing of contacts.



An attractive aspectarian-style table is available to you, too. If you're using orbs of aspect, you choose the entering, leaving and exact contacts. You may want to print these out side by side, or put the exact contact on the far left, or read them from left to right chronologically. You specify what you want and Transit Master will oblige.

Transit Master is scheduled for release in Fall, '84. For more information contact Matrix or watch for news in the Astro*Talk Bulletin.

C64	*
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PCjr	
VIC	
ATARI	

Price: $150

*C64 version in the works—other machines to follow.

Matrix Disk Ephemeris. Our new disk ephemeris will also be available for M65 in the Fall of 1984.

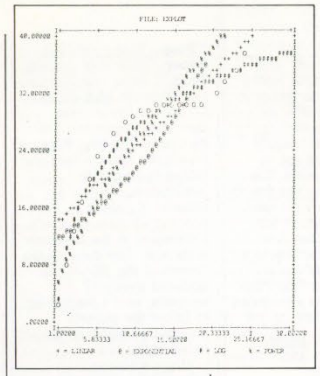
M65 Statistics Module: Just The Facts, Ma'am

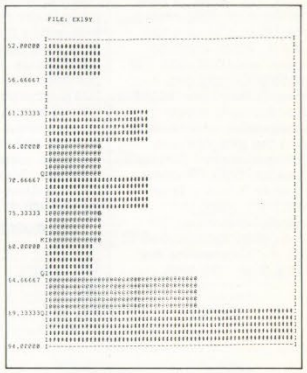
The Statistics Module gives you the facts and figures needed to back up your research work. Working with the Research Module can uncover fascinating astrological patterns, but if you're going to make the rest of the world sit up and take notice, you must demonstrate the statistical significance of your findings. The Statistics Module allows you to do just that.

For the astrologer, the Research Module is the ideal tool for what we call *exploratory* data analysis. This type of analysis is interesting in its own right, but to a researcher concerned with statistical confirmation it's only the first step in a longer process. What starts out as a hunch can be fleshed out and made specific through exploring a wide variety of options.

Let's take an imaginary example:

I've got a hunch that race car drivers have a lot of Fire in their charts. Using the M65 Research Module, I search my collection of drivers' birthcharts to see how many points they have in the Fire element. The results seem unimpressive, so I narrow my hunch down bit by bit, and finally come up with a hypothesis that can be tested for statistical confirmation: Mars in the 1st or 5th houses *or* Mars in Aries aspecting Sun in Fire or Water, *or* Mars aspecting Mercury in a fire sign or house.





The M65 Statistics Module produces tabular printouts as well as the scatter plots and bar graphs shown here. Included with the program is a written introduction to statistics work.

At this point in our example, I have a hypothesis in the form of an astrological signature for race car drivers. What now? Well, crank up the Statistics Module for some *confirmatory data analysis*. This is where we separate the wheat from the chaff. People looking over my findings aren't going to be impressed just because something "looks good"—they want to know what the *probability* is that my hard-won results could have just happened by chance! That's why it's important to have a tool that actually tests a hypothesis and calculates statistics that either support or invalidate it.

The Statistics Module gives you the means to test a wide variety of hypotheses with all the accuracy you'll ever need for calculating probabilities and statistical tests. It's a full-featured package that includes convenient file handling and printing of tabular results, histograms and scatter plots. It covers all major univariate techniques, including:

☐ Analysis of variance

☐ Contingency table analysis (chi-square tests)

☐ Multiple regression

☐ Tests of hypotheses and confidence intervals for means, proportions and variances and for differences between means for two populations.

☐ Computation of probabilities and quantiles for the most common statistical distributions, including normal, binomial, chi-square, T-distributions and F-distributions.

If the thought of actually doing statistics makes your teeth chatter, this module means you can leave the dirty work to your computer. That leaves you with the freedom to concentrate on research design and the other good parts. The program is accompanied by an extensive user's manual which introduces the procedures and works out examples to use as a guide in your own work. And as you come up with questions on statistical work, Matrix staff programmer Doug Pierce will gladly answer questions—putting his graduate degree in applied statistics at your service.

C64	● ● ● ●
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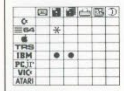
VIC	
ATARI	

Price: $100

M65 Time Change Atlas: It's About Time!

Here's a *real* time saver: the M65 Time Change Atlas knows the longitude, latitude, time zone and history of time changes for 1200 cities in the US and around the world. When entering name and birth data, just choose the city and specify the date—the Atlas automatically enters the geographic coordinates and the time that was being observed (Daylight Savings Time, Wartime, Double Summer Time, etc.). It's quick and simple—it does all this data entry for you! Best of all, it's accurate for any date from 1900-2000.

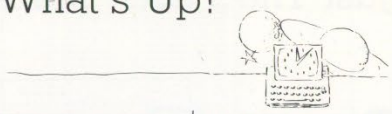
Now you can skip searching through your longitude/ latitude books and time change tables to find this information on these major cities (remember that roughly 80% of all births are in metropolitan areas). You can even add to the file so that it includes your own time change history for smaller towns that you need to refer to. This is a welcome relief from a tiresome chore. The Time Change Atlas is scheduled for release in July of '84.



Price: $50

*C64 version in the works—other machines to follow.

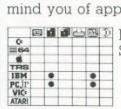
M65 Clock: What's Up?



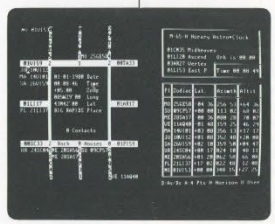
"Beep. Booop. Buzz." That quiet little chatter is coming from your computer. With the M65 Clock Module running, your computer constantly has its eye on the sky. With an on-screen chart wheel and tables of longitude, declination, azimuth & altitude, it gives you a running account of what's happening in the heavens *right now*. The data on the screen of the IBM-PC is updated every 18 seconds, so it's fascinating to follow the planets minute-by-minute as they move in the sky.

When a planet culminates, reaches an angle or comes on the horizon, the Clock Module gives you a little audio cue. Each planet has a unique sound: Pluto's tone is deep and slow while Mercury's is high and light. With these cues, you don't even have to watch the screen to know what's up.

There's something really pleasant about having this "real-time" reminder of what's going on above. You may want to leave it running during counseling sessions to observe transits and events. You'll know when and where (due east, etc.) each planet comes to the horizon. You can customize the M65 Clock with the orbs you wish to use. And, getting back down to earth, we've included the additional feature of an alarm to remind you of appointments.



Price: $50.



M65 Tracker Cross-Reference System

Tracker's a new program with tremendous capabilities. It takes a little explaining, because home computer users haven't seen many programs of this type—particularly at such a low price.

Tracker keeps track of things—astrological and otherwise. It's sort of an electronic index card file. Or rather, it does what you *wish* a file of 3"x5" cards could do: it thoroughly cross references every "card" in your file system and searches itself with amazing speed.

Each "file card" entry contains keywords of your own choice that the program will recognize when searching the files. These keys can be dates, client information (Sun signs, occupations, etc.), billing information, or who knows what. It seems that everyone who tries Tracker comes up with another new use for the program—it's so flexible that it lends itself to countless applications. Here are a few examples:

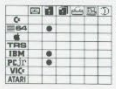
Astrological research. Suppose I'm curious to know how many doctors are in my files, and of those how many are Virgos. Let's narrow the target group still further: how many of these Virgo M.D.'s are vegetarians? To find out I just give Tracker the key words "doctor," "vegetarian," and "Sun-Virgo." The program does the rest.

Or I could ask for all records with "Mars-Aries," "Mars-Sagittarius" or "Mars-Leo." Tracker would give me any records with Mars in a Fire Sign. The possibilities go on and on; your imagination can take it from here.

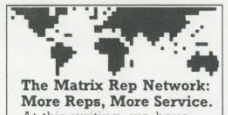
Client files. Keep track of client data or use Tracker to create an appointment file. For example: "Give me all my morning appointments for June 21, 1984 that involve chart preparations" or "Which of my clients have not paid their bills this month?"

We use Tracker to store information for articles in the process of being written. As we come across information for the file, we can enter it in a piecemeal and haphazard fashion and retrieve it later by groups. For example, we can dump all references to comets into Tracker without worrying about arranging it. When writing, we can ask for all the references to "comet orbits" or "size," etc. Tracker also keeps track of all customer orders.

There are many data base and file keeping programs on the market today. Few have cross reference capabilities, and most are very complicated (and equally expensive). Tracker offers you an easy-to-use package at a very affordable price.



Price: $50



The Matrix Rep Network: More Reps, More Service. At this writing, we have well over two dozen representatives around the world—and the list is growing. Each is an astrologer who knows our programs, and knows how to help you.

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Astro★talk

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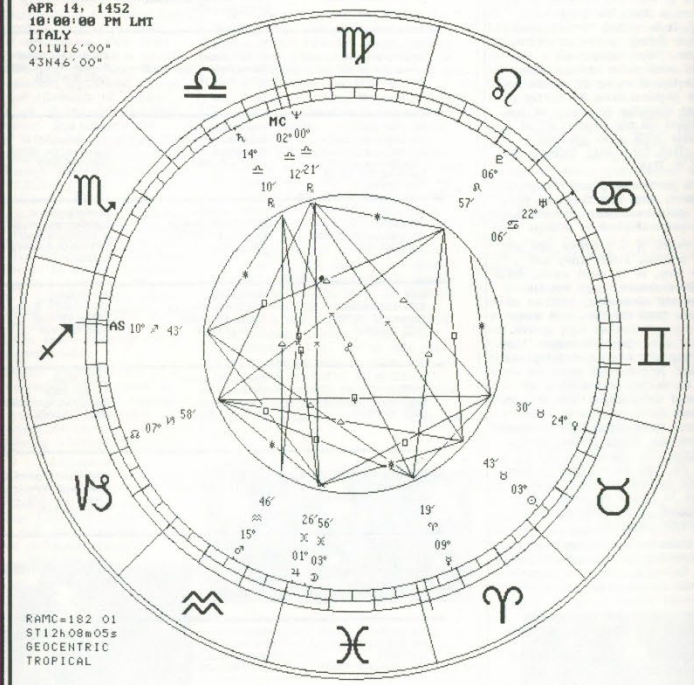

Here's a sample from the new Matrix Designer Wheels— a series of high resolution printouts that are setting the standard for quality in computer-generated charts. For more information, ask for your free copy of our new illustrated catalog.

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.One#5 Sep/Oct'84

Astro★talk

THE Astrologer's Apprentice

by Doug Pierce

Between all of the hardware that's coming out these days and the new programs that we have put together, there is little space to tell you of the long range projects we are working on here at MATRIX — that you might like to know about. One of the most important areas of research and development at our center here in Big Rapids is that of artificial intelligence or 'AI' as it is called.

In this article, I'd like to tell you about a particular research project that we have be engaged in: putting together an astrological 'expert system'. Expert system is a buzzword that you are going to be hearing a lot more of in the years to come. Around here Astro*Expert, our in-house expert system project, is often affectionally referred to as the astrologer's apprentice. Before I describe our system, let me provide some background information that may help introduce those of you who are new to this concept.

Expert systems, also known as knowledge-based systems, have recently emerged from the academic realm of AI research as a prime candidate for commercial applications. These systems are popping up all over the place in areas such as medical diagnosis, electronic circuit design, and the repair of complex machinery.

An expert system can be created from any type of knowledge that can be broken down into a series of rules. This series of rules is then used to make deductions and thus solve problems. For example, a medical diagnosis system might have the following rule for diagnosing infections: IF you have a fever, AND your white blood cell count is high, THEN you probably have an infection.

The rules used by these expert systems are normally more comprehensive than this, and their performance is often rather impressive within their limited areas of expertise. Of course these systems, like most computer systems, can 'only do what they are told'. The real achievement of expert systems is that they are a relatively easy way of telling computers how to do very complex things.

There is some history behind the idea of our applying expert system techniques to chart analysis and interpretation. Matrix Magazine, the technical journal that first introduced astrologers to computers in 1977, featured articles on advanced interpretive programs in three issues, as early as 1979. This was before the term 'expert system' had ever been heard outside the halls of academia. Each of the Astrological Conferences on Techniques (ACT) held during the past three AFA conventions has included a stimulating panel discussion on this topic. Our readers might like to know, that the term we coined for dynamic approaches to computer assisted interpretation was 'Astro*Talk'. That was five years ago.

Matrix programmers Stephen Erlewine and Doug Pierce have a long term interest in the subject. Doug has been studying AI techniques for many years. In fact, it was this mutual interest that originally brought Doug to work with Matrix. Stephen has also been working for years on the design of an astrological computing language that could be used by any professional astrologer. Stephen and Doug have combined their expertise on the astrological expert system that I am about to tell you about.

Astro*Expert

Perhaps the most important concept for you, the potential user of this system, to know is that the system will be as easy for you to use as a pocket calculator — one with special astrological functions.

Up to now, the astrological programs that have been made available to you by our company are, more or less, preset as regards what they do. Yes, you can change aspects and select from a menu of options

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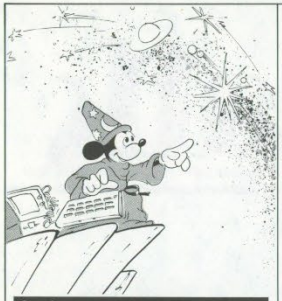

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Expert System

and so forth, but you cannot dynamically restructure the program itself for other applications. The one exception to this is the research module (M-65 B) which does have some amount of flexibility compared to other programs. Astro*Expert will be very different in this regard.

Our expert system contains a complete astrological language that you already know. With very little effort and time, you will have Astro*Expert doing what you tell it to do. Phrases like 'IF Jupiter is in the 10th House THEN do this' or 'List for me all Square aspects in this chart/s with an orb of less than 1 degree'.

Instead of being locked into a particular program flow, you can drive our expert system to do whatever kind of astrological work you need done. Astro*Expert is designed to be shaped by the user into whatever special astrological tools that are needed. You can build your own special set of rules, and produce a special written report based on your knowledge. Best of all, you can link the outcome of the system to text you design and come up with your own customized written reports. You not only control how the system is set up but you also can dictate how long each piece of text should be. The result is a complete written report tailored to your specific practice — built on your own experience or expertise.

The computer using an expert system becomes a instrument thru which astrological structures are created, built up and played out according to your needs. You can build up a complete knowledge base using your own astrological experience, one that reflects your point of view. Since what you build with Astro*Expert can be saved to disk as a template, you can have dozens or hundreds of different programs that you have created at your command.

You might create your own chart interpretation package complete with text you have written. You could set up your own dating service based on the particular set of synastry rules that you consider significant. Or you might want to design your own set of astrodyne-type factors. etc.

The idea is that Astro*Expert is a complete and easy-to-use astrological language that lends itself to innumerable tasks. Of course, Matrix will have dozens of pre-made applications or templates available for you to just load in from disk and run. Some of these applications will be calculation or research oriented while others will be linked to text that the user can design. Many will, no doubt, be put together by fellow M-65 users.

Very few of you could sit down and write me a program that did astrology as you have learned to do it. For one, most of you are not programmers. Even the programmers among you would find it very difficult to implement this kind of code. And yet you will be able to do this using the Matrix Expert system.

All of the inner workings of the system will be invisible to you, the user. All you need know are the built-in astrological functions or labels the system has available to you. By putting these labels together in English-like sentences, you can add your own astrological principles and rules to the system — one at a time. You can form a system of rules into a template that represents astrology as you know it. As you learn more, you will capture your new insights and add rules to your expert system. Users can share these templates with each other and build libraries of special techniques that will run on your Astro*Expert.

Astro*Expert is the answer to the simple fact that not everyone is going to have time to learn programming. It will be capable of doing almost anything astrological that you might imagine. For example, someone might put together all the rules for horary astrology according to John Lilly, or we might have a template that contained a variety of synastry techniques. Someone else will have a sophisticated text generation program built around their particular experience — their techniques. In a sense, our expert system is like having a special astrological computer within your computer that speaks a programming language (astrology) that you already understand.

The Matrix Expert System is currently being written in the language FORTH. We are implementing it on the CBM-64 and the IBM machines for now. We cannot tell you when it will be released in completed form. We would be glad to have your input and help on this project. We will be needing a limited number of IBM and CBM-64 users to serve as Beta-test sites for the system. In addition, if there are any FORTH programmers out there who would like to get the system running on the APPLE (or other machines), please contact us for details.

Financial Data Base For M65

Astrologer Steve Pincus has a nifty new financial data base available for M-65 users. Financial astrology enthusiasts will be glad to note that a stock market data base containing over 800 corporation charts is available for use with the M-65 System. A recent **Moody's Handbook of Common Stocks** was used as the source for all incorporation dates. All entries use Aries Houses and are erected for 1 P.M. The data base resides on 5 data disks in Apple II format. If sufficient non-Apple interest is indicated, a file conversion program will be written to transfer the data base to non-Apple M-65 configurations.

The disks may be purchased from Steve Pincus, 400 E. Remington, Apt. E151, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Phone: (408) 739-1654

ASTROLOGICAL Community News

Coming Events:

Los Angles, Ca. **SWAC Conference,** Oct. 18 to 21, 1984. Contact Magaret Mason, Phone (714) 826-7617.

Continuum, NCGR Chicago Conference 1984, Oct. 26, 27, 28, 1984. Contact: Gina Knight, 1609 Larch Drive, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, (312) 635-9443

Berkeley, CA. **The Neptune in Capricorn International Astrology Conference,** Nov. 23-26, 1984. Contact: Julie Pickerill, P.O. Box 20850, Reno NV 89515 (702) 358-2850

First International Astrological Convention, Jan. 17-21, 1985, Johannesburg, South Africa. Contact: P.O. Box 48333, Roosevelt Park, 2129, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

Miami Beach, Fla. **National Astrological Society 14th Annual Conference.** March 1-3. 1985. Contact: B. Somerfield, 205 Third Avenue, 2A, New York, NY 10003.

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

October 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect			
06	18:16	00CP41	MAR	SSQ	NEP	*H
07	20:55	13CP49	MAR	SES	JUP	*H
10	13:55	17SC08	MAR	SQR	SAT	*H
29	09:44	00PI00	MAR	Pisces		*H
30	17:05	00CP49	MAR	SXT	NEP	*H

November 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect			
01	18:14	02SC07	MAR	TRI	PLU	*H
04	04:34	18CP40	MAR	SSQ	JUP	*H
07	16:37	18SC56	MAR	SXT	SAT	*H
19	20:21	13SG58	MAR	SQR	URA	*H
23	20:01	13CP04	SES	URA		
25	16:06	02SC17	MAR	SES	PLU	*H
29	09:01	19SC35	MAR	TRI	SAT	*H

What's In The Journals?

The Journal, Vol. 3, No. 1, Special 1984 Issue, from NCGR, c/o Mary Downing, 78 Hubbard Avenue, Stamford, CT

Cycles of War & Peace by Burle Payne, **Can Astrology Help Prevent Airline Accidents** by Charles Emerson, **Fire or Ice** by Michael Erlewine, **Alternate Horoscopes of the U.S.** by Jim Lewis, **Galvanizing the U.S. Chart** by Barry Lynes.

Transit: The Magazine of the Astrological Association, Issue no. 45, May 1984. Contact: 24 Birchington Court. West End Lane, London NW6 4PB England.

Mondale: The Neptune-in-Capricorn Candidate by Jackie Durnin, **A Natal Astrologer's Guide to Horary (Part 5)** by Olivia Barclay, **Computer Update,** by Terry Dwyer, **The Fishes and the Phoenix** by Lynne Ewart, **The Moon: A Three-Fold Goddess** by Jane Malcomsom. **Trouble in the Street** by Shirley Hutchinson, **Mundane Notes** by Nick Campion, **Reports,** etc.

Cycles: Bulletin for the Foundation of the Study of Cycles, July 1984, Vol. 35, No. 5. c/o 124 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

A 23-Day Cycle in Sunspots by R. W. Robbins, other non-astrological cycle articles.

The Occult Review, Vol. 3, No. 1, c/o 475 Kaplan Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601

Domesticating Mars by Julie Wise, **Mundane Astrology** by Joy Kajan-Basile, other non-astrological articles.

The Mutable Dilemma, Gemini 1984, Vol. 7, No. 3, c/o 5953 W. 86th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Fire Walkers: Religious and Psychological by Zip Dobyns, **Inching Near the Election** by Zip Dobyns, **Aspects of Life** by Maritha Pottenger, **Challenge Corner** by Zip Dobyns, **Stock Market Update** by Zip Dobyns, **Argentina** by Zip Dobyns, **Astrological Ages** by Zip Dobyns.

The Astrological Journal, Summer 1984, XXVI, No. 3. c/o 'Oakfield'. Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England.

Wounds That Make Us Wise by Howard Sasportes, **Historical Nativities** by Martin Harvey, **The Neptune Cycle** by Paul Wright, **The Importance of Leo in an Aquarian Age** by Sandra Levy, **Kondratieff Cycle: Neptune & Jupiter** by Nick Campion, **Nostradamus and No End: Prophecies For Our Time** by Wilfried Pauk, **Leave Music Alone!** by Terry Dwyer, **The Dragon** by Ronald Harvey, **Astrology & Homeopathy** by Jane Malcomson, **Who's Who** 3 by Suzanne Harvey.

Aquarian Changes, Spring 1984, Volume 6, No. 1, c/o P.O. Box 25358, Colorado Springs, CO 80936

The Wheel by David Philip Benge, and other non-astrological articles.

Tape & Book Club Bulletin, Vol. 4, Jul/Aug/Sep 1984, c/o RKM Publishing, P.O. Box 23042, Euclid

Void of Course Planets by Pat Kirchner, **Ancient Egypt Phase 2** by Victoria F. Peltz, **Numerology: The Personal Year Dilemma** by Karen David, **Along the Tarot Path** by Fran Rosen, News.

"Want Ads"

We are now taking job applications for full time employment here at Matrix in Big Rapids. If you are interested, please call us now for more details.

Office Manager. We need an experienced office manager who also has some knowledge of astrology. Phone, typewriter, filing, English, etc. skills required.

Experienced Programmer. Must be fluent in BASIC. Some knowledge of 'C', FORTH and astrology would be helpful.

Astro*talk

Editors: Michael Erlewine, Margaret Erlewine, Martin Wolf

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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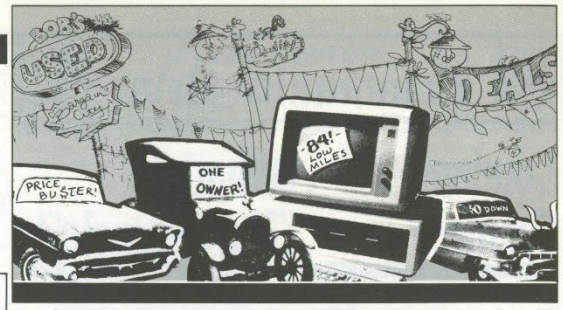
The Computer As A Necessity

by Michael Erlewine



We've received several letters from Matrix customers who are afraid that Matrix may be no longer developing software for their particular machine. If I can step down from my role as Matrix director and editor of **Astro*Talk** for a moment, I would like to share with you my feelings on the subject of buying and owning a computer plus take a look at future considerations.

As many of you know, I had the opportunity to develop and market the first astrological programs on the small home computers. I also believe that I have been among the first to experience the mixed blessing of having to trade-up my much-loved first computer for a newer model.

I'm sure we can agree that the computer will continue to play a major role in the life of the professional astrologer. For us it is no longer a luxury, but another of modern life's necessities. I can well understand that you might not like to admit another necessity into your lives with all of the dependence and cost that it entails. Be that as it may, my best guess is that, like the automobile, the computer may have to be upgraded or replaced every few years — at least for the near future.

How does a technological break-thru like the home computer go from being an extravagant luxury appliance to becoming an integral part of the life of the modern astrologer? The answer appears to be: very easily. Ten years from now, all of this will seem very clear in hindsight. Almost every professional astrologer will have a computer and most will have been thru several different machines.

As of today, much of the essential astrological software for chart calculation has already been written. We have managed to reproduce almost all of the existing Western astrological techniques via programs. Of course, we will have to continue to modify, adjust and 'port' (transfer) these programs onto whatever new machines come along. In addition, we can begin to develop new and exploratory techniques. The realm of computer graphics is just now coming into its own, and Artificial Intelligence is also making itself felt. Matrix has many exciting new programs coming up in the months and years to come. [see the article on expert systems in this issue.]

As a computer user and astrologer, I can well understand those of you who might want to stick with the machine you have and use it as long as you can. 'Drive it until it won't run anymore' sort of thing. The software that you now have could suffice for many years to come. If you have a machine like the Commodore, Apple or IBM, then additional and enhanced software (new programs) will also be forthcoming.

The other main approach is to trade in the system every so often for the latest model — while the trade-in value is still high. For myself, I have accepted that the computer will be much like the automobile has been in my life, and am resigned to trading my personal machine in every few years for a newer model. It was quite an emotional moment for me when I finally traded my beat-up old Commodore PET system in for an IBM. After all, I had spent about 10 hours a day on the machine for many years. Aside from any question of money, I had a lot of memories logged into that old keyboard. Many of the programs that readers of **Astro*Talk** are now using were written on my old PET. For me, it was the end of an era. I sold it and purchased an IBM.

What I am trying to say here is that time marches on. Having made the step of getting rid of my first real computer system in favor of a more progressive system, I no longer worry about the next system change -- whenever it may come. As an aside, it might be interesting to some of you that I find I am not as attached to my current system as I was to my PET. Perhaps there is something about that first computer system — a first love or something like that.

At any rate, I wanted you to know that I do understand your predicament. We are not hardware dealers and therefore have to purchase retail the same as most of you. All of us here at Matrix have to purchase our own computer system for home use from our private funds. The company does not promise us a machine. It costs money and we trade up when we have some extra cash or when the advantages of the new machines make it seem necessary. In other words, your worry about the future of your machine is not lost on us. We worry too.

As producers of software, we are trying to make it as easy as possible for our customers to migrate to new machines. At the same time, please understand that it costs us an enormous amount of money to get programs running on a new machine -- aside from the cost of the hardware itself. Hundreds of programmer hours are needed to take control of the latest models.

Matrix has always attempted to provide as many programs as possible on as many machines as we can. For example, we still have a wide selection of large programs for the Radio Shack Model I computer. This machine hasn't been manufactured for years. We also have programs for a variety of tiny machines that no one else supports like the Sharp hand-held computers, Epson HX-20, Timex Sinclair, Atari 800, etc. Our original line of programs for the Commodore PET and VIC are still available.

As regards new development, the 16-bit computers are much more powerful than the 8-bit variety. This is a fact of life, folks. Hardly a single column of **Machine Talk** has appeared that has not pointed out that we suggest the Commodore 64 system for those with a low budget and the IBM style computer for those with a lot more money to spend. It should be obvious that you get something for paying a lot more money — mainly speed and more powerful programs.

We continue to develop on all of the popular computers. For example, our new M-65 Tracker and M-65 Statistics module have been released on the Commodore 64 as well as the IBM PC. Apple II owners should note that all of the main modules of the M-65 system are available on that machine, including the complete M-65-B Research System and the M-65-C Screen module — neither of which are on the IBM machines yet.

However, there is a gotcha. Since the IBM style computers have so much more memory, things are possible there that cannot be done on the smaller 8-bit machines. A good example is the new Matrix Designer Wheel series. The bit-image used to send these wheels to the printer requires 64K of memory just by itself. That is, 64K aside from whatever memory is needed to run the program to format the chart and print it out. This is more memory than any of the 8-bit machines have. Or, if they have more memory, it cannot be addressed by BASIC.

Believe it or not, we received one letter from an 8-bit computer customer asking us not to develop software on the 16-bit machines at all. He felt it was unfair to him as an owner of an 8-bit system. As astrologers should know, things change. We aren't immune. Every few months we have to purchase expensive new equipment and struggle to get our programs up and running on them.

The bottom line is that we're working very hard to get as many programs as possible running on all the machines we can. Owners of 8-bit machines like the Apple II and the Commodore 64 can't expect us to do in 64k what we can in the 256k (and up) machines. And it's not only increased memory. The speed advantage in some of the IBM style machines makes certain tasks possible that are impractical in the smaller machines. They run much faster. For example, a complete set of planets and moon in less than 2 seconds on the IBM PC and in about 1/2 second on the new PC AT!

Everyone is worrying about being stuck with an outdated machine. And yet we should all know that, in today's market, almost every machine has been outdated even months after it is introduced — if not at the time of introduction itself! We do our very best to keep you informed as to what is happening in the world of computers thru our column **Machine Talk** in this bulletin. We all have to face the fact that any machine we purchase will be outdated just like our automobile is each year. Like the car, we can either drive our model into the ground or we can trade-up for a newer model. Matrix is doing its level best to make it easy for you to migrate — switch machines — and carry over the software to the new machine. In case you don't know, try asking Microsoft or any large company to switch your copy of VisiCalc (or whatever) to another machine. Good luck!

And for the record, here is a summary of what we are doing on the various machines:

APPLE II. In the last year, all of the MATRIX Report Writers have been brought over to the Apple. The Screen Module was completed. Also added were the Uranian Module for M-65 and a mini-Biorhthym (without interpretation). We are now working to get the new Time Change Atlas on that machine, too.

Commodore 64. Most of M-65 is available on the 64 including the Screen Module and Research Modules. M-65 Jr (Blue*Star 10) has been completed on this machine along with all the other Blue*Star programs. M-65 Tracker and M-65 Statistics module have just been released for the 64 as well. All of the Report Writers are there. The Time Change Atlas is in process for the machine.

Commodore PET machines. All the primary M-65 modules are available plus the entire line of Report Writers. Since the PET does not have as much memory as the Commodore-64, it wasn't possible to mount M-65 Jr and some of the other new programs on this machine. Adding more memory to the PET will not help since this memory is not available to BASIC for program use. Since the PET is so similar to the Commodore-64, we will make any program we can available for it that we offer on the 64 — providing memory usage permits.

IBM and the Look-Alikes. Since this is **the** state-of-the-Art machine, no problems here.

Apple Macintosh. We now have a complete series of medium-sized programs available for the Mac. These include complete printing chart wheels (with glyphs), Aspectarians plus Progressions, Solar & Lunar Returns, Lunar Synodies, Synastry, etc. When Apple manages to offer more memory for this machine, we will be able to offer some of our larger packages.

Radio Shack TRS-80. We have a good selection of programs on the Model III & IV systems from Radio Shack including M-65-A.

Summary

We want you to have the best programs possible to fit your machine. We are working to make new programs available on the Apple and the 64 as well as the IBM machines. On the other hand, you can't expect us to ignore the changing computer scene. We must develop new software on the larger and faster computers. We would be crazy not to take advantage of their increased memory and speed.

Just for fun, let me remind you what this field was like only 6 or 7 years ago. My first computer was purchased (cash in full, up front) sight-unseen and long distance (California). I was given no promised time of delivery. When a piece of equipment broke, there often was no friendly service-man to take care of it. I had to box it up and ship it (by air) to California for repairs and wait for them to get around to fixing it and sending it back.

There was no instruction manual or memory map and the only documentation that came with my first PET was a short list of the BASIC keywords. The total memory in the machine was a huge 8K. I could go on and on. You get the picture.

You can read the computer magazines, newsletters, etc. and see how fast the scene changes. Computers that are viable today may be dead tomorrow. Take a look at our track record. We have yet to support a machine that dies on the vine. The Commodore 64 is the most successful computer every marketed — and at a low price. This is not to say that the IBM is not a better computer. It is — but its also much more expensive.

The prices on the IBM Look-Alikes are coming down fast. See the notes on the re-vamped PCjr in the **Machine Talk** column of this issue. Make no mistake: These new 16 bit machines are faster and more powerful than the 8-bit machines in almost every way.

Those who leap into the forefront of technology and grab a new machine may pay top dollar for a state-of-the-art machine and, in some cases, have to wait for the software they want to be developed. On the other hand, those who hang onto an older machine may have to miss out on the very newest programs in order to get the most for their investment. Should you run out and sell your Apple II and get a 16-bit machine? Or should you hang on for awhile until you see just what you want come on the market? That depends on your pocketbook and your computing needs. Only you can make that decision.

Remember that all this is still very new. Sooner or later, all of us will trade up to a new machine. I imagine that I will own a good number of different computers during the course of my life. For our part, we'll keep working to help you get the most out of your machine whether it's an older model or state-of-the-art. When you have questions about machine software or hardware, old or new, give us a call. We'll try to help.

On the 1984 AFA/ACT convention

by Michael Erlewine

I just got back from the AFA/ACT convention in Chicago. Despite all of the politics, the convention was quite well attended and very successful.

Each time I go to one of these conventions, I come away with many new insights and ideas. In fact, these gatherings are capable of re-ordering my whole approach or life attitude — to some extent. The 1984 AFA/ACT convention was no exception.

For about a week, I am committed to living in what amounts to a small city filled with astrologers. The hotel is large and so self contained that an entire convention could go by without any real need to venture outside. As it happened, we went out in the evenings to partake of some of Chicago's fine restaurants. Let's see... there was the Indian food (the best of the lot), not to mention the Chinese, Mexican, Italian and Thai meals we had, but that is another story.

I never travel without my family. We drove down from Michigan a couple of days early so that we could get adjusted to hotel life, and I'm glad we did. It gave me a chance to get some of the rushing around out of my system. My wife likes to point out that I leave our room on the least excuse and prowl the halls looking for astrologers. And they were few and far between in those first days. We also took the kids to places like the zoo and the Museum of Science and Industry. I got more out of the Chicago bus rides than I did the places we visited. People really help each other out in the windy city. I found Chicago folks considerate and helpful of one another; pretty neat for a major metropolis.

There was a lot for me to do. Aside from serving as a lecturer on the AFA faculty, I was there as one of three AFA research coordinators, as a director for ACT (more on this below) and as the director for our company: Matrix Software.

Matrix had a large booth in the book room. I worried about everything I could think of, but all went off smoothly. Our crew rolled in on Friday with the computer equipment and began setting up. Staff members at the convention included Stephen Erlewine, Doug Pierce and Marty & Katie Wolf.

Astrologers began arriving, en masse, on Friday July 27th. The hotel was buzzing. It was exciting to be surrounded by astrologers on all sides — many of whom had been for me, until now, just names in books, articles and the Mercury Hour. No doubt about it, I was in my element. Although I have been to a number of conventions, I have never gotten over the thrill of being with other individuals working in the same field.

The convention was in full force by Saturday morning. There were four lecture periods during each day, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Each lasted about an hour and a half. For each time slot, there were a dozen or so different lectures competing for my attention. Although I couldn't attend them all, I was glad to note that the AFA recorded each lecture using professional equipment. These sessions will be made available to all interested for a nominal fee. Transcriptions of some of the ACT panels will be appearing in future issues of Astro*Talk.

Since I spent most of my time working at the ACT workshops or panel discussions, I would like to spend the rest of this article telling you about the various ACT panel discussions I attended and the general drift and spirit of the convention as a whole. ACT, as many of you know, stands for Astrological Conference on Techniques. The ACT conference has been held as part of the AFA convention since 1980. No one puts on a convention like the AFA. The accomodations were first rate. The AFA provided ACT with its own lecture room. Very nice layout.

At this point, all ACT functions are in panel format rather than in lecture format. In other words, a panel of experts get together to share ideas on a given theme. In addition, the audience is invited and encouraged to participate. The result is most often a lively discussion sparked by divergent (and convergent) views.

This year's ACT panels were the best yet. The panel members were able to break the habit of giving short monologues; and in many cases, the session started right in with heated discussion. The attending audience was not in the least bit shy either. It seemed that everyone jumped into the exchange and the session was over before we knew it. In many cases, we could have gone on for hours or even days. Although quantity does not guarantee quality, the sessions were well attended. Many were packed, with standing room only. We will need a larger room next convention.

What was the dominant theme and mood of the sessions? I can only give you my opinion as to what was going on there. First of all, I was impressed at what a fine group of people we have working in astrology today. Intelligent and sensitive individuals who are learning to work with one another. The sessions were marked, for the most part, by a sense of consideration and understanding of divergent viewpoints. And believe me, different viewpoints were there in abundance. It got hot at times.

I perceived a general sense that astrology is on the verge of real acceptance by the general population. The need for a greater sense of unity on the part of professional astrologers was apparent. We must link together in preparation for our more public role in the coming years. There seemed to be great willingness to forgo minor differences in favor of some kind of solidarity as a group. A sense that we must speak out and communicate about astrology to the general public came up again and again. There was general agreement that our response to the current attack on astrology by certain Christian fundamentalist groups must involve our standing up and being counted. As a group, astrologers must speak up and show what kind of people we are and dispel any rumors that we are Satanists or fortune tellers.

The technical concerns of modern astrology seem to be in good hands. There is no question that the computer has arrived as a natural tool for astrologers. What's more, astrologers are finding themselves getting more technical on many levels. It was clear to me that within a few years, the average astrologer will have re-aligned himself/herself along a more technical tack. In fact, the technical direction of modern astrology seems very secure. We won't have to accent the technical to the degree it has been in recent years. As a group, we have been converted to the right use of modern technology. That revolution is over.

In fact, there were definite signs that the next revolution has begun. And this was, to me, the most fascinating part of the convention. The need to balance our increasing interest in technology and the technical by an equal development of our intuition and spiritual resources was present; but what a new perspective I found.

Astrology has always dealt with the Psyche and with spiritual insight on many levels. It is part of our heritage. But here were some of the top technical astrologers in the country speaking out in favor of the development of spiritual insight and practice. Now that astrologers have entered the 20th century via the technical end of things, our attention is turning to our spiritual heritage. We want to make sure that the more intuitive areas of our subject remain intact and are not lost. I was thrilled to see this happening.

What an effort it has been for astrologers to master modern technology. Computers are just part of it. Modern astrologers all over the world are learning mathematics and astronomy like never before. Now there are signs that we are turning our attention to our intuitive and spiritual needs as well — with much greater focus than in the past. No more an undefined intuition or 'psychic sense'. Instead, we are beginning to explore and define our inner self and the psychic areas of our life and consciousness. We are learning to map them in great detail.

Where before, astrologers more or less agreed to let each other alone on their respective inner machinations, now we are inquiring of each other in detail. It reminds me of all of the stories of Atlantis rising again. The inner or psychological areas of our mind are coming up into consciousness. We are now better able to see and describe these areas to one another. No longer do I have to take your word as to inner sight or vice versa. Instead, we are discussing what we see within our common mind and beginning to share these thoughts with one another.

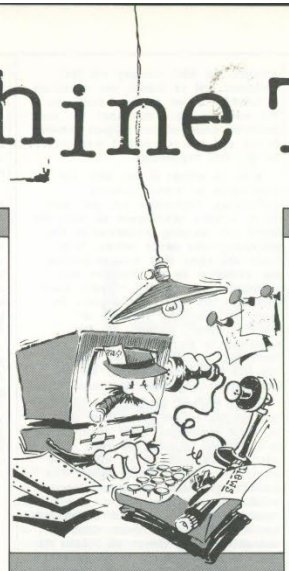
What comes out of this is the start of some kind of agreement as to what is there — what we all see within the mind. Just as we have learned to define and share techniques with one another, so now we have begun to explore these inner and psychological realms. Most every astrologer I know considers themselves some sort of a psychologist. The accent for us is on the word 'psyche' in the use of psychology. It was clear at this recent convention that astrologers have their own sense of psychology and a very well developed one at that. What is so neat is that we are getting over our individual shyness at sharing this inner information with one another. I experienced a definite trend towards sharing, exploring and documenting our inner or psychological heritage. We can study and map this part of our mind and self (esoteric areas of astrology) as we have done with the more exoteric parts of our astrological work+.

And last, but not least, there was a real tendency among the ACT participants to speak out about their own spiritual (religious) practice. There was a definite perception among many of the more technical astrologers of the need to be grounded in some spiritual, meditation or religious practice as the ground or substrate of astrology. We had Catholics, Protestants and other Christian astrologers in communication with students of yoga, Hinduism, Buddhism and other religious or spiritual practices. There was almost universal agreement that astrology was not, in itself, a religion.

Our great technical advances of recent years must be balanced by equally great advances in our spiritual and moral integrity. I must admit that I have, at times, worried that astrology would become too dry and technical. What a personal relief for me to find that some of the technical leaders perceive the need to strengthen our inner, intuitive abilities as we move ahead technically.

After all, this is where most of us found our entrance into astrology — from a spiritual perspective. It is gratifying to see that our intense absorption of the technical in recent years is but the fuel to better drive our spiritual resources to more comprehensive heights. In other words, the technology is, after all, a tool and not an end in itself.

Machine Talk.



It never rains, but it pours. The last couple of months have been kind of dry as regards advences in the computer market. However, all kinds of things have happened in the last few weeks — most having to do with those magic initials 'IBM'. Let's start with the 'Peanut'.

PCjr Makes a Comeback

IBM has finally come across with some good moves in relation to their troubled PCjr, alias the 'Peanut'. For starters they have issued a new keyboard to all PCjr owners, at no charge. It's 'Good-bye' chicklet style keys, and 'Hello' real keyboard. Of equal importance, they increased the memory on the Jr to a maximum of 640k. These are available as a series of 128k add-on modules that snap together. In addition, they have supplied a piece of software that turns the extra memory into a second 'Flash' or 'RAM' disk — as a way to use this extra memory. Thus, using the RAM-disk, the Jr can now emulate the standard two-drive PC.

If I understand it right, the only 'gotcha' is the fact that PCjr owners adding extra memory, who also want to use a printer, will have to come up with $150 for an extra power supply in the form of an additional snap-on card. This extra power allows the printer cards to be used.

The extra memory can also be used in a more straightforward manner to run large compiled IBM programs — like Matrix astrological programs. This means that the PCjr now can operate, in most respects, like its big brother, the PC. Teemar also has announced a second disk drive for the Jr. IBM has also introduced a mouse (roll-around cursor control) and the program Colorpaint — which is similar in function to the famous MacIntosh Macpaint program, except that it is in color.

The New IBM AT

At the top of the news this issue is the announcement of the new IBM AT, their new multi-user desktop. It is three times faster than the IBM PC and uses the new 80286 processor. It comes in two flavors, (1) a base PC AT at $3995. that features 256K RAM and a 1.2 Megabyte (half height) floppy disk drive and (2) an enhanced model for $5795 with 512K, 1.2 megabyte floppy and 20 Megabyte hard disk drive, serial and parallel adaptors. Other interesting features include the standard IBM Selectric type keyboard, system clock/calendar, tubular key lock, switchable (115/230-volt)power supply, 3 megabytes expandibility and 8 expansion slots. No change in the PC screen display capabilities.

This new 1.2 M floppy disk will read (but not write) the standard 360K IBM PC floppy format. There is room for a regular 360K drive next to the 1.2 M drive, if desired. The new format has over three times the storage capacity of the PC disks. We could put all of M-65 and it's data file disk on a single floppy!

By the way, the above prices surprised almost everyone. We thought IBM would bring this machine out at a much higher price. For example, speculation had the enchanced model coming in at around $10,000. Maybe IBM is getting wise.

IBM also introduced the PC Network, a networking system that will allow up to 72 PC's to share messages, printers, programs and disk storage thru a standard coaxial cable. All of the above from IBM make use of their new level DOS 3.1. A new windowing program from IBM called TopView was also introduced.

Your editor feels that the new PC AT will have a profound effect on the market. For one, it sets a top-end price for a really powerful and fast system. Either the base or the enhanced PC AT described above is an excellent bargain based on what is available on today's market. Altho it is sort of in a price category by itself, I feel that it will signal the end of a certain kind of competition with IBM. IBM intends to control the market, and the AT looks like a real contender to do it in the right fashion — by sheer quality and pricing. The name 'AT' may not be a coincidence for the PC AT is a direct sign to AT&T to 'get back'. It also signifies the "end of the road' for many of the compatibles. Industry sources indicate that the PC AT may replace the IBM PC/XT within 6 to 9 months if IBM does not lower prices on those machines.

MacIntosh

The Mac is still waiting for a memory upgrade. Apple is losing a portion of its market every month the Mac goes on without that much needed extra memory. Matrix now has a complete set of programs on the Mac that provide wheels, astrological glyphs and even progressions, Returns, Synastry, etc. These are ready now.

As nice as the Mac is, the deep and wide track laid down by IBM is making it look less attractive than it otherwise might.

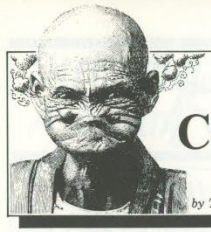
Apple II & Commodore 64

No great news for either of these machines. The 64 continues to be the best selling machine in the history of computers. The Apple II, the second most popular. Commodore has just purchased 32-bit technology by aquiring a small company that specializes in the Motorola 68000 technology.

The Bottom Line

The Commodore 64 is still the best value for the money on the market for a small (8-bit) system. With the larger machines (16-bit), the new Sanyo 555 with 256K and 2 double-sided drives is now the least expensive IBM-type system. The PCjr with at least 256K of memory is starting to look good too.

For those who have money to spend, get an IBM PC or the new IBM PC AT for top performance.



Calling All Creative Thinkers!

by Tom Erlewine

We're getting a lot of interest in our "Profile" presentation folders from those of you using report writers. Remember that these folders are just one part of our efforts to help your sales grow. Another part is our proposed series of ready-made ads for your use. So far, these ads are laying an egg — not many people have shown any interest in using them. After getting some comments from customers on the phone, I can see why: most of you just don't do any advertising in magazines, etc. Whoops!

But what you do want is a flyer or handbill. Maybe a poster. Something you can leave around town or in a bookstore. Something you can mail — or give away at a conference. We're now starting to work on a piece that will fill the bill. But this time I'd like to have your input now — at the initial creative stage — so that it really meets your needs.

The idea is the same as with our Profile folders: by producing a large quantity, we can put more time and money into a sharp design and quality printing than any one astrologer is likely to. You can purchase just what you need without having to foot the bill for the whole project.

Your input will help to shape the advertising direction we take. Here are some questions that I could use some help with:

Have you produced an ad or flyer for your services? May I see it?

I'd like to get a better feel for the ways astrologers are presenting themselves.

Do you feel it's important to emphasize astrology's ancient roots? Is the "olde Astrologer" in peaked cap and robes an image that's well received? I'm ready to suppress my bias but at this point I'm more inclined to strive for a bright contemporary feel. I'd really like to hear from you on this...after all, this will advertise your services, not mine.

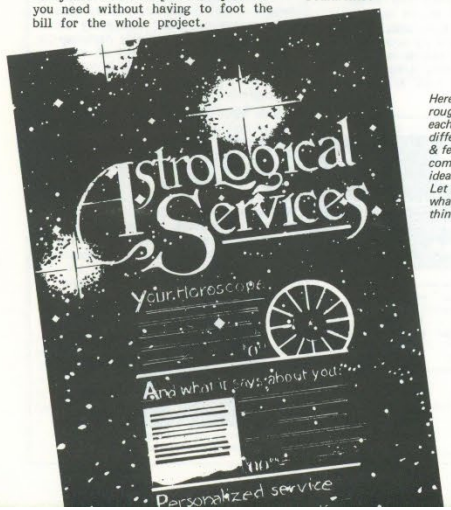
Is the computer's role in your business a drawback or a highlight? Are your customers concerned that it seems impersonal, or is it a plus that you're a "state-of-the-art" practitioner?

Do you like the "Profiles" theme? I do—because it can apply well to a lot of services: charts, interpretations, biorhythms, numerology, Tarot, etc. Comments?

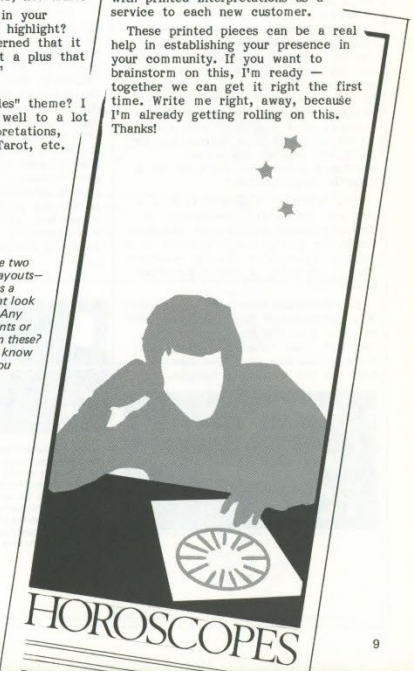
I've included rough sketches for your reaction. They could be applied to small handbills or mailers. Or they could be enlarged to poster size (probably no larger than 11" x 17" -to fit in crowded spaces). We can make arrangements with a printer to put your name and address on them, but it may be cheaper for you to handle that yourself (a rubber stamp might do). These posters can be produced in bright colors, or we could also offer less expensive versions in just one ink.

There are a lot of possibilities. For example: Would you be interested in printed pages that give a brief introduction to the concepts of astrology? These could be included with printed interpretations as a service to each new customer.

These printed pieces can be a real help in establishing your presence in your community. If you want to brainstorm on this, I'm ready — together we can get it right the first time. Write me right, away, because I'm already getting rolling on this. Thanks!



Here are two rough layouts— each has a different look & feel. Any comments or ideas on these? Let me know what you think!



Science Briefs

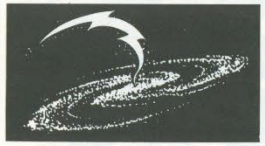
Galactic Dynamo

Like our own depths, what goes on at the center of the galaxy is still mostly a mystery. The center of our galaxy, The Milky Way, is shrouded in dust, and impenetrable to visible light. Scientists have to depend on radio and infrared observation. Now radio astronomers have discovered a totally unexpected feature. They were looking for star formation, but found instead a huge arc of filaments of ionized gas curving out of the galactic disc near the center. This implies the existence of a galactic magnetic field.

Three astronomers, Mark Morris of U.C.L.A., Farhad Yusef-Zadeh and Don Chance of C.U.N.Y., using the radio telescope at Socorro N.M., were studying radio emission from Galactic Center, which most scientists assumed was the result of processes that form new stars. The discovery of this huge arc of filaments of ionized gas was totally unexpected. It implies the presence of a magnetic field, similar to the radiation belts surrounding the Earth and Jupiter. There had previously been scant evidence for a galactic magnetic field.

This "poloidal" magnetic field is a new and unexpected development in Astrophysics. It implies that like the Earth, The galaxy itself functions as a gigantic dynamo, or electric generator. This is triggering a search for other similar arcs.

It also means that since radio flux is a indication of star formation, and this arc accounts for much of the radiation from Galactic Center; then there is far less star formation there then we had previously thought.



All On A Neptune Day

How long is a day on Neptune? Nobody knows for sure, but recent photos taken with the Space Camera at the Las Campanas Observatory in Chile indicate that it is about 18 hrs. The photos were taken at a wavelength, at which Methane, which is common in Neptune's atmosphere, absorbs sunlight, making the planet look dark in contrast to light reflected off high clouds. Computer processing of these photos reveal that the bright spot appears to shrink as the the picture progresses from left to right, thus indicating that it is disappearing around the edge of the planet. If this is indeed what is happening, than it is an indicator of the speed of the planet's atmosphere. (Evidence from the other gas giants, Jupiter and Saturn, seem to indicate that atmospheric rotation at this latitude is the same as the planet's true internal rotation.) This would give Neptune a 17 hr. 50 min day. This is substantially at odds with the 14 hr. day predicted by some researchers, giving rise to speculation that Neptune's internal structure might be different from the other gas giants.

These enhanced images of Neptune show large, cloud-like features moving across the face of the planet. According to the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, this motion indicates a day on Neptune is about 17 hours and 50 minutes long.

Quick Spin

Babies grow up so fast that they can go through an entire phase in a few weeks. Stars take millions of years to develop, but now it appears that they too go through some surprisingly short phases. Specifically, it appears that some young stars go through a short phase where they spin very rapidly, then slow down. This has been observed in some very young Pleiades Cluster stars.

Young stars tend to have large spots, which are less bright then the rest of the star. Variations in brightness are attributed to the passage of these spots across our line of sight. In these very young Pleiades Cluster stars, it has been observed that their brightness varies by as much as 10% in less than a day; but such rapid fluctuation would mean that the stars were rotating very rapidly.

Stars, like people, tend to slow down as they get older. The very youngest stars, the T Tauri stars, do not rotate this fast. In contrast, our Sun, a much older star, rotates much more slowly — about once every 25 days. Suspicion is that this "spin up-spin down" phase is typical of G-type stars, like our Sun. If this is so, then there is a good chance our Sun went through it billions of years ago.

This violent spinning motion gives off enormous amounts of radiation, which would have a great effect on the development of the planets, including the Earth. Among other things, it would have destroyed any primary atmosphere the Earth had. Scientists tend to agree that our present atmosphere is a secondary development, so this could be a major clue to unraveling our own evolution.

© 1973 Nat'l. Optical Astronomy Obs./Kitt Peak

Fast-living young stars are a mystery encountered in the Pleiades.

String Upon A Star

One of the major difficulties in any theory of the creation of the universe is the formation of the Galaxies. The basic problem most theories face is that they have the universe starting out in some kind of primal symmetry, or smooth orderly state, and then becoming much less orderly, with relatively dense areas, like galaxies, surrounded by basically empty areas of intergalactic space. No mechanism to explain this has been discovered.

But now a likely candidate is emerging. It is called "Cosmic String". String is a defect in the structure of space time. These breaks are connected with phase change. Phase change is the changing of a substance from one physical form to another, like water changing to steam or ice. These breaks do not happen all at once. Water boils away gradually, crystals often form with defects, like a bubble or flaw.

After a particular phase change in the universe, long thin tubes of the previous state could have remained, like wet paint trapped in a drip.

These relics of a previous age are thin and endless. Either they are infinitely long, or in most cases, form a loop. Furthermore, they contain large amounts of matter, trillions of times more than the Sun, and move through the universe at high speeds. Because of their internal tension they would " wiggle". When something this big wiggles, it gives off large amounts of energy in the form of gravitational disturbance. This in turn would cause it to eventually shrink away. These gravitational disturbances would have one signal effect, they would trigger the formation of galaxies. As they travel through space they would collect clouds of matter. When, due to giving off this energy, they disappear, this collected matter would become galaxies.

Could there be any string remaining today? according to Alexander Vilenkin of Tufts University, only the largest loops would survive this long. If one did, we could detect it by its ability to act like a lens and bend light, producing multiple images of a single object. Some double images are known, but other strong gravitational sources, such as quasars could also produce them, so as yet, we have no definite proof of string's existence. Whether the Universe does or does not save string is a question yet to be answered.

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...in For The Matrix User's Group Vol.One#6 Nov/Dec'84

Astro*talk

GRR!

Grass Roots Research

by Gary Duncan

[Editor's note: Gary Duncan is one of the most qualified researchers working in the field of astrology today. He has worked as a professional in the fields of mathematics, statistics, computer science and astronomy. He appears to be the first astrologer ever to program astrology and to do astrological research on computers. His study of some 46,000 psychologists, presented at the 1984 AFA Convention, was an eye opener to all present.

*In the following article, Gary outlines a plan where all of us can cooperate in a research project of real value. The original article is about four times this length. As editor, I have had to shorten the article in order for it to appear in Astro*Talk. If you would like a copy of the complete article, please write Matrix for one.]*

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the past 38 years, from 1946 to date, I have been one of a very small group of astrologers doing genuine research in the field of astrology. For the past 20 years, at every AFA convention and other astrological function which I have attended, a plea for others to join the "cause" has been issued. Less than a dozen individuals have made any response. Of these, only six actually performed any work. The low-volume sales of research work in the field of astrology says much for the general lack of interest among astrologers to advance their own knowledge.

The acronym, GRR, stands for Grass Roots Research, and suggests that it is time to grit our teeth and "get tough" in a COOPERATIVE endeavor to do some genuine research in the field of astrology. With the introduction of the personal computer, an increasing "army" of eager astrologers is now in evidence, and the mechanism by which such research can be undertaken is at hand. If this body of eager workers can be convinced to work in a cooperative spirit, many important research projects can be completed in a very short period of time. The purpose of this paper is to describe the GRR project, which is designed to organize such efforts toward a common goal.

Today, statistical methodology is well-understood, and more sophisticated treatments are easily executed by the high-speed computers of our age. Sorting operations, ephemeris computations, probability modeling, statistical reductions, and even the drawing of the camera-ready graphs are all handled by a large computer system in a matter of minutes. In less than an hour on a large minicomputer system, the Bradley Clergymen study (an early research project) was reprocessed, including the generation of all 10 planetary zodiacal graphs and 45 aspect graphs as well. It is no longer required that a single statistical study be performed by manual means.

There remain, however, three principal areas for our attention:

1) Data Collection,
2) Report Writing, and
3) Publication of results.

Cont. on pg. 4

New at Matrix:

Marketing Help!

Hot off the press:

Last May we introduced our "Profile" presentation covers to help you really make a good impression on your clients when providing them with printed output. Now we've taken the next step in helping you market your astrological services: the Matrix Ad Kit is ready!

The Ad Kit helps you prepare the ads, posters, business cards, etc. you need in order to spread the word on your services. As you may have found out, creating your own ads from the ground up isn't easy. It's time consuming, and if you can't produce the art yourself, it's expensive. These problems often stop astrologers from producing any promotional materials at all-- even though advertising can give a real boost to business. That's why we've produced this ad kit-- we've put the art time into it so you don't have to. The result is an inexpensive tool to help your business grow.

The Matrix Ad Kit contains:

Camera ready Posters

We've put two posters on a single sheet-- you just have to add your name (we'll even give you your name to paste in place!). These posters are designed to reproduce well no matter who does the printing-- even an office copier gives good results! They're paired two on a sheet so when you trim them in half you cut your printing costs in half, too. The idea is to get the most mileage out of the least expense possible.

Cont. on pg. 2

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Marketing Help!

Cont. from pg. 1

"Clip Art"

This is sort of a potpourri--you'll find the art used on the posters reproduced here in a tiny size for business cards and small ads. Other bits and pieces for you to cut & paste into your own designs include the "Profile" script we use on our presentation covers, a scattering of stars and such, business card layouts to plug your name & address into, and more. Also included are small versions of the same paragraphs of text used on the posters so you can adapt them to ads or calling cards. We've tried to give you a mixture of useful items on these two pages.

Your Name & Address

Our in-house typesetting is done on a new computer printer with laser technology. This Astro*Talk, for example, has been typeset using this machine. Since we have it on hand, we'll put the laser printer to work for you: include your business name and address when ordering, and we'll set the information several times in the typefaces we have available.

Ideas & Instructions

You'll also find several pages of advice, ideas and random thoughts from our staff artist Tom Erlewine (that's me). Those of you who are all thumbs, take heart: this is easy stuff. Some of the notes that will be helpful to newcomers include selecting and working with a printer, "layout" and "pasteup": where to begin/what you need, etc.

Color Poster

We've produced a bright, full color version of the poster designed for this kit. Take a look at the sample attached to this page and you can see for yourself the bright colors and quality paper; the paragraph on this sample is the text featured on the poster. The size of the poster is approximately 5"x17", and we include one in your ad kit.

Tent Card

Designed primarily to serve as a counter card in a bookstore offering astrological services, the full color tent card stands approximately 6" tall. If you don't have a cash register to put it on, it might make a great party hat. You'll find one in your kit (beware--some assembly required).

And More

As part of your kit, we'll send you an introductory article on astrology that you can reproduce and give away as a service to your new customers. We'll also include a sample Profile presentation cover and a copy of our article "Computers Can Pay For Themselves".

Astrology is very old, but its message is still news: coming events cast their shadow on the present. What then are the signs of the times we live in? What were the signs at the time of your birth and can you read them? Need a roadmap? Your heavenly portrait is ready when you are.

MATRIX SYSTEM

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The cost of the Matrix Ad Kit is $10. If you've ever paid to have artwork professionally done, you can see the advantage of cost sharing by making this project available to all our customers this way.

When ordering, please remember to send us the name, address, phone, etc. that you'd like us to typeset on the laser printer. Make it clear if this information is different from the name/address we use for mailing this to you.

One final note: I really want to thank the many helpful readers who took the time to respond to my call for creative input (Astro*Talk #5). We've proceeded with this ad kit in order to get something useful in your hands as quickly as possible, but all of your ideas are being considered and will be incorporated wherever possible. I hope this kit proves to be the first of a series--if it's helpful to you, I'm sure it will be.

-- Tom Erlewine

Special Offer On Report Writers!

By popular demand, we are now offering a low-cost chart wheel option with all of our astrological Natal report writers (M-90 & M-94) and the M-91 Transit Forecast. When you purchase any of these report writers, we will include one of our wheel printing programs (regular price $100-$150) for an additional $50.

For those of you who already have an astrological report writer from Matrix, take heart! This offer is also available to you, at the same price. Now is the time to take an advantage of this special offer. *Offer is good on all Apple II, Commodore and IBM versions of Matrix Astrological Report Writers.*

ASTROLOGICAL
Community News

Coming Events:

Ney York, NY. **NCGR-NY Conference.** Feb. 9 & 10, 1985. Contact: John Marchesella, 152 Seventh Ave., NY, NY 10011 (212) 255-8497.

Miami Beach, Fla. **National Astrological Society 14th Annual Conference.** March 1-3. 1985. Contact: B. Somerfield, 205 Third Avenue, 2A, New York, NY 10003.

Houston, TX. **Salute Astrology -- NCGR National Conference.** April 26-28, 1985. Contact: Center for Universal Understanding, 5304-A Bellaire Blvd., Bellaire, TX 77401. (713) 660-0676.

San Francisco, CA. **Full Moon in Scorpio Conference.** May 3-5, 1985. Contact: Donna Cunningham, 494 27th. Ave. #3, San Francisco, CA 94121. (415) 221-9564.

Carson, CA. **ISAR Conference at the California State University at Dominquez Hills.** June 7-9, 1985. Contact: Marguerite dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038, (213) 465-1408.

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

DECEMBER 1984

Date	Time	Place	Aspect	
01	11:20	21CP05	MAR SXT JUP	*H
15	08:26	00AR00	MAR ARIES	*H
17	15:18	01CP07	MAR SQR NEP	*H
19	19:24	02SC27	MAR INC PLU	*H
24	13:23	20SC25	MAR SSQ SAT	*H

JANUARY 1985

Date	Time	Place	Aspect	
19	09:00	21SC10	MAR INC SAT	*H
22	17:25	26CP32	JUP SXT SAT	
26	21:28	25CP40	MAR SQR JUP	*H

What's In The Journals?

CONSIDERATIONS, Fourth Issue, Summer 1984. Contact: P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

Let's Consider column, **Walter Mondale's Presidential Prospects** by Alexander Marr, **Data Etcetera, Hitler & Nazism in the Light of Stellar Astrology** by Maurice Poulin, **The Sixth Degree** by John Mazurek, **Books Considered, Three Men and their Boats** by Axel Harvey, **Heads or Tails** by Noah O'Dhaniel, **Events on the East Point** by Jim Haynes, **The U.S.A's Pre-Solar Eclipse: A Key to Wars** by John S. Wallis.

TRANSIT: THE MAGAZINE OF THE ASTROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, Issue No. 45, August 1984. Contact: 24 Birchington COurt. West End Lane, London NW6 4PB England.

In Transitu by Liz Banks, **The Flight of the Enola Gay** by Mike Harding, **An Uncanny Moon** by Nick Kollerstrom, **Data News** by David Fisher, **The Unfoldment of an Event** by Carole E. Wilson, **The Advisory Panel on Astrological Education** by Emily Fawcus, **A Natal Astrologer's Guide to Horary (Part Six)** by Olivia Barclay, **Computers in Astrology** by Colin Miles.

KOSMOS: THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ASTROLOGICAL RESEARCH. Vol. XIII, #4, Fall 1984. COntact: P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA. 90038.

Summary of ISAR Research Week by Rob Hand, **Astro Economics: The Union of Astrology and Economics** by Barry Lynes, **Retrograde Planets** by Ingrid Naiman, **Psychological Tests & Planets** by Francoise Gauquelin, **Astrology's Use in Medicine Today** by Marcia Starck, **The Effects of Neptune Transits** by Donna Cunningham, **Cycles of Peace and Geomagnetic Activity** by Buryl Payne, **The 1984 Presidential Election** by M. Dar Boggia, **Book Review** by Daniel Malana.

THE MUTABLE DILEMMA, Virgo 1984, Vol. 7, #4. Contact: 5953 W. 86th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Challenged by Asteroids by Rita Bremer, **Occultation of 1 Vulpecula by Asteroid 2 Pallas** by Rita Bremer, **Rectification: With a "W"?** by Zip Dobyns, **Aspects of Life** by Maritha Pottenger, **Challenge Corner** by Zip Dobyns, **A New Chapter in National Politics** by Zip Dobyns, **Last Look at the Election** by Zip Dobyns, **James Baker: Assistant to the President** by Zip Dobyns, **Not the Stock Market Again!** by Zip Dobyns.

ASTRO-PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS: A QUARTERLY RESEARCH JOURNAL, Vol. 2, No. 2, March 1984. Contact: Marie Schneider, B.P. 317, F -- 75229 PARIS, Cedex 05.

Astral Heredity by C. Discepolo, M. Mauro and F. Passariello, **A New Test of the Zodiac Signs** by Brian Riley, **Computer Update** by Colin Miles, **Time Changes in Switzerland** by Michael Keller, **Time Changes in the USA** by Arthur Blackwell, **The Mars Effect and its Evaluation** by Prof. Eysenck (Prof. Truzzi replies), **Critique of C.G. Jung's Astrological Experiment** by Joanna M. Ashmum, **Letters.**

Astro*talk

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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Cont. from pg. 1

The DATA COLLECTION phase is, today, the most perplexing, and requires the cooperation of many individuals if it is to be successful.

PUBLICATION of research reports is quite costly, and the printed documents are notoriously "bad sellers." REPORT WRITING requires much more than mere writing skills. Scientifically acceptable reports require internal organization according to accepted methods, proper presentation of the data, certain discussions regarding the statistical methods used, and a careful interpretation of the results obtained.

How can those of us with small microcomputers contribute to the advancement of our science? Details are given below.

2. MAIN AREAS OF RESEARCH

It is useful to divide research into at least two broad areas: (1) Event-Oriented Astrology, and (2) Natal Astrology. Typical EVENTS lending themselves to research efforts are: Earthquakes, Fires, Floods, Murders, Large Wins at Lotteries, etc. Unfortunately, event data collection is made more difficult by the need for EXACT TIMES and there is an increased risk of criticism of the study. Often, TWO items/case are required: Time of Event and Time of Birth.

Natal astrology is most frequently involved with studies relating birthdate with a single profession or with an objective measure for the individual (I.Q. tests, etc.) Without the requirement for exact time of birth, data collection problems are greatly reduced, and massive data samples are made available with little or no difficulty. And, there is a reduced risk of criticism of the study, provided the normal safeguards are followed.

3. DIVIDE-AND-CONQUER

Some of our members have skill in writing. Others have some statistical expertise. A few have access to massive computer systems which will handle all the necessary ephemeris, statistical calculations, and plotting of final graphs. And, a growing number have personal computers with "floppy disks" which provide an ideal media for Data Collection.

Let us examine the problem of collecting the information from a single biographical work (call it the "X-Book"). After a careful study of WHAT information is to be extracted, let us say that we have agreed to record the following items for each entry:

1) The YEAR, MONTH, and DAY of birth
2) The FIRST LETTER of the LAST NAME of the individual
3) The SEX of the individual
4) The STATE (of the U.S.A.) in which the birth occurred

A typical entry might appear as:

1931 FEB 28 K M NY

If the above spaces are typed into the computer file, each entry would require 18 bytes (each character equals one byte). Now, if the book has 10 names per page and 500 pages, we would expect to obtain about 5,000 entries (of which some may not be usable due to missing information). Thus, a disk file of 18*5000 = 120,000 bytes would be required to hold the resulting entries. One or more floppy disks can easily hold such files. A good typist working at one stroke per second would require 19 strokes, or 19 seconds, per entry. This equates to 5 entries per minute. Eye fatigue, boredom, and interruptions will further degrade this rate to, perhaps, 2 entries per minute. The total file of 5,000 entries will, therefore, require about 2,500 minutes, or 22 hours for its generation. Realistically, we should double this amount if the typist must "skim" through printed text in the X-Book in order to extract the desired data. In this manner, we estimate that about 44 hours, or one man-week will be required for the Data Collection phase.

A single typist, working at their personal computer, COULD accomplish this task in a single week. But, with only 5 computer "hackers" who would agree to work in a COOPERATIVE spirit, the same task could be accomplished in a single day. And, if each of these team members wished to take TWO DAYS to do their part of the work -- or even a WHOLE WEEK -- we would still get the work done in record time. You can easily see why cooperation reaps rich rewards when applied to such situations!

When the data has been entered onto floppy disks, sent to a central point, and combined to form a complete file, a printed listing is generated by the computer. At this point, certain inconsistencies between the different editions as well as keystroke errors by the team members are detected and flagged through proof reading.

After this first proof-reading step, it is necessary to make use of a good EDITOR on a computer to make the appropriate changes, and to prepare a new doubly-spaced proof listing.

A SECOND proof-reading step is required, to ensure that the requested changes were properly entered, and neither additional "spurious" entries were accidentlly inserted, nor that prior entries were accidently deleted. It is ESSENTIAL that a different individual perform this step than the one who executed the FIRST proof-reading step.

Please note that these proof-reading steps do NOT require that the individual have access to a personal computer. Thus, even those team members who do not yet own a personal computer CAN help with the total effort, if only they are willing to contribute their time and talent.

It would, of course, result in general mayhem if the above efforts were undertaken without some form of structured control or supervision. Aside from Matrix, I am happy to report that representatives of NCGR have offered the facilities of their organization to help in this LOCAL group effort. Other groups are encouraged to offer their help.

4. HOW DO YOU GET STARTED?

The FIRST STEP you must take is to visit your local LIBRARY and look at their reference section. Ask the Reference Librarian to show you *Biographical Reference Works*; i.e., books which contain biographical information on persons who are members of the SAME PROFESSION.

Some suitable titles might be:

"Violin Makers of North America"
"Encyclopedia of Rock Musicians, 1950-1970"
"Dictionary of American Surgeons"

You are NOT interested in general "Who's Who" volumes unless ALL the entries are for a SINGLE PROFESSION. You are NOT interested in any volume which fails to give COMPLETE BIRTHDATES, i.e., YEAR, MONTH, and DAY.

Of the reference books available to you at a local level, select TWO that represent professions on which you would like to do research.

For these TWO books, you must Xerox the following pages from each:

1) The Title Page
2) A sample Data Page

Staple these two xerox pages together and PRINT, using BLACK pen, the following information across the TOP of the Title Page:

1) YOUR name
2) Number of Data Pages (always less than the number of total pages in the book)
3) Average number of entries per data page.
4) Approximate number of entries (the product of items 2 and 3.)
5) The publication date of the book.

In the UPPER-RIGHT corner of the first page of each set, place a number (1 or 2) and circle it, to indicate your FIRST and SECOND preference for a research project.

Next, using a FIFTH sheet of paper, print with BLACK ink the following information concerning yourself:

1) Your name
2) Your mailing address
3) Model numbers of your computer(s)
4) Size, Density, and Capacity of the Floppy Disks which your computer(s) can generate
5) Name and address of any local NCGR chapter, or other organization which is near you, and which might render assistance to you (if required).

Then, place the FIVE sheets of paper in an envelope and address it as follows:

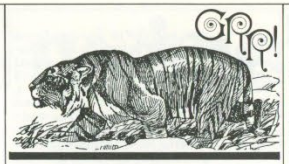
MATRIX Software
GRR Project
315 Marion Ave.
Big Rapids, MI 49307

Then, get it into the mail as soon as possible!

5. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We must make some DECISIONS regarding which projects to undertake, and assign individuals to participate on each of the selected projects. As soon as this step is completed, you will receive DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS by mail as to how to proceed. These instructions advise you to proceed VERY SLOWLY at first until we are certain that all details are understood clearly.

You will NOT be asked to enter the ENTIRE document, but only a selected subset will be requested. As you complete each assignment, you send your floppy disk to the central point,



where it is collected and held until completion of the final group.

We plan to keep all team members informed regarding the progress of their team, as well as the progress of other teams, by means of periodic "new items" which will be sent to all participating members.

6. STATISTICAL REDUCTIONS AND GENERATION OF GRAPHS

Once the proof-reading phase is completed, Michael Erlewine and the Matrix staff will convert the floppy disks to MAGNETIC TAPE, and send same to Gary Duncan for computer processing.

Sometime, special computer programs will be required to accommodate the unique qualities of a given research project. This work will be executed by Gary Duncan in conjunction with other professional statisticians.

The result of this step is the production of the camera-ready artwork, and the preparation for the writing of the final report.

7. WRITING THE REPORT

After the first few research reports have been printed, we shall have some "models" for the generation of future reports. Due credit will be given to all contributing members, either as joint authors or on the Acknowledgement page, as is appropriate in the particular circumstance.

8. REVIEWING THE REPORT

When the report is complete with all illustrations, the next step is to have it reviewed for grammatical and stylistic content. We expect the reviewers to play the role of "Devil's Advocate" in preparing their critique.

Some revision of the report may be necessary at this point, and the result may be, again, submitted to the same referee for further comments. A SECOND referee will be enlisted to review the revised report, and asked to perform somewhat the same duties as the first referee.

9. PUBLISHING THE REPORT

When we finally reach the point that the report is ready for publication, it is necessary to find a publisher with enough conviction to publish a "research" report which is, unfortunately, destined to be an economic "flop." We have received the strong interest and support of the AFA toward this end, and have been assured that they will seriously consider any worthwhile publication.

10. ARCHIVAL STORAGE

After publication, the data base, consisting of the collected raw data, and of certain derived statistical tabulations, will be made available in computer-readable form. For the present, this means via floppy disk. Future plans will allow the transmission of magnetic tape.

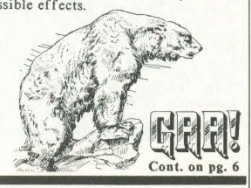
Thus, other investigators will be free to re-process the data, and to explore other areas of investigation. And, many local groups may find that such archival information is useful for instructional purposes.

11. THE GRR PROJECT GOAL

A motto reads: "Without vision, the people perish." Matrix and Gary Duncan have worked together for more than two years to get this project beyond the planning stage. It is important to set a DEFINITE GOAL, one which could be reasonably attained in a short time period.

In every library of moderate size, the Reference Section contains *hundreds* of volumes of *biographical* source works for persons in single professions. If we use such works, our data collection costs are held to an absolute minimum. We do not have to justify our collection methods, as to whether we were "biased" or whether appropriate "random" methods were used. Others have already done much of our work for us! No one is likely to seriously advance an argument that the editors of a "Who's Who in some field" made reference to possible astrological factors when deciding upon the eligibility of a candidate for their volume. Hence, our decision to work with these source works was based on quite practical considerations.

Some will immediately criticize this decision, on the grounds that ONLY the birthdate (year, month, day) will be available from such works. True, but that is all we NEED for our Grass Roots Research! But, some will ask, what benefit will we derive from mere "sun-sign" analysis? Our answer is: A great deal! First of all, much more than "mere sun-sign analysis" is obtained from such a project. At least 5 planets (Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, and Mars) are studied with regard to their zodiacal positions -- Zodiacal Signs; Fire, Earth, Air, and Water qualities; Cardinal, Fixed, Mutable classifications; and the Masculine, Feminine groupings. And, all this in each of 30 different zodiacs! In addition, 45 possible aspects pairings of the 10 planets are analyzed for possible effects.



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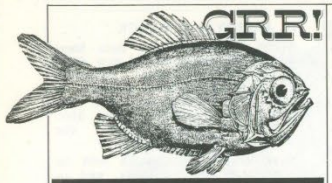

How will it be used? At present, every high-school in the U.S.A. has at least one Guidance Counselor whose duty it is to "guide" a student toward a possible career in which he, or she, may find suitable employment. Unfortunately, only psychological testing and aptitude tests are used to guide Counselors in making their advisory judgements. When only 100 GRR projects have been completed, the Guidance Counselor will be able to draw from a rich body of knowledge which, at least, suppliments the usual phychological and aptitude tests.

Our purpose, then is to enlist the cooperative spirit of all interested parties in making a concerted attack on the published biographical works available in most libraries, and to complete 100 such research efforts before the 1986 AFA Convention.

12. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Our goal is a bold one. We expect the usual objections to be raised from those individuals who NEVER do any work on any useful project, especially the ones who waste their times pursuing projects which are inherently doomed to failure at their inception! We expect the usual individuals who complain as to why we don't concentrate our efforts on other approaches, thereby diluting our initial goal. We expect the usual group of chronic complainers who view ANY progress with suspicion. We even expect the usual group of volunteers who "sign-up" for a popular cause, only to sit back and "drag their feet" when any work is requested of them. Yes, we expect these individuals -- and many more -- to make their presence felt, and we will still WELCOME them in the true spirit of friendship, in the hope that they will ultimately come to enjoy the blessings which can be ours through real COOPERATIVE efforts.

And, yes, we will welcome all individuals who communicate their interests to us, but have some reservations regarding their hesitancy to undertake some of the work for "fear that they may make a mistake." To such individuals, let me personally assure them that they will receive all the help they require, and that they have no need to felt apprehensive in this regard. It is our hope that the GRR Project will attract many newcomers to the field of astrology, and many of these new members will be ones who have no prior background in astrology.

If we are successful in the Grass Roots Research Project, it is reasonable to expect that much personal contact and administrative efforts will be required to sustain any large effort. In addressing this matter, Michael Erlewine of MATRIX, has generously offered his services, and those of the MATRIX staff, in helping with the numerous details which will be required for a successful venture. It is essential that a CENTRAL POINT be established if we are to be successful. We have, therefore, agreed that the GRR Project will be "head-quartered" at the MATRIX address. The use of this central point will provide us with a single mailing address, and will facilitate the internal record keeping which accompanies any large effort.

Local group efforts, such as those offered by NCGR, will also be employed to provide individual team members a nearby "friend" to contact for help on certain technical problems, or to provide "moral support" and to increase the "team spirit" during our exciting forthcoming research efforts.

From our collective efforts may come several blessings: We may discover some IMPORTANT astrological principles. We will all directly benefit from such findings. We may discover new results which will find immediate application in other fields, such as Career Guidance. And, we may learn to set aside our child-like egos and reach a new level of maturity within our science, through the spirit of COOPERATION. If any one of these blessings is attained, the astrological community will be richer for our efforts, and we can all feel a righteous pride for our mutual undertaking.

To all who read this paper, I extend my personal invitation that you consider joining us in this worthy endeavor. When your efforts are weighed on the Balance Scale of Eternity, you may be able to say that you helped to advance the science of astrology!

Your Matrix representative is ready to help you with orders & questions. Just call!

Reps, Reps, & More Reps!

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review:

Mundane Astrology: An Introduction to the Astrology of Nations and Groups, by Michael Baigent, Nicholas Campion and Charles Harvey. *Aquarian Press*, 1984, 496 pages $12.95

A book review by Barry Lynes

[Editor's Note: Barry Lynes is a recognised leader in the field of Mundane Astrology and is the author of The Next 20 Years, Astro Economics: The Union of Astrology and Economica, and Secret Astrology: Russia's Past and Future. His books are available from Astro Science, P.O. Box 15247, Springfield, MA. 01115

This is an important contribution to the growing field of mundane astrology. Michael Baigent is the best-selling co-author of **Holy Blood/Holy Grail** which is even sold in local American grocery stores. By combining with Nicholas Campion and Charles Harvey, two well-known English astrologers whose specialty is political-economic areas, Baigent has helped legitimize astrology and in particular mundane astrology.

Of course "mundane" is an awful word for one of the most important areas for astrological development. People unfamiliar with astrology refer to a dictionary and find "mundane" means "ordinary or commonplace." I (and no doubt others) then have to explain that mundane astrology deals with the awesomely critical fact of life or death for millions -- because of political decisions, economic policies, idiots or wise national leaders, general ignorance as to the 20th century's astrohistory, etc. Larousse's definition should be printed under every use of the term:

> "Mundane astrology (from the Latin Mundus, the world; also called political astrology): The branch of astrology devoted to the study of planetary cycles and patterns as reflected in world events, cultural trends, and collective phenomena. -- *Larousse Encyclopedia of Astrology.*

What Baigent, Campion and Harvey have done is produce a scholarly book which identifies most of the serious work done in the field of mundane astrology since the beginning of recorded history! That is an accomplishment!

If you want to learn about some obscure Berlin researcher who has a complicated "new" system involving political charts (and requiring a year or so to comprehend), our British trio will introduce you to him.

And if you are curious about the work of the leading European mundane astrologer Andre Barbault -- where his work is excellent and where he falls on his face -- this is a good book to learn Barbault's general approach without going to the original.

However, Mundane Astrology is not an easy book to read in places -- highly technical sections and chapters will intimidate the beginner. On the other hand, several chapters are easily digestible to both astrologers and curious seekers of knowledge who know little about the subject. My advice is to skip what doesn't interest you and enjoy three fine scholars who have helped push astrology forward in a "bravo" performance.

And yet, in one major area, they have failed to demonstrate the highest scholarly standards or academic integrity. Although familiar with the latest material on the U.S. and Russian charts put out by myself and others, they have chosen not to emphasize its superiority over earlier, inferior efforts. Since they personally authored articles promoting uncreditable charts (published in England) and have not provided in this book or subsequent articles any serious evidence which justifies an objective scholar using their choice, they have misled Mundane Astrology readers by not focusing on this all-critical superpower issue. If the reader understands and forgives this glaring flaw and its implications for the difficult geopolitical shifts just ahead, then the rest of the book can be appreciated for its obvious value.

Apparently the book is still difficult to obtain in the United States. I have been informed that the **Astrology & and Spiritual Center**, 4535 Hohman Ave, Hammond, IN, 46327 has copies or soon will have. Both bookstores and individuals interested in **Mundane Astrology: An Introduction To The Astrology of Nations** should contact this well-known distribution outlet.

For the serious astrologer interested in the real world, our common global destiny, and the emerging potential of serious astrology to influence the course of the future, Mundane Astrology is well-written and a fine resource guide. A sample of the writing may encourage a few of you to get involved in this still "too small" specialty of modern astrology:

"The national horoscope in mundane astrology can be a tool to understand these political processes and to raise our consciousness of our political environment. It can become a tool for the creation of greater democracy through greater conscious, rather than unconscious, participation in the decision making processes of the nation. Mundane astrology, using the national horoscope, can still be a tool for prediction, or for the passive observation of events, but it can become more. It can become a tool for the general improvement of human society, the avoidance of war and tyranny, and the creation of a better future through greater understanding of our political processes."

blue☆star menu!

This is an important article for Matrix customers. Blue*Star menu is well on its way to becoming *the* standard format for running Matrix programs -- almost all of them. You should know about this program because, sooner or later, you will be using it.

Blue*Star takes its name from those bright stars that we can see with the naked eye. These stars are recently formed, give off a brilliant blue-white light, and have a very long future. Almost all of the visible stars are blue stars.

Blue*Star Menu is our designated user interface. Right now it runs most IBM PC Matrix programs. Before long, we hope to have it running all our programs. The concept behind the Blue*Star is simple: **one menu runs them all**. Once you learn Blue*Star, you can run lmost all programs in the Matrix system.

Here are some Blue*Star features:

BULLET-PROOF INPUT. The data entry method is clear and easy to use -- even for beginners. Everything is spelled out right on the screen. You can edit, and re-edit to your heart's content. Users can assemble long lists of jobs and go back and edit any one of them -- at any time.

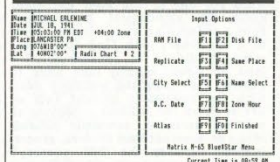
POP-UP DATA. Data entry is made even easier via several user-definable data sets. For example, Blue*Star lets you keep your 10 most-used sets of chart data always at hand and ready to be input automatically. In addition, 10 favorite cities (complete with coordinates and time zones) are ready to swap in at the touch of a button. Our replicate command allows you to re-instate the most recently entered set of data. We even provide a button that provides a full set of data for the current moment -- ready for use in transits, etc.

PARAGRAPH SELECTION. No more complex key codes to master. Blue*Star displays all selections to the screen in easy-to-read paragraphs. What you see is what you get. The options in any paragraph are highlighted. Just move the bar of light to the option you wish to change, make the alternate selection, and the paragraph is re-phrased. When you have it the way you want, press the **<RETURN>** KEY and it's yours.

MULTIPLE JOB SELECTION. Don't stop reading now. We're getting to the good part. Unlike previous Matrix programs, Blue*Star can handle a whole series of different programs at the same time. It doesn't care what programs you may want to use with one another. Blue*Star lets you string together jobs anyway you want to. Here is an example.

Let's say I have some chart data and need a variety of outputs. Perhaps I want a round chart wheel, an M-90 Natal Report, an Alpha-Numerology Report and a list of progressed hits for the coming year. Blue*Star allows me to select any of these (and dozens more, if need be) and process them all at the same time -- even tho my job list is made up of separate programs. Blue*Star is limited only by the size of your disk in terms of how many programs it can handle.

I can make a complex job list and Blue*Star remembers it all. It even automatically checks my disks to see if I actually have those programs on-line! If I don't, it lets me know when to swap disks -- if need be. All of the jobs for my chart data can be edited and modified -- at any time. In fact, multiple sets of jobs can be reviewed and edited all the way up to the moment when I process the batch. And now for the best news of all.

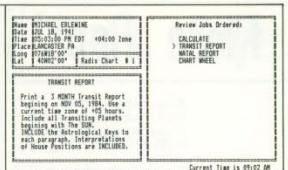


DATA ENTRY

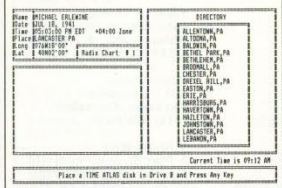
BLUE*STAR AUTO OPTIONS. The most remarkable aspect of using Blue*Star is its ability to remember any sequence of jobs and the options you specify. You can assemble a complex series of jobs, using a number of different programs with all their options and then save the entire series for future use. You can have sets of jobs that can be assigned to any chart at the touch of a key.

What this boils down to is that you need only pick your way thru a job series one time. You order up the job series as you normally would. However, just before processing the series, you can assign the entire lot a name and save it to a single key for future use.

I hope you are following me here, because this is the single most useful new feature in our software. Let me summarize: Over the years, I have a particular series of calculations and output that I use for a reading or consultation. Almost all of the time, I want the exact same series of charts



REVIEW AND CHANGE ANY JOB, ANYTIME



TIME CHANGE ATLAS

for my work. Blue*Star lets me select the entire series (even though several different programs are involved), give the series a name, and assign it to a special key.

Now all I have to do is enter my new data, and assign the entire job series to the new data. That's it! I don't have to worry any further. The computer cranks out all the charts I need complete with all the customized aspects, options, etc. that I use. I use ten sets of user-defined jobs in my work. Any set is ready at the touch of a key. This single feature has saved me more time than any other that I can think of. Now one button gives me my hi-res designer wheels, chart data, aspect grids, etc. just the way I like them.

OTHER FEATURES. There are many more features that are part of Blue*Star than I can go into in detail here. The built-in Astro*Clock provides me with the current horosocope angles and sensitive points at any time. The fact that the Time Change Atlas works with Blue*Star means that my library of time-change and atlas books are all but retired. Once you use the Matrix System Atlas, you won't ever go back.

NO CHARGE. Blue*Star Menu is free, and it is so important that we want our customers to have it at the earliest opportunity. You get it at no charge when you order any of the standard Matrix programs that run under Blue*Star. At this time, Blue*Star is running on the IBM PC and PC compatibles but we are studying the feasability of getting Blue*Star up on the C-64 and Apple II. If the memory will permit, we will do it.

Now that you know something about Blue*Star, you will be more able to appreciate what our new Transit Master can do for you. It runs under Blue*Star.

TRANSIT MASTER

The Matrix Transit Master is almost ready to ship. It's in beta testing now, and is a beauty! We offer a lot of fine programs, but Transit Master (and Blue*Star) are high water marks. Here are some details.

This hi-accuracy dynamic transit program has been in the works for several years. Altho designed by our entire programming staff, Transit Master has been the special baby of programmer Doug Pierce. Much of the internal logic has been designed by James Neely. The file handling code is by Stephen Erlewine. Stephen Erlewine (with some help from your editor) produced the Blue*Star Menu under which Transit Master runs.

Of course, Transit Master is M-65 file compatible. It reads both natal and secondary M-65 chart files, which means that most types of M-65 charts can be scanned -- solar and lunar returns, relationships charts, progressions, etc.

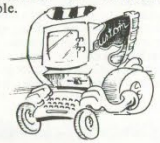
Transit Master might better be titled "Transit & Progression Master" for almost all of the transit features outlined below are also available to the user as progression searches. A "Custom Progressions" feature allows you to define your own varieties of progression or arc direction techniques.

In addition, the program can perform in any of a number of coordinate dimensions. These include geocentric & heliocentric ecliptic longitude, and right ascension & declination. Both transiting parallels and contra-parallels are enabled. The program also provides scans in either the Tropical or Sidereal Zodiacs, as well as for precessed Tropical positions.

EPHEMERIS ACCURACY/RANGE. Transit Master performs its scans using built-in hi-precision disk ephemerides. Disk ephemeris positions are accurate to better than one second of arc, permitting more precise timing of transit and progression contacts than has been possible with existing transit packages for personal computers.

These ephemerides will be made available in several formats. Sun and moon positions are always available for all formats. The standard disk, including planets from Mercury to Pluto, covers a 70 year range. In addition, we have a disk with the planets Mars thru Pluto that covers almost 600 years. Our 3000 year disk includes planets Jupiter thru Pluto.

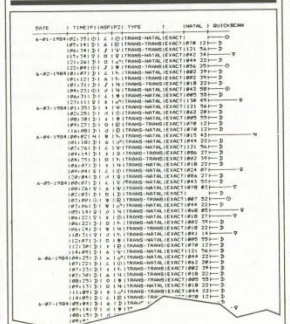
SEARCHES. Transit Master performs all standard transit and progression scans, and this includes dynamic transit-to-transit searches (what's happening overhead right now), static transit-to-natal (relating what's happening now to your radix planets), progressed-to-natal (current progressions to your radix planets), and even dynamic transit-to-progressed searches (current transits to current progressed). Transits to midpoints (any aspect or harmonic) may be specified. Transits to user-entered points. You may enter up to 8 additional points (asteroids, hypothetical planets, whatever you wish) to the standard set of natal positions. Transit contacts in your choice of harmonics are available.



CUSTOMIZATION. Customize your selection of active planets to be used in searches. You may choose to search transits of all planets (including the moon) to all natal planets and house cusps for a week, month, year, etc. You may just as easily specify a search of Saturn's transits thru the houses for a lifetime, or of the interaspect cycles of the outer planets for a century.

SPECIAL FEATURES. Transit Master performs precise timings of such special celestial events as:

Sign Ingresses
Soltice & Equinox times
Planet Retrograde or Stationary Direct Points
New and Full Moon Times
Lunar Phases
Void-of-Course-Moon
Timed Aspectarians



TRANSIT MASTER OUTPUT

Of couse, returns of any planet to its natal position or to any Zodiac point selected by the user are built-in.

ASPECTS. The transiting aspects are completely user-definable, including orbs. Up to 15 aspects may be defined, and dexter and sinister aspects can be treated separately. Points of entering and leaving aspect orb will be included in all searches where orbs are defined, and you may define a different orb for entering than for leaving aspects.

OUTPUT

Transit Master provides a number of output options that permit you to customize your finished product and produce a neatly formatted and paged report of transit activities.

You may have transit contacts ordered in the sequence that is most convenient for your own purposes. This means that if you want to look at each planet or aspect type individually, or a straight chronological listing of contacts, you can customize the output accordingly. If you want all of these formats, you can have multiple printout options run for the same transit search.

If you are using orbs of aspect, you may specify that entering, exact, and leaving contacts be grouped together. Dates and times of transiting contacts will appear along with the involved points, their positions and the type of contact.

Transit hits from separate searches may be brought together and grouped to your preference. For example, you can run some transit hits as well as one (or several) types of progressed hits. Our output formatter allows you to pull all of these hits into the computer and print them out together in chronological order. Using this feature, you can have a complete list of all transits, progressions, directions, etc. arranged in order on the same page. Best of all, using Blue*Star Menu, you can set up a long complicated job request once and attach it to any chart desired by the touch of a button.

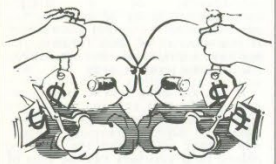
TRANSIT INTERPRETATIONS. As an option to Transit Master, you can elect to have your transit (or progression) hit list print out complete with aspect interpetations. The effect is a mini-report writer. With text by David & Gina Cochrane, the **Transit Text** option makes Transit*Master an even more powerful program.

All and all, Transit Master is one of the most comprehensive programs we have ever produced. Coupled with Blue*Star menu, it is a real workhorse with both flexibility and power.

Transit Master is in the final stages of testing and should be available around Christmas. Transit Master will be available in a demonstration version (with with limited ephemeris) on the IBM PC machines for a $10 fee. The fee includes a working verion of the program complete with full documentation.

machine talk

The advance of computer technology appears relentless. The trend towards better, faster and less expensive computers continues -- at a gallop. IBM is more dominant than ever and this has had the side effect of providing some sense of stability or standardization to the marketplace. The Christmas rush is upon us, and the low-end manufacturers are gearing up for a real price war. Let's start with that:



COMMODORE VS. ATARI

You may remember from the last column, that Jack Tramiel (the man who made Commodore) has left that company and bought most of Atari. He is determined to give Commodore a real battle for the low end of the marketplace. If anyone can beat Commodore at its own game, it is Tramiel.

Tramiel is rumored to be working on a new computer that will be introduced sometime early next year. Meanwhile, he is stuck with warehouses full of Atari products which he plans to unload during the Christmas rush. The Atari 800 may sell for as little as $99! That's low. Commodore can't allow themselves to be undersold by Atari, so we can expect to see the Commodore 64 price reach new lows too. The benefactors? We, the consumers.

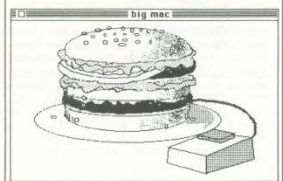
But Wait. Before you rush out an take advantage of these bargains, keep one thing in mind as far as Matrix software is concerned. We support the Commodore 64 -- all the way. Yet we do not have more than a handful of programs for the Atari machines, and no large software packages. Nor will we be developing any, since Trameil plans to dump the Atari 800 on the market to raise funds for his next generation machine. The moral of the story is: buy Commodore.

IBM & THE PCS

Prices are dropping all over. Rumor has it that IBM will further lower the price of the IBM PC/XT in the near future. They are supposed to be replacing the current PC with a new model that is faster, etc. More and more discount houses are offering the IBM PC at discount prices. Why mess with look-alikes, if you can get the real thing?

IBM AT

The new IBM AT is one hot item. Stores are sold out and they have been on allocation since their introduction. The response to the machine has been fantastic. Dollar for dollar, the IBM AT may be the best buy on the market -- at the high end. We have one here, and it really is both fast and powerful. If you can afford one, what a way to go.



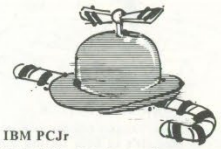
"BIG MAC" IS HERE!

As regards the MacIntosh, we have some good news and some bad news. The good news is that Apple finally released the memory upgrade for their MacIntosh computer. This raises the total RAM available from 128K to 512K. The bad news is that they are asking $995 for the upgrade, which is a darn sight more than any of us thought it would be.

Still, with 512K, the Mac becomes a very powerful computer. It now remains to see if the IBM hold on the business market is strong enough to discourage Mac sales. I believe there is a future for the Mac, but as a distant second to IBM.

APPLE

Apple continues to sell their new Apple IIc as fast as they can make them. The Apple IIe has been discontinued making the unexpandable IIc the only game in town. There is a rumor that Apple may introduce a 16 bit chip that is code-compatible with all the Apple II software out there. The chip might appear as part of a plug-in card or as a single chip that could replace the 6502 microprocessor that is in most Apples. If this happens, it would give the Apple II renewed life by offering much faster program operation.



IBM PCJr

The PCjr has been given renewed life. The new keyboards work fine. The same goes for the extra memory.

In the last issue, I reported that in order to add memory to your PCJr and also use a printer, you had to have an extra power card at $150. **That was wrong.** The PCjr with additional memory (256K) will work with a printer card without an extra power module. It is only when you add memory beyond 256K that you need the extra power module. This makes the PCjr a better deal than I thought it was.

We have the M-65-A system up and running on a PCjr (one drive) with 256K. Some of that extra memory works as a RAM (Flash) disk, so that a 2nd drive is not needed. Dealers report an upsurge in PCjr sales.

The PCjr (with 256K) not only runs M-65A, but it also runs the whole series of Report Writers and even the new Designer Wheels. It's a lot faster than either the Commodore 64 or the Apple, so keep it in mind.

THE BOTTOM LINE

If you want to spend as little as possible for a computer system capable of running the larger astrological packages, wait until the great Christmas price war between Atari and Commodore and purchase a Commodore 64 system.

My next (price level) suggestion is the IBM PCjr with 256K which prices out at about $1435 -- including a monocrome display. You can get it for less, if you go to the discount houses. The Apple IIc system is available for about $1295 -- including a monocrome display. But keep in mind that the Apple is about 7 years old and runs very slow. I'd pay the extra bucks and get into an IBM PCjr if you are in this price range.

Moving to the higher price ranges, the IBM PC is still the best buy. Rumor says that the price will go down soon on these machines. For those with money to burn, the IBM AT is a very nice way to spend it. The IBM AT os the nicest computer I have ever got my hands on. See you next time.

tech talk

INTERFACE PROBLEMS REVISITED

We have some good news for those C-64 owners who have the Cardco+G printer interface. We have heard from several of you, especially those with Gemini printers, who have run into problems with printing astroglyphs. We have known for some time that the Cardco+G interferes with graphics information being sent to the printer. What we haven't known is what can be done about this. Thanks to a customer who managed to get some inside information, we now have something that should help this type of problem.

There is a line of commands that must be typed in after turning on your computer and printer, and BEFORE loading and running any program. This line of commands is as follows:

OPEN 4,4,25:PRINT#4,"LOCK": CLOSE 4

After typing this line, press RETURN. Then you may proceed as normally with loading and running programs. This command disables the graphics functions of the Cardco+G interface, causing it to behave like a plain parallel interface. If, after sending this command, you wish to use some program that requires these graphics functions, turning your printer and computer off and then back on will return the interface to normal graphics operation.

This fix does not apply to the older Cardco "Card/?" interface. We continue to warn our customers against purchasing the older version. Fortunately, very few people are now buying the older Cardco interface. This one is to be avoided at all costs, since it not only garbles graphics information, but also fails to respond to normal line feed commands in many instances.

Printer interfaces continue to be the primary source of compatibility problems for Matrix users. This is true largely because our programs, unlike most, send bit-mapped graphics data to the printer in order to print astroglyphs. This has been as big a problem for Apple II owners as for C-64 owners, if not more so. There is one interface, the Grappler+, which seems to be the standard now for Apple graphics interfaces. We are purchasing a Grappler+ for the main purpose of resolving compatibility problems.

In the case of the Apple IIc, there is not yet much room for interface problems, because the machine has only a serial printer port. This port is intended to work with the Apple Imagewriter printer, although other printer companies are likely to come out with interfaces to enable their printers to work with the IIc. We have no way of knowing what new incompatibilities could arise out of this. For example, if a customer has an Apple IIc with a special Epson interface and printer, will the M-65 program do glyphs properly on his Epson? Only time will tell. The best we can do is to give customers an opportunity to confirm compatibility before making a permanent commitment.

THE 1541 FLASH! A REAL BREAKTHROUGH?

Recently, we purchased a new product from Skyles Electric Works, one of the oldest and most reputable Commodore dealers and software houses. This product is the 1541 Flash!, a hardware add-on that speeds up the 1541 disk drive by a factor of 3, yes, THREE times faster. That has to be good news for all of us who have Commodore 64 systems with drives. The price is about $90, which may or may not make it worth considering for you. This price reflects the fact that there are two hardware assemblies involved, one that mounts in the computer and another in the 1541 disk drive. We have tested it with Matrix programs, with no problems encountered, so that is good news for Matrix. The bad news is mainly that this is not an easy installation. It requires replacing a system ROM in the C-64, which in most cases means desoldering the original chip. This is an exceedingly critical task, which can cause permanent damage to the main board if not done exactly right. The rest of the installation requires no soldering, but still can be hazardous.

In short, don't try to do it yourself, unless you have done a lot of this sort of thing before. I left it to our friendly neighborhood electronics specialist.

Once you have the 1541 Flash! installed, the system will operate without your giving a second thought to the changes that have been made. If you are working with a single 1541 disk drive. You will notice, though, that there is a different power-on message that comes up in a different text color. You will also notice that the disk drive is about three times as fast as it was before. If you have two drives, you would do well to call Skyles about getting a version of this product that is designed to work with one computer and two drives (rather than buying two of the one-drive version). We have tried using an unmodified second drive with the modified system, and it can be done, but is fairly tricky. And a final note: if your 1541 drive light is doing a lot of blinking while loading, this product will NOT solve your problem. Be sure you have a well-functioning drive before purchasing a 1541 Flash! If you cannot get this product locally, call *Skyles Electric Works* at 800-227-9998 (orders only) or 415-965-1735 (for California residents and technical info).

Time's Fading On Your Astrotalk Subscription!

This is the last issue for those of you who subscribed to Astro*Talk at the beginning of last year. Please renew now so that you won't miss an issue. The price is still the same and this doesn't even cover our publishing and postage costs.

You can check to see when your subscription expires by looking at the mailing label on the back cover. In the upper right-hand corner of the label, by the word EXP, is the abbreviation for the Month and Year when your subscription expires.

For example, many of you will note that your label reads **EXP 01/85**. This means that we must have your subscription renewal by the beginning of January (month "01"), 1985 if you wish to continue to receive Astro*Talk. In other words, the November-December issue will be your last issue. Please subscribe now.

We've Got A New Look!

Well, if not a new look, at least a facial. I'm refering to the improved type layout. This is thanks to our new *Hewlett-Packard* **LaserJet** printer. I knew that laser printers were the wave of the future, but there is nothing like having one to know that it's true. We love it.

The laser printer provides us with type that approaches typeset quality, and at a fraction of the cost. We have three fonts: Courier, Helvetica Bold and Times Roman.

The **Helvetica is 14.4 pts**, the `Courier 10pts` and the Times Roman has both 10 & 8 pt sizes plus **BOLD** and *ITALICS*.

Armed with one of these printers, an IBM PC and a copy of Microsoft's WORD wordprocessor, anyone could set up their own publishing company.

Astrotalk

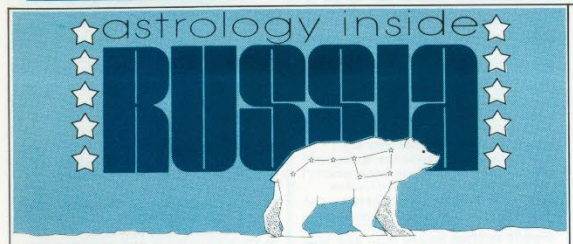
FIRST CLASS

Matrix software

315 Marion Avenue
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
(616) 796-2483 For orders & catalog requests, call 1(800)622-4070 (in illinois: 1(800)942-7317).

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.Two #1 Jan/Feb'85

Astrotalk



Remember "Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain"? All those rumors that the Soviets were using psychics to steal our secrets, and take over the world? Now it looks like they are trying a new angle. Astrology. What we call mundane astrology, the astrology of national destinies and world events. Despite the official disinterest in astrology by almost every government in the world, there are persistent rumors of many governments, including our own, secretly using astrologers. Brig. Firebrace advised Churchill during W.W. II. Many top German leaders, including Hitler, were said to have consulted with astrologers. Wilhelm Wulff was forced to do astrological work for Himmler. Barbara Somerfield recounts that she knew a U.S. astrologer who was working for the Pentagon during the Vietnam war "trying to outguess the Cambodian astrologers". I knew a Michigan astrologer who was the "unofficial advisor" to the state Democratic party. Now the Russians are taking their turn.

One night a week, a group gathers secretly in an apartment in a Southwest Moscow suburb. By day, they are mathematicians, physicists, psychologists, computer programmers. By night they share a different interest, one not openly practiced in Russia: astrology. They are working exclusively with what their leader calls "state astrology", and we call mundane astrology. The linking up of the destinies of nations with the stars. At a recent meeting, the group was working with the exact time of Indira Gandhi's (prime minister of India) recent assassination, trying to predict India's stability in the future. They reached no consensus.

Their leader, a black bearded computer programmer named Mischa, said he had been studying astrology for 11 years. He estimates that there are 300 to 400 serious astrologers in Moscow. The government is officially hostile, and astrology books are not available in bookstores. But Mischa said that the government has not interfered with his group. In fact, some high officials are interested in learning more about astrology.

"There's a special group under KGB (security police) auspices interested in astrology," he said. "Some very high party officials have asked astrologists to chart their horoscopes."

Like modern western astrologers, Mischa and his group use computers to do their calculations. He believes that astrology will become a major science in the future, combining the best qualities of medicine, psychology and philosophy. His group is taking an "intellectual" approach to the subject. He said that astrology is a blend of scientific and mystical approaches and we are now in a frontier zone.

He also said that Soviet citizens tended toward fatalism, and would be overly influenced by astrology if it was allowed to flourish openly. He and his group prepare charts for themselves and their friends, "just for fun".

Mischa had checked the chart of Soviet President Konstantin U. Chernenko. He said, "Chernenko's role will be over no later than the summer of 1986, Mikhail S. Gorbachev will be his successor."

Martin Wolf

New at Matrix:

Its New Year's day here in Big Rapids. Right now there is almost a foot of snow outside my window and its still coming down. Happy New year! While I will have trouble getting my car out of the driveway, the snow is very lovely. Winter has a strange magic and beauty in northern Michigan. Hope all of you had a good holiday and are ready for this new year.

NEPTUNE RING CONFIRMED

One piece of late breaking news from the I.A.U. (International Astronomical Union) is that astronomers have confirmed that the planet Neptune does have a single ring at a distance of 76,400 km from its center. Analysis of data obtained July 22 (5h40m09s UT) confirmed a previous reading taken on June 15, 1984 (14h02m UT).

TRANSIT MASTER

Here at Matrix we have some good news too. Our new *Transit*Master* is almost finished with beta testing, and has turned out even better than we had hoped for. There is not space to say much, but there is one new feature that you ought to know about.

We were able to get a full 3000 years (600 B.C. thru 2400 A.D.) of ephemeris on a single disk. More important, we have achieved an accuracy of *one second of arc* for the Sun and all the planets (not just the outer ones) for this entire period! With one second accuracy, *Transit*Master* is the quickest, most accurate and comprehensive of any transit program on the market today. It will be available in several versions, with prices starting as low as $150. We are working up some notes on the various versions, features, prices, etc. Call or write for complete notes on this new program.

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MONEY TALK

by Ralph Erlewine

[Editor's Note: My father, Ralph L. Erlewine, AB., MBA got his BA in economics with honors and his Masters of Business Administration with distinction from the University of Michigan in 1939 and 1940. He further studied at Franklin and Marshall College, Penn State University, and the Graduate School of the University of Michigan. He majored in financial management and has spent over forty years in executive roles in this field. Two years ago he retired as Controller of Ferris State College and as an administrative manager for Ford Motor Company. To keep his finger in the proverbial pie, he has been helping me with the establishment of a cash budget and cashflow programs. Just prior to retirement, he served for seven years as a professor of financial management at Ferris here in Big Rapids. His counsel has been helpful to me so I conned him into passing along advice he gives to his students. Pay heed, you may learn something!]

PLASTIC MONEY

It is hard to believe that many small businesses do not offer to accept credit cards. There can be little doubt that their acceptance can add greatly to the yearly sales totals. There is no absolute percentage that such use will improve sales, but many surveys reveal 30-50% increase in revenue by their use. This will vary with the type of business, however, mail order houses would be a mere shadow of their present size if credit cards were outlawed.

The credit card companies permit your business to offer customers credit at a much lower cost than you could yourself and what is more you do not tie up your funds. This is important. The deposit of the credit card voucher with your bank is the same as depositing cash to your account, no waiting! Your customer has at least 30 days credit or can use installment options should he so wish. Everybody benefits!

Getting started: Most people have the mistaken idea that it is is a complicated proposition to handle credit cards. Not at all. Start with the bank you do business with and ask them what their rates are for handling your account. The rate consists of a monthly rental charge for the card machine you need, usually nominal, $1.00 per month. The bank then charges a percentage of the amount of the charge. These rates are negotiable and vary among banks. Shop around. It is not unusual to find two rates. A higher % on small charges, say, under $25 at 5%, larger amounts at 3%. It is possible to get a single rate at no more than 3%. This is a small amount when you are getting the use of someone else's credit department. Your bank will supply you with an identification number & card for your charge machine, and a supply of deposit drafts and envelopes. You may deposit as often as you wish and your account will be credited with 97% of the total deposited. Now you are ready for business. The bank will provide you with tent cards, logos and such for your advertising.

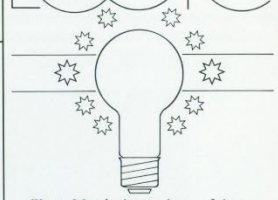
Using the system: One of the good features of the system is that you are guaranteed against loss if you follow the rules. This means you must not take invalid, or stolen cards or exceed the credit limit of your customer. How do you do this? VISA and MC publish a list of non-valid card numbers in book form that is updated periodically. The bank will give you a toll free number to call when the charge exceeds $50 and they will check the customer's account and give you an ok with an identification number that you put on the sales draft. You are then protected against loss.

If you deal by mail, as Matrix does, you will have to fill out the sales draft yourself. Here it is extremely important to transcribe the customer's number correctly. Double check it! Make certain the name is legible and for your records have the customer's address and telephone number, if given.

This later information does not appear on the charge card when a credit card is used -- only the account number and person's name are imprinted from the card itself. This added information you must obtain from the customer's order. It is the *only* way you will ever be able to straighten out misapplied charges or credits.

At some future date, we'll discuss some other features of this "boon, or bane?" to mankind, the credit card.

ASTRO LOGIC



We at Matrix have always felt our customers to be among the smartest people in the world. (After all they bought our products didn't they?) So I asked Dad to dig into his files and come up with some problems in logic to tease your brain and provide some amusement. The first person to send in the correct solution by mail will win one of our new *AD KITS*. Runnerup will get a year's subscription renewal to Astro*talk. Let's hear from all of you! Use your astro*logic.

WHICH FIXED SIGN DID IT?

A valuable astrological data study on the fixed signs had been stolen. The police investigated, and, after several days, suspicion was narrowed down to four persons. When interrogated, the following statements were made by the suspects:

Leo: Taurus did it.

Taurus: Aquarius did it.

Scorpio: I didn't do it.

Aquarius: Taurus lied when he said I did it.

If only *one* of these statements is true, who stole the collection?

Astrotalk

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ASTRO*TALK (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions at $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.

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ASTROLOGICAL Community News

Coming Events:

New York, NY. **NCGR-NY Conference,** Feb. 9-10, 1985. Contact: John Marchesella, 152 Seventh Ave., NY, NY 10011, (212) 255-8497

Miami Beach, FL. **National Astrological Society 14th Annual Conference,** Mar. 1-3, 1985. Contact: B. Somerfield, 205 Third Avenue, 2A, NY, NY 10003

San Diego, CA. **Western States Astrology Research Group,** Mar. 22-24, 1985. Contact: J.Y. Glenn, 1870 East 16th Street, Suite L-215, Newport Beach, CA 92663 (714) 646-8908

Houston, TX. **Salute Astrology: NCGR National Conference,** Apr. 26-28, 1985. Contact: Center for Universal Understanding, 5304-A Bellaire Blvd., Bellaire, TX 77401, (713) 660-0676

San Francisco, CA. **Full Moon in Scorpio Conference,** May. 3-5, 1985. Contact: Donna Cunningham, 494 27th Ave. #3, San Francisco, CA 94121, (415) 221-9564

Vancouver, B.C., Canada. **Second National Conference of the Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers,** Jun. 5-9, 1985. Contact: FCA, Box 4924, Station "E", Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5J1

Carson, CA. **ISAR Conference at the California State University at Dominquez Hills,** Jun. 7-9, 1985. Contact: Marguerite dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038, (213) 465-1408

Lynchburg, VA. **The Seven Hills Astrological Conference,** Jun. 28-30, 1985. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd, C-7, Lynchburg, VA 24502

What's In The Journals?

Aspects. Vol. 9, #4, Fall 1984. Contact: *Aquarius Workshops,* P.O. Box 556, Encino, CA 91426 *Over 12 regular features, Dangers of Astrology* by Tracy Marks, *A Brief Journey Through the Third House* by Stuart Walker, *A Rectified Horoscope of Ronald Reagan* by Charlotte Tuton, *The Importance of Major & Minor Configurations,* by Hans Peter Sauerwein

Astro-Psychological Problems. Vol. 2, #4, September 1984. Contact: Marie Schneider, B.P. 317, F - 75229 PARIS, Cedex 05, France *Zodiac-signs and Planets* by Francoise Gauquelin, *Time Changes in German* by Fr. Gauquelin & Fr. Jacob, *Astronomical Expectancy* by James Holden, *A Study on Marriages* by Cornelius Kuypers, *Comments* by Francoise Gauquelin, *Feyerabend for Free research* by J.L. San Miguel de P., *Astrology in France* by Jacques Halbronn, *The Myth of Saturn* by Grazia Mirti, *Letters & Book Reviews.*

Cycles. Vol. 35, #7, Sep/Oct 1984. Contact: 124 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburg, PA 15206 *Evidence of Solar & Lunar Influences on Economic Cycles* by R.W. Robbins, *other non astrological material.*

The Fraternity News. Vol. 6, Issue 4, Autumn 1984. Contact: *The Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers,* Box 161, Station F, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2L5 *Effective Counselling* by Marilyn Waram, *Some Notes on the AFA and AFAN Conventions* by Donna Van Toen, *From My Files -- The Gods Within Seminars* by Erin Sullivan Seale, *In Conversation:* Priscilla Costello with Richard Idemon, *Astrology, Credibility and Science* by Jeff Jawer, *Energy Photograph* by Bernadette Brady, *Review of the World Economic and Business Cycles Seminar* by Alan Annand, *Written in the Stars? Astrology Encounters Handwriting Analysis* by John Dowdell, *Book Reviews* by Donna Van Toen

Tape & Book Club Bulletin. Vol. 4, Oct/Nov/Dec 1984. Contact: *RKM Publishing,* Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123
Will The Real Messiah Please Stand Up? by Toni Imhoff, *Along The Tarot Path* by Fran Rosen, *Numerology: A Tool With Many Uses* by Karin Lee Abraham, *Ancient Egypt: Phase 2* by Victoria F. Peltz, *AFA Network News* by Joan Kendig

Astrology West Magazine. Vol. 2, Whole #10/11, Fall 1984. Contact: *Astrology For Professionals,* Suite 120-B, 9560 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland, OR 97219 *Interview* with Jayj Jacobs, *Over a dozen features & columns, Have You Thought Of This?* by Barbara Cameron, *Astro-Dream Analysis* by Beth Koch, *Close-Up Astrology* by Michael Erlewine, *Saturn and Pluto in Scorpio: A Call for Emotional Transformation* by David Pond, *Prosper During the Coming Economic Crisis* by Bill Hansen, *Astro-Dream Analysis: Case Studies* by Beth Koch, *The Price of Fraud* by Barry Lynes, *Pluto: Harbinger of the Next Dimension* by Ginger Chalford, *Simplified Horary Astrology: Finding Lost Items* by Joan McEvers, *Do The Psychological Astrologers Dwell On Cloud Nine?* by Charles A. Jayne

ASTROCALENDAR

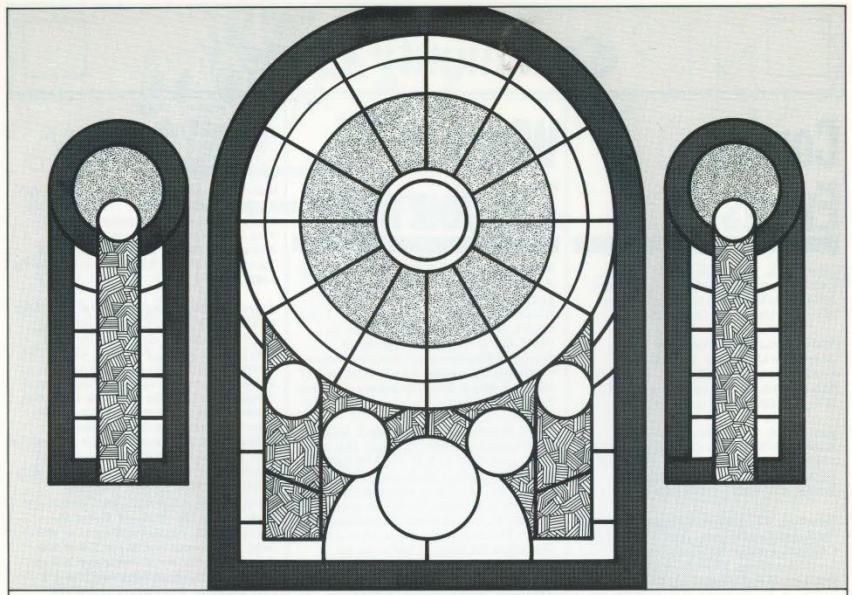
Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

FEBRUARY 1985

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
02	05:44	14SA32	MAR SES URA	*H
03	02:02	00TA00	MAR TAURUS	*H
05	11:38	01CP24	MAR TRI NEP	*H
07	21:21	02SC49	MAR OPP PLU	*H
17	17:02	02AQ30	JUP SSQ URA	
20	09:48	03AQ06	JUP SES NEP	
27	09:10	04AQ37	JUP SQR PLU	
28	16:36	14SA47	MAR INC URA	*H

MARCH 1985

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
03	19:06	01CP34	MAR SES NEP	*H
15	04:13	22SC56	MAR OPP SAT	*H
18	00:10	00AQ00	JUP AQUARIUS	*H
28	02:47	00GE00	MAR GEMINI	*H
31	07:59	01CP44	MAR INC NEP	*H



Religion & Astrology.

Some thoughts on the subject from a panel of well known astrologers at the 3rd A.C.T. Conference during the 1984 A.F.A. Convention.

The 3rd ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) was a real success. Held as part of the bi-annual AFA (American Federation of Astrologers) convention, ACT has been recognised as a real addition to last year's convention. We continue to receive notes and letters from many of you who attended one or more of the ACT panel disscussions telling us how much you enjoyed them.

This prompts me to want to share some of the information that was presented at the conference with those of you who were unable to attend. We recorded the 1982 ACT panel discussions ourselves (What a job!) and thanks to the AFA, all of the 1984 ACT open panels were tape recorded. These tapes are available, and can be purchased directly from the AFA.

I thought it might be fun to put some of the ACT material into print, so I have been transcribing the panels as I have time. Here are some extracts from the ACT panel on **Astrology & Religion**. Keep in mind that these are transcriptions. I have done my best to transcribe the material, but with all the interaction and background noise, I can't be sure that I have every word right. I have taken the liberty of removing the "ahs", some of the non-sequiturs, and tried to bring out the general theme. At the least, the following will give you an idea as to the content of this (very interesting) panel discussion. Those of you who want to hear the whole hour and a half lecture can order the tape from the AFA. Write the AFA, c/o 1984 Convention Tapes, 6535 S. Rural Rd., Tempe, AZ 85282. Our own Matrix Video team also recorded this lecture on 1/2 inch VHS video format, and this will be available at some time in the future.

The panel of astrologers interested in the relationship of religion to astrology was moderated by well-known astrologer Rob Hand. Other members of the panel included Richard Nolle, nationally recognized book reviewer; Mark Lerner, editor of the astrological newspaper *Welcome To Planet Earth* and former Findhorn resident; Michael Munkasey, known for his articles and technical expertise; Tim Smith, the designer of the Digicomp software and consultant astrologer; Zip Dobyns, respected as both a research and consultant astrologer; Thomas Shanks, a research astrologer and programmer; Shelly Jordan, Asian scholar; Bob Thibodeau, author and owner of Mayflower Bookshop; David Black, programmer author; and myself, Michael Erlewine.

Robert Hand:

Astrology, I think we'll probably agree -- anyone who disagrees with me can feel free to do so--is not in and of itself a religion. But insofar as a religion is a statement about the nature of reality (and I think this is one of the most fundamental aspects of religion) astrology has powerful religious implications. My particular concern with this whole issue is that I believe that astrology makes it fairly clear that human consciousness, living essence, and the physical universe, are all part of a continuum. There is no break at any point between life and non-life... between consciousness and unconsciousness... between matter and spirit (This is now my personal position) and that astrology works because consciousness and the planets are in a real sense, one.

The problem we have as astrologers is that there is a religious tradition about us that violently opposes this point of view. I have no quarrels with the teachings of Jesus Christ. I have no quarrels with the teachings of many of his followers, but historical Christianity (and I am speaking now about historical Christianity) has taken the position (with the exception of a few highly persecuted sects) that matter is dead and inert and that spirit is imposed on it from without. And that there can be no continuity between consciousness and matter.

As a result of this point of view, certain branches of historical Christianity have taken the position that astrology is satanic and evil. I obviously don't think that it is. A problem we have here is that there is very little real biblical evidence for their position. It is largely a position they have taken, and they are increasingly declaring war on us and our tradition. Now the point I'm trying to make here is that, while we are not a religion, we do have ideas with religious implications, and we are increasingly being persecuted for religious reasons.

And for this reason, I think we are going to have to change our historical position of the last few decades that we are not religious... or we are not a religion. Our ideas are not incompatible, totally, with any religion there is. One can be a Christian astrologer, but one cannot be a Baptist Christian astrologer. And I think that we have to make it clear that the battle here is not between the Bible and fortune tellers, but it's between certain Christians and certain other people...and this is a religious ideological conflict. And we have to aggressively state that we are being persecuted for religious reasons and religious beliefs.

Secondly, science is a logical outgrowth of Christianity. It simply dropped spirit. But, once you postulate an absolute dicotomy between spirit and matter, it's very easy to go to total materialism by dropping spirit. So we have the same problem with the prevailing scientific paradigm -- which is, incidentally, also a religious position. And there also, we are being persecuted for religious reasons. And I think we have to speak out against the religious dimensions of science and the efforts of a certain branch of the scientific community to police our attitudes toward reality. I call them the "brain police".

And we have to make it clear also that this is a religous conflict, not so much a scientific conflict. And in papers and lectures I have given elsewhere, I have documented this in gory detail. These are issues that I would like to see addressed this morning, and I am sure that other panel members have other issues they would like to see addressed.

Richard Nolle:

I believe that, in discussing the conflict between Christianity and astrology, it's not good enough to say it's just the Baptists. I think it's the essence of Christianity and Judiasm alike to be exclusive, and that there is no resolution to this problem. It will always exist. And I'd like to hear some discussion on that. If someone really believes that there is a possible point of resolution -- that one can be a Christian astrologer -- I would have to take issue with that and I'd like to resolve it.

To the topic of there being a Christian astrology, I would say that, as being opposed to the Eastern religions, (and I'm specifically thinking of Hinduism in particular) Christianity, Judiasm and Islam are exclusive faiths. They recognise only their own truth, and they would suggest that any other truth is alien and ultimately inimical to theirs.

Zip Dobyns:

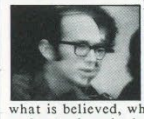
If we read the Bible, it says somewhere that pride is the deadly sin, because when you think that you have arrived you have no place to go, and therefore, the people who believe in an exclusive religion (that they have arrived at final truth) are guilty of that deadly sin of pride... better think twice.

I believe that what we deal with in a horoscope is a set of psychological principles. This is a psychological world, and those psychological principles can be manifested in many different details depending upon us, and our choices. I believe that two people could be born at the same moment and live totally different lives, depending upon how they handle those basic psychological issues and principles in the chart. There is where we have choice to do many different things with those basic principles.

Mark Lerner:

My experiences are many, and I only have a moment to mention them. My stay at Findhorn in Northern Scotland, where I was a member, taught me over the years that religion is very private for me. Religion is just the private part of my life. I feel that religion is personal for me, but astrology is moving towards becoming a science. Somehow I feel that astrology has to become more scientific... that's the general movement in the field... but that your religious beliefs are still very, very private, and if something happens to you as an individual, you do have to stand up and share that you are, let's say a Christian, or whatever you are. It is just a very personal thing for me.

Tim Smith:



I'd like to say that I think that astrology is a philosophy, or the language of philosophy, and I think of philosophy as the synthesis of what is believed, what can be understood, and what can be experienced interiorly or exteriorly. And I think of religion as a body of knowledge which is substantiated by belief, whereas I think philosophy involves not only belief but reason, and empirical understanding. I think that there is a hiatus of levels between the religious perspective and that of the philosophic perspective. And I think in that way, the issue that you have raised about the resolution of astrology in some forms of Christianity... They are not even on the same level.

Cont. on page 6

Michael Munkasey:

I think I'm the only panel member that comes from the South area, and the attitude towards religion in the South is a little bit different than it is in the North, central and western regions. There we have a very strong fundamentalist attitude that we constantly have to battle, so this is a day by day issue that we have to face when it comes to the realities of where we are in astrology. Just as a for instance, the community that I live in has a law against the practice of astrology -- not that it is a direct law. It just simply says that astrologers will be licensed at the cost of $1500, renewable yearly.

Now that's a very effective way of stopping the practice of astrology in a particular community. I myself come from a very religious background. I have a very strong Catholic church upbringing and when I got into the areas of astrology and so forth, of course my family had a hard time accepting this. But what I found was that the whole practice of astrology really began to explain to me, for the first time, the tenets that I never really understood, or were never really explained to me in the religious schools. And in this sense, it really deepened my faith. When I explain my approach to astrology in this sense, it really helps an awful lot. But of course, you've got the closed minds in the community. I always refer, half jokingly, to the fact of "watch out for the militant Christians". You either believe in the way that they believe or they'll hit you with their crosses.

Tom Shanks:

Well, I won't try to articulate a total point of view because there has already been so much said that I agree with, so I will only try to show points of disagreement. Basically, I think I agree with Rob Hand in his general statement of the unity of science and religion, and in the unity of all that is. And that when you try to start separating science from religion, or one religion from another, is where you begin to get into conflicts... and distort things so that you set up dichotomies, and one becomes right and one becomes wrong. I don't think that that's the way reality is. So, the problem for me with what has been said, is that there seems to be a tendency to call certain things religions that I wouldn't call a religion. For example, when you talk about fundamentalism as it exists in this country, I have difficulty calling that a religion, because, and I don't really want to offend anyone, but what I'm trying to suggest is that it is not basically following the teachings given by the founder of that religion, but it has degenerated largely into superstition and prejudice, which are what we are, in fact, dealing with when we find ourselves confronted by spokesman from these kinds of groups. I don't think that it is fundamentally a religious issue. I think that it is fundamentally an issue of prejudice and how you deal with prejudice when you find it. Now, interestingly, that puts us in a position of calling ourselves a minority group that is dealing with a majority opinion. That's different from an issue about religion, really.

Shelly Jordan:

Well I basically grew up in a religious vacuum which left me free to explore religion and different belief systems as I was growing up, and I found astrology to be the most satisfying system that I have come across that explains the nature of reality and that describes a certain kind structure operating on what seems to be an ultimate level. And as I explored religions and studied the history of religion and of science, particulary astrology, I found that because astrology was deeply rooted in religious systems, that it carried a lot of basic assumptive steps that religion carries. And, what my orientation has been for the last several years is to try and get down in there, into the basic origins of astrological systems and find out where some of the presuppositions of astrology are similar to religious presuppositions. For instance, what you were talking about, Rob, was that kind of dichotomous thinking... about matter versus spirit... is very much a part of old classical astrological tradition. We have positive and negative signs, and a real sort of dualistic approach to aspects. You know "good and bad aspects", but in their philosphical basis are related to not only this kind of good and evil paradigm, but there is a very strong sexist and racist overtone in all of this. I can go into a little bit more at length, but basically it's related to a strong patriarchal rootedness that astrology carries in terms of Indo-European culture. So my particular orientation was trying to figure out in terms of aspects, aspects being classically treated as either positive or negative, benign or difficult, challenging ...whatever. Seeing that some of these divisions are based on different pythagorean numerological systems where even numbers are considered feminine, matter, inert, dead, negative...and these even numbered divisions generate squares and oppositions, and that positive numbers are related to divinity, ultimate reality, sky, and the positive integers divided into the zodiac, particularly dividing it by three once, creating a trine and dividing it by three again, creating a sextile, generates what are classically considered to be the most positive aspects. A man named Manethon in Greece, was the one (as I understand it) who originally assigned the meanings to the aspects and his biggest problem with squares (for instance) was that you had a co-mingling of the sexes. That you had a masculine sign interacting with a femine sign. In a somewhat sexually exclusive culture, this was inacceptable so that's kind of my stand on astrology and religion, just trying to sort it out at a basic level.

Bob Thibodeau:

I see astrology as the art of living intelligence forces in relationship. Astrology to me is kind of a science/art. The science has got their feet on the ground. Thanks God that people like Michael Erlewine and Rob Hand have come along and helped us with computers. But the art is interpreting what it means, and we as human beings have to constantly be interpretive creatures. We have to interpret what is happening in the world around us, especially with science. Astrology is the mother goddess of all the sciences and religions and philosophies. But unless there is an inner awakening of consciousness to meet the highly technical demands of our time period, I don't think that there is any system that will work in the near future unless there is an inner awakening, a raising of consciousness. I know that those are loaded terms, and that it's easy to say "raising of consciousness".

One last thought is that what I do with astrology is that I find that by attuning myself to planetary functions, whether it is in the United States chart or my city chart, or my own personal chart, or the friends around me, that I find that I am automatically attuned to the cosmos around me. To me, astrology (whether you want to call it a religion, philosophy or science) is an attunement, like a musical instrument would be attuned. That I attune myself. I think that whether we are talking about Christ or God, I think that if you are going to talk about spiritual matters, you have to see everything as living, as Rob pointed out so well. And I hope too, that, before we are done here, many of us from the audience and here, can share what our vision of what our astrology will be in the future, and not just the war that we have, because often, if it's dark, if you just turn on a light, all the answers are solved. I hate to see us get caught up in our personal squabbles.

David Black:

Please have sympathy. Imagine yourself being number ten, when that was the first nine. We already have subject matter to fill the discussion between now and the next convention, without a break. Since we are already well on our way to attempting to raise every possible issue about world and meaning and science and personal values and everything else, I think it's incumbent on me to try to make things more confusing by raising another aspect. And I think I'll do that by starting from the comment that was made about (which I think a lot of people feel) how religion is a personal and private matter. I think that many people do experience it this way. And I would like to attempt to relate that experience to what Rob stated at the beginning about the fundamental unity of the world, and the way that it split (without talking about the nature of the split) into matter and spirit. And then how science, focusing on the material aspects, finds it very easy to ignore religion, thus banning spirit from the world, and focusses fundamentally on the exterior world, the objective world. If religion is fundamentally interior, that reduces the role of religion (and this has happened historically) to focussing on not the world as a whole, unified, unsplit, unbroken world, but that part of the world which is spirit. But since science is banning spirit from the universe, that means that the only place left for spirit and thus religion to live is in the hearts of those who cherish it. And thus, (as a result of this historical process) for most people, the experience of religion is private. I bring this out to say only that this is only an artifact of our current place in history. That it wasn't always so. Religion was not always just a personal and private matter. And that it needn't be so in the future for society as a whole, and it needn't even be so for any individual who realises this in the present. And I think that astrology can be related to the effort of seeing, of re-uniting the world of matter and spirit, and thus, in part, taking the religion out of a private and personal matter and putting it into the world. And you see, as was also pointed out, that that's where we get into the big conflicts, as Rob pointed out. The conflict of science as a religion and astrology, (a conflict of two fundamentally religious ideologies) really comes about to the extent only that astrology attempts to make statements that everyone sees are fundamentally based on a spiritual conception of the world, when it attempts to make statements about the nature of the objective world. I'd like to end just with an image. If you see that the world, starting out as a fundamental unity, imagining it as a world in which water and earth were equally mixed together, and in fact were one thing... and that God, in the process of dividing the world, also divided the land from the water, making there be oceans which were all water and no earth solidity, and making land, land on which the rain could fall, but which always would return to the ocean. The land being the image of the matter, and the ocean being the image of the spirit. We see the historical progression as one in which the continents are growing and spreading and furthermore, in which the amount of rainfall on the continents is decreasing. In other words, that the deserts are spreading. It's interesting that we had an earlier ACT panel in which we saw that this is in fact objectively happening. I didn't bring this image out of nothing. The deserts are spreading, literally. But it also works symbolically. That is an accurate and true image. Part of what astrology does is notices such coincidences betwen symbolic thinking. The image, which I'm sure many of you resonated with, connects land with matter and so forth, and then the objective realities, things that can be got. You can go out into the world and you can make objective observations that there can be no dispute about, and noticing that you're talking about the same reality. So the question is, who are the people who are going to stop the spread of the desert, and how are they going to do it? How is it possible for people to live with equal comfort as both desert dwellers and sea dwellers? And I see that as one way of putting an image into form.. the task that we have as astrologers in this historical situation.

Michael Erlewine:

As I continue to live, I'm becoming, I'm noticing (this is going to be a more personal presentation) that I'm much less able to be abstract than I was able to be abstract a number of years ago. I'm understanding most of what people are saying [here today], and I approve of it.

I would like to tell something about what I've been going thru... over the last few years. I very much treated (for many years) astrology like a religion. Whether I was right to do that or wrong... I was at church when I was doing my astrology. As far as I'm concerned, that was it. I really did go to church in astrology.

Now, some number of years ago (and some of you may or may not feel this way too) I began to continue to explore [astrology]. I wandered out of traditional geocentric into heliocentric astrology in an attempt to get at the bigger picture -- the deeper. I was always being driven to understand what was beneath it, and beyond. I got out into an extensive number of years of study of the celestial sphere -- cosmic structure is what I call it. I explored that and got over thinking of the universe as being cold and dark, and began understanding how I was a representative... that it was my mother... and I was its child. Kind of... something like that.

But despite all of the things astrology has been able to do for me, and me with it... something was still missing for me. And, over the last couple of years, I have kind of fallen through the cracks in the floor of astrology. While I may have *felt* that I was a pioneer as I blazed a trail from the known into the lesser known, I really began to understand what the "unknown" is, as I fell out of astrology to some degree. I don't think I lost faith or anything like that, because I don't think it's a matter of faith. But what I did do was found myself totally at sea, in terms of trying to *satisfy* an urge within myself for some substrate, some deeper experience.

What I'm watching now is that within America, within this western tradition, I find a lack of any kind of organized long term transmission... what is called technically, lineage -- a line of saints, a line of teachers, passing on to the next, etc. I'm frightened of being pushed into any religion, and, maybe for the first time in my life, as I looked into some of the eastern religions, I found out that religions aren't "religions", that they are ways of living.

Cont. on page 8

Religion & Astrology.

I think of myself as a psychologist more than as an astrologer. I think of astrology as the language, the formal notation system for psychology, and I'm sure that many of you would agree. I have a great belief in being trained by someone. And *being*, working very closely with someone in an apprenticeship way -- this kind of thing. They *have* such a tradition in a number of the religions, but in Buddhism in particular. Tibetan Buddhists are probably the world's most absolutely trained psychologists.

So I am currently going thru a tremendous experience of discovering that there is such a tradition. Within my astrological heart I've sought for a longer lineage, a longer line of astrological knowledge, of psychological... let's just call it psychology. And that, in the East... particularly in Tibet which was blown out by the Chinese so that the Tibetans are all over the world now as refugees, they have kept a careful line of this psychology.

I have been involved in technology, bringing technology to astrologers. Now I want, more than anything else, to be involved in bringing this deep long-reaching kind of astrology to western astrologers.

I will close with one last thought [concerning]... the first thing I learned as I began to study the astrology of Tibet. I talked to someone who has been studying Tibetan astrology for years. He said to me: "Well Michael, I haven't done a natal chart like you would understand it in many years. The first thing that I learned when I began to work with one of these great teachers that are carrying on the lineage is that it is a part and parcel of the way they learn astrology in this tradition that you must be spiritually oriented."

You must have a proper attitude... Of course you have to learn to do a chart correctly. But much more fundamental is learning to *live properly*, to be centered properly. And you don't learn it, you simply cannot learn this tradition without submitting to a very careful program of grounding yourself in practical life. That is what I have to say. That is what I'm interested in.

Anyone that would be interested in cooperating with this... we have established a new journal called *LINEAGE: A Chain of Friends* that's for people... not people who are seeking... but people who have found something and are trying to practice *that*, and want to communicate with one another. You can reach me thru Matrix Software.

Nemesis or not?

A difference of scientific opinion on the 'death star'.

In Oct. 1983 David Raup and John Sepkowski of the University of Chicago distributed an article which showed evidence that periodically (about every 26 million years) a large percentage of the species of life on Earth are wiped out. They could offer no suggestion for the cause of this other then an extra-terrestrial one.

A group of scientists met at Lawrence Berkeley Labs to consider the problem. The solution that they advanced was a small dark sister star that circles our Sun, and periodically (every 26 million years) comes near enough to the Sun to dislodge a rain of comets from the Oort dust cloud, a band of cosmic debris on the edge of the solar system. These comets, in turn would strike the Earth, causing enormous damage. There is good evidence for extraterrestrial objects striking the Earth and causing eco-disasters -- among them the extinction of the dinosaurs.

However, other scientists, while accepting the extra-terrestrial object theory as a possible explanation for the extinction, have advanced other causes than Nemesis. An observation of Nemesis would settle the question, but this has not happened yet. Meanwhile, extensive efforts have gone into predicting the most probable orbits and locations for the dark star. Four papers were published in the Oct. 18 issue of *Nature* exploring the finer details of the Nemesis theory. Examining the possible orbits, these theoretical calculations test the plausibility of the Nemesis concept. The results of this work show that the orbit of Nemesis would be extremely unstable because the star, traveling so far from the solar system, would be weakly bound to the Sun and subject to gravitational influence by other bodies.

At this point, Mark Bailey of the University of Manchester calls the recent papers on the subject "a near retraction", while Piet Hut (one of the originators of the theory) and an author of one of the papers says Bailey's remarks are "outrageous and irresponsible. The paper I sent in clarifies the picture and does not retract it at all."

Michael Torbett at Murray State University and Roman Smoluchowski at University of Texas at Austin calculated the changes in the possible trajectories of Nemesis due to the galactic tide -- the net gravitational pull from outside the solar system. They report that the most stable orbit lies with in thirty degrees of the galactic plane with the body traveling in a direction opposite to that of the planets. However, Torbett says that even the most stable orbits cannot last the entire age of the solar system, about 4.6 billion years. The expected lifetime of an orbiting star with a period of 26 million years is at most, one billion years.

This can only mean two things: Either the star was captured by the solar system long after the Sun formed (an event of very low probability); or, as Hut proposes, Nemesis was more tightly bound (with a period of one to five million years) when it and the Sun were born, and has been nudged to its present orbit by gravitational tugs by passing bodies. This will eventually lead to the star's escape, or may have already done so.

Jack Hills at Los Alamos National Laboratory notes that the effect of random passing stars would have altered the period of the star 15% in the 250 million years of the fossil record. Hill also notes that putting Nemesis in a tighter original orbit, as Hut suggests, increases the likelihood of it entering the solar system and wreaking havoc. This is not held to have happened by orthodox astronomy, but a similar idea was suggested years ago by Immanuel Velikovsky.

In any event, all parties agree the the perturbations of Nemesis's orbit mean that the period is not exact, and would not trigger comet showers and mass extinctions at an exact interval. Unfortunately, the extinction data, and the dating of craters is too uncertain to indicate how exact Nemesis's period would need to be.

Paul Wiessman of the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena maintains that the cratering rate predicted by Nemesis is 5 to 18 times greater than what is actually observed on the Earth and the Moon. Weissman also suggests that asteroids, not comets, formed the craters, in which case, we have no explanation at all for periodicity in crater formation.

As Hill says, "The main thing now is for the observers to find the creature." The recent papers at least give the astronomers a better idea of where to look.

Machine Talk

No surprises this month as regards new computer introductions, although several are rumored to be in the wings. Things are, more or less, like they were the last time we communicated. The real change is in the depth of the market penetration by IBM, rather than in new hardware or software developments.

In a recent study of computer buyers in Phoeniz, Arizona, published in *Computer +Software News* (December 24, 1984), the case was made that Phoenix may rightly be called a microcosm or mirror of the larger U.S. computer market. The study found that IBM controls nearly half (48%) of the market now, and, if the current buying trend continues, will have even greater control in six months.

The study goes on to point out that IBM has 2.5 times the installed base of its closest competitor, Apple, which now boasts of somewhat less than a quarter slice of the current market. These findings parallel the profile of the national business market.

So... while IBM has not introduced any earth-shaking new computers this month, it has managed to gain an even stronger grip on the marketplace. The fallout of this increased strength can be seen in a variety of market trends. Perhaps the most important of these is the increasing accent being placed on the *difference* between IBM imitators -- the IBM compatibles and IBM clones.

The clones (Compaq, Columbia, Tandy 1000, Leading Edge PC, etc.), as most of you may know, are able to run virtually any software that will run on the IBM PC itself, while the compatibles (Tandy 2000, Sanyo 555, Chameleon, Eagle PC, Deskpro, TI Professional, etc.) are more finicky. They will run some software, but not others. When the compatibles first appeared, they were welcomed. This was due in part to the fact that the IBM machines were hard to get. Compatibles are no longer as welcome. The current trend in the market is towards owning an IBM PC (in the flesh), or at least a very good clone of one. In other words, compatibles are out.

It isn't always easy to determine whether a given machine is a compatible or a clone, and even some of the "clones" turn up some incompatibilities that are surprising. Beware of the easy claim "Well, it runs *Lotus 1-2-3* and *Flight Simulator*." There is a kind of perverse logic in the fact that two of the most machine-specific graphic oriented programs are the current standard for compatibility. There are configurations that will run *Lotus* and *Flight Simulator*, but can't handle code generated by the IBM BASIC compiler. I suspect some of the system designers have made damn sure that it will run *Lotus* but forgotten about the main development languages: Basic Compilers, Pascal Compilers, C Compilers, and so on. A lot of good it is going to do you if your machine can run *Flight Simulator* and almost nothing else. Check the software you're going to use on the actual machine you're thinking of buying *before* purchase. Nothing else means a thing. Matrix has demo disks you can order that will verify if our programs will run on a specific machine. Of course you can avoid all of this by purchasing from IBM.

"A lot of good it does you if your machine runs Flight Simulator and almost nothing else. Check your software on the machine before buying. Nothing else means a thing."

Our experience with compatibles here at Matrix tends to support this finding. For the most part, the compatibles have been a hassle and the clones a charm. I am sure that other software developers feel the same. After many years of being at the mercy of a market without a standard, now that we have one why mess around with anything less?

The moral of this story is that the IBM PC (and its clones) are getting *much* stronger in the marketplace. Where there used to be room for machines that deviated from the IBM standard, now there no longer is. So, do yourself a favor. If you are looking to get into a 16 bit system, buy an IBM PC or clone -- not a compatible.

Right now, the trend among our customers is towards the 16 bit environment. A year ago, the great majority of our new customers had Commodore 64's. And, although the C-64 is still very popular, more and more customers are calling or writing for software for the IBM PC and PCjr.

In this column, I have been covering the 8-bit machines like the Apple and the Commodore 64 for months. You all know what I have to say about these machines, and not much has changed in that summary, the C-64 is still the best deal around at the low end of the market. The Apple is also very popular, but is way overpriced. If Apple would sell their box for less than $200 (like Commodore does), you would hear more praise from me for it. But that is old news. Let's concentrate this month on what is available to you in a 16 bit machine.

[For the sake of the following discussion, we will leave out the cost of whatever printer you will be using. Plan on spending at least $275 for an Epson RX-80, which will run all our high res graphic wheels, etc.]

To enter the IBM PC mainstream, what you would like to have is an IBM PC with 256K of RAM memory, two double-sided disk drives and a monocrome monitor with a parallel printer port built-in.

I called my local Computerland and they want $2800 to let you drive this package home. A call to several of the big mail-order firms finds the same system prices out at about $2150 -- a big savings! (47th Street Photo in New York at 1-800-221-7774)

Tandy (Radio Shack) has their new Tandy model 1000 (configured as above) selling for around $1800. (mail order at $1635 1-800-433-7253) This machine appears to run all of the IBM software, and it can be serviced thru your local Radio Shack store.

I am going to talk about some alternatives to the above, such as the PCjr, compatibles like the Chameleon and the Sanyo. Yet, don't be misled.

Cont. on page 10

Machine Talk

Cont. from pg. 9

My real advice to you regarding these 16 bit computers is to buy an IBM PC, the Tandy 1000, or one of the better clones like the Compaq, Columbia or Leading Edge. If you don't even want to chance a clone, buy IBM.

I am certain that some of you out there will disagree with me. You are aware of features in some of the compatibles that are far superior to the identical feature in the IBM machine. You have our software running on the compatibles and have saved yourself hundreds of dollars by doing so.

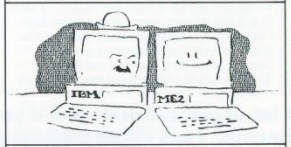
However, most of our readers will not have the time or stomach to undergo the uncertainty that accompanies working with a machine that is not quite standard. Here at Matrix, we have had the opportunity to hear hundreds of stories from our customers concerning these 16 bit IBM compatibles, or look-alikes. And while many of them are success stories, quite a few are not. There is nothing quite as discouraging to me as a call from a would-be customer who has just saved $300-400 by purchasing an IBM compatible rather than an IBM PC *then* finds that our software won't run on the new machine. Or perhaps it runs but certain features won't work.

After years of experience in this field, I am at the point where the middle of the road looks good to me. I don't take chances on new machines until I am sure they are going to be around for awhile. I still get calls from computer aficionados telling me that the IBM PC is no good, and that brand B's Turbo something or other is the only really sensible choice.

This kind of thinking has one major flaw. The technical expert may be willing (and able) to go thru all sorts of machinations to keep current with the odd-ball machine, and to locate and implement whatever may be necessary to keep the machine compatible with the market. What they often fail to understand, is that other folks may not have the expertise or time to investment on a machine that depends on our having to struggle to make it work, and that may or may not survive in the marketplace.

For example, take the Tandy 2000 (IBM compatible) computer. Tandy, who has never shown much straight ahead savvy as regards the marketplace, decides to bring out an IBM compatible computer, but make it *much better* than the IBM machine. Seems reasonable enough. Their idea of better is a faster machine with disk drives that contain significantly more storage than the IBM drives but are incompatible. I get calls from computer buffs who tell me that this machine is such a bargain, and that IBM should be ashamed because they have offered less.

The point here is that the Tandy 2000 fell flat on its face. No one bought it. Worse, those who did buy one found that they had one hell of a time getting software over to it from



the IBM. When they got it over, a lot of it wouldn't run. Over a year later, Tandy now has introduced the Tandy 1000 (described above) that is not just IBM compatible, it is an IBM "clone". In other words, it acts and operates like the IBM PC in almost every detail. Good move Tandy. You should have done that to begin with. You might have sold millions by now.

The moral of this story is that you gain nothing by purchasing a machine that has some features that outclass the IBM machine, if those same features put the machine (and you) outside of the mainstream.

The Sanyo 555 is another example. Here is an IBM compatible that promised a whole system at a rock-bottom price. It looked good. We will support it, said our staff. What a deal! However, some of the important pieces of system software that were promised never were released or were released very late. Result: we have a machine but have been having trouble getting full compatibility with it. We think we have it solved, and our Sanyo software should be forthcoming soon. But the moral of this story is that we got stuck on the promises of a company that didn't deliver, while the mainstream swept on by.

This leads me to the best advice I can give you. Buy only an IBM product or one of the clones (Tandy 1000, Leading Edge PC, etc.). Why put yourself in a position where you become a beggar on the sidelines, when you can have the whole market place serving up software and hardware especially made to tempt you. Save yourself the expense and heartache. Spend a few dollars more and get a PC made by either IBM or one of the reputable clone producers. Such a move will pay and pay in the years to come, and in dollars too. By owning a machine that is standard, all the world is competing for your attention and your dollar. You will be able to select from a wide range of software and hardware peripherals that are heavily discounted. You will have the psychological advantage of knowing that just about anything you can find for your machine will, in fact, run.

Well folks, that's the end of this lecture. Forewarned is forearmed. Before you jump at that "special" deal on a compatible, please consider the above thoughts. Why not give us a call and see if we know anything about the machine you are thinking of purchasing. Or better yet, restrict your purchases to machines that are sure to work right for you, like the PC made by IBM. Now, on with the news.

PCJR NEWS

The PCjr is *hot* right now. It was the preferred machine during the Christmas rush, according to industry newsletters. The PCjr with 128K of RAM, one disk drive *and a color monitor* was selling for well under $900. This was about $200 less than a similarly configured Apple system with a black & white monitor. Add an extra 128K of memory to the PCjr at $395 (a board from Tecmar with 128K of RAM, a parallel printer port and an on-board clock/calendar is available for around $330) and you have a powerful system that can run much of our new software.

Still, keep in mind that the PCjr does not have a 2nd disk drive, altho several other manufacturers have made them available. One from Tecmar provides a 2nd drive, and some other goodies for $495.

IBM has done a lot to improve the PCjr. It is preferred to the Apple IIc, which is in the same price range. Even so, I would urge you to *spend the extra dollars* and get the full blown PC described above. Rumor has it that we will see an improved PCjr in the 1st or 2nd quarter of 1985 with 2 drive capability. I would wait for that.

OTHER NEWS

Rumor has it that IBM will introduce an improved PC (to be called the PC II), PCjr and IBM AT. All three computers are supposed to be using the 80286 microprocessor, the same chip

Cont. next page

Planet forming?

On October 16, 1984 the New York Times carried an article on the discovery of a "disk of material surrounding a young nearby star." The article goes on to discuss how "the photograph lends strength to the theory that planets and solar systems like ours developed from such orbiting clouds." The stars name is Beta Pictoris, its astronomical coordinates are: (epoch 2,000 AD)

RA = 05hr. 47min. Decl. = -51 deg 04 min. The position in the zodiac is 22 Gemini 23 minutes in longitude and -74 degrees 25 minutes in latitude. Thanks to John Van Zandt for these details.

Machine Talk Cont.

now in the IBM AT. This would give the PC and PCjr a three-fold increase in speed over their current abilities. IBM also has a lap portable in the wings, for a late spring introduction.

Apple MacIntosh sales, even with the 512K version, are rumored to be less than expected. The 128K version is being heavily discounted. The fact is that the 128K Mac is not good for a whole lot. The memory requirements of the operating system leave too little RAM memory left for most real-time applications. Software developers have known this for a long time. The public is now finding this out for themselves.

THE BOTTOM LINE

The Commodore 64 is still selling like mad. If you want to get into a system for the least amount of bucks, get a Commodore 64 system and work with it for awhile. However, if you want the convenience of state-of-the-art software and hardware, (and by now I am sure you recognise this as the theme of this month's column) invest in an IBM PC or PC clone. You will have to spend some money, but you will be very pleased with what you get.

Don't be afraid to take out a loan to get what you want and need. This is how I got my first computer. I had no credit and when I first approached the bank I got turned down. I went back again and again until they saw that I was serious and gave me the loan. I used the computer to pay for itself. That's it for now. If you have questions, give us a call.

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CELEBRATE!

We're having a summer solstice celebration right here on June 22 & 23.-Come join us!

Matrix Software's Solstice Celebration. 1985 theme: **Tibetan Buddhist Astrology and its Practice** featuring John Myrdhin Reynolds. An informal workshop in the theory and practice of astrology in Tibetan Buddhism. The weekend of June 22 & 23 at the **Matrix/Heart Center** in lovely northern Michigan.

We are celebrating the solstices here at Matrix this summer with a weekend workshop. The theme will be Tibetan astrology and our featured speaker will be John Myrdhin Reynolds, (fluent in both Tibetan & English) who is an experienced practitioner of the Tibetan approach to astrology.

The list of credits for John Reynolds is too long to be listed here. What is important to us is that Reynolds is an astrologer, trained in western methods, who has set about learning Tibetan astrology from the inside out. As a translator, he was skilled enough to be selected by the XVI Karmapa to accompany His Holiness on his travels in the west. He is more than qualified to introduce us to both the unique approach to astrology found in Tibet and to the incredible psychological model that drives it.

The weekend will not be one filled with dry lectures. We want to present and capture the spirit of the Tibetan approach to astrology. The group experience of being and working together for a weekend will be a very definite goal. The schedule is very informal, filled with instruction, open discussions and dialogue. In the evenings, we will have a chance to sit by a nice warm fire and carry our talk into the wee hours.

The Tibetan Buddhist approach to astrology is a living tradition or lineage that is centuries old. Unlike western astrological study, the Buddhist approach involves not only a particular technique but also a life perspective that is considered every bit as important as the mathematics. The Tibetan Buddhist study of the psyche (psychology), refined and transmitted for many centuries in an undiluted form, comes as a revelation to most students of western astrology. The *Matrix Solstice Celebration* will focus on this psychological background as much as on the astrological calculation techniques involved. Our intent is provide an introduction to the nature of Buddhist astrology in enough detail so that you can experience the unique flavor of this powerful perspective as well as learn about the astrological techniques involved.

You are invited as early as Friday, June 21. The main course takes place on Saturday and Sunday June 22 & 23. There are quite a few motels in the area when you can stay. Write for a list and make reservations early. We will try to have some tents too. The food will be fantastic. Staff member Marty Wolf has been a head chef by trade and he will see to it that we have a veritable feast of vegetarian and non-vegetarian foods.

The number of persons attending the session will be limited. The price for the weekend is $50 per person. This fee includes all your meals, but not your lodging. You are welcome to bring a sleeping bag and flop down on one of our floors for the night free-of-charge. To reserve your space, please send $25 as a (non-refundable) deposit) to hold your place. The balance is due upon your arrival. Contact: Martin Wolf.

Bim[illegible]letin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.Two#2 Mar/Apr'85

Inside: details on the new Blue☆Star The most advanced software & the easiest to use! See page 7

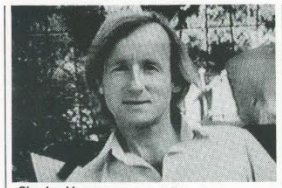
Astro☆talk

Talking with Charles Harvey.

The president of Great Britain's Astrological Association talks with Michael Erlewine about John Addey, the Cambridge Circle & more.

This marks the first in a series of up-close interview/dialogues with well-known astrologers. Charles Harvey is perhaps the best known research astrologer in Great Britain.

As president of **The Astrological Association**, *Harvey is generally recognised as the practical successor to John Addey as regards the theory and practice of harmonics. The following are excerpts from an interview with Harvey and your editor (Michael Erlewine) that took place on August 19, 1983 during a visit to Big Rapids, Michigan.*



Charles Harvey.

Michael: We all want to know more about John Addey. Where was he coming from in his mind? How did he get his training? Where did he get the depth that we are all so aware of?

Charles: John Addey was the moving light behind *The Astrological Association.* John Addey had this vision of an integral astrology. In other words, an astrology that draws from every possible approach, opinion, reason, argument, research and so on. If you were interested in horary astrology there is a place for you. If you were interested in statistical research, or if you were interested in the spiritual dimension, or if you were interested in counseling, or whatever it might be.

John Addey is the key to all this. The first thing one has to know about John was that he started life as very much an outdoor person. He was a very accomplished athlete. He set long jump records. He was a champion footballer, cricketer, rower, and rider, and everything in that line. He's got Sun in Gemini, exactly trine Mars in Libra. He was really into that until up to about the age of 23. He would have been quite happy to spend his life at the race track. He was very keen on racing horses, gambling, golf, and whatever. Then at the age of 23, he got struck down by ankylosing spondylitis, a kind of acute rheumatism, which strikes overnight. He had certain symptoms of this before, maybe because of athletics or whatever.

During the war, he was a pacifist. He was brought up as a Quaker. He was serving in the ambulance corps, and one night during the war there had been a delivery of coal in the ambulance yard. The ambulances couldn't get in, and so he spent ten hours at a stretch clearing all this coal, so that the ambulances could get in. He went to bed that night, and he didn't get up off his back for another year. He was totally stricken down; completely paralyzed from head to toe. He was in this condition, and that was the first time in his life... although, I don't want to exaggerate this... He was already of somewhat reflective turn. But he was just too outgoing and energetic. You know, Leo rising, Sun and Moon in Gemini, in the eleventh, really out there and alive. He had never really reflected about life, but this was just... wow... just running straight into a brick wall, knocked flat on his back. He spent a year on his back, thinking. I believe it was during this time... I haven't got my facts exactly clear on this, but it was very close to this time... somebody who was involved in an order, a teaching order, spoke to him... A brotherhood, teaching the ancient wisdom... a mystery school.

John joined the mystery school, and he studied with them, and was incredibly active. That was the mainstream of his whole life. To him, astrology was simply a tool for mankind. The real thing was keeping your eye on the unity of all things. This gave him his incredible depth. People who come across John Addey, and just know his writing say, "Well, he is very much into mathematics and statistics." I think to know that he was really a mystic and a philosopher, is the key to the man.

Cont. on page 11

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MONEY TALK

by Ralph Erlewine

[Editor's note: One of the most frequent subjects that Matrix customers bring up on the phone is the question of how to get the necessary cash outlay together to purchase a computer system. Why purchase a smaller and less powerful system instead of the preferred larger, more powerful system for the want of an extra two or three hundred dollars? Many appear to be wary of going to a bank for the extra cash. I started Matrix Software with a small bank loan. In fact, I didn't even get the loan on the first try. I was turned down because I had never had any credit. Needless to say, I badgered them until I was given the loan. At any rate, I talked my dad (an expert in these matters) into writing a few words about the "ins and outs" of borrowing money -- a subject well worth considering.]

"...A BORROWER BE..."

It was Shakespeare who said, "Neither a borrower or a lender be."

This is damn poor advice for a businessman in today's economy. Just the opposite is true. In an inflationary economy borrowed money (referred to in financial circles as OPM, other people's money) is repaid with cheaper dollars as the inflationary spiral continues to reduce the purchasing price of the dollar. Furthermore, no self respecting businessman would allow cash to remain idly in his checking account without earning interest. "Old Will" was talking about how to lose friends, not how to make money!

If you are like most people, you are afraid of bankers and cringe at the thought of going to your bank to ask for an unsecured loan, no matter how small. You need not be! Loans to a banker are like groceries to a supermarket. They are the bread and butter of his business. He wants to make loans... He has to make loans! However, since he is using other's money he must assure himself that the loan is as risk free as possible. This is where you come in. At the time you request your loan, you must convince him that you are a good risk and will have no trouble repaying the loan on time. In the discussion that follows we will look into the things that can make your banker look favorably on your loan application.

What is your credit rating? Do you have one? How favorable is it? Does it reflect your past transactions fairly? How do you find this out? Quite simply. You go to your local credit bureau and ask to see your file. Under the Freedom of Information Act you cannot be denied access to this information. There may be a small charge for this "viewing", and certainly there will be for copies. Nonetheless, you can see how others appraise you as a credit risk. You will also have an opportunity to explain any disputed unpaid bills and this will be made a part of your permanent file and can't help but improve your rating. Take this information with you when you go to your bank. It may be all you need, depending on the size of the loan requested.

Do you have a credit card? Have you met your payments on time? This record is easy for a bank to check and will reflect favorably on your ability to pay. Of course, the higher the credit limit of the card the more help it will be in securing your bank loan, providing, you have not already used your limit in purchases through the credit card. If you do not have a major credit card you should apply for one. The yearly fee is a small price to pay for a permanent line of credit. Remember, most offer instant cash loans.

If you have never borrowed from a bank, I urge you to do so whether you need the money or not. Take the proceeds of the loan and pay back each payment on or ahead of time. You will then have a built in credit reference at your own bank. This is worth the small amount of interest you will pay to be assured of getting a loan when you really need it.

The bank is going to want to know the purpose of the loan. They frown on funds for a gambling spree in Las Vegas, but, short of this almost anything goes.

An ideal purpose would be to purchase a larger computer or software that will improve your product or permit you to increase your output, and consequently, more sales than you could handle without it. You should be prepared to demonstrate this.

The bank is going to want to see a cash budget if your loan request is sizeable. This is a schedule showing what your fixed payments are, like mortgage, car loan, credit cards, etc., as well as what it takes to live on, matched against your income from both your job and your business (if not the same).

Such a schedule should show that you have sufficient surplus each month to handle the additional payment on the new loan. Such a calendarized schedule for the life of the loan will do wonders to assure favorable action on your request.

If any of you are interested in a more detailed analysis of how to prepare a cash budget, let us know. If enough of you feel it worthwhile we would be glad to devote the time and space to teach you how to prepare one.

Many banks will insist on your filling out a balance sheet form listing your assets and liabilities at the date of the loan. The bank most certainly will if you are an incorporated business and and may also ask for a personal statement. These are simple to prepare. List all your assets. Don't miss anything of value. Your assets should include checking account, savings account, mutual funds, stocks, bonds, other investments, property, buildings, equipment, automobiles, recreation vehicles, and cash surrender value of life insurance. Remember, anything of value! Then list what you owe, such as credit card balances, charge account balances, loans, etc. The total of the liabilities subtracted from the total assets represents your net worth. Theoretically, this represents the net cash you would have if you liquidated all of your assets at their stated value and paid all your debts. It gives the bank a feeling of added security for their loan.

Probably the single most important factor the bank uses in determining your creditworthiness is your character. Do you have a reputation for honesty and honoring your obligations despite bad times? Do you come from a family that has long been a member of the community with a satisfactory credit record? However, if you are new to the community, and the bank has no basis for past evaluation of your character, it would be well to take some letters of recommendation from people the bank would recognize and respect. Just a note to the effect that the person signing has known you for "X" years and has found you in all dealings with them to be trustworthy.

If you go to your bank armed with the pertinent data outlined above you should have no trouble securing your loan. If, however, you should be turned down, ask the bank for the specific reason credit was denied and do all that you can to "shore up" the weak timber in your application. Let's assume the loan was granted. We now come to the interesting negotiations of the term and the type of interest the note will carry. We will leave this to next time.

Astrotalk

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Astro•Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307. Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions ar $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.

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ASTROLOGICAL Community News

Coming Events:

Houston, TX. **Salute Astrology: NCGR National Conference,** Apr. 26-28, 1985. Contact: Center for Universal Understanding, 5304-A Bellaire Blvd., Bellaire, TX 77401, (713) 660-0676

San Francisco, CA. **Full Moon in Scorpio Conference,** May. 3-5, 1985. Contact: Jack Fertig, P.O. Box 6704, San Francisco, CA 94101, (415) 922-2457

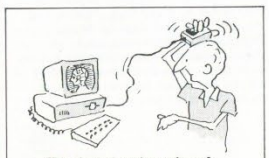
Vancouver, B.C., Canada. **Second National Conference of the Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers,** Jun. 5-9, 1985. Contact: FCA, Box 4924, Station "E", Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5J1

Carson, CA. **ISAR Conference at the California State University at Dominquez Hills,** Jun. 7-9, 1985. Contact: Marguerite dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038, (213) 465-1408

Big Rapids, MI. **MATRIX Solstice Celebration: Tibetan Astrology weekend,** Jun. 22-23, 1985. Contact: Marty Wolf at Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big rapids, MI 49307, (616) 796-2483

Hyannis, MA **Cape Cod NCGR Master Class: Astrological Research,** Jun. 23-28, 1985. Contact: Susie Rheingold, 88 Estay Avenue, Hyannis, MA 02601, (617) 771-7108

Lynchburg, VA. **The Seven Hills Astrological Conference,** Jun. 28-30, 1985. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd, C-7, Lynchburg, VA 24502



How about phrenology software?

Nifty New Newsletter

We have a *new* newsletter in the astrological community and it is a new *kind* of newsletter as well. The premier issue of *PLEIADES: A Newsletter For Experiential Astrology* made its debut around the turn of the year. The focus of this publication, as the title suggests, is on "right-brained", holistic and experiential approach to astrology as opposed to the more standard "left-brained", statistical and (so-called) scientific approach.

The newsletter, put together by editor Barbara Schermer, focuses on astrodrama and other forms of planetary theater -- dance, song, graphic arts, poetry, and the like. Here is a different kind of astrological publication designed to monitor an area of astrology that has been very much neglected to date.

Those interested in receiving a complimentary copy of *Pleiades* can write to the address given below. Subscriptions are $10 (U.S. & Canada -- $13 foreign) for four issues. The address is *Pleiades*, 2515 N. Racine Ave., Chicago, IL 60614.

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

APRIL 1985

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
07	19:14	01CP46	JUP SSX NEP	*H
15	09:11	03CP35	NEP SXT PLU	
26	09:53	03SC22	JUP SQR PLU	*H
26	12:03	15SA29	MAR OPP URA	*H

MAY 1985

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
02	05:09	03SC26	MAR SES PLU	*H
03	07:06	04AQ04	MAR SES JUP	*H
14	21:06	24SC46	MAR INC SAT	*H
21	15:02	16AQ39	JUP SXT URA	
25	09:09	00CN00	MAR CANCER	*H
29	15:32	02CP05	MAR OPP NEP	*H

What's In The Journals?

The Fraternity News. Vol. 7, Issue 1, Winter 1985. Contact: *The Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers,* Box 161, Station F, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2L5.

Effective Counselling by Marilyn Waram, *In Conversation:* Francoise Gauquelin with Donna Van Toen, *Micro Musing* by Paul Ostan Hewit, *Alternative Therapies -- Part I* by Donna Froming, *Considering Canada -- Part I: Winnipeg* by Doug Staley, *Astro-Psycho-Therapy* by Dona Spano, *Data Bank: Recording Stars* by Brian Clark, *Book Reviews* by Donna Van Toen.

Tape & Book Club Bulletin. Vol. 5, Jan/Feb/Mar 1985. Contact: *RKM Publishing,* Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123.

Cassette Tape & Tape Unit Care by George Kroto, *Along The Tarot Path* by Fran Rosen, *Numerology: A Tool With Many Uses* by Karin Lee Abraham, *Celestial Blueprints* by Phillip Sedgwick.

Aspects. Vol. 10, #1, Winter 1984. Contact: *Aquarius Workshops,* P.O. Box 556, Encino, CA 91426.

Over 12 regular features, Some Preliminary Comments on the Interpretation of Higher Order Structuring by Michael Erlewine, *Fixed Stars* by Batya Stark, *The Importance of Major & Minor Configurations -- Part II* by Hans Peter Sauerwein, *Reality Deferred -- The Election of 1984* by Francis Scully.,

Astro-Psychological Problems. Vol. 3, #1, January 1985. Contact: Marie Schneider, B.P. 317, F - 75229 PARIS, Cedex 05, France.

Preliminary Report on Lesbian Study by Lynn Burmyn, *The Search for the Lesbian's Planet* by Fr. Gauquelin, *A Study on Marriages: Answer* by Dr. C. Kuypers, *The Nycthemeral Expectancy* by Francoise Gauquelin, *More Precision about Time Changes in Poland* by Jan Sar Skapski, *Algorithms* by Geoffrey Dean, *The Myth of Jupiter* by Grazia Mirti, *Letters & Book Reviews.*

Cont. on page 4

Earthquake data available.

Part of the *Matrix Data Exchange* project involves locating interesting data bases and helping to make them available to the astrological community. An important new source of earthquake data has recently become available for astrologers. Christopher Scott of the *Alpha-Omega Alliance* has accomplished a formidable task in compiling a set of floppy disks, readable by IBM PC and most MS-DOS machines, containing detailed records of approximately 11,000 seismic events. These files primarily cover this century but also include observations as early as 780 B.C. There are many data sources for these observations.

A principal source for these earthquake data since 1937 is the *U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey*, and since 1973, the *U.S. Geological Survey*. These observations are not geographically limited to the U.S., however. They include many international sources, notably the French and British seismological surveys. There is a world-wide network of standard seismographs that has been established to promote a uniform standard of accurate seismological reporting. All records in the earthquake file include the following information:

Source of data: Recording station or agency identification

Date and time: (Universal Time in hours, minutes, and seconds)

Geographic Region Number

Geographic Latitude and Longitude

Intensity: Maximum in Modified Mercalli scale

Depth in Kilometers of epicenter

Included with the earthquake data disks are programs that reformat the data files for printed output through a word processor or for access by a file manager. The *Nutshell* file manager, produced by Leading Edge, has been a primary tool for locating specific earthquake information within these files, using any combination of the fields included on the file. Reformatted files may be read into *Nutshell* directly, making this the most convenient way of accessing this vast body of earthquake information.

The *Earthquake Data File* is currently the subject of intensive investigation by a group of people that do good work. It is exciting to know that one can obtain this entire file for a modest outlay, and have access to others in this field with common interests in earthquake research. If you are interested in obtaining more information about the *Earthquake Data File*, contact Christopher directly at the following address:

Alpha-Omega Alliance
9842 Hibert St., Suite 114
San Diego, CA 92131
(619) 566-1264

What's In The Journals?

Cont. from page 3

The Astrological Journal XXVI, #4, Autumn 1984. Contact: Zach Matthews, 'Oakfield'. Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England.

Astrology: The Feminine Science by Roy Alexander, *Towards an Integral Astrology* by Charles Harvey, *An Astrological Model of Human Development* by Eve Jackson, *Wounds That Make Us Wise* by Howard Sasportas, *Mass Murder -- Is There an Astrological Pattern* by David Fisher, *Planetary Rulerships, Old and New* by Maggie Hyde, *Planetary Harmonics: A Challenge* by John Greig, *Pluto and Plutonium* by Nick Kollestrom, *Data Page, Report On Who's Who 2* by Suzanne Harvey.

The Astrological Journal XXVII, #1, Winter 1984/95. Contact: Zach Matthews, 'Oakfield'. Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England.

On the Exaltations of the Planets -- Part I by William Venerius, *Astrology & Alchemy* by Cherry Gilchrist, *The Wounded Healer -- Part I* by Eve Jackson, *Why Have You Closed the Door?* by Charles A. Jayne, *The Art of Astrological Biography*, by Laurie Efrein, *Why Reagan Won* by Frank Signorella, *Karl Marx and the Outer Planets* by Dennis Frank, *Cosmic Cousins* by Jonathon Powell.

TRANSIT: The Magazine of the Astrological Association Issue No. 47, November 1984. Contact: Michael Harding, 24 Birchington Court, West End Lane, London NW6 4PB.

Whither Your Computer? by Terry Dwyer, *Program Review: Matrix M-65 System* by Michael Harding, *Urania* by Donald Stallybrass, *A Natal Astrologer's Guide to Horary -- Part 7* by Olivia Barclay, *Mundane Notes* by Nick Campion, *Data News* by David Fisher, *1984 -- In Retrospect* by Kate Champkin.

Mutable Dilemma Vol. 8, #1, Sagittarius 1984. Contact: LA-CCRS, 5953 W. 86th Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Sai Baba by William Pottenger, *The Horoscope of Sai Baba* by Zip Dobyns, *India and Indira*, by Zip Dobyns, *First Visit to Thailand* by Zip Dobyns, *Aspects of Life* by Maritha Pottenger, *A New Look at Nancy Reagan* by Zip Dobyns.

Considerations Vol. 2, #1, 1984. Contact: P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

Life Among the Spheres by Royal F. Potter, *Mars, Neptune and the Caribou* by Irene Emery Goodale, *C.G. Jung Seen in the Mirror of his Birth Chart* by Anne Cilliers, *My First Astrological Client* by Nicky Buchwald, *His Chart* by John Townley, *Aesthetics* by Camille Pelland, *Letter to a Scientist* by Axel Harvey, *The Chaldean Sar and What It Brings* by Charles A. Jayne, *Venus Amok* by Barbara Koval, *Pilot Murdered by Wife's Lover* by Kay Hughey, *To Madness Near Alli'd* by Axel Harvey.

KOSMOS: Quarterly Publication of ISAR Vol. XIII, #4, Winter 1984/85. Contact: ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Planetary Motions and the Occurrence of Earthquakes by Scott G. Vail, *The Sun and Moon in Relationship Charts* by Raymond A. Merriman, *Planets and Happiness in Marriage* by Marie Schneider, *A Astrologer Looks At Assassinations* by Hai-zen Paige, *More Comments on Indira Gandhi* by Jeff Green & Marion March, *India and Indira* by Zip Dobyns, *Book reviews.*

Machine Talk

by Glenn Murray

[Editor's note: Glenn Murray was, as many reader already know, the original editor of the Canadian RAMC Magazine. Since there has been no earth shaking news in the last month or so on the computer scene, I thought you might enjoy Murray's comments on the home computer market. I have included some newsnotes of my own at the end of the article.]

Hats off to Michael for his comments on IBM clones and compatibles. (*A*Talk* Vol.Two#1)

As a manager of a government microcomputer resource center, I work with more than 20 different models of computers from a dozen different manufacturers, and would like to underline the importance of true IBM compatibility for microcomputer buyers today.

If your computing needs go beyond the capabilities of the Commodore 64 -- the undisputed king of the home computer scene -- then you should consider skipping directly ahead to the IBM PC or one of its very close clones. With the incredible variety of available software and third-party support for these machines, it's a decision you won't regret later.

There's a Commodore 64 sitting beside me on the desk as I type this on my 512K IBM-clone -- also an IBM-PCjr and a Radio Shack Model 100 notebook computer for the travelling micro-nut.

My two preschool sons enjoy the the 64, and so do I -- when I need a little recreation, I'll grind through a few rounds of "Raid over Moscow" or "Impossible Mission". When there's work to be done however, IBM and its clones own the road.

There are currently somewhere between 200 and 250 different microcomputers competing for your dollar on the market. Consider the fact that any single model really needs roughly 10% of the total market share to stand a longterm chance of survival... If you multiply 10% by 200, your math teacher will send you back to second grade -- it simply doesn't add up. Consider also that some sources suggest that IBM and its clones now control somewhere between 40% and 50% of the microcomputer market, and you'll see that there's not a lot left for the competition to haggle over.

InfoWorld magazine -- the *Time* magazine of microcomputing -- recently estimated that more than 4 million IBM-PC's and clones were sold in 1984. What this means for the buyer who joins this "club" is that it's a solid and well-established (hence "safe") market -- one that will be supported for many years to come. Want to be a pioneer? OK, Jim, but you'll pay the price of pioneering -- promises that don't materialize, bugs that do, and a lack of generally available information about the machine and its software. Recent estimates suggest that 75-80% of the interesting new software being developed will be available to run on the IBM-PC, but you'll pay more for that extra inch of insurance. As the marketing director for IBM in Canada told me last year, "Frankly, we pride ourselves on costing a bit more..."

A few clones have outstanding reputations -- notably the Compaq and Colombia. Michael also mentions the Leading Edge PC; I've worked with two of these, but was less than thrilled with the quality of the video display (especially toward the outside edges of the bevelled monitor screen), despite its reputation for "better" graphics than the IBM. This machine is actually made by the Japanese giant Mitsubishi, and is also sold as the Sperry desktop PC.

A clone Michael didn't mention is the Corona PC. We have six of these, both desktops and portables (two with 10-meg hard disks), and have been very pleased with them over the past year. The Corona offers excellent price-performance value for the average user, and comes bundled with MS-DOS GW-BASIC, and MultiMate word processing, a powerful and easy-to-learn package based on the Wang system. The Corona is also truly compatible, and runs all standard software for the IBM-PC. With 16 different word-processors, and numerous database and spreadsheet packages, as well as educational and recreational software, I've only had one disappointment -- I can't seem to get Spinnaker's "Story Machine" program to work properly. Interestingly, I get the same result on all other clones, and even on the IBM PCjr.

The Corona is also sold under other names -- as the Olivetti-PC and the Phillips-PC (both as desktop and portable), and as the Sperry portable PC. After their recent $48 million deal with Sperry alone, Corona is likely to be around for a while in the PC marketplace.

One of the quirks of the current PC marketing world is the Olivetti PC (actually made by Corona, as mentioned above). The interesting thing is that Olivetti actually does make a PC-compatible micro, but it's not sold under their name -- rather, as the AT&T PC... You figure it out.

The recently beefed-up PCjr is much more attractive these days. We just bought 30 of them for education projects, something I wouldn't have considered before the machine's revisions. However, there are still a few things to consider before jumping to junior... The cost of expanding memory beyond the standard 128K is still significant, and IBM doesn't make a second diskdrive for the PCjr. Second drives are available from other manufactures, of course -- all it takes is money.. And unless you want to use the standard thermal printer recommended by IBM for the PCjr, (you probably don't) you'll also need to add a parallel printer port, before you can add any other standard printer to your system. The bottom line is that it'll cost you an additional $1200 in Canada (probably circa $800 US) to boost your PCjr to a 256K 2-drive system which has become the standard configuration. For that money (or less), you could get a good clone with all this as standard equipment. Also, PCjr's improved keyboard is still a bit awkward in its handling of the 10 function-keys, especially with *some* software.

The Tandy 1000 is a recent best-buy in the clone world. Priced to match the PCjr, it runs many programs which only run on the PCjr (not on the IBM-PC), while also running standard PC software. A parallel printer port is standard here, and cost of upgrading memory and adding a second drive is less than half of that for the PCjr. I'm no technician, and I added an extra 128K and a second disk drive to ours in about six minutes. The keyboard has a totally different layout, but a very nice touch. With some business software (i.e. FRAMEWORK), you may have to fumble a bit to figure out what keys to use for the ones you're used to on the IBM-PC, but that's a minor hassle. LOTUS 1-2-3 has to be reconfigured (easily done) to look right on the Tandy 1000, and

Cont.

Machine Talk (cont.)

ELECTRIC DESK for some reason doesn't recognize all of the extra memory I installed, but those are the only snags noticed so far in what is obviously a well-made machine. The included software (DESKMATE) is a real deal too. I've never been a fan of Radio Shack machines, or their stereos, or anything else, but the Tandy 1000 has made me take a second look -- so much so that we've just ordered nearly 500 of them for local schools.

The world of computers is strange to many people, so the world of so-called clones must be stranger still... However, if you get some solid advice and shop around, you can save yourself a significant quantity of coin of the realm. Here in eastern Canada, I can save as much as $1500 by buying some very close IBM-clones instead of insisting on having those three magic letters on the box on my desk.

That's roughly $500 per letter. Ask yourself if it's worth it.

[Editors note: Room here for some brief newsnotes.]

Both Commodore and Atari have their 16/32-bit MacIntosh look-alikes ready to go. In the case of Atari, they have already shown the prototype. Remember that Atari is now run by Jack Tramiel, the hard hitting genius that made Commodore what it is today. He promises a 128K machine for $399 and a 512K version at $599. A 15 megabyte hard disk will be available for only $399. These are market busting prices!

Commodore has also shown their new 128K computer (expandable to 512K) with full color display (40 or 80 column). It runs all Commodore 64 software *as is*. Second, it will run all CP/M software and their new 1571 disk drives offer a big 350K storage. Third, in 128K mode, it makes use of a powerful new version of the BASIC programming language. All this for around $250.

IBM is rumored as poised to introduce their new PC2, an upgraded PCjr, reworked AT and even a new lap portable. All of these machines are supposed to be sporting the very fast 80286 chip -- the one now used in the IBM AT.

Tandy's (Radio Shack) new model 1000 (IBM PC clone) is selling like mad and runs all of our software.

Apple can't make it's IIc computers fast enough and the MacIntosh seems to have made it thru its introductory (software-less) period. New software for the Mac is finally appearing and assures the machine at least a small niche in the market. Apple has also shown its new laser printer.

More on this and other news nextime.

ASTRO LOGIC

We were both surprised and pleased with the response to our first *Astro*logic* problem, but wonder if perhaps it was too easy or you are all a bunch of geniuses! Our second puzzle is a little harder.

It is difficult to be absolutely fair in contests of this sort. As Y.T. Wong of Hong Kong points out, he doesn't receive his copy of Astro*Talk as early as most of you. He postmarked his solution on February 5th, which was sixteen days after the winner's postmark of Jan. 20th. Wong's answer was correct and beautifully documented with his logic in arriving at the solution. The criteria used in determining the winner was postmark and the presentation of the logic required to reach the solution. Shown below is the correct solution and the type of justification required for your answer.

Sandy Cay, with a postmark of January 20th, was the first with the right answer and wins the Ad Kit. Close behind was Lenore Canter who gets her *Astro*Talk* subscription extended. We don't have space to list all the winners. However, a close runner up was Neil Michelson whose explanation of his correct choice was the best received. We hope you all try again.

Solution to Astro*logic #1: If you assume that Leo is the thief, then the statements of Scorpio and Aquarius are true. If you assume that Taurus is the thief, then Leo's and Scorpio's statements are true. It follows then that Scorpio stole the collection and only the statement made by Aquarius was true.

Since Problem 2 is a bit tougher we will up the prize money. The first correct solution with justification of answer will receive a credit slip worth 10% discount from the price of any product we offer for sale. A second prize will be a $10.00 credit slip good for anything we sell.

ASTRO*LOGIC #2

In an arid region of Arizona there lived, not long ago, two colonies of astrologers, known as the PISCES and the LEOS. The only way you could distinguish one group from the other was to talk with them. The LEOS always LIED and the PISCES always told the TRUTH.

While visiting the area I was walking along a dusty road when I met three men whom I took to be astrologers. Seeking to determine to which group each belonged, I asked each one, "To which group do you belong?" They replied as follows:

1st Man. Answered my question but I couldn't understand his answer.

2nd Man. "The first man said he is a LEO. The third man is a PISCES."

3rd Man. "The first man is a PISCES."

From this information alone I was able to determine exactly to which colony each belonged by Astro*logic. Can you?

The names of "now".

Astrologers are well aware of the complexities of keeping time: Greenwich mean time, sidereal time, local time, etc. Now scientists have come up with six different very precise kinds of time, to serve a variety of purposes. Greenwich mean time, the former standard, has been replaced by the following forms of universal time:

U.T.C. (coordinated universal time) Time based on atomic clocks -which measure the natural vibrations of cesium 133 atoms- and is broadcast by most observatories. To keep it within one second of the Earth's rotation rate, corrections, or "leap seconds," are sometimes decreed by the Bureau Internationale de L'Heure in Paris at the end of December or June.

U.T.O. (universal time zero) is time an astronomer directly obtains, by observing when a star crosses a local meridian. It eliminates errors resulting from changes in the Earth's spin, but not from the effects of spin-axis wobble, which can tilt the local meridian and affect local time observations.

U.T.1 is like U.T.O but is corrected for the wobble. It determines the nature of the Earth's spin and is used to monitor spin changes.

U.T.2 is predictive, taking into account expected variations in rotation resulting from changes in global air circulation and polar wobble.

T.A.I. (international atomic time) is based on atomic clocks at several observatories through the world and correlated in Paris. T.A.I is not corrected with leap seconds and is now 21 seconds ahead of U.T.C. Thanks to Charles Jayne for sending the article containing these notes.

New from Matrix:

Blue*Star

The most advanced astrological software is also the easiest to use!

blue star

Blue*Star is our powerful new astrological system for home computers. Using clearly written sentences instead of codes and computer talk, Blue*Star is fast, accurate and—above all—a pleasure to use.

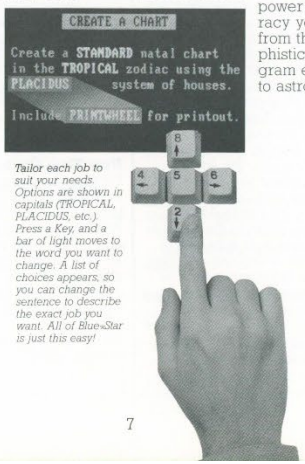
Blue*Star is available on the IBM-PC and its clones. A version for the Commodore 64 is also available (Blue*Star 64—see page 11).

Blue*Star is a complete astrological system: extremely powerful, loaded with professional features, and absolutely a delight to use. It's an entire home chart service, chart filing system and the most powerful (and accurate) program ever offered for dynamic transits and progressions.

You don't have to know computers to enjoy Blue*Star. It works the way you do. Using clear and simple sentences, you can run the entire system—all the techniques available are described in plain English. What you see is what you get! Just press a key and the wording on the screen will change until it describes exactly the job you want. No cryptic codes. Nothing to remember.

Of course, Blue*Star performs all the techniques a professional chart service needs. It has the speed, power and accuracy you'd expect from the most sophisticated program ever offered to astrologers.

Cont.



*Tailor each job to suit your needs. Options are shown in capitals (TROPICAL, PLACIDUS, etc.). Press a Key, and a bar of light moves to the word you want to change. A list of choices appears, so you can change the sentence to describe the exact job you want. All of Blue*Star is just this easy!*

What makes Blue*Star so nice to use?

New data entry format. We've made it quicker and easier than ever before to enter birth names, dates and places. Our new "pictured format" means you simply type over a built-in sample entry. It's *very* easy—even for first-time users. You can go back and change any birth data at any point without disturbing the work in progress.

Whether entered from the keyboard or taken from chart files on disk, birth data is held in your computer's RAM memory for quick recall any time during the work session.

Blue*Star even keeps 10 sets of chart data permanently on hand for one-button recall. The charts you need most often (friends, family, etc.) are always ready to use instantly.

Your ten favorite cities are also recorded for the same quick recall. No need to reenter longitude, latitude and time zone for your town and surrounding communities or any places you work with frequently. One keystroke does it.

Special data entry features include automatic local mean time entry and automatic handling of time zones (including daylight savings and wartime). A data replication feature lets you produce several charts for the same individual or the same location without any reentering. Current transit data is always available at the touch of a key.

Custom job lists. Once you've given Blue*Star a list of jobs to do, you can save that list for re-use. In fact, you can keep up to ten lists ready at all times. Suppose your clients often want a natal chart along with a solar return, a year's worth of lunar returns and a secondary progression. Just make this one of your ten "auto-jobs," and order it all by pressing a single key.

Pop-up features. Blue*Star is a lot more than a bare-bones job processor. It has lots of extra features that make working with it fun. For example, our real time clock is always on-screen. A built-in Astro*Clock pops onto the screen with the current ascendant, midheaven, vertex and east point for your location. Refer to it at any time without affecting the work at hand.

The pop-up alarm clock lets you set and label the day's events. No matter what part of the program you're working with, the alarm will go off and tell you of appointments, etc. without disturbing the jobs in progress.

A pop-up note calendar comes onto the screen whenever you want to jot down memos and save them for future dates (even years in the future). Review your schedule a month at a glance or look over the coming year in three-month sections. It's a neat way to record holidays, birthdays, and notes for any date from 1900 to well past the year 2000.

Batch processing. The number of jobs you can perform at one time is limited only by your computer's RAM memory. Blue*Star adapts itself to your machine's specifications, and uses an on-screen gauge to show at a glance how much memory you've used and how much is left.

When batch processing, you can sort the output by chart name or by type. For example: you can print all natal charts, then print all transits, or print all "John Doe" charts followed by all "Jane Doe" jobs, etc.

It's easy to review all the charts you've entered, examine the jobs ordered for each of them, and make changes at any point before processing the work. You can double check and edit as often as you like.

Delayed processing. You can enter jobs now and process them later in the day. This is handy for businesses that want to input chart data throughout the day for processing after hours. Or, if your work is interrupted, just save the jobs on disk and finish up later.

New Time Change Atlas. Finally you can put away those old books and atlases! Our Time Change Atlas has the correct longitude, latitude, zone and all 20th century time changes for over 1200 cities. This optional feature enters all this information automatically and really takes the work out of data entry!

One screen runs it all. It's no longer necessary to learn several programs (each with their own quirks and control codes). Blue*Star handles everything through its one simple menu screen. Several other Matrix programs use the Blue*Star environment too: if you want written chart interpretations, add a Matrix report writer and run it with the same "plain English" style of operation. The Matrix Designer Wheel program is also run by the same familiar screen.

Built-in ephemerides. Matrix ephemerides are unsurpassed in accuracy, and they're complete and ready to use—no time-consuming ephemeris generation or setup.

The Matrix 3000-year ephemeris covers the years 600 B.C. through 2400 A.D. It has an accuracy of one second of arc for planets over almost all of the entire 3,000-year span. Even at remote B.C. dates, our ephemeris matches the best available sources to within seconds!

The Matrix Quickscan ephemeris covers a 70-year period, and allows you to perform high-speed transit searches using the latest JPL export ephemerides.

Blue*Star is international. Blue*Star can speak your language even if it's not English. We can offer optional versions with screen messages in French, German, Dutch or any language widely in demand. Interested? Let us know.

What can Blue*Star do?

Blue*Star lets you master transits and progressions. Blue*Star handles both static and dynamic transits & progressions. These include:

- ☐ transit to natal
- ☐ dynamic transit to transit
- ☐ progressed to natal
- ☐ dynamic progressed to progressed
- ☐ even dynamic transit to progressed

All of these can be done in geocentric or heliocentric longitude & latitude as well as right ascension & declination. Also included are transits to midpoints with your choice of aspects.

You can specify all of the following:

- ☐ the range of dates involved
- ☐ the number of transiting planets
- ☐ entering & leaving orbs (can be separate)
- ☐ aspect sets in use (keep 6 different sets on-line)
- ☐ radix planets (including angles, house cusps and up to eight points of your choice)

Transit searches using our 70-year Quickscan ephemeris are 2–3 times faster than any other on the market—and that includes one second of arc accuracy on all planets.

By just pressing a button, Blue*Star can give you all of these features and more:

- ☐ automatic sign ingresses
- ☐ solstice & equinox times
- ☐ stationary times
- ☐ new & full Moons
- ☐ lunar phase timing
- ☐ void-of-course Moon

Just turn on the option you want, and let Blue*Star collect the transit hits for you.

As you can see, Blue*Star does all the progression and transit searches you might expect. But the following features will come as a surprise—this is the first time they've ever been offered to the astrological community.

New: "true" aspects. For the first time ever, you can examine the "true" or bodily aspects which exist between planets as they move through space (versus standard aspects measured on the plane of the Earth's orbit). The two can differ by a day or more.

New: occultations. This sort of bodily occultation is what makes an eclipse differ from an ordinary new or full moon. Now you can determine occultations of planets or stars by transiting planets.

New: transits to progressions. Blue*Star offers you the ability to perform dynamic transits to progressions.

New: void-of-course Moon. Blue*Star quickly figures void-of-course Moon calculations for you.

New: stationary times. Determines the exact times for planet stations at the touch of a button.

New: mixed hits. You can order a list of transits, progressions, directions, etc. and have them all printed out in a chronological list. Blue*Star will link any series of hits together for one comprehensive printout.

New: transiting parallels. Blue*Star searches out parallels of latitude or declination.

Blue*Star is a complete automated chart service. Along with its transit and progression capabilities, Blue*Star prints charts in a wide variety of techniques. All of the following options are built in:

Choice of wheel formats. Both single and double wheel capability are included. Chart printouts can include either the standard wheel of houses or the open European style wheel for easy aspect drawing. Our impressive "Designer Wheel" series of hi-resolution charts is available as an option, too.

M65 file compatibility. Blue*Star is fully compatible with M65 chart files, and saves disk space by storing only those charts you tell it to. Keeping just the ones you want builds a tidy collection made up of only those charts you really work with.

Blue*Star's chart files are very comprehensive, and its sophisticated file system stores any number of progressions, returns, etc. along with the chart name. There's plenty of room for special extension files with Uranian planets, asteroids, fixed stars, etc. You can even attach notes to each file for later reference.

Inspect charts on-screen. Blue*Star's "Inspect-A-File" feature lets you view chartwheels and aspectarians right on the screen so you can look through your chart collection without waiting for printouts.

Progressions and directions. You can work with secondary charts, tertiary, minor, solar arc, naibod arc, degree-for-year arc, user-defined arc, ascendant arc, vertical arc, quotidian 1 (Bija), quotidian 2, etc. All these options work in both direct and converse modes and in geocentric or heliocentric coordinates. In addition, most methods also can be performed in right ascension, so you have access to a wide variety of primary directions.

Solunars. Blue*Star does solar & lunar returns in tropical, sidereal or tropical precessed zodiacs. Also does demi and quarti (any harmonic) returns. Does returns to any point in the zodiac, returns of any planet to itself, or any aspect of itself.

Choice of zodiacs. Built-in zodiac choices include tropical, sidereal, and precessed tropical. The sidereal ayanamsa (Fagan/Bradley) can be user-defined.

13 house systems. Choose from Meridian, Regiomontanus, Porphry, Equal, Morinus, Koch, Topocentric, Campanus and Placidus. Also solar houses, zero-Aries, user-defined ascendant (equal) and any planet to any house cusp (Uranian methods).

What can Blue*Star do? (cont.)

Synastry.
Blue*Star performs composites, relationships, double-wheels and double aspect grids.

Midpoints.
Does midpoint grids and sorts on any dial (90, 45, etc.).

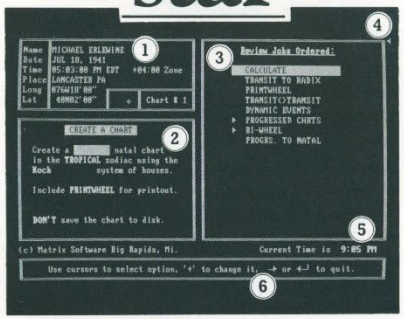
Harmonics.
Outputs the first ten harmonics in both planetary and zodiac order. Lists harmonics from any starting value, does harmonic charts and arc transform charts in wheel format.

Coordinate dimensions.
Coordinate options include hour angle charts, astronomical azimuth, local space charts, Campanus mundoscope, equatorial, prime vertical and Neely prime vertical charts.

Natal points.
Sun & Moon through Pluto, mean & true lunar node, ascendant, midheaven, vertex, east point, and part of fortune. Also available as options: Uranian planets, four major asteriods and Chiron.

Time span:
3,000 years—600 B.C. through 2400 A.D.

blue star



This simple screen is all you need to run the most advanced astro-software ever offered.

1 Here's the data for the chart you're working with.
2 This box is where you select the jobs you want done.
3 The big box lists different options.
4 This arrow gauges how much memory is currently in use.
5 The time of day is always on-screen.
6 Look here for constantly updated helpful reminders.

Output features:

Arc transform charts
Difference & midpoint sorts
Any cosmobiology dial (many formats)
Solstice points (sorted & unsorted)
Planetary pictures (tree diagrams)
Lg. aspect patterns for each planet
Sorted midpoints (any dial)
Sorted angular separations
Planetary sorts
Geocentric latitude
Sun/Moon angle index
Planet travel (daily motion)
Distance values listed
Moon fast/slow index
Essential dignities
Triplicities totals
Quadruplicities totals
Elemental balance diagram
Quandrant counts
Positive/negative sign index
Angular/succeedent/cadent index
Applying/separating aspect index
Aspect orbs
Aspect totals
House totals
Planet in-house index
Retrograde status index
Eclipse times & circumstances
Times new/full Moons (all phases)
Midpoint sorts displayed in zodiac or 360-degree display
Aspect grids
Midpoint grids
Sorted aspect lists
One line comment stored w/each file
Notes limited only by disk space
Custom name/address on printouts
Julian day, obliquity of ecliptic, delta T, ayanamsha, aspects in use
Prints 10 house systems to compare
Automatic 90/45/22.5 midpoint sorts
Up to 8 extra points
Large data sorts by planet, aspect & orb, angular sep., midpoints, etc.

High accuracy.
For all 3,000 years, the Sun and planets are accurate to within one second of arc. The Moon's accuracy is to within 2-3 seconds of arc, and house cusps to within a minute of arc.

High speed.
Calculates charts on the IBM-PC in 16 seconds for most of the 20th century. Any other date within Blue*Star's 3,000-year span takes only 38 seconds—and this includes accuracy to within one second!

Programming language:
16-bit assembly code and compiled BASIC.

Computers supported.
Blue*Star is available for the IBM-PC & AT (256K RAM & double-sided drives), or IBM clones (Leading Edge, Compaq portable, Tandy 1000, etc.)—contact Matrix to be sure your brand is supported. Also available on IBM-PCjr w/256K (limited version). Hard disks supported. Uses any ASCII printer. Produces glyphs on Epson, IBM, NEC 8023, Okidata 92 & Prowriter. Hi-res chartwheels available on the Epson RX/FX-80 and Star Delta 10.

Price:
$300 for complete Blue*Star system. For those who don't need all Blue*Star's features, we offer special versions at low prices. Ask for details.

Available in April '85.

New from Matrix:
Blue*Star
for the Commodore 64!

blue star 64

Blue*Star on the Commodore 64: amazing software at a remarkable price! C-64 owners: now Blue*Star's features are available on the 64! Powerful, fast and a pleasure to use, Blue*Star is the program that's shaping the new direction in astrological software.

Matrix has always been enthusiastic about the 64, and this new program really shows what the machine can do. Blue*Star 64 has features you'd never imagine in a program that costs only $100. And it's a solid part of the Matrix system—compatible with our entire M65 series.

This is a professional chart service program that's easy for everyone to use. It has all the features you're looking for, and quite a few more:

"Plain English" working style.
Like its big brother on the IBM, Blue*Star 64 speaks plain English. Clear sentences on the screen help get your work done quickly and easily, and help messages guide you every step of the way. No confusing codes. No computer talk. Nothing to remember.

Easy data entry & editing.
Entering birth data is a snap. Our simplified entry format sees to that. And if you need to correct a mistake or make a change, that's easy, too. You can edit and revise the birth data as many times as you need to.

If you want to produce another chart using part or all of the same data entered for the previous job, the program's "replicate" feature lets you do this. No reentry needed.

Superspeed calculations.
Blue*Star 64 is compiled for speed. We've even hand-coded all the planetary calculations into 6502 assembly language. This "machine language" technique makes Blue*Star 64 the fastest program possible on the 6502 C-64. Period.

Cont.

blue star 64

Blue*Star takes its name from the bright stars that we can see with the naked eye. These newly formed stars give off a clear blue-white light, and have a long and steady future. Almost all the stars we see each night are blue stars. In particular, the Pleiades cluster of young stars (located at around 29 degrees of the tropical sign Taurus) were inspirational in our decision to name this new program "Blue*Star."

High accuracy.
Even with all its speed, Blue*Star 64 planets are accurate to within one minute of arc throughout the 20th century.

M65 file compatibility.
Blue*Star 64's chart file system creates and reads M65-style chart files. Because Blue*Star 64 dovetails with the entire M65 system this way, you can use all of these optional M65 modules to customize a system uniquely suited to your needs:

☐**Research module.** Your chart files become a sophisticated database for exploring theories or just following your intuition to see where it leads.

☐**Screen module.** This is an even more extensive version of the built-in screen module (see below).

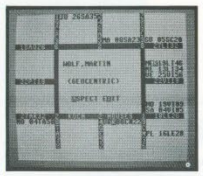
☐**Statistics module.** Backs up your astrological research with statistical evidence to show when your findings beat the laws of probability.

☐**Tracker.** Our sophisticated cross referencing mini-database and file keeper.

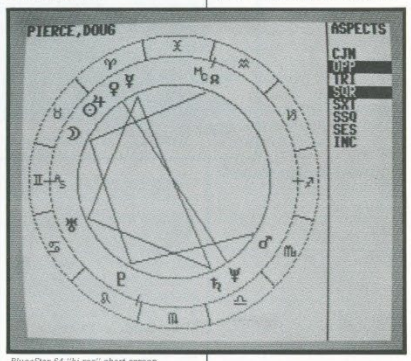
Auto-jobs.
No need to enter and re-enter the same job orders each time you work. The "auto-job" feature lets you order up a frequently-used series of jobs with just a keystroke.

Built-in screen module.
With Blue*Star 64's "inspect-a-file" feature, you can look through your charts right on the screen without waiting for printouts.

This feature includes an on-screen wheel with aspect list, chart patterns, a built-in AspectScope and the ability to save



notes with each file. An exciting new feature is our on-screen high resolution wheel.



*Blue*Star 64 "hi-res" chart screen.*

New: hi-res chart screens.
Blue*Star 64 can even present a high resolution chart wheel right on the screen. This is a very good looking wheel that automatically draws aspect patterns. It's ideal for the counseling astrologer. Press a key and all the hard aspect patterns appear instantly; press another and they're replaced with soft aspects, etc.

Depending on your printer model, you can screen-dump these wheels for instant hard copy, too.

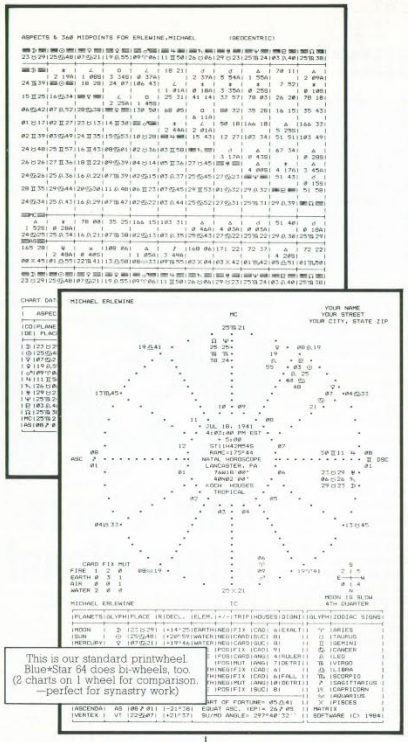
Custom aspects & orbs.
Blue*Star lets you select and use whichever aspects and orbs you wish.

Seven house systems.
Built right in: Koch, Placidus, Campanus, Equal, Aries, Solar and user-defined systems.

Geocentric or heliocentric.
Your choice of either of these calculation options.

You also can select any of these alternate coordinate dimensions: right ascension, prime vertical, local space and Campanus mundoscope.

Uranian planets.
The 8 transneptunian and Uranian planets are built into Blue*Star 64.

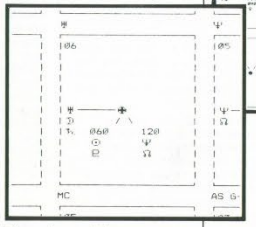


This is our standard printwheel. Blue*Star 64 does bi-wheels, too. (2 charts on 1 wheel for comparison. —perfect for synastry work)

Natal charts.
In your choice of standard wheel of houses or the open European style wheel for easy aspect drawing.

Biwheel printouts.
Perfect for synastry work, this format arranges any two charts on the same wheel for comparison. Here, too, you have the option of using the open wheel or standard wheel of houses.

Aspect grids.
The ideal backup to a chart printout. Our aspect grid features a complete set of planetary midpoints, and is accompanied by our "chart datascope" showing totals of aspects per planet, planets per aspect and planets per house.

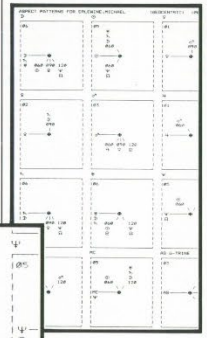


Planetary pictures.
Blue*Star 64 prints aspect patterns in the "planetary picture" format shown here.

Printed glyphs.
Blue*Star 64 printouts can include astrological glyphs on more than a half dozen of the most popular printers.

Hi-res printed wheels.
The handsome chart wheel you see on the screen can be output on several different printers —with or without the aspects drawn in.

Transits & progressions.
Options include transits, secondary & tertiary progressions, minor progressions, quotidians 1 & 2, solar arc, naibod arc, degree-for-year arc, user-defined arc, ascendent arc and vertical arc. Blue*Star 64 even gives you progressed "hits" listed in chronological order.



Solar & Lunar returns.
Blue*Star 64's screen-based solunar capabilities include tropical, sidereal, tropical precessed, incremental returns (demi, quarti, etc.) and returns to any point in the zodiac. An on-screen chart wheel displays planets and house cusps. Also provided is an AspectScope with midpoints, aspect names, angular separation and applying/separating indication. A planet sort table and relocation feature are included, too.

Blue*Star 64 gives Commodore 64 owners more computing power for the dollar than any program on the market. And it's an important part of the Matrix System—backed up by our full line of advanced software for the C-64.

Machines supported:
Blue*Star 64 is available now for the Commodore 64, the SX-64, and the new Commodore 128. Only one drive is needed, but if you have a second drive, the program will support it.

Price: $100

A.C.T. Chapter for N.C.G.R.

The *ACT* (*Astrological Conference on Techniques*) panel workshops have been a part of the bi-annual *AFA* (*American Federation of Astrologers*) convention since 1980. Thanks to the generosity and support of the AFA, ACT has had the room and environment to flourish and grow. ACT workshops have become an integral part of the AFA convention. The AFA reports that cassette sales for the 1984 ACT workshops have been brisk.

We have had repeated requests to extend the ACT conferences to other astrological gatherings. A first step in this direction is the forming of a special chapter of *NCGR* (*National Council For Geocosmic Research*) devoted to ACT. We have decided to create an NCGR chapter based here at Matrix headquarters in Big Rapids, Michigan. However, instead of calling ourselves the Big Rapids chapter, we will be known as the **ACT Chapter of NCGR**.

The chapter currently consists of Matrix staff members Michael and Stephen Erlewine, Doug Pierce and Martin Wolf. Since NCGR chapter rules do not require that chapter members reside in any particular location, the following individuals have joined the ACT NCGR chapter: Michael Munkasey, James Neely, Charles Jayne, Doug Smith, John Townley, Gary Duncan, David Black, Bill Whisenant, Tim Smith, Tom Shanks and others. All have been active in organizing and participating in the previous ACT workshops.

The purpose of the ACT Chapter will be to, among other things, facilitate ACT type panel discussions at major astrological conferences. We propose to offer topics for discussion important to a modern astrology and to help suggest possible panel members. Since we are a chapter whose members are spread all over the country, we will use a newsletter to keep in touch. Any readers interested in joining NCGR under the ACT chapter should contact Michael Erlewine at the Matrix address.

NCGR members who are not now members of a chapter and who would like to be part of the ACT chapter, please let us know.

ACT will continue to be centered at the bi-annual AFA convention. However, we will make every attempt to institute similar panels at other astrological gatherings including, of course, NCGR conferences. Topics of interest to the ACT chapter will include research, publication, communication, etc.

New report writers

One piece of news that I am sure will be music to the ears for many of you is that we now have all of the text entered for our new *Synastry Report Writer* package by Lenore Canter. Charles Jayne says that Lenore Canter is, in his opinion, the most qualified expert in the field of synastry practicing today.

Now that the text is finished and entered, the program should be available in about two months. The report is super and is well worth waiting for. The text is extensive and we have followed Lenor Cantor's program guidelines to the letter. It will be the most complete work of its kind ever offered to astrologers.

More Report Writer News

We have just added two new report writers to our catalog with text by author/astrologer Richard Nolle, who is well known for his many book reviews and articles in dozens of magazines. Nolle has produced both a complete natal report (similar in scope to our M-90) and a day-by-day transit (M-91 style) report for Matrix. The reports are *excellent* indeed, as we might expect from one of the most accomplished writers in our field. The text is upbeat, to the point and modern in every way. We are proud to add these fine reports to our collection. The Nolle reports are available now on the Commodore C-64 & PET. Versions for IBM and the APPLE will be ready in a few weeks.

This gives Matrix customers a choice of three different sets of text for both natal (M-90) and transit (M-91) reports. Aside from the new Nolle additions, we have complete natal and transit reports by veteran astrologers Charles & Vivia Jayne, plus another set by astrologers David & Gina Cochrane. All are fine pieces of work, and each has its own particular flavor. We would be glad to send you a sample of each report. If you already own a report writer and wish to have alternate sets of text, the fee will be $100. This price includes the cost of disk replacement, postage and a license to use the text.

And last, but not least, we are pleased to announce a program now in progress here at Matrix built around Joyce Wehrman's book *WINNING!*, an astrological approach to gambling. Joyce visited Matrix in the fall of 1984 to work out the details of this very interesting program.

Four For $1000

Our most popular package. Your choice of any four of the following Matrix Report Writing programs for $1000 on the IBM, Commodore and Apple computers:

M-90 Natal Report (text by Jayne, Nolle or Cochrane -- your choice), *M-91 Transit Report* (text by Jayne, Nolle or Cochrane -- your choice), *M-94 Relating Potential* (text by John Townley), *M-93 Alphanumerology* (text by Michael Erlewine), *M-197 Lucky Day/Lottery* (text by John Townley), *M-92 Biorhythm Report* (text by Michael Erlewine), *Tarot Reader Report* (text by Kooch Daniels).

Blue*Star is international

We need translators!

Our new Blue*Star on the IBM PC can speak many languages. All of the screen prompts and output labels are read from a disk file instead of being locked into the program code. What this means is that adapting Blue*Star to another language is a simple as translating the label file. Thus French, Spanish or German speaking astrologers can use Blue*Star too by copying the appropriate label file onto their working disk. There is one problem.

We need help translating the hundred or so labels and screen prompts used by Blue*Star into other languages. If you speak any language that can be expressed using the standard alphabet, and are willing to help us in this project, contact Matrix as soon as possible. We are talking about several hours work on your part and we will make it more than worth your while. We will make you an offer you can't refuse.

PROGRAMMING JOB AT MATRIX

Matrix is interested in taking on another full-time programmer. If you are a skilled programmer, have some knowledge of astrology and are interested in relocating to beautiful Big Rapids, Michigan... give us a call.

Charles Harvey:

Cont. from page 1

Now John, when he got up off his back... The girl who had nursed him through—who he had been engaged to before—became his wife. He was a permanent cripple, because his spine was completely calcified. He had no use of his spine at all. He had to walk with sticks. The fact that he made as good a recovery as he did was because of the mystical insight he had. He did, in some sense, heal himself very deeply, although a lot of his body was irreversibly stuck.

He was coming with this background, in 1958—although he really started in '56—This whole idea is that we needed something beyond the Theosophical Lodge. We needed a secular body, that did not have any particular slant, and he worked to put together an organization. They chose this moment and they started it. John in the first years was *the* person. He was the chairman, and he was the person to get out the lecture lists, and he put together *The Journal*. He did everything. Gradually this team built up around him and Brig. Firebrace, who we may have time to talk about at another point. The Association grew from a typed mimeographed bulletin four times a year, and it went, after three years, into finished publication... properly printed and so on... as soon as they could afford it.

Michael: When did you tune into the fact that John was a really unique individual?

Charles: I tuned into the fact that John was a special person the first time I met him. I think everyone does. I'm sure you did.

Michael: Tell the people who never met him, who never had a chance to meet him because he is no longer with us, what he is like to meet.

Charles: Well, John Addey, you would meet him, and as I had mentioned before, he didn't have the use of his spine or his legs. He walked with sticks. You noticed that in the first five seconds, and then after that, you never knew he wasn't twenty feet tall and racing up mountains. He exuded this incredible inner peace. You analyzed the situation and said, "This is impossible, here is someone who is totally constricted and has a wonderful smile on his face, a wonderful wry sense of humor, tremendously intellectually keen and at the same time the soul of harmony and generosity intellectually." If he really fundamentally and absolutely disagreed with something and considered it philosophically totally unsound, he would get as far as saying "Hum, maybe so, maybe so," and that would be the maximum criticism you would ever get out of him for anything, If he said, "Um, yes, hum, maybe so," you would think, "Well, he really thinks it's the pits."

Basically, he had this incredible capacity for accepting and listening and hearing where someone was coming from, and then reflecting back to you, and putting his finger on what would be useful to you at that moment... and incredibly encouraging. He was very good at finding the person to do a job, then he would just hand it over to them. If they were having problems, he would talk it over on the phone. But he would just say, look, one of the first things an aspiring soul must cultivate (he never voiced this but he would show it in everything he did) is self reliance. He would make people feel self- reliant, and in that sense he would bring out their real qualities. John came from the place where everyone has the spark of greatness in them. How to awaken the sleeping giant within the soul? He would never ever speak in this language. It was almost alien to him, but everything he did spoke it. You know he was a great trainer of souls.

He was a Pythagorean in this sense. He had that quality. But unlike the Pythagorean school, where you were beaten over the head, he didn't have that. He came from a very deep love. That was the reality that came over, this incredible warmth and wisdom. He wasn't in any way... He had Mercury in Cancer, but he wasn't into sentimentality. He wasn't into emotion. In fact, if he had a problem, that was perhaps his problem. He was in a sense cut off from emotional contact. But somehow he had this heart which was not beyond that. You were aware that was a very important part of him that was simply in eternity. He head was there in the heavens and his feet on Earth. You spoke to him for ten minutes, and you knew he had a vision. He could see it, and everything he was doing was to make the vision happen.

There was a quality about John that was very invisible. He was mystic, but he never talked of it. You get people, where every second word is spirituality. He never used the word. He was consciously on the spiritual path, but you would never know it. It came through whatever he was doing. Similarly, he was deeply interested in mythology, but he would never overtly talk about Prometheus. He would illustrate it at a level where you could contact it in something you were familiar with.

Michael: Can we ask you to talk a bit about Geoffrey Dean, the author of *Recent Advances*, as you did last night? I don't think we got it recorded... about how you met him... how he showed up at your door.

Charles: Geoff Dean, is a very fascinating individual. His mother happened to live about a half-a-mile away from my house. Geoff Dean was involved in astrology, and he came to visit the research section library, which is at my house. He turned up, and being Geoff Dean, he said, "What can I do?" He is a doer, he wants to get things done. He said, "What can I do to help?" so I said, "Well look, for a long time John and others have said what we need is a little eight page introduction about how to go about astrological research... a little thing with a bibliography, books to refer to, where to go, what to do, who is doing what, and so on"... an eight-page thing, which we can immediately send out. We are constantly writing the same letters over and over again. "How about it?"

Twelve hours later, he came back with the eight page document... all justified margins, and said, "This is what I have come up with, but I think there are some gaps in it." I said, "Sure there are gaps, so let's see what we can do," Two days later he came back with a thirty page document. I looked at that, and gradually it became apparent that Geoff Dean, having two degrees, one in chemistry, and one in information science, is very much the organized scientist.

He said, "Well look, the thing that is self-evident here is that there is all this amazing wealth of literature in this library, and no one has a clue what anyone else has done. We open a journal, and the article that has got references at the foot of the page... that tells you where this person is coming from... doesn't exist. One

article in ten refers to anyone else on the face of the Earth."

We then realized we were in to something else. The concept of *Recent Advances* was to bring together all possible work that had been done in astrology, of any kind... not necessarily critical, but attempting to see how astrology works... trying to understand better the principals behind astrology. So began the most extraordinary marathon you will ever witness, with Geoff Dean coming day after day to 36 Tweedy Road.

He would arrive at 8 o'clock in the morning, and leave at 10 o'clock at night, and would be in that library with the books. You would offer him a cup of tea, "No," He didn't drink tea. You'd offer him coffee, you'd offer him lunch, "No," You'd offer him anything.. "No"... and for twelve or fourteen hours at a stretch, with his beautiful handwriting, taking notes, taking notes, taking notes, taking stuff away to zerox, taking notes, taking notes. I have never seen someone work with such 100% concentration and dedication.

He is one of those people who packs three man-years into each month, in terms of production. He is quite an extraordinary person. He realized that the first thing we had to do was to contact as many people as possible. So we put out feelers. The Association already had a very good network of contacts with all the main European and American astrologers. He started writing and started a dialogue with every key person we could find... What did they know of that we haven't got? And we would circulate this text that we had already. Then it would come back, and he would edit it. *Recent Advances* grew from an eight page leaflet to a six hundred page work.

Michael: Do you know that Geoff is a very controversial figure here in the states? Why is that? Why did some Americans, and I'm not sure it's just Americans, have such difficulty with his book? What is your summation of that?

Charles: I think the summation of it is that Recent Advances is a wonderful book if you take it as a reference book. It is a poor book if you take it as a book to give you anything to do with the quality of astrology. It is very dehydrated. It tells you facts and figures. Facts and figures are very few and far between. Geoff took it upon himself to distill out of facts and figures that hadn't been distilled... information or lack of information.

Michael: So you're saying he didn't capture the spirit of some of the work.

Charles: He was doing a job that no one had ever thought needed doing in this way. Astrology had to catch up with the 18th and 19th centuries in one fell swoop.

He was very much in love with astrology. He knew it worked. He absolutely had that poetic sense of astrology as an art form. At another level he wanted to get to the nub of this. Seeing John's work... seeing what could be done... seeing the work of the Gauquelins... seeing what we were trying to do in the research section. He was concerned with how we could further this. Now in doing this, there is a dehydrating quality. He is trying to get to the facts, and we know that facts without values don't really amount to very much. Somehow this squeezed out the very thing that astrologers love... which draws people to astrology.

Michael: I should interject that there are a large number of astrologers... Charles Jayne would certainly be numbered... and myself, who feel that there is more than just a dehydration process. He made a lot of judgements and even catty comments along the way that were really unjustified, that really shouldn't be in the book.

Charles: I think that what happened was that Geoff let out all his pent up frustrations... as somebody coming from organized science into an area which he loved very deeply... at the complete apathy in the astrological community of attempting to intellectually question what they were dealing with.

Michael: But you pointed out to me last night that Geoff thinks of himself primarily as a poet.

Charles: He doesn't think of himself primarily as a poet, but he describes himself as a poet. He is a photographer, and so on. We all have our own particular brands of schizophrenia, and this is his. He is a poet on one side. Yet he knows there is one way of approaching truth. If something is true, it can be shown to be true.

Michael: I have heard him, as I pointed out to you, switch from a very reasonable scientific approach to waxing on ... most speculative... Some lady from a small town, who had only been into astrology for three months, couldn't do any better. Have you ever seen him do that, and how do you explain that? How does that fit with the rest of it?

Charles: I think it fits very well. If you have the Moon in Pisces on the Midheaven, and Sun in Capricorn with a strong Saturn, you have got a dilemma. He acts them both out. He finds them difficult to put together, but by God, you know he is trying. He feels that if he can get the facts, then he can add the values to them. In the process, I feel that his frustration with the lack of standards... We have to face this fact. There are some lovely people in astrology, but there is some very wooly thinking.

Michael: Also, another point that we talked about last night. We talked about magazines and cooperative enterprises. It really looks like we are at the point where any major effort is probably going to involve a group of people, which leads me to the observation... Wouldn't it be helpful to temper his tremendous capacity of labor with a couple of individuals who had a better... like if John Addey had co-written that book, or yourself? I believe that we would have had everything that Geoff had contributed, plus more. It needed someone who would have tended to the spiritual, instead of desiccating everything.

Charles: Right, Michael, I think we have to say that there are different books written for different purposes.

Michael: So you are saying that *Recent Advances II*, which is coming out, will probably be a repeat in that element.

Charles: I think it will tend to be the same way. I think we have to recognize that if it had been a cooperative effort it would have never gotten done. The thing about Geoff Dean is he has done it virtually single handedly.

Michael: So we are to take it as an imperfect work, and be thankful for what we have got.

Charles: The point is, he put the very first foundation under it. He said, "Look folks, you belong to a community."

Michael: Even though he would dismiss someone like Johndro with just a single sentence or so?

Charles: He drew inferences from inadequate data. He didn't have the time or the inclination. No, I wouldn't say inclination, because he has an inclination to get to the bottom of anything... but somehow he didn't get the feedback.

Michael: But he played favorites. He certainly loved the work of John Addey... the English.

Charles: There is a proximity. You know, I love my wife.

Michael: I just want to hear you say it.

Charles: It is proximity, isn't it? If you are writing from a particular perspective you hear very clearly, because you are obliged to hear, because if you get it wrong, it gets thrown back at you six times or twenty times. I think where Geoff deserves absolute 100% marks is that people have been talking about this for years and years and years and we still talk about it. There are two people who've seen what needs being done, and gotten down and done it. Or three people... They are Geoff Dean, who I have just talked about, and Michel Gauquelin, who many people decry. But my God, he has come to America, and he has gathered together 1200 birth certificate births of famous people.

In the whole of our community here, we never managed to do that. We managed to put out one book for siderealists, and California put out one book of 200 charts. The Gauquelins came over and they paid for every birth certificate they got. They have done that in the same spirit of saying, "That's what needs doing. My objective is to do this. I am just going to get this. How do I get there? Well, I do this and this and this. How do I make that possible?.. and I do it."

That is another whole story. The story of the Gauquelins is a wonderful story. They were literally... I can see the Gauquelins in children's books in the future. They would not buy clothes for themselves. They would wear their overcoats inside in the winter because they could not afford to put on the heating, just so they could do the work they did. They were working 16 hrs a day, sometimes 20 hrs a day, and teaching whenever they could just to get a bit more money to go look in more registries to get more birth certificates. That is an extraordinary thing. The third person is John Addey, who again, had a vision, and said,"that is what has got to be done, and went about doing it.

I think back to Geoff Dean and *Recent Advances*. The problem with the book is that he was trying to come to conclusions which he didn't have adequate data for. Because of his training he felt that he had to make some judgement about it, and come to conclusions. If he had left more space open for discussion... One of the problems with him is that he often draws conclusions which the data does support, which people don't like. It makes people feel uncomfortable.

Michael: True, there is controversy. I am playing the devil's advocate here. I appreciated the book very much. I have met Geoff in person, and certainly the man that showed up at my door looking like a mountain climber, with his pack on his back, was certainly not the man I expected to see show up. Geoff is a very live, sparkly, energetic kind of person.

Charles: He is also the soul of kindness and generosity. He is extraordinary. I said how monastic he was, but I can remember occasions when he would have come over to our house in the morning, and he would have stopped on the way and picked a whole thing of blackberries, and brought them in, though he wouldn't eat one.

Michael: He has one of the most amazing collections of colored slides that you could ever imagine.

Charles: Yes, he has an amazing collection of color slides. There you see all his poetry come out. He will give 120 slides in one hour and each one will be a perfect picture.

Michael: He will have a joke to go with every one of them... a very dry sense of humor.

Charles: His joke box cranks out a joke. He has a very dry Capricorn sense of humor.

Michael: In fact, one of the things that we remarked is that he has each joke written down on a 3" by 5" card and he reads it verbatim with each slide.

Charles: That's right.

Michael: There is another individual I would like you to comment on. That is Charles Harvey. It is amazing how little we have learned about Charles. I can remember pictures of you in some of the early journals, standing in the back, working at a table. I remember one in particular. How did you become the president? How did you become involved in astrology, and what are some of your goals?

Charles: I was very very blessed. I was interested in astrology at quite an early age, about 15. The first book I got out was a book on sidereal astrology, and that put me off for a while. It was because I couldn't understand all the precessional math. I just wanted something that would tell me something simple. I started reading popular articles, and gradually got interested. I had an illusion that I wanted to be a writer of children's books. I did quite a bit of writing. I went off to Spain with my manuscripts. By the time I was 21, I left school.

My two best subjects were chemistry and music. I eventually went more to music, but then I spent all my time at science society. I was thoroughly schizoid. I just didn't know which. I knew I had a natural affinity for sciences, and knew chemistry very readily, so it didn't interest me very much. The music I was very bad at, and therefore I wanted to do something with it. I didn't know what I wanted to do at the university, but I had a feeling I wanted to do genetics. Genetics was sort of the thing I had a feeling I would like to do. Who knows, that could be something I would still like to do, because it is something you can't do yourself. In my family, there has been a tradition of people who don't go to university. They do it their own way. My father has never been to university, but he has honorary doctorates from many universities in his own particular specialty. Coming from that background, I thought I had to find my own way, because I simply didn't want to go through the machine of the university. I thought what I really wanted to do at that time was to write. I felt like saying something.

I went off to Spain with these manuscripts, and spent a month there writing, and then I went off down to the Costa Brava, where I was supposed to meet up with some friends and have a bit of a holiday.

On the train, after having gotten this one particular manuscript of this book complete... being very pleased with myself. I got off the train in Barcelona. I left the manuscript in the bag with all my papers on the seat. When I got back on, I said to the lady in the front, "Where is my bag?" she said, "Oh, your friend just moved it up, he said he was taking it to the next compartment." and I said, "But I am traveling alone." "Ah", she said.

So I went out and talked to the station police. They said "Don't worry, don't worry at all, you'll find it. They'll just find it's full of paper, and drop it in the street, they won't bother to take anything. They are just after valuables."

So I waited in Barcelona for days and days and it never turned up. That completely wiped out that phase in my life. It was a trauma. There was one thing in that bag that I could replace. It was a book by Alan Leo called *Practical Astrology*. It was the little one, sort of tailor size. I got back to England, and I said to my father, "You know that book we had at home, *Practical Astrology*?" My father had always been vaguely interested in that way because he is a medievalist. I said, "Where can I get that." He said, "Go to Stewart and Watkins, in Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road." So I went to Stewart and Watkins. I had never been in a shop that sold anything remotely like it. I went in there, and there were astrology books spilling off all the shelves. In 1960, astrology wasn't booming like it is now. There were hundreds of secondhand books, and all kinds of things there.

I just said "Wow, this is it!" I replaced my practical astrology and got all these things, and I was very quickly told that there were organizations, and that there was a *Faculty of Astrological Studies*. At that point, I was going through various emotional things, with different girls and one thing and another. I was into it and not into it, and doing some jobs in my spare time to be able to go out. I was not quite centered.

Then an aunt died and left me about the equivalent of about $4000 then and about $15,000 now. That was enough to keep me for a couple of years. With that, I bought up every single astrology book in sight. I went into a state of complete absorption with astrology and the I Ching and Tarot. It was astrology that really got me. Very quickly, as soon as I really started to go in, I found Ebertin; I found the Combination of Stellar Influences. I was very lucky to meet Ellic Howe, who came to a fundraising thing at The Astrological Association. He came along, and said, "All this traditional astrology, it's fine. There is a lot of interesting stuff in it. But what you really want to get into is what they are doing in

Germany."

He took me home, that very day, that very evening, and he showed me how to use the 90 deg. dial. I thought, "Wow". This brought together all of the richness, that I had felt from the traditional astrology, and now all the science side of my mind was suddenly going.

This is the missing link. Suddenly we are talking formulas. At the same time, I came into contact with John Addey who looked me in the eye, and said, "Great, what do you want to do?" And I said, "Well, anything," and I started doing things like helping at meetings.

Michael: The *Cambridge Circle* is very important in the history of the study of harmonics and astrology. Three astrologers coming together like that: John Addey, Charles Harvey and James Williamsen. Tell us something about Jim Williamsen.

Charles: John Addey was giving the very first *Carter Memorial Lecture* in 1971, and this brilliant mathematician Dr. Williamsen, turns up at this lecture. Everyone felt slightly nervous. Here is the big PhD. brilliant mathematician, coming along. What is he going to say? He came up to John after that lecture. I had been in the chair... and he put his arms around John, and he said, "You've said it."

If anyone wants to know something about the philosophy of astrology, and where it's coming from, and where it's going to, that Carter Lecture... It's just a little monograph, *Astrology Reborn*. It's a beautiful paper. That was the lecture. I was privileged to be in the chair when that was given. Jim Williamsen just said to him, "You've said it". It was the three of us there, and it was at that moment that the *Cambridge Circle* was born. And it was born in Cambridge.

Jim Williamsen had been interested in artificial intelligence from about the age of 15, when he saw a television program on Von Neumann... an interview with him which had presumably been made quite a few years before that. He already saw the incredible potential of computers, and he was already talking about machine intelligence, artificial intelligence and the intelligent computer. Jim at the age of 15, was just blown away by this. It became the idea which haunted him, and when he went to college, that was the thing he was into. Everything that he did was related to the idea of developing artificial intelligence. He was at Appleton, in Wisconsin, and then he went over to Stanford on a research fellowship. He was there for a few years, helping develop the artificial intelligence language *LISP* and the whole concept of artificial intelligence, which was later used by the space program.

While he was at Stanford, one of the professors recommended him to go to Cambridge, and to the *Oxford Computing Laboratory* and put him up for a NATO fellowship. He went over there on a *NATO* grant, and was given three years where he didn't have to do anything. So Jim went over there... and this shows the magnitude of the man... There are two great Ivy League Universities, Oxford and Cambridge. They try to outcompete each other in everything, from rowing onward. Jim was simultaneously working in the *Oxford Computer Laboratory*, and at Cambridge in the History of Science Department. When Jim arrived at Kings College, Cambridge, the professor said that Jim was the first bright light to arrive at Cambridge since Russell and Whitehead. Jim Williamsen was somebody of that caliber.

Now there is one very sad interlude here. Jim had, at about the age when Von Neumann came on the scene of his consciousness, contracted growth onset diabetes. Many think diabetes is ... Well, you just take insulin and that's it. But if you get diabetes when you are an adolescent, you are more or less doomed to a process of gradual decay. By the time Jim got to Cambridge, he was already beginning to have problems with his eyesight, something called diabetic retinopathy. Now, Jim, because of his artifical intelligence studies... Jim Williamsen is another Sun-Gemini, born the day after John Addey, June 16, 1941, Leo rising, exactly the same degree as John Addey. Sun is more or less exactly the same position. But Jim has got Sun in Gemini, exactly square Moon in Pisces, opposition Neptune in Virgo, and that T-square. He calls his whole approach to any intellectual problem think-feel, or feel-think.

He was coming at the problem of artificial intelligence from every possible angle. The one thing that he realized, the most important clue, was the whole mystical tradition of the oneness of man, and the idea of the universal mind. He said. "Well look, Hell's Bells, if we can make an artificial intelligence, it has got to be like the universal mind. What language does the universal mind speak? Who knows about that? Well, the only people who pretend to know anything about the universal mind are kabalists and astrologers and mystics. So he said, "Well look, maybe I am a mathematician, but I have to study these things." So he joined another mystery school, a completely separate one [from that of John Addey], and really soaked himself in the mystical tradition, and in Kabala and astrology. And it was astrology... suddenly, as soon as he came on it, all the bells rang, and the lights went to green, and he said, "This is it". This is is where artificial intelligence has got to home in on. Because microcosm-macrocosm, here we are, we have got it in the physical. All of his work in artificial intelligence, from that point on, was based with an astrological background. His whole cultivation of astrology, and his desire to get deeper into astrology, was on the premise that astrology was going to offer the key to the structure of the cosmic mind, the anatomy of the body of God. As Rudyhar puts it, "Astrology is the algebra of life." Whatever way you like to look at it.

With this, he joins *The Astrological Association*, and starts to read John Addey. This is his first contact. Here we are... this beautiful synchronicity... Here he is a research fellow at Cambridge, and here is *The Astrological Association*, conference just down the road, taking place on his doorstep. It it just... WUNK... and that night, after that lecture... Jim had already written to me, and said he was coming. At that time he was Dr. Williamsen, I didn't know anything about him. I had agreed I'd see him. That I went back to his house and we sat up the whole of that night, after that lecture, and we talked all the way through that night. He just went zap, zap, zap, zap, zap zap, zap. That was the birth of the Cambridge Circle.

Michael: Can you say something about how you see the future of astrology.

Charles: At the practical level, *The Astrological Association's* goal is to bring together all astrologers, and to communicate with all organizations. For example, you get *Transit* and *The Astrological Journal*. Through that you'll know what's going on around the world, often better than you know from your own doorstep what is going at your own doorstep. Looking ahead, I think that is the same message that I have for the next decade. The thing that astrology really has to have is better communications. It would be impossible to think of the world of astronomy if all the different observatories around the world were all operating in isolation, producing isolated bulletins, and isolated things. They have a network, and it operates. They have international astronomical unions, and it has been that way since the end of the 19th century. At some point, we have to have an international astrological union. It just has to be. But that will only happen when the different groups, and the different countries, realize that they are all studying the same subject and the only thing to do is to collaborate. We try to get past the personality level.

Michael: Thanks a lot. I see we are running out of tape. This interview has been real useful. How do you feel about it?

Charles: Well, sure, It is always useful to talk to you Michael. I don't know why I haven't been here in so long, because the juice starts flowing whenever we get together.

D I A L O G U E

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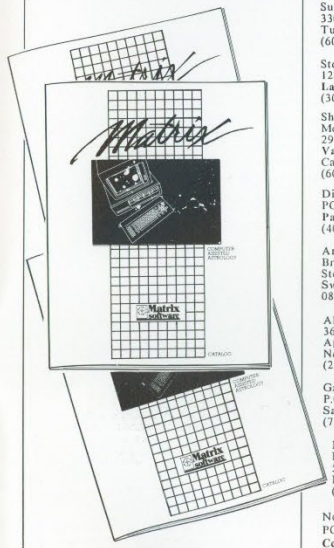

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8042 Zurich
Switzerland

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Taylor, MI 48180
(313) 946-9179

Astro★talk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix software

315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
(616) 796-2483 For orders & catalog requests,
call 1(800)622-4070 (in illinois: 1(800)942-7317).

We're celebrating the summer solstice here in Big Rapids on June 22 & 23. Come join us!

Come spend a midsummer night or two at Matrix in lovely Michigan. Join us here at Matrix for a weekend workshop on the unique approach to astrology found in Tibet and to the incredible psychological model that drives it. Special guest John Myrdhin Reynolds, a skilled translator and practitioner of Tibetan Buddhism, will share his insights into the theory and practice of Tibetan astrology and its centuries old lineage.

Workshop space is somewhat limited, but we still have some room left, so make reservations today. The fee for the weekend workshop is $50 and this includes all meals, but not lodging. There are plenty of motels in the area or you can bring your sleeping bags and use some floorspace here at Matrix.

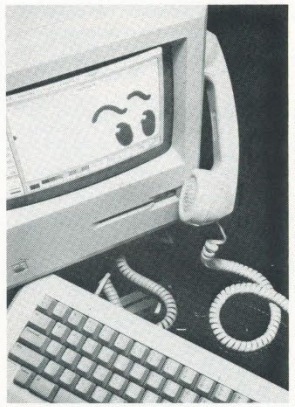
Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.Two#3 May/Jun'85

Astro★talk

Telecommunicate!

If you're not already conversing a la modem, you might not know what you're missing! A report from Glenn Murray.

[Editor's note: Aside from his work as an astrologer, Glenn Murray manages a government microcomputer center in Canada.]



Most computer users are vaguely aware of the fact that micros can be used as communications devices -- plugged into the nearest telephone receptacle and used to "talk" with other computers, hundreds, or even thousands of miles away...

If this sounds somewhat futuristic to you, I have news for you -- the future is NOW. The telephone modem -- the simple-looking little device that allows your computer to use an ordinary telephone line for this type of communications -- is currently the hottest-selling peripheral on the home computer scene. Every night (when the rates go down) tens of thousands of people dial into their favorite information services. They might choose a big-name utility like *CompuServe* or *The Source*, or they might just fall by their local BBS (electronic Bulletin Board System) for a "chat" with a few friends.

CompuServe is owned by H. & R. Block; *The Source* is owned by Readers Digest Inc. Information utilities are already big business, and getting bigger every day. *CompuServe* remains the largest and most varied, offering encyclopedias, the *Associated Press News* (updated hourly), the Dow Jones market report, electronic mail services, computing tips, hotlines to manufacturers, an electronic shopping mall with everything from fur coats to tickets to Hawaii, special services for wine-lovers, musicians, writers, educators, and every professional interest group under the sun... There's even a chart-calculation program on there that's no slouch at all... The C.B. Radio simulation on *CompuServe* features two 36-channel CB-simulators running on mainframe computers where thousands of people converge and chat every night. People have been married on there... It's impossible to convey the full scope of the *CompuServe* experience in a few short lines.

To illustrate a point: some time ago, a Canadian writer decided he would be the first to create a truly electronic novel. He made this decision while under the influence of Dom Perignon champagne on a Sunday afternoon. That evening he began this landmark epic. Fueled by copious quantities of Dom Perignon and who knows what else, he steamrolled ahead and finished the book by Wednesday morning. In the neighborhood of 25,000 words, -- short for a novel -- he called it "Blind Pharaoh", and immediately dialed up his favorite information utility, The Source, and sent them the whole book. By that afternoon, people were reading his masterpiece on line, and the author was reaping a few cents for each new reader. By Thursday morning, the book was reviewed in major U.S. newspapers -- a book that hadn't existed on Sunday morning.

And here's the clincher -- that was more than two years ago...

Bulletin boards are totally different phenomenon. Usually operated by some dedicated and sleep-deprived computer enthusiast with an overworked (or unaspected) Mercury, these systems run all manner of home computers and allow users with all sorts of machines and interests to share information and software via their telephone lines. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of them across Canada and the the United States -- some specializing in particular machines or special interests, and some open to all callers.

Unlike big utilities which host hundreds of callers at a time, most bulletin board systems (hereafter called BBS) only allow one caller at a time -- usually for a fixed time-limit to permit access to other users... there are exceptions, however.

Cont. on page 4

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MONEY TALK

Terms of Ensnarement

by Ralph Erlewine

*[Editor's note: Money*Talk is devoted to information on practicing astrology as a business. This is the second of two articles on the art and science of borrowing money from lending institutions -- basic information on loans.]*

Now that we have talked the bank into giving us a loan, let's try and obtain the most favorable terms for the interest and repayment of the loan. A single loan, obtained from a bank by a business firm, is not different in principle from a loan obtained by an individual. In fact, it is often difficult to distinguish a bank loan to a small business from a personal loan. A loan is obtained by signing a conventional promissory note. Repayment is made in a lump sum at maturity (when the note is due), or in installments throughout the life of the loan.

A line of credit is a formal or an informal understanding between the bank and the borrower. For example, a bank loan officer may indicate from what you have told him that he considers you "good" for up to $8,000 for the forthcoming year. If you sign a promissory note today for $1500, you are said to be "taking down" $1500 of your total line of credit. This amount is credited to your checking account at the bank. At maturity, the checking account will be charged for the amount of the loan. Before repayment of the $1500, you may borrow additional amounts up to a total of $8000. You may not get your local bank to commit to a line of credit the first time around. However, pay your loan within the terms and press for a line of credit.

Watch out for compensating balances. Many banks require that a regular borrower maintain an average checking account balance equal to 15 or 20 percent of the outstanding loan. These balances are called "compensating balances" and are a method of raising the effective interest rate. For example, if a firm needs $80,000 to pay off outstanding obligations, but maintain a 20 percent compensating balance, it must borrow $100,000 to be able to obtain the required $80,000. If the stated interest is 12 percent, the effective interest is actually 15 percent....($12,000 divided by $80,000).

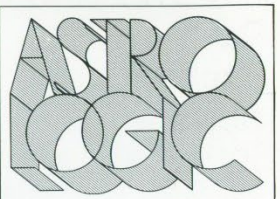
Because most bank deposits are subject to withdrawal on demand, commercial banks seek to prevent firms from using bank credit for permanent capital financing. A bank may require its borrowers to "clean up" their short-term bank loans for at least one month of each year. If a person is unable to become free of bank debt at least one month each year, he is using bank financing for permanent needs and should develop additional sources of long-term or permanent financing.

For most commercial loans, banks charge interest on the total amount borrowed, whether repaid in installments during the life of the loan or in one lump sum at the end of the loan. Obviously, it is better to have use of $1,000 for a year and repay the entire amount at the end of twelve months plus agreed upon interest. This type of loan is known as regular, or simple interest. $1,000 for one year at 15 percent is paid off at maturity as $1,150. The effective rate of interest has been 15 percent and you have had the use of the money for one full year. Some banks deduct the interest in advance, thus, in the case above, you would have added to your checking account $850... ($1,000 less $150). Your effective interest rate would be $150 divided by $850, 18 percent on the amount you had to use.

This technique is referred to as "discounted interest" and serves to improve the effective rate to the bank, just as did the compensating balance gambit.

More likely your bank will insist on an amortized loan, or often referred to as an installment loan. If the loan is repaid in 12 monthly installments, but the interest is calculated on the original balance, then the effective rate of interest is even higher. You, the borrower, have the full amount of the loan only during the first month, and by the last month you have paid eleven-twelfths of the loan. Thus, our hypothetical borrower pays $150 for the use of about half the amount he borrowed. This amount received is $1,000 but the average amount outstanding during the year is only $500. If interest is paid at maturity the rate is 30 percent! Double the stated amount. ($150 divided by $500) If the loan was discounted, the rate is even higher, at 35 percent. The point to note here is that the interest is paid on the original amount of the loan, not on the amount actually outstanding (the declining balance), and this causes the effective interest to be approximately double the stated rate.

The moral to this story is to be aware of the various ways the bank has to increase their effective rate regardless of the advertised rate. Your job is to get your loan for as close to simple interest as you can. If the bank insists on installments, then discuss a lower and more equitable interest rate.



Well, a goodly number of you got the correct answer, but most of you used assumptions in getting there. In this case there was only one correct way to reach the answer and it did not involve making any assumptions. The key question was, what did the first man say? He only could have said one thing, "I am a Pisces" since if a Pisces, he must tell the truth, and if a Leo, he must lie! Therefore, the second man lied when he stated that the first man "said he was a Leo." Once a liar, always a liar, so we know the third man is a Leo. The third man says the first man is a Pisces and we know him to be a liar, therefore the first man is a Leo also. Therefore, all three are liars.

We love some of the comments we receive whether or not the logic is correct. From Marcie Kirsten the observation, "It is highly improbable that a Pisces would be hanging around a dusty road..." Tom Shanks made some libelous, and funny, comments about Leos and politicians. The first correct answer was from Bill Henry who gets the 10% discount certificate. The second award of a $10.00 certificate goes to Shirley Meier.

Try again on this one: the best logic wins in case of a tie of mailing dates.. This month's is not difficult and requires no math, just plain "ole logic"!

"Time Out"

A gal was about to leave her home to attend a meeting of her astrology group. She looked at her mantle clock and noticed that it was not going. Before leaving, she wound the clock and made a mental note of the time shown on it. When she arrived at the meeting room, she immediately made note of the correct time as shown on the clock on the wall, and, when the meeting was over, she again noted the time as shown by the club's clock as she left. On arriving home, with the information thus obtained, she went directly to her clock, noted the time shown on it, and then set it to the correct time.

Assuming that the walking time to and from the meeting was the same, how was she able to do this?

ASTROLOGICAL
Community News

Coming Events:

Vancouver, B.C., Canada. **Second National Conference of the Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers,** Jun. 5-9, 1985. Contact: FCA, Box 4924, Station "E", Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5J1

Carson, CA. **ISAR Conference at the California State University at Dominquez Hills,** Jun. 7-9, 1985. Contact: Marguerite dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038, (213) 465-1408

Big Rapids, MI. **MATRIX Solstice Celebration: Tibetan Astrology Weekend,** Jun. 22-23, 1985. Contact: Marty Wolf at Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, BigRapids, MI 49307, (616) 796-2483

Hyannis, MA **Cape Cod NCGR Master Class: Astrological Research,** Jun. 23-28, 1985. Contact: Susie Rheingold, 88 Estay Avenue, Hyannis, MA 02601, (617) 771-7108

Lynchburg, VA. **The Seven Hills Astrological Conference,** Jun. 28-30, 1985. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd, C-7, Lynchburg, VA 24502

San Francisco, CA. **N.C.G.R. National Conference: Harvest of Ideas,** Sept. 19-22, 1985. Contact: N.C.G.R., P.O. Box 14338, San Francisco, CA 94114,

(415) 456-1093

Chicago, IL. **NCGR National Conference: Window into the New Age,** Nov. 8-10, 1985. Contact: Gina Knight, 1609 Larch Drive, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, (312) 635-9443

Cannes, France. **First World Congress of Astrologers,** Dec. 13-15, 1985. Contact: Stella M. Kalman, P.O. Box 1306, Campbell, CA 95009.

What's In The Journals?

TRANSIT: The Magazine of the Astrological Association, Issue No. 48, February 1985. Contact: Michael Harding, 24 Birchington Court, West End Lane, London NW6 4PB.

Mundane Matters by Kate Champkin, *Horary, Part 8* by Olivia Barclay, *Anatomical Correspondences* by R. Ebertin, *Astrological Computing* by Colin Miles, *Placidus into Koch Metamorphasised* by Charles Harvey, *The New Ireland Forum* by Sheila Lindsay, *The Search for a Causal Mechanism* by Brenda Miller.

KOSMOS: Quarterly Publication of ISAR, Vol. XIV, #2, Spring 1985. Contact: ISAR, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Gail Guttman's Relationship Study by Gail Guttman, *The Transformational Approach to Chart Comparison* by Elliot Jay Tanzer, *The Connection of Metals with the Planets* by Nick Kollerstrom, *Natal Chart Factors for 203 Alcoholics: A Pilot Study* by Carolyn O. Britton & Scott G. Vail, *The Gold Mine in your Files* by Anna-Kria King, *Request for Birth Data* by George Noonan. *Book reviews.*

RAMC: Journal for Astrologers & Microcomputers, 10th Edition, Spring 1985. Contact: RAMC, 1973A Yonge St., Apt. 1, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4S 1Z6.

Software Review: A-14 from AGS by Murray Souva, *Software Review: Astro*Talk from Matrix Software* by Murray Souva, *Review of the Houston Instrument Model 595 & 695 plotters* by Robert Hand, *The Matrix Planetary Routine* by Murray Souva & Paul Hewit, *The Matrix Planetary Routine Program* by Michael Erlewine.

Considerations, Vol. 2, #2, 1984. Contact: P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

In the Golden Spires of the Sun by Royal F. Potter, *Is the Sun a Conscious Being?* by Burl Payne, *When Chiron Returns* by Zane Stein, *New Light on the Zodiac & the Precessional Age* by Charles A. Jayne, *Rectification of an Unknown Birthtime* by Ken Gillman, *Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh* by Ken Gillman, *A Telephone on the Ankle* by Axel Harvey, *The Celestial Dragon* by Irene Emery Goodale, *Deja Vu: Neptune's in Capricorn* by Julienne Mullette, *Advanced Rectification, Part 2* by Alexander Marr.

PLEIADES, Vol. 1, #2, 1985. Contact: 2515 N. Racine Ave., Chicago, IL 60614.

Astrological Vision Quest by Daniel Giamario, *You Can Act* by Clay Bodine, *Arizona Astrodrama* by Suzie Cox, more.

Other Newsletters Received:

Welcome To Planet Earth, Monthly, tabloid size. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403.

A.S.C. The Key, Periodical on Chiron. Contact: Zane Stein, 757 E. Main St., K-201, Lansdale, PA 19446.

American Federation of Astrologers Bulletin, Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282.

World Sidereal Research Foundation, Quarterly on sidereal techniques. Contact: John Van Zandt, 24 Colorado, Highland Park, MI 48203.

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

JUNE 1985

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
01	19:45	03SC26	MAR TRI PLU	*H
09	01:46	07AQ10	MAR INC JUP	*H
28	06:14	16SA10	MAR INC URA	*H

JULY 1985

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
05	04:33	01CP56	NEP SXT PLU	
14	21:42	14AQ34	JUP SXT URA	
21	06:18	26SC32	MAR TRI SAT	*H
28	02:41	00LE00	MAR LEO	*H

Telecommunicate!

Continued from page 1.

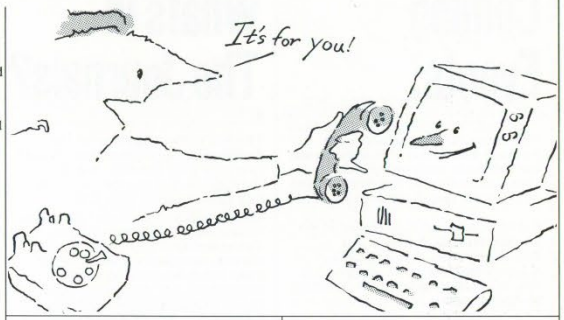
At the microcomputer resource center which I manage, we currently operate three distinct BBS set-ups. One is on a local line in English, one on Datapac in English, and one is on Datapac in French... Datapac is the Canadian public dial-port system for communications between computers – look in any Canadian phone-book and you'll find that other computers, wherever they may be located are usually just a local call away. In the U.S., there are two distinct services -- *TeleNet* and *TymeNet* --- but they offer the same inter-computer communications facility. With our Datapac BBS systems, users call us toll-free from nearly anywhere in the so-called civilized world (except Big Rapids --sorry MATRIX)...

Our BBS systems have been running on Commodore equipment for more than a year, but I'm about to move everything over to IBM format on a system with a 10-meg hard disk and an 8-line multiplexer. This will mean faster multi-level services for all users, and up to eight users accessing the system simultaneously.

The system we have been using is a relatively simple one to set up -- it operates on a C64 with an IEEE connector and a large- capacity disk drive. We use three Commodore 8250's which store over two megs on floppy each. The system permits sending and receiving of messages, (public or private), posting of bulletins (general interest articles), and the uploading and downloading of public domain software. In spite of the extensive storage, though, we've encountered problems after getting 200 or so active messages on the system. The disk is only about 40% full since the message files are all fairly small, but the directory track is already beginning to overflow, and the result is that no new message can be added, despite the available space. The tree-structured directory system of the MS-DOS 2.0+ (or any UNIX system) will solve this quite readily, so we started looking at IBM clones for a solution.

Another problem is winter power-outages -- all too common, alas... When this happens, I usually get a call at home (10 o'clock Saturday night from some well meaning micro-nut) telling me to go back to the office and reload the system. With the batch-file capabilities of MS-DOS -- the ability to create disks that automatically re-start when power resumes -- this will no longer be a headache.

The systems I operate are mainly intended for educational users -- teachers and others involved in classroom computing who share information and certain common



interests. The fact that a similar system would be of tremendous use to the astrological community goes with saying...

Even the simplest electronic BBS would permit astrologers to share ideas, questions and data-files with their peers. Utilities and public domain software might be available via this service; update to existing commercial programs might be offered by software firms like MATRIX. Frankly, transferring lengthy software at 300 baud takes forever, and may show unfavorably in your long distance bill, but program modules would be easy to transmit via this type of service. Perhaps an overall trend toward modular program-design might increase the benefits of this approach.

The main benefit, I'm sure, would be from enhanced communications between astrologers looking for data and ideas...As Alan Kay has said, the computer is a communications device, first, second, and third. A permanent file of celebrity charts, and observations on chart characteristics would be easily maintained on even the most basic BBS these days. A vehicle for soliciting quick feedback and information from fellow astrologers would be greatly appreciated in the community at large.

Establishing such a vehicle could take two distinct approaches -- one would be to establish a Special Interest Group (SIG) on *CompuServe* or *The Source* at a fixed cost, and use their facilities for the exchange of information and software, and the other would be to establish an independent micro-based BBS. I'd favor the second suggestion as a starting point, personally. It would provide an excellent means of experimenting with the medium at a relatively low cost, and would establish the demand for such a service, before venturing into the higher-priced world of the the bigger information utilities.

Readers with Commodore 64 systems should realize that this is the most inexpensive machine to use for telecommunications. A modem costs less than $100 in both Canada and the U.S. We have an excellent public domain terminal program which features a 36K buffer for storing text for later saving or printing, and offers the capability to write messages offline which you later send to another machine from this buffer. Serious users who lack a useful terminal program can contact me, and we'll see about making copies available. IBM and "clone" users should investigate the powerful PC-TALK program, also available in the public domain (with a small suggested donation) which meets the needs of most users at a very attractive price... BBS system software is also available in the same collection -- RBBS (now version 12.2) is a common package used on many IBM-type bulletin boards.

Readers interested in pursuing the astrological muse via telecommunications can contact me a number of ways. If you are a *CompuServe* user, contact: Glenn Murray 70346, 1274. If you'd prefer to write, please contact me via this publication... If you happen to be an educator, include a return address and I'll contact you about accessing our electronic bulletin board... Let's keep in touch.

Coming Soon:

COLOR WHEELS

Our new series of *Color Wheels* should be available in June. In addition to our hi-resolution dot-matrix printer *Designer Wheels*, we now will have full color plotter wheels that look as if they were drawn out by hand.

For those of you who may not know what a plotter is, let me explain. Most Matrix programs make use of a standard line printer, whether that printer be dot-matrix or impact (typewriter like). However, other types of printout exist, including the new laser printers and hi-resolution plotters. We have had a laser printer for almost a year and will be offering some ultra hi-res laser programs later this year.

In addition, we have been working with the new inexpensive plotters. Plotters, like their name suggests, draw or plot letters, diagrams, etc. on paper using small colored marking pens, just like we draw out astrological charts by hand. Only a few years ago, the price of plotters was in the $2000 range, which is quite high. However, the price has been coming down until, now, a good 4-color plotter like the Houston Instruments 595 can be obtained for under $500.

Matrix plotter programs will be available for the IBM PC type computers using the Houston Instruments 695 or 595 4-color plotters. Houston Instruments provides eight colored pens: black, red, blue, green, purple, orange, brown and light green. These plotters allow up to four color pens on line at a time. With a black pen for the chart wheel and lettering, this leaves us three pens for use in drawing colored aspects. It is possible to halt the plotting and change the pen colors, so that, in theory, we could use all eight colors.

Our first set of *Color*Wheels* will include both the standard wheel of houses and the open European type wheel formats. All 360-degrees can be drawn in fine detail if desired. Colored aspects between planets are automatically drawn using the colors that you specify.

Our new *Color*Wheels* are more than bare wheels. They have been designed with care to provide the most tasteful and complete chart wheels ever offered to astrologers. We will try to reproduce some of them (in color) in the next issue of *Astro*Talk*. Meanwhile, those of you interested, please write for more details. The price will be $100 for the complete set of self-aspecting *Color*Wheels*.

New at Matrix:

What's new? Our new *Color Wheels* are detailed above. We are now shipping the Commodore C-64 version of *Blue*Star*. It has been very well received so far. We will be shipping the IBM version of *Blue*Star* sometime this month. Everything is done, but some of the supporting programs (file handling, customization, etc.) need a little final attention.

Don't forget that our weekend celebration is coming up on June 22 & 23rd. We hope that some of you can spend the weekend with us here in lovely Big Rapids, Michigan. We will have an extended workshop on Tibetan & Hindu astrology.

Matrix Hindu Astrology Program

We have completed the design stage of our new Hindu astrology package. Thanks to the help of astrologer Bruno Collevecchio, who has spent more than 10 years in India working with a wide variety of experts there, we have what we feel is an excellent program for both Hindu Astrologers and westerners interested in looking into this important subject. The package will offer Hindu calculations on both the standard circular wheel used in the West and the square wheel of the East. All of the major methods of Hindu progression are provided in great detail. We are still deciding whether to build some sort of brief interpretations into the program as well. Users with some knowledge of the subject and who have IBM PC type systems may wish to contact us for beta test versions.

Bruno Collevecchio, an advanced student of Hindu spiritual disciplines, spent a week here in April helping to refine our understanding of Hindu astrology in theory and practice. Unlike many forms of western astrology which appear concerned with the overall psyche or psychological nature of the individual, Hindu astrology has a very definite orientation towards prediction, and detailed prediction at that. The time is coming when students in the West will need to understand how astrology is performed by the great majority of astrologers in the world. It is hoped that this new package will make learning this important (but complex) subject easier than it has been in the past.

N.C.G.R. A.C.T. S.I.G

How about them acronyms? The above refers to the new SIG (special interest group) formed under NCGR (National Council for Geocosmic Research) concerned with ACT (Astrological Conferences on Techniques). ACT is now in its 6th year of operation. This NCGR branch of the ongoing ACT group was approved recently in Houston at the latest national NCGR conference. Based here in Big Rapids, Michigan, the NCGR group of ACT will not be an NCGR chapter per se. It was voted instead that we become a SIG.

All NCGR members are welcome to join (even if they already belong to a chapter in their local area) by paying a yearly fee of $7.50. NCGR members interested in joining the ACT SIG should send this fee to Margie Herskovitz, 5826 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore MD 21209 and specify the ACT SIG. Of course, those interested in ACT who are not NCGR members may participate as well by forwarding $7.5 to *ACT GROUP*, in care of Michael Erlewine, at our address. All members will receive the *ACT Group* newsletter, and may participate in our thru-the-mail "think tank" where radical ideas are examined by a group of astrologers, cycled a few times, and the results published.

BLUE*STAR ON SPEED!

Our new *Blue*Star* system is already faster than anything on the market. But for those IBM PC users with a real appetite for speed, we can offer you a version of *Blue*Star* that is *twice as fast*. Just pop an 8087 math chip into your IBM PC, and order our *Blue*Star 8087* version. That's all there is to it. The 8087 math co-processor is designed to work with the 8088 chip in your IBM PC compatible system. There is a socket already in the machine waiting for the chip. 8087 chips are now selling for under $200, so if extra speed is what you need, don't delay. An 8087 version of our *M-65 System* is also in preparation.

The M-65 Research Module Made Easy

by Richard Nolle

Searching for simple astrological functions.

Let's do some research with *M-65-B*, shall we? We'll walk through a step by step example, which should save you some time in getting used to the *Research Module*. To keep things simple, we'll be working with a chart we all know. Let's use Michael Erlewine's natal horoscope, since the data (data is the plural form of datum!) are found in your *M-65 User's Guide*. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment now to calculate Michael's chart using your *Chart Service Module (M-65-A)*. To save you the trouble of looking up the data, here they are:

Michael Erlewine
July 18, 1941
4:03 PM EST
Lancaster, PA
76W18, 40N02

Once you've created a file of horoscopes using *M-65-A*, the *Research Module* allows you to search through your file to see how many charts fit whatever characteristic you wish to test. First you have to create a "search phrase" that will test for the characteristic you have in mind. For example, let's say we want to test for Neptune in the 10th house. Let's create the proper search phrase first.

Begin by getting the *Research Module* up and running. You can do this from the Job Menu (just press **<R>**), or can insert your Research Disk and load **START**. In either case, you'll come to the Research Disk Main Menu. Tap **<R>** to view the RESEARCH MENU. Then tap **<A>** for ASTRO SELECT, which is the program used to create astrological search phrases. This will bring your disk drive to life, as it goes about loading the ASTRO SELECT program. When ASTRO SELECT finishes loading, you'll be asked to choose between GEO, HELIO or COMB. Tap the first letter of your choice. Then you'll pick between STND, PNTS or URAN. Again, tap the first letter of your choice. Your next choice is ANY (1=MOON) TO? The default is 10, which you can select just by tapping **<RETURN>**. For the purposes of this example, the choices we'll be using are **G** for GEOCENTRIC, **S** for STANDARD, and **<RETURN>** for ANY=10. Odds are, these choices will be adequate for most users most of the time. Consult your *User's Guide* for instructions on using the other possible selections.

Having made your three choices, the ASTRO QUALIFY menu appears. (Always remember, whenever you come to this menu, to wait until the numbers appear to the right of MEM at the top right corner of your monitor screen, before trying to do anything else.) It's helpful at this point to get a chart that has the astrological function you wish to test. This is done by tapping **<G>** for GET, which allows you to take a chart from your file disk and put it into your computer's memory. For example, we're looking for Neptune in the 10th house, so let's select a chart which we know has Neptune here: namely Michael Erlewine's. After tapping **<G>**, The computer will ask you which letter to use in searching the file disk. In this case, we'll tap **E** for ERLEWINE, and then we'll tap the character which appears to the left of Michael's name when it comes up on the directory.

Now that we have a chart stored in the machine's memory, let's create the search phrase. Tap **6** for ASTRO QUALIFY. This brings a new menu on the screen, with an elongated, lit up cursor over the word MOON. We'll be selecting the components of our search phrase by moving this cursor over them. Since we're interested in testing for the house position of Neptune, we need to move this cursor over the term HOUSE-two spaces right of Moon, and one space down. Go ahead and move the cursor, then hit return when you have it on HOUSE. Now we're asked to SELECT POINT # 1. Since we're testing for the house of Neptune, POINT # 1 in this case is Neptune. Using the cursor control keys, we move the cursor down so that NEPTUNE is lit up, then hit **<RETURN>**. Now we have our search phrase: HS(NE), which means house of Neptune. To make things interesting, type in **=10** now, so that the completed search phrase reads:

HS(NE)=10.

The next step is to evaluate our search phrase, testing it against the chart we have stored in memory. Since we know that Neptune is in the 10th house in Michael Erlewine's chart, which happens to be the horoscope stored in the machine's memory at the moment, we can find out if our search phrase is doing what we want it to do. This is done by hitting the exclamation point key, which stands

for EVAL (EVALUATE). What happens when we hit the ! key? The search phrase is evaluated for us, and we see that X=1 in this case. X=1 means the search phrase is true for our example chart. If it weren't true, the evaluation would result in X=0.

We're onto something here! We have created a simple search phrase, and have found out that it works fine. Let's save it, and play with it some more! Once we have created a search phrase, we can get back to the main ASTRO SELECT menu by holding down on the **<SHIFT>** key and tapping **<RETURN>**. At the top of the menu, we see the following prompt: QUALIFY ADD CANCEL. The computer is asking us whether to add the astro-qualify phrase to memory, or cancel it. Tap **<A>** for add (unless you want to throw the phrase away, in which case you'd hit **<C>**). Then, when the memory reading reappears at the top right corner of the menu, we can save the astro-qualify phrase we have created. (Remove any write protect tab on your program disk now, then return the disk to your drive.) We can save our astro-qualify phrase on disk by tapping **<S>** for SAVE, then **<Q>** for QUALIFY. The disk drive comes to life, then the ASTRO SELECT MENU reappears on the screen. Our ASTRO QUALIFY search phrase is now safely stored on the disk, where it will remain until we replace it with another ASTRO QUALIFY search phrase. Now we're ready to try out our astro-qualify search phrase on a grander scale!

Once we have created and saved an ASTRO QUALIFY search phrase using the ASTRO SELECT program, we can use it in the SEARCH program. To get to the SEARCH program from ASTRO SELECT, tap **X** for EXIT. This leads you to four choices:

O=MENU
1=QUESTION SET
3=SEARCH
4=QUESTION MAKE.

Tap **3**, and let's get on to the SEARCH MENU! When the SEARCH program finishes loading, we're faced with the same three choices we had at the beginning of the ASTRO SELECT program. We now have to answer these three prompts the same way we answered them then! In case you forgot, we used **G** for the first prompt,

S for the second, and **<RETURN>** for the third. Once this is done, the SEARCH MENU appears. We've saved an ASTRO-QUALIFY phrase to use, so let's hit **1** for ASTRO under the QUALIFY column in the SEARCH MENU. Our choice will then be lit up on the screen. We haven't created any other search phrases in our little exercise, so this is all we'll be working with for now. Next, we hit **S** for SEARCH. At this point the computer loads the ASTRO QUALIFY search phrase from the disk, and the printer comes to life and gives us the following output:

SEARCH INCLUDES ANY CHARTS MEETING THESE CONDITIONS:

HS(NE)=10

When the printer finishes doing its thing, the SEARCH MENU prompts us to be sure our file disk is in the proper drive. When you're sure, tap **<RETURN>**. AT this point, the disk drive comes to life, as the computer begins going through the file, looking for every chart that has Neptune in the 10th house. When the search is finished, the printer again comes to life, and tells how many charts were tested, as well as how many charts in the file fit the ASTRO QUALIFY search phrase.

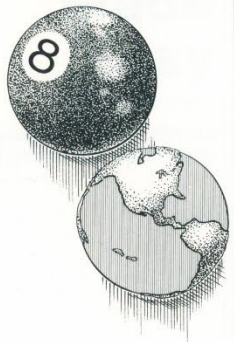
This has been a very simple example, but it should serve to get you started on using the *Research Module* for more complicated tasks. For instance, you can build up complex ASTRO QUALIFY phrases and combine them with DATA OUTPUT phrases, which would enable the SEARCH program to not only count the number of charts that fit your ASTRO QUALIFY phrase, but also give you the birth data for any chart that qualifies. If you run into any problems setting up combination searches of this sort, let me know. I'll do my best to figure out how to handle your problem, and then walk you through it step by step!

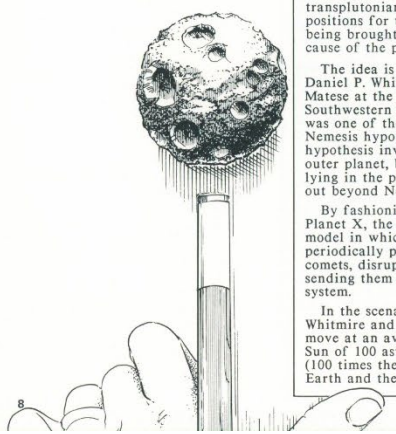
[Editor's Note: Richard Nolle, a research astrologer, is considered by many to be the best reviewer in the field of astrology. He can be reached at 1631 E. Baker Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282 (602) 838-3245. ——— This example is on the Commodore 64 and may vary slightly on the Apple.]

M65 RESEARCH SYSTEM & CHART SERVICE

The latest concept in Cosmic Collisions:

Transpluto And The Comets





In Oct. 1983, David Raup and John Sepkowski of the University of Chicago distributed an article which showed evidence that periodically, about every 26 million years, a large percentage of the species of life on Earth are wiped out. They could offer no explanation other than an extra-terrestrial one. (See Nemesis, *Astro*Talk*, July-Aug. 1984)

There is good geological evidence for extra-terrestrial objects occasionally colliding with the Earth and wreaking massive destruction, but this regularity demands a cause.

The first cause advanced was Nemesis, a hypothetical small dark star that orbits our Sun, and periodically dislodges matter from the Oort dust cloud, a band of cosmic debris on the edge of the solar system. This debris in turn crashes into the Earth, and causes the extinctions.

Nemesis has not yet been found, and several objections to the theory have emerged. An alternate theory, advanced by Roman Smolchowski, of the University of Texas at Austin, has the "sewing" or yo-yo like motion of the Sun through the strong gravitational field of the galactic plane dislodging the comets, and causing the destruction. (See Astro*Talk, Jan.-Feb. 1985)

Now another entry, one which will be near and dear to astrologers, has been added: Planet X, a transplutonian planet. This is not a new idea. Astronomers found Neptune and Pluto by analyzing irregularities in the orbit of Uranus. There are still eccentricities in the orbits of Neptune and Pluto which have not been explained. Calculations as to the probable location of a transplutonian planet have been made several times, and observations have been attempted. Astrologers, including such major figures as Witte, Theodore Landscheidt, Charles Jayne, Larry Ely and Ram have all postulated transplutonian planets and even given positions for them. Now this idea is being brought forth as a possible cause of the periodic extinctions.

The idea is being suggested by Daniel P. Whitmire and John J. Matese at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. (Whitmire was one of the originators of the Nemesis hypothesis) This new hypothesis involves not only a new outer planet, but a belt of comets lying in the plane of the solar system out beyond Neptune.

By fashioning a complex motion for Planet X, the theorists designed a model in which the planet periodically passes near the belt of comets, disrupting their orbits and sending them to rain on the solar system.

In the scenario developed by Whitmire and Matese, Planet X would move at an average distance from the Sun of 100 astronomical units (AU), (100 times the distance between the Earth and the Sun) in a moderately elliptical orbit that is inclined to the plane of the solar system at an angle of about 45 degrees. Planet X is envisioned to complete one orbit every 1,000 years. The orbit itself, like the orbits of the other planets, would revolve, or precess around the Sun. Comet showers would be triggered every 28 million years, when the orbit moves close to the comet belt.

This comet belt, which had previously been proposed in connection with theories on the origin of the solar system, extends from 35 AU (near the orbit of Pluto) to 70 AU. From 70 AU to 130 AU Planet X would have cleared a gap in the belt, which then resumes beyond 130 AU. While this belt has never been observed, it is widely supposed to exist.

When either the perihelion or aphelion of Planet X grazes the belt, it would dislodge comets, causing them to rain on the Earth. Whitmire believes the former effect is stronger, since the comet belt is thickest nearer the Sun.

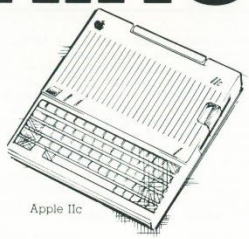
Whitmire sees two major advantages to the Planet X hypothesis: The first is that because of its extreme distance from the Sun, the Nemesis orbit has been shown to be extremely unstable, thus making it difficult to account for the regularity of the extinctions. The second is that the Planet X hypothesis does not postulate anything that has not been already postulated for other reasons. Past studies have concluded that the "missing planet" should have 1 to 5 times the mass of the Earth, and should be found 50 to 100 AU from the Sun, which are figures consistent with Whitmire and Matese's requirements for Planet X.

There is enough flexibility in the extinction data and the fossil craters to allow all of the theories to appear plausible. The problem with this flexibility is that it makes it impossible to make testable predictions for any theory.

Astronomers are already looking for Nemesis. According to Ray Reynolds at NASA Ames, who has been planning a search for Planet X for several years, the data from the Infrared Astronomy Satellite (IRAS) have just been put in a form that can be analyzed to look for Planet X.

One of the reasons why Planet X may not have been found in the past, says Whitmire, is that previous surveys concentrated on the Northern Hemisphere, while recent calculations show that Planet X, if it exists, is more likely to be found in the Southern Hemisphere.

Machine Talk



Apple IIc

No great news, aside from the demise of the IBM PCjr. IBM announced that it has "completed production" of the PCjr, which is their way of telling us that it is a dead item. However, they promise support for years to come and will continue to offer software. Since Matrix has already put quite a bit of time into little jr, we will continue to offer every program we can on the machine. At this point, we have the complete M-65, report writers and even a modified version of our new *Blue*Star* program available. For the most part, the PCjr is compatible with the larger IBM PC to a marked extent.

A PCjr with 256K is still a very powerful computing system. Some of you may be able to pick up a system at a real discount. Meanwhile, the rest of us are waiting for IBM to introduce their new machines, including the PC II. Still no news in that department, as of this writing.

APPLE IIc is Looking Good!

We have not always pushed the APPLE II as hard as we have the Commodore and some APPLE users have not appreciated that fact. Well, here's letting you know that we had a chance to work with one of the new APPLE IIc machines, and were very pleased with it. After all, the APPLE II has the best track record in the business for compatibility between its various models. Despite the flashy good looks of the IIc, it can run APPLE II programs dating back to when the machine was first introduced. Neither Commodore or IBM have maintained this kind of compatibility. Better yet, we are going to try to get an ultra-fast version of our new *Blue*Star* up on the APPLE.

COMMODORE Service Centers

When you buy a C-64 from a store like K-Mart, you have 30 days during which you can exchange your machine for a new one. After that, you will have to find a service center. K-Mart does no service themselves.

Commodore has just changed their service policy, and C-64 owners will want to know about the changes. Up to now, you could get your C-64 repaired by paying a flat rate of around $55 dollars and sending your machine in. You either got your own machine back repaired, or a different machine that worked.

Commodore now has set up over 700 local service centers around the country. These centers include RCA and Sears, so all of us should have a center near us. To find the location of the service center nearest you, dial 1-800-247-9000 and ask. For those of you looking to purchase a C-64, try calling *C.O.M.B.* (Close Out Merchandise Buyers) at 1-800-328-2190. The last I checked they had C-64s at $110 each, and disk drives at $150. You can't beat the price.

We are now shipping our 128K version of the *Apple Macintosh* astrology programs. The set of six interlocking programs is $150. Rumor has it that Tandy will reduce their IBM clone, the *Tandy 1000* to $995 in the near future. Our customers report that everything runs great on this machine. See you next issue.

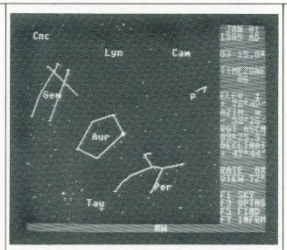
New On The C64/128

We have come across two interesting programs that we feel our Commodore 64 users might care to know about. Both are published by Commodore itself and require a C-64 and one disk drive. We have both in stock now for immediate shipment.

MICRO ASTROLOGER $29.95 (C64 #514)

This little program calculates a natal chart and then provides short interpretations for both natal and transit positions. Transits can be requested by the month or on a day-to-day basis. The accuracy is not up to any Matrix programs, and the interpretations are brief but well done.

What is most fun about the program is that the programmers have taken advantage of the smooth scrolling text feature that is built into one of the chips in the C-64. The result is that the entire text can be scrolled forward or backwards at the touch of a key. The effect is very nice, and fun to use.



SKY TRAVELER $39.95 (C64 #338)

This program provides a hi-res screen display of the stars and constellations from almost any desired place on Earth. Planet positions are also included and the user has the ability to zoom in on a particular part of the heavens for an enlarged view.

You can set the sky for where you are and watch what is happening right overhead. The program is well done, and worth the investment. It was voted the best educational package of 1984.

We're looking for an artist/astrologer.

We're thinking of adding a new staff member to our art department. It would be a full time position doing a variety of art & design work. This person will be involved in production of the *Astro*Talk* bulletin, creation of our program documentation, and advertising design --whenever Matrix has to communicate on paper, the art department is at work. If you have experience in advertising/communication design, and would enjoy working on projects related to astrology, we'd like to know you.

Big Rapids is a pleasant community on Michigan's Muskegon River -- bounded by woods, lakes and farmland. Just forty five minutes to the south of us is the state's second largest city -- the same distance traveled in other directions will bring you to the shore of Lake Michigan or a national forest. If you might be interested in relocating to a spot like this, please write us and introduce yourself.

Science Briefs

Frozen tears for Mars?

The question of water on Mars has been around since Schiaparelli published his map of canals on Mars, giving rise to the idea of an intelligent civilization practicing planet-wide irrigation. The advent of close up spacecraft photography showed that Mars does not have civilization or irrigation, but the Viking space probes showed certain features of the Martian landscape that suggest that Mars did once have surface water. Sinuous channels up to 1500 km long and 200 km wide have been discovered. They look as though they were formed by erosion due to running liquid, and water is the most likely candidate. Also, there are craters whose surrounding blankets of ejected material look as though they were originally deposited on ice that turned to steam and lubricated their flow. Other features appear softened over time by ice trapped in cracks. However, the Viking space probe did not completely answer the question of the role and presence of water on Mars.

The newest approved mission on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's planetary schedule is a Mars Geoscience and Climatology Observer (MGCO), to be sent there in 1990. The major subject in NASA's studies of the planet is the evolution of the climate and atmosphere, and the role that water plays is a prime factor in this. The agency just conducted a two day workshop on the topic of water on Mars at its Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Ca.

The key topic is the planet's present water reservoir. Steven W. Squyres of NASA Ames, notes that, "Mapping of these features (the apparently water-formed surface features) may therefore provide some of the most unambiguous evidence available for the presence of ground ice." But to do the job, he said, the spacecraft must have a high-resolution imaging system, and present plans for MCGO call for none at all.

The problem is that imaging systems are expensive, require a high data transmission rate, and take up a great deal of transmission time. Therefore, next April, NASA will send out an "announcement of opportunity," soliciting proposals for instruments to be included in MCGO. Several groups are preparing proposals for camera systems that would require limited amounts of data. A German group is preparing a proposal for a system that transmits data at times when the rest of the instruments are not sending. Several researchers advocate equipping MCGO with a mid-infrared spectrometer, which they said would provide more precise identification of elements. So we may yet unravel the mystery of the waters of the red planet.

Planet orbiting nearby star?

One of the liveliest questions in astronomy and the one which is probably of greatest interest to astrologers and people in general is the question of life elsewhere in the galaxy. In order for there to be life as we know it, it would have to occur on a planet. Therefore, the question as to whether other stars have planets is a key one, not only to astronomers, but to everyone. As far as we know, the Sun is a typical star. There is no logical reason why other stars should not have planets, and thus duplicate the conditions whereby life arose on Earth. But our observational techniques had not been powerful enough to confirm or reject the idea. So we had no way of knowing whether our solar system was unique, or typical. Now, with the advent of more powerful observational techniques, some evidence is coming in.

In 1983, three U.S. Naval Observatory astronomers reported finding a wobble in the motion of a star named Van Biesbroeck 8 (VB8),which they said indicated that it is being orbited by an object with no more than a few times the mass of the planet Jupiter. The star is about 21 light years away, in the constellation of Ophiuchus. Its position in the zodiac (1950.0) is 12 degrees Sagittarius 52 minutes in longitude and 14 degrees, 9 minutes in latitude. VB8 was not the first star for which a non-stellar companion was inferred. But now Donald McCarthy Jr. of the Steward Observatory in Tucson reports that a new type of observations have transformed that inference into "the first direct detection of an extra-solar planet".

The observations were made using a technique called speckle interferometry. "Speckle" is a way of compensating for the turbulence of the Earth's atmosphere, and can distinguish between extremely close-together objects. Instead of taking one picture, the astronomers take 10,000 quick shots. A computer then blends them all into a composite image.

The observations were made at infrared (heat) wavelengths and part of the evidence that VB8B (the name of the new body) is not a star is that its temperature is about 100,000 times fainter than VB8. VB8B is considerably more massive than any planets in our solar system, 10 to 50 times more massive than Jupiter, though it is only about 9/10 of Jupiter's diameter. However, it is not massive enough for internal pressure to trigger the thermonuclear reaction that would make it a star. So it is a kind of substar revolving around a star, which basically makes it a planet.

The object is also being called a brown dwarf, a term which is used to describe an object too small to become a star, but which avoids the term planet. Theoretical models suggest that a body would have to be at least 80 times the mass of Jupiter to become a star.

There is considerable controversy among astronomers as to the implications of the discovery. Shiv Sharan Kumar, an astronomer at the University of Virginia, who has theorized about this type of body, said, "People wish for planets, but these are not them." George Gatewood, of the University of Pittsburg's Allegheny Observatory, says, "Planet is the wrong word. Call it what you like. It just doesn't seem like a planet."

McCarthy himself has no problem with how to classify the object. "If you put that object in our solar system," he asks,"would you call it a planet? It's a big Jupiter."

He also says he is looking at another faint star that is likely to have a companion, and adds that there are many other possible candidates.

Data Exchange News

It's spring, and the data exchange is growing. We are happy to report that we have just received two large sets of data.

We wish to thank Richard Nolle for his collection of natal chart data for 1,500 famous U.S. athletes. These are arranged alphabetically, from Hank Aaron to John Zook. Along with the birth information, there is also a brief description containing the athlete's sport and his or her position or event. This is a large and valuable contribution.

We also wish to thank Susan Manuel for her collection of major dates in U.S. history. This one is a must for serious mundane astrologers. It contains the birth dates of all the presidents, and many other important public figures. It also contains the information for important events such as statehood, major battles and passing of important legislation such as amendments to the constitution. It even contains events like the setting sail of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the creation of the Marine Corps and the composition of the song "America". Susan recommends that it be used in conjunction with a good encyclopedia of American history.

This collection makes it possible to do mundane research without starting from scratch. Susan asked that we give her address and phone number to anyone with questions or information to add. It is:

Susan Manuel

47-738-5 Hui Kelu St.

Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

(808) 239-4206

We will provide either of these three-disk sets for the cost of the disks, mailer, postage and labor: $25.00. At present, they are only available on Commodore 64. They are compatible with our M-65 and Blue*Star 64 programs.

Astrotalk

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Astro*Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307. Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions ar $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.Two#4 Jul/Aug'85

Astro*talk

September 1st, 1985:

The Matrix Heart Center reopens

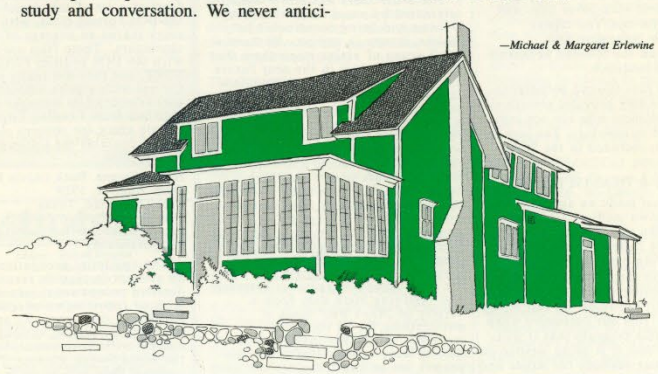
In 1972, we opened the Heart Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Providing classes, counseling and community get-togethers, the center was the main support lifeline during all the years when Matrix Software was struggling to be born.

When we moved to Big Rapids in March of 1980, Matrix was becoming a going concern and required more and more of our energies—Heart Center activities became less and less frequent. It was January of '84 when we reopened the center to offer astrologers a place to visit and share in study and conversation. We never anticipated the response—hundreds of letters from astrologers interested in studying here. Our one guest room just couldn't fill the bill. The idea was put on hold until we could find more room. Now we have it.

On September first, we're dedicating the new Matrix Heart Center. We now have the facilities to provide comfortable rooms and good food to all who'd like to come to Big Rapids to enjoy learning and sharing with other astrologers.

Details on the Matrix Heart Center are in this issue of Astro*Talk.

—Michael & Margaret Erlewine



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Matrix News

The big news is the Matrix *Heart Center* retreat house & cottage and the group activities that go along with the new center. We now have room for many of you to come and visit with us. More details on this elsewhere in this issue.

BLUE*STAR IBM AVAILABLE

Beta testing for the poweful new *Blue*Star* system on the IBM PC has completed beta-testing and is now being shipped to customers. A hands-on demo version of the packages is available for $10 (non-refundable) and this price includes the manual.

TAROT REPORT WRITER

We are now shipping our new Tarot report writing package on all three machines -- IBM, Apple and Commodore 64. The response has been great too. Everyone seems to like it. The cost is $300 and it is included in the "4 for $1000" offer.

I-CHING REPORT WRITER

We are now shipping our new *I-Ching Report Writer* package on the Apple II series of computers. Versions for the IBM and Commodore machines are in the works. The Chinese I-Ching or Book of Changes is a very ancient oracle (4,000 years old) and spiritual guide. Here is the ancient Chinese method for making important decisions, determining the probable course of events, and choosing the best course of action. Our version of the I-Ching offers you the entire text which numbers more than 100 pages! The translation is authoritative and modern. Output includes a 4-5 page report complete with cover page and instructions for use. The report provides both judgement and commentary on the selected hexagram as well as its inversion.

Written in easy-to-read paragraphs, the *Matrix I-Ching* provides something for those customers who are not into astrology and numerology. The cost is $300 and it is included in the "4 for $1000" offer.

MEDICAL & HEALTH REPORT

We have just made an agreement with well known medical astrologer Eileen Nauman to produce a text program to be called the *Health Report Writer*. Covering both medical and nutritional astrology, the program takes into consideration both natal and current transit positions. We can see by the response from our customers when we mention this program that it will be a popular one. It is being written on the IBM PC but versions for Apple and Commodore are also being considered. Let us know if such a program would be useful to you.

Free Hi-res Screen Module Available For M65/C64 Users

Our new hi-res (and color) screen module seems to be a hit. Many of you are calling us about it. For those of you who have missed this item, the module draws a hi-res wheel on the screen and draws the aspects in color. The user can select the aspects and orbs to be used. The program also reads M-65 chart files.

Many of you C-64 users have had a chance to see the new hi-res module and want one. Here is how M-65 owners on the Commodore C-64 can get it. We will be happy to ship it to all registered M-65 (C-64 only!) owners for the price of an update, which is $25. So if you have not updated your version of the C-64 M-65 as of late, here is the chance to do that and also get the hi-res screen module as a bonus.

The *Grass Roots Research Project*, originated by noted researcher Gary Duncan and being coordinated by Matrix, is now in motion. We have a small group of active researchers that we hope will grow in the near future. To date, we have received proposals from Melva Meisberger in Salem OR, Steve Cozzi in Lakewood CO, Joy Kajan-Basile in Hackensack NJ, and Patricia Ann Lewis in Stuart FL. We want to recognize them here and let the rest of our readers know that there really are people out there doing something with this! Currently, this group is working from several sources, including: *Directory of American Scholars*, *American Architects Directory*, *Biographical Dictionary of American Science*, and *Dictionary of Contemporary American Artists*. We are developing programs for entering and verifying birth data from a variety of *"Who's Who"* types of publications, on all the major machines. If you are interested in getting more information about this project, let us know, and we will send you a copy of the *Astro*Talk* article by Gary Duncan. Everything you need to get started in making a contribution to this effort will be provided, and your participation will be recognized and appreciated. The results of this work (including all birth data) will be made available through this data exchange.

New Biographical Database Is Now In Development

A recent issue of *Astro*Talk* covered the release of a massive earthquake database for MS-DOS machines, compiled by and available through the *Alpha-Omega Alliance*. The latest news from this organization is that work on a new occupational database is proceeding rapidly, and an initial release should be available in the near future.

The data source is the *Professional Area Index* to the 43rd edition of *Who's Who in America*. There are a total of 39 professional areas in the *Index*, some of which are more interesting than others. The areas receiving the most attention in the current database work include: Performing Arts, Athletics, Communications Media, Education, Government, Military, Religion, Science, and Social Science. To give some idea of the extent of this data source, there are some 4500 entries in the Performing Arts area alone!

Each entry in the database includes the following data items:

1. Last, first, and middle name
2. Year, month, and day of birth.
3. City and state of birth. (City/Country code for non-U.S. births).
4. Occupation Codes (from 1 to 5 codes).

This information is currently in the form of a set of sequential files on MS-DOS format disks, with each entry taking an average of 80 characters. These files are accessible with the DOS utilities FIND and SORT, but they are really intended for use with a more sophisticated and user-friendly file manager such as Nutshell from Leading Edge. A sample entry for country singer Buck Owens contains the following information:

Name: Owens, Buck (Alvis Edgar, Jr.)
Date: Aug. 12, 1929
Place: Sherman, Texas
Occupations: country singer, country musician, songwriter, recording artist, TV personality

The two-letter occupation codes are an attempt to provide reasonably detailed occupational information without requiring an enormous amount of disk space. We are currently discussing various coding options with Christopher, Director of the *Alpha-Omega Alliance*. The finished data will be made available through Matrix.

ASTROLOGICAL Community News

Coming Events:

Big Rapids, MI. **MATRIX Retreat Center,** Sept. 1, 1985 Opening. Contact: MATRIX, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. (616) 796-2483

San Francisco, CA. **N.C.G.R. National Conference: Harvest of Ideas,** Sept. 19-22, 1985. Contact: N.C.G.R., P.O. Box 14338, San Francisco, CA 94114, (415) 456-1093

Chicago, IL. **NCGR National Conference: Window into the New Age,** Nov. 8-10, 1985. Contact: Gina Knight, 1609 Larch Drive, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, (312) 635-9443

Cannes, France. **First World Congress of Astrologers,** Dec. 13-15, 1985. Contact: Stella M. Kalman, P.O. Box 1306, Campbell, CA 95009.

ASTROCALENDAR

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving the outer planets. Both Geocentric and Heliocentric aspects are given. Aspects are Geocentric unless marked '*H' for Heliocentric.

AUGUST 1985

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
02	13:57	02CP28	MAR INC NEP	*H
06	04:19	04SC06	MAR SQR PLU	*H
28	16:02	14AQ05	MAR OPP JUP	*H

SEPTEMBER

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
04	06:06	14AQ40	MAR TRI URA	*H

Astrotalk

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Art Director: Tom Erlewine
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Astro*Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bi-monthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307. Phone (616) 796-2483. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Foreign subscriptions ar $8 per year shipped by boat and $14.50 shipped by air mail.
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What's In The Journals?

TRANSIT: The Magazine of the Astrological Association, Issue No. 49, May 1985. Contact: Michael Harding, 24 Birchington Court, West End Lane, London NW6 4PB.

An Operation Goes Wrong by Lynne Ewart, *Time Travel: Fact Meets Fiction* by Nick Campion, *A Natal Astrologers Guide to Horary* by Olivia Barclay, *Mundane Matters II* by Kate Champkin, *Who's Who III* by Susanne Harvey and more.

CONSIDERATIONS, Vol. 2, #3, 1985. Contact: P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

All Else Considered by Ken Gillman, *The Ends Of Millenia* by Barbara Koval, *The Planet Lion* by Charles A. Jayne, *Primary Directions in Azimuth* by Axel Harvey, *The Work Of Hermes* by Irene Emery Goodale, *The Astrology Of Fixed Stars* by George C. Noonan, *A Correction & An Addendum* by Charles A. Jayne, *Planets Side By Side* by Beth Koch, *The Business Cycle* by Bill Hansen, *Let's Consider* by Peter Doughty, Bill Hansen, more.

COSMOBIOLOGY #5, April 1985. Contact: Eleonora Kimmel, 37 Calhoun Rd., Pueblo, CO 81001.

A Heart Problem by Irene Goodale, *A Broken Arm* by Irene Goodale, *Amadeus* by Eleonora Kimmel, *Reagan & Bush 1985* by Reinhold Ebertin, *Hitler's Last Days* by Reinhold Ebertin, *The Second Time Around* by Irmgard Rauchhaus.

THE FRATERNITY NEWS Vol. 7, #2, Spring/Summer 1985. Contact: Box 161, Station F, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2L5.

FCA -- Past, Present, Future by Brian Clark, *The Northern Lights* by Sandy Hughes, *Considering Canada: Part II: Vancouver* by Heinz Antoni, *Conference Comments: NASO* by Priscilla Costello, *Book Reviews* by Donna Van Toen, *Data Bank* by Brian Clark.

THE SCHNEIDER-GAUQUELIN RESEARCH JOURNAL Vol 3, #2, May 1985. Contact: Marie Schneider, B.P. 317, F-75229 Paris, Cedex 05, France

A New Look at Aspects by Marie Schneider, *The Origins of Negativity and Sexism in Astrology* by Shelley Jordan and John Reynolds, *Planetary Position and Personality* by Franz Stark, *68 Birth Charts of Terrorists* by Luigi Squitieri, *Statistical Studies into Astrology: Clarifications* by Dante Valente, *Time Changes in Canada* by James Vosper, *The Case of Ontario* by Francoise Gauquelin, *Planets, Statistics, Alpha-Errors and Bayes* by Dirk Wednt, *Planetary Heredity: A Reappraisal on 50,000 Subjects [book review]* by David Nias, more.

NCGR JOURNAL Vol 4, #1, Spring 1985. Contact: 78 Hubbard Ave., Stamford, CT 06905.

Financial Astrology: An Introduction by Bill Meridian, *The Horoscope of the Federal Reserve System* by Bill Meridian, *Working With Businesses* by Grace Morris, *A Chart for the New York Stock Exchange* by Pat Esclavon-Hardy, *Corporate Soap Operas* by Mary Downing, *The Hindu View* by Barbara Cameron, *Ebenezer Sibly and the Declaration of Independence, 1776: An Investigation* by Michael Baigent, *Horoscopes for the United States* by Zipporah Dobyns, *Some Evidence for Gemini Rising* by Charles Emerson, more.

THE MUTABLE DILEMMA Vol 8, #2, Pisces 1985. Contact: 5953 W. 86th Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Computerized Interpretation by Maritha Pottenger, *Atlantis Now: Not B.C.* by Zip Dobyns, *Rectification* by Vernon Hoffman, *Stellar Figures* by Maritha Pottenger, *Prime Minister Kohl of Germany* by Zip Dobyns, *Aspects of Life* by Maritha Pottenger, *U.S. Charts & Prenatal Eclipses* by Zip Dobyns.

ASPECTS Vol 10, #2, Spring 1985. Contact: P.O. Box 556, Encino, CA 91426.

Aries Ingress, Cardinal News by Judy Johns, *Uncovering Themes in Delineation* by Maritha Pottenger, *Stock Market Outlook* by Raymond Merriman, *Fixed Stars: Part II* by Batya Stark, *New & Full Moon Cycles* by Karma Welch, *Astro-Psychology: Part II* by Richard Idemon, *The Importance of Major & Minor Configurations: Part III* by Hans Peter Sauerwein, *What is Your Response Ability* by Bonnie Parker, *ABC Basic Delineation* by Marion D. March, *Data Column* by Lois Rodden, *Shadow Dancing* by Edwin C. Steinbrecher, *Keys To Learning* by Joan McEvers, *The Signs of the Zodiac at the Races* by Edith Custer.

THE ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL Vol 27, #2, Spring 1985. Contact: P.O. Oakfield, Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ England.

Happy Birthday Rudhyar -- and Thank You by Leyla Rael, *Towards an Integral Astrology: Part II* by Charles Harvey, *On the Exaltations of the Planets* by William Venerius, *The Wounded Healer -- Part II* by Eve Jackson, *The Art of Astrological Biography: Part II* by Laurie Efrein, *Neptune and Money* by James Russell, *Star Rhythms in Crop Yield: A Computer Study* by Nick Kollerstrom, more.

Cont. on page 10

The Matrix Heart Center reopens

The new Matrix Heart Center (at top) means we now have lots of room to put up visitors comfortably.
Our offices remain in the present Matrix center (above). Here we can provide you with hands-on experience with a variety of computers.

Matrix can now offer you food & lodging too. Our new *Heart Center* building has seven bedrooms and some overflow sleeping area beyond that. We hope to have a sort of on-going astrological artist's colony happening here in Big Rapids. The new building is in the process of being painted and decorated for the re-opening of the *Matrix Heart Center* on September 1, 1985. In addition to the new center, a 3-bedroom retreat cottage on nearby Horsehead lake is available for use by guests. Located on a private cove, the cottage includes 3 boats, a dock and plenty of natural beauty.

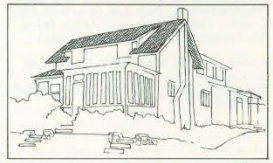
There are great plans for the *Heart Center*, and we hope they will include you. Maybe it's the loneliness of the Michigan outback and the want of company. But there is more to it than that. It has been a lifelong dream for Margaret and myself to create a place where people can gather to share and enjoy meeting with one another. We are hoping that some astrologers may want to come try a different kind of vacation. Here are the details.

Since the center is subsidized by Matrix Software, we can offer inexpensive room & board. The standard rate is $25 per day and this includes three meals and an attractive private room. A lower rate is available (on a limited basis) for those who would like to work part of a day at the Matrix center on various projects.

And, as anyone who attended our Solstice Celebration can testify, the food here is outstanding. Staff member Martin Wolf is a professional chef, who has cooked and operated a lakeside resort since childhood. We offer both vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals with an accent on quality and wholesomeness. Marty is also a trained nutritionist. He works hard to insure that the food we eat is the best that can be obtained. His care shows.

The day-to-day schedule is loose but regular, including group meals, time for quiet meditation and work on astrological projects, plus group interaction and exchange. Each weekday afternoon, Margaret and myself get together with visitors for a group discussion.

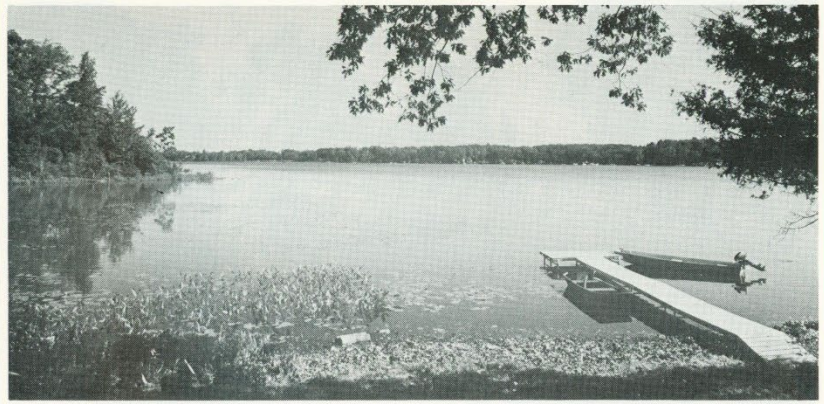
The Muskegon river runs right through Big Rapids and that's where the name of our city came from. During the summer, the favorite pastime of city residents is



tubing -- floating down the river on giant innertubes. National forests abound and are only minutes away. The same goes for rivers, lakes and streams (fishing in all three). We have over 100 lakes in our county alone. There is boating, swimming and water sports all summer. In winter we have skiing (cross country too), ice fishing, skating and gorgeous deep snowy panoramas. Less than an hour's drive will take you to Lake Michigan, miles of sand dunes, a virgin pine forest, old logging trails, wildlife sanctuaries and all kinds of national forests. Nature and wildlife lovers come from all over the USA to this area.

The *Matrix Heart Center* is being established as a support center for astrologers. As you can imagine, we offer all kinds of technical suppport as regards computer hardware and software. If you have questions about computers or need some hands-on experience with the machines themselves, this is available to you during a visit here. Or perhaps you would like to learn how to operate computers or a particular Matrix program. We even have a room of computers available for your own astrological projects. The Matrix library and conference area is almost always open. Those of you with a technological bent have the opportunity to exchange information and ideas with Matrix system programmers Stephen Erlewine, Doug Pierce and the other programmers at the center.

Computer technology is only one part of what happens here at the *Heart Center*. While Matrix Software is known for hard technology (computers, software, research), the *Heart Center* is concerned with we might call "soft" technology -- soft science. The focus here is on developing our inner resources, strengthening those areas of ourselves that made us choose astrology in the first place. Working together, one-to-one and as a group is what the new center is all about.



The retreat cottage on nearby Horsehead lake has lots of pines, lots of quiet—and the fishing's not bad, either!

The Heart Center idea:

I want to present the idea that has pushed thru the Matrix Heart Center into reality. In brief, I have spent 15 of the 20 or so years I have studied astrology working with astrological techniques. During my technical search, my hope was to find a technique that was radical enough to transform astrology to the degree that astrologers could become more useful to our society -- to be more accepted. In the end, I discovered that perhaps I had spent too many years perfecting the instruments of astrology and too few years perfecting myself, the astrologer, as an instrument.

The new type of psychology or approach described below is the most important new technique that I have come across in these 20 years. It is not the kind of technique that I had expected. This is not another form of calculation, but instead a re-forming the mind or reorienting the psychology of the astrologer. It has shown itself to be so useful to us here that we want to share it with the astrological community. The Matrix Heart Center is being established as a place where astrologers can come to participate in this particular type of training. Comments are welcome.

Continued.

The Matrix Center.

Astrology, like the philosophies of the East (Taoism, Buddhism, etc.) makes use of the concept of the mandala or sacred sphere surrounding each of us. Everything is interconnected and interactive. Our whole life is enacted within a sacred space and all events are viewed as signs -- potentially meaningful. Astrologers are skilled in reading the signs of the times. When we speak of Mercury or Venus, we are defining or focussing on that portion of our total space, our mandala. We can learn to work with Mercury or the Jupiter forces, and so on. Western psychological science is only just beginning to admit the value of considering the world from the mandala point of view -- where the observer is included within the perception. Much of the reason Carlos Casteneda's *Don Juan* books are so popular is because Casteneda's world is a total sphere within which forces of our selves are interacting and communicating. The astrological world view is identical in this regard.

We have been studying the mandala perspective of some of the eastern countries. The main point here is that the more our group studies the psychology of the East, the more it appears similar to the western astrological world view, with one major exception. The western astrological tradition has somehow become separated from any real foundation or preliminary training. In much of the East, before you can begin a study of astrology (learn the techniques, etc.) you must undergo a basic orientation period, a preparation time -- a preparation or training of the mind, the perceiver. This is not true here in the West any longer (if it ever was), where astrologers jump right into the techniques from the word "go".

I can't help but speculate that perhaps the lack of preliminary training here in the West may have something to do with the fact that astrology no longer has the place in society that it once had and that it still has in countries like India and Tibet. If we once had this type of training, what happened to it? I can only guess that perhaps when astronomy split away from astrology in the West, it took most of the discipline and fundamental training with it. In my opionion, modern Western astrologers (and I am one of them) tend to be somewhat insecure and even paranoid since our profession is not recognised as a "right livlihood" by the society we live in.

For almost two years, a small group of us here at Matrix have been studying this preliminary training, the psychological orientation or practice that takes place in the East -- at least in Tibet. It was not enough to just read about this training, we also went to the practicioners themselves and still wanting more information, undertook the training itself.

A humerous note. When I first became interested in this preliminary training, I read everything I could on the subject. Still unsatisfied, I undertook a long trip to visit with one of the living experts on these techniques. I assumed that because I was an experienced professional astrologer with many technical skills, that I would be allowed to enter the training at, well, a somewhat advanced level. Not so. I was very gently told that, even despite my considerable experience, the place for me to begin was at the beginning. I accepted this suggestion, and am glad now that I did.

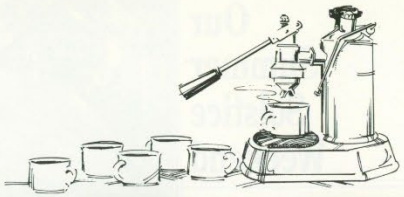
Today, almost two years later, we have had enough experience with the subject to make some preliminary comments about its effects, and possible usefulness to astrologers.

The psychological model that drives the astrology of the far East is over 1000 years old, very detailed, and exists today as a result of an unbroken lineage or line of practicioners. This material has been handed down by word of mouth for many, many generations. I am a fair student of western psychology. After studying the eastern psychological model I can only say that psychology as we know it here in the West in its infancy. This has been pointed out by others. We were unprepared for the thoroughness, detail and depth that we found in the eastern psychological model. As I mentioned before, the eastern approach is very similar to the astrological. It was very easy for us, as astrologers, to grasp. In fact, it appeared to be the inner and personal psychology that we had been nursing, in secret, all along. Again, the main difference is that the aeastern psychology has a very exact method of preparing a student for the more technical practices. It is a process of orienting or training the mind, just as we might learn to orient or turn our head to look at things from another perspective.

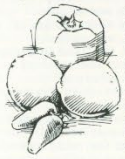
In the East, as in astrology, they are very comfortable in defining and working with parts of their selves as they appear in the world at large. Astrologers are doing the same thing when we talk about the Saturn or Jupiter forces. This similarity made it very easy to get into and have a feel for the eastern psychological model. The training methods themselves, like any technical matter, take time, patience and practice. Yet, after even a few months of work, all of us noticed very clear and marked results. It was, for us, a new and radical method of improving ourselves as astrologers.

As we continue to explore these methods, it is clear to us that a great many other astrologers would much appreciate hearing about these tools, this psychological orientation. We do not see it offered, at present, within the astrological community. One of the main reasons for establishing the *Heart Center* is to provide an environment where those of you who are interested in learning about this material can come and spend some time. I am making myself and other members of our staff available to you to provide the introduction you may need to these methods. There is no charge for this. While you are visiting with us, those interested in this approach to the psyche... psychology can meet with us each day for a session.

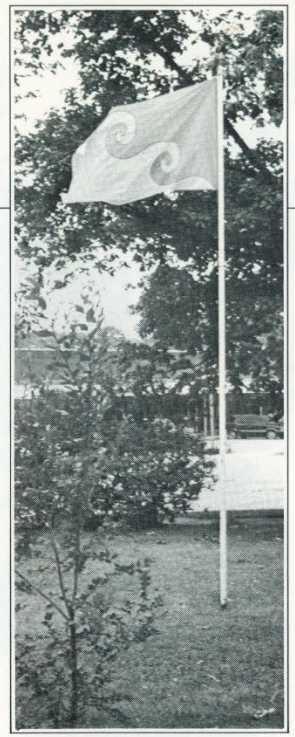
You will be hearing a lot more about this as we find the time and space to write and publish our results.



The meals at the Heart Center and Friday night dinners at Matrix are really a treat. We enjoy eating together, and since we've added a cappuccino machine, coffee & conversation make a great way to top off the meal. (Better stick to one cup if you want to get some sleep, though!)



Our Summer Solstice Weekend



A report by Martin Wolf.

The turnout was good for our Solstice Celebration and workshop of Tibetan astrology. We had all our flags flying, a large canopy tent in place and more food than we ought to have had.

Although people were here as early as Thursday, it was Friday night when the celebration began in earnest. Visitors arrived from all over America. They came from places as far as Boston, L.A. and Hawaii. It was an interesting meeting of the minds. Most were technically trained astrologers, familiar with a wide variety of tropical and sidereal techniques, and accustomed to using computers. John Reynolds (our guest speaker), on the other hand, had never used a computer, and had little knowledge of modern astrology.

In order for Michael and Margaret to recognize him at the airport, John Reynolds gave us this description of himself,"I am tall, bearded, and wear a black cowboy hat." With the black cowboy hat on, he could have passed for any of the good old boys down at the local bar here in the north woods. When he took the hat off, we saw why he wore it. Under instructions from his teacher, he had not cut his hair in ten years. It is worn, in Yogic style, in a bun on top of his head.

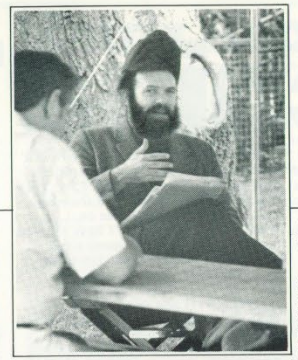
John Reynolds is one of the foremost exponents and scholars of Tibetan Buddhism, and eastern religion in general. He lived in India for nearly ten years, and received a Ph.D from the University of Washington. He is fluent in Tibetan, Sanscrit and Arabic. But his knowledge is not only scholarly and theoretical. He has studied and practiced Buddhism for many years, and received many initiations (wongs). Indeed, he was a translator and companion to the Karmapa -- one of Tibet's highest lamas.

We were interested not only in John's knowledge of astrology, but in the details of Tibetan Buddhist practice of training the mind of the would-be astrologer. So, in addition to the astrology, John made a point of presenting some of the basic ideas of Buddhism. John gave two talks, which have been taped, and will be presented as texts, on the history and philosophy of Buddhism. He outlined the growth of Buddhism, from the Hinyana to the Mahayana to the Vajra or Tantra, giving clear examples and metaphors. He also gave us a clear picture of the development of Buddhism in Tibet, both the coming of Buddhism from India, and the development of the four schools. This was all stuff we had seen in books, but it was a completely different experience to hear it from the mouth of someone who had been there, and could speak the language, and had done the practices. He had wonderful accounts of his experiences with the teachers, and vivid descriptions of the places. It gave us a feeling of being directly connected with our own lineage.

Reynolds is in the process of making a thorough study of astrology as practiced in Tibet. As he presented it, Tibetan astrology seems to be a combination of Hindu and Chinese astrology. They actually practice two systems of astrology, or as they call it, tsi. The first is derived from Indian principles, and uses a sidereal zodiac and lunar mansions, and is called kar-tsi, meaning white calculations. The second, called nak-tsi, meaning black calculations, is similar to Chinese astrology, and uses an elaborate 60 year cycle which combines the five Chinese elements and the twelve animals. Additionally, the signs and planets have correlations with the hexagrams of the I Ching. John has created a beautiful Tibetan astrological calendar which shows this system. This is the popular Tibetan astrology, and it is used much like *The Farmer's Almanac.*

Various types of charts are used by the Tibetans. A birth or natal chart is called a kye-tsi, and a projection for one's life is called a tserab le-tsi or "a chart of the karma for one's span of life." An annual chart is called a kag-tsi. A chart for a time of marriage is called a bag-tsi, and a death chart is called a shin-tsi. But the Tibetans do not stop at drawing the chart. Once they have drawn the chart, and deciphered the forces at play, they know how to make contact and modify these forces -- to focus or deflect them. The elements and influences are not at all abstract to them, but actual living forces, which can be channeled by proper practice and ritual. This is one of the areas where western astrologers have much to learn.

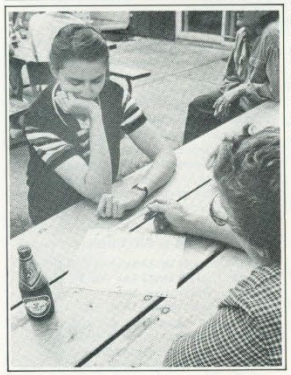
Much of what is written about Tibetan astrology is in a text called the Kalachakra Tantra. The Kalachakra (wheel of time) is the Tibetan text on the study of time. From the Tibetan point of view, time is not some dead soul-less machine. It is a living organic process, indistinguishable from consciousness. It emanates from some prime source, and is cyclical in nature. Indeed, the nature of our consciousness at any particular time is directly related to our position in these cycles. This is very similar to what astrologers do here in the West. But to the Tibetans, this is not only a theory, it is a practice. Through their mind training and ceremonies, they can tune in to a particular time, and bring the forces manifest in the cycle to bear, producing enormous changes in consciousness.



The Dalai Lama writes of the Kalachakra:

"...Kalachakra is generally explained in the context of this planet Earth. When one meditates on the mandala of Kalachakra, inner Kalachakra is seen as the body, faces, hands, feet, etc, as well as all the surrounding deities of the mandala, conceived as symbols of the stars, planets, constellations and so forth."

To the Tibetans, the planets and signs symbolize the forces active in the collective unconscious of humanity. But while we often treat them as though they were exterior to us, and acting on us from above, the Tibetans have come to know that these forces or beings are actually *projections of our own mind*, which appear to the ego to be autonomous beings, friendly or threatening. These entities have enormous psychic energy, but only respond to mind training techniques that modern western psychology is only now beginning to understand. The famous psychic feats and miracles produced by eastern yogis are one manifestation of these techniques. But by far the most important result is the mind training itself. Instead of jumping this way and that, distracted by any thought or stimulus, the mind can be quieted, and calm, becoming a mirror capable of revealing the depths and roots of consciousness.



Every Tibetan monastery has a professional astrologer on its staff, who draws up the calendar, and decides which days are auspicious and suitable for rituals and tasks. But before a lama can become an astrologer, he must undergo a rigorous course of spiritual training involving morality, meditation, and wisdom. Moreover, he must take a vow to strive for the enlightenment of all sentient beings. Only then can he begin his astrological training. In other words, the would-be apprentice astrologer in the East must first of all get his or her act together before they learn any astrological technique. Here in the West, the reverse is the case. As a result, many astrologers are versed in techniques, but have no real background in the human training it takes to become a useful astrologer.

In comparison to modern western techniques, the Tibetan astrology is crude. It does not even speak of specific degrees, but merely assigns approximate position by planetary placement in lunar mansions. So we were a bit apprehensive as to how our astrologers would accept this crude astrology. But as John spoke, relating the wheel of the zodiac to the wheel of life or karma, it was clear to all of us that he had a solid and coherent context to relate his astrology to, and that this was what he came to give us. He spoke beautifully, mixing the facts of Tibetan astrology with legends, history, and deep insight into the human psychology.

The celebration became exactly that. We had a large canopy tent, and wonderful natural food meals. Many of the people stayed right at Matrix, and talked long into the night. Videos were also shown of life in Tibet, the Tibetan approach to medicine and healing and live shots of some of the great incarnate Tibetan lamas. Computers were available, so people could run off a chart at a moment's notice.

As Stephen Erlewine pointed out, people enjoy astrology the most when they first get into it, and each chart is full of fantastic insights and discoveries. As they become more sophisticated, they can become jaded, and look to some technique to provide the excitement that their own insight once gave them. The fundamentals of mind training as taught in Tibetan astrology deepens the mind of the student of astrology rather than add another technique to his or her repetoire. The accent is on improving ourselves as an instrument rather than improving our instruments.

Fittingly enough, We wound it up on Sunday evening with a beautiful talk on Shamata or Shinae (meditation practice). The Sun set on a great weekend filled with ideas, companionship and some of the best food in the world. All the staff here at Matrix is looking forward to a repeat performance next year on a different topic.

Machine Talk

Prices are coming down on the IBM PC clones. For example, we had a need for another IBM type computer of late here at Matrix. I was able to walk into our local *Tandy/Radio Shack* store here in tiny Big Rapids, Michigan and come out with a *Tandy 1000*, a 256K machine with 2 double-sided disk drives and a monitor for $1500. They tried to charge me more, but I said that I had $1500 to spend, take it or leave it. They took it. That's not bad for a machine that is pretty much 100% IBM compatible. *Leading Edge* has a new Korean-made machine (Model "D") for about the same price, although it is difficult to get delivery on the unit until late summer. The Model "D" is in hot demand. However, we went with the Tandy since it can be repaired right here in town. *Leading Edge* has already switched manufacturers of their IBM clone once. Who knows when they might do it again. What happens to the old Leading Edge IBM type machines? Can you get parts? Do you have to ship them to Boston? I don't know, but *Tandy/Radio Shack* will be right down the street. At least it always has been.

Don't ignore the used computer market either. IBM machines are now appearing in the want ad sections. The nation's largest brokerage of used computers, *The Boston Computer Exchange* is expanding their services nationwide. This is a reputable company that provides a way for computer users to sell their current machines in preparation for getting into a newer model. The exchange works very much like a stock exchange. The specifications and asking prices for the buyers and sellers are maintained on computer. When a match is found between buyer and seller, the Exchange puts the two parties in contact for negotiations. When a transaction is completed, the Exchange receives 10% of the selling price from the seller. The buyer pays no commission. Buyers are often able to purchase systems 30-50% below retail prices. For an additional fee, the Exchange will inspect equipment and guarantee its working condition. However, most computer problems appear within the first month or so of operation. Here at Matrix, computers seldom break down. The phone number for the *Boston Computer Exchange* is 617-542-4414.

Just for your information, here is a list of several "cut-throat" operations that are based in New York City. They compete with each other to see who can offer the lowest prices on computers, cameras, etc. I have ordered from the first of these many times: *47th Street Computer* (800-331-7774), *Bi-Rite Photo & Electronics* (800-223-1970), *Focus Electronics* (800-223-3411) and *Olden* (800-223-1444). You might want to call several of them and make them compete with one another's price. Ask for a catalog.

ATARI & COMMODORE

We are still waiting for the new 68000 (16/32 bit chip) based machines from Atari and Commodore. As of this writing (early July), neither machine has been released. For that matter, Commodore has not been delivering their new 128 computer (at least, not in our area) which is based on the very popular Commodore 64. Perhaps the low end market is having a difficult time. I read so many rumors that it is hard to tell the facts from the general confusion.

IBM & FRIENDS

IBM has yet to announce the PC II, its new replacement for the PC. It is, however, delivering the not-so-new-anymore IBM AT computers in quantity. All kinds of clones are appearing at lower and lower prices. I mentioned the *Tandy 1000* earlier in the column, which now sells for $995 with 128K and one drive. That's less expensive than an Apple II! The IBM *compatibles* are vanishing from the scene. Everything now is what is called an IBM *clone*, which means it is almost identical in operation to the real thing. This is good news to consumers. For example, we have gone through the tortures of the damned with the IBM compatible *Sanyo 555*, waiting for that company to release the necessary routines to get our stuff running on it. I don't suggest buying anything short of a clone. If you have any questions about a machine you are thinking of purchasing, feel free to give us a call.

The Fate of PCjr

You may have noticed that the IBM PCjr is being heavily discounted these days. We heard about one place where they will give you a standard PCjr (128K, 1 disk drive) for $399 with the purchase of any color monitor in the store. If you are willing to put up with its ideosyncrasies, you can get quite a deal on this machine. The only way we would recommend going is with a full 512K memory card -- taking total memory up to 640K, the maximum usable memory on a standard IBM PC or PCjr.

You can get such a card from a variety of mail-order sources, with parallel printer port and clock/calendar, and buy the RAM chips separately, for a total cost of around $270. We no longer recommend IBM's 128K memory expansion (around $300 by itself!) now that 256K RAM chips are available in abundance and 512K worth of these chips can be had for about $80! (An Impulse Series 100 expansion board without RAM runs about $180, from *47th Street Photo*, but you may be able to get the RAM chips cheaper elsewhere.). If you want IBM PC compatibility for minimum dollars, this may be for you.

APPLE TIDBITS

Apple has confirmed that they are considering introducing a 3.5-inch disk format for the APPLE II computer line. The current 5.25-inch APPLE disks contain only 140-Kbyte of disk storage, which is about the lowest in the industry. IBM PC disks hold 360-Kbyte per disk. The new 3.5-inch disks hold 800 Kbytes of storage and can be carried around in a shirt pocket. This kind of additional disk capacity would allow many types of programs to appear on the APPLE II that are impossible now.

Apple expert Hank Friedman called to say that the *Mach 3.5 Card* (formerly the *SpeeDemon) is available from the A.P.P.L.E Co-op* (phone 206-251-5222) for $199.00. The card speeds up all Apple programs by three times their normal rate. Hank also points out that the *SIDER* hard disk drive for the Apple can be had for $695.

We seem to be in the midst of a hardware shakeout. Companies are laying off employees (Apple) and tightening up their belts. Most of our new customers have an IBM based system, with the Commodore 64 in the number two spot and Apple II in 3rd place. No other computers are even close to these three.

In The Journals

Continued from page 3

Other Newsletters, bulletins, catalogs Received:

WELCOME TO PLANET EARTH, Monthly, tabloid size. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF ASTROLOGERS BULLETIN, Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282.

CYCLES: BULLETIN OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF CYCLES, Article on Sunspot cycles. Contact: 124 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburg, PA 15206.

PLANET WATCH with Eleanor Bach, Monthly newsletter. Contact: 319 West 18th St., New York City, NY 10011.

Data Exchange Update

We now have three M-65 chart collections available on Commodore 1541/4040 disks. These include Rich Nolle's collection of almost 400 prominent athletes, Susan Manuel's American history event charts (almost 500 of them), and a subset (growing all the time) of Stephen Erlewine's *Circle Book of Charts*, the classic collection of famous personalities from many eras. The Nolle athletes collection covers several countries and several decades -- not just current American athletes. Susan Manual's collection covers significant events in American history from 1770-1889. All charts in this collection are cast for noon LMT. The Circle Book collection is also available on Apple and IBM disks. These disks are $15 per 3-disk set, $5 for each additional disk.

In addition to these disk collections, we have a large collection of birth and event data from *AFA Data Exchange* bulletins that is now available upon request. Included are many personalities and mundane events that have been in the news in recent months, as well as prominent personalities of the 20th century. For example, a recent bulletin included complete data for the birth and death of Karen Ann Quinlan, a detailed chronology of the hijacking of TWA flight 847 and the hostage crisis in Beirut, and birth data for the Frustaci septuplets, in addition to several other items of interest, all timed data with geographic coordinates given. This collection is available for just our cost of copying, handling and postage, currently $10.

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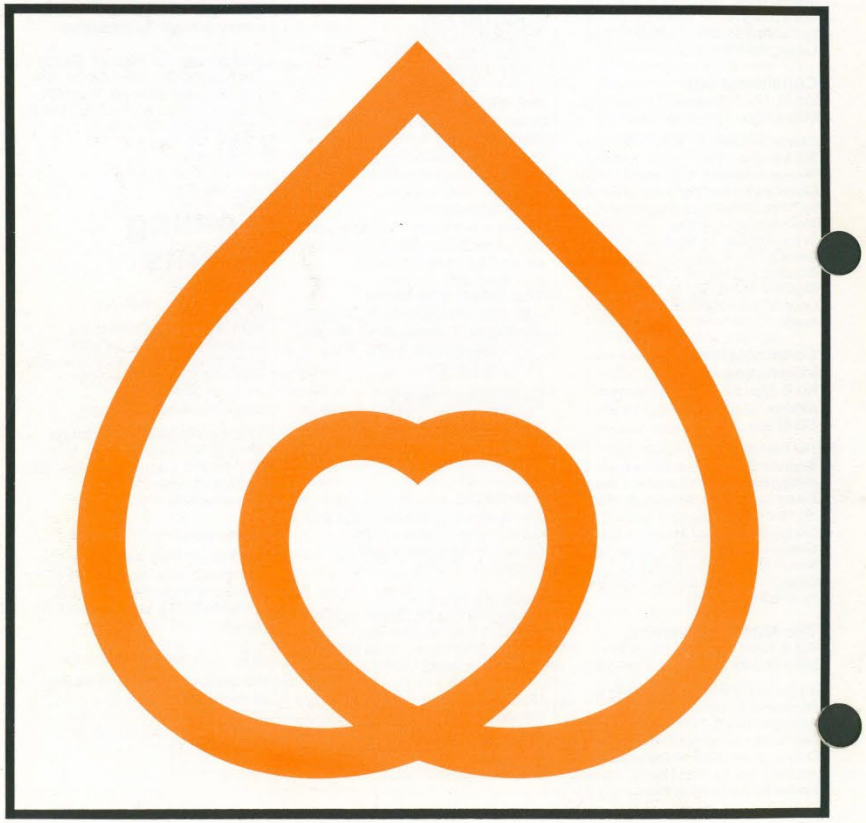
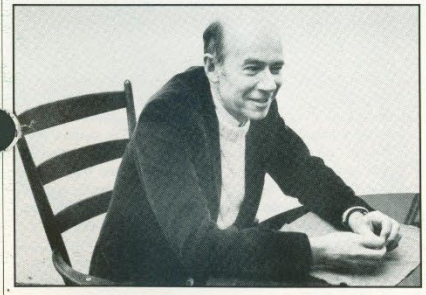


Bi-Monthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Three, No. 2 Mar/Apr '86

Astro*talk

A Conversation With Michel Gauquelin



*Michel Gauquelin, perhaps astrology's most celebrated researcher, was interviewed by Michael Erlewine during his recent visit to the Heart Center. The complete video interview runs almost two hours. Here are some excerpts for Astro*Talk readers.*

Michael: I am amazed to find out that you started studying astrology as a child. Most astrologers think of you as a scientist.
M. Gauquelin: I was interested in astrology when I was very young. I remember that I learned to calculate the ascendant at the age of eleven. I was encouraged to do so by my father, who was a dentist by profession, and was very interested in astrology. I don't know why I was so interested, it is a mystery. Going back to my early memories, I have always been interested in astrology. At the age of fifteen or sixteen, I read a lot of books about astrology. I myself wrote a little text book, a very primitive one. It was on the practice of astrology. It was done by hand, of course. There were no word processors at that time. I still have this precious document in Paris.

Michael: Did you, like most of us, spend a lot of time studying the cookbooks the popular books & other ways of looking at astrology, —any books you could get hold of?
M. Gauquelin: Yes. First of all, I started from very simple and not very scientific, not even very professional texts —very bottom line. I was interested in seeing what was happening to me, in my chart. At the age of seventeen, I bought some more boring books. One was by Paul Choisnard, the French astrologer. He was born in 1867 and he died in 1930. He did his work at the turn of century. He was the first to apply statistics for proving astrology. He published six or more books. Some are still in print.

I got excited when I came to this, for I thought that this was what should be done. At the same time, I got a feeling for astrology when I succeeded in a

See DIALOGUE, page 11

Inside:

THE MATRIX CD-ROM *ASTRO*DISK* IS IN THE WORKS --*SEE PAGE 3*

A NEW SERIES OF ARTICLES ON MAKING MONEY WITH MATRIX PROGRAMS --*PAGE 2*

GREAT NEWS FOR THE HEART CENTER-- *PAGE 9*

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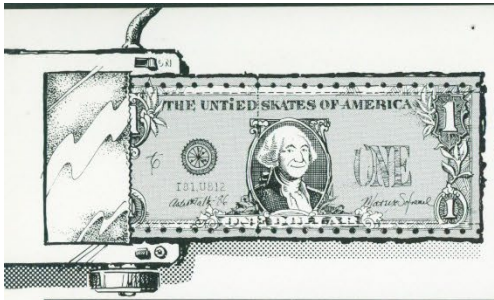


Making Money With Matrix Programs

It's been almost ten years since we made our first astrology programs available via *Matrix Magazine*. Computer hardware and software has seen many changes since that time. Astrologers, too, have changed their minds about what computers might be good for and how to put them to use in their practice. If my memory serves me correctly, when we first offered interpretive report writers, many astrologers were ashamed to admit to buying them. Many of you (I know who you are, too!) bought your first report writers from us on the *QT* —very quiet like. You didn't want any other professionals knowing you were using them.

All that has changed. Astrologers have learned to supplement their teaching and counseling practice with a variety of chart services and written reports. You've found that they have meant extra income that you can count on and that there is plenty of this work in your area. It is a fact that there is a real demand for $10-25 worth of astrology, and written reports fill the bill. You have found out that there are many customers out there that, too shy at first for a direct meeting with an astrologer, return for classes and in-person sessions after purchasing an astrological report or two.

Instead of diluting or "cheapening" your practice, report writers have opened up the door to a new and untapped market.

And this is good for astrology, too. The more computers there are cranking out astrological reports, the more the general public has a chance to see something other than newspaper column astrology. Which brings me around to the reason for this article. It's time we became more organized in our approach to making money thru astrological services via the home computer. After all, we *have* learned something over these last years. Here at Matrix, we've seen the beginning of an almost scientific approach to marketing astrological services. However, not all of you are informed on these marketing techniques. So, *Astro*Talk* will present a series of articles dedicated to providing you with the latest in advertising and marketing information.

We've been gathering information and designing a plan to help those of you who may be new at marketing this material. In doing this, we could really use the help of those of you with greater experience in this subject to aid those with less experience.

A Series Of Advertising Articles

Here's a list of some of the topics to be covered in the forthcoming issues:

- **Start with the right computer equipment**
- **How to enhance your present practice**
- **Where to find new customers**
- **Word of mouth advertising**
- **Operating a report writer service**
- **How to run a phone or mail order service**
- **How to service classes, conventions, meetings, etc.**
- **How to make your computer output look attractive**
- **The art of using posters and flyers in your location**
- **Examples of classified advertising**
- **Example display ads**

We'll cover a number of the above items in each article, with perhaps a few words about advertising strategy, the concept of customer service, value-added selling and a lot more. However, we need your help and experience too.

We need Your Ideas

We want to hear from those astrologers who've found a niche; waged a campaign in your local area for more sales and have been successful. We have a long way to go to educate the general public as to what astrology is really all about. I feel that if the public has been hanging in there, existing on newspaper astrology for all these years, they will be more than glad to graduate to something better.

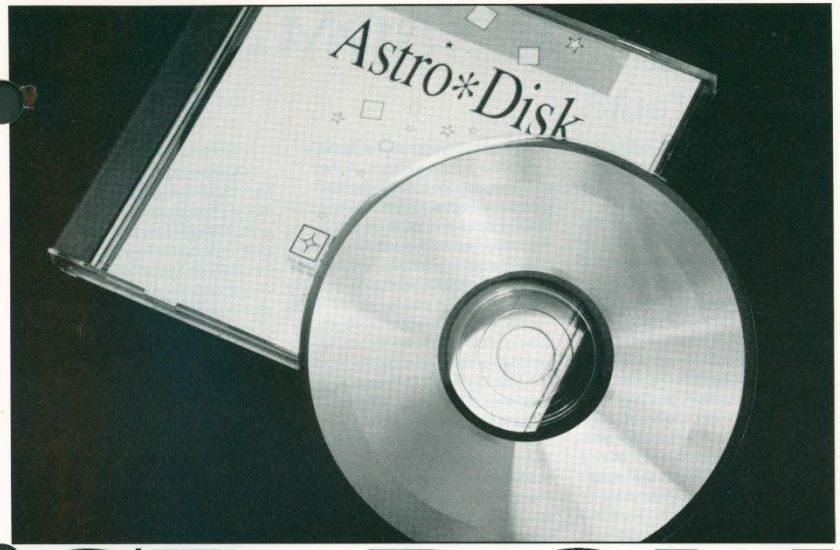
It's up to us to show the public where they can find that something better. We can offer it to them by learning how to advertise the services that can be provided via computer. Matrix is making a major push in the direction of providing quality marketing aids such as classified and display ads, color posters and decals—in short, the tools you need to launch a modern chart service.

Special Gift Offer

If you are a professional astrologer who markets Matrix chart services and reports, we very much want to hear how things are going with you. What methods of marketing do you use and have they or have they not been successful? What ideas and approaches have you

Cont. on 8

Astro*Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bimonthly by Matrix Software. Subscriptions in the US & Canada: $7 annually. Overseas: $8 via seamail ($14.50 Airmail).



CD-ROM

THE MATRIX CD-ROM *ASTRO*DISK* IS IN THE WORKS

We have been interested in laser technology here at Matrix since 1980 when we first interfaced a Pioneer laser disk to a Commodore computer. In '82, during a visit to Matrix by Bob & Sara Cooper of the AFA, we demonstrated our laser disk and submitted a detailed proposal to the AFA for the creation of an astrological teaching disk with over 100,000 full color slides on it. It has been clear to us for many years that laser technology is the way of the future.

With the CD-ROM comes the advent of a technology which will have a tremendous impact on home computers.

The "CD" in CD-ROM stands for "compact disk"—the same small 4 3/4" disk which is now appearing in the music business, filled with digital sound. If you have never heard digital sound, you owe it to yourself to get a demonstration. It is sure to almost completely replace analog sound (records, cassettes) within ten years. The small laser CD-ROM players sell for under $300 and are available everywhere. These same players, with some modifications, work as data storage devices when hooked to your home computer.

Each of these little CD disks holds 550 megabytes of information on their silvery platters. That's around 550,000,000 bytes of data. You'd need about 1527 IBM disks, 3235 Commodore disks or 3928 Apple disks to hold this amount of information. The information (data, programs, etc.) is stored in digital form on the compact disk. This data is then read out by a laser beam that scans microscopic pits that are recorded beneath the surface of the diskette.

Right now, these disks are ROM (Read Only Memory) which means that you can read data from the disks into a computer but you cannot write data from the computer back to the

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disk. Within a few years it will be possible to both read and write to these disks. Such read/write capability is already available on some of the larger 12 inch laser disks, but it is still very expensive.

What CD-ROM disks mean for computer users, even in their current read-only form can boggle the mind. For one, reference books such as dictionaries, encyclopedias and the like will be on-line and available to any computer user. The complete Grolier encyclopedia is available now on CD-ROM. In fact, it takes up only a small part of the disk. It comes with an index search facility (which takes up more space than the encyclopedia text itself) that can search the entire text instantaneously for any word or combination of words you might be interested in. This means the entire encyclopedia has been indexed and this index stored on disk so that you can find anything within the entire work without waiting. You ask it questions and it retrieves all of the appropriate text for you to study.

The Library of Congress MARC bibliographic files are also available. Another CD-ROM disk that is available contains 8,800 public domain software programs, ready to run on the IBM PC!

Companies like Borland and Microsoft are already gearing up to provide support for this new technology. A major conference is being sponsored by Microsoft in early March, '86 to help arrive at standards for CD-ROM disk format and to resolve related problems. Borland's new program, *Turbo Lightning*, provides an on-line spelling dictionary and thesaurus. And it's only the tip of the iceberg. *Turbo Lightning* takes control of your keyboard and watches every key that is pressed. It automatically checks your spelling as you enter each word and beeps at you if it finds a word that it does not know. It then provides you with a list of possible correct spellings or, if you desire, a list of synonyms from its on-line thesaurus. Borland has announced that it intends to interface *Turbo Lightning* to CD-ROM disks in the near future.

There are some astrological ramifications to this new technology, too. Matrix has been designing its own CD-ROM disk for almost two years now. We have been in touch with the leaders in this technology and are going ahead with our own CD-ROM: *Astro*Disk*. Although this disk won't be out this month (or even this year), we thought you would like to know about it while it is still in its development stages. We think it's pretty exciting.

The Matrix Astro*Disk

What will be on the disk? As you might expect, the answer is: a lot.

High Precision Ephemerides

We'll have the most exact ephemeris possible for astrologers. Even the Moon will be precise beyond belief, good to a fraction of a second and stored on disk for a period covering thousands of years. This is the same ephemeris that's used by the Jet Propulsion Lab for space exploration.

Fixed Star Catalog

We already have on floppy disks over 23,000 fixed stars complete with all the details (magnitude, color, etc.) for each one of them. The entire catalog, cross-indexed in a variety of ways, will be available on the Matrix Astro*Disk.

Time Change Data Base

We have signed a contract with Neil Michelsen of ACS to use his complete U.S. and world time change and coordinate data base. This is the same material that is available in the two fantastic books put together by Tom Shanks for ACS. You can have the entire database (some 9 megabytes of data!) on line as part of the Astro*Disk.

One of the nice things about the Astro*Disk is that you can have all of this data available but buy into only the particular data that you happen to need. For example, although the ACS time change data will be on each copy of the Astro*Disk, only those who have purchased it as an option will be able to access it.

Books and Text

We are also looking into a wide variety of books and text material on which there is no copyright. This material includes the M.E. Jones Lecture Lessons, Sabian Symbols, works by William Lilly and many others. We are negotiating with a major company to have this text material indexed and stored on the Astro*Disk. What this would mean is that you could query the entire disk with questions like, "Give me all the references to Mars, Pluto and depression." Any text that contains these three words would appear at command.

Data Collections

Another section of our Astro*Disk will be devoted to large collections of data. We are negotiating with Michel Gauquelin to include much of his classic data collection. Also thousands of personalities' data stored in chart form, ready for instant search, research and anything you want to use the information for.

Maps

We also are planning to store our detailed maps of the U.S. and the world—a large amount of data by itself. This map data could be accessed and used by your computers for various astro-geographical programs.

High-Res Wheels

The same goes for hi-resolution graphics and designer wheels. The bit-image template will be stored on Astro*Disk giving you a wide selection of chart forms that no longer need to be stored on floppy disks.

Transit Searches

When it comes to pre-indexed transit searches and other astronomical phenomena, the possibilities are almost endless. We can pre-calculate and store about every kind of aspect, lunar phase, perihelion, void-of-course Moon, that we can imagine. All of this material will be available, ready to be included in transit printouts with no waiting on your part for the calculations to take place.

Now's the time for your ideas...

Does the idea of this Astro*Disk interest you? Perhaps you have ideas for data that could be stored on the disk, that we have not thought of. Let us know what they are, and we may be able to include them. We have some 550 megabytes of data that we can use. We are limited only by our imagination, what we can think to add to the data base before we lock it into ROM -- Read Only Memory.

The Matrix Astro*Disk is still far from being a finished product. We can't be too much in a hurry, because we have to wait until the industry giants decide on a standard storage format. It also will take time for the players for these disks to come down from the $1000-2000 they are today to a price that we all can afford, probably in the $300-700 range.

In the meantime, we're gathering data and learning how to store it in a format that will work with CD-ROM technology. The Matrix Astro*Disk is well on its way to becoming a reality —perhaps as soon as 1987. Let us know what you would like to see on it. Please address your letters on this subject to the attention of Michael Erlewine.

Astro*Calendar

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving outer planets. Aspects are geocentric unless marked *H to indicate a heliocentric aspect.

APRIL, 1986

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
02	12:48	09PI32	JUP SQ SAT	
09	19:13	03PI54	JUP SXT NEP	*H
16	03:28	00SA00	MAR TO SAG	*H
23	20:58	03SA35	MAR SSX NEP	*H
26	04:46	05PI26	JUP SQ SAT	*H
26	12:17	05SA11	MAR CJN SAT	*H
26	13:17	05SA11	MAR SQ JUP	*H
27	12:10	05SA42	MAR SSX PL	*H

MAY, 1986

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
02	14:13	05PI58	JUP TRI PL	*H
16	04:52	05CP26	NEP SXT PL	
18	17:49	06SA06	SAT SSX PL	*H
23	14:21	19SA49	MAR CJN UR	*H
25	10:28	20SA56	MAR SSQ PL	*H
31	02:28	20PI04	JUP SQQ PL	

Introducing:

*Blue*Star Jr.*

BLUE*STAR'S POWERFUL LITTLE BROTHER JOINS OUR IBM LINEUP!

Blue*Star Jr. on the IBM provides a lot of sheer calculation power for those who only need to do a few charts at a time and don't need permanent file storage. At $95, this is our student special. And yet there is very little that Jr. can't do. One thing it does not do is solar & lunar returns. For these you would need the full Blue*Star. However, it does provide both single and double chart wheels, using transits, secondary (and tertiary and minor) progressions, 2 quotidians, solar arc (Naibod arc, degree/year arc and user defined arc, too). Also Charles Jayne's ascendant and vertical arc. In addition, the program handles both composite and relationship charts.

Coordinate systems include geocentric, heliocentric, right ascension & declination, local space (azimuth & altitude), mundoscopes and prime vertical charts. Of course, all charts may be output in either the standard tropical zodiac or the western sidereal. Built-in house systems include Koch, Placidus, Campanus, equal, aries, solar and user-defined ascendant.

Output includes timed hits for progressions and directions and an aspect list for transits and natal charts. Daily motion and distance values are included as well.

Special features include standard wheel of houses or European open wheels. For the bi-wheel, you can decide which of the two charts you want in the center. A second page of aspects is available. Multiple copies of charts are facilitated and special astrological characters are available for the Epson style printers.

All of this for $95. Available now on the IBM and clones.

FRIENDS AND LOVERS

Our Newest Report Writer Offers You Two Distinct Relationship Reports

We're delighted to announce our latest text program, called *Friends & Lovers*. This is a new relationship (synastry) report writer. Just as the name suggests, this is a double-purpose program: It offers two different reports, one distinctly for lovers (romantic relationships) and the other for non-love relationships like friends, partnerships, acquaintances, not-so-friends, etc.—all at the touch of a button. You select which report style you want when ordering up the chart. Those who have read these exciting reports say that they represent our best text writing effort to date. The additional capability for generating non-romantic reports is a real plus.

Each report offers a complete 4-way analysis of a favorite relationship—romantic or otherwise:

1 An analysis of your own relating potential.
2 Your relationship with a specific person.
3 An analysis of that person's relationship potential.
4 His/her specific relationship with you.

You get all four sections in each report, or you can elect to have just the portions you want printed out.

Friends & Lovers reports appeal to everyone. Clients come back again and again, starting with their marriage partner, close friends and working towards their boss, or not-so-friends. Here is what one of our customers has to say about this new program:

"If I had to sell just one report, it would be *Friends & Lovers* . The repeat business is incredible. Everyone wants to know about relationships—it's just that simple. These things sell themselves."

Friends & Lovers is available on the IBM PC, Commodore-64 and Apple II computers. The price is $350.00. You may purchase *Friends & Lovers* as part of our special 4-for-$1000 offer.

*Blue*Star* Update Policy

Our policy is one of continual improvement. If you're a registered owner of Blue*Star, then you may want to take advantage of our update policy. Simply return your Blue*Star master disks and a check for $35 and we'll rush you your Blue*Star version 1.5 update—including your copy of our new tutorial diskette.

New features include automatic input handling of solar charts, Johndro charts and no-birthtime charts. Also: user-suppression of job description pages on transit reports and more. **Coming next issue:** Blue*Star 512K version with many new features; including built-in designer wheels.

—Matrix Staff

COLOR WHEELS

Hi-Resolution Color Wheels for the Houston Instruments 595 & 695 color plotters are now being shipped. A version for the new Epson HI-80 color plotter will probably be ready by the time you read this. $100.

You may mix and match most Matrix report writers in our special 4 for $1000 offer. This package discount lets you pick your favorite four programs from ten of our best sellers, and save yourself up to $250.00 over the regular price.

Astro*Talk Readers: If you have access to an IBM computer (or clone), I have a Blue*Star sample disk waiting for you!

The most advanced astrological software is also the easiest to use!

Blue*Star is a complete astrological system: extremely powerful, loaded with professional features, and absolutely a delight to use. It's an entire chart service, chart filing system and the most powerful (& accurate) program ever offered for dynamic transits and progressions.

You don't have to know computers to enjoy Blue*Star. It works the way you do. With clear and simple sentences, you can run the entire system. No cryptic codes, nothing to remember.

Features include: Your ten most-used charts and locations always on hand for one-button recall • Built-in 3,000- year ephemerides (extremely accurate) • Easy data entry • One-screen operation • Handsome printouts • Huge list of techniques • Optional Matrix *Time Change Atlas* disk • Much more.

We've prepared a special version of Blue*Star to introduce you to this powerful professional software. This disk lets you "test drive" the program to see for yourself what it will do--right on your own machine.

See what leading reviewers are saying about Blue*Star:

"I have virtually every kind of astrological software available for IBM machines on my own system, and at this point there's only one program I turn to, to do astrological calculations and chart printouts --and that's Blue*Star! ...This is the program against which all others are to be judged today."*

Richard Nolle, Jan.'86

*"Blue*Star from Matrix is a complete, professional astrological system that quite literally catapults us into a whole new era of astrological computing! ...You want user-friendly too? The great news is that Blue*Star allows you access to all this power without making you crazy with control codes and computer lingo ...using Blue*Star is so easy that you will rarely use the manual at all."*

Kelly Miles Essoe, Oct.'85

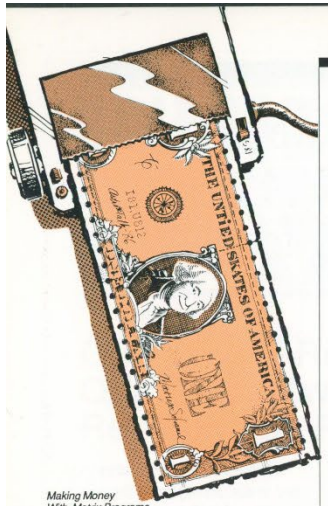
I want you to see for yourself just what a pleasure this program is to use. Once you've tried it, once you've seen what astrology software can be, I'm betting you won't settle for anything else.

Astro*Talk readers are the first to see this offer of a free Blue*Star Test Drive Disk. If you already own Blue*Star, you'll appreciate this disk is a handy tutorial a quick overview of program operation and Blue*Star's capabilities.

Send me a letter. Address it to me personally, and I'll rush your free disk right to you. This offer is made to all astrologers who have access to an IBM-PC or one of its many clones. Remember to send details on your machine and all its peripherals so I can tailor your disk to match. And please be sure to tell me you saw this offer here in *Astro*Talk*. Thanks!

Michael Erlewine

For your test drive disk, write:
Michael Erlewine
c/o Matrix Software
315 Marion Avenue
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307



Making Money With Matrix Programs
Cont. from 2

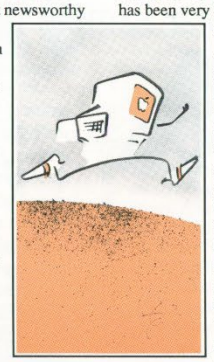
come up with that might help other astrologers develop their own astrological business? We're working to organize this information and make it available to our readers and we welcome feedback.

If you will take the time to write us a detailed description of your experience in marketing charts and reports, we will respond by sending you a coupon good for one night's food & lodging at the Heart Center—something that we know you'll enjoy. This coupon includes access to all center activities and to our retreat cottage at lovely Horsehead Lake. If you can't plan a visit yourself, you are free to assign your coupon to anyone you wish, so that they might benefit from it.

We would like to know what your business experience has been like using Matrix Software. The best ideas will appear in future Astro*Talk articles. Remember, whether you made money or lost it (and how much), we are interested to learn what methods you have used. If we pool our resources and experience, we are sure to benefit each other. We need *your* experiences. Your ideas. Your input will really make a difference in this project. Send us your report by May 1st, and we'll send you a free Heart Center coupon.

Machine Talk

No great change in the computer hardware market since our last column. Perhaps the most newsworthy fact is the advance of the Japanese & Korean IBM clones. Now the Japanese invasion that American hardware manufacturers have feared for 5 or 6 years has started. There is now a rash of good clones on the market with more appearing every month. In particular, Epson's Equity I is a bargain. So is the Leading Edge clone. I know of one Epson promotion where they sold an Equity I with 256K, two drives, video monitor & card and an Epson printer for $1500. That's a deal.



Another trend that is important is the appearance of quality no-name brand IBM clones. It appears that many computer stores have decided that any clone that has parts that can be swapped is a safe bet. More and more stores are offering their own home brew clone or are now willing to do service on these inexpensive clones. This means that better bargains, which are also safe bets from the service point of view, are now becoming available.

Macintosh

The Apple Macintosh has introduced a new Mac with 1 megabyte of RAM and a double-sided, 800K disk drive It also included a new set of ROMs that speed up the machine—which has been very slow. This is good news and should see Apple advancing somewhat in the marketplace. However, Apple still insists on charging top dollar, even on upgrades to existing machines, and this is discouraging. There is also an upgrade to Apple's LaserWriter to make it even more of a home publishing tool. We have had a Laser Writer here at Matrix for some time and it is an incredible machine. Apple has done a great job with this item. This newsletter was done with a Macintosh and the LaserWriter.

Amiga & ST

Both the Commodore Amiga and the Atari ST continue to sell well. Both companies are also walking along the edge of bankruptcy if we are to believe the articles we read. Neither has outdrawn the other in popularity. Perhaps the Atari machine has the edge in sales. We are still looking at both machines to see if they will survive before moving our programs onto them.

HEART CENTER RECEIVES NON-PROFIT STATUS

The senior staff here at Matrix has been studying metaphysical ideas for well over twenty years. Stephen and Morgen Erlewine, with help from Michael Erlewine, ran the Midwest's largest and most complete metaphysical bookstore (Circle Books) in Ann Arbor, Michigan from 1968 through 1974. We have always been open to a wide variety of paths and spiritual practices. Through the bookstore we met thousands of spiritual practitioners from around the world. Then in 1972, the Heart Center was born.

The center was established as an information cooperative devoted to sharing spiritual teachings; in particular, those relating to astrology. It hosted a wide variety of classes and visitors. After our relocation to Big Rapids, the Heart Center was, for a time, relegated to whatever extra rooms at the Matrix headquarters we had available. Then, last year, we were able to move into our own building.

Visitors to the Heart Center have included practitioners from almost every world religion, spiritual and esoteric group. While our focus has been astrological, we have also had an opportunity to meet and work with a great many western occultists, spiritualists, mediums, palmists, numerologists, Anthroposophists, Theosophists, Rosicrucians, polarity & biofeedback therapists, Scientologists and the like. Being raised Christian, we have studied with a wide variety of Christian groups, including most of the standard denominations as well as specialized groups like the Liberal Catholic church, pentacostal, and others. Our interest in food and health put us in contact with leading experts in macrobiotics, acupressure, massage therapy, whole foods, etc.

We have also met with members from a variety of spiritual communities such as the Hog Farm, Stelle, Rajneesh, Camp Chesterfield, and all manner of ashrams.

In recent years we have turned our attention to the Middle and Far East. Visitors have included Moslems, Taoists, all sorts of Hindu, Vedanta, and kundalini yoga practitioners, and others. As many of you know, we are very interested in Buddhism and have received Zen Buddhists, Chinese Buddhists, and of course, Tibetan Buddhists here at the center. In summary, practitioners and students of all faiths and metaphysical persuasions are welcome at our center.

The above history may be helpful in appreciating two very major changes that have taken place at the center within the last month. On the legal side, after almost endless paper work, we are happy to inform readers that the Heart Center has applied for and received federal and state tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Although Matrix Software remains a major benefactor, the Heart Center is now an independent not-for-profit organization.

The second (and most important) recent change has to do with our spiritual practice.

We became interested in Tibetan Buddhism in 1974 after having the opportunity to meet a very high Tibetan lama, Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche. Then in recent years, our search to better understand the Tibetan astrological methods found us training in the preparatory disciplines needed to learn this astrology. Students of Tibetan astrology undergo a very detailed course of preparation to train the mind. It was made clear to us that

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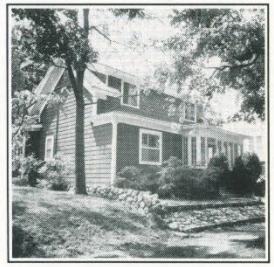

The Heart Center is now an independent not-for-profit organization.

HEART CENTER RECEIVES NON-PROFIT STATUS

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we wouldn't be able to learn the Tibetan astrological methods without calming and training our minds. A number of us were interested enough to undertake this preparatory work. We have been training under the guidance of Tibetan lamas for over two years.

This month the Heart Center has been recognized as an official affiliate of Karma Triyana Dharmachakra, one of the main centers for the development of Kagyu Buddhist techniques in North America and the only center that we know of where the Tibetan astrological system is taught.

The fact that we've now received official recognition as an authorized center is an important step for us. For one thing, it means that we are now able to introduce astrologers to these very useful techniques. It has been our goal to be able to share this age-old tradition with modern astrologers. We can now do that. We are now authorized to instruct others in the beginning stages of the Tibetan techniques.

In addition, we are preparing a separate newsletter for the center. Similar in format to Astro*Talk, the Heart Center newsletter will be oriented to those who have found some form of spiritual practice and who want to exchange information and ideas on this important subject. Anyone interested in receiving a sample copy need only drop us a postcard.

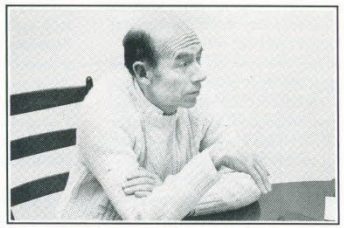
Heart Center Visitors

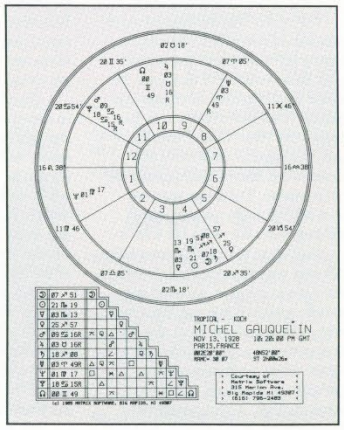
We hope that many of you will be able to visit our center in the near future. Whether your interest is astrology, computers, research, mind training or just having a vacation, we will be glad to see you. Recent visitors at the Heart Center have included Michelle Christides from Greece, Lenore Canter from New York, Jim Baltzell from Minnesota, Kirk Brooks from Chicago and Michel Gauquelin from France.

Many of you have written to us about visiting the Heart Center during this coming spring and summer. If you are planning a visit, it is important that you register as far ahead as possible to insure ample accomodations. We have eight bedrooms in the main center and several more at our retreat cottage on lovely Horsehead Lake. We're looking forward to your visit.

A Conversation With Michel Gauquelin

Continued from page 1





small prediction for my friend, who called me at that time, "Nostradamus".

Michael: This does not sound like the scientist that I think many astrologers imagine you as being. They think you are coming only from a scientific perspective. So, you have a background very similar to all of us?

M. Gauquelin: I think so. Now I am a little rusty, but at that time I was really able to delineate a chart, and to interpret it... what astrologers do. I have a good background for this.

Michael: So you did do interpretations.

M. Gauquelin: Just for fun. It worked very well. I had the feeling though, that there could be something fishy in it. It could be self-deception. I passed the exam, but I found this School of Decorative Arts to be very dull, so I quit. I decided to learn psychology and statistics. I wanted to verify Paul Choisnard, and the people who followed him. Especially, the Swiss astrologer Karl Krafft. He published a very big book in French in 1939 called *A Treatise on Astro-biology*. Choisnard and Krafft were the bigshots of scientific astrology in Europe.

I decided to replicate the more important claims of Choisnard. One of them was about transits. With a sample of 200 cases, he compared the position of the natal Sun with the position of transiting Mars and Saturn. He did the same for the ascendant and the Moon. He claimed that there is three times more chance of death when Saturn is conjunct-transiting the Sun or the Moon or the ascendant. That was a very strong effect, and very easy to replicate. I was almost sure I would be able to do this.

I did this, and on a larger scale than he did. I looked at 1,000 charts, but I did not find anything at all. I was surprised, and I tried again. I did 7,000 comparisons, and I did not find any results at all. There is no tendency for people to die when Saturn is transiting the Sun. I don't understand why Choisnard, who apparently was a very earnest person, found this. The fact is, there is no effect.

I also went through the big book of Karl Krafft. He claims a lot of things. I was extremely impressed when I bought a used copy of this book, which was out of print. I was very impressed at the beginning. Then I discovered that he made a lot of mistakes, statistical mistakes, demographical mistakes. So my first love turned to hate. The people who I thought were the best for proving astrology statistically failed in my hands. It is like your lover quitting you. That is what happened to me. I got angry but I didn't quit my research. I tried other things. I got a lot of relatively discouraging results. Probably, inside my heart, there was something which told me that I had to continue.

I decided to gather some samples using the time of birth. It is not easy to get the time of birth, because you have to write for the birth records. I did that very slowly. I was young and had no money at all. I gathered a group of 576 members of the French Academy of Medicine. That was all the people I could get from this one book. This time a very surprising and very significant statistical result appeared.

These people were born after the rise or culmination of Mars or Saturn. That was very significant. In astrology, we can say these people were born more often, roughly speaking, when those planets were in the 12th or 9th house. As you know, when the planet is rising, it is just crossing the ascendant. When the planet is culminating it is just crossing the midheaven. I found that to be very surprising. But when you try a lot of things, sometimes you get some significant results.

I thought the first thing to do was to replicate the experiment with another sample of notable French physicians. It was not easy, because I could not use the first ones. I gathered a new group of 500 and some people, and I found exactly the same results. I was extremely impressed by that, and very interested.

The first thing I asked myself was if it might just be a fluke. So of course, I took care to have a control group of ordinary people from the same years as my sample of physicians. But with these people this kind of Mars and Saturn effect did not show up. I thought I saw the beginning of something. The method of gathering charts of famous professionals such as the physicians seemed to work very well. I did that for other groups of people, taking their names from reference books. I gathered sports champions for example, and military leaders, and actors, and politicians.

"At the very beginning, when I published my first book, I tried to be relatively far away from the astrological community. Naively, I thought it was politically good to do so."

"I discovered that the so-called scientists were behaving like the worst of the astrologers. They were true disbelievers. They were superstitious. Science for them is exactly like faith, like a religion... a very intolerant one."

Mostly what I found was that the rising sector, the culminating sector and the sector after the setting seem to have some prominence among the others. For instance, with Mars, not only the physicians but also the military leaders and the sports champions were born more often with Mars in these positions. You would say in astrology the 12th, 9th, 6th and 3rd houses. I found Jupiter more often in these same zones in the sky for actors, politicians and journalists. For Saturn, I found it true for scientists. The Moon was more frequent in these zones for writers.

I published my first baby at that time, *The Influence of the Stars*. In this book I published not only my negative results: a criticism of Choisnard and Krafft, but also my positive results. I also published all the birth data, 6,000 birth dates, at the end of the book. This was the first time the Mars effect was published, in 1955, for sports champions.

Michael: Didn't this book have an effect on your career?

M. Gauquelin: Well, the book was not published by a well known publisher, so it didn't sell well. But I was surprised, it had a lot of articles and reviews written about it. The astrologers were angry about the first part, which was a demolition of two of their idols, Choisnard and Krafft, who were also my favorites before. But the second part, the positive results, they applauded. They were a little worried, because it is not exactly traditional astrology. The twelfth house is relatively weak in traditional astrology. The scientists applauded my demolition of Choisnard and Krafft, but they said that Gauquelin himself made mistakes when he found positive results. I was caught between both sides.

The first really interesting criticism I received was: "You did that in France, now you have to do that in other countries to replicate your first finding. It may be just something that happened in France." So I did that. And I got an impressive amount of positive results, and I published my second book in 1960. It was called *The Men of the Stars*. That is a very flat title. It should have been called *Famous People and Planets*, or something like that. This book, my second baby, is still not translated into English.

If people are interested, my latest book is called *Birth Times*, which I don't think is a very good title. This book was published first in England, under the title, *The Truth About Astrology*, which is perhaps too vague, but is more appealing for the people. [Editor's note: Michel's book, *Birth Times*, is available from the AFA, Box 22040, Tempe, AZ, 85282—$9.20 postpaid.]

Michael: What is it about?

M. Gauquelin: The book is mostly a summary of all my results-- from the beginning. I took time to personally describe my findings. I changed my own mind, as I told you before. The Mars effect controversy is explained, among other things. At the very beginning, when I published my first book, I tried to be relatively far away from the astrological community. Naively, I thought it was politically good to do so. Just for getting my research accepted. I discovered that the so-called scientists were behaving like the worst of the astrologers. They were true disbelievers. They were superstitious. Science for them is exactly like faith, like a religion... a very intolerant one. That was an extremely interesting experience. At the same time I discovered that some people interested in astrology, like John Addey for instance, were very nice, honest, intelligent people. I changed my mind. I tried to be closer to some astrologers than before. I was very aloof before.

Michael: So you felt more affinity with astrologers?

M. Gauquelin: Yes, and also, Neil Michelsen helped me with his computer facilities to get some new results. I did not get any grant from the scientific community, but I was helped by the astrological one. I had a very interesting conversation with Doug Pierce yesterday. I hope that we may do some work together, some collaboration, which now I am very eager to have. We cannot discuss this with scientists. They say what M. Gauquelin found is impossible.

Michael: Let's go back, and talk about what you were doing when you brought out that first book. What happened to you when people took a look at its title? How hard did you work? Can you give me some idea of what it involved? You told me that you were pursuing a career as a psychologist. The publication of your book had an effect on that career, didn't it?

M. Gauquelin: Yes, I made a mistake in publishing that book under my own name. I was starting an academic career in psychology. I published this book, *The Influence of the Stars*, under my own name and

that killed me completely.

Michael: What do you mean, killed you completely? What exactly happened?

M. Gauquelin: For instance, I got a diploma for the study of psychology at the University of the Sorbonne. When the director of that institute got a copy of my book, he decided not to see me any more. That happened 30 years ago. He retired recently. He was a very powerful man. You can imagine... a member of many academies, etc. Also, after this I was not able to borrow books from the library of the institute.

Michael: So how have you made a living all these years?

M. Gauquelin: That was not easy. You are like me in this sense. If you have something to do, you do it. I decided never to be distracted too much by the material problem, which of course should be taken into account. I decided to find a part time job. At the very beginning, I tried all kinds of things. I was a worker one year in the official records bureau of Paris, where the birth records are kept. That enabled me to get some birth times. I did things like this. That was part time in the morning. Also, I tried for several months to sell yarn. I worked part time in the morning for seven years as an applied psychologist, interviewing people at the French Society of Psychotechnology. That was a good job, because I was working mornings to 1:00 p.m., and after that I had my time free for my work.

Michael: What kind of work did it involve? You have amassed a lot of information. What exactly did you do all those years? How did you gather the data? Was it a very hard job? Did you work long hours?

M. Gauquelin: Yes, it was a very hard job. Of course, if you want to gather data, you have to look at the professional directories for the name of the person and the date, but the time of the birth is not recorded in the book. So you have to get the time of birth from the records at the place of birth.

Michael: Do you have to write to them?

M. Gauquelin: Yes, you write to them. And of course, I never mentioned astrology. I just said it was for demographic purposes. I had a formula for this. Fortunately, in France, this is relatively easy to do. The time of birth has been recorded since the French Revolution, 1793. It is hard work. I was working with a lot of data and I had to pay for the stamps. That was very expensive. My wife and I were extremely poor, to the point that we never had heat during the winter. It was too expensive.

Michael: You did not have heat during the winter?

M. Gauquelin: At the very beginning, we did not. The winter is not too hard in Paris. We put a lot of clothes on, and wore blankets on our feet.

Michael: So your wife worked with you?

M. Gauquelin: During the first years, she was not working with me. She was aware of my work, but did not work with me. She assisted me later in gathering data from the other European countries. Her help was not unappreciated, of course. At first she was against astrology, far more than I was. She said it was rubbish.

Michael: That is obviously not true now. You and your wife have separated; you are divorced. You were together for 30 years?

M. Gauquelin: Yes, we were.

Michael: Now, she is becoming a force in astrology on her own. I'm not totally familiar with all this, but she has a journal. What's its name today?

M. Gauquelin: It formerly was called *Astro-Psychological Problems*. But recently, she changed the name to the *Schneider-Gauquelin Journal*.

Michael: Now this is an interesting thing: I have been told that Marie Schneider, who I was writing to, and Francoise Gauquelin, who I was also writing to, are one in the same person. Is that true?

M. Gauquelin: Yes, they are the same person.

Michael: What is the point of having the two names?

M. Gauquelin: I think it is very convenient for her that Marie Schneider is her maiden name. She was born Marie, but she changed it to Francoise. Marie Schneider can congratulate Francoise for something.

Michael: Well, she seems to be very much an astrologer now. Her journal is nothing but astrology, with a statistical tinge. How did its appearance affect you?

M. Gauquelin: I was extremely surprised. I can say that up until 1980, she never accepted invitations to attend astrological meetings, and considered them to be absolutely rubbish. She said that they made her feel like she would vomit, if I may use that expression. Now she is like an astrologer, traveling a lot and doing lectures.

"At the same time I discovered that some people interested in astrology, like John Addey for instance, were very nice, honest, intelligent people. I changed my mind."

Astrotalk

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Who wrote the book of love?

(We just did)

See page 9

Bi-Monthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Three, No. 3 May/Jun '86

Astrotalk

The state of astrology: Where are we headed?

Noel Tyl

Barry Lynes

Leyla Rudhyar

Nineteen well-known astrologers share their candid views on astrology in '86—where we are and what's in store.

This question of what's in store for astrology was posed to some of the top U.S. astrologers by Michael Erlewine in the spring of 1986. Here are their thoughts:

■ **John Townley:** "I'd say that astrology has come to pretty much of a dead halt. I don't think it is going to go anywhere until it gets back to the level of establishing for itself a general field theory—a base on which it is all based. What we're dealing with is selected and often sporadic and erratic phenomena that work often enough to make it stimulating and make us know that there is something there. But there is no concrete or theoretical basis as there is for any other science. Until we have that, we are going to keep going around making the wrong experiments. We are trying to experiment testing different... doing the Vernon Clark experiment over and over again. It gets worse each time they do it. And so on… trying to make it match the MMPI and things like that. Of course, it's never going to match anything like that. The reason is that since we don't really know what we are testing, we're going to fail every time we try to test it. We are trying to test it by other criterion than actually apply to it.

"I would say that most of the accusers of astrology are probably correct. They think that astrologers are 100% charlatans, but I would bring it down to 90%. Not necessarily even intentional charlatans. But for the same failing. They are suffering from the same failing. Maybe 50% of the people out there are deliberately selling hokum straight ahead. There is a certain respect that I have for that. I have done that myself in other fields. But the rest of them are frequently selling it under the guise of psychology or counseling, or many other things that astrology may be a part of, but are not fundamentally astrology at all. Because they don't really understand…

Continued on 6 ➤

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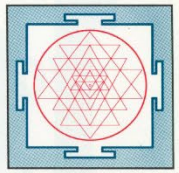
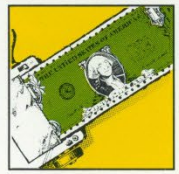
Inside:

FRIENDS & LOVERS FOR EVERYBODY! A SALES KIT—*Pg 9*



HINDU ASTROLOGY CONFERENCE THIS AUGUST—*Pg 13*



MAKING MONEY WITH MATRIX PROGRAMS/Pt 2—*Pg 8*

"I have virtually every kind of astrological software available for IBM machines on my own system, and at this point there's only one program I turn to, to do astrological calculations—and that's Blue•Star!"

—Richard Nolle, software reviewer for the AFA Bulletin and for Dell Horoscope

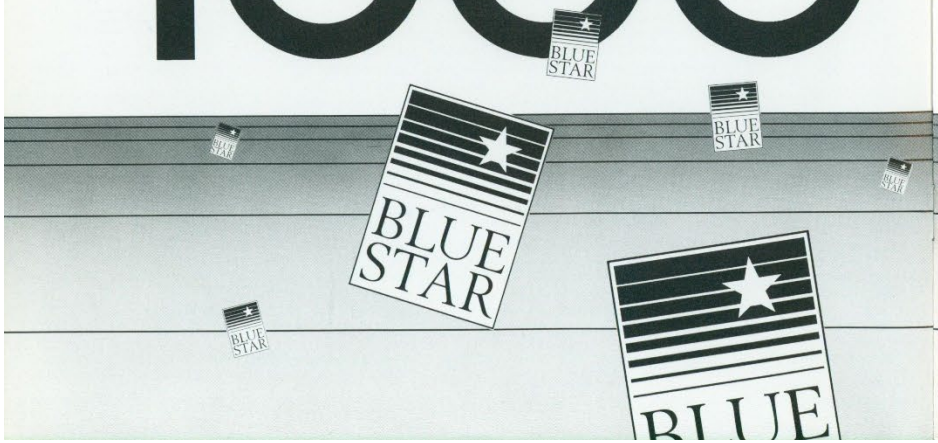
"Blue•Star from Matrix is a complete, professional astrological system that quite literally catapaults us into a whole new era of astrological computing!... You want user-friendly too? The great news is that Blue•Star allows you access to all this power without making you crazy with control codes and computer lingo... using Blue•Star is so easy that you will rarely use the manual at all."

—Kelly Miles Essoe, software reviewer for RAMC magazine

Steve Hines, owner and director of Microcycles of Los Angeles—perhaps the largest center for astrological software and service on the West Coast—has this to say about Blue•Star:

"We carry Matrix and other astrological software. We just did a survey of all our IBM owners, and all the Blue•Star owners we contacted expressed greater satisfaction (with no problems or complaints) than with other software packages on the market."

Over 1000



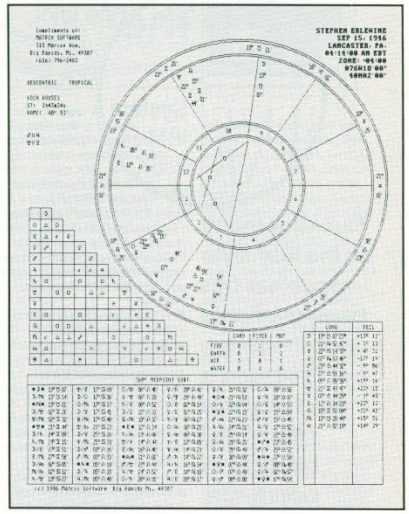
Blue•Star is now over two years old. It's been tried, tested and is used by well over 1000 astrologers —both amateur and professional. Blue•Star is also international: French, German and Dutch versions are available.

Blue•Star, designed with the future in mind, gets better all the time; for ours is a policy of continual improvement. We keep adding new and powerful features.

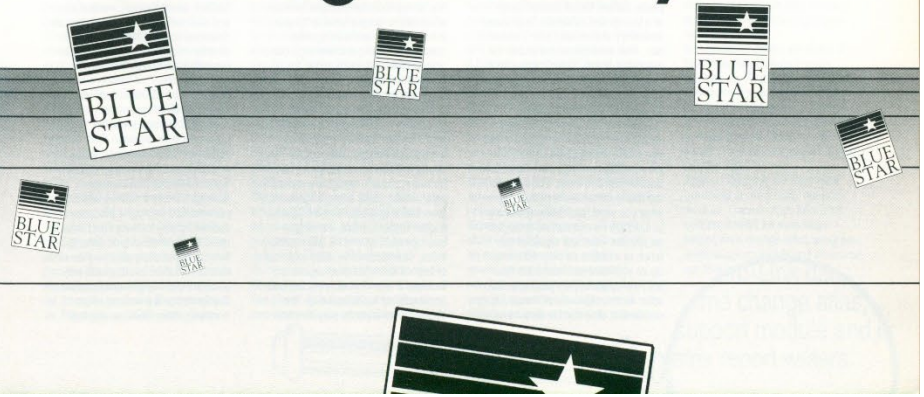
For example, to your right is one of our new hi-res wheels that are a built-in part of the IBM 512K version—at no extra charge. Also very popular is the new on-screen chart wheel that lets you look at the charts you've entered or pulled up from your disk files. You can browse thru your chart collection with these on-screen wheels and even look at transits to them. Our built in time-stepper function provides a useful rectification assist. You can step thru time, trying out different times and chart angles. Or set it to the Astro•Clock mode and watch a chart wheel (for any place you want) change over time.

Another improvement on the 512K version is the addition of built-in asteroids, Chiron, Transpluto and the eight Uranian planets. All these bodies work in both natal (static) and transiting (dynamic) mode.

On the next page is a brief listing of what's included in the standard IBM Blue•Star package.



Blue★Stars in use by astrologers today.



The Fine Print:

Blue*Star menu on the IBM-style machines has been available since the spring of 1984, and is used by more than 1000 astrologers worldwide. Here's a quick summary of the features in the standard Matrix Blue*Star system. All this for $300. Availablity: now.

System requirements: IBM-PC or close clone, 256K RAM (512K version available), two 360K drives (hard disk nice, but not necessary), any ASCII printer (the Epson FX-80 is ideal). If using Epson FX-80, you get built-in downloadable character sets. With Epson RX-80, FX-80 or FX-85 you get built-in hi-res Designer Wheels. Astrological glyphs on Epson, IBM, NEC, Okidata and Prowriter.

Blue*Star high-accuracy ephemerides are pre-calculated. No waiting and no calculating special ephemerides. Includes complete 3,000-year ephemeris (600 B.C.–2400 A.D.) and ultrafast Quickscan 70 year ephemeris (1929–2000) –both with Sun & planets accurate to one second of arc and Moon to within 2-3 seconds plus mean lunar node and chart angles (ascendant, midheaven, vertex, east point and part of fortune). With 512K version: built-in true node, Uranians for 400 years (1650-2050), QuickScan ephemeris with 4 major asteroids, Chiron & Transpluto (one minute accuracy).

Easy chart data entry: Data entry is in pictured format (simple: just type over existing lines). Accepts first and last name, date, time (to seconds), zone (automatic time zone labels), place, longitude & latitude to the second of arc (geocentric latitude supported), user's 10 favorite cities on-line, user's 10 favorite sets of chart data on-line, read birth data from data already entered or from disk file, data replication for chart or place, current transit data at touch of a button and automatic local mean time entry. Automatic Delta T correction. Also available at extra cost: the automatic Matrix Time Change Atlas includes longitude & latitude for 1200 U.S. cities complete with all time changes for this century, plus coordinates for major world cities.

Job menus in plain English! What you see is what you get. Blue*Star job menus get rave reviews because *anyone* can use them. You arrange the menu sentences until they say what you want, and that's all there is to it. All job menus can be arranged as you like them and saved at the touch of a button so they will come up as you have set them from then on. Any series of jobs you order (i.e. solar return, chart wheel, transit hits, composite, etc.) can be saved to a single key for future use. Supports ten different full sets of autojobs.

Many zodiacs available. Aside from the standard tropical zodiac, we offer precessed tropical and the most popular sidereal ayanamshas including: Fagan/Bradley, DeLuce, Lahiri, Raman, Usha-Shashi, Sri Yukteswar, Sundara Rajan, Ely, Krishnamurti, Shill Pond and user-defined.

Natal charts & coordinate systems. Charts in a variety of coordinates: geocentric (ecliptic longitude & latitude), hour angle charts (hour angle & declination), astronomical azimuth (azimuth & altitude), local space charts (azimuth & altitude), Campanus mundoscope (longitude & amplitude), prime vertical (longitude & amplitude) and Neely prime vertical (longitude & amplitude). Also equatorial (right ascension & declination) and heliocentric (long. & lat.).

Transits, progressions, directions & returns. The following global features work with transits, progressions, directions and returns (where appropriate). These features provide innumerable possibilities when used in combination with each other and with the techniques as described below. Your choice of zodiacs: tropical, tropical precessed or sidereal (all ayanamshas). Most features work in both direct (standard) and converse modes. Transit and progressed searches may be performed in geocentric longitude and parallels of latitude, heliocentric longitude and parallels of latitude, equatorial right ascension and parallels of declination. The user-defined hits format includes 6 output formats which are re-programmable by user, entering, exact and leaving orbs (separate entering and leaving), our unique LINK feature provides the ability to link any series of transit, progression or direction jobs together so that they print out a single chronological hit list. Hit data available includes name or label for all bodies, positions for both bodies, house position of transiting planet, transiting planet's retrograde status, natal aspect, natal angle, alignment (occultations), dexter/sinister index, aspect formed, exact, entering or leaving index, type of hit, job number index, Quickscan lines, date and time of aspect. User-selected aspect set includes 9 user-definable aspect sets (most with up to 20 aspects). The above global features may be combined with the following options to create a wide variety of popular astrological techniques.

Transits. Options include static transit charts, transit to natal hits, user-defined transiting planets & angles, user-defined transited planets—Sun, Moon and planets, aspect set, chart angles and extra points.

Transit to transit (dynamic) hits—all these options are user-defined: transiting planets,aspect set, and hits format.

Transit to progressed (dynamic) hits—all these options are user-defined: transiting planets, aspect set, progressed planets, and hits format.

Progressed charts—options include static progressed charts with progression types: secondary, tertiary (mean), minor, quotidian 1 (Bija), quotidian 2 and user defined (many). Also: equatorial, helio or precessed progressions.

Progressed-to-natal hits. User-defined progressed and natal planets and points, aspects, and user-defined hit format.

Progressed-to-progressed hits. Dynamic progressed to progressed hits using above techniques. User-defined planets, aspects sets, hit formats, etc.

Progressed angles include solar arc M.C. in longitude, daily houses (mean quotidian) in longitude, Naibod M.C. in longitude, solar arc in R.A., daily houses in R.A. and Naibod M.C. in R.A.

Directions includes static direction charts (any type) using methods of direction: solar arc, degree-for-year, Naibod, ascendant arc, vertical arc, and user-defined arcs. These include directions to natal hits, directions to direction hits, directed angles (solar arc midheaven, daily houses, 24-hour method).

Primary directions include all of the above techniques (and global combinations) performed in equatorial coordinates.

Returns. Return charts for Moon and all planets, and in any series. Special features include user-defined number of returns wanted, user-defined time zone hits, user-defined locality for return and automatic chart wheel output. Solar & lunar plus planetary returns. For example: Saturn return charts with accurate chart angles are possible thanks to our one second of arc accuracy. Also: demi, quarti, and harmonic returns, phase angle returns, and zodiac point return.

"I love Blue*Star! The ease, convenience and speed along with the simple screen prompts make it the easiest system from Matrix so far…It's a joy to use."—*Hazel W. Mooney, Hot Springs, AR*

"I'm absolutely AMAZED at Blue*Star, the ease of using it and all that it does. It's truly "user-friendly"—and coming from me that's a BIG compliment"—*Louise Blake, Saratoga, CA*

Special timing of events available for use with timed hits (transits and progressions) include parallels (ecliptic latitude & equatorial declination), sign ingresses, house ingresses, solstice & equinox times, new & full Moon times, stationary times, entering/leaving aspects, occultations, midpoints, void-of-course Moon, search zodiac point and search phase angle (any 2 planets).

Diurnal rotation features. The Blue*Star (512K version) search module includes daily (24-hour) events such as timing for transits of planets to the angles, parans, etc. which have never before been offered to astrologers. Gives you a 24-hour picture that includes the daily angle times for either transiting or natal planets in either longitude or right ascension. You can have two kinds of aspects: conjunction or opposition to ascendant or MC (ecliptic) or true times for rising, setting, culminating and anti-culmination in right ascension.

Advanced features include aspect angle type (standard ecliptic aspects and true body aspects), handles up to 200 extra points (treated like natal points) plus our LINK feature, which allows you to mix output hits (transits and progression) into one list.

Built-in asteroids, Chiron, Transpluto, Uranian planets and true node. Thanks to all that extra RAM, we can now offer the 4 major asteroids, the eight Uranian planets plus Chiron and Transpluto as a standard feature of the 512K Blue*Star. All of these bodies are not only available to you in static charts, but also work as transiting bodies as well. The period offered for the above planets is from 1700-2050. The true node does not have time limitations.

Synastry features include global features such as select or input a chart, automatic printwheel availability and user-selection to save chart to file. Includes composite chart (composite MC with derived angles and composite angles) plus relationship chart with place correctly calculated by using trigonometry (great circle method). Synastry aspect grid includes A's in B's & B's in A's houses.

House systems include the classical (Meridian or Zariel, Regiomontanus, Porphyry, equal, Morinus, Topocentric, Koch, Campanus and Placidus). Alternate house systems include solar, Aries, user-defined ascendant, Johndro chart, Earth houses, Uranian options (any planet to any house cusp), nine house systems printout, and planets in house totals.

Midpoint options include midpoint grid (single chart or two charts), midpoint sort on any dial, 90/45/22.5 degree sorted and zodiac or 360-degree notation.

Aspects. Aspect output includes nine custom sets (most with up to 20 aspects) and each set is user-definable. Separate orbs for Moon, Sun and planets. Also aspect data output that includes applying/separating, dexter/sinister index, aspect orbs index, aspect totals, aspect totals for chart, aspect totals per planet, aspect sorts (tabular) by angular separation, aspect orb and aspect sort. Aspect grids for both single and double grids. Also whole chart pattern diagrams.

Harmonics & arc transforms—options include harmonic chart wheel, arc transform chart, harmonic tables (any series), planets in any 10 harmonics, sorted planets in any 10 harmonics with user-orb flags.

Cosmobiology—includes cosmobiology dials & trees, complete sorts (any dial), planetary tree pictures (45-degree dial) and 90/45/22.5 degree sorts (formatted).

Other output features include complete chart birth data, Julian day number, delta T correction, direct or retrograde index, timed planetary stations, travel or daily motion for both geocentric & heliocentric and geocentric distance values. Solunar features allow calculation of solar & lunar eclipses (and phases) with eclipse circumstances, lunar phases, Sun/Moon angle, Moon fast/slow index, ingresses (any), solstice points in both planetary and zodiac order, essential dignities, quadruplicities, elemental balance in both tabular form & chart table, quadrant count, positive/negative sign index, angular/succedent/cadent index and planet-in-sign index.

Single, double, and triple chart wheels (hi-res) include proportionally placed planet and sign glyphs on popular printers (downloadable set on Epson FX-80). Wheel types include open European wheel and standard wheel-of-houses. Single wheel has planet data format, professional coordinate display (geo, helio, R.A., local space and more), student symbol format (long, decl., dignities, elements, more) and astrologer notes format.

Double wheels include chart switch (inside to outside), coordinate selection (coordinates inside and coordinates outside chart), input 2nd chart selection from keyboard or file, synastry aspect grid, sorted aspect list, harmonic options (harmonic inner or harmonic outer) and arc transform (inner or outer).

Built-in hi-res wheels. Blue*Star owners with 512K enjoy our built-in Designer Wheels at no extra cost. You can order up them just like any other job. We predict that these fine wheels will soon replace our ASCII wheels. Single, double and triple wheels are available to you—as well as a one-page printout that includes a wheel, aspect grid and sorted midpoints. These hi-res wheels take only 2 minutes to print out and are available for the IBM, and Epson- style (RX-80, FX-80, FX-85) printers.

Analyze module offers formatted printouts of chart birth data, personalized name & address logos, planet position table, aspects in use, nine house systems, solstice points table, 90/45/22.5-degree midpoint table, 45-degree planetary trees, ten harmonics, sorted harmonics, sorted aspects, sorted aspect orbs, aspects in planetary order, sorted midpoints, angular separations. Also global harmonic and dial options and choice of aspect sets.

Chart files include alphabetical directory keyed by last name with all secondary charts attached to that name. System supports primary charts, secondary charts (files limited only by disk space), extension files (Uranians, asteroids & Chiron, notes limited only by disk space) and your comments.

Blue*Star control menu includes: add-a-new-chart to job queue, add another job to current chart data, review jobs for current chart, edit current chart data, delete current chart data, review all charts already entered, set auto-job, process all jobs entered, Astro•Clock and exit.

Screen module includes on-screen chart wheel (single or double wheel), on-screen aspectarian, aspects given, aspect orb in degrees and minutes, applying/separating index, angular separation in degrees and minutes as well as midpoints shown.

Inspect-A-File shows chart data, birth data, misc. stored data, right ascension of midheaven, ayanamsha, obliquity of ecliptic, Julian day number and lunar node's motion.

On-screen Coordinates: Geocentric (longitude, latitude, daily motion and distance value), heliocentric (longitude, latitude & daily motion), equatorial (right ascension & declination). Also shows directory of extra charts (secondaries & extensions).

Built-in pop-ups. Extra features include built-in Astro•Clock with on-screen wheel that displays current angles and planets for any place you select. Also pop-up calendar and calculator are available to you at all times for use. Calendar allows you to leave notes on dates, even years in the future.

Pop-Up Screen Wheel. Blue*Star owners with 512K have a built-in on-screen wheel and aspectarian available to them. Any birth data that appears in the chart input window can be viewed in seconds on a small wheel with aspectarian at the touch of a button. Better yet, you can view the current transits to that chart as well. A built-in stepper function lets you alter the chart by user-defined time increments to help in rectification. Now you can browse through a set of charts (one after the other) and look at them on-screen before processing.

Custom capabilities include name and address, aspects (nine sets of aspects of up to twenty aspects each and separate orbs for Sun, moon and planets), custom menu defaults, custom job lists, sidereal ayanamsha and custom progressions & directions.

International menu versions of Blue*Star now include French, German and Dutch (Spanish soon).

Processing includes batch processing by chart name or job type, delayed processing, save job input for later, load job input entered earlier. Total number of jobs limited only by RAM.

Add-on Options for Blue•Star (available at extra cost): statistics module, Tracker cross-reference system, Astro•Link data base helper, time change atlas, programmer's support module and of course our Matrix report writers.

Astro•Link data
time change atlas,
support module and o
Matrix report writers.

The state of astrology: Where are we headed?

> "They don't have anything to lean on to determine what is real—as opposed to charlatanism. Who knows where people step off into the mire? I think the best of us do that all too frequently for that reason." *John Townley—from 1*

John Townley

■ **Axel Harvey:** "As far as a prediction of where it is headed, I think that astrology is in one of those stormy situations where no one can tell where it's going to land. I think that the astrologers that are doing serious work just have to keep doing it and not mind a lot of the trendy bullshit that's going on—a lot of bad astrology that is getting published, getting publicized. That's all right, it always has been that way. The other end of the debate is the science vs. astrology problem. What I'm doing is simply refusing to see that there is a problem.

"Astrology has got its own rules, and it has got to go ahead and develop according to its own rules. It is just cutting off one's nose to spite one's face if we always take a defensive and angry position about science. I think we have to keep working on and refining our theories, get more facts, and keep on working. I think it's a lonely thing. It isn't going to make any headlines or anything."

■ **Barbara Sommerfield:** "My response is twofold, both positive and negative. On the positive side I'm excited and thrilled, and very, very inspired with all the new work that is being done with computer technology, and what this opens up not only in terms of research, but in terms of personal work with people. This whole end is on the rise, obviously. And the advent of personal home computers brings this within the reach of most astrologers.

"On the negative, I think the general overall quality has plummeted. Ten or fifteen years ago the level of expertise that was necessary, that one had to live up to before you would go out and lecture and begin to see clients, would be compared to Charles Jayne or Rudhyar or Marc Edmund Jones. A person had fifteen or twenty years of experience on them before they were out there calling themselves experts. Today, there seems to have been a tremendous popularization and almost anybody can go out there, with or without a background, and push their wares. As a result, I think there's been a lowering of the quality of what's available."

■ **Gary Duncan:** "OK, well I think in general we're in a very sorry state. The problem is that while astrologers in general voice their desire for research, they do not follow that up with any real support. In the period of time that I have been active in professional astrology, which is nearly 36 years, I have only found eight persons who at least took the trouble to write me a letter to volunteer their services. Of those, only four people have actually done any work—I can now add a fifth this past year. That doesn't speak well for the whole astrological community. We need qualified people to head the projects on research work."

■ **Mark Lerner:** "Well, I think in general I have some good things to say and some bad things to say. I do agree with some thoughts that Barry Lynes often has, in that I think that astrologers need to come out of the woodwork, come out of the personal dimension to an extent, and start applying their training to issues that are more life-threatening to the planet. I am talking about ecology, and some of the things in that area.

"Of course, the spiritual direction, which I have focused on for a long time, needs more experimenting... exploring the esoteric dimension.

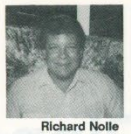
"The worst thing in the world—sometimes I see it in the Mercury Hour, sometimes with AFAN and AFA—is all this bickering. It would work if there was some quick resolution of it. But for a long time it seemed as if that was a kind of stalemate. I've heard rumors to the effect that people are beginning to come together a little bit more... to work on the positive."

■ **Ken Gillman:** "This is a very important question. Lots of thoughts come into my mind when you ask it. A big one comes through under commercialism; a lot of people are making money off astrology. Astrologers making money off the public. In the sense that there are too many books being published which are not saying anything new. Lots of things like that, which is not necessarily a bad thing, but I don't think it is really advancing astrology. Astrology is very active at this time, but I don't see too many signs of advancement of knowledge.

"People can concentrate in one case, on the interpretation of the chart. It does mean that some techniques in the past that people didn't dare do, such as primary directions, are now easily available. In my own field, research, it is terribly exciting. Some bloke has just got a file of 47,000 birth dates which I can analyze two, three, four ways, as it were, after dinner. The computer is an enormous aid. That has to improve a level of astrology."

■ **Jeff Jawer:** "I think that we as astrologers reflect a general state of alienation in our society. When neither religion or science fulfills individuals' needs, we astrologers find ourselves being incomplete religionists, and incomplete scientists. I feel that to heal the planet, and for astrology to heal itself, involves a reintegration of the sacred and the scientific. However, I don't see astrologers as being separate from the society in which they live. So that we are not necessarily leading the ride, but we are along on it. So we are part of the cultural problem of integrating the technological and the sacred. I think one way in which astrology particularly can contribute to the reintegration of the sacred and the technological is to return to our roots, which really integrated

Maria Simms Jossick



Richard Nolle

Mark Lerner

Capel McCutcheon

Barbara Schermer

both of these elements. We have to go pre-Greek, when astrology was not about defining individuals as unique and separate beings, but as reminding individuals that they were part of a community and part of a collective process.

"I think we represent the future of the society. In a sense astrology, as one of the original sciences, became overly crystalized and separated. And I think we're not accepted by the society because somehow we are a harbinger of the direction of our whole technological society. We frighten them, because our past is their future.

"I think I caught on about six months ago that the reason science hates us is that we represent their future. That just as we became overly specialized, crystalized, and dropped out of the mainstream, so will every individual science."

■ **Leyla Rudhyar:** "I see a lot of really hopeful signs. I feel very positive about it. One of the things is what I hear about AFAN. My involvement is small, but I have the feeling that as a group and as a community we are maturing, becoming more tolerant of different points of view. We still have a lot on the personality level to work out, to be able to deal with one another more respectfully, and less on a personality level, but I think we are moving in that direction. In terms of the general public, I don't think astrology is growing as far as general widespread popularity is concerned. I don't think it's necessary at this point. I think things run in cycles. This is one of those cycles where we are consolidating. The interest on the part of the general public... I think people who are interested are more serious than in the past—more considered."

■ **Barry Lynes:** "I believe that given the American psyche, and the western culture's focus on science, astrology has got to be brought into the mainstream through a scientific process. There is too much emphasis on technical studies and mythology and that sort of thing. Astrology has to combat the narrowminded scientific view that considers it superstition. And at the same time they have to validate the science of astrology through a scientific process.

"For the most part, with the exception of what you are doing or what Michelson is doing, or the few other people, aware of the larger patterns that transcend our culture but at the same time have a scientific basis, I don't find much in the general astrological culture that is anything other than a waste of time. If we stay on that path we'll still be nowhere in 20 years.

"I think the scientific process is the approach. I think that the foundations for the validation of our science will be found in the works of Carl Jung, who established an empirical basis for the unconscious, an empirical basis for psychology, and it is from the very solid groundwork that he put down that I think astrology will be scientifically validated. But that means that you have to use rigid scientific testing the way he did. You can take any hypothesis, as mystical as you like, or as mythological as you like—as long as you use a standard scientific approach and double blind studies, you can determine truth from it. That is the road we have to look at very clearly. I don't think statistics is going to lead to anywhere but a dead end."

■ **Barbara Schermer:** "I think that astrology is split into two major areas: people that are technically oriented, and people that are humanistically oriented. People that are more interested in the technique of astrology versus the psyche itself—developing astrology as a field for exploration of the unconscious. So I see us at a point... It is kind of like the left brain having to honor the right brain, and vice versa. We need to start coming together and incorporating not only left brain approaches to astrology, but right brain as well. Using astrodrama experiential images... in other words, developing a full approach to astrology in the future, because it is something that is needed in our changing and intense environment.

"I think astrology is in danger of becoming very dry, very abstract, very theoretical. We are losing its life blood, losing its wetness or its juiciness. Instead of moving further and further out from center, we should be trying to penetrate down into the chart."

■ **Capel McCutcheon:** "First of all, I see more in my other field, which is psychotherapy. I see among students of psychotherapy, MS and Ph.D candidates, an increasing acceptance and openness to astrology. That not exactly legitimizes it within the higher educational departmental hierarchy, but I certainly do see among individuals a receptivity and an openness to it. I must say that among astrologers, I feel that they are not open to studying psychotherapy. I think that is very justifiable, since astrologers have been ridiculed for so long that you had to be an especially Uranian kind of person to be willing to put up with the approbium that came with being an astrologer."

■ **Mary Downing:** "I think that astrology's become much too focused on the psychological element in natal chart interpretation. This is a small factor in the entire astrological principle. It seems to be running away with the entire field at this time. I think humanism has made its point and gone a little too far. I think the way science is moving at the present time... Certain ideas that are coming out of the scientific community indicate that the mass mind is now looking at the true physical interaction of cycles in the world we live in. I think that there is a need to study strictly mundane reactions on a cyclical level. I think that we have the tools, particularly computers, to analyze large amounts of data. I think there's enough evidence to indicate recurrent cycles in both biology and economics, so we could do very decent work and come out with some real ideas, and some real data to show what it is that we are actually dealing with. I think our major problem has always been that we have a collection of tools and we don't know why they work. I think that we are at the beginning of an era when we can find out what the underlying mechanism of astrology really is."

■ **Maria Jossick:** "Although it is getting into a really sticky situation, about which there is a lot of disagree-

Continued on 11➤

MAKING MONEY WITH MATRIX PROGRAMS PART 2

Matrix Marketing Plan

by Michael Erlewine

Bob Cooper, executive secretary of the American Federtion of Astrologers (the largest astrological organization in the U.S.) was approached for information about his group by a firm doing a marketing study which included questions on astrology. They revealed that, to date, their study shows 50,000,000 (about 1 in 5) Americans feel they know enough about astrology to talk about it. A different firm also contacted our staff here Matrix and volunteered that they could supply us with the names of 80,000 to 100,000 individuals per year they have tested who have indicated that they own a computer and also have an interest in astrology. That's a lot of people.

Professional astrologers in this country have been unable to service more than a very small percent of the large market that these studies indicate. The average astrologer, who is perhaps limited by the time-consuming counseling process, is still tending his or her interview or teaching practice and waiting for the day when astrology will be discovered by the masses.

The study shows that 50,000,000 (*that's fifty million!*) Americans are interested enough in astrology to feel that they can converse on the subject. That's a lot of customers!

On the other hand, the general public (the great majority of astrology buffs) is limited to what they find in the Sun sign columns of the daily newspapers. There's no easy way for them to get in touch with astrology as the professional astrologer knows it, and astrologers have had no mass marketing strategy. This status quo has maintained itself for the last 20-30 years.

I am convinced that a great number of astrologers feel that some Einstein of astrology is destined to appear with an insight so compelling that the general public will catch on at once, be converted to astrological ways, and thus usher in an age of astrology. I too would welcome such a master astrologer. However, while we are waiting, there may be things that we can do now to help astrology get in touch with the general public. Our problem may be one of logistics rather than a lack of insight.

We can agree that the advent of computer technology has had an enormous effect on the way astrologers work. For one thing, it has been a real time-saver and made techniques available that were previously limited to only a few technically inclined individuals. Astrologers, at first cool to the machine, have overcome any initial resistance to the computer with the result that almost no active professional would think of working without one. The computer has also opened up astrological doors for the general public. In fact, these new machines are in the process of effecting a profound change in the way the public views astrology. History is in the making.

While astrologers have awaited that one statistical study that would bring them increased public favor, the most important modern astrological event may well turn out to be the advent of computer astrology reports or interpretations. Perhaps the least interesting for professionals—the personalized written interpretation—is of great interest to the public; they buy and read them with great relish.

Professional astrologers greeted this type of "cookbook" report with disdain. At first, they wanted nothing to do with them. In fact, many a well-known professional purchased a report writer under-the-counter. They did not want their peers to know that they used them. However, reluctance soon vanished when astrologers discovered that these little computer reports not only sold, but opened up a new market—the person who only wants $5-$10 worth of astrology.

Rather than diluting their practice, written interpretations have meant extra income. I am not suggesting that computer reports are in the same league as a sit-down counseling session with a top astrologer. They're not -- at least not yet! However, they are a great deal more interesting than what you find in the newspapers and a lot less damaging than what some so-called astrologers are handing out in person. At the very least, they are balanced, and do little harm.

Experience has shown that there is an enormous market for $5-$10 worth of astrology. Many individuals enjoy reading about themselves, yet do not feel comfortable with being subjected to the opinions of an astrologer in the traditional sit-down counseling session (not to mention the $75-100 fee). We have done some test marketing: our representative Ron Watson did some market research in a small town in California. He offered to provide a local beauty salon with computer astrological reports as a service. Using counter cards, decals and attractive order forms, he introduced astrological reports to the salon and instructed the hair stylists on ordering procedures.

Everyone involved was in on the profits. A $20 report brought $3 for the stylist who took the order, $4 for the salon manager and $13 for the astrologer performing the service. After a three month trial period, the owner of the salon (who was at first skeptical) reports that:

"This is our third full month with the program and we are delighted with it. At first I was a bit skeptical about it, but after the first week we knew we had a winner. My stylists are earning as much as $150 additional income a week, and shop earnings from this program are astounding. The excitement the Matrix forecasts generate in our customers and their enthusiastic sharing of them with their friends has brought us additional customers."

Cont. on 10➤

PUTTING IDEAS TO WORK

Here's how (and where) to sell more reports than ever before!

If you have a home computer or are thinking of getting one, you may be interested in selling reports from one or more of the Matrix report writers to your friends, business associates or through a local storefront.

Of all the Matrix report writers, *Friends & Lovers* is perhaps the easiest to market, since everyone loves to read about their own relationships with loved ones, friends and not-so-friends. *Friends & Lovers* reports are personal and very well written by an experienced counseling astrologer. They can be run off in minutes on a computer like an IBM PC (or one of its clones) and sell from $15-$25 each. People really enjoy reading them; they're great sellers.

We'll help you sell these reports. We've done our homework on this—this product has been test marketed in a large city on the West Coast with great results. We've focused our sales effort on one enormous market: the customers at hair styling salons. It's ideal. We all go to these salons all the time. It's a perfect place to take a little time out—a time when we're open to thinking about ourselves and our relationships. *Friends & Lovers* reports are tailor-made for this.

We've developed a *Friends & Lovers* sales kit to help you really make a hit with these reports in your community. Nothing could be easier. We provide all the materials: attractive display cards, decals and order forms. You approach the salon manager with our attractive portfolio and offer to provide these reports to their customers on a weekly or daily basis. You set up our colorful counter cards and decals in each salon, and leave a sample report or two along with the order pad to make it easy for them to take down birth information.

Split the profits with the salon owner— perhaps you keep two-thirds of the income and give one third to the owner. For a $20 report, you get $13 and leave $7 for the owner (of which he may give $3 to the stylist who takes the order). You'll want to work out these arrangements with each shop. Remember to include the sylists in your plans; they're the ones who really can sell these reports.

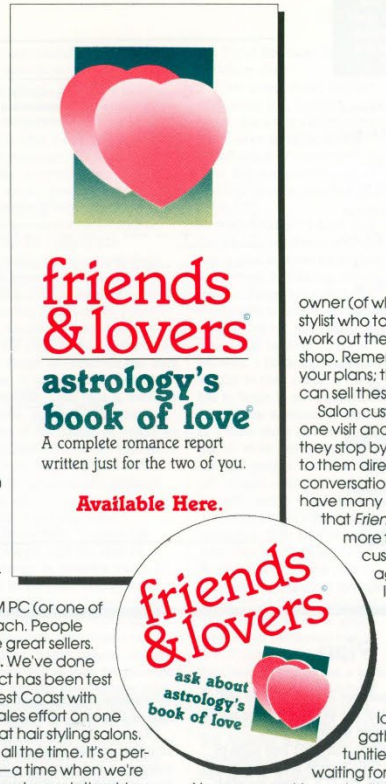
Salon customers order their reports on one visit and pick them up the next time they stop by, or you can mail the reports to them directly. These reports are great conversational material. Since we each have many relationships (keep in mind that *Friends & Lovers* reports are for more than just romances), customers order again and again, any time they want to learn more about a particular relationship—romantic business, etc.

While we've focused our attention on beauty salons, don't overlook health clubs, exercise gyms, tanning parlors... anywhere people gather. There are loads of opportunities in your own community, waiting for you to make the first move. You may want to work with several stores—pick up the orders, calculate and mail the individual reports and bring home the extra income. You're putting your computer investment to work for you and bringing a steady return.

We're offering all of these advertising materials as a kit. Everything is ready to go, ready for you to put your name on and put to work. Our kit includes counter cards, order forms, descriptions of services, the works. We want to make it easy for you to sell these reports in your area. Our success depends on your success.

For details on our *Friends & Lovers* sales kit and the full line of Matrix report writing programs, write our office or call us directly at (616) 796-2483.

Turn the page to read what a leading astrological software reviewer has to say about *Friends & Lovers:*



What better way to tell you about our new *Friends & Lovers* report writer than to quote from this review by Richard Nolle, software reviewer for *Dell Horoscope Magazine* and the *AFA Bulletin*:

"The text used in the *Friends & Lovers* program was written by Michael Erlewine. It's fresh and contemporary… and it produces a report which reads well: I know some couples who won't let anyone read their report, because they feel it's too intimate! And these are very attractively formatted reports, too—the best looking on the market, in this reviewer's opinion. I recommend *Friends & Lovers* as the program of choice for anyone who wants a relationship report writer that uses the conventional synastry technique of chart comparison. Easily the most sophisticated and flexible report writer on the market today, *Friends & Lovers* is a real winner!"

Friends & Lovers is $350 and can be part of the 4/$1000 package price consisting of any four Matrix report writers (Blue*Star or M-65A can be substituted for one of the report writers). Available now.

Casablanca Hair Association

320 North Euclid, Fullerton, California 92632

Dear Friends at Matrix:

Just a note to thank you for introducing your astrology program to our hair salon here in Fullerton. This is the third full month with the program and we are delighted with it. At first I was a bit skeptical about it, but after the first week we knew we had a winner.

My stylists are earning as much as $150 additional income a week, and the shop earnings from this program are astounding. The excitement the Matrix reports generate in our customers and their enthusiastic sharing of them with their friends has brought us additional customers.

I'm thankful we took the time to listen to your proposal and would recommend it to any salon owners who are open to new ideas and enterprises.

Most sincerely,

Carol Hansen

Carol Hansen

Here's a letter from a salon owner who's used this plan of offering astrological reports to her customers. As Ms. Hansen's letter shows, this is a profit maker and attention getter for the salon as well as for the astrologer who produces the reports.

Matrix Marketing Plan

Cont. from 8

The stylists did well, the salon manager did even better and the astrologer did best of all. The moral of the story is that the public is interested in this material, and willing to pay for it.

All of this may appear very mundane, but don't lose sight of what is being presented here. These little reports are being turned out by the countless thousands all over the U.S. Many are sold, and just as many are being given away. The result is that an enormous number of people who already enjoy the newspaper Sun sign astrology are discovering that these personal and comprehensive reports are even more satisfying.

I wonder whether the average professional astrologer is aware of the larger implications of what is happening. In brief, here is a method through which to reach beyond the rather narrow confines within which professional astrology has worked for the last 20-30 years. We now have a way to convert the enormous Sun sign readership to personalized astrology. One astrologer working out of a shopping mall on the West Coast reported that 50% of the walk-in traffic who purchased a $10-$15 report returned to take a class in astrology or for a personal reading. Another astrologer on the East coasts claims the figure is more like 80% for her. She advertised via local newspapers.

The phenomenon we are describing is nothing short of a method for educating the general public in astrological information. Instead of hundreds, we are reaching thousands and tens of thousands of individuals. There is something new here.

By now, the technical revolution that swept thru astrology is complete in that astrologers are now aware of the value of computers and techniques in general. If, as a group, astrologers have ignored the technical for centuries, then we are paying that debt now and playing catch-up. Many astrologers have had to overcome a deep seated fear -- almost a revulsion -- to computers. In 1979, I received a letter from one of the best known astrological lecturers in the U.S. censuring me for putting an astrological computer on the cover of our annual calendar. What, he asked, did computers have to do with astrology? I have witnessed this sort of thing for years. Yet our love affair with computers is as powerful as any previous resistance. The computer is, bar none, the tool of choice for the modern practicing astrologer.

What's next for us? The technical revolution is well established. There is no turning back. As more and more people out there read their personalized astrology reports, the demand for in-person astrology will increase. People will want to go to the source itself and get the full experience. How can we prepare for this? For one, we can stop waiting for the millennium and recognize that popular astrology is now upon us.

The state of astrology: Where are we headed?

Maria Jossick—cont. from 7

ment, I feel that it's important to really be a part of the universities again. This would have to involve some sort of credentials. I think that we're moving slowly in this direction. I am not saying I dislike what is going on in astrology today. I think it's alive and healthy, and definitely making progress. Eventually, if we are going to become a profession, we have to have the credentials and the educational background that would be accepted by the general public. I don't think this will really come to pass until you can go to college and major in astrology."

■ **Buz Meyers:** "I am really clear on that question. I think astrologers need to break out into the total wholistic community and break away from the incestual relationship they have with each other. They really need to let new thoughts and new ideas enter their community. Before they can become scientifically accepted, they need to accept the other metaphysical sciences. I think they have to start relating in those areas and in that way. I think that we need to *become* the wholism that we keep teaching. We need to accept that in our own community."

■ **Richard Nolle:** "In terms of the state of astrology, and I hope you have had comments like this, I think one of the biggest problems we have is a lack of what I would call professionalism among the practitioners. This extends to the whole predominance of Sun signs in the area. The way I look at it, Sun signs are our most successful product, and at the same time, they're a millstone for us. They're easy for the publishers and they're easy for the public, so it turns out that is what everyone associates with astrology among the public. In terms of professionalism among practitioners, we are all aware of how many laws there are in so many localities around the country that essentially associate astrology with gypsies, tramps and thieves. I think we tend to reinforce that image in the public's eye, to our own detriment.

"We need to have a more positive image of ourselves and each other. A more cooperative kind of attitude. Let's face it, we're in trouble. In a very real sense, in terms of the culture in which we find ourselves, we are pariahs. If we don't hang together both within ourselves and amongst each other, it is certainly not going to get any better."

■ **Tim Smith:** "I guess I'm not happy with the state of astrology in America today. I'd like to see more formalism in the conferences. I have experienced this at the Astrological Association conferences in England where papers have to be printed before they are presented. The lectures then become more a presentation and a defense or a discussion of the ideas that are presented. This is more the way most professions work. There doesn't seem to be any unanimously accepted point of interchange really established. None has emerged yet where professionals can interact with each other and not have to present a specific face to the public. I think that several organizations like AFAN and NCGR are working towards these goals. As far my experiences at conferences in America, the primary reason I would go to a conference is to participate either on a panel or in the audience of the ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) seminars. That is a model that's appealing to me. I find that more there than anywhere else.

"That is one issue, and the other issue is… I guess I would like to see a more differentiated and a more solid method of accreditation of astrologers. I think that you can't require all astrologers to be excellent in all fields."

■ **Tom Brady:** "I think that the greatest weakness amongst astrologers in America is their narrowness of training. I think the best thing they can do for themselves as astrologers and for astrology is to broaden their experience in other forms of learning. I think astrology is at a point in time where it really has to begin to get sophisticated about what its mode of thinking is. I think that's already happening, as more and more people—younger people who have had full college educations and beyond—begin to get interested. It widens people's perceptions about how they are thinking and what they are thinking."

■ **Noel Tyl:** "I think that American astrology is strongest in the world for its analytical thrust and its sensitive understanding of the human condition. I think that astrology in the United States is not a leader in the acuity of measurement and the research of measurement. Europe is ahead of us. But America is extremely well positioned in a global community now of sophisticated astrologers using computers, for research and case study testing, the likes of which have never been possible or conceivable before in history. I feel that we should take our enriched perspective of the human condition, fortify it within a framework of greater measurement sophistication, and test it and explore it as thoroughly and professionally as possible through our computer resources. In that way, we can be sure of our art, and graceful with our science."

■ **Robert Hand:** I think the one tendency in astrology which is already being resisted vigorously in England is the tendency to seek legitimization at the expense of consistency in the astrological tradition. That is, astrologers are trying to look more and more like psychotherapists; some will even say you cannot even be a good astrologer unless you are a psychotherapist. I totally and violently disagree with that. Others seem to be using it as a device to avoid the approbium of being an astrologer where what we really ought to be doing is removing the approbium from being an astrologer—astrologically. This is going to require basically two things: One is a deeper degree of symbolic insight into the symbolism of astrology—looking at, but not borrowing heavily from other symbol systems. The other of course is real life scientific astrological research; which is being done. However, there's a general fear that it will invalidate the astrology we know. And it probably will, but I don't think it will invalidate the principal idea.

"In America particularly, there's the tendency for astrology to retreat into a heavy dose of P.T. Barnum, heavy polysyllabic stuff that, if you really analyze it carefully, says almost nothing…" ■

WINNING!

TIME & EVENT SELECTOR

Our new *WINNING!* time and event selector program makes picking important or auspicious dates and times as easy as pressing a button. The program includes the events most requested by astrologers as presets—including Joyce Wehrman's popular gambling technique, *WINNING!* These presets include autoscans for the optimum times for such events as marriages, job interviews, phone calls, traveling, starting a business or any new endeavor, and others. If you don't find just what you want among the preset keys, you can make up your own scans or enter one of the many that we include in the instruction manual.

In fact, you can even use the program to print out your own customized calendar of daily aspects for your time zone and natal planets. *WINNING!* creates an overview and picks out the good times and marks them for you. For greater detail, you can ask the program to give you a microanalysis—an hour-by-hour and minute-by-minute analysis of a given day or part of a day. This fine analysis includes aspects by the transiting house cusps (current in the sky now) to your natal planets and house cusps. This is the basis for what gambling expert Joyce Wehrman calls "On The Wheel" analysis. When you're on the wheel you're hot, when you're not you're not. *WINNING!* tells you when you're hot or when you're not. In addition, the program allows you to calculate your own custom tables of houses for electional and gambling analysis. You can create special tables for racetracks or for wherever lottery numbers are selected.

The program takes its name from Joyce Wehrman's speculation technique, *WINNING!*. Astrologers are in agreement that the *WINNING!* technique is the most comprehensive and powerful gambling algorithm available today. And yet the calculations involved are very difficult—far beyond the means of the average person with a hand calculator. Our program handles all the number crunching and provides you with a detailed report that you can use yourself or sell to your clients

WINNING! is available now on the IBM-PC and its clones. Price: $300. For details on *WINNING!*, write us or call us directly: (616) 796-2483.

Gambling/speculation expert Joyce Wehrman has this to say about our WINNING! program:

"Timing at your fingertips! At last, a computer program that assists you in finding the "Winning" transit activators, including Transpluto and the true node. A program that gives you times "On The Wheel". The ability to set a table of houses for degree, minute and second and even to change it to clock time! Most important, the ability to customize the output to your very own potential. If you have certain degrees that you know work for you, now at last you can find exactly when they are activated. A major breakthru in customized timing!"

Your personalized daily aspectarian:

MICHAEL ERLEWINE'S PLANET TRANSITS TO NATAL CHART
STARTING JUN 01, 1986

ASPECT	TIME	X	ASPECT	TIME	X
** JUN 02, 1986 **		*	☽ ⚹ ☉	03:20 PM	E
** ☉ ☌ ♃	05:56 AM	E	☽ △ ♊	03:35 PM	X
** ☉ ☌ ♃	12:12 PM	X	☽ △ ♋	03:37 PM	L
** ☉ ☌ ♃	12:37 PM	L	☽ ☌ ♈	03:42 PM	E
* ☽ △ ♀	03:03 PM	E	☽ ⚹ ☉	03:50 PM	X
* ☽ △ ♀	03:33 PM	X	☽ ⚹ ☉	03:53 PM	L
* ☽ △ ♀	03:35 PM	L	☽ ☌ ♄	04:01 PM	E

Moon conjunct 7th house cusp; perhaps a good time for a wedding? This is a sample section from a WINNING! daily aspectarian printout, (reduced in size).

Microanalysis:

ASPECT	TIME	X	ASPECT	TIME	X
+ ☿ ⚷ ♅	02:05 AM	X	+ ☌ ⚷ ♄	08:55 AM	X
- ☿ ☌ ♆	02:23 AM	X	+ ☿ ⚷ ☉	08:56 AM	X
☿ ☌ ♋	02:23 AM	X	+ ☌ ⚷ ♅	09:09 AM	X
+ ☌ ☌ ☿	02:30 AM	X	- 12 ☌ ♈	09:35 AM	X
+ ☌ ☌ ☿	02:39 AM	X	+ ☿ ⚷ ♎	09:37 AM	X
+ ☿ ⚷ ☌	02:43 AM	X	- ☿ ⚷ ♆	09:47 AM	X
+ ☌ ☌ ☉	02:44 AM	X	☿ ⚷ ♋	09:48 AM	X
+ ☿ ⚷ ♃	02:47 AM	X	+ ☌ ⚷ ♃	10:06 AM	X
+ ☿ ⚷ ♂	02:52 AM	X	+ ☿ ☌ ☌	10:26 AM	X
+ ☌ ☌ ♇	03:10 AM	X	+ ☿ ☌ ♂	10:44 AM	X

Minute-by-minute transiting house cusps to natal planets and cusps. In this example, the transiting 5th house is shown to be conjunct the natal 9th house cusp.

Custom table of houses for any location:

KOCH TABLES OF HOUSES FOR BIG RAPIDS, MI. (43N42'00")
STANDARD TIMES EVERY 4 MINUTES FOR 6 HOURS STARTING AT HOUR 9
TIME ZONE IS EDT +04:00 DATE IS JUN 02, 1986

STD. TIME	MIDHVN	11TH	12TH	ASCEND	2ND	3RD
9:00 AM 110	7°45.2 27	17.8	0	34.0 26	27.7 28	15.2 13	54.2
9:04 AM 111	8 50.4 28	13.2	1	21.3 27	14.9 21	07.3 14	53.1
9:08 AM 112	9 55.9 29	09.0	2	08.2 28	01.9 21	59.3 15	51.9
9:12 AM 113	11.1 0	04.2	2	54.9 28	48.9 22	51.3 16	50.8
9:16 AM 114	12.3 0	59.9	3	41.2 29	35.8 23	43.3 17	49.6
9:20 AM 113	11.3 1	53.1	4	27.4 0	22.5 24	35.3 18	48.4
9:24 AM 114	16.3 2	46.8	5	13.2 1	09.2 25	27.3 19	47.2
9:28 AM 115	21.2 3	40.1	5	58.9 1	55.8 26	19.3 20	46.0
9:32 AM 116	26.0 4	32.9	6	44.3 2	42.3 27	11.2 21	44.7
9:36 AM 117	30.7 5	25.3	7	29.5 3	28.8 28	03.2 22	43.5
9:40 AM 118	35.3 6	17.2	8	14.4 4	15.2 28	56.1 23	42.1

With *WINNING!* you choose the events you're interested in with this easy-to-use menu right on the screen. You can change this list to include your own custom selections, as well!

WINNING!	F1	F2	Travel
Marriage	F3	F4	Romance
Interview	F5	F6	Communications
Business	F7	F8	Start Something
Legal	F9	F0	Buy Something

MachineTalk **Machine Talk** MachineTalkMachineTalkMachineTalkM

There is only room for a very brief discussion of current hardware goings on. There will be more next issue. In fact, there is not all that much news, and almost none of it is Earth shaking. The announcement of the new 80386 32-bit chip by Intel is not news anymore. What is new is the fact that Intel has decided to market the chip on their own board to IBM clone manufacturers. This means that we should see IBM style clones running the '386 chip as soon as this fall. The 386 runs about 3-4 times faster than the IBM AT with its fast 80286 chip. Intel is not waiting around for IBM to make the first move.

With the advent of Korean IBM clones selling for as little as $500-600, it is clear that the IBM style machines are getting much stronger. Other companies are rumored to be following Tandy's (Radio Shack) lead and coming out with IBM clones. The inside gossip has it that Commodore has unofficially thrown in the towel on the Amiga and will be debuting their own IBM clone in the near future. See you next issue.

Heart Center news

The Heart Center is always in full swing during the warmer months. Aside from the center itself (which sleeps eight), our retreat cottage on Horsehead Lake is now open. It has three bedrooms plus plenty of space to pitch a tent.

We are expecting many visitors—including several Tibetan teachers (Rinpoches), at least one swami and, of course, many astrologers during the next months. Astrologer Tim Smith, designer of the software for the Digicomp computer will be with us in late June. Feel free to come and visit us this summer.

The Matrix Heart Center is an information cooperative and meeting place where astrologers from around the world gather to relax, exchange ideas and get to know one another. Located less than one block from Matrix Software, the center offers comfortable rooms and good food to visiting astrologers and their families. Instruction at the Heart Center isn't limited to computer and technical matters. Meditation training and astrological instruction are available. Visitors share in group discussions on a wide range of subjects. Schedule a visit soon.

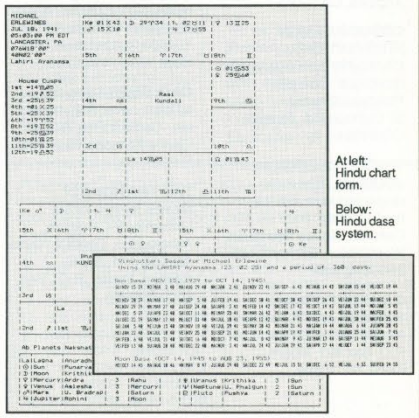
First U.S. Hindu astrology conference to be at Matrix

Matrix headquarters here in Big Rapids will be the site for the first conference in this country to be devoted to Hindu astrological techniques. The date is the weekend of August 9 & 10 of 1986. The conference, which is a joint project of Matrix Software, ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) and the Heart Center, will follow the ACT workshop protocol. What this means is that instead of a lecture-type tutorial approach, the workshops will consist of interactive discussions that include both invited experts and the attending participants.

Hindu astrological experts Bruno Collevecchio and Ginda Lasseigne will be moderators, and a number of other noted practitioners have indicated that they will attend including James T. Braha author of the new book *Ancient Hindu Astrology for the Modern Western Astrologer*. Since Hindu astrology is still quite new in this country, a major goal will be to exchange information and work towards some form of national cooperation. This first conference will be an opportunity for many of the leading practitioners of Hindu astrology in this country to get together for a weekend, share some food and ideas, and get to know one another. Whole food vegetarian meals will be provided by our staff cook.

Hindu astrology, long ignored in this country, is beginning to get the attention it deserves. Keep in mind that here in the U.S. we have perfected the psychology of astrology, while in India the astrology is predictive and event oriented. It is a natural complement to what we already know, and their techniques are a welcome solution for our need for specific information. Anyone interested in attending call or write Michael Erlewine at Matrix.

As a footnote, the Matrix Hindu astrology program is about 90% complete, with parts now in the beta testing stage. In particular, the dasa (Hindu method of progressions) is up and running.



At left: Hindu chart form.

Below: Hindu dasa system.

Astro★talk

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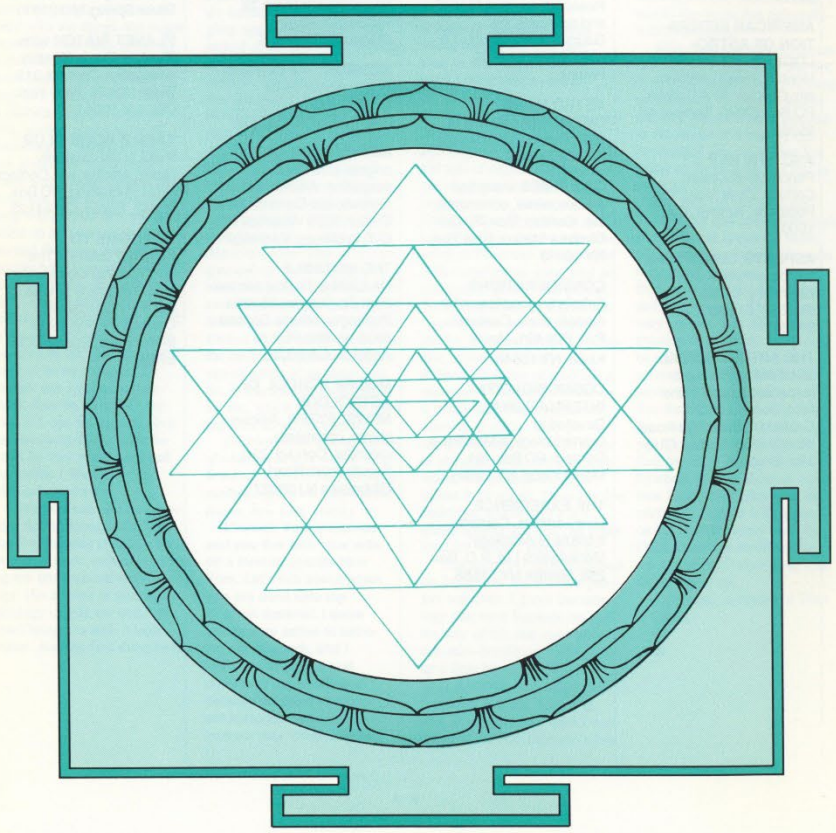
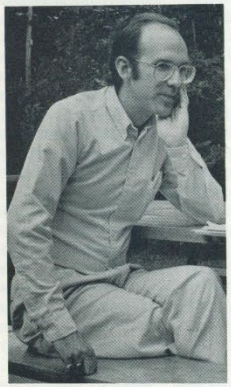


Bi-Monthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Three, No. 4 Jul/Aug '86

Astro★talk



Timothy Smith spent the day with us here at Matrix recently. He was interviewed for Astro•Talk by Michael Erlewine.

Tim Smith

One of the finest researchers in the field of astrology talks about his early influences as well as his pioneering work on the DR-70 astrological computer.

Michael: How did you get into astrology?

Tim: I've been interested in psychic experiences from a fairly young age. I started dealing with some of those issues in the sixth and seventh grades and started studying people like Aleister Crowley, Plato, Iamblichus, Greek magicians and whatnot. I had no idea what I was doing. I can't even remember what I was trying to understand then and I somehow didn't run across astrology at all until I arrived in Ithaca New York—which coincided with the opening of Anthony Damiani's bookstore, the American Brahmin Bookstore *[after Ralph Waldo Emerson, who has been called the American Brahmin]*. Shortly after I met him, he showed me a horoscope. It made perfect sense to me and answered the questions that I'd been trying to ask: How can some symbolic technique connect man and nature... connect my own personal life with some kind of natural phenomena?

It took some years for me to realize that people had difficulty understanding horoscopes. For me, it was like picking up an old pair of shoes. It was immediately obvious to me that these things meant something—the sort of simple definitions of planets and so forth, of the houses and whatnot. I just started reading charts within a few months of having encountered astrology.

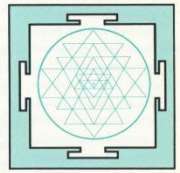
Continued on 4 ➤

Inside:

MATRIX CUSTOMER PROFILE: LINDA CURTISS—*Pg 6*

BLUE STAR

EXPLORING WITH YOUR BLUE•STAR: NEW SERIES —*Pg 8*



HINDU ASTROLOGY CONFERENCE THIS AUGUST—*Pg 2*

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The Matrix Hindu Astrology Conference

The first U.S. conference devoted to Hindu astrology will be held here in Big Rapids, Michigan at Matrix headquarters on the weekend of August 9 & 10, 1986. Attending will be experts on the subject including Swami Prakashananda, James T. Braha and Ginda Lasseigne. Space is limited, so please call or write us now if you'd like to attend.

Among the astrological traditions of the world, there are few older than the traditions of Hindu Astrology. Many of the classical texts which survive today as the cornerstones of the Hindu system can be dated to a time coincident with the birth of Christ, and references within these texts allude to much older time periods.

Hindu astrology, which is deeply rooted in the lunar zodiac based upon the 27 lunar mansions, also embodys a solar-based system of prediction which uses the 12 signs of the zodiac. This system offers a variety of evaluation techniques which enable the astrologer to gain an overview of one's potentials as well as important time periods in the individual's life.

Of the many predictive techniques that are used by Hindu astrologers, few are more outstanding than the Dasa system of prediction. In terms of its

simplicity in calculation and use, as well as its profoundness in revealing trends in the life of an individual, Dasas (planetary periods and sub-periods) are very effective. Using Dasas, the Astrologer may interpret long and short range cycles in one's life, and identify times when specific events are likely to happen. Such events as marriage, birth of children, travel, etc. are commonly predicted with the help of Dasas.

Using fixed time periods, ranging from 6 to 20 years, most Dasa systems begin their sequence of rulerships with the planet ruling the lunar mansion (Nakshatra) which the Moon occupied at the time of a birth or event. The Dasas each follow in order and rule for their respective time periods as follows:

S. Node	*7 Years*
Venus	*20 Years*
Sun	*6 Years*
Moon	*10 Years*
Mars	*7 Years*
N. Node	*18 Years*
Jupiter	*16 Years*
Saturn	*19 Years*
Mercury	*17 Years*
	120

The rulerships given follow the Vimshottari Dasa system, or system of 120 years.

Indeed, many of the elements of delineation which form the foundation of our tropical astrological system are found in the sidereal Hindu system in their original form, and techniques which were long forgotten by our ancestors in the West are still in vogue in the East. For example, Shad Bala (literally translated as the "six strengths") refers to a method of determining planetary strength by evaluating each planet relative to its; position, direction, time, motion, natural strength and the strength of aspects in a natal horoscope or event chart.

Based on an evaluation of Shad Bala, the strength of each planet may be understood and used for purposes of determining the length of life (Ayurdaya) and prediction of life events. Evaluation of planetary strength is also invaluable for understanding the potency of the houses of the horoscope and the effects which may be anticipated from them.

Generally speaking, planets which are strong in Shad Bala produce better results than planets which are weak. Strong planets bring success and good fortune for the individual in the affairs of the houses which they rule and during the periods and sub-periods (Dasas and Antardasas) of that person's life.

Many of our newly discovered astrological techniques such as harmonics, solar and lunar returns, even hypothetical planets have their roots in Hindu astrology. Harmonic charts are derivatives of the Vargas of Hindu astrology. Solar and lunar returns were used over two thousand years ago in the Tajaka system of astrology and the astrologer priests of India recognized five shadow planets (Upagrahas) or hypothetical planets which are malific in nature.

Indians are traditionalists. They respect the ancient sages who were divine channels for the astrological wisdom embodied in their Sanskrit texts. Because of this respect, they have been reluctant to add to or change their body of astrological literature. And astrology as it was practiced hundreds, even thousands of years ago in India is still practiced in much the same way today.

While astrology is accepted by perhaps 80% of the populace of India, here in the U.S. a comparably large majority still seems to reject it. In India they must be doing something right. ■

Astro*talk

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Astro*Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bimonthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $9.95 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 per year via seamail ($17.95 airmail).

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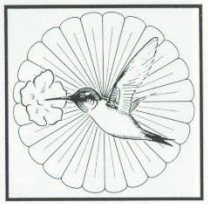
Heart Center News



The Heart Center continues to receive visitors from all over the world. Recent visitors to the center include astrologers Timothy Smith and Axel Harvey.

Aside from hosting the Hindu Astrology conference on the weekend of August 9th & 10th, the Heart Center KTC will sponsor the Buddhist scholar and meditation master Tsultrim Gyamtso Rinpoche for two days of Dharma teaching on August 25 & 26th, 1986 here in Big Rapids. Rinpoche will be accompanied by his translator Kiki Ekselius.

The Venerable Tsultrim Gyamtso Rimpoche

The Venerable Tsultrim Gyamtso Rimpoche was born and trained in Tibet. He is the abbot of the Drup Di Gon Monastery in Bhutan. At the age of 16, he fully entered the Dharma gates of the Karma Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism, and has mastered the studies of the Sutras and Tantras of the Sakyapas, Nyingmapas, Gelugpas and Kagyupas (these are the four main schools of Tibetan Buddhism). He has attained the high degree of Khenpo or abbot and completed a 3-year solitary meditation retreat. In 1976 he was requested to come to the West by H.H. the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa, to teach the Buddha Dharma in all its stages. He has since then been teaching meditation philosophy to hundreds of students in Europe. This will be his second trip to North America. Anyone interested in attending the teachings should contact Michael Erlewine at Matrix. Space is very limited.

We're very glad to report that on November 25th and 26th 1986, His Eminence Jamgon Kongtrul Rinpoche, one of the four regents of His Holiness the Karmapa will also visit the Heart Center and offer Dharma teachings. ■

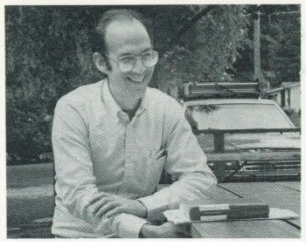
Swami Prakashananda at Heart Center

We have a new resident at the center. Swami Prakashananda, an expert on hindu astrology, is now staying at the Heart Center on a permanent basis. Aside from his astrological expertise, Prakashanand is knowledgeable on the history of religions and, of course, on matters of meditation and philosophy. Prakashanand, Ginda Lasseigne (Sanskrit scholar) and your editor are working together to help make the ancient astrology of India and Tibet more understandable to Western students. We welcome your visit. ■

The Matrix Heart Center is an information cooperative and meeting place where astrologers from around the world gather to relax, share ideas and get to know one another. Located less than one block from Matrix Software, the center offers comfortable rooms and good food to visiting astrologers and their families. Instruction at the Heart Center isn't limited to computer and technical matters. Meditation training and astrological instruction are available. Visitors share in group discussions on a wide range of subjects. Schedule a visit soon.

Talking with Tim Smith

[Continued from 1]



Michael: When and how did you first start working with the DR-70, the first mass produced astrological computer?

Tim: I had a strong scientific background in meteorology and programming. Then I encountered astrology, Hinduism and Jung all at once–not to mention a few other side tracks. Right away I knew that astrology was something I was going to be doing for a really long time.

Around '73 or '74, I graduated and spent two years in a monastery at the Wisdom's Goldenrod center that we have now. This was a monastic place, sort of like what you have here at the Heart Center as a residence place. At the time it was extremely rigid in terms of its routines and meditation.

And Om Gupta, who is part of that same group, approached the teacher and said he needed me to do this work because he knew I could do the programming and also did the astrology. And Om was involved with the actual planetary routines which he had worked with at Cornell Aeronautics Laboratory while working with tracking systems. In those tracking systems they used geocentric astronomy.

Having just come out of a monastery for a number of years I wasn't exactly flush, so they came up with a salary for me from the beginning. I had a small percentage of ownership with the company. But, they had other jobs and I actually was chief cook and bottle washer for the first year and a half to two years. I did everything: wire wrap, program, ordered things, paid the bills, whatever.

We started out on an Intel 4040 [early microprocessor]. It was the beginning of 1974 when we started. We were actually sitting there setting switches; that was a bear. Finally the 8080 came along and we were drunk with joy. Then we got the 6502 that had relative addressing and all kinds of things that we felt were much better for the kind of data handling we needed. By that time Om had really done a lot of things with multiplication and arithmetic routines which he created himself. I have to say that the man is a genius when it comes to programming hard scientific processes or data. He's got a mind that's extraordinary. I really learned a lot just watching him think.

Michael: Are there any humorous stories or incidents through the whole making of the DR-70?

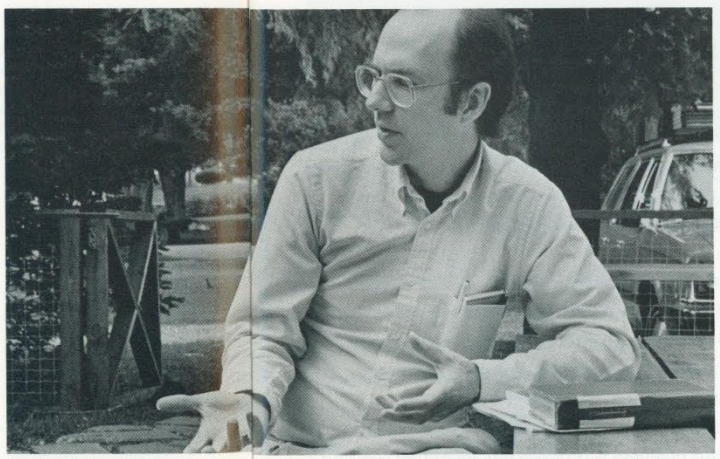
Tim: Oh sure. We had one of the best ones. Om Gupta had transiting Uranus opposite his natal Sun at one point and at that point the thing was all breadboard [wire wrapped]. He walked in the door and I told him "Om don't come in the breadboard room until Uranus goes away from opposite your sun. I don't care whatever else you do, don't bring that energy into this room." Well no, of course he had to come in because this was his project. One day Mars was conjunct Uranus, opposite his Sun. It so happened that lightning struck downtown. Lightning struck a transformer and blew the circuits out downtown, blew the circuits out for the hill we were on and put a power surge of several hundred volts through our breadboard, at which point all the IC's exploded like little popcorns all over hell and back.

All of a sudden there were pockmarks and holes all through our breadboard. So back to the wire wraps we went. That was probably a low point for him, but a great relief for some of the rest of us because we got to take a few days off. It was a very intense period. He felt very strongly about getting the DR-70 out in 1976 because of the centennial and so forth, so he wanted to get it out. So we worked about a hundred hours a week, on the average. I slept in the office. The only time I saw my wife was when she would come by and cook in the office. We did that for six months before the 1976 AFA convention to try to get something together for that and just had a feeling that we had to get it out.

Michael: The Dr-70 was well received.

Tim: Oh yeah. Om said to me at the end of the development time "Well alright, you built it, you sell it". And at that time professional astrologers were used to spending ten or twenty dollars on a book. And to walk up to their door and say "Have you felt like spending $3,000 today?" or educating them that computers could do something for them was something that we—at that time—were sort of alone in the market place. Of course, you guys came along and broadened that out.

The one thing that I really insisted on to Om when we built the DR-70 is that we give Marc Edmund Jones one. I didn't care whoever else he was willing to give one to, but I felt that I wouldn't have existed for him to use as a programmer and an astrologer had it not been for Jones, as well as Anthony. And he did give Anthony a machine, as well as Jones. I gave it to Jones at some conference. We ended up spending a week in the hotel after the conference was over showing him how the machine worked. And it began by me calculating his chart on the machine (which had a little more refinement in terms of latitude and longitude than with hand done charts) and it ended up changing the degrees of his house cusps which changed the Sabian symbols of them. We ended up spending a week talking a good deal more about what things meant then how the computer made them happen. It was a wonderful time and I thought



Jones a remarkably shrewd business man and inspired person.

The first people that bought them were actually at that 1976 AFA convention. We had many different little incidents around that. One woman had a tapestry done with her horoscope and when we ran it on the computer, the tapestry chart was wrong. She was convinced that the computer was wrong. Of course, it turned out the computer was right.

Michael: What was your company's reaction when Matrix Software came on the scene?

Tim: Blind panic.

Michael: Oh really. This is fun, because this is the kind of history that people should know about. First, let me give you a glimpse of how we saw you folks. I went to my first AFA convention in New Orleans in 1980. Here we were in our scruffy little booth looking at your booth, which I think took up a whole wall. It was mammoth. Our jaws just dropped. You were kind of like this huge company—a faceless business. We didn't know who you were personally, but God you seemed to have money, looked successful and everything. And I must say that your company always behaved in an aboveboard manner. Tell us what you thought of us. That's what we thought of you. We were terrified of you.

Tim: It's interesting to hear these things in retrospect. We're six guys in a small building in upstate New York who are really not part of the astrological community. I felt very strongly that we had to be ethical and we had to... if we could enhance the general public's sense of astrology as a profession by professionals, then that would be something that we might be able to do with our computer and our way of presenting it. It was worth the expense to create an image which was something you could show in a trade show, like in a stereo show or something like that. We don't always have to be a one ring circus in astrology. So on the one hand I felt like an outsider to astrology, and I felt like you guys were much more connected to the history of astrology... from your bookstore, your calendars and whatnot—Circle Books and all.

Michael: From your point of view it looked as if we had come up through the streets of astrology, so to speak.

Tim: As I studied the techniques to see what was programmable or not, I started to latch on to some of the people like Lilly, Gadbury and Morinus and what not. I found myself realizing more and more that the reason I was a good programmer was simply because I had been doing it since I could ride a bicycle and that I was willing to work all night and all day. And that my mind was actually more research-oriented and intuitive than it was logical. It became very clear to me that working with symbolism and intuition was a more direct exercise of my own skills (combined with research) than it was to continue along the line of trying to be logical and scientific just by a tremendous amount of effort in that direction. So, somewhere in the late 70's, I began to think more in terms of doing a lot of astrology myself and doing a lot of astrological research. I went through a lot of different individuals' horoscopes with Virgoian patience… like doing all transits to Jung's collected letters— transits and progressions for every letter—and trying to study them.

It became clear to me as Saturn hit my Sun that I had to do it. I had to go out and just do nothing but astrology. That was about 1980. Since then that's basically all I've done. As far as astrology is concerned, there've been lots and lots of readings.

Michael: Roughly how many readings do you do a week?

Tim: I do about fifteen 2 1/2 hour readings a week and about another 6 or 7 shorter readings of half an hour to an hour. I've cut down to that. I used to do it six days a week, but now I only do it about five.

Michael: You're also involved in some editing work. Tell us a little bit about that because that seems to be an enormous amount of work.

Tim: Well that has to do with a teacher—an author named Paul Brunton who has written a number of books that you might know like *Search In Secret India*, *Search in Secret Egypt*, and *Wisdom of the Overself*. Most of his writings were done in the 30's and 40's. He stopped publishing in 1950, or something like that, at the age of sixty-five—a reasonable thing to do. However, he lived until 1984 and continued to write but did not want to publish except posthumously.

I guess in 1975 I had the first occasion to meet Paul Brunton —most often referred to as PB. When I met him he was a diminutive individual physically and of course old. He was seventy six or seventy seven. I had opportunities in my life to meet a few people that I have high regard for as spiritual figures. My experiences have often been of spiritual figures as like going to the foot of a mountain and having an opportunity to walk a little ways up that mountain and get some glimpse of that persons' vision, life and so forth and so on. I've run across a quote about the difference between the sage and the Bodhisattva. The Bodhisattva is described as a mountain peak that rises above the ordinary plane of existence and brings things down into that existence. Usually when I'm around such people it's like there's a center of power, of wisdom, and of light and love that just pours out and drenches whatever happens to be around them—including themselves.

When I met Paul Brunton, it wasn't like that. There was no center. It was like, as the quote went on to say, the sage is like the sky or the air—at once some-

Continued on 10 ➤

MAKING MONEY WITH MATRIX PROGRAMS PART 3

This month, we'd like to introduce one of our customers who produces her own advertising through using the Matrix Ad Kit & some creative thinking. We'd like to frequently spotlight individual Matrix users this way to share their experiences. So if you have a story to tell, drop us a line!

Linda Curtis is a well-known professional astrologer in the Lancaster, Penn. area with many years experience (since 1975). Aside from Matrix reports, Linda offers classes and personal counseling. She even brings in outside astrologers for in-depth workshops on various aspects of astrology. Many top astrologers have done workshops for Linda. Her schedule also includes classes and counseling once or twice a week within the local prison system, bringing astrological awareness to the lost society within its walls.

At this point, Linda uses a Commodore 64 with two disk drives, and an Epson FX-85 printer (using a Micro-World interface). Her Matrix programs include the M-90 Natal, the M-91 Transit and the *Friends & Lovers* report writers. The following comments and suggestions come from Linda's communications to Matrix. We've been in frequent correspondence over the last two years—she's made it a point to let us know how her computer chart business is progressing, including sending us samples of the ads that she's created. We would like to get this kind of feedback from more of you.

As you can see, Linda has put a lot of time, effort and money into designing what we think is a very professional approach to advertising in her area.

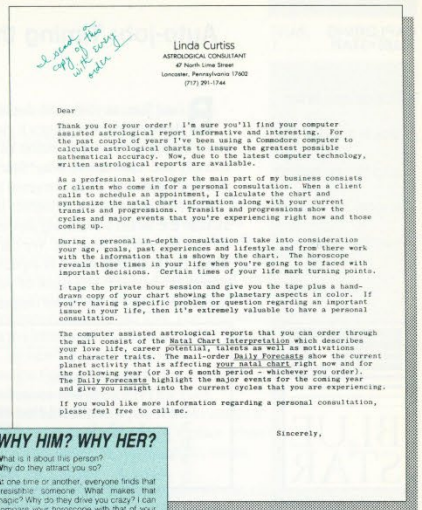
Regarding 'Making Money, Etcetera':

I have enclosed copies of my ads, plus one of the flyers I've done. Here also is a copy of the form letter that I send out with every computer report that is ordered. This letter is very important because it explains in clear English what the difference between a computer report and a personal consultation is.

I feel that the advertising is important for educating the public about computer-assisted reports.

"The most popular report I offer is the *Friends & Lovers* compatibility report. Now I've started to give certain clients a transit report (no charge) when they come for an in-person update. Word of mouth advertising is great... and I get a lot of new customers that way. It's probably the best.

I always use high quality computer paper, and I like the Matrix profile report covers. I love the design. I've had very positive comments about the ads... your graphics from the Matrix Ad Kit are just great. I've used them a lot. I love the programs... they're great! Especially the Friends & Lovers. I would recommend that to anyone! It's just incredibly good.



Linda Curtiss
ASTROLOGICAL CONSULTANT
47 North Lime Street
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602
(717) 291-1744

Dear

Thank you for your order! I'm sure you'll find your computer assisted astrological report informative and interesting. For the past couple of years I've been using a Commodore computer to calculate astrological charts to insure the greatest possible mathematical accuracy. Now, due to the latest computer technology, written astrological reports are available.

As a professional astrologer the main part of my business consists of clients who come in for a personal consultation. When a client calls to schedule an appointment, I calculate the chart and synthesize the natal chart information along with your current transits and progressions. Transits and progressions show the cycles and major events that you're experiencing right now and those coming up.

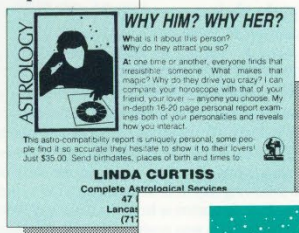
During a personal in-depth consultation I take into consideration your age, goals, past experiences and lifestyle and from there work with the information that is shown by the chart. The horoscope reveals those times in your life when you're going to be faced with important decisions. Certain times of your life mark turning points.

I tape the private hour session and give you the tape plus a hand-drawn copy of your chart showing the planetary aspects in color. If you're having a specific problem or question regarding an important issue in your life, then it's extremely valuable to have a personal consultation.

The computer assisted astrological reports that you can order through the mail consist of the Natal Chart Interpretation which describes your love life, career potential, talents as well as motivations and character traits. The mail-order Daily Forecasts show the current planet activity that is affecting your natal chart right now and for the following year (or 3 or 6 month period - whichever you order). The Daily Forecasts highlight the major events for the coming year and give you insight into the current cycles that you are experiencing.

If you would like more information regarding a personal consultation, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,



ASTROLOGY

WHY HIM? WHY HER?

What is it about this person?
Why do they attract you so?

At one time or another, everyone finds that irresistible someone. What makes that magic? Why do they drive you crazy? I can compare your horoscope with that of your friend, your lover — anyone you choose. My in-depth 16-20 page personal report examines both of your personalities and reveals how you interact.

This astro-compatibility report is uniquely personal, some people find it so accurate they hesitate to show it to their lovers! Just $35.00. Send birthdates, places of birth and times to:

LINDA CURTISS
Complete Astrological Services
47
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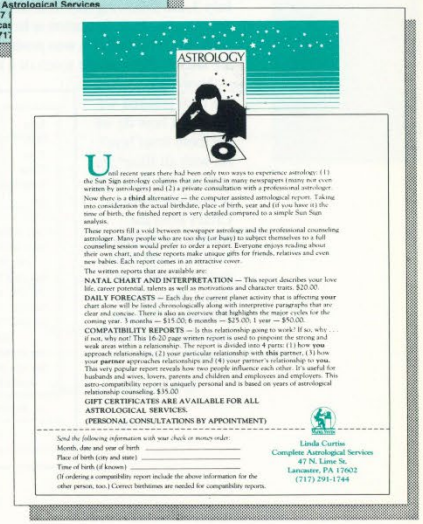


ASTROLOGY

Until recent years there had been only two ways to experience astrology: (1) the Sun Sign astrology columns that are found in many newspapers (many not even written by astrologers) and (2) a private consultation with a professional astrologer. Now there is a third alternative — the computer assisted astrological report. Taking into consideration the actual birthdate, place of birth, year and (if you have it) the time of birth, the finished report is very detailed compared to a simple Sun Sign analysis.

Those reports fill a void between newspaper astrology and the professional counseling astrologer. Many people who are too shy (or busy) to subject themselves to a full counseling session would prefer to order a report. Everyone enjoys reading about their own chart, and these reports make unique gifts for friends, relatives and even new babies. Each report comes in an attractive cover.

The written reports that are available are:

NATAL CHART AND INTERPRETATION — This report describes your love life, career potential, talents as well as motivations and character traits. $20.00.

DAILY FORECASTS — Each day the current planet activity that is affecting your chart alone will be listed chronologically along with interpretive paragraphs that are clear and concise. There is also an overview that highlights the major cycles for the coming year. 3 months — $15.00, 6 months — $25.00, 1 year — $50.00.

COMPATIBILITY REPORTS — Is this relationship going to work? If so, why . . . if not, why not? This 16-20 page written report is used to pinpoint the strong and weak areas within a relationship. The report is divided into 4 parts: (1) how **you** approach relationships, (2) your particular relationship with **this** partner, (3) how your **partner** approaches relationships and (4) your partner's relationship to **you**. This very popular report reveals how two people influence each other. It's useful for husbands and wives, lovers, parents and children and employees and employers. This astro-compatibility report is uniquely personal and is based on years of astrological relationship counseling. $35.00

GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL ASTROLOGICAL SERVICES.

(PERSONAL CONSULTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT)

Send the following information with your check or money order:

Month, date and year of birth _____
Place of birth (city and state) _____
Time of birth (if known) _____
(If ordering a compatibility report include the above information for the other person, too.) Correct birthtimes are needed for compatibility reports.

Linda Curtiss
Complete Astrological Services
47 N. Lime St.
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 291-1744

This column is the first in a series of useful tips on getting the most out of your Blue*Star software.

BLUE STAR

Auto-job: Timing the void-of-course Moon.

Blue*Star, as you've no doubt found, is loaded with enough features to keep us all busy at discovering new things it can do. In this series, we'll explore capabilities that we feel are worth bringing to your attention as a Blue*Star user. This issue, we look at one of the most friendly and convenient Blue*Star features of all: the "auto-jobs" option. We'll create an auto-job that highlights one of the program's powerful search features: timing the void-of-course Moon.

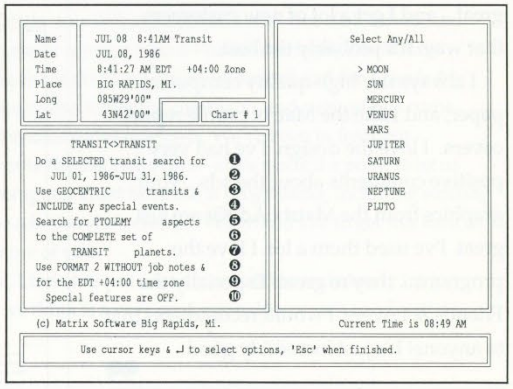
The first thing to ask ourselves is, what sort of printed output do we want? We can choose to include the moon's transiting aspects and void-of-course times along with other transit events, or we can keep them separate. We can even choose to search for a "personal" void-of-course moon, where the transiting moon is aspecting someone's natal planets rather than the current transiting planets (as we normally think of void-of-course). And, as with any type of Blue*Star search, we can choose from a variety of output styles.

TRANSIT, JUL 08 8:41AM

	DATE	TIME	E X	JOB #	P1 POS.	P1 HS	P2 POS.	P2 HS
☽ — □ ♀	02JUL86	09:18 AM	X	TR-TR Ø1	19♉32	10	19♌33	Ø1
☽ — △ ♂		09:51 AM	X	TR-TR Ø1	19♉49	10	19♑49R	Ø6
☽ — ✱ ♃		Ø3:42 PM	X	TR-TR Ø1	22♉42	10	22♐42	Ø8
☽ —VOID+		Ø3:42 PM	X	TR-TR Ø1	22♉42	10		Ø8
☽ —VOID-	Ø3JUL86	Ø6:33 AM	X	TR-TR Ø2	Ø0♊Ø0	10		Ø8

Here's the sample output we'll go for. It includes just the Moon, with the aspects it makes to other transiting planets and the times that its void-of-course periods begin and end. For example, on July 2 at 3:42 PM EST, the Moon makes its last aspect before leaving Taurus: a sextile to transiting Jupiter at 22PI42. The line following this aspect shows this by the VOID+, indicating the start of a void-of-course period. The next line shows the entry of the Moon into Gemini, at 6:33 AM EST on July 3, the following day. It is headed by a VOID-, indicating the end of this void-of-course period. All the relevant information is here: the dates and times, the planets involved, and their zodiacal positions. This printout was produced by selecting Blue*Star's output format #2; five other formats are also available at the touch of a key (see page 354.1 of your Blue*Star manual).

Now we've seen the final printout we want, but how do we get there from here? As with all Blue*Star options, the first step is to select **Add-A-Chart** from the control menu. Get an existing chart from disk (or enter a new chart), then select **Transit<>Transit** from the "select jobs" menu.



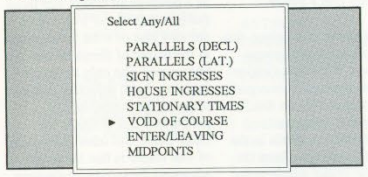
The options you select in this window will be saved as an auto-job when you're done, so this is a one-time-only task. The following steps cover what you need to do here, line by line. Move the highlight bar to each line and hit the plus key (+) to select:

Line 1: Selected, transit search with only the Moon turned on (shown in the sample on opposite page).

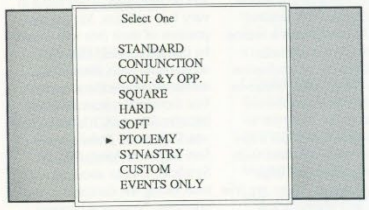
Line 2: Enter the date range (sample run was done for one month, July 1986).

Line 3: Use geocentric transits.

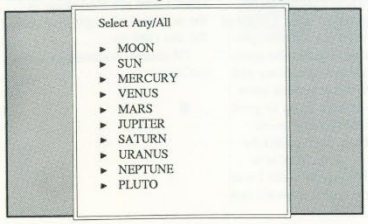
Line 4: Include special events, turn on just the void-of-course option. ▼



Line 5: Select Ptolemy aspects, to follow traditional void-of-course rules. ▼



Lines 6–7: Select complete set of transit planets. ▼



Line 8: Select format 2 without job notes.

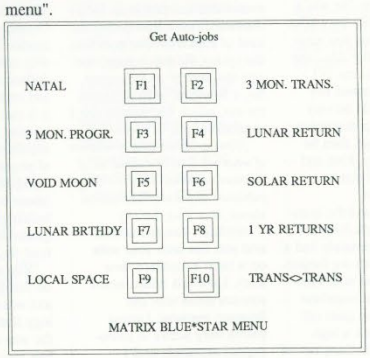
Line 9: Set for EDT + 4:00 time zone.

Line 10: Special features off.

That's it for option selections! Press ENTER (↵) to leave this window, and you'll be back at the control menu. It's time to create a new auto-job (you can call back this set of options up at any time; just select it by name from a menu). Chapter 8 of your Blue*Star manual covers all the details of auto-jobs, and we encourage you to read this. The simplicity of auto-jobs tempts one to ignore reading the manual, though… so here's a quick summary:

1. Press the F4 key [or select "Set Auto-Job" from the control menu and press ENTER (↵)].
2. Press the function key you want to assign to this particular set of options (you'll replace whatever is already stored there). In this example, we've selected F5.
3. Type in a name for this auto-job (we can call this one VOID MOON or something similar), and press ENTER (↵).

Now, whenever you want to use this set of options, press the Alt-J key combination from the "calculate chart" window or from the "select jobs menu".

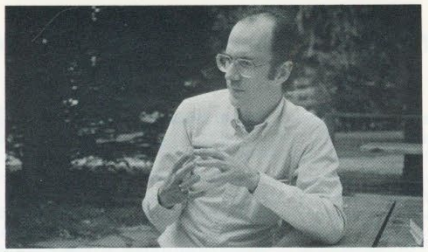


That's all there is to it!

■

Talking with Tim Smith

[Continued from 1]



thing immediate and absolutely part of itself. Like every breath, it's something that no matter how far you travel and how long you go, remains not quite graspable. It was a very different experience than I've ever had with any other spiritual figure in that it was not a center of consciousness. One simply became suffused with the things one might encounter with other meetings in the sense of upliftment, a sense perhaps of awareness of ones own smallness or failings in different ways, a sense of love, wisdom and a sense of something so ordinary that it was absolutely frightening. There was nothing extraordinary about this man at all. Everything was normal in a way that called up all of one's abnormalities and the momentum of one's thought processes and emotion's and blindness to living in the now—every instant. He was a person who could be very kind. In the sense of what you were speaking of the other day—the sense of being a mirror, if I thought that I presumed too much, then he could be very cool. If I was not presumptive and assuming things, then he could be very witty, kind and accessible. I found that he reflected quite a lot.

His comments and the questions that he brought forth at that first meeting certainly had a great deal to do with me furthering my involvement with astrology. His interest in mundane astrology caught me quite off guard being I'm such a high floater. And the first thing he did was talk about the chart of a saint... he wanted me to interpret a Moon/Mercury square. I said "Oh well the emotions and the intellect will be always struggling against each other." He looked at me and said, "Well, he never got along with his mother". I realized yes, that's a real thing. This man never got along with his mother and that psychology, and its applicability, is almost visibly narrow. And in that one encounter I began to appreciate a lot more the wisdom in mundane astrology; seeing the wisdom of the soul, seeing the wisdom of the demiurge, some kind of divine governance and being able to track and perceive the mundane events that function in an individual's life rather than seeing the kind of backwash that goes into the cycles, the psychology, and ego-structure of an individual. So, it was kind of an initiation for me, which was not the one I expected to get, of course.

[Tim has edited several volumes of what will be a 14 volume set of Brunton's material. They are being published by Larson Publications, Hector, New York, 14818.]

Michael: You're married and you live with your wife on a farm in upstate New York. Let's talk about when you are done with the Brunton material. I know you're very active in astrological research, and I understand you've just done very elaborate and detailed analysis of different historical figures that interest you. What do you see in the future for you astrologically, beyond counselling? This is one of two areas I want to ask about; the other is the Wisdom's Goldenrod. How about the school you belong to, the whole community? I think that's pretty unique.

Tim: It's kind of a unique situation. There are many groups and ashrams. Wisdom's Goldenrod sort of organically emerged out of people coming to this book store that Anthony Damiani opened in Ithaca in the late 60's. Classes have been ongoing at the center which we've built ourselves on some land he generously gave to this project. We built a bunch of log cabins. Usually there are 2-5 resident monks. They undertake a reasonably serious, but fairly self-defined discipline of meditation and study. They study whatever it is that they find themselves wanting to study. They put in anywhere from 2-4 hours a day of physical work. We heat with wood, the grounds are large (about 8-10 acres). There are five buildings, and always a few guests around that you can make food for. There's plenty to do.

You asked me what I planned on doing after the Brunton project was over. I guess the astrology that most interests me and the way of life that most interests me—besides to try to grow up a little bit spiritually—is what Anthony once called the astrology of ideas. That is to look at a horoscope—like I was trying to do with Emerson's last week—and by looking at the transits and progressions or whatever technique works to be able to say this person relied upon a book on this topic by virtue of these ideas which are aligned in him. To see the kinds of ideas and questions also, not just truths but also questions to be raised and to try to come to an understanding... being able to see how each individual has within themselves certain wisdoms and paradoxes that they may spend their whole life working on and understanding. I would like to do that especially with philosophy.

Why does this person express this idea as a symphony and not as a novel or an essay? Are these things a part of our free will or are they part of what is inherent in the nature of things by our horoscope? The only thing I've found so far in myself is that in studying the horoscopes of people like His Holiness the Dalai Lama and other individuals of that nature is that the more advanced these individuals seem to become, the more precisely they seem to fulfill their transits and progressions. They seem to vary less and less. My presupposition of their free will would be that they would free themselves from their chart. But, it seems as though the way they free themselves from it is they become detached. It's amazing: if you look at the Dalai Lama's Sun degree in Jone's Sabian Symbols, it talks about an old man facing the darkness in the northeast. Now as it happens, on his birthday every year, the Dalai Lama sits meditating in the northeast all night long until the sun rises up.

Of course, northeast of Tibet is China.

■

Community News

In The Journals:

AFAN Network Newsletter Best update on the legal situation vis a vis astrology. Contact: Jim Lewis, 191 Frederick St., Apt. 41, San Francisco, CA 94117

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF ASTROLOGERS BULLETIN Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, PO Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282

ASC: THE KEY Periodical on Chiron. Contact: Zane Stein, 158 Poplar St., Ambler, PA 19002

ASPECTS, Good articles, not too technical, some for beginners. Contact: PO Box 556, Encino, CA 91426

THE ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL, The most respected journal in the field. Contact: P.O. Oakfield, Goose Rye Road, Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RJ, England.

ASTROLOGY BOOK CLUB Books, tapes—has astro-element for IBM typewriters. Contact: Astro-Analytics Publications, 16440 Haynes Street, Van Nuys, CA 91406-5719

ASTRO-PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS: The Schneider-Gauquelin Research Journal. Statistics and research, the Gauquelin approach. B.P 317, 75229 Paris 05, France.

ASTRO NEWS Contact: Edna Rowland, 5822 Cyrus, Baton Rouge, LA 70805.

CAO TIMES Many fine articles, news, comments, etc. Contact: Box 75, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10113

CONSIDERATIONS, Scholarly, good forum for modern work. Contact: P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

COSMOBIOLOGY INTERNATIONAL, Devoted to cosmobiological technique. Contact: PO Box 491, Mount Kisco, NY 10549

THE EXPERIENCE Lively articles. Contact: Institute of Astrology: Metaphysics Ltd, P.O. Box 288, Merrick NY 11566,

THE FRATERNITY NEWS Journal for the Fraternity of Canadian Astrologers., Contact: Nancy Atwood, 13155-24th Avenue, Surrey, B.C., V4A 2G2, Canada

GEOCOSMIC NEWS The National Council for Geocosmic Research Newsletter Contact: 78 Hubbard Avenue, Stamford, CT 06905

KOSMOS: The Quarterly Publication of ISAR. Contact: PO Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038

MERCURY HOUR The original idea exchange magazine. Articles, letters, reviews, etc. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd. C-7, Lychburg, VA 24502

THE MUTABLE DILEMMA, Topical aritcles from Zip Dobyns, Maritha Pottenger, others. Contact: 5935 W. 86th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

MOORE SCHOOL OF ASTROLOGY NEWSLETTER Articles, charts, comments, calendar. Contact: 220 Swedesboro Road, Gibbstown NJ 08027

NCGR JOURNAL, In-depth, scholarly, top flight. This issue on medical astrology. Contact: 78 Hubbard Ave., Stamford CT 06905.

THE NETWORKER, Well written bimonthly. Contact: Lin Luttrell, editor, 816 Easley Street #1531, Silver Spring, MD 20910

PLANET WATCH with Eleanor Bach Monthly newsletter. Contact: 319 West 18th St., New York City, NY 10011

TAPE & BOOK CLUB BULLETIN Quarterly. News, articles, etc. Contact: RKM Publishing, PO Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123

WELCOME TO PLANET EARTH The best monthly tabloid in the field. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403

Astrotalk

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Astrotalk

Inside:

BLUE STAR

EXPLORING WITH YOUR BLUE*STAR: PART TWO—*Pg 10*

MATRIX CUSTOMER PROFILE: EVELYN HERBERTZ—*Pg 8*

:NEW: BIG BLUE!

BIG BLUE IS NEWS: SEE WHAT YOUR PC CAN DO NOW!—*4*

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THE MATRIX HINDU ASTROLOGY CONFERENCE:

GOOD DIALOGUE ❦ GOOD TIMES

by Ginda Lasseigne

The energy was high and the activity hectic as final preparations were made for America's first Hindu astrology conference here in Big Rapids. On the Matrix grounds a brightly colored blue and white tent was raised and in the late afternoon and evening on Friday, our guests arrived from around the U.S. and even as far as Calcutta, India. The Heart Center was filled with guests in anticipation of the coming weekend.

Weekend activities began with an early morning meditation in the Heart Center shrine room, followed by a warm and friendly breakfast of hot cakes, fresh fruit, juices, espresso coffee and other tasty delights. After breakfast the conference began...

Page 6 ➤

Heart Center News

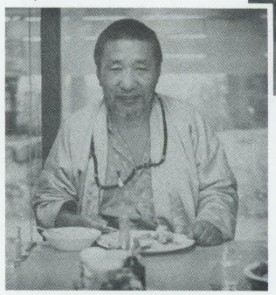
Tsultrim Gyamtso Rinpoche Visits The Heart Center

The venerable Tsultrim Gyamtso Rinpoche conducted Dharma teachings and meditations twice daily during his recent visit to the Heart Center. He was well received and appreciated by all.

Other recent guests at the center include: Richard and Ruth Mierswa of Fairport, NY; Robert Tonelli and Claudia Bodeau of Timmons, Ontario, Canada; Jerry and Alana Lotharius from Hales Corner, WI, Tom Brady of Santa Fe, NM and Bob Shea of New York.

A Visit by Jamgon Kongtrul Rinpoche

His Emminence Jamgon Kongtrul Rinpoche, one of the four principle tulkus of the Kagyu lineage of Tibetan Buddhism will visit the Heart Center on November 25 & 26, 1986 and offer Dharma teachings. We hope that some of you will have the good fortune to join us and experience his presence and Dharma activity.



At right: *Lunch at the Heart Center during Tsultrim Gyamtso Rinpoche's visit.*

Center, left: *The venerable Tsultrim Gyamtso Rinpoche.*

Center, right: *Margaret and Michael Erlewine with their newest family member, Michael Andrew.*

Below: *H.E. Jamgon Kongtrul Rinpoche.*

The Matrix Heart Center is an information cooperative and meeting place where astrologers from all over the world gather to relax, share ideas and get to know one another. Located less than one block from Matrix Software, the center offers comfortable rooms and good food to visiting astrologers and their families. Instruction at the Heart Center isn't limited to computer and technical matters. Meditation training and astrological instruction are also available. Visitors share in group discussions on a wide range of subjects. Shedule a visit soon.

Astrotalk

Editors:	Michael Erlewine Margaret Erlewine Ginda Lasseigne
Art Director:	Tom Erlewine
Office Staff:	Kevin Fowler Mike Foust Jim Leveque Craig Smith
Programming:	Stephen Erlewine Doug Pierce

Astro*Talk is published bimonthly by Matrix Software 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307. Subscription rate in the US and Canada is $9.95 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 via seamail ($17.95 airmail).

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ISSN 0740-6738

The Matrix Hindu Astrology Program

Our new Hindu Astrology program is now available!

This new program from MATRIX is our answer to a long awaited program for Hindu astrologers on IBM-PC series computers and clones. Taking advantage of the same easy-to-use menu format as the popular Blue*Star program, it makes calculating charts according to the Hindu system a joy. And, it includes all of the most commonly used techniques of Hindu astrologers—many of which are available for the first time on microcomputers.

Available now:

- Your choice of ten popular *Ayanamshas* (or input your own).
- The traditional South Indian square chart forms of *Rasi* (sidereal natal chart), *Navamsa* (9th division chart) and *Bhava Kundali* (chart of houses).
- Sidereal planetary positions in the constellations, *Nakshatras* (lunar mansions), and *Padas* (LM quarters) as well as Kranti (declination), daily motions and *Sarva Astakavarga* for each planet.

Our all new *Dasa* format allows you to view an entire lifetime of *Dasas, Bhuktis* and *Antaradasas* (planetary periods and sub-periods) at a glance, calculated using either the 360 or 365 day year.

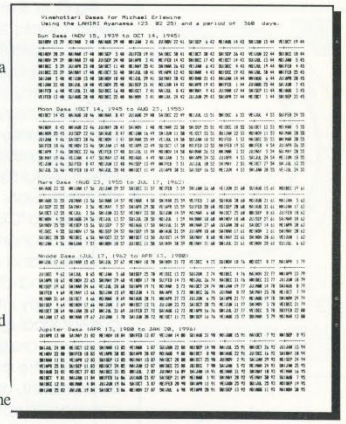
Coming Soon:

Early in '87, a second release of our Hindu Astrology Program will be announced. This second release will be a more powerful version with all of the features of this original program but with many extras, such as:

- Your choice of either the square chart output of *Rasi, Navamsa* and *Bhava Kundali* and/or the Western style round wheel format.
- Your choice of any or all of the *Shodasa Vargas* (sixteen sub-divisional charts).
- *Shad Bala* (planetary strength) calculations, *Bhava Bala* (house strength), residential strength, *Ista* and *Kasta Phala* (the desirable and undesirable effects of the planets) and *Gocara* (planetary transits)
- Choose *Prastara Astakavarga* for each planet and/or *Sarva Astakavarga.*
- Calculate *Ayurdaya* (longevity) by the methods of *Satyacarya*, and the *Pindayu 108 Navamsa* or *Pindayu 9 Navamsa* methods.

These and many more features are planned for this program. For a limited time, this first version is priced at $100. The advanced program, when released, will sell for $300. Order now and upgrade later. ■

▲ Above: Hindu square wheel chart form.
Below: Hindu dasa system. ▼



WHAT'S NEW? BIG BLUE!

What's new for IBM's and clones with 512K of RAM? BIG BLUE!

BIG BLUE*STAR is our latest release of Blue Star. Now, the world's most comprehensive astrological software package is even bigger. So big, in fact, that you'll need 512K of memory on your IBM-PC/XT/AT or clone to utilize all of the many screen and printer features available in the program. Of course, it's still as easy to run as ever—thanks to Blue*Star's "plain english" operating style.

Here are some of Big Blue*Star's many new features... ▼

Astro*Clock

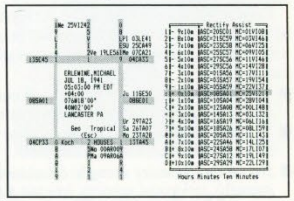
Your choice of the standard "mini" *Astro*Clock* which displays the local ascendent and mid-heaven for any geographical location or the all new "full screen" *Horary Astro*Clock.*

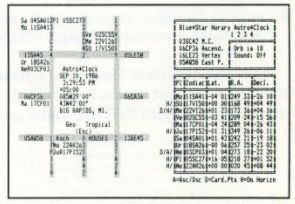
Big Blue*Star's new *Horary Astro*Clock* utilizes a screen chart wheel, displaying up-to-the-minute planetary positions and house cusps for any selected time and location. The new display keeps you constantly updated on transiting planets and house cusps, and is useful for all of your horary astrology work.

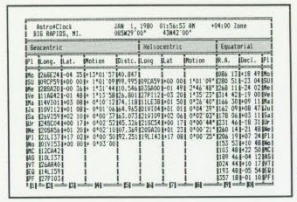
The *Astro*Clock* also includes a display of chart angles, zodiac longitude and latitude as well as azimuth and altitude on the horizon, (key information to the current local space situation). Also displayed are planets when conjunct the ascendent or descendant, one of the four compass directions (east, north, west or south), or planets at zero degrees of altitude. ➤

Easy Rectification

Need help with Rectification? Use the all new *Rectify Assist.* Here for the first time is an on-screen wheel with a table of alternate ascendents and midheavens for your chart. Use the table to select an ASC/MC which best fits your birth information and the chart is recalculated and displayed using the selected angles. ▼







Inspect-A-File

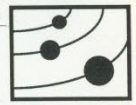
With the new *Inspect-A-File* feature you can examine Blue*Star chart files on-screen in both geocentric and helio-centric mode. Now, planetary longitude, latitude and motion as well as all important distance values are available from the Blue*Star Menu. And all of this planetary data may be sorted in 360 degree format as well simply by using the *Sort* feature.

Screen Module

The new *Screen Module* allows you to view, on your computer's monitor, any series of charts entered into RAM. View one chart, or even two at a time.

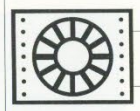
Compare a natal chart with the current transits or do synastry comparisons between two lovers. ▼

Asteroids, Chiron Transpluto, and Uranians



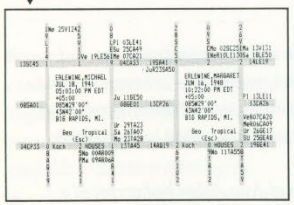
Big Blue*Star now has asteroids (Ceres, Pallas, Juno and Vesta), Chiron, Transpluto and the eight Uranian planets included as standard features. Use these bodies to add a new dimension to your interpretations.

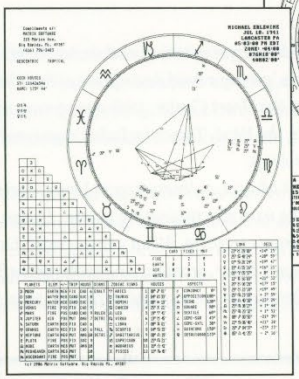
Hi-Res Wheels

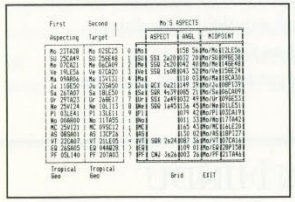


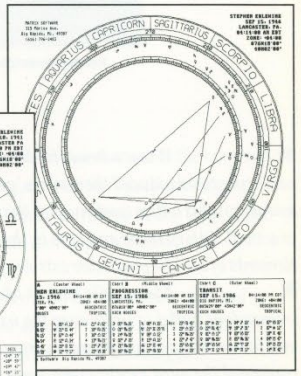
High resolution *Designer Wheels* are now standard in Big Blue—bi-wheels and tri-Wheels too !!! ▼

Right: Tri-wheel, Aries 360-degree wheel. ➤
Below: Aries wheel with aspect grid. ▼



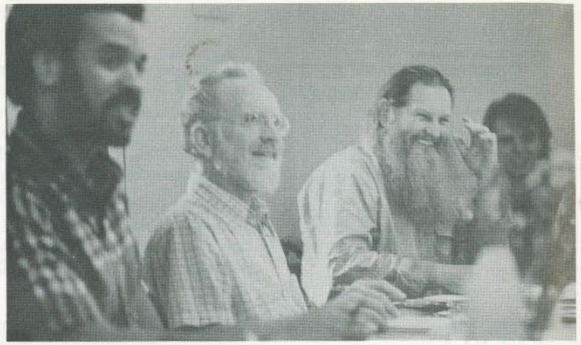


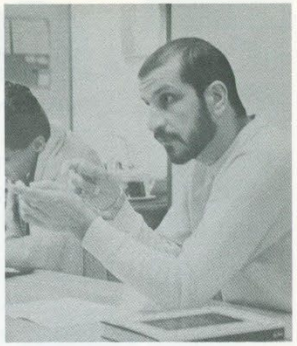




The many new features we've added to Big Blue*Star include over $250 of options at no additional charge.

Priced at $300, Blue*Star is clearly the #1 choice! ■





Top row: Ginda Lasseigne, Matrix; Dulal Koley, India; Kirkland Brooks, Chicago; Joe Osowski, Minneapolis; Swami Kriyananda, Chicago; Lilian Pena, New York City; James Braha, Miami; Shyam Sundar Das, Atlanta; Swami Prakashananda, Matrix
Second row: Michael Erlewine, Matrix; Dulal Koley; Dinner: Indian buffet; Kirkland Brooks; Joe Osowski; Rebecca Romanoff, Chicago; James Braha;

It was a beautiful Michigan morning and under the blue and white tent all of the conference participants introduced themselves, giving a brief description of their backgrounds and interests in Hindu astrology. Activities continued at the Heart Center, with open forum discussions on Hindu astrology as practiced both in India and here in the West. Topics included Ayanamshas, Dasas, Shad bala and other elements of Hindu predictive astrology.

Meanwhile back at Matrix, culinary expert James Coats of Ann Arbor had prepared a tremendous buffet to tickle even the most discriminating palate. Indian food was the fare of the weekend, and James received complements from everyone. What a taste treat! Each mouthful of his dishes contained the most exotic sweet, sour, bitter, aromatic and even rare saffron flavors.

In the evening after dinner, we enjoyed a relaxed, casual get-together and got to know each other a little better.

THE MATRIX HINDU ASTROLOGY CONFERENCE

AUGUST NINTH & TENTH, 1986 ❦ BIG RAPIDS

Sunday saw the same spirited enthusiasm and group participation that made the conference a wonderful experience for everyone who attended. Discussions centered around the use of astrological Yogas, Ashtaka Varga techniques and more importantly, the future of Hindu astrology in the West. Also discussed was the role that personal computers can play in making Hindu astrological techniques available to western astrologers.

The conference closed in a spirit of cooperation and sincere desire to continue what had begun in this first conference. Everyone agreed to stay in touch with one another and to make available what information we are able to share in the form of a newsletter dedicated to Hindu astrology.

The first issue of this Hindu astrology newsletter will be available shortly after you read this article. If you're interested, send us your name and address for a complimentary copy.

MAKING MONEY WITH MATRIX PROGRAMS

This month, we'll show you how one of our customers creatively finds new business through an "Astrological Party Plan". This looks like a good way to meet new customers and have fun at the same time!

We'd like to frequently spotlight individual Matrix users & share their experiences. So if you have a story to tell, drop us a line!

Evelyn Herbertz is a professional astrologer in Indianapolis. Through her business, *Starshine*, she offers experienced personal counseling as well as profiles generated by her Matrix report writers.

Evelyn has created a series of effective promotional pieces that get her message across well, yet are inexpensive to produce. Each of these pages is "short & sweet"—presenting its information or making its sales offer clearly with a friendly approach. The effect is that the pieces are inviting to read.

Some of these pages offer report services, and these have a coupon printed at the bottom, encouraging the reader to respond. Some of them offer information; a brief explanation of Mercury retrograde for example, answering the question, "What does this mean to me?" These, too, end with an offer of a personal astrological profile, and prompt the reader to place an order.

Using her computer with a dot matrix printer, Evelyn produces the pages herself— bypassing the expense of typesetting. To give the pages a professional feel that reflects well on her business, Evelyn has a nicely designed logo at the top of each one. They're printed in a colored ink on colored paper for an upbeat feel.

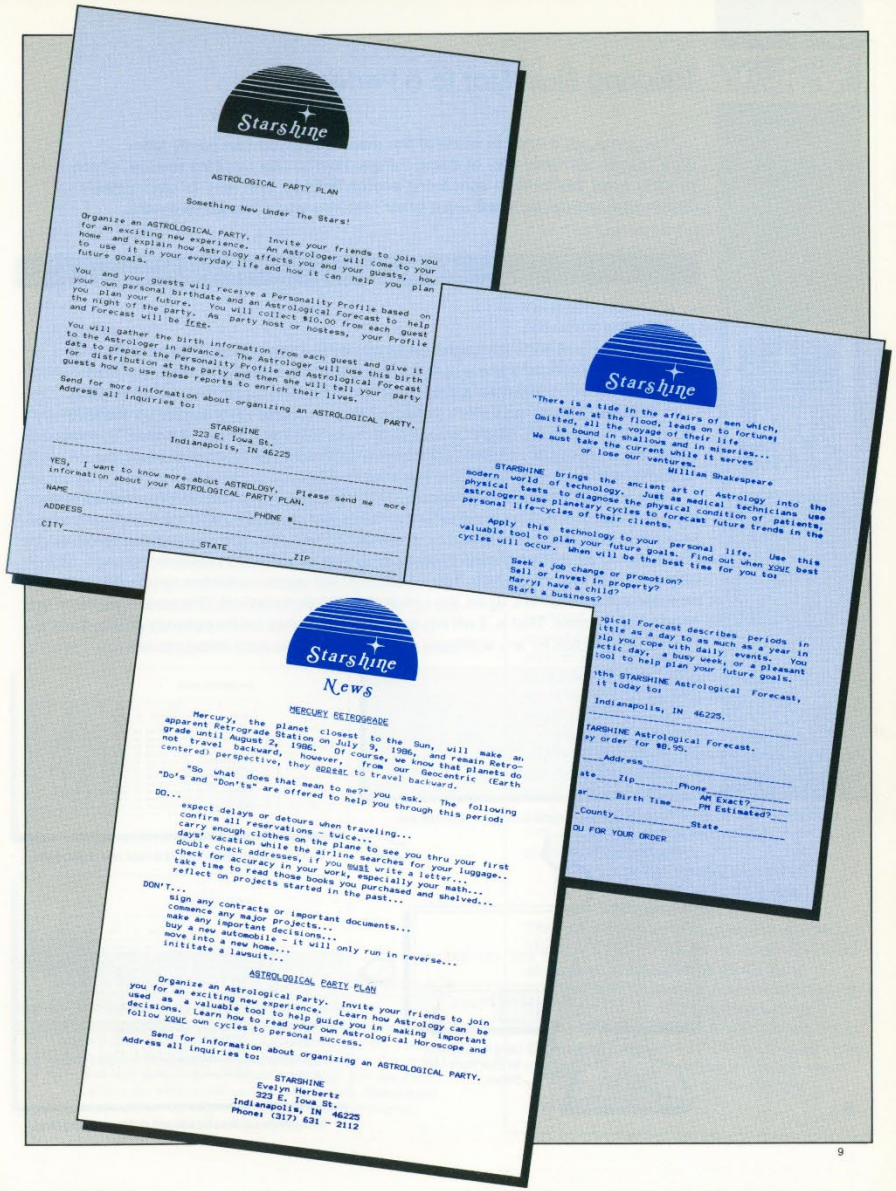
One of the unique ways Evelyn reaches new customers has a lot of potential for Matrix users: she offers an astrological party plan. Not a bad idea! A host or hostess invites a houseful of friends, each chipping in $10.00 to pay for their own personal natal and transit reports supplied by Evelyn. The host receives his or her reports free of charge. Evelyn arrives at the party with everyone's reports prepared and treats them all to an evening of astrological presentation and discussion.

She even has pre-printed invitation/chart data forms to supply to the host so that she receives accurate birth information well in advance of the party. Offering these reports at a discount isn't bad economy considering the batch orders involved (with enough lead time to complete the job conveniently).

The real plus comes from reaching large numbers of new customers, many of whom return for more reports or personal counseling.

Thank you, Evelyn, for sharing an idea that's both good business and good fun!

□ ■ □



EXPLORING BLUE★STAR

by Doug Pierce

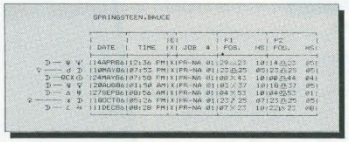
Tailoring Blue*Star to a Perfect Fit

This issue, we'll explore more of the many ways you can easily tailor Blue*Star to suit your way of doing things: how to use the *Link* feature, which permits great flexibility in specifying search listings, and how to save default option settings (let us know what other features you'd like us to cover).

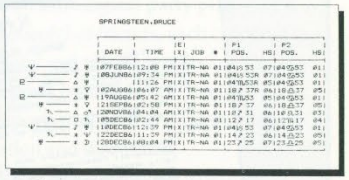
▼ The Link Feature ▼

An ability to link search jobs together is a powerful Blue*Star feature that provides a whole new range of searching capabilities. Have you ever wished you could have a single chronological listing that includes transiting and progressed aspects together? How about including transit-to-transit contacts along with transits to the natal? Or solar arcs in combination with any of these? The possibilities are amazing! Any of Blue*Star's search options can be linked to produce the customized chronological listing that you have in mind.

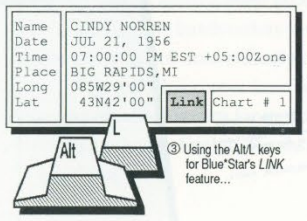
Using the Link feature is as simple as a keystroke. When you're ordering searches of any type, and want to link them together in one listing, just press Alt-L from the Blue*Star Control Menu (while holding down the Alt key, press the "L" key). You can do this either before or after ordering the individual search jobs, just as long as you have the Control Menu displayed when you press Alt-L. The word "LINK" will appear in the box next to the chart number. If you press Alt-L again, the Link feature will be turned off. This feature works on a chart-by-chart basis. That is, it will link together all searches for the currently selected chart. Repeat this process for any additional charts for which you want linked searches.



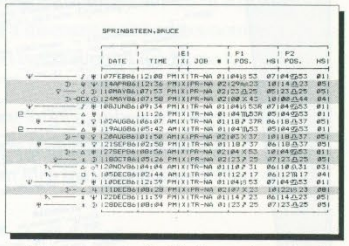
① A list of secondary progressions to the natal chart and...



② A list of outer planets' transits to natal are combined thru...



③ Using the Alt/L keys for Blue*Star's *LINK* feature...



④ To create a custom list with both progressions and transits.

▼ Saving Blue*Star Default Settings ▼

One of the most convenient of Blue*Star's features is that you can easily customize the menu to display the options you normally use. If you use Placidus houses, you don't want to have to select this every time you calculate a chart. If you have a particular planet set and aspect set you use for transits or progressions, you'd like to avoid having to specify these every time you order a search. It's this simple: Once you've set the window options in any of the Blue*Star job windows, pressing Alt-S will save these options. The next time you order from this job window, these options will be set just the way you left them. This is a real time-saver that is so easy, you don't even have to think about it. So you can make Blue*Star into the kind of menu you want, and change it as often as you like... just remember Alt-S to save.

"We're looking for a few good astrologers..."

Matrix is growing—both as a software company and as a center for astrological communication and idea-sharing. The need for more staff members is growing along with the company. If you have experience in computer programming and/or customer service, and have an active interest in astrology, perhaps you'd like to consider working with us here in Big Rapids. Please send a resume of your educational, employment and astrological background to Michael Erlewine c/o Matrix.

MACHINE TALK

The real news is the continued price reductions and consolidation in the IBM-PC clone market. As consumers, we'll be glad to note that competition among mass merchandisers selling inexpensive PC's is heating up. For example, almost all of the Sears & Roebuck stores nationwide are selling the PC 8000, a close clone made by the Franklin Computer Corporation (remember the apple II copies?). With everything (even a monitor), it retails at $1,050.

Tandy (Radio Shack) has just introduced an entire new line of IBM clones that are better looking and lower priced than before. And this includes a low-priced AT clone. Speaking of which, there are any number of good AT clones advertised in the computer magazines for around $1500.

In addition, many new PC clones are appearing in stripped-down, one drive versions. The Blue Chip PC (a Korean built machine) at $699 comes equipped with one 5 1/4-inch drive, six expansion slots, 512K of RAM, serial & parallel ports, keyboard and monochrone graphics adaptor. A second disk drive and a monochrome display cost another $218, for a total system price of $917. IBM's dual-drive PC retails for around $1,945, but is being discounted via the computer magazines for about $1500.

All in all, the general atmosphere is more relaxed as regards these close IBM clones. More computer stores will attempt to repair any clone you bring them, whereas before many wouldn't touch them. Some stores are even building their own in-house PC clones and making them available at bargain prices.

Outside the world of the IBM PC clones, there isn't a lot of news. Nothing new from Commodore. The Amiga continues to hang in there by a thread. The Atari ST is in about the same state. We do see an advance for the McIntosh thanks to the introduction of the new 1 megabyte machines with their larger disk drives and faster operating system. IBM has a nice but not outstanding laptop available and laser printers continue to come down in price. Full-blown desktop publishing systems are about to be introduced for the IBM-PC machines. ■

Astro★talk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix Software
315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
616/796-2483. For orders & catalog requests,
call 1/800/622-4070 (in Illinois: 1/800/942-7317).

Bi-Monthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Three, No. 6 Nov/Dec '86

Astro★talk

Inside:

ASTRO•TALK PC: WOW! —*Pg 6*

CROSS COUNTRY COMMUTE: GARY DUNCAN COMES TO MATRIX —*Pg 2*

Who wrote the Book Of Love?

FRIENDS & LOVERS: THE AD KIT IS READY! —*SEE Pg 11*

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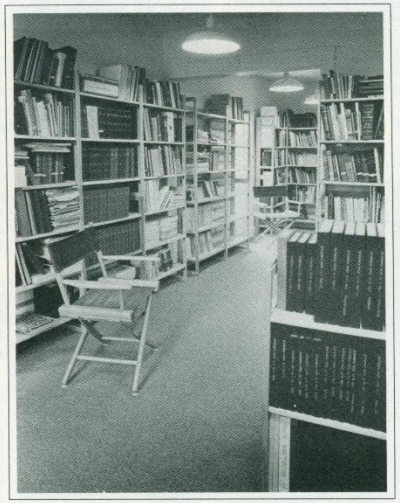


Astrological Research Library Established At Matrix

The Heart Center Library is now available to all astrologers, and offers an unusually extensive collection of astrological and astronomical volumes. We invite you to make use of the library in your research work.

by Michael Erlewine

An astrological library has long been a staff goal here at Matrix. My brother Stephen and I have collected astrological and metaphysical books since the early sixties. We both worked at Circle Books, the metaphysical bookstore that Stephen and his wife, Morgen operated in Ann Arbor, Michigan from 1968 until 1974. At that time it was the largest bookstore of its kind in the midwest.

At any rate, it has been a dream of ours to help create a really first rate research and technical library for the astrological community. With the establishment of the Heart Cepter Library, that dream is now a reality. Although the Heart Center was established in 1972, it was not until this year that we received tax exempt status under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Now that it is a non-profit organization, the Heart Center Library (which until now has concentrated on Indian and Tibetan texts—astrological and otherwise) is being expanded to include western astrological, astronomical, statistical and metaphysical materials.

Page 4 ➤

Matrix News:

The Matrix Hindu Program Is Now Being Shipped

We have been shipping the new Matrix Hindu program for some time now. Everyone seems to like it, and an expanded version of the program will be made available in the spring. The expanded version will include almost all major Hindu techniques. ■

Our New Building

We have managed to grow out of our main building and into the one next door, which is almost as large. Our telephone support, disk duplication, shipping and photo-copying departments are now located next door to Matrix in what we are calling the library building (the Heart Center library is located on the upper floor). The original Matrix building now contains the programmers, art department, documentation section, bookkeeper, kitchen and conference center. ■

8087 Update For Blue•Star Users

Registered Blue•Star users who have hard disks and an 8087 co-processor (math chip) may order the superfast 8087 Search Module. Transit jobs run twice as fast using this update. **You must have both a hard disk and an 8087 math chip.** Available now: $12.50 postpaid. ■

M91 Transit Report Ephemeris Update

M91 Transit Writer users may order the ephemeris update. The IBM version covers 1980-2010 and is available now. Apple II & C-64 versions covering 1990-2000 will be ready by January 1. Price for each: $25 ■

Gary Duncan Joins The Matrix Staff

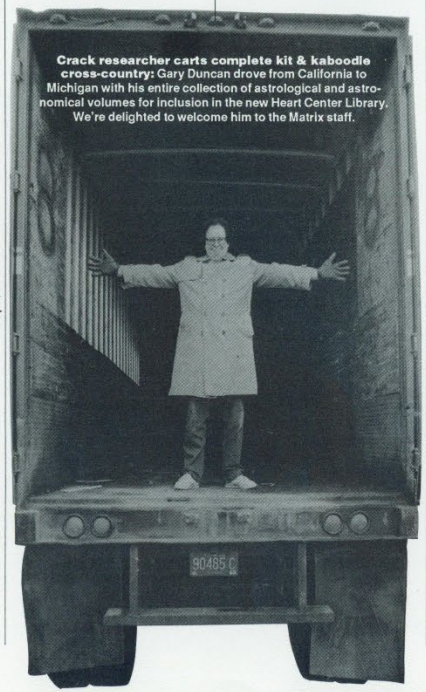
Matrix is proud to welcome Gary Duncan to Big Rapids.

Living at the Heart Center, Gary will be working with Matrix on a number of projects. In addition to some programming, he will be directing the Grass Roots Research (GRR!– see page 9) project, editing our massive Astro*Index encyclopedia of astrological definitions, organizing the library and (on occasion) he'll serve up some of his gourmet meals for those lucky enough to be visiting the Heart Center.

Gary drove a moving van containing his large library and towing his car from Los Angeles to Big Rapids in late October. Encountering an early snowfall in the Rockies, traveling was slow and difficult.

Gary is one of the most qualified technical astrologers in the field. He has worked as a professional astronomer, mathematician and statistician. One of the first to use computers, Duncan's an expert programmer and has personally written six compilers for the programming language "C". Although Gary has spent most of his life working on mainframe and mini-computers, he currently has moved over into the micro-computer arena

One of the first astrologers ever to perform statistical research, Gary has a great deal of experience in this area. In recent years, he has worked to make the process of research something anyone who owns a microcomputer can participate in. Working with a network of volunteers, Gary has supervised the entering of major reference works into computer-readable form. The old adage "many hands make light work" is very true here. Volunteers entering and checking different parts of major reference works are helping to make different sets of information available for astrological use. Any readers who would like to participate in this project should write to Gary Duncan, in care of Matrix. ■



Crack researcher carts complete kit & kaboodle cross-country: Gary Duncan drove from California to Michigan with his entire collection of astrological and astronomical volumes for inclusion in the new Heart Center Library. We're delighted to welcome him to the Matrix staff.

Blue•Star 512K screen update coming.

While many of you are already enjoying the new 512K version of Blue•Star, our programmers are busy re-designing the main screen menu to make it lightning fast. Using a RAM-based windowing technique, screen response and updating will be almost instantaneous. Many new features are being added that will make working with the program and chart files even easier.

For example, the directory of charts on file will allow you to browse through the on-screen list and look at the complete set of chart data for a particular chart. Or, examine the details of any secondary or extension charts attached to a name. All this at the touch of a button.

The whole screen interface is being re-worked for both speed and convenience. All Blue•Star users will be notified when the new menu is ready. No need to replace your whole system. The menu will be shipped on a single disk and will copy itself into your existing system.

Research Update, too:

Another new feature that will be part of the update is our Input Data Processor. Let me explain what this little feature can do, not only for research oriented Blue•Star users but for anyone who has a client base that requires monthly or yearly updates.

The Input Data Processor accepts any chart collection or astrological data base and allows you to read it into Blue•Star, calculate it, and store the data as chart files for later use. There's more: Blue•Star's powerful auto-job feature also performs any series of chart jobs on the data collection. The possible uses are many. For example:

Researchers can accept data collections prepared on virtually any database (Dbase III, Savvy, etc.) and read that collection into Blue•Star for calculation, printout and/or chart file storage.

Or counseling astrologers can maintain a collection of their clients by month or year, read the collection into Blue•Star, and perform any series of jobs needed. Perhaps you'd like to send all of your regular customers their transits for the year or solar returns for any who have birthdays in a particular month, etc. This new feature will allow you to read in a set of names or data and output virtually any series of charts that Blue•Star can do using the auto-jobs feature.

This option also makes it possible to browse through your current files, mark certain files, and collect them in a separate file for processing as described above. Whether for use in research or with your client base, the new Data Input Processor offers greater flexibility in handling large data collections, your own or others.

Another handy option will be the capacity to re-direct printer output to disk and store it in ASCII form. This allows you to store, say, transit hits to disk, pull them into your word processor and use them in a book or article you are writing. And, last but not least, a built-in ephemeris generator lets you produce attractive, formatted ephemeris pages for any range of time within the Blue•Star 's 3000 year range. These new features should be available by January 1, 1987. ■

New Macintosh Programs Are In The Works!

We're now working on a completely new series of software for the Macintosh. Watch upcoming issues of Astro•Talk for the details. ■

Astro•talk

Editors: Michael Erlewine, Margaret Erlewine, Ginda Lasseigne
Art Director: Tom Erlewine
Office Staff: Kevin Fowler, Mike Foust, Jim Leveque, Craig Smith
Programming: Stephen Erlewine, Doug Pierce

Astro•Talk is published bimonthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Ave, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Subscription rate in the US and Canada is $9.95 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 via seamail ($17.95 via airmail).

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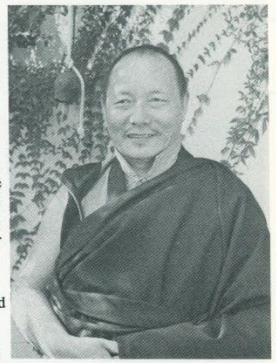
ISSN 0740-6738

Heart Center News:



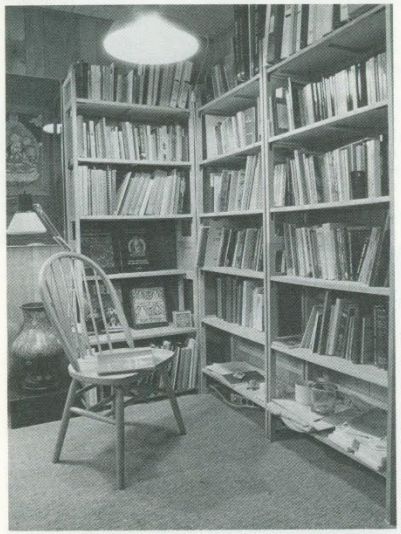
Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche

The Heart Center will receive a visit from Venerable Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche on the weekend of December 12-14 here in Big Rapids. Khenpo Rinpoche was abbot of Kanglung Monastery in Bhutan before he was forced to flee Tibet in 1959 during the Chinese invasion. In 1975 he officially received the title of superior Dharma master and was asked to come to the U.S. by His Holiness, the Gyalwa Karmapa, as his personal representative. The Karmapa referred to Khenpo Rinpoche as a master of the Karma Kagyu tradition and as one possessing the all-benefiting nature of a bodhisattva. Since that time, he has established a network of centers in this country and built the Karma Triyana Dharmachakra monastery in Woodstock, N.Y.

Rinpoche is known for his great compassion and wisdom and for the warmth that pervades his teachings. He is the principal teacher of those Buddhists living here at the Heart Center. Rinpoche will offer Dharma teachings during his stay with us. All are welcome. If you would like to attend, contact Michael Erlewine in care of Matrix. ■

A new building, a new LIBRARY

(Cont. from 1)



Both Stephen and my collections are part of the new library. But the best news is that research astrologer Gary Duncan, who has joined the Matrix staff, has brought his enormous personal collection to Big Rapids where it is on display at the new library. Until recently, the Duncan collection, packed in some 122 boxes, had been in storage filling a two-car garage from floor to ceiling. It has been trucked here from California and is now being assembled for display.

We've dedicated the entire second floor of our new staff building (four rooms totaling 1150 square feet of floor space) to be used for the library. Over 50 bookcases have been prepared to hold the books that we have so far. The library rooms are attractively furnished with space for reading, conferences and study. Separate work and storage rooms for preparing library materials are located next to the display area.

Both Gary and myself have had extensive library experience. I worked for a number of years at the University of Michigan libraries (one of the largest in the world) as a staff member. The Heart Center library is being catalogued and organized in a professional manner. We believe that the library is the largest research collection assembled in one place.

Open To All

All astrologers interested in visiting or doing research at the facility are welcome. This is to be an astrological community library. There is no admittance fee—just give us a call and let us know when you wish to visit. Or, if you're unable to visit in person, you can have access to the materials you may need by mail. Located in the same building is our excellent xerox facility. Copies of any materials in the library that are out-of-copyright and hard to get will be made available for postage and copying costs. Should you need them, food & lodging are available at the Heart Center House one block away.

Please Join Us!

We are asking for your help in making this library one of the very best facilities of its kind in the world. You can help by participating in any or all of the following ways:

Authors: Please send us at least one copy of any book, booklet or article that you have published.

Duplicates: Please donate any duplicate copies of astrological books, magazines or materials you may have laying around.

Collections: Please feel free to donate any larger collections of materials that you may decide you no longer wish to maintain.

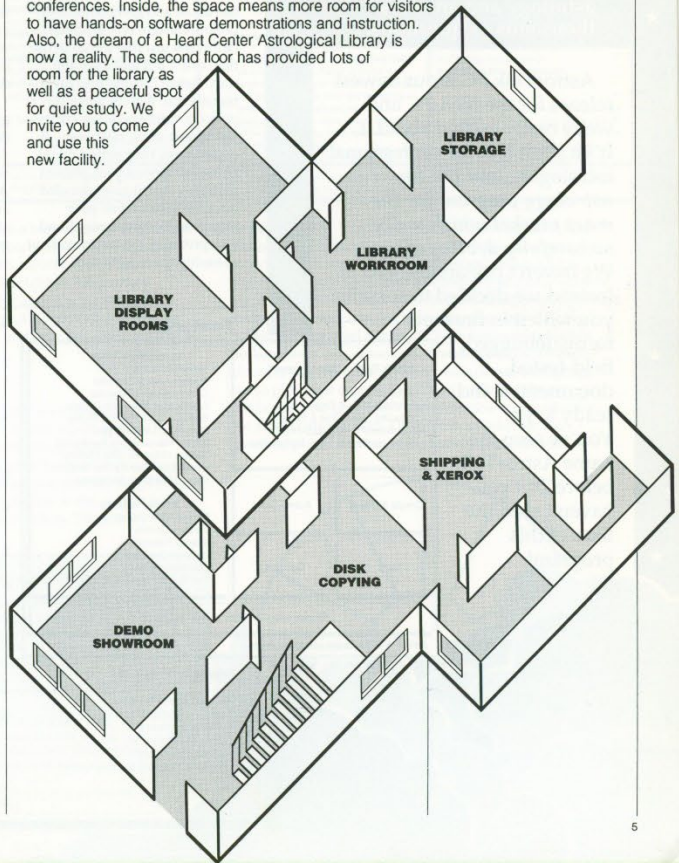
Companies: Take a full tax deduction. Send one copy of your entire catalogue.

Audio and video cassettes are also needed as are microfilm and microfiche. Since the Heart Center Library is part of a non-profit corporation, your contributions are tax deductable. Just include an approximate value for the materials you are donating and we will send you a letter of receipt so that you may take a full deduction. In addition, all donors will be posted in the library and listed here in Astro*Talk from time to time. Any duplicate copies we receive will be traded for materials we don't have or loaned out to individuals in need.

The Heart Center is an information co-op and communion center and our library is your library. There are no fees or subscriptions needed to access this library. This is a non-profit enterprise and is open to all serious students of astrology. However, we could use your help to make it even more complete. Please send your book donations to the Heart Center Library, c/o Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307. Feel free to call us with questions: (616) 796-2483.

■

Our new building is right next door to the Matrix center and it too is a converted private residence. The two share a huge backyard which will be ***great*** for summer conferences. Inside, the space means more room for visitors to have hands-on software demonstrations and instruction. Also, the dream of a Heart Center Astrological Library is now a reality. The second floor has provided lots of room for the library as well as a peaceful spot for quiet study. We invite you to come and use this new facility.



Brand New

AstroTalk™ PC

All this in one program:

- ✔ **Major astrological techniques with interpretations right on the screen.**
- ✔ **Complete report writer system—prints both natal and transit reports.**
- ✔ **Built-in data base teaches astrology and answers thousands of questions.**

Astro•Talk PC is our newest release for the IBM-PC and we're really excited about it. It's a great tool for professional astrologers, ***and it's the astrology program for the mass market which we've so carefully developed.*** We haven't pre-announced it; instead we decided to surprise you with it in finished form: debugged, field-tested, documented and ready to go. You've seen the name Astro•Talk before, but you haven't seen the likes of this program!

The foremost reviewer in the field has this to say about Astro•Talk:

"Astro•Talk is an ideal first—*or only*—program for the astrological novice, and a handy one for pros and advanced students as well. It has some novel techniques you just can't find in any other program."

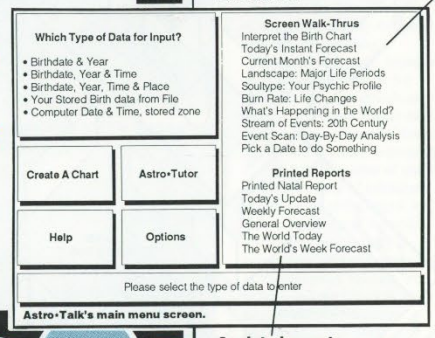
—Richard Nolle
Dell Horoscope Magazine

Astro•Talk PC takes a huge leap beyond the scope of our existing Astro•Talk program. Like the first Astro•Talk , it's fun to use and gives natal interpretations right on the screen (with new text that's even better than ever). But that's just the start. Astro•Talk PC interprets transits, too. It gives you today's personal forecast, or one for this week, next week, next year—it explores *any* time period or any planetary aspects past, present or future. And it gives detailed interpretations for all your inquiries. Every technique and interpretation can be printed out as multipage reports, too!

The AstroTutor idea which we introduced in the original Astro•Talk program has grown into an amazing teaching resource. This makes the program unsurpassed for beginners. Counseling astrologers will find it a godsend for on-the-spot transit data.

Our goal with this program is to put astrology at the fingertips of the first-time user —one program that does it all with a price tag of under $100. Astro•Talk PC does all that, and it has features not available even in our larger programs. Let's take a look at some of the things it can do:

Features:



Astro•Talk's main menu screen.

10 "WalkThrus"

1 Full birth chart interpretations
2 Today's instant forecast
3 The current month's forecast, with dates and interpretations
4 *Landscape:* Life overviews. Major periods of growth & change interpreted. With beginning and ending dates.
5 *Soul Type:* The inner you vs. how others see you.
6 *Burn Rate:* Which areas of your life are just too hot to handle? Which let you keep your cool?
7 What's happening in the world? An astrological forecast.
8 *Stream Of Events: 20th Century.* All major astrological events in this century, with date, time & interpretations.
9 *Event Scan:* Scan any time period, follow any planet's motion to find important contacts to your birth chart. With dates & interpretations.
10 *Pick A Date* ... for anything!

6 printed reports

1 Printed natal report
2 Today's update
3 Weekly forecast
4 General overview
5 The world today
6 World's forecast for the week

AstroTutor

You'll find yourself learning astrology without even trying. It's that easy!

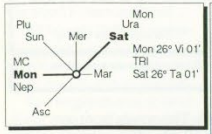
"It's really exciting! The two of us looked at our own charts, and at our kids' charts, too... it's amazing how *accurate* the interpretations are. Everybody in my astrology class wants a copy now."

—Beginning astrologer who beta-tested Astro•Talk

AstroTalk™ PC

For the **IBM-PC** & compatibles

$99



Most exact aspect in this group.
Moon
(surroundings, support system)
which is in the sign of Virgo
(responsible, cautious)
and in the 10th house
(career, reputation)
forms a Trine aspect with
(encourages, enables)
your Natal Saturn
(responsibilities, discipline)
which is in the sign of Taurus
(nurturing, supportive)
and is in the 6th house.
(responsibilities, health matters)

▹ Nov 27, 1986 Age 45 yrs 4 mos

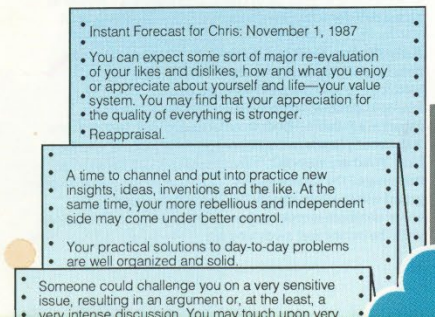
This aspect lasts part of a day.

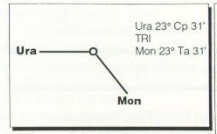
You may find yourself being put to good use by your friends or it could be that circumstances force you to reorganize and be more conservative. All of this should go rather smoothly. Your more taciturn qualities are to the fore and found to be valuable.

In the luxurious quarters of a home furnished in delicate period style elderly ladies are enjoying afternoon tea. PRESTIGE.

Around the pattern. Here's a busy moon chart pattern for the day. Using the cursor, you can move through the pattern and point to the various aspects. Here the Moon/Saturn trine is being highlighted. Notice that Astro•Talk PC tells you that this aspect is the most exact one in the current chart pattern. Also provided is the date when exact, your current age, and how long the aspect lasts.

Printed reports. Produce your own printed reports with Astro•Talk PC. There are six different report options built into the program, and each produces good looking multipage profiles (the length of each report depends upon the number of aspects in the chart you're studying). These high quality printouts are very similar to the output from our series of professional report writers. The text for Astro•Talk PC is all new.





Uranus
(originality, insight, breakthrus)
which is in the sign of Capricorn
(practical, clear minded)
and in the 2nd house
(money, values and possessions)
forms a Trine aspect with
(encourages, enables)
your Natal Moon
(surroundings, support system)
which is in the sign of Taurus
(nurturing, supportive)
and is in the 6th house.
(responsibilities, health matters)

▹ Feb 03, 1994 D> Age 52 yrs 6 mos
▹ Aug 08, 1994 R< Age 53 yrs 0 mos
▹ Nov 22, 1994 D> Age 53 yrs 4 mos

This aspect lasts over a year.

You could receive unexpected help or support from those around you, someone younger or from a woman. A time when you may get insights into your living situation, support system. New ideas about your past history, new approaches to established facts.

The convent lies between gnarled old trees as the very picture of peace and a woman approaches this sure haven. RESCUE.

Transit data. With Astro•Talk PC, you get complete and accurate transit data. On-screen chart patterns make aspect recognition easy and understandable, even for beginners. Zodiac positions of transiting and natal planets are always shown. An easy to read sentence helps beginners learn to construct astrological interpretations using the traditional keyword approach. Each keyword is further broken down into synonyms. Transit dates (when each planet is exact) are shown along with direct/retrograde status plus your current age. The duration of the aspect is marked. A one-paragraph interpretation is provided for the aspect combination. The psychic symbol for the transited planet is given at the bottom of the screen.

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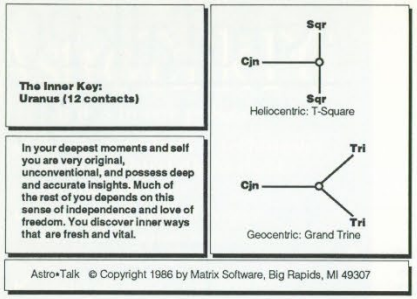
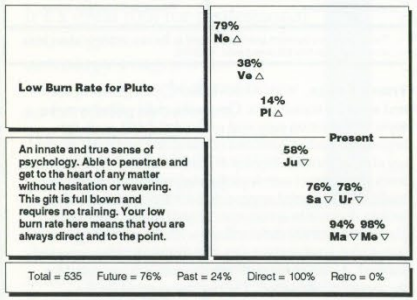
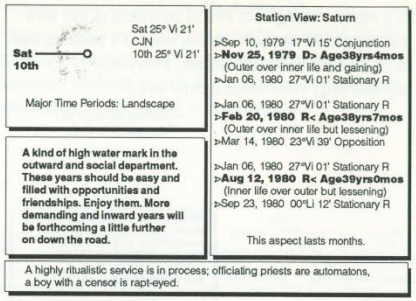


Soul Type. This is a very useful WalkThru that determines the major patterns in both your geocentric and heliocentric chart, then compares and interprets them. In the example above, Uranus (with 12 contacts in a single pattern) is the most connected or aspected planet—the key to this pattern.



Burn Rate. The "Burn Rate" WalkThru breaks down your natal chart, graphs and interprets the planets in relation to their individual stations. Burn Rate offers you a new way of looking at and measuring the degree of retrogradation and directness for planets.



Landscape & Station View. This screen from our Landscape WalkThru features the Station View option. Station View finds transits of Saturn to the angles, then dates and interprets them. It provides detailed and exact stationary data on the various planets. For example, the transit of Saturn on November 25, 1979 over the tenth house cusp occurs between the Sun/Saturn conjunction of September 10, 1979 (at 17° Virgo 15') and the stationary retrograde point on January 6, 1980 (at 27° Virgo 01'). This is the first time that this kind of exact station detail has ever been offered on a home computer.

WalkThrus. The screens shown here are examples of Astro•Talk PC's WalkThru format. There are 10 separate WalkThrus built into Astro•Talk PC; each represents a different vantage point from which to examine chart data. Here are some more features:

Stream Of Events 20th Century. This WalkThru lets you step through major astrological events in this century as they occur. You get detailed interpretations plus date and time of each event. Scan time periods and planets of your choice (past, present or future) looking for pivotal aspects. Compare historical events to the stream of astrological events.

Pick-A-Date. Helps you to select a planet that most represents the event or question you have in mind and search for a date when that planet is making a harmonious aspect to something in your birth chart. This makes it a breeze to pick a date for a trip, business meeting… anything at all.

AstroTutor. Built into Astro•Talk PC is our 350-page data base, a mini expert system that allows students of astrology to ask thousands of specific questions. For example, detailed interpretation for every planetary aspect is available—both in natal and transit text versions. Ask about planets in houses or signs. Or just ask questions like, 'What are aspects?' 'What are orbs?' Or, 'What's the meaning of the square aspect?' 'What does the grand cross or grand trine pattern signify?' 'What are elements?' The entire database is cross-indexed for easy access. Just point with the cursor and away you go. ➤

AstroTutor lets you select different words by themselves or in combination and get on-the-spot interpretations. Use the program's highlight bar to point to the Sun, or to the Sun and Aries, or the Sun and the third house, etc . You'll get an individual readout for each combination. Or point to the word House and read about houses. Select combinations like Sun-Conjunct-Neptune to be interpreted (both natally and by transit).

You might choose to read one of a series of short articles on many subjects including "What is Astrology?", different chart patterns, elements, heliocentric astrology, etc. AstroTutor is an easy and fun way to ask questions and get answers—a great way to learn.

Astro•Talk PC is available now for the IBM-PC and compatibles. It requires 256K and two disk drives.

Price: $99

Use the envelope enclosed with this issue of the Astro•Talk Bulletin to order your copy of Astro•Talk PC, or the quickest way is to charge your order to your MasterCard or VISA by calling us directly: (616) 796-2483.

Let's Astro•Talk!

■

GRR!

The Grass Roots Research Project

by Gary Duncan

Now that I am relocated, the GRR! (Grass Roots Research) project is once more moving along at a good speed. This month we have some good news to report. Researcher Melva Meisberger of Salem, Oregon has finished with Data Transcription for the historians from the *Directory of American Scholars*. There are, approximately, 10,500 birthdates. Melva is our first member to receive the *GRR! Award* for her contributions to this very important research effort. Thanks Melva!

We are now seeking one or more individuals who will assist in the proofreading phase. If you are interested, please write to MATRIX care of the GRR! project. This research project on historians looks as if it will be a most interesting one for astrologers. (Some preliminary statistical tests indicate that we may expect significant results.)

Melva Meisberger has started to transcribe data for her second research project. The new effort deals with three fields: philosophy, religion, and law. We expect about 8,000 entries, or about 6,000 birthdates. Keep up the good work, Melva! We need more like her working with us.

If you would like to join the GRR! effort, we would be glad to have you. We could all benefit from a little cooperative effort in this cause. We want to hear from other readers who would like to advance the science of astrology. If you have a home computer which can write onto a floppy disk, you could help with the data transcription phase. You don't have to do it all yourself. All that's needed is an editor program. Or, if you would rather help with the proofreading phases (there are two), we could use your help! Drop us a line at Matrix, and we'll send you all the details about the GRR! project. Let us not let Melva do all the work.

■

Machine Talk

New Epson Printers

The new Epson EX series printers are the ones to look at… especially if you plan to do a lot of hi-res wheels ala Blue•Star 512K. All of our wheels can be run off on the EX in 55 seconds! That's quick for detailed wheels.

Inexpensive clones (286)

The market is now flooded with inexpensive IBM clones. For example, I'm always getting sale flyers for hi-fi equipment, VCRs, TVs and the like. The other day I got my first one that also included an IBM clone. For about $700, you can get a 640K machine with 2-360K floppies, keyboard, monochrome monitor and interface, DOS, BASIC, plus five expansion slots (and even room to add more drives inside).

Even more interesting is the fact that you can now get AT clones (with the much faster 80286 chip) for as little as $1100 and a decent configuration for about $1500.

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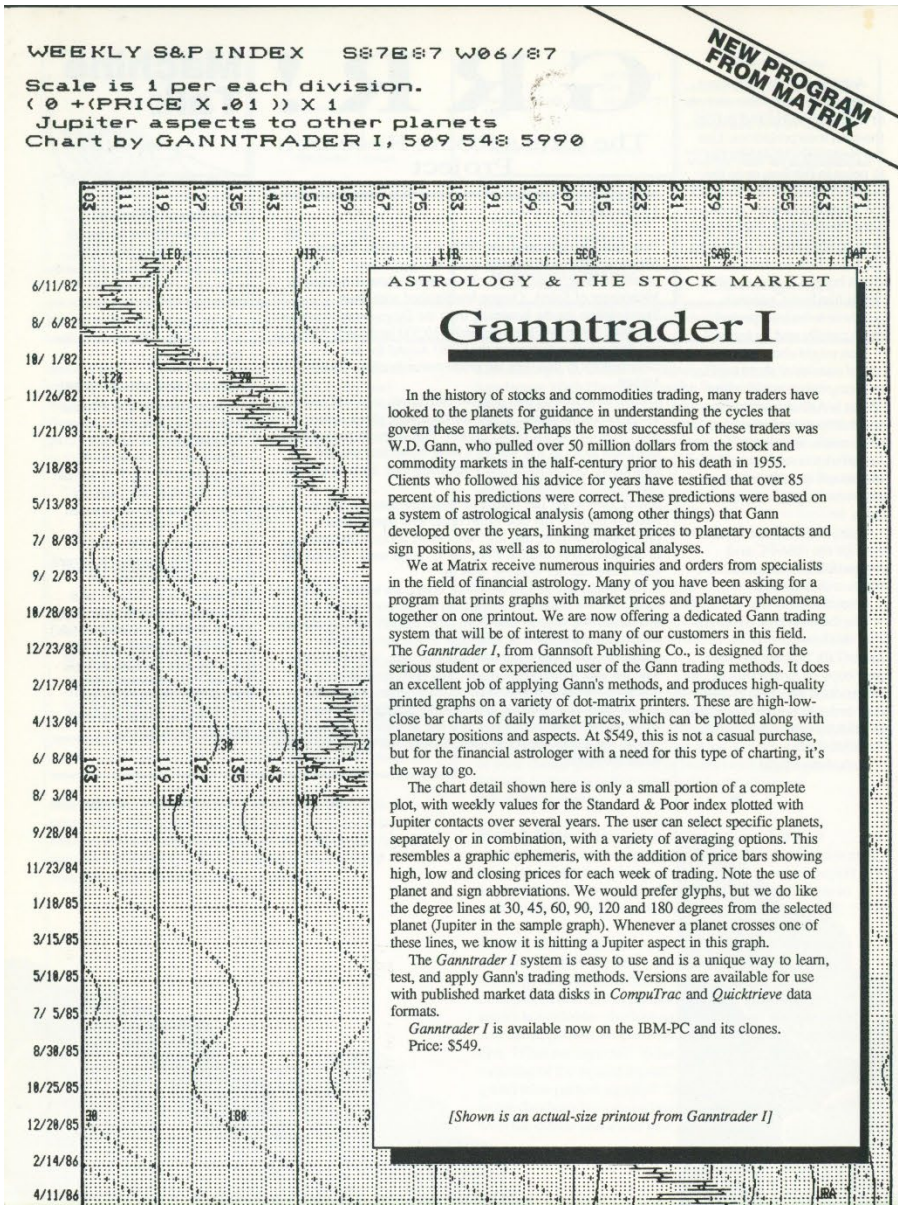


ASTROLOGY & THE STOCK MARKET

Ganntrader I

In the history of stocks and commodities trading, many traders have looked to the planets for guidance in understanding the cycles that govern these markets. Perhaps the most successful of these traders was W.D. Gann, who pulled over 50 million dollars from the stock and commodity markets in the half-century prior to his death in 1955. Clients who followed his advice for years have testified that over 85 percent of his predictions were correct. These predictions were based on a system of astrological analysis (among other things) that Gann developed over the years, linking market prices to planetary contacts and sign positions, as well as to numerological analyses.

We at Matrix receive numerous inquiries and orders from specialists in the field of financial astrology. Many of you have been asking for a program that prints graphs with market prices and planetary phenomena together on one printout. We are now offering a dedicated Gann trading system that will be of interest to many of our customers in this field. The *Ganntrader I*, from Gannsoft Publishing Co., is designed for the serious student or experienced user of the Gann trading methods. It does an excellent job of applying Gann's methods, and produces high-quality printed graphs on a variety of dot-matrix printers. These are high-low-close bar charts of daily market prices, which can be plotted along with planetary positions and aspects. At $549, this is not a casual purchase, but for the financial astrologer with a need for this type of charting, it's the way to go.

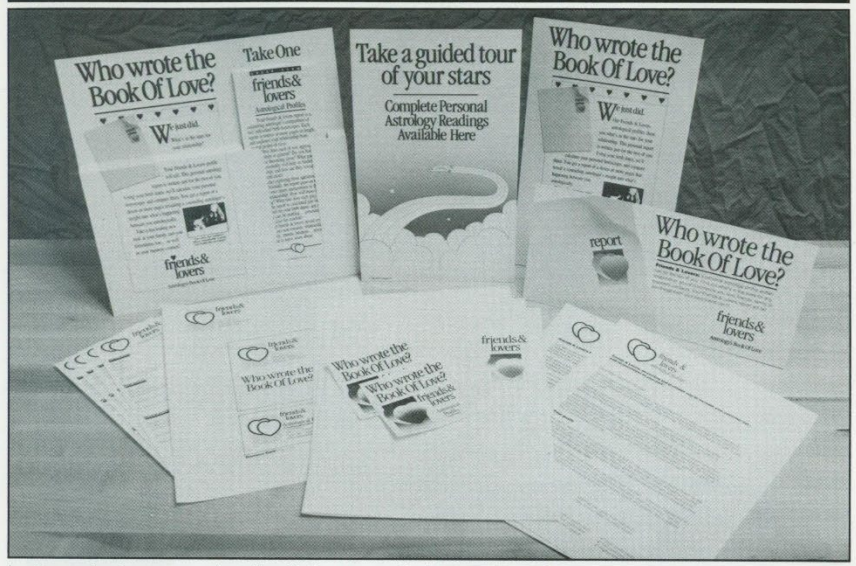
The chart detail shown here is only a small portion of a complete plot, with weekly values for the Standard & Poor index plotted with Jupiter contacts over several years. The user can select specific planets, separately or in combination, with a variety of averaging options. This resembles a graphic ephemeris, with the addition of price bars showing high, low and closing prices for each week of trading. Note the use of planet and sign abbreviations. We would prefer glyphs, but we do like the degree lines at 30, 45, 60, 90, 120 and 180 degrees from the selected planet (Jupiter in the sample graph). Whenever a planet crosses one of these lines, we know it is hitting a Jupiter aspect in this graph.

The *Ganntrader I* system is easy to use and is a unique way to learn, test, and apply Gann's trading methods. Versions are available for use with published market data disks in *CompuTrac* and *Quicktrieve* data formats.

Ganntrader I is available now on the IBM-PC and its clones. Price: $549.

[Shown is an actual-size printout from Ganntrader I]

The Friends & Lovers ad kit is ready!



In a previous issue, we presented the idea of selling Friends & Lovers reports through hair styling salons. The plan's a natural; this is a great place to reach lots of people, and Friends & Lovers reports have the broad appeal needed. After all, who *isn't* interested in reading about their own love life?

To really succeed in selling reports in this environment, you'll want to put your best foot forward. You're selling to the general public, and your message is competing for attention amid a lot of slick magazines and glossy products. This is the place for a polished and appealing presentation of your services.

We've just finished work on the Friends & Lovers Ad Kit; a package designed to help you sell these reports in salons and anywhere else. By giving our art department the job of producing professional quality point-of-purchase displays, we can offer them to you at just a fraction of what it would cost you to come up with them yourself. You save the cost of hiring a designer, copywriter, photographer, and illustrator.

In this kit, we've focused on the romance appeal of these reports by leading with the headline, "Who wrote the Book of Love?" Of course, Friends & Lovers reports are for non-romantic relationships, too. But for this market we're putting the emphasis on one strong appeal rather that attempting to be all things to all people. The counter cards do suggest that the reports are useful for family, friendships, and business contacts as well. And a sign with the message "Take a guided tour of your stars" lets people know if you have other astrological services available.

This is a hard-working kit designed to make a positive impression and promote sales.

Here's what the kit contains:

1. "Book of Love" counter card printed in three colors—with a fold-out easle on the back.
2. A "short-copy" version with the same headline, large photo, and a single short paragraph.
3. Order slips. Printed in red and blue on quality stock, one side describes the reports, other side for ordering (24 included) Extras available: 50 for $2.50 plus $1.75 shipping/handling.
4. Order slip rack. A counter card like item #1, but this one folds into a holder for a stack of order slips.
5. Stickers for salon stylists' mirrors… or wherever? Colors to match counter cards. 24 are included in the kit (also available separately: 12 for $5 plus $1.75 shipping/handling.).
6. Presentation covers. Put a polish on your printouts. High quality—these are the covers pictured on the counter cards. 24 included. (Also available separately: 24 for $18).
7. Camera-ready stationery. A ready-to-use sheet with letterhead, envelope & business card. Take it to your local printer—who can add your name and address where indicated. It even has suggestions for choosing paper and ink color.
8. Sales letter to salon owners. Use it as it is, or as a starting point for creating your own marketing effort. Two pages.
9. "Take a guided tour of your stars" counter card. Pleasant and appealing. Lets them know that "Complete personal astrology readings are available here."

The Friends & Lovers Ad Kit is due back from the various printers involved in late December. We can fill orders as soon as they're delivered to us.

The price for the complete kit is $35. ■

Astrotalk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix Software
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616/796-2483 For orders & catalog requests,
call toll-free: 1(800) PLANETS

Bi-Monthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Four, No. 1 Jan—Apr '87
SPECIAL DOUBLE ISSUE

Astrotalk

Inside:

MATRIX SUMMER SEMINARS —Pg 12

NEW: SEVEN GREAT PROGRAMS NOW AT THREE GREAT PRICES —Pg 6

BLUE*STAR 2.1 FOR HARD DISK USERS —Pg 18

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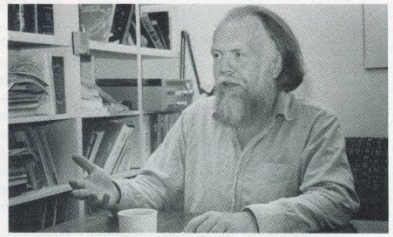

DIALOGUE

A conversation with one of Canada's foremost research astrologers.

Talking With Axel Harvey

Axel Harvey is one of Canada's leading research astrologers. He is currently co-editor of the very fine journal *Considerations*, but many of us can remember his contributions to the little journal *Correlation* back in the early 1970's. He is one of our finest technicians in the spirit of Charles Jayne and L. Edward Johndro. Michael Erlewine took this chance to talk with him during his visit to Matrix after the UAC convention of 1986.

Michael: You have just returned from the ACT conference as part of UAC.

Axel Harvey: Yes. In fact, ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) was a major factor in getting me back into astrological organizations at all—probably because ACT is not really an organization. It's more of an event.

M: Right; and planned that way, too. It doesn't have a hierarchy. You had a special experience at UAC regarding your fellow Canadians, isn't that right?

AH: I was badly burned by some astrological organizations that I won't mention the names of, in the early 70's. Events were OK, but organizations were something else. So I went to UAC in San Diego, and met a whole bunch of Canadians there. They made me feel very proud and obviously it's not the same Canada that I started to do astrology in, in the middle 60's. I think they're ready to promote some serious astrological work.

M: So, you felt some kind of kinship with your fellow Canadians.

AH: Absolutely. Well, I always did. I'm ready to get back into some kind of serious

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Axel Harvey

Cont. from page 1

action. I'm thinking more in terms of doing things with people. If you want to organize something, if you want to publish something, if you want to get a meeting with people together, you have to have an organizational base. True. And you have to have it locally, I suppose. You see, I've always had the feeling—*I know*—that Canada's a very astrological country.

All you have to know is that Manley P. Hall, Edward Johndro, Firebrace, Ada Muir, Paul Clancy, and Lois Roddin came out of Canada. I think that's an impressive list. But also, there's the French factor there. The French-Canadian astrologers are all steeped in a slightly different tradition. You know, the French astrology which is more… well some of the interpretation techniques are different. It's much more of an event- or materialistically-organized astrology. But this is different. At the same time, all these French-Canadian astrologers are bilingual; they're all reading English and American books. So, they have a view of the astrological world which no one else has. I guess their main fault is that they are such anarchists. They don't speak to anybody. It's part of the French-Canadian temperament.

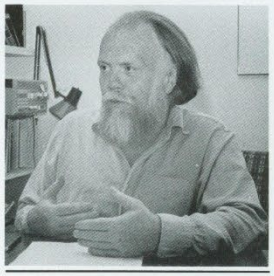
M: Tell me more about that, because the truth is a lot of Americans don't think of Canadians as all that different than themselves. Maybe you should describe some of the differences. I tend to think of Canadians as just like Americans.

AH: The fact that you talk a different language makes you think about the world differently. And French astrology has been separate from English astrology since people stopped writing Latin.

M: Are the French-Canadians reading a lot of French astrology?

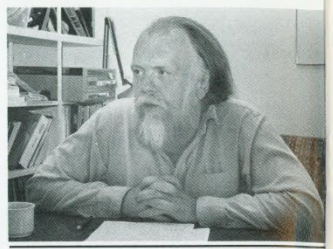
AH: Well, of course. That's what they read mainly. Well, Balbault and Volguine, and some of the less well-known French writers. Yes, in that sense I'm a typical French-Canadian astrologer. I'm going to *all* the traditions, and that's unique. There's no other place in the world with that particular mixture of French and English astrology.

I'm not saying that the French-Canadian astrology is superior, or anything; it just has its own unique cultural mix and therefore its own outlook. But it's never gained the sort of social momentum… a discipline has to have a sort of social momentum to be able to support things. I hate that word, but it's a necessary fact of institutions. One thing that has made English astrology so strong is that they have their institution. You can rely on the *Astrological Journal* to be there.



M: It sounds like you are getting some signal—an inspiration or perception that a French-Canadian institution may be being born.

AH: Well, I don't know if it will be that sudden. But I've felt this way about French-Canadian astrology ever since I knew astrologers. What's different now is there's a strong, but different, astrological community in Eastern Canada—as strong as the English astrological community. And as long as they were just by themselves, the English-Canadians were just like Americans. Now there is contact being made: French-Canadian astrologers giving workshops to English-Canadian astrologers. And that's like a new marriage. Some kind of fruit is likely to be produced.



"The French-Canadian astrologers are all steeped in a slightly different tradition. They have a view of the world which no one else has."

M: How did you get into astrology?

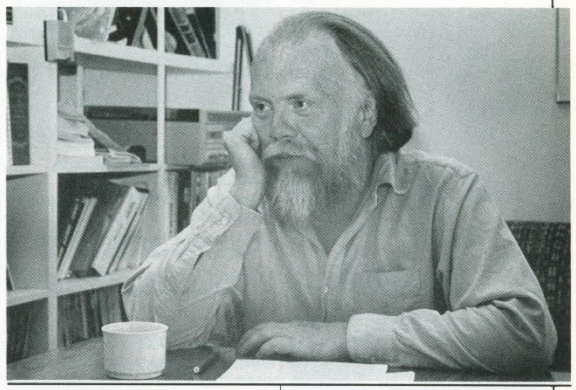
AH: I guess that's a long story. I always give people the simple story that when I was doing my masters in history at Toronto, I happened to be doing a seminar on 18th century France, and I did some research which involved Henri de Boulainzilliers who was quite an important man at the end of the 17th century—the first taxation economist, a scholar, and an astrologer. As a historian, I had to admit that there was very strong evidence that this guy did quite weird predictions. As a matter of fact, he had to attend court in Paris, and he didn't like to. He wanted to go home to his farm. So he started predicting when people would die. And they did. That did it. For a while, he got what he wanted.

M: People came to him for that?

AH: Sometimes they came to him. But he was just volunteering this information, knowing that it would be extremely obnoxious and get him sent home where he wanted to be. At least, that's the story about it. Anyway, that's what first got me interested, because astrology didn't even exist for me before. I was 23 or 24 then. But I slowly (very, very slowly) accumulated knowledge about astrology. It wasn't until I had Saturn beginning to go down in my chart—from the top down. At some point I lost everything that was then dear to me: job, woman, apartment, etc. And I holed up. I did my crab act. And I hit the astrology books. But, OK, that's the simple story.

Then I never stopped. From that time on I was studying 20 hours a day—you know the way people always take off. But there were other influences around me. There was a French-Canadian astrologer, who has since become a very popular maker of annual fortune books, and I used to go and pester him around that time for information. He got fed up. He said, "I'm going on holiday, I'll give you my books". And that's how I got the books. He went on holiday and lent me his books, which I was reading 20 hours a day until I got my own.

Montreal has always been astrological. From time to time, one generation might not know that the previous generation even existed and they'll say, "Oh wow, astrology's really developing fast in this city". I was going through an old library—a rare book library—and I found an ephemeris done in the middle of the 19th century for local mean noon Montreal time. Which means it was worthwhile for somebody to publish that ephemeris in the middle of the 19th century. So I figure it's always been a fairly



astrological community.

Fortunately, I didn't—I couldn't—stay stuck in just one school or one line of thought, because of the nature of the ethnic mixture in Montreal. There were these French-Canadian astrologers doing very old fashioned, divinatory French astrology. There was, of course, a strong North American influence. There were a couple of Germans, doing very rigid cosmobiological sorts of work. And there was at least one Englishman, Michael Pym, who was a very technical, pure, siderealist of the Anglo-Irish sort. I think he was into things like the vertex, solar apex, and all the more technical things. He had a big influence on me. I wish I knew where he was today. Michael Pym, if you're out there, drop a line.

M: How did you gravitate to the niche that you have in my mind, of a very high degree of technology? How did you get into the details of it? There aren't many astrologers who do it.

AH: Maybe it was sort of a reaction. Maybe even a neurotic reaction. I'm a historian by training, and in a way history is very close to traditional astrology, because you're dealing with unique cases. You have to explain a country, which is just as complicated as explaining an individual. And really, in spite of what modern historians say, it's not terribly technical. It's more of an art than anything else. But you have to know tons and tons of facts. It's sort of a "mountain of nuts" approach: you have all these facts and then you try to digest them and come up with some intelligent digestion. Mathematics is completely the opposite. There are no facts in mathematics. It's not an art in the way history is. You just figure things out. And you could do it with a couple of pipe cleaners, or an envelope and pencil, or whatever. And I find that very restful. I especially did then because it was such a completely different sort of intellectual exercise. That's one explanation.

The other explanation was that there were simply things that I didn't understand. Writers, even technical writers

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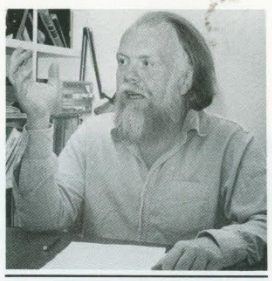
Axel Harvey

Cont. from page 3



like good old Alan Leo, have a lot of sound technical information in some of their books. But one cannot understand them. You have to translate them into modern terms. At least, I find that I do. And in the course of understanding all these things, I became a mathematician, I guess. It was more from an inner predilection —an inner need for a change from the kind of intellectual work that I was doing.

M: And you also were a counseling astrologer?

AH: I think I used to be a counseling astrologer when I was least competent to do it. Because I'm fairly certain that I've done some harm to some people at some time. I started counseling immediately. My clients tended to be my own age, so I saw a lot of people who wanted to know who they were and what they ought to do. And maybe most of my work in the first ten years or so, was involved with that. Now I'm seeing more people who know what they want to do and they want to know *when* to do it. They're seeing me more as a technical consultant. They don't have time to do elections, or directions and transits —or whatever—related to timing in what they have to do.

■

AH: I liked your interview in Astro*Talk with Charles Harvey. For one thing, it made me feel better about Geoffrey Dean.

M: There were some nice things about Geoffrey in that. Well, aside from being very nice in person, Dean can be can be a bit of a monster in print. Have you met him?

AH: Never.

M: He's not a very large person and he is very animated, not at all like he sounds from his letters and such.

AH: He's animated? He looks so Saturnine.

"I couldn't stay stuck in just one school or one line of thought because of the ethnic mixture in Montreal."

M: That one picture of him in *Recent Advances* is really unfortunate. He doesn't look like that at all. He looks kind of Irish—almost elf-like. He's about my size (a little taller, maybe) and he's a backpacker; a woodsman who loves nature and photography. That's one side of Geoffrey. He can be very pleasant to be with. On the other side, he's got all his pride wrapped up in those miles of photographs and xeroxed documents. No one else I've ever known measures themselves by quantities of xeroxes they have produced. "Look, this is how many miles of letters I did. This is how many...", etc. He measures correspondence by the pound. I've always found this fact humorous.

One other thing about Geoffrey that I witnessed during his visit here is very interesting on a personal level: One evening, he launched into the most Neptune-like astrological speculation in the kooky, traditional astrological style (the most blue-haired old lady style of astrology). As off-the-wall as you could imagine.

AH: Seriously?

M: Absolutely! "The bigger the front, the bigger the back" is a macrobiotic statement, and in this case it is, in fact, true. He said the craziest things. Most people believe he doesn't have a bone of that kind of astrological stuff in his body. Well, he does. He's got the same crazy astrology stuff in him that you and I do. In other words, he's an astrologer. And I would have never known that from his writings.

I like Dean personally, but I do not always like him in letters and such. He can be insulting and appears terribly prejudiced toward whatever he's currently orientated to. And as Charles Jayne insisted on pointing out, he can be unfair to people and ideas. And yet he's done wonderful work. But in some sense he's not a fair person, and to that degree, he is not a good editor.

AH: Other people have accused him of being anti-American. I think that's true.

M: I haven't heard that. I have heard statisticians declare that he's got early 20th century statistical ideas. He's not modern. All the statisticians I've known (some of the best in our field) that have read him, just go "Arghhh" over his concept of statistics. Rupert Sheldrake would be wasted on him.

AH: Yes, this is my impression from talking to statisticians too.

M: But apparently he's a prodigious worker. A tremendous worker.

AH: I'm sure grateful for that book.

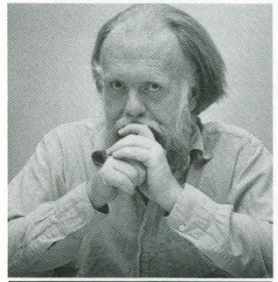
What gets me the most about him is his discouraging tone. There's nothing wrong with having prejudices. We all have prejudices. But he's so discouraging. I mean, he could say the same thing he's saying without being so discouraging. And he's also raising all sorts of hackles that don't need to be raised. He's making people fear that if astrology becomes more rigorous then it's somehow going to be imitating some other discipline. You often read criticisms of Geoffrey Dean that say, "Look, astrology doesn't have to become like sociology, or physics, or whatever". I don't think that's his real point, nor is it *any* sort of real point. I think that astrology is going to become rigorous. And there is going to be a way of making a hypothesis and finding out whether or not it's true.

M: Your journal *Considerations* is one of the best in the field. How did you and Ken Gilman happen to start it? When did that happen?

AH: *Considerations* is Ken's creation.

M: But you're the co-editor.

AH: He was looking for something to create. I think he was ready to create, and he did it. And he asked me if I'd help him. I remember clearly, he asked me on the phone, he said "Will you help me do a magazine, if I do it?" And I said "Yes". But he meant will I send him an article now and then, or give him some ideas. So I sent him a letter full of ideas, none of which I think we've implemented yet. But it turned out that he wanted an editor. I went and helped him out. I keep on going down and helping him out.



"There's a tendency, I fear, to push astrology into one direction or another. What I don't go along with is when these groups say, *'OK. Astrologers should now go our way.'* I think that will weaken astrology."

M: How many years have you been publishing now?

AH: We're now nearing the end of Volume 3. So we started in November 1983.

M: What kind of articles are in *Considerations*?

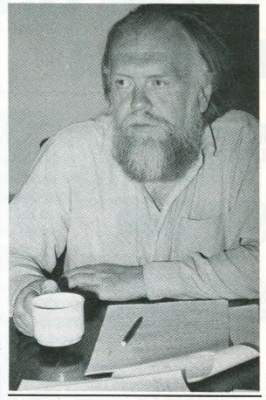
AH: We try to have a mix. We have some very technical articles about directions and rectification techniques. We have more cosmological articles, like those by Charles Jayne that we published, and others. We had a good series by Bruce Scofield on Meso-American astrologers. I think we'll have more Mexican and Meso-American astrology.

M: What do you and Ken see as the goal?

AH: I think our goal is to keep astrology open. There's a tendency, I fear, to push astrology into one direction or another. I think it's great that schools exist. That tendencies exist. That there should be a group more inspired by Charles Jayne. A group more inspired by Dane Rudhyar. That's great. But what I don't go along with is when these groups say "OK. Astrologers should now go *our* way". I think that will weaken astrology.

M: Good thought.

AH: The school should go this way, or the group, or whatever. They can be as exclusive as they want. You need to have connecting boxes somewhere. We hope to be one of the connecting boxes.



It would be nice to have an organization, because then you can get your hands on a bit of money. But then you also get politics. For instance: Geoffrey Cornelius is probably one of the most brilliant young astrologers, and he has had to step down from being editor of *Astrology*.

M: Why?

AH: Apparently, it's because some committee or another wants to oversee the editorial policies of the *Journal*.

M: How come people like Charles Harvey don't do something about this kind of thing?

AH: Oh no. This is the Lodge. The Astrological Lodge of London. Charles is president of the Astrological Association.

M: Aren't people over there as aware of Geoffrey Cornelius as we are here? I'm sorry to hear that he's resigning the editorship.

AH: It's the sort of thing that happens

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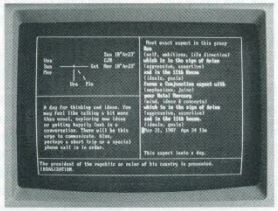

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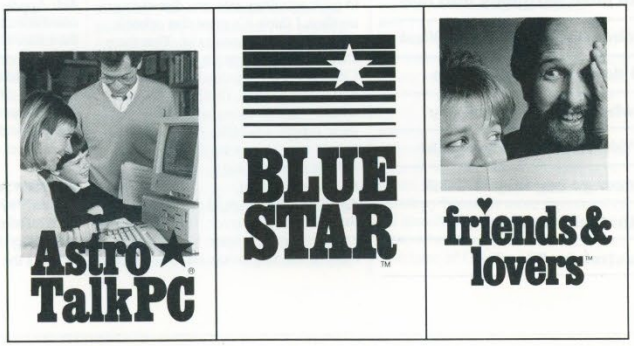

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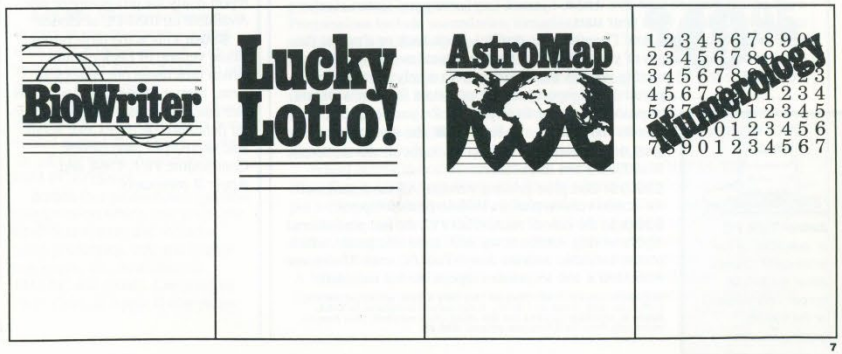

Blue*Star!

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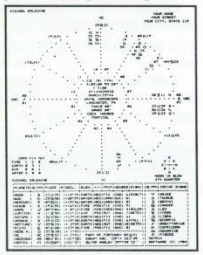
$300 and $99.95 versions Blue*Star). Instead, one minute of arc accuracy is used. Also, this program does not include the ability to store charts on file for future use. Batch processing is included, but is limited to five jobs at one time. Special Blue*Star features like the Time Change Atlas, Auto*Jobs, etc. are not included in the $49.95 program.

In short, this version is designed to produce single and double wheel charts in the shortest possible time. This program is perfect for students and amateur astrologers. Available on IBM-PC and clones with 256K.

$99.95: Blue*Star (requires 256K IBM or clone, 2 disk drives and printer). The $99.95 Blue*Star offers all the convenience of the full professional system at one third the price. It is identical to the full Blue*Star system, and its only drawback is that it does not offer all of the techniques found in the complete system. But it does offer those astrological techniques most requested by professional astrologers.



All calculations have the same high-accuracy (about 1 second of arc) as with the larger program. Accurate solar and lunar returns are included, as are secondary progressions and solar arc directions. Composite & synastry charts are in there, too.

Output includes single and double (standard resolution only) chart wheels, complete with the same aspect pages, etc. that are found in the larger Blue*Star.

In addition, the $99.95 Blue*Star provides you with all of the operating environment that professionals have come to expect from the full Blue*Star. This includes our Auto*Job features, instant default settings, on-line cities & birth data of your choice and much more. There is not space here to describe all of the features. Suffice it to say that this program is identical to the full Blue*Star in operation and use. It accepts the full Time*Change Atlas as an add-on option, and so on.

It might be easier to describe what is missing in this version. There are no hi-res wheels with the $99.95 version of Blue*Star and no Transit*Master functions. Also, the Analyze and screen modules are not included. This is a no-frills system, but it is a very powerful one for the budget-conscious user. The complete Blue*Star chart storage system is included and it is upward compatible with the full Blue*Star. At any time in the future, you can trade-up to the full Blue*Star with total file compatibility. For $99.95, this package offers just about everything the advanced amateur and professional astrologer needs, at a very low price.

$300: The full Blue*Star system (requires 256K or 512K IBM or clone, 2 disk drives [or hard disk] and printer). Blue*Star is acknowledged to be the finest astrological system on the market. If you don't know about its capabilities by now, it's time to pick up the phone and call for our detailed flyer and catalog.

□

New AstroMap™

Here is the first relocation package ever offered which provides a complete interpretation. No need to study complex tables and graphs (although AstroMap provides them, too!). Just enter your birth data and the names and coordinates of the places in the world where you are considering travel or relocation, and get a full report on how you relate to that locale. Examine yourself in as many places as you wish.

AstroMap does more than simple relocations. It not only helps you pick places for travel or relocation, it also provides specific details on the best directions for doing just about anything you might have in mind: business transactions, writing letters, etc. What cities are in the direction of your Venus line? Is your Saturn direction to the NorthEast, or where? Find out.

AstroMap, based on the theory of local space developed in the early seventies by Michael Erlewine, is now offered by most major chart services including those of Neil Michelson and Robert Hand. Michael not only wrote this program, but also the complete text.

$49.95: Screen-only version. Offers all the interpretations, graphs and city directional data described above. W/screen dump for single screen printouts. Stores birth data for easy access. Available on IBM-PC and clones with 256K.

$99.95: As above plus the ability to produce paged, formatted reports for any location. Available on IBM-PC or clones with 256K.

$300: The two versions above are ready; the professional AstroMap is due for release in June, '87. □

Matrix BioWriter™

Our BioWriter programs offer a complete biorhythm package that includes the standard graph, highlighted key date table and day-by-day interpretations.

$49.95: This is a screen version of our larger biorhythm package. It contains all of the features of the larger versions with the exception that it will not print out reports. It does include a built-in screen dump to send single screens to the printer. BioWriter includes the biorhythm graph, key date table and day-by-day interpretation of cycle combinations (when present). Available for IBM PC and clones.

$99.95: This version of BioWriter includes the screen features (described above) plus the ability to print out a complete monthly biograph, key date table and day-by-day interpretations as a paged and formatted report. Although lacking the batch process and multiple month mode found in our large biorhythm package (see below), everything else is there. Available for IBM-PC and clones.

$99.95: This is our top-of-the-line professional package. Running under the standard Blue*Star system, it has all of the conveniences of that environment, including batch processing, default setting, etc. The printed output is of our professional quality. This has been popular in our catalog for some time and is available on IBM, Apple II, Commodore PET and C-64 machines.

□

"This is a better description of our relationship than I could have written myself!"

Friends & Lovers™

Most of you already know about Friends & Lovers. It is one of our hot selling items. This program provides a detailed analysis of relationships—romantic or platonic (your choice). Enter your birth data and that of a friend or lover and Friends & Lovers provides four complete reports:

1. A personal look at the way you approach relationships in general.
2. How your friend or lover approaches relationships.
3. A look at this one particular relationship from your point of view.
4. This relationship from the other person's viewpoint.

These reports are well written and are in great demand. They incorporate the names and gender of the two people involved so the reports have a very personal and direct style.

Friends & Lovers is now available in three versions:

$49.95: For this price, you get an on-screen version of Friends & Lovers, including the entire text found in the original $300 program. You are limited to screen access (although a screen dump does let you send single screens to the printer). Available for $49.95 on IBM-style computers and clones.

$99.95: This version includes all of the on-screen features described above along with the addition of the ability to send to the printer any (or all) of the four mini-reports that make up the full version of the program. Available for $99.95 on IBM-style computers and clones.

$300: This is the Friends & Lovers professional version which is the standard upon which the other programs are based. It outputs a neatly paged and formatted report which includes all four of the mini-reports that have made this program so popular. These printouts are good looking and ready to market. This program runs in the Blue*Star environment and includes all of the conveniences of that system, such as batch processing, file storage, etc.

□

About our 4-4-3 discount pricing:

	4 for 3: $150 Screen-only version	4 for 3: $300 Limited printing version	4 for 3: $900 Complete professional version
Order any 4 programs from one price range and pay for only three!	Astro*Talk PC Friends & Lovers Blue*Star BioWriter Numerology Lucky Lotto! AstroMap	Astro*Talk PC Friends & Lovers Blue*Star BioWriter Numerology Lucky Lotto! AstroMap	Astro*Talk PC Friends & Lovers Blue*Star BioWriter Numerology Lucky Lotto! AstroMap

MATRIX SUMMER SEMINARS '87

This summer will see several conferences here at Matrix and the Heart Center in Big Rapids: the A.C.T. Locality Conference, the second Hindu Astrology Conference, the KTD Family Dharma Weekend, two mind training seminars, and two workshops on computers & software. Come join in!

Matrix Software and the Heart Center are pleased to announce the schedule for the Matrix Summer Seminars/1987. This summer will see six get-togethers here in Big Rapids, including two special ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) seminars, and two workshops on computers and astrological software.

Last summer's *Hindu & Eastern Astrology Conference* was greatly enjoyed by all who attended, and we look forward to the second conference on this subject in August. June's *ACT Locality Conference* will feature all the experts on this fascinating area of study *[see box at right]*.

Scheduled between our two astrological conferences this summer will be a very special gathering that is being put on by our Heart Center K.T.C. As many of you know, The Heart Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to the research and practice of oriental astrology, psychology and religion—in particular Tibetan Buddhism. In the last year, our center has become an official meditation center (the Heart Center K.T.C.), and is part of a group of such centers across America. Our interest in Dharma and its study has increased in recent years.

KTD Fourth Of July Family Dharma Weekend

July 3 – 6, 1987

The Heart Center K.T.C. will be the host to a Family Dharma Weekend under the auspices of our mother organization, Karma Triyana Dharmachakra in Woodstock, New York. The four-day weekend from the 3rd to the 6th of July, 1987 will be held at the Matrix lakeside retreat center near Big Rapids.

Cont. on 14

ACT Locality Astrology Conference

June 20 & 21, 1987

The first of its kind! The ACT Locality Astrology Conference will be held on the solstice here in Big Rapids. We're delighted to be able to bring together so many of the people whose work has advanced the techniques of locality astrology.

This is an unusual opportunity to meet and share with every major locality astrology expert on this continent:

Steve Cozzi
Geomantic Local Space

Gary Duncan
Geo-Astro-Maps

Michael Erlewine
Local Space

Ken Gillman
Relocation Astrology

Axel Harvey
Azimuth Astrology

Jim Lewis
*Astro*Carto*Graphy®*

Bruce Scofield
*Archeo*Astronomy*

Angel Thompson
Sacred Geometry

ACT Hindu & Eastern Astrology Conference

August 8 & 9, 1987

A number of distinguished experts on Hindu and oriental astrology will be present for the second *Hindu Astrology Conference* in North America.

Conference guests may participate at all levels. A series of workshops will introduce beginners to the essentials of Hindu astrological principles, while others will provide guidance in more advanced techniques.

ACT roundtable discussions will complete the sessions. □

Computer & Software Workshops:

June 22 & 23, 1987 and
August 10 & 11, 1987

Two days of training in how to purchase, set-up, and operate a personal computer. Training in the major Matrix software programs (M-65, Blue*Star, and report writers) is included, plus how to set-up and operate your own astrological business.

We'd like to tailor these workshops to suit the needs of those attending, so when signing up, please let us know what questions you have and which subjects you'd like to focus on. We'll try to accommodate your wishes when planning each workshop. □

About The Matrix Seminars

Speakers will each present workshops as well as share with the audience in roundtable discussions and probably late evening talks. The conference will be held here at Matrix headquarters with delicious whole-food meals served by the Heart Center staff. Of course, participants will have a chance to access the Heart Center Library, tour Matrix Software, take advantage of the hundreds of lakes in the area and have use of the Matrix lakeside cottages. There is some room at the Heart Center house for overnights, and there are several good motels within a very short distance of the conference. If you'd like to bring your tent and camp out, we can accommodate you also.

In all four workshops, the accent will be on presenting and sharing information in an informal roundtable atmosphere. Speakers and participants will get a chance to share with one another.

If you have an interest in location or Hindu astrology or just want to learn more about computers and software, here is your chance to experience and share ideas. Or combine business with learning.

Space is limited, so please register early! □

SUMMER SEMINARS

Above and below left: Our retreat cottage on Horsehead lake. Lots of pines, lots of quiet.

KTD Fourth Of July Family Dharma Weekend

Continued from page 13

The retreat center consists of two cottages located on about four acres of land in a private cove of the very beautiful Horsehead lake. The center commands several hundred feet of shoreline, two docks, three boats and includes a sandy swimming beach for kids (and not-so-kids).

The weekend is dedicated to exploring the dharma of householders and families—families and the dharma. While the path of the yogi and monk is quite well defined, there has been less information available as to how families are to integrate the dharma into their day-to-day life. One goal of the weekend will be to explore this subject. We are very glad to announce that the most venerable Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche, the direct teacher of a number of us working here at Matrix, will be present at the gathering at the retreat center. Khenpo Rinpoche is the abbot of the large Karma Triyana Monastery in Woodstock, New York. In fact, a number of representatives from the Woodstock center will be in attendance.

This opportunity for families to spend time with Khenpo Rinpoche in such an informal setting is a rare one indeed. There will be many activities for both children and adults. Although reservations for lodging can be obtained at nearby motels, attendees are encouraged to bring their sleeping bags and tents and camp out together at the retreat center site. Several days of cooperative living, sharing meals, campfires, and time is something that many of us have long looked forward to. This is a chance for children of parents interested in the Dharma to meet other children and their parents with a similar interest.

Although there may be some formal ceremonies as well, the main accent will be on sharing time with one another and with Rinpoche in a quiet and lovely setting. Anyone interested in attending this special *Family Dharma Weekend* should contact Michael Erlewine at Matrix: 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307 616/796-2483. □

Ngodup Tsering Burkhar

Heart Center Weekend Workshops:

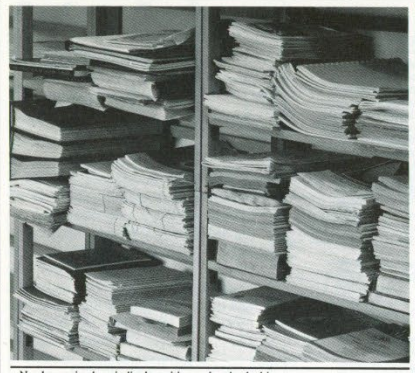
Calm & Clear Mind

July 12/13 & 18/19, 1987

The Heart Center will offer two weekends of Buddhist mind training as part of our 1987 summer schedule, the first on July 12th & 13th and the second on July 18th & 19th. Each of these weekend workshops will be conducted by Ngodup Burkhar, an expert in Buddhist psychology and meditation.

Ngodup Tsering Burkhar was born to a simple nomadic family in Eastern Tibet in 1953. In 1959, at the age of 6, he was able to escape with his parents during the Communist Chinese invasion of Tibet. He received his education in India, and for the the last 12 years has pursued extensive studies of Buddhism in the Kagyu tradition. Mr. Burkhar has served as translator for many of the highest teachers of the lineage, including over four years as translator to his Holiness the XVI Gyalwa Karmapa. Since coming to the West in 1977, he has been the official translator for the Venerable Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche, abbot of Karma Tryana Dharmachakra in Woodstock, New York. His understanding of the Western mind and fluent knowledge of the English language makes him well equipped to convey the central ideas of Buddhist psychology and mind training to Americans.

Living in a world of rapid change and uncertainty, our minds tend toward anxiety, restlessness and distraction, and we can experience constant dissatisfaction, frustration, fear and despair. One key to developing a calm, clear and stable state of mind is the Buddhist tradition of mind training and basic meditation, a technique that is over 2500 years old. Here is an opportunity to hear instructions, as well as practice and discuss the essentials of Buddhist mind training with an expert on the subject. Space is very limited, so please register early. Call Matrix (616/796-2483) and ask to speak with Phillip Erlewine. □



Newly-received periodicals waiting to be checked in.

The Heart Center Library

The Heart Center library continues to grow. The staff here at Matrix wants to thank the many who have contributed so far. A partial list is given below (we have a number of boxes still to be checked in). Remember that your donation is tax deductable since the library is part of the non-profit Heart Center. Thanks, everyone, for helping to create a major research library that is available to all!

ACS Publications
James T. Braha
Karen David
Kelley M. Essoe
Emily Faugno
Steven Forest
Jeff Green
Mary K. Greer
William Henry
La Vedi Lafferty &
Bud Hollowell
Jim Lewis
Llewelyn Publications
Pentex Enterprises
Maritha Pottenger
Lynn Richards
Molly Seeligson
Zane Stein
Mary Tobin
Florent Trembley
Gwyn Turner
Samuel Weiser

First nationwide TV astrology show slated for June.

The first national television program on astrology will begin in June, 1987. The half hour program, "Astrology This Week" will be delivered twice weekly on The Learning Channel, a national cable network. Currently, The Learning Channel is carried on 775 cable television systems.

Neil Marbell

The Learning Channel is a highly prestigious cable network headquartered in Washington DC and was launched in October of 1980. TLC's signal is distributed via Transponder 2 of the Satcom IIIR satellite. Its unscrambled signal can be received by any home satellite disk and it is seen in 8 million cable households in the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico. TLC presents a high caliber of programming; many of the network's programs can be viewed for college credit.

This network is a vehicle that itself lends credibility to the subject. Instead of expecting an astrology program's content to be light or silly, The Learning Channel demands professional quality in the astrological material.

Tentatively, the program will be aired on Sundays at 11:00 PM Eastern/8 PM Pacific Time. Each segment will be repeated during daylight hours the following Monday.

The content is designed to appeal to the general public. There will be a segment dealing with the week ahead for each sun sign in the standard order of Aries, Taurus, Gemini, etc. However, the first portion of each show will present a complete mundane review of the previous week's transits along with predictions based on the planets, signs, and aspects for the week to come.

A third part of the program will be a presentation of astrological "happenings": events and news stories in the astrological field. The show's fourth segment will be a discussion with a well known guest of their birth chart or an interview of a professional astrologer.

The program's host will be astrologer Neil Marbell of Madison, Wisconsin. Neil has been practising astrology for 17 years and is on the Advisory board of the National Council for Geocosmic Research.

Matrix is pleased to be one of the sponsors of the program. We have great hopes for this astrological adventure into the video medium. It may prove to be a significant step toward a more appropriate public image for astrology. □

Update On Our Hindu Astrology Program:

The second release of our popular Hindu Astrology program is near completion and is right on schedule for a spring delivery. Features include:

☐ Your choice of ten *Ayanamshas* (or input your own).

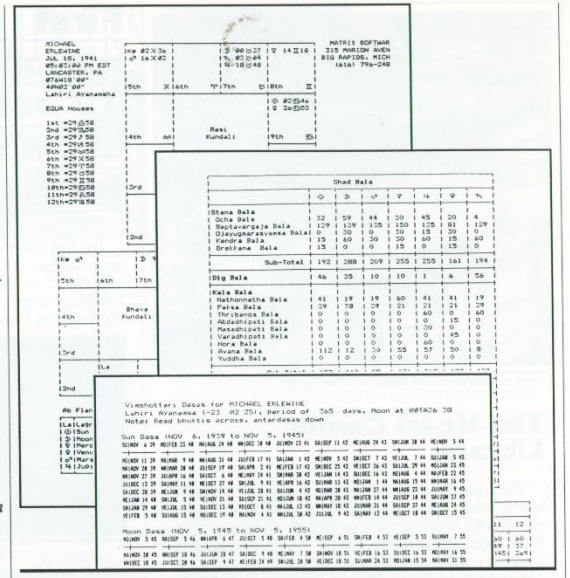
☐ The traditional planets, as well as *Gulika, Mandi*, (subtle planets) and the five *Upagrahas* (sensitive points) and their positions in the *Nakshatras* (lunar mansions).

☐ *Panchanga* information includes *Tithi* (lunar day), *Karana* (half day), *Paksha* (lunar phase), *Nitya Yoga*, and *Nakshatra* (spacial matrix).

☐ Your choice of *Shad Vargas, Sapta Vargas, Dasa Varga, Shodasa Vargas* (six, seven, ten or sixteen subdivisional charts) and *Nadi Amsas*, as well as *Varga* frequency tables and tables of *Tatkalika* (temporary) relationships.

☐ *Shad Bala* (planetary strength) calculations, *Bhava Bala* (house strength), residential strength, *Ista* and *Kasta Phala* (the desirable and undesirable effects of the planets) according to the methods of *Parasara* or *Sripati*.

☐ *Gochara* (planetary transits), and your choice of *Prastara Astakavarga*



for each planet and *Sarva Astakavarga* by *Varahamiriha* or *Parasara Muni*.

☐ Five methods of determining longevity based upon the methods of *Jaimini, Satyacarya*, and others.

This all new program also allows you to start the *Dasas* (planetary periods) from the position of the moon, ascendant, or sun using the 360 or 365 day year. You can choose between *Vimshottari* or *Ashtottari* methods of calculation and view an entire lifetime of *Dasas, Bhuktis* and *Antaradasas* at a glance with our all new output format.

This advanced Hindu chart calculation program will be available soon for only $300. Call for details. ☐

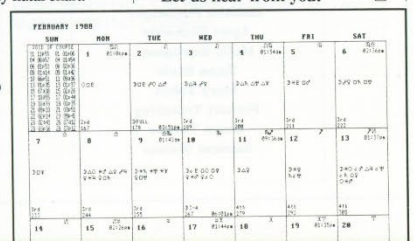
In Development: Astrological Calendar Maker

We're now running a prototype program that prints transiting aspects in a high-resolution monthly calendar format. It includes lunar aspects, planetary aspects, lunar phases, sun-moon angles, lunar & planetary ingresses, planetary stations, and the void-of-course moon.

These familiar and attractive calendar pages can be produced on the many Epson-compatible printers which produce our Hi-Res Wheels. Now you'll be able to offer personal astro-calendars that show, day-by-day, the transiting planets' aspects to any natal chart.

The program isn't quite ready for sale, but we invite you now to suggest the features you'd like to see included. We're considering adding lunar mansions, a daily count for each day after the new moon, a note for the day when sun and moon repeat their angle at birth, house positions for the moon & planets, and… Can you add to the list? Now is the time for input; while the program is still in its formulative stages.

Let us hear from you! ☐



Astro•Index Progress Report:

As some readers will remember, we've been working on *Astro•Index* (an encyclopedia of astrology) for the last several years. It is intended to update and supplant books like the very fine *DeVore Encyclopedia of Astrology*. Although the effort has languished during the last year, it has sprung to life with Gary Duncan's arrival at Matrix.

Duncan has launched into a com-plete rewrite of the text—with wonderful results. He's one of the few astrologers in the world with an encyclopedic grasp of the field. Having worked professionally as an astronomer, mathematician and statistician (not to mention his astrological credits) he is the ideal editor for such a vast undertaking.

Gary has now completed his first pass through the entire text, adding an enormous amount of material including detailed house system analysis and concise biographies of almost anyone who has contributed to astrology in the course of history. We are now in the process of producing the illustrations for the final text. We estimate that the book may be finished sometime during this next year. It will be a reference book that every astrologer will want to read. ☐

Goodricke, John. (1764-1786) Dutch-English astronomer. Born at Groningen, Netherlands; died in York, England. Born a deaf-mute, he studied the variations in the light from Algol, showing them to be regular in character. In 1782, at the age of 17, he suggested that the phenomenon was caused by an invisible companion star which eclipsed Algol, thus diminishing the light. This proved to be the correct explanation. Algol (Beta Persei) dims from magnitude 2 to 3 during a few hours each 2.87 days. Its name, in Arabic, means the Ghoul, and it marks the head of the demon Medusa. He died at age 21.

Gould Belt. The section of the spiral arm of the Milky Way Galaxy in which the Sun is situated. The diameter of this system is about 1000 parsecs, and it contains about 108 stars.

Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Obsolete term. Used prior to 1925 to designate Mean Solar Time on the Greenwich Meridian. GMT has now been replaced by UT (Universal Time) throughout the scientific world. A few radio stations, and some astrologers, still use the older term, apparently unaware that they are actually using UT. GMT and UT are not identical in their measure of time, due to fundamental definitions. A similar change was made with LMT (Local Mean Time), which has been replaced with LCT (Local Civil Time). (See: Universal Time; Local Civil Time).

Gradial Transit, Arc of. Term used by Sepharial for the arc a planet traverses from its natal position to its progressed position, when a major transit within the arc "activates" the given planet.

Grand Cross. Four bodies positioned so that 3 bodies are, approximately, 90°, 180°, and 270° from one of the bodies. Thus placed, 2 oppositions and 4 T-squares are formed. Also called Cosmic Cross. Astrologers consider this configuration to increase the strength of all four bodies. *[See fig, G-17, below.]*

G17. **Grand Cross**
With ☉☽☌♃, ☽☍♄, ☽□♅, ☽△♇, ♃□♆, a Grand Cross is formed with ☽♋♑, ☽♈♎, ☽♋♒, ☽♈♓, ♃♑♈.

Granulation. The mottled appearance of the photosphere, or surface of the Sun, often referred to as the "rice grain" patterning.

Graphic Ephemeris. A diagram in which the motions of the planets over a given period of time, usually a year, are represented as lines on a graph. Space is usually measured on the vertical axis, and time is usually measured along the horizontal axis.

Gravitation. (Physics) The 'force' manifested by acceleration (toward each other) of two free material particles or bodies, or of radiant-energy quanta. This term derives its meaning from two formulae of Newton's Theory of Gravitation: F=ma and F=Gm1m2/r3. Many texts refer to Newton's Law of Gravitation,

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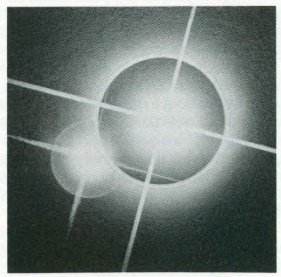


Supernova!

Some of our readers may wish to check out the position of the newly-found supernova in their natal charts. Supernova 1987A, the nearest supernova since 1604 (50 kiloparsecs), is the brightest since 1885. The supernova is located near the bright B-type star Sanduleak -69° 202 at right ascension 5h 35' 50.2" (83° 57' 33.3") and declination -69° 17' 59.2" (Epoch 1950.0). This translates to a zodiac position of 306°48'44.87" in zodiac longitude and -86° 26' 26.72" of latitude for the Epoch 1950.0. The position of the supernova for March 20, 1987 in the zodiac is 307° 54' 39.29" and -86° 26' 38.57" of latitude.

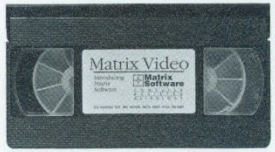
Such a rare event is worth taking note of! ☐

Does "MTV" really stand for "Matrix Television?"

No, no, no. But there's sure been a whole lot of TV goin' on around here lately...

The first nationwide astrological series, *Astrology This Week* with host Neil Marbell, began showing on June 21, and runs until early December of this year. It's shown on *The Learning Channel* every Sunday night at 8:30 PM Pacific Daylight Time (11:30 PM EST). Additional showings on Monday and Tuesday are also available. We put together our first TV ad for the series, and making it was quite an experience – really a lot of fun.

We turned a corner of the Heart Center Library into a temporary studio, and did our best to present our Astro*Talk PC program to an audience that might never even have considered astrology outside of their morning newspaper. Counting every second and every word to decide which will stay and which won't fit was a real challenge! I hope some of you will tune in and check it out.



Since we had the film crew here in Big Rapids, we decided to go ahead and put together a twenty minute documentary on Matrix, its staff, grounds, operation and products. After doing business with us for many years, some of you might like to know what we look like, how our operation works, and more about some of the ways computers can be put to use.

The schedule was hectic, but Matrix Systems Programmer Stephen Erlewine stayed cool & calm as technical advisor.

Full-time professional astrologer Linda Curtiss shows how she uses our software to enlarge and enhance her practice. The video is both informative and fun to watch. If you or your local group would like to have the loan of the Matrix Video, just let us know. The format is VHS (and PAL for Europe & the UK). There is no charge for its use (we just ask that you pay the postage to send the tape back to us within a week or so).

Call or write us now to arrange a time for your astrological group to view the Matrix Video. When you do, we'll even include a special one-time discount on all Matrix programs ordered through your organization. It's a way for us to say, "Thanks!" for your interest in Matrix.

Call (616) 796-2483 and ask for Phil, or write him here at Matrix:

315 Marion Avenue,
Big Rapids, MI 49307.

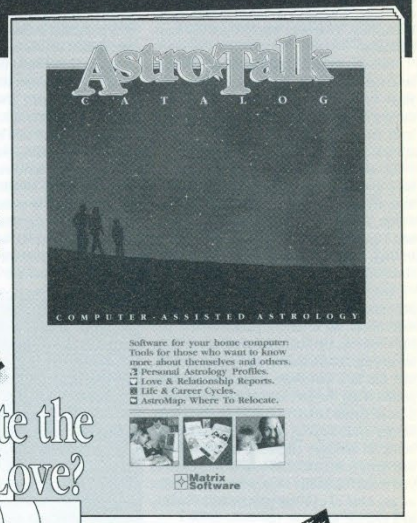
Hot off the press: our new catalog!

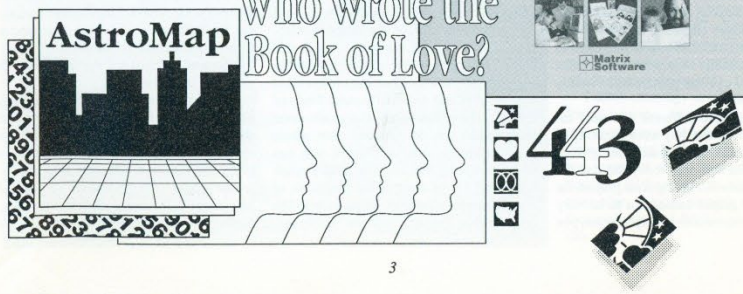
Exciting new programs at great new prices!

Our new fully illustrated catalog describes the latest in software from Matrix: *Astro*Talk PC, Friends & Lovers, Blue*Star, AstroMap, Life Progression, Life & Career Cycles, Lucky Lotto!* and *Matrix Numerology.*

Each program is offered in three versions, at three different prices, so you pay only for the features you really need. (Prices start at $49.95 for screen-based versions.)

Write us today for your free copy!





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to do charts of all of my clients at Apostolic – including the Mothers of Invention.

At the recording studio itself, there was great interest in astrology and related affairs. Everybody was flinging the I-Ching back then; it was all the very latest thing to do. So, I had just had a reading by Al H. Morrison (I forget who it was who turned me on to him) and he was looking for space. He had to move from his place up in the 80's in New York. I had some extra space on the 6th floor in my studio building, and I rented it to him for something like 75 bucks a month – a nominal fee – on the deal that he would do the charts of my recording studio clients. Frank Zappa and the Mothers of Invention did all their stuff there at the time, and quite a number of other well-known acts. And so they all got their charts done by Al. And during this time, I spent some time learning astrology, because I thought it was really interesting. That was where I got my start, basically.

This was in 1967, I guess. '67 or '68. I had been learning astrology for about four or five years before I actually started doing anything with it myself. Anyone should take at least that long before practicing his wiles upon innocent victims!

By this time, my studio had essentially been gobbled up by the recession that hit then. I'd taken to becoming a full time song writer, a writer, editor, and what have you, and I got involved more full-time with astrology as time went by... the *Astrologer's Guild*, the *Astrological Review*, and so on.

The whole cycle thing really struck me after reading some things by Vivien Robson, who noted the different places where you have returns. He noted the progressed lunar return, the Saturn return, the Jupiter returns, and the fact that these were like marking points along the life. I read a bit of him, and a bit of Grant Lewi, who actually called the Saturn cycle a cycle. And it occurred to me, being an acoustic engineer, that you could take the cycles, and start expressing them as you would normally express acoustic cycles or any kind of cyclical phenomena visually in a graphic form.

So, I took these different planetary returns (basically what they were speaking of then) and transits, and started putting them on graphs. The first set I really did was the returns themselves. Having done graphs, the shape of the graphs turned out to be very provocative in a number of ways. Again, you

That expanded way of looking at reality caused the revolution in physics. I think we're in for a similar revolution.

can see things when you graph them that you can't when you're just speaking of them as individual events. And for instance, I saw at that point that because of the mutual Uranus and Saturn oppositions in the early forties – if you graphed all of these returns together – you've got a graph that is virtually bilaterally symmetrical, centered around the beginning of middle age. It occurred to me that, of course, when you're middle aged...

Michael: Have we reached that point?

John: We have reached this point... we are right here! Middle age, in fact, if you actually count how many years, even if you give someone the benefit of 3 score and 10, what we call middle age starts in the middle 40's. That's by no means the actual middle of your life. Your life's two-thirds over with by that time, even if you live 'till 70. So why the term middle age? In fact, what it's the middle of is all of this vast network of natal return cycles (or at least that's one thing it's the middle of).

Michael: Like the Uranus return...

John: Yeah. If you followed that to its conclusion – your natural life span would be about 84 years – then that's the Uranus return. So, I found all of that to be extremely provocative, and put it together in my second book *The Astrological Cycles and The Life Process Periods*. Then I figured, well, if you can do these essentially static kinds of returns, where everybody shares the same thing, when you do dynamic ones where you're actually plotting transits, you can plot in a similar fashion. I devised a graph where the top of the graph is the point of consideration, whether it be the cusp of the first house or the cusp of the second house, Jupiter, Saturn, or whatnot, and played transits against that in simple graphic form. It allows you to plot the dynamic relationships of transits with any given point that you're considering. And that's the tool that's turned out to be the most useful. It allows you to plot all kinds of things, from aspects to transiting midpoints, to... a *huge* amount of stuff that you can do, simply by laying a ruler on a piece of paper with these graphs. I've spent a lot of time laying rulers on pieces of paper, until I exhausted everything that I could think of to do with it. I even worked into ways to get Local Space pictures and stuff like that, although I really didn't pursue it. By that time, Michael, you had already done so much more definitive stuff on getting Local Space that I simply didn't pursue it. It gets a little tricky. You have French Curves and different parabolic actual plots that you have to do. It was more than my skills as a draftsman allowed. What was really needed (because it was literally years of sitting down laying ruler to paper and it was a very tedious process) was a computer to do all this. And of course, I was doing this before micros came in. And when they finally did come in, I was overjoyed. I ran out (my father had died and left me a small legacy) and bought myself the first Apple II.

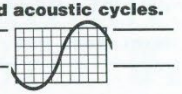
Michael: What year was this?

John: This is the beginning of '78... January of '78. I was in great a quandary, as anyone who buys a computer these days is still. Is this thing going to be around next month? And I remember choosing between (of the ones that could plot anything at all) the Apple II and CompuColor (one that didn't last very long). CompuColor looked neat, and it did even better color res than Apple did, but it only took its numbers to six places instead of eight, which was a limit I couldn't use. I went with Apple. I think there was one other, I think the Commodore Pet was out at that time as well. It didn't have hi-res. Radio Shack was also out. I crossed my fingers, and bought an Apple.

Michael: You got the right one for graphing in hi-res.

John: Got the right one. Then I had to set about learning how to work the bloody thing. The word "user-friendly" hadn't been invented at that time, so I had to learn how to program. I cannot tell you how much I *loathe* programming. I learned very quickly how much I loathed it at that time. But, I learned enough to be able to actually plot

It occurred to me, as an acoustic engineer, that you could take astrological cycles and express them as you normally would acoustic cycles.



cycles and combine cycles so that I could do all of the things I'd been doing on paper, and do some that I'd only theorized doing like combining cycles such as you do with any kind of oscilloscope or sign wave generator, but you do it physically with them, whereas here you're doing it mathematically, which is a very nice way to do it. Once I'd learned to do that, I stopped programming. I'd learned what I'd come for and that was it. And I've never programmed anything serious since.

Michael: There's the lottery work that you did.

John: Except for the lottery work which is, fortunately, a very simple program. Basically, that led right up to the program that we're trying to do here, at this moment, which is all of these functions rolled into one big program that allows you to combine any kind of cycle sets, and it has all of the sets that generally work on everything from a diurnal level to lifelong level, and everything in between. The only way you can do them comfortably and easily is with a computer. Hopefully what we will have is one that allows you to virtually do them all.

Michael: And it will be interpreted, too.

John: It's also going to be interpretive, so if you have five or ten different cycles all going at once, and you wonder what on earth all of this means... at least what we've been able to glean, over the years, about the different combination of cycles' meanings we have down in print. Even if you've never worked with them before, you can get in there and start using them. You don't have to do your own analysis. All you have to do is plug into it, which is a nice feature.

Michael: You've also written a number of documents and books on this subject, and you're also about to do another one.

John: The last one I did was called *New Age Career Cycles* and the one before that was *Astrological Cycles and the Life Crisis Periods*. That was out in '74. 1980 was when *New Age Career Cycles* came out. *New Age Career Cycles* had a serious fault in it. It required the reader to do some work. There's nothing that can destroy a book more than asking a reader to spend his energies. I expected the reader to sit down and draw twelve separate cycle-analysis graphs, and of course very few people are willing to do that. What I should have done was put in some simple ones that you could plug into yourself. The book's being republished under the name *Astrological Life Cycles*, logically enough, with the same company, Destiny Books.

It has been completely updated, and it's got 12 cycle graphs in the back, one for each of the signs, that allows you to pretty much plug in all of your houses within a factor of a year over a life time. So, you can read it without having to do a lot of work. That's reasonable. One shouldn't have to ask everybody to rush in and get down like I had to do just because they're reading somebody's book.

Michael: How about having an update on that? What do you see happening in astrology today? What do you see it to be? Who do you respect? Where is there something happening?

John: I have not been very close to the so-called astrological community since I moved to Virginia. Partially because of physical distance, and partially because of simple lack of interest. I've seen the astrological community splinter and shatter so thoroughly... it has no cohesion.

During the middle 70's, it was growing and changing, and there was a certain amount of cohesion within the whole community. Now, there are so many different things that people are doing and calling astrology, that it's very difficult to get your finger on it. It's because there isn't anything – any set of principles – that everybody agrees underlies astrology. Anybody can hang up a shingle and do anything he wants to and call it astrology. And nobody can seriously deny what's being done because that's what *he* decided to call astrology. This is unlike physics, where you've got some rules that everything boils down to and you work off of them (you develop them). The same with chemistry, biology or any other of what you'd call "hard" sciences. And even with the "soft" sciences like psychology, you have some sets of reference points on which everybody agrees.

I think astrology needs some real *basis* for its reason... an infrastructure... some real ground work laid that everybody agrees upon. A causal basis for astrology ...a general theory of why it all works. Something that links all these aspects, signs, and everything else, to some tangible reality with its feet on the ground. Right now we don't have this.

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I don't mean that we have to discover "astrology rays" coming from the stars that we can put on an oscilloscope or in an accellerator, or what have you. What we need is something that is simply consistent within itself that has a direct, stepwise connection to the rest of observable reality. Right now I'm working with a friend of mine, Bob Schmidt, on bringing to light a work that might go very far in doing that.

The fellow who invented the concept of synchronisity that was so touted by Jung, was a man named Paul Kammerer, and he was an evolutionary biologist in the early part of the century. Anyone who's read Arthur Koestler's *Midwife Toad,* knows Kammerer is the subject. He was the last of the Markian evolutionary biologists. He committed suicide in the late twenties, when his experiments were so thoroughly put down by his colleagues that apparently he just gave up on his lifelong struggle. And, of course, Darwinism came to stay at that point. But, earlier in his career, he had noted strange clusters of phenomena that later came to be called Synchronisity. He made a huge linear type classification system of them, along with a basic background theory as to how and why all this works, which virtually proposed a fifth force that worked within (as quantum mechanics works) certain physical limitations of size. So did this. And it works within the range and size that astrology has always invoked... from the planetary down to the atomic, but not into the sub-atomic level. At this time, of course, the weak force and the strong nuclear force had not been proposed, so it was really a proposal of a third force in his day.

The book got a very favorable review from Einstein, who thought this was an imaginative, fruitful direction to be investigating. And yet, because it was released in 1919, at the same time as most of the major developments in quantum mechanics and other areas in physics, it was kind of swamped. It didn't get a whole lot of recognition, and then he died, committed suicide (supposedly in disgrace) not that long afterwards. So, it never got out of German, and it wasn't very widely read in the German. We think it's an extremely important book, and by reading what's there, astrologers may well find much of the physical and theoretical basis for astrology.

Michael: What's the name of the book?

John: It's called *The Law of Series* in English. It's enormously thought provoking, and it makes you start thinking about the fundaments of things: What ties everything all together? Why do these phenomena happen across the board that are unexplainable by statistical means when, in fact, they may be very much united? The person that comes closest to dealing with any of this lately has been Rupert Sheldrake. But Sheldrake, when it comes down to actually explaining what's going on with these remarkable phenomena, essentially reinvokes the ether. And that doesn't help. It's re-evoking something that isn't explainable to begin with.

Kammerer's work allows you to see that things in the present will influence the past – something fans of the Seth material will be delighted to learn about.

Everybody had thought that it'd been explained entirely out of existence by the Michelson/Morely experiments, and by some of Maxwell's experiments. So, that doesn't really help. Whereas Kammerer comes out with a whole complete theory that, for instance, allows events to work backward in time. Another real problem of physics has been that the arrow of time runs both directions, theoretically, throughout all of physics (both classical and modern physics). Yet, we seem to be facing only in one direction. We only go forward in time. Kammerer's work also allows you to see that things in the present will influence the past – something any fans of the Seth material will be delighted to learn about, since that's a favorite conundrum there.

The Seth material simply says that your main key to everything is the present. And that the present cannot only affect what will happen in the future, but can affect what you did in the past – in previous lives or whatever. He doesn't say how because the mechanics are... he simply lays it on you that you're not going to understand the mechanics to begin with because you have to be out in another dimension from time to understand the mechanics of it. Well, I don't think that's necessarily the case. And Kammerer suggests that it's not. And it's part of his general theory. So I think we're going to be bringing some very interesting material to light that astrologers, at large, should look at very carefully.

Michael: When? When can we get this?

John: We're hoping to have this by the end of the year. End of the year, beginning of next year... Depending, of course, on who's going to rush in and publish it and distribute it, and stuff like that.

Basically, we're having to translate it, update some of his references because Kammerer was applying his material largely because of classical physics, though he also applies some of it to relativity, which had just come into being at that time. In fact, it applies itself even more provocatively to relativity, and therefore we're going to have to give examples of how it does that across the board. Right up to modern fractual theory, and what have you. Then, get that all together in a way that is short enough so that people won't die while reading it.

The book itself is about 500 pages of fine German print, and a lot of that can be edited out. It's written for a popular audience, fortunately – not for a technical audience. You don't have to be a great mathematician or physicist to understand what's being put across (though it doesn't hurt).

Michael: Any other messages you want to communicate? Anything astrologers should be doing? You said that they should be ready for some kind of a unified theory.

John: Actually, I think that the technology we have is encouraging, and is going to help us immensely when all this comes together. In putting together a basic fundamental theory and structure for astrology, you not only need good theory that breaks through previous paradigm in viewing reality at large, you also need a lot of data to back it up.

Fortunately, there have been a lot of people collecting a lot of data. And it's becoming, bit by bit, available on disk for analysis by PC's at large, which is going to be where you'll be able, once you have the theory, to run in and test it. Most of the people who have been collecting data have

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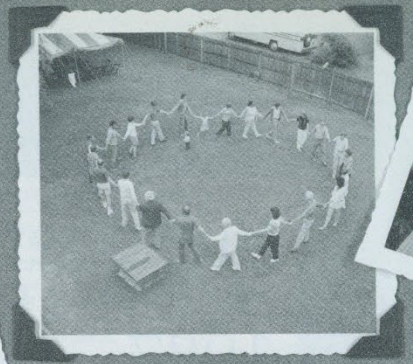
Summer Seminars 1987 SCRAPBOOK

Our summer has been busy with conferences this year. Each has been a lot of work, and they've all been a lot of fun. Now that fall has put a chill on things here, we have time to look back on all that has happened since the first of our *Summer Seminars* way back in June. It seems so long ago now. Here, in scrapbook form, is our conference report.

MATRIX/ACT ASTRO★ LOCALITY CONFERENCE

June 20th & 21st, 1987



Jim Lewis

Gary Duncan

The first North American conference on locality and relocation astrology was held on the weekend of the summer solstice in Big Rapids. We had an impressive list of panelists and speakers including Gary Duncan (Geo★Astro★Maps), Ken Gillman (Relocation Astrology), Jim Lewis (Astro★Carto★Graphy), Steve Cozzi (Geomantic Local Space), Angel Thompson (Sacred Geometry), Bruce Scofield (Archeo★Astronomy), and Michael Erlewine (Local Space). The workshops and panel discussions were of a high calibre and very spirited. Some of the foremost experts in this very important subject had an opportunity to share ideas and time with each other and with those in attendance.

As usual, meals were shared and there was plenty of time between events to hang out and get to know one another. These small workshops are great for really getting into the subject!

Gail Llewellyn Wescheke

MATRIX/ACT ASTRO★LOCALITY CONFERENCE

Program for Saturday, June 20, 1987

8:00–9:00 AM
Breakfast in the Matrix backyard.

9:30–11:30 AM
At the Heart Center:
Michael Erlewine – Local Space
Steve Cozzi – Geomantic Local Space

12:00 Noon
Lunch in the Matrix backyard.

2:00–5:00 PM
At the Heart Center:
Ken Gillman – Relocation Astrology
Gary Duncan – Geo★Astro★Maps

6:00 PM
Dinner at Matrix.

Sunday, June 21, 1987

8:00–9:00 AM
Breakfast in the Matrix backyard.

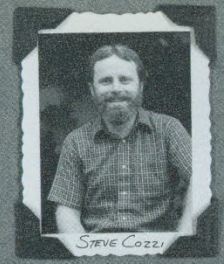
9:30–11:30 AM
At the Heart Center:
Axel Harvey – Azimuth Astrology
Angel Thompson – Sacred Geometry

12:00 Noon
Lunch in the Matrix backyard.

2:00–5:00 PM
At the Heart Center:
Jim Lewis – Astro★Carto★Graphy
Bruce Scofield – Archeo★Astronomy

6:00 PM
Dinner at Matrix.

Evening:
Open discussions at the Heart Center



Steve Cozzi

Angel Thompson

Bruce Scofield

Ken Gillman

Michael Erlewine

ASTROLOGICAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNIQUES

ACT '8

MATRIX COMPUTER & SOFTWARE WORKSHOPS

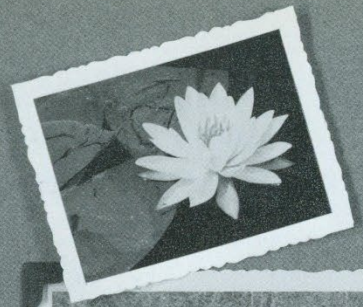
June 22nd & 23rd, 1987

I was surprised at how many people showed up for the two computer workshops that were offered this summer – almost more than we could handle. Some of you even brought your own computers with you. That's dedication! Two days of hands-on experience under the direction of Matrix programmers Stephen Erlewine and Doug Pierce seemed to cover the subject. Of course, the office staff was there too and helped out. It was suggested that we should have these workshops more often throughout the year. We can do that if enough of you are interested. Let us hear from you.

SHAMAR RINPOCHE VISITS THE HEART CENTER

May 8, 1987

May brought the visit to our center of one of the most important Tibetan lamas, His Emminence Kunzig Shamar Rinpoche, at present the lineage holder for the Karma Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism. Shamar Rinpoche was accompanied by lama Sherab Gyaltsen. Aside from his public talk, Rinpoche offered the Amitabha empowerment plus special teaching and transmission on Mahamudra. Practitioners from all over the midwest converged on the Heart Center for what was a very special event.



KTD FAMILY DHARMA WEEKEND

July 3rd – 6th, 1987

KHENPO KARTHAR RINPOCHE

The Family Dharma Weekend was held at the Heart Center retreat cottages on lovely Horsehead lake (near Big Rapids) over the July 4th weekend. It was a lot of fun and well attended. Over $2300 was raised for the KTD monastery project and retreat center.

Heart Center KTD provided delicious whole-food meals and while some participants stayed at nearby motels, most camped out at the retreat site. Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche presented a number of teachings throughout the long weekend, including teachings on *Tibetan Buddhist Festivals, Teaching Dharma For Children, Buddhism: The Path of Gentleness,* and *The Life of the Buddha*. There was also a Manjushri Empowerment ("The Lion's Roar") which was given to both children and adults followed by a special teaching.

An outdoor meditation area was set up under a large canopy. There was plenty of time for swimming, and the center's three boats seemed to be in the water just about all the time.

The many children in attendance found loads of things to do together, and for many it was the first time they had ever met kids their age whose parents were practitioners. The atmosphere throughout the weekend was very tranquil and cooperative. There really was a very special feeling there, thanks in large part to having Khenpo Rinpoche on site.

Rinpoche stayed in one of the cottages at the retreat site, It was so very nice to spend several days with him. He blessed the retreat property, took rowboat rides, and always found time to spend with the kids and us not-so-kids. I am certain that there were more than a few of us who felt that happy/sad feeling when this very special weekend came to an end. We are happy to report that Rinpoche has decided to make this an annual event, and the *2nd Annual Family Dharma Weekend* will be held at the retreat center in Big Rapids next year.

MATRIX/ACT EASTERN ASTROLOGY CONFERENCE

August 8th & 9th, 1987

SHYAM RAMAKRISHNA NERENDRA

MOHAN KOPARKER

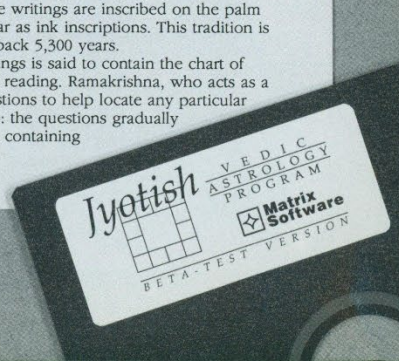
The 3rd Annual Matrix Eastern Astrology Conference was a great success. Attendees came from all over, including two from Hawaii! The spirit of the entire conference was wonderful.

Speakers and panelists included Mohan Koparker, Shyam Sundar Das, Narendra Desai, Sri Jyotishacharya Ramakrishna Shastry, Prince Hirindra Singh, and Michael Erlewine.

Narendra Desai, recently arrived from India, was the senior speaker. It was obvious to all that Desai had a great amount of experience with Vedic astrology and spiritual training.

Sri Jyotishacharya Ramakrishna Shastri presented a unique opportunity to attendees. With a family tree documented well beyond 800 years, he holds a position passed down from father to son for many generations. He is the holder of the Shuka Nadi, a method of astrological analysis of the moment of an individual's birth that has been recorded on ancient palm leaves. This is the sacred book of Shuka Nadi Granth, an ancient system of 3000 books of palm leaf readings written in Sanskrit by India's great sage Maharishi Shuka Deva. They date back to 3143 BC. These writings are inscribed on the palm leaves with needle point dots that appear as ink inscriptions. This tradition is as old as the Vedic scriptures that date back 5,300 years.

This large collection of ancient readings is said to contain the chart of every individual who will ever ask for a reading. Ramakrishna, who acts as a guide for inquirers, asks a series of questions to help locate any particular chart. He says it is like an inverted cone: the questions gradually narrow the focus down to the one chart containing information relevant to that person.



RAMAKRISHNA & FAMILY

NERENDRA DESAI

HIRINDRA SINGH

Once the chart is found, the reading is given much like we do here in the West. The Shuka Nadi manuscripts, along with several others of a similar type, are revered and have achieved legendary status in India. This is the first time, to our knowledge, that any nadi reader has taken these palm leaf books outside of India and offered readings here in the West.

Mohan Koparker, our principal speaker was, as always, very well recieved. Koparker is able to take very complex issues and present them in a way that even beginners can grasp. His sense of humor and humanity was appreciated by all.

Matrix staff member and Vedic astrologer Shyam Sundar Das was the moderator for the conference and also a principle speaker. Aside from his lecture topics, Shyam also presented *Jyotish*, the complete Matrix Vedic Astrology program to speakers and guests. In its final stages, it appears to be the most complete calculation package on the market to date.

The weekend seemed to go all too quickly and the enthusiasm of the participants carried over into mealtimes with many still going strong long after I climbed into bed. The material was excellent, as were the speakers. Yet what will stay in my mind longest is the general tone and feeling of the entire event. Small conference workshops like this one allow speakers and attendees to mix with and get to know each other on a one-to-one basis. The fact that many stay in the same building and meals are shared in common results in a real sense of togetherness. In looking back, it was obvious that everyone present had a *very, very* good time together. We are already planning next year's event which will also include workshops on the Tibetan approach to astrology.

TIBETAN PSYCHOLOGY: CALM & CLEAR MIND

July 7th, 1987

Our first weekend workshop on the Tibetan principles of mind preparation was very successful. Taught by Tibetan Ngodup Tsering Burkhar, the workshop concentrated on presenting the methods of preparing the mind that astrological students in Tibet have used for centuries to prepare themselves for the study of astrology. In the East, astrological techniques are useless unless the mind has been prepared to understand and use them in a correct manner. We will be offering another presentation of this material as part of the 4th annual Eastern astrological conference to be held the weekend of the summer solstice of 1988. The theme of the forthcoming conference will be Tibetan astrology.

Continued From Page 6

been doing it on the premise that if you have all this data and you put it together, you'll come up with a theory. That's not necessarily the case. You may just find that you'll come up with a lot of interesting data, and that's it. You may come up and find that trines don't work and squares do, or that the applying 144th aspect is lots hotter than anybody thought it was. But it still doesn't root you to the ground. It allows you to embellish a structure and view it with much greater detail.

I think that it's very important that this is happening. Because it's coming down to where the individual – whatever theories he may have – can simply roll out the data, call on it from somebody who's collected it, and analyze it with a program that will get some serious agreed-upon meaning out of it, and thus test his theories.

We're finding this not only happening in astrology, it's a sort of democratization of data and technology that's come as a result of the increasing technology, digital technology, at large. It means that master quality recordings, multi-track recordings, can be made at home. You won't have to go into a $250-dollar-an-hour studio and go through the incredibly expensive process of recording, mixing, and mastering that you now do in order to get a market-quality product. It means anybody will be able to do it in their home.

The same is true with a great deal of science that previously required main frames and data collection that couldn't be done by anything short of a big company or a university, or the government. It can now be done at home. And across the board, there will be a democratization going on that will allow us all to get our fingers into the pot and stir it up a little – which I think is really, really healthy. I think that it will allow you to put the data together with new ways of viewing theory at large, and come up with a whole new paradigm – or model – for looking at the world at large. Part of that paradigm will be astrology.

Michael: Our new Matrix Compact Data series may be helpful in this regard.

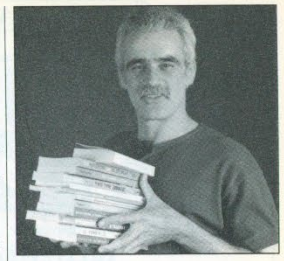
John: Sounds great. What I'm talking about with Kammerer is not a grand theory of how astrology fits in with current physics, or a grand theory of astrology in general. This is a new way of looking at reality at large that comfortably allows physics and astrology to fit into slots that are perfectly mutually agreeable. Which means restructuring the entire paradigm of looking at reality. It's kind of like what Einstein did when he looked at gravity, not as a force, but simply as lines in space. If a body is inertially drifting through space and goes near a highly gravitational body like the Earth, or a star, or whatnot, it's not actually pulled into the star by gravity, it's in fact following a straight line of space which is being curved by gravitation itself. Therefore, it's not being attracted, it's simply going straight ahead – but straight ahead suddenly turns into a curve.

That totally expanded way of looking at reality is what caused the revolution in physics early in this century. I think that we're in for another similar kind of revolution. Notice that we have the conjunction of Saturn and Uranus, and that the last three or four conjunctions have all marked major steps forward in physics theory. We are about to have it hit us again next year. We may yet look forward to a radical opening-up of our own paradigm which allows physics and astrology to comfortably co-exist, which at the present, they, of course, do not. ■

Life & Career

CYCLES

For information on our upcoming Life & Career Cycles program (designed in collaboration with John Townley) write for your copy of the new Matrix Catalog.



Heart Center Library Update

Martin Davis, the Matrix representative for the United Kingdom, presented us with a gift of books for the Heart Center Library from Charles Harvey, president of Great Britain's *Astrological Association.* Our thanks to you, Charles, and to the association. We are working up a list of duplicates to offer to your library as well.

The library continues to grow, thanks to contributions from the astrological community. Some of you have donated your entire collections to the cause. Thanks. Every book helps!

If you have duplicate books or ones that you no longer need, or if you want to find a worthy home for an entire collection, please feel free to park them with us. Not only can you get a tax credit for the donation (the library is a non-profit enterprise), you can be sure that your contribution helps to build an astrological reference center that is open to all. We would like to thank the following people who have donated to the Heart Center Library:

ACS Publications, James T. Braha, Helen Clerf, Susie Cox, Karen David, Rev. I. Diamond, Kelley M. Essoe, Emilly Faugno, Steven Forest, Jeff Green, Phyllis Greenhouse, Mary K. Greer, William Henry, Ivy Jacobson, Dr. Daisy Kouzel, Lavedi Lafferty & Bud Hollowell, Jim Lewis, Llewellyn Publications, Eileen Nauman, Alexander Pattison, Pentex Enterprises, Maritha Pottenger, RKM Enterprises, Lynn Richards, Lois Rodden, Molly Seeligson, Barbara Somerfield, Zane Stein, Mary Tobin, Florent Trembley, Gwyn Turner, R. Van Vlissingen, Dianne Williams, and Samten Williams. ■

M A T R I X

GOLDEN OLDIES

MATRIX COMPACT DATA

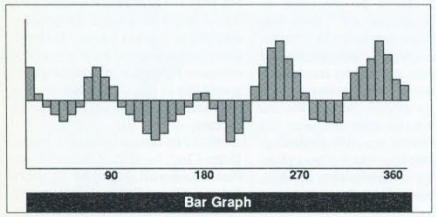
Volume One: 1,000 Charts of Well-Known Personalities
On Disk & A Complete System To Explore Them With!

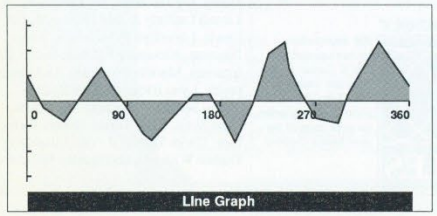
Many of you have asked for large sets of precalculated chart data – a collection of world personalities – for use with *Blue*Star*. Sorry we couldn't get to this sooner, but we wanted to do it right. This has been a special project for us, since staff member Stephen Erlewine was one of the first to publish a modern chart collection complete with drawn out charts and full information on sources. The *Circle Book Of Charts* was developed during the sixties and published in 1972. I am sure that all of you have seen a copy.

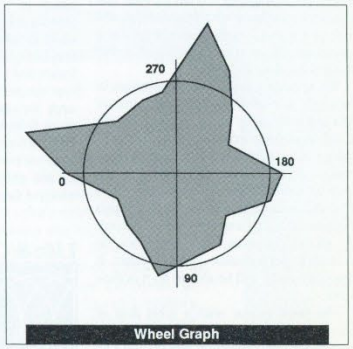
We have wanted to get this and other material into a form that *Blue*Star* users could work with, but something other than a simple ASCII file. *Matrix Compact Data* does just that.

Each disk contains 1000 charts complete with additional precalculated material for each chart that offers lightning fast access. Of course the positions of the planets are there (accurate to the second of arc), both geocentric and heliocentric. Planet, house, and birth data pop up at the touch of a button. There is also a pop-up aspect grid, and even a scan of diurnal motion – Gauquelin style. All of this is instantaneous. Then we added some new features that we thought would be welcome as well. Our built-in occupation index lets you search through the collection and gather just the set of charts you want. For example:

You can ask for all the musicians, or all the rock & roll musicians, or all the rock & roll musicians that recorded jazz rock, or all the rock & roll jazz rock musicians who play the saxophone. The combinations are endless, and you can collect and save to disk any group for later use, using your own label. And the sets that you collect and name take up very little room on the disk, for only the charts' location on the disk is stored as a set, not the charts themselves.







***Three examples of the on-screen graphing options** of the Matrix Compact Data System include the familiar bar and line graph formats as well as the wheel graph shown above.*

For those of you interested in geo-cosmic events, we have included the daily sunspot number and even the geomagnetic index. Now you can check to see if a birth or event happened on a day of increased solar activity.

All of this and more in a program that is as elegant as it is easy to use. *Matrix Compact Data* is easy to browse through and any set of charts can be moved over to *Blue*Star* for further use.

Perhaps you have wondered who else in the world has the same aspects that you have. It's easy to find out. Just slide in a *Compact Data* disk, ask for the search feature, and mark the aspect combinations you want on the screen grid. Run the search, and collect the charts that match your description. Browse through the collection at your leisure. *Matrix Compact Data* collections have more than just numbers. Each personality has a description of who they are, what they did, or some way of identifying them. The possibilities are endless.

Last, but not least, take advantage of our built in graphics to view the results of a single chart or a collection. This is the first time (that we know of) that astrologers have had access to major statistical graphing techniques that require no sophisticated knowledge or training to run. The following built-in graphic techniques are available:

Aspects: Display bar graphs of planetary aspects.

Harmonics: Display both wheel and line graphs for exploring selected planetary positions. This type of graph has been used in most of the work of John Addey, the father of Western harmonics theory. Also, display wheel graphs and plots in your choice of harmonics, for the angles between pairs of planets.

Angular Separations: Now you can display both wheel and line graphs of the angular separations between selected planetary positions, across the full 360 degrees of angular relationships. This type of graph has been used extensively by prominent researcher, Gary Duncan.

Sign & House Placement: Displays bar graphs and wheel graphs to explore what sign placements are most common for selected planets or houses.

Elemental/Quality Emphasis: Explore bar graphs of Fire, Earth, Air, and Water, as well as Cardinal, Fixed and Mutable signs. Also, the circle of houses can be studied in a similar way, looking for Angular, Succedent and Cadent house placements.

For those of you with text mode monitors, graphic displays are limited to bar graphs. Our hi-res mode supports CGA, EGA, and Hercules. It includes wheel graphs with sectors (Gauquelin-style), showing either 12 or 36 houses. Hi-res line graphs are plotted with horizontal and vertical axes. Plots can display harmonic positions and/or angular separations, with moving totals plotted (along with sine curves that show the ideal harmonic distortion).

Now, collect whatever set of data you want and run them through John Addey's famous harmonic analysis routines, or check out the Gauquelin sectors for yourself. Large or small groups of charts can be analyzed and the results displayed on-screen (or printed out). This section of the *Matrix Compact Data* program has been designed by Matrix staff member Doug Pierce, who has a degree in statistics. View the results of your research efforts, large or small. Create sets of data of your own. Move them to a separate file for storage, or port them over to *Blue*Star* for further work.

Our new *Compact Data* can be used with or without *Blue*Star*. If you enjoy exploring such data, then purchase your copy of *Matrix Compact Data* now. The price is $75. Each program comes with Volume 1 of our *Golden Oldies* series: disks of chart data for 1,000 different well-known personalities. Additional volumes are in the works (ready soon!) and will sell for $30 per 1000 charts. We are negotiating with Lois Rodden and ISAR for their large collection of timed data. Each compact data disk has 1000 charts with all of the data mentioned above, ready for you to work with.

Matrix Compact Data program (includes Volume 1 of *Matrix Compact Data*) $75 (IBM style machines).

■

Martin Davis Becomes The Matrix UK Rep

Martin Davis

Matrix UK is launched! Martin Davis has become the official representative for Matrix Software in the United Kingdom. Davis flew over for ten days of intensive training on how to use and service Matrix products. He offers lectures, a phone hot-line and more. Some of you in Europe may want to work through Martin, too. You'll find he's a cheerful and very helpful person to work with.

We hope our presence across the great water will make using Matrix programs in Europe a little easier. Martin Davis can be contacted at the following address:

Moorcote Ellingstring
Ripon N. Yorks
North Yorkshire, England H64-4PL
Ph: (UK) Bedale (0677) - 60338

■

Matrix Journal Is Back!

The *Matrix Journal* was started in 1977 by Michael Erlewine as a forum for those interested in technical astrology and/or radical astrological concepts. Although never a mass market item, the magazine had a small but dedicated readership. The editor was forced to suspend publication due to a lack of time. Things have eased up some here, and the journal is now being reintroduced. We are once again calling for articles.

As before, we're interested in technical and research oriented material of a practical nature as well as new ways to approach and look at astrology.

Although Michael Erlewine will be on the editorial staff, the executive editors are Doug Pierce and James Neely.

If you are interested in contributing to the journal, please do. Those interested in subscribing, drop us a line and we will let you know when the first issue is ready.

■

Blue★Star 2.1 is ready for business!

We're now shipping our new "Business Blue★Star."

We are now shipping Blue★Star 2.1 (announced in our last issue) for IBM-style computers with 512K of RAM and a hard disk. The upgrade is available for a limited time to all registered owners of IBM *Blue★Star* systems for a flat fee of $75. The upgrade opens up a whole new territory to users. Here are some of the highlights:

Hi-Speed Screen Action

Blue★Star 2.1 has all RAM-based screen routines, which means instant display rather than scrolling. The various menus *flash* onto the screen. All screen-based options (such as job and chart selection) are greatly speeded up. Working with RAM-based screens is a breeze.

Pop-Up Features

Browsing thru your chart collections via the directory is now much more exciting. As you move the light bar from name to name, you have the opportunity to look at the complete birth data for each chart at the press of a button. Another button displays the complete planet and house postions for any chart, or a full pop-up aspect grid. These features mean that you can take a look at charts as you pass over them using the directory. Even secondary chart data can be viewed for any chart on file.

Search and Collect Charts

Now you can browse (or fast search) thru your chart files and collect sets of charts for special processing or for storage. It's now easy to mark and collect various groups of charts from within any chart file collection. You can collect and combine several sets to form a new combined set which can be named by you. Version 2.1 also lets you add keywords of your own to any new (or existing) chart on file. Be sure to read the section below on the new *Matrix Compact Data* to get some idea of how you might search thru sets of data. You can seed your chart collection with keywords that make sense to you.

Automatic Processing of Entire Sets of Charts

You can search for keyword combinations, collect the results, and send the entire collection to a list of jobs for special processing. Perhaps you want to send solar return charts to all of your customers who were born in the current month. Simple. Just search for charts born in that month and send the collection to our new AutoJob feature for automatic processing. In fact you can set up any number of calculation jobs for use in automatic processing.

Matrix Compact Data Compatibility

Version 2.1 is totally compatible with our new *Compact Data* diskettes, which means you can port sets of charts you have collected from the *Compact Data* into *Blue★Star* (for printouts, etc.). Best of all, *Blue★Star 2.1* lets you compress your own chart collection into *Compact Data* format for use with that module.

Business Records

Blue★Star now handles business records along with chart files. You can store your client's address along with their current business transaction (amount due, etc.) for later use. As you order chart jobs, *Blue★Star 2.1* can even print an invoice or receipt on ordinary printer paper.

Extensive Notes Feature

Add as many notes as you need to document any chart file (each note can be up to 392 characters long). This information is available at any time from within the chart directory – just pop up the notes to read them.

Built-in Ephemeris Printer

Version 2.1 includes the capacity to generate hardcopy from *Blue★Star's* 3,000-year disk ephemeris. Print out a month or a year (whatever you need) in a variety of high quality formats. Create your own printed ephemerides for selected time periods. Positions for the planets, node, major asteroids, Chiron, Transpluto and the Transneptunians can be printed out in heliocentric, geocentric or equatorial coordinates, and in tropical or sidereal zodiacs. Printed ephemerides have two months to the page, or output at intervals specified by the user. This handy option costs $100 as a stand-alone program, but is part of the *Blue★Star 2.1* upgrade.

Three features have been added to *Blue★Star* transit options and are included in the update:

Enter-Exact-Leave Printout format:

This sorts transit or progressed hits listings by date of entering orb.

Entering and Leaving Parallels Hits:

This enhances the parallels searches by including entering and leaving hits along with exact parallels.

Bridge Aspects:

This is a search enhancement that prints out, in a separate table for each search job, those aspects that were within orb on the starting date of the search. This feature was requested so that aspects remaining within orb, but not becoming exact during the period of the search, could be identified.

Flexible & Easy To Use

Version 2.1 has made every kind of chart handling (collection, copying, deletion, etc.) *very* easy to do. You can access many different chart collections using names you specify. Within any one of these collections, you can gather and store smaller groups of charts that interest you for later use. These sets might include your immediate family, different groups of customers, or interesting sets of research data. They don't take up much room on your disk, and you can name them yourself.

Easy to Install

Installation of 2.1 couldn't be easier. It's all automatic. Just place the upgrade in the drive and the new files are copied into your existing system.

There isn't room here to list all of the features, much less describe them in real detail. There have been numerous improvements in the entire system. In general, 2.1 has made all kinds of chart handling (collection, copying, deletion, etc.) very easy to do. It's designed to serve the needs of the professional astrologer. It helps you handle a heavy workload and keep track of your customer accounts at the same time. The fact that 2.1 is compatible with our new Compact Data Disks is an added plus. The speed and ease of use of 2.1 has to be experienced to be appreciated. We encourage those of you with hard disk capability to move up to this new level.

Special Price

Until December 1, 1987, the *Blue★Star 2.1* upgrade is available to registered users of *Blue★Star* for a flat fee of just $75. This includes the upgrade, a manual and first class postage.

Those of you who order *Blue★Star 2.1* and our new Compact Data program at the same time can have them both for $100, a savings of $50. This offer expires December 1, 1987.

■

The reviews are in, & Blue★Star's a winner

Here's what astrological writers have to say...

Blue★Star users will be glad to know that the two top reviewers of software in the country, Richard Nolle *(Dell Horoscope, Star*Tech)* and Hank Friedman *(AFA Bulletin)* have both published reviews of the IBM *Blue★Star*, and both reviewers conclude that *Blue★Star* is the clear favorite. Of course, we're delighted. We thought you might be, too.

Hank Friedman writes about *Blue★Star* in the May 27, 1987 issue of the *American Federation of Astrologer's Bulletin*:

"The reason I'm so excited by Blue★Star is that it makes doing charts very easy. I love the hi-res chart wheels, with aspects drawn in, and I like having aspect sets ready to use for various purposes... It's great to be able to automate the program to do exactly what you want, as many jobs as you want, at the push of a button... "I enjoy working with Blue★Star's menu. I like the overlays, the way you get to modify and select options, the fact that your choices are clearly shown to you and extraneous options hidden from you, and how simple it is to change your default settings. It's just more fun to work with, more inviting to explore, and more powerful overall."

Richard Nolle wrote about *Blue★Star* in Star*Tech (Vol. 1, No. 2) earlier this year. A similar review also appeared in July's *Dell Horoscope*. Here is part of his *Blue★Star* review:

"To me the bottom line is unavoidable: on the vast majority of computers and for the kind of astrology most people want to do, Big Blue★Star is far and away the program of choice in the IBM environment.
...When it comes down to using a program to do astrology for my clients (who pay for the output), I wouldn't think of running anything but Big Blue★Star. And for nearly everything else I need done astrologically, Blue★Star is the obvious answer."

The Great ATTRACTOR

There have been many interesting astronomical events and discoveries in recent years. However, most of these are either quite local to our particular galaxy or have to do with gathering more details on a specific class of objects (pulsars, black holes, etc.) It has been a long time since we have had news that challenges our ideas on the very structure of the cosmos itself.

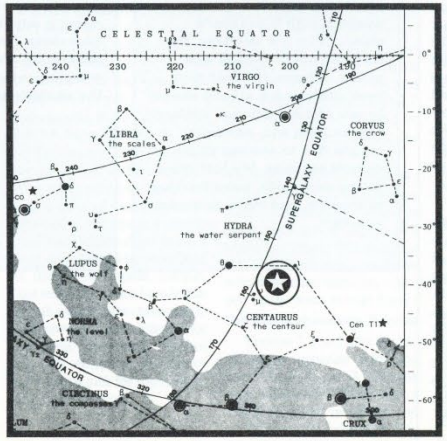
Points such as the center of our galaxy at about 26 degrees (all positions in this article are Tropical) of the sign Sagittarius and the center of the supergalaxy at about one degree of Libra used to raise eyebrows among astrologers who wondered how such distant points could have any relation to our tiny planet. In recent years, there has been more understanding that just as the Earth is a member of the solar system and shares its fate, so does the solar system share the fate of the Galaxy of which it is a member. The Galaxy, in turn, shares the fate of the Supergalaxy and so forth. It is also recognized that large-scale organisms (solar systems, galaxies, etc.) circulate information from their centers to their component parts.

Now there is new evidence that even our local supergalaxy marches to the tune of a much larger and denser gathering of galaxies, which has its own unique center. In fact, this new massing of galaxies is so all-encompassing that even the normally staid astronomers have had to break out with a little sheer poetry. They have called this new meta-supergalaxy, the Great Attractor. And just as our solar system marches to the tune of our Milky Way galaxy, and the Milky Way to the Supergalaxy concentration in the constellation Virgo, so the Supergalaxy is small potatoes compared to the Great Attractor. I talked with one of the astronomers who is working on this new material, Sandra Faber at the Lick Observatory in California. Of course, what I wanted to know is where the center of the Great Attractor is. Where is it located in the Zodiac, for that is the point that astrologers will want to consider.

Faber reports that the center of mass for the Great Attractor is in early Scorpio. Here are the approximate Equatorial coordinates (Epoch 1950): Right Ascension: 202° 30'00" Declination: -40°.

This translates to a Zodiac position of 6° Scorpio 33'10" and a latitude of -28° 14'03".

Thus 6-7 degrees of Scorpio is another sensitive point that astrologers will want to keep an eye on. ■



The star on this map indicates the center of mass of the Great Attractor.

Now! Designer Wheels for the C-64

Introducing Designer Wheel 1: a new hi-res chart printing package for Commodore-64 users.

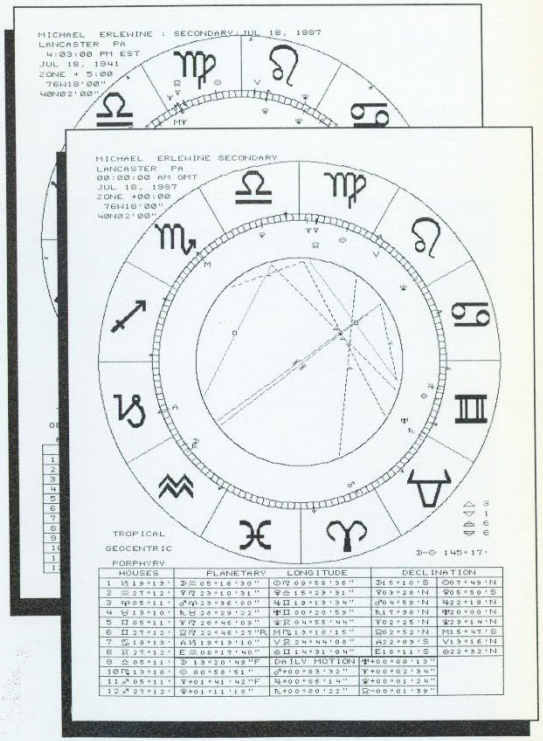
Designer Wheel 1 is an *M65* (or *Blue⋆Star 64*) add-on that reads your chart file disks and prints a full-page round wheel on Epson-compatible printers. You can do single wheels and biwheels, and can batch them together – up to six charts to a batch. Programmer Ken Tasa of Montreal has put this together for us. Ken has devoted a lot of work to the Commodore 64, and the results show it.

The price for *Designer Wheel 1* is $99, which is quite a value in view of the great effort expended on making this quality of output possible on the Commodore. It features large sign glyphs around the outside of the wheel, followed by a ring of planet glyphs (two rings for biwheels). In the center of the chart is a large circle devoted to aspect lines: all aspects are marked with symbols, as in our IBM *Blue⋆Star* Hi-Res and Designer Wheels. Below the wheel, a table of positions is optional on the single wheel; otherwise, it will be blank.

This program is a relatively fast performer, printing a wheel in six to seven minutes (or less – depending on the speed of your printer). Although the program works without it, Ken highly recommends the Epyx FastLoad cartridge, which substantially improves the disk-access performance of this and other programs. This $40 Epyx cartridge is available from mail-order houses as well as from most stores that sell Commodore computers (we were able to buy one in Big Rapids, which is a small town).

Ken tells us that he is working on a version of this program for Commodore printers, so those of you with these printers have something to look forward to as well. That version will probably produce a smaller wheel, to minimize the substantially longer printing time with the Commodore printer.

Designer Wheel 1 is available now for the C-64 with Epson-style printer: $99. ■



This is a double issue of Astro⋆Talk.

We have been unable to meet a bi-monthly publication schedule recently, so we've produced this 24-page special issue instead of two of our usual 12-page issues. We'll continue to see that you receive as many pages of information as ever. Thanks for your patience.

Astro⋆Talk is published bimonthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $9.95 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 via seamail ($17.95 via airmail).
ISSN 0740-6738 © 1986 Matrix Software.

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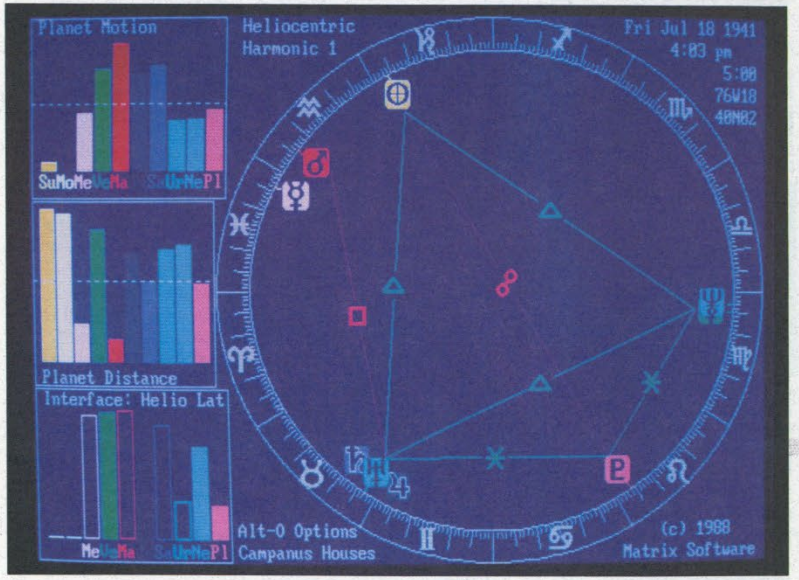

NATURAL CYCLES

Matrix Software

The Astro★Talk Bulletin is published quarterly by Matrix Software, Inc., 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI, 49307. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in the US & Canada. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 (via seamail). ISSN 0740-6738 © 1988, Matrix Software.

AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group — Volume Five, Number One • July 1988

Natural Cycles combines astrology and cycles research.

Natural Cycles is a whole new concept: imagine combining non-astrological cycle research with Matrix Software's astrology expertise. Add the ability to enter and display *any* kinds of cycles you choose. Even add one hundred years of Wall Street history so you can compare the market's cycles with the others and explore their relationships before investing.

The result is *Natural Cycles*, the first and only software program ever developed to allow you to work with hundreds of different natural cycles singly or in combination – instantly and easily.

The next time you discover new or interesting cycles in a book or at a seminar, you're just moments away from accurately examining their effects for any time period. Just plug in the cycle and let *Natural Cycles* graph it for you.

Give yourself an edge in today's volatile stock market by examining all kinds of naturally occurring cycles along with standard financial data. Watch the various patterns interact on-screen to discover their correlation. Follow your hunches! Plot information from the major on-line data services along with natural indicators such as sunspots, solar flux, and any of the hundreds of cycles built into *Natural Cycles*.

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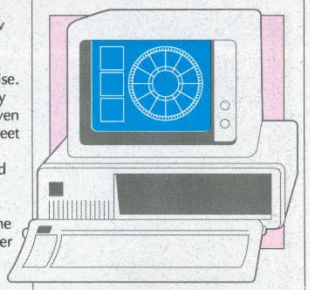
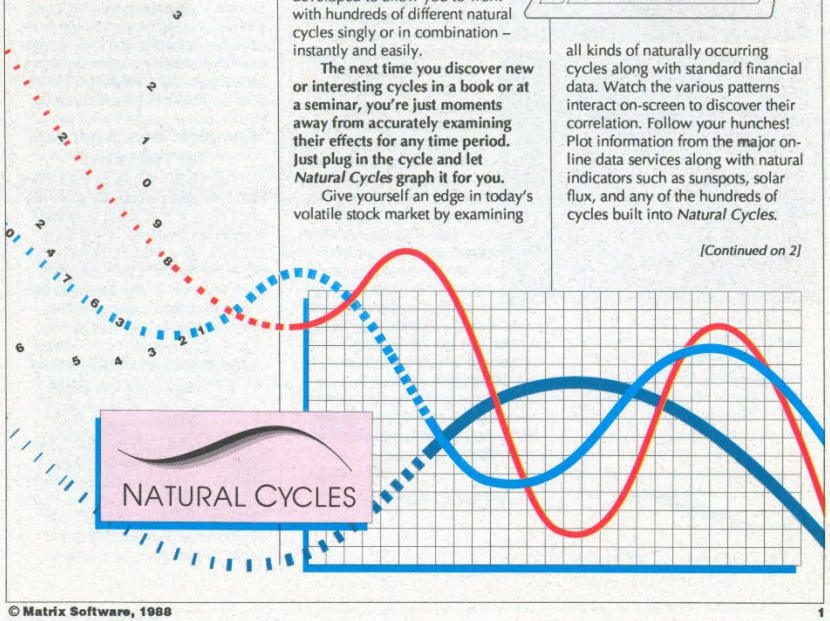




© Matrix Software, 1988

Matrix Pioneer Award

The *Matrix Pioneer Award* is given to outstanding astrologers who have made a significant contribution to the education of the general public in the area of astrological understanding and acceptance.

The first *Matrix Pioneer Award* is presented to Jim Lewis for the development and marketing of Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy. There is no doubt that the relocation technique, Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy, is a worthy one. However, it is the marketing of this technique that we are singling out here for recognition. Jim Lewis has methodically presented Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy since the mid-seventies. His unified, wholistic approach to advertising has resulted in the imprinting of a real astrological gestalt in the public mind. Lewis has continued to improve his advertising approach over the years, always concentrating on quality and clarity. The result has been a dignified and acceptable presentation of an astrological product, one understood by the general public.

It is our intention to honor Jim Lewis for his pioneering educational work in introducing the concepts of astrology to the general public.

■

Full-time positions becoming available at Matrix:

As our staff grows, positions open from time to time for experienced astrologers with good communications skills. If you might like to relocate, send your resume, birth data, and a photo to introduce yourself. Let's talk!

Matrix Summer Seminars 1988

Our annual Summer Seminars are now under way. We hope to see you! Consider taking a little time off here in Northern Michigan. The atmosphere is casual, and the ideas are flowing. Meet and talk with leading astrologers, and this year there are leaders in the field of cycles research as well.

The next seminar is our *Natural Cycles Conference*. Come join us to exchange information and ideas on this subject which is drawing attention from all quarters. As always, an added bonus are the great natural recipes cooked up right here at the Heart Center!

July 30-31, 1988

Natural Cycles Conference (Stock market and time cycle research)

Our 1st annual *Natural Cycles Conference* brings together some of the leading speakers in this important field for a weekend of discussion and idea exchange. Cycles research (particularly concerning the stock market and investments) is really hot today. Long and short term cycles, circadian rhythms, and related cyclic phenomena are becoming more and more important in modern astrology. The cycles approach to understanding life has taken on increasing importance in recent years. Financial analysts of all kinds are using cycles research as part of their method.

We've brought together many of the leading researchers in this important field, including the director of the *Foundation for the Study of Cycles*, for a weekend of in-depth panel discussions. And, although the stock market and commodities will be major topics, cycle research of all kinds will be on the agenda: lunar and solar rhythms, sunspots, solar wind, tidal forces, circadian rhythms... the whole picture. All are important in any analysis of time cycles.

Speakers include:

Arch "Sam" Crawford: *stock market*
Michael Erlewine: *lunar and tidal cycles*
Pat Esclavon-Hardy: *stock market*
Jeffrey Horovitz: *(Executive Director of the Foundation for the Study of Cycles)*
Bill Meridian: *stock market*
John Townley: *life & career cycles*
Norman Winski: *stock market*
Carol Mull: *stock market*
Mason Sexton: *stock market*
John Van Zandt: *cycles research*
[Other speakers to be announced.]

Sange Wangchug speaking at the Eastern Astrology Conference.

June 18-19, 1988

Eastern Astrology Conference (Tibetan Astrology)

The Summer Solstice 1988 marked the fourth annual *Eastern Astrology Conference* here in Big Rapids, Michigan. This year's conference focused on the astrology of Tibet. The Matrix staff has been working on Tibetan astrology since 1983. During this last year, we've had Tibetan astrologer Sange Wangchug on staff here in Big Rapids. Aside from his astrological skills, Sange is an expert calligrapher and artist. Trained as a Buddhist monk, he is also skilled in 6 different languages – including Sanskrit. Sange and Michael Erlewine have been working on a translation of a major Tibetan astrological text. The results of this work were shared at the conference in June.

Tibetan astrological techniques have been all but unavailable until now. Even more important is the life, or spiritual, context in which these techniques are used and understood. Tibetans have a unique method of training astrologers that also orients their approach to life. It is unlike anything available here in the West.

This summer's *Eastern Astrology Conference* not only presented the major techniques themselves, but also showed something of the unique training method necessary to use them. To our knowledge, this was the first time that both the training methods and technical aspects of the Tibetan astrological system has been presented in this country.

August 1-2, 1988

Matrix Computer & Software Workshops

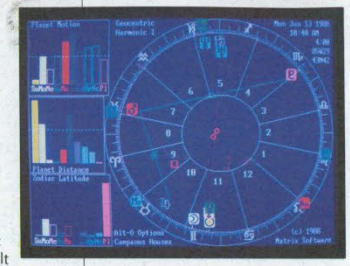
On the Monday morning following the *Natural Cycles Conference*, we're offering another of our sessions on getting the most out of your computer and your Matrix programs. Whether you need advanced tips or a friendly introduction to computer-assisted astrology, this is the place. We prepare the program for each of these workshops to cover your questions. So come to Big Rapids and get to know your computer, and us, a little better! Like always, our *Computer & Software Workshops* are free – a service we provide our customers.

Coming from Matrix: complete Michelsen time-change data!

We're preparing a disk for *Blue⋆Star* users with the entire ACS time change data (the wonderful work of Tom Shanks). You get all the info. in *The American Atlas* and *The International Atlas*. Details coming soon.

Natural Cycles: astrology & cycles research together!

Continued from page 1



Natural Cycles is the result of years of research and programming in the area of geocosmic cycles. It fills a very definite need: until now, it's been difficult for computer users to combine stock market data with natural cycle data such as sunspots, geomagnetic indexes, and the various tidal and planetary rhythms. With this new program you can even add your own personal cycles of any kind (biological cycles come to mind, but *any* cyclic activity can be included in your calculations).

While *Natural Cycles* is very powerful and contains sophisticated features, it's still easy to use (even if you're new to computers). We've given a lot of attention to top-quality graphics and smooth program interaction – pull-down menus that leave your graphic screens untouched are used throughout.

Natural Cycles' on-screen graphics aren't just beautiful to look at – they present cycle information in forms that make it easy to use.

Described here are some of the features of *Natural Cycles.* However, the program's concept – and the ways you can use it – are so new that it deserves more space than we have here. Call or write us for your copy of our flyer describing *Natural Cycles.* Use our toll-free line for orders and information requests: **1(800)PLANETS.**

Natural Cycles is scheduled for release at the end of Summer, '88. The flyer describing the program is available now.

NATURAL CYCLES

Classic geophysical data at your fingertips!

Now you can have the most-requested geophysical data on-line and always ready to plot against financial data of your choice. We offer *day-by-day* values for all our data, not just monthly or yearly totals. You get sunspot numbers from 1818 to the present. Daily indexes for both the geomagnetic (AP) index and the very important 28 megahertz solar flux (solar activity) data are also on-line. These three major indicators give you precise solar data either for graphic display or tabular readout.

Complete Dow Jones data for 100 years!

Day-by-day values for the Dow's high, low, and closings for every day since 1885. If purchased separately from most companies, the price of this data alone would cost more than the entire *Natural Cycles* program. Now you can call this data onto the screen to compare with any other cycles you wish.

One hundred & fifty years of lunar data on-line!

Including eclipse data– and that's just part of the lunar phenomena included with *Natural Cycles.* Lunar phenomena are one of the mainstays of modern cycle research. Included here are 150 years of exact lunar data for all four major lunar cycles: lunar phases, declination cycle, latitude cycle, and apogee/perigee cycles. All four phases of each of these major lunar cycles are provided – complete with date, time, ecliptic position of the moon, and description of the event. For example, all major eclipses are marked – along with the type of eclipse involved. This data may be graphed, tabled, or displayed along the ecliptic for any time series from 1900 - 2050.

Other *Natural Cycles* features (and there are lots of them!) are described fully in the free descriptive flyer on the program. There's just room here to mention a few of them:

- **Diurnal Solunar Tidal Component Analysis**

The first time offered to the public on a home computer: a complete breakdown of the diurnal tidal forces. All major tidal components graphed on-screen in sine wave format for a 24-hour period. Recent research points to the effects of not just tidal surges, but the complex components of the tidal vector. The ever-changing, almost kaleidoscopic panorama of these forces can't be deciphered from tabular listings. On-screen graphs like the one at right make this information come alive.

- **Dial-A-Cycle**

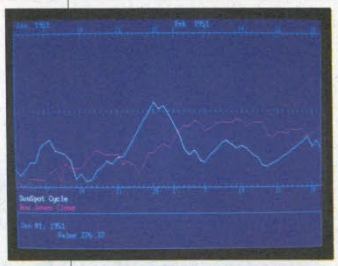
Now you can have the largest collection of verified cycles ever assembled as part of your own built-in database. Through a special arrangement with the *Foundation for the Study of Cycles* (the premier cycle studies organization in the world today), we've placed their entire collection of tested cycles on-line for instant graphing. Any of these hundreds of cycles may be displayed as a line graph singly or in any combination.

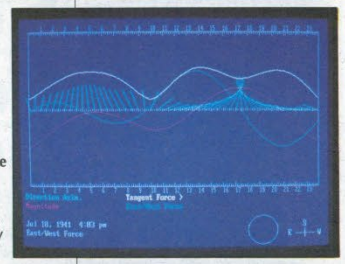
- **Diurnal planetary rise, set, up, & down graphs**
- **Timed planetary stations (1900-2050)**
- **Large scale patterns (geo- & heliocentric)**
- **Angular separation emphasis, planet-by-planet**
- **Planetary emphasis by angular separation totals**
- **Complete planet aspect scans**
- **Angular separation type totals as line graphs**
- **Graphs of planetary motion, planetary distance, and planetary latitude**
- **Aspect pattern sequencer:** Another first. Watch major solar system patterns in full color as they move through each day – forming & dissolving before your eyes.
- **Graphic ephemeris**
- **Orbital analysis: nodal interfaces**
- **Hi-res chart wheel**

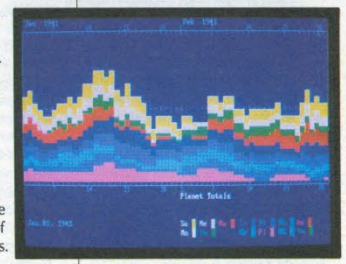
This is really impressive in full color! Your choice of zodiac, houses, and aspects. The planetary midpoints wheel uses color for a whole new look at midpoints.

Let us show you more. Call today for your free flyer detailing *Natural Cycles* – the exciting new concept for astrologers, cycle researchers, and market investors! Write Matrix or call us today on our toll-free line:

1(800)PLANETS





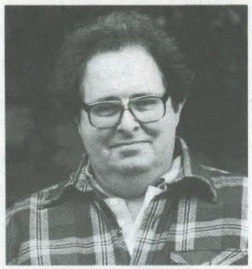


PAGE 2: NATURAL CYCLES' new hi-res wheel of houses uses color to highlight planets and aspects on-screen.

ABOVE, TOP: Dow-Jones openings and closings graphed with sunspot activity (over 100 years of data built-in).

ABOVE, CENTER: Complex tidal rhythms in a 24-hour period graphed on-screen.

ABOVE: A graphic screen display of planetary aspect totals.



Gary Duncan
1931-1988

Gary Duncan, one of the most important research astrologers of this century, died on June 19, 1988. He was 56 years old. Gary was perhaps the last of the old-guard technical astrologers (a group that also included the late Charles Jayne). It is appropriate here to say something about Gary, what he accomplished and what it was like to know him as a friend.

Gary liked to point out that his mother, who studied astrology under greats like Evangeline Adams and Max Heindel, was teaching astrology during the time she carried him. His given name was Neil Llewellyn Bloch, and the middle-name "Llewellyn" came from his mother's association with Llewellyn George. Gary Duncan was an assumed name used for astrological purposes, although this was the name he came to use for almost all purposes.

He grew up around the *Rosicrucian Fellowship* of Max Heindel at Oceanside, California. From the very day of his birth, Duncan was steeped in the esoteric spiritual climate of the *Fellowship*. He gave his first astrological classes there at the age of thirteen. His namesake, Llewellyn George, became a close personal friend and subsequently introduced Gary to two very important persons in his life: Donald Bradley (Garth Allen) and Cyril Fagan.

It was Bradley who would become the primary influence in Gary's development. They became close friends and began to investigate statistically some of the claims that Fagan had made regarding sidereal methods. Gary, who had studied advanced mathematics from an early age, was still in high school at the time. He contributed to Bradley's work *Profession and Birth Date* (especially regarding some of the mathematical methods and probability studies).

Although Duncan has to be numbered among the more important Western siderealists, he was always quick to point out that while he did use sidereal methods, he was not a sidereal-"ist". It was during his early work with Donald Bradley that he became convinced of the efficacy of the sidereal methods, and ceased to take much interest in the tropical approach. However, Duncan insisted that for any serious statistical work one should evaluate all 30 different zodiacs, spaced one degree apart. Only in this way, could one be sure that they were not overlooking a result that might appear in one of the other zodiacs.

He performed many statistical studies. Some of his studies include 6,281 professional baseball players, 1,113 prize fighters, 7,000 doctors, and 8,928 members of the U.S. Congress. His most impressive piece of research, presented at the AFA convention in 1984 in Chicago but still not published, was Duncan's study of some 43,000 psychologists.

What is unique about Duncan's statistical approach is that he was adamant that all statistical work be done using the most stringent rules and methods of science. He never tired of making clear to the rest of us how data samples should be collected and handled. In particular, one must take all the sample cases from a single source, such as *Who's Who*, rather than randomly collect them oneself. Only then, could any results be above reproach from the scientific community.

Aside from his statistical hygiene, the most outstanding result of Duncan's research, at least in this author's mind, was his work with angular separations.

This was made wonderfully clear upon seeing Duncan's marvelous display graphics of the psychologist study. Gary was the first astrologer to program and use laser printers. In this study of 43,000 psychologists, Duncan dared to challenge our dependency on standard aspects, in particular the Ptolemaic set. He showed through a fabulous set of laser graphics how odd angular separations showed real statistical significance. Instead of the significance peaking at an angle like 90 degrees (square), and so on, he showed that, rather, an angle of 79 degrees might be where the peak occurred. With one fell swoop, Duncan suggested we abandon any preconceived notions as to which aspects were important and see what the data showed us. To Gary, nothing in the history of astrology was acceptable that did not have statistical evidence.

Gary also helped to establish *GRR!* (Grass Roots Research), perhaps the most forward-looking plan for collecting real data sets yet established. Using the home computer and hundreds of volunteers, Duncan planned to enter vast quantities of raw data into a computer in readable form. *[GRR! will continue – write Matrix for details – Ed.]*

In making an assessment of Duncan's contribution to modern astrology, one runs into problems. Gary, who also had an ego as big as all outdoors, was very qualified in many disciplines. He had a resume that was about a yard long. Among other things, he was a computer scientist and professional astronomer. He lectured in celestial mechanics, numerical analysis and statistics. He claims to be the first astrologer ever to use a computer and to have performed statistical work on these machines. This may well be true. He had an immense knowledge of mainframe and mini computers, had helped to write several compilers for the computer language *'C'*, was an active member of the IEEE committee to the standardization of *'C'*, and so on.

He made it clear to me that he had helped to develop the advanced lunar equations used by NASA for space work, while working at the Jet Propulsion Lab at Pasadena. Knowing Gary not to be above embellishing the facts, and very capable of blowing his own horn, I had the temerity to go to the fundamental JPL documents themselves and check this assertion out. And, indeed yes, the name Neil Bloch does appear throughout those documents. He did that. He was also very proud of the fact that he was the first astrologer to produce astro-geography maps on a computer, back in the 1950's. I have a copy of these maps as published in Llewellyn's Moon Sign Book in '66.

Gary was also an excellent concert pianist, as many of us who have heard him play at the various AFA conventions can attest. He has performed in movies, radio and on TV. At one point he was acclaimed the most outstanding musician in Southern California.

Although I had heard about the legendary and reclusive Gary Duncan for many years, I only met Gary in person at the Chicago AFA convention in 1982. Gary and I were friends from the first moment we met. The history of astrology will have to assess Gary's contribution. Here, I would like to say something about Gary as a person for those who have either never met him, or never met him on his own ground – conversing on a subject that interested both you and him.

It is common knowledge that Gary had a large ego, one that always managed to place him right in the middle of the limelight. Yet for all his self concern, he seldom harmed others with it. In fact, he had almost no awareness of others. This apparent ignorance of the existence or needs of other people often had the effect of driving folks en-masse from any room in which Gary was holding forth. Yet, this was never his intention. In fact, I have yet to meet anyone who displayed the true qualities of Venus – those of infinite appreciation and love for each and every thing – more than did Gary. The sad twist was that Gary's compassion and love was generally reserved only for those things that he personally was involved with, or approved of. Anything beyond this personal interest was ignored. He just couldn't see it.

And yet, he was the best astrological teacher and educator that I have yet witnessed. Indeed, around Gary one had to be careful with questions, because you almost always got an answer, and that answer could easily last an hour or longer. I remember when Mark Pottenger asked a question about the CP/M computer operating system and Gary explained all sixteen variants of that system in excruciating detail, and all from memory.

During 1986-87, Gary spent some nine months here with us at the *Heart Center* in Big Rapids working on our encyclopedia of astrology, *Astro*Index*. The personal anecdotes that Gary managed to generate from even that short period of time would fill a small novel. Gary was, without a doubt, some kind of a technical genius. Yet, more important to me, was the love for astrology he so openly displayed. Like Charles Jayne, who left us not long ago, Gary too was a *living* astrologer. To know him was to know what loving astrology was all about, and he communicated this love to all who came to know him. He has carried on the lineage of Western technical astrology.

I, for one, will indeed miss Gary Duncan.

Michael Erlewine

Gary Duncan
Neil Llewellyn Bloch
August 6, 1931
1:13 AM PST
Fullerton, CA
117W56 33N53

[Gary died from a heart attack that had its onset between 8:00-8:30 AM [he lost all vital signs] on June 19, 1988 in St. Paul, MN. Paramedics managed to restore a pulse after much work, but Duncan died on the way to the hospital somewhere between 10:00-10:30 AM of that morning.]

Graphic Astrology on the Macintosh

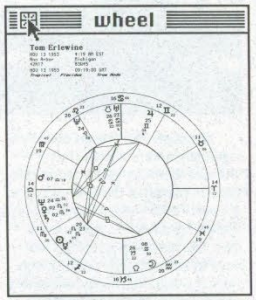
A professional chart system with Macintosh graphics power!

Here's an astrological program that really uses the Mac's graphic capabilities. *Graphic Astrology*, programmed and written by Dennis Haskell, offers an impressive selection of high resolution chart wheels and data printouts. This is a top quality chart package that Mac owners have wanted for a long time.

Graphic Astrology is also easy to use. It follows the Mac format so that learning the program is quick and intuitive. Features include:

- High resolution chart wheels with or without aspects drawn in
- Bi-wheels and composite charts
- Harmonic charts
- Unlimited chart storage
- 90°, 45°, and 30° modulus graphic ephemeris
- 360°, 90°, and 45° midpoint sorts
- On-disk ephemeris generator
- Transit searches for any year
- Comprehensive data page
- Nine house systems
- Tropical and sidereal zodiacs
- Heliocentric options
- Asteroids & Chiron
- Geographical data base of 500 cities, and ability to add your own
- Laser printer compatible
- Calculates charts in 11 seconds on MacPlus, 1 second on Mac II

Graphic Astrology is available now for Macs with 512K memory. Price: $200.



The chart wheel, report page, and graphic ephemeris at right are three of the many printout options in Graphic Astrology.

Hi-res News:

On-screen hi-res graphics update for *Blue★Star*

Blue★Star users will be pleased to know that the new *Natural Cycles* program isn't the only place to find our new hi-resolution screen graphics. The *Blue★Star Screen Graphics Update* will contain most of the wheel features you see displayed in the *Natural Cycles* program (as well as features exclusive to itself). Both color and monochrome will be supported. We'll announce developments in coming *Astro★Talks*.

Hi-res wheels and more for *Blue★StarLevel 2*

Blue★Star Level 2 is now a better bargain than ever: we've added new features to our $99.95 chart service package. Now you can print out hi-resolution chart wheels with Level 2.

With a 512K system, you can now produce five varieties of the high-resolution chart wheels that *Blue★Star* is famous for. You can even produce bi- and tri-wheels!

Other new features include search capabilities that produce transit-to-radix or progressed-to-natal hit lists for any time period from 600 BC through the year 2400. This is a substantial upgrade to a program that already offered real value to astrologers. If you already own a copy of Level 2, we have a special offer for you: a full upgrade to the new version for only $39.95 plus $5 for shipping and handling. Order your *Blue★Star Level 2* today!

Blue★Star Tip: Using "Auto-Jobs" saves you time

Kevin Fowler, Customer Service Manager

Blue★Star's "Auto-Jobs" feature remembers which calculations and printouts you use most often, so you don't need to type in these job lists each time you need them.

If you're not already using the Auto-Jobs feature on your *Blue★Star* system, you'll love the way it saves you time. Like most astrologers, you probably often select certain favorite techniques to be calculated and printed along with the natal chart. These lists of techniques are chosen again and again. With Auto-Jobs, you only have to specify this list once, and it will remember from then on. In fact, you can specify up to ten different Auto-Job lists like this and keep them on hand for quick recall. Here's how to do it:

- First, you need to choose the jobs you want to use. For this example, we'll do a standard natal calculation, then output a Printwheel along with a Bi-Wheel which combines the natal chart with a progression.
- Start by entering natal chart data using the Create A Chart menu to define the type of chart you want. Specify a Printwheel for output.

When this is done, press **Enter**, and you're ready to define the Printwheel specifications. Again, make the selections you'll want to use regularly, and press **Enter**.

The next screen to appear is the Select A Job menu. Here, you select "Progressed Chart" and press **Enter**. The next menu allows you to enter progression information. Make sure it is set to produce a Bi-Wheel, then press **Enter**.

- The Bi-Wheel Menu appears, letting you define the Bi-Wheel specifications. The next menu is the main *Blue★Star* control menu – use the cursor keys to highlight "Review Jobs", and press **Enter** to make sure the jobs were ordered properly. They should be in this sequence:
  Calculate
  Printwheel
  Progressed Chart
  Bi-Wheel.

  Are they okay? Good. Press **ESC** to return to the Main menu.
- Back at the Main Menu, use the light bar to highlight "Save Auto-Job", and press **Enter**. A list of Auto-Job keys will appear for you to choose from. They correspond to the function keys on your keyboard. Press the Function key that you wish to use for this Auto-Job. The screen will prompt you to enter a name for the job (up to 12 characters long).
- After naming the Auto-Job, press **Enter** and it's saved for future use! Back in the Control Menu, you can process the jobs, or create more Auto-Jobs the same way.
- **Now you can access your Auto-Jobs from the Create A Chart menu by selecting Alt-J to view and select them** (remember to enter any extra data needed needed for transits, progressions, etc.).

Creating "Auto-Jobs" with report writers is a little different...

With report writers, the Auto-Jobs feature makes it easy to offer special package deals. Suppose you'd like to offer your clients an *Astro★Talk* report, a *Transit Writer* forecast, and a *Life Progression* report. If you're producing several, Auto-Jobs is the convenient way to do it. Here's how:

- Start by entering a natal chart for calculation using the Create A Chart menu (as described for *Blue★Star* at left). When you get to the Select A Job menu, highlight *Astro★Talk* and press **Enter**. Make your selection from the options available and press **Enter** to move on to the Main Menu.
- At the Main Menu, select "Add Job" and press **Enter** to return to the Select A Job menu. Now you add the transit report and go on to choose from its options. Press **Enter** when done. Again, select "Add Job" to return to the Select A Job menu to choose your *Life Progression* report. When you've selected from *Life Progression's* options and are back to the Main Menu, a quick look at "Review Jobs" will show you that all three jobs are properly selected. Pressing **ESC** will return you to the Main Menu so that you can save this as an Auto-Job.
- Highlight "Save Auto-Job" in the Main menu, then press **Enter**. You'll now select the Function key you wish to use for this Auto-Job, and name the job (up to 12characters).

Now you're back to the Main menu. Process your Auto-Job, or set up as many as nine more!

- Use **Alt-J** to view and select these Auto-Jobs from now on. ■

What do 402 authors, 327 actors, and 1800 scientists all have in common? *(And how can you find out?)*

As this issue goes to press, *Matrix Compact Data* is nearing completion and will be shipping mid-July. This program has really grown in scope during its programming – features have been added which make it more exciting than even we expected. As those of you who placed orders for the program know, we've delayed its release date so that these improvements could be added. We're sure you'll agree it's been worth the wait! The response from those who've seen the pre-release versions has been tremendous. They love it! At $100 for the entire system (including the *Circle Book of Charts* data disk), *Compact Data* has to be one of the best software deals ever.

And we're offering a wide range of great data collections, too (listed below). Each disk contains up to 1,000 charts calculated and stored along with a variety of additional information (bit-packed to fit as much information as possible). Each disk is available in either 5 1/4" or 3 1/2" format. Price: $30 per disk.

DISK 1 ***The Circle Book of Charts***
Contains most of the *Circle Book of Charts*. One thousand charts (timed and untimed) of world personalities throughout history. This disk comes as part of the initial *Compact Data* package.

DISK 2 ***Circle Book of Charts & More***
More from the *Circle Book of Charts*, plus many other modern personalities – a total of 1,000 charts (timed and untimed).

DISK 3 ***1,000 CEO's***
Chief Executive Officers of the major US companies. This is untimed data, but it's a chance to check out the leaders of the 1,000 largest companies in the US.

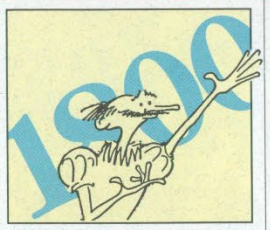
COMPACT DATA uses high-resolution screens to display information in a way that makes it easy to read.

DISK 4 **DISK 5** ***Marc Penfield Data Disk***
Marc Penfield, world recognized data collector, has made a new data collection, *Information Please: An Astrological Almanac of Birth Data* available to Matrix for inclusion in our *Compact Data* series. At this time, two parts of the series are available. *Part 1: Personalities* (timed and untimed) consists of disks Four, Five, and Six. Disk Seven is *Part 2: Mundane Data*. The price of each disk is $30.

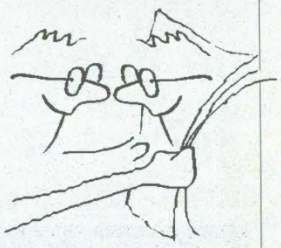
DISK 6 **DISK 7**

Also in preparation:

MATRIX COMPACT DATA
PERSONALITY DATABASE



New! Astro★Talk Report Writer



Also in preparation:

DISK 8 **DISK 9** ***1800 Scientists***
A data collection put together by Christopher of the *Alpha-Omega Alliance*. A painstaking researcher, Christopher has put together a wonderful collection of scientists' birthdates.

DISK 10 **DISK 11** ***Nolle Timed Data***
Richard Nolle has created a great set of timed birth data. Disk 10 contains 207 US and international political figures, 372 actors and actresses, 16 psychologists, 183 writers, and 110 scientists. A total of 888 timed charts. Disk 11 holds 162 business executives, 54 religious leaders, 190 musicians, singers, and composers, 18 TV personalities, and 445 atheletes. A total of 869 timed charts.

DISK 12 ***AFA Data Disk***
A special disk of charts from the *Data Exchange* column of the *American Federation of Astrologers Bulletin*. Available to us through a special agreement with the AFA, *Matrix Compact Data* users can now access this very select data collection.

You can enter data into *Matrix Compact Data* and make money!

If you have a database, or would like to enter information into our *Compact Data* database, we'll pay a good royalty for your work. We want to make *Compact Data* as comprehensive as possible! Please write us to make arrangements.

Now it's possible to tailor a report exactly to fit your customer's interests. Our new *Astro★Talk Report Writer* offers ten different chapters – ten different viewpoints on anyone's natal chart. Select just the ones you need, or choose them all and print out forty or more pages of excellent natal interpretation.

Your printouts can even include a section explaining astrological terms that presents the ideas associated with each planet and aspect.

An all-new writing style has been used in the *Astro★Talk Report Writer*. These reports read more naturally than any we've ever offered because the program doesn't limit the size of paragraphs. The text expresses each idea fully using whatever space is needed. The result is a 90,000 word text database that produces the finest reports available. *Welcome To Planet Earth* Editor Mark Lerner calls our *Astro★Talk Report Writer* **"An extraordinary breakthrough! Finally, a report that combines transiting factors along with natal – the most comprehensive report I've ever seen."**

The *Astro★Talk Report Writer* is available now for the IBM-PC, clones, and compatibles with 256K and two disk drives (or hard disk). Let us give you all the details. Call or write today for free information on the report writer that's setting the new standard in the field.

1(800)PLANETS

Now you can create customized reports that fit your clients *exactly!*

"Astro★Talk Report Writer generates the fullest and most detailed natal chart interpretation that can be produced on any personal computer system today, and it produces the most attractively formatted output you can get."

– Richard Nolle
(*Star*Tech* Editor and Reviewer for *Dell Horoscope Magazine*)

AstroTalk

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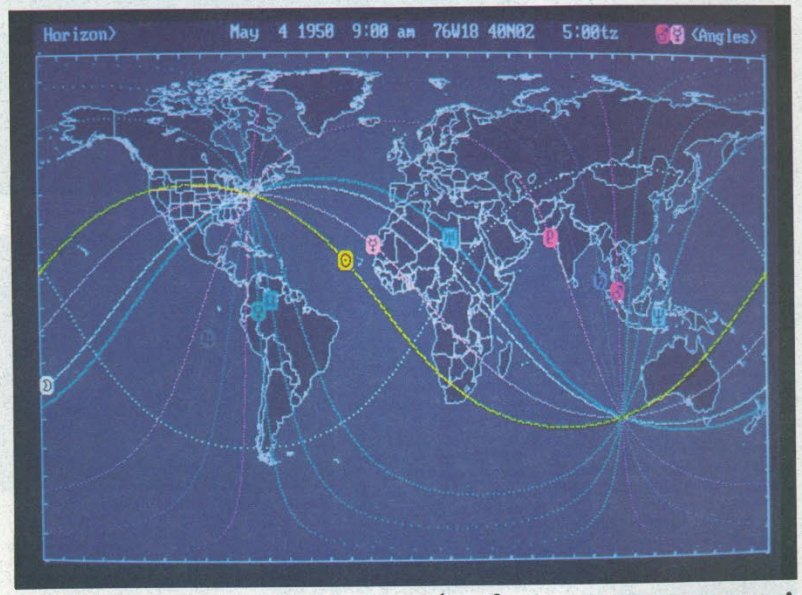


Inside: Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy® for your computer!

AstroMap HIRES

Matrix Software

The Astro⋆Talk Bulletin is published quarterly by Matrix Software, Inc., 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI, 49307. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in the US & Canada. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 (via seamail). ISBN 0740-6738 © 1988, Matrix Software.

3 New Programs! Now: maps like Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy®!

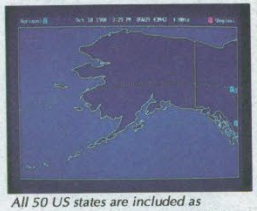
AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group — Volume Five, Number Two • Oct '88

AstroMap® Hi-Res explores Jim Lewis's Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy®, Local Space, and other relocation techniques with hi-res screens and instant printouts.

Relocation is a fascinating branch of astrology. In recent years, its popularity has grown to the point that it's now used, in one form or another, by most professional astrologers. Relocating chart angles for example, has become a standard practice. However, professionals using computers have anxiously waited for hi-resolution maps for the ultimate in relocation analysis. With *AstroMap Hi-Res* that wish is now a reality. The program features both geographic maps and star maps right on your computer's screen.

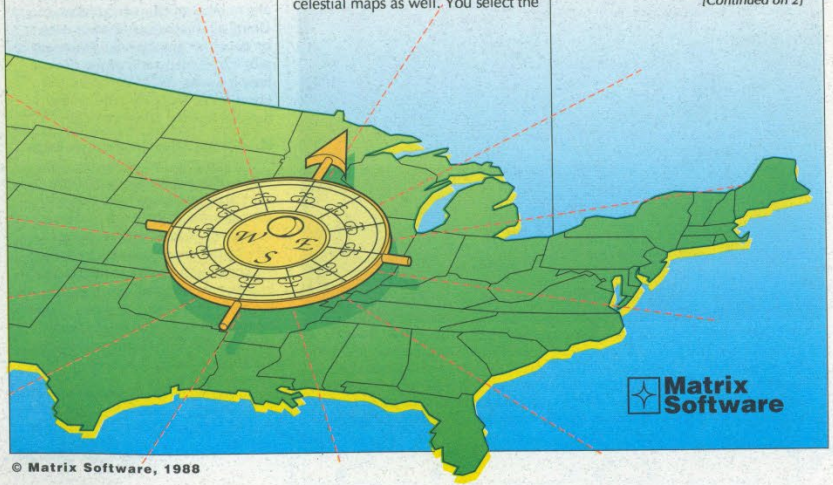
For the first time, here's a single program with all the major relocation techniques in glorious hi-res graphics and (if you have it) full color. The program includes a wide variety of world, country, and state maps, with a full range of all-sky celestial maps as well. You select the degree of detail you need. All maps can be viewed on-screen or sent to the printer for hard copy at the touch of a button.



All 50 US states are included as separate maps. Shown above: Alaska.

AstroMap Hi-Res is both beautiful and easy to use. Its pull-down menus (which don't disturb the screen graphics) offer you a tremendous choice of techniques.

[Continued on 2]



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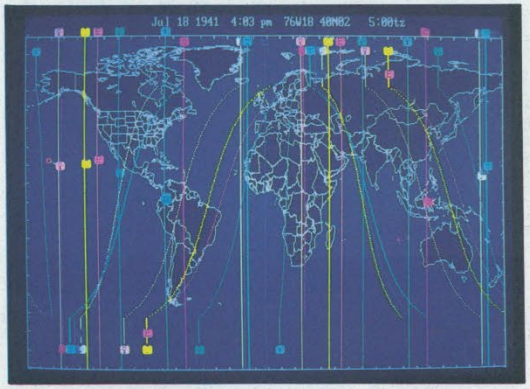
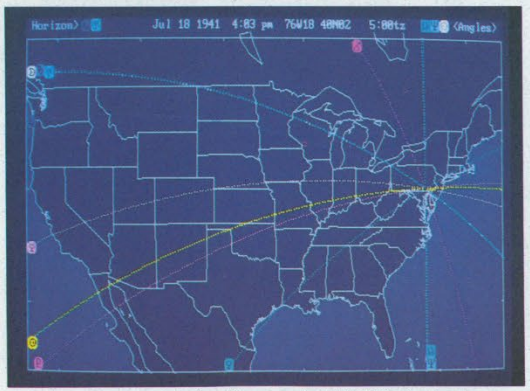
AstroMap HIRES

- ✓ Relocated Angles
- ✓ Local Space
- ✓ Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy®
- ✓ Sky Maps
- ✓ Astrophysical Directions



Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy Style Maps: *Through the cooperation of Jim Lewis.*



Local Space Map: *Here is the Local Space map for Michael Erlewine, born in Lancaster, PA. Of the two major relocations he has had, the first (to Ann Arbor, MI) was along his Jupiter line. It was here that he found his vocation as an astrologer. The second was to Big Rapids, MI where he now lives. This is along his Uranus line (computers, astrology, etc.), and also brings that planet to contact the horizon within less than a degree. (Ann Arbor and Big Rapids are marked with red dots.)*

Relocated Angles

Of course the standard methods of relocating chart angles are a built-in feature, and relocated charts can be displayed in self-aspecting, hi-res wheels.

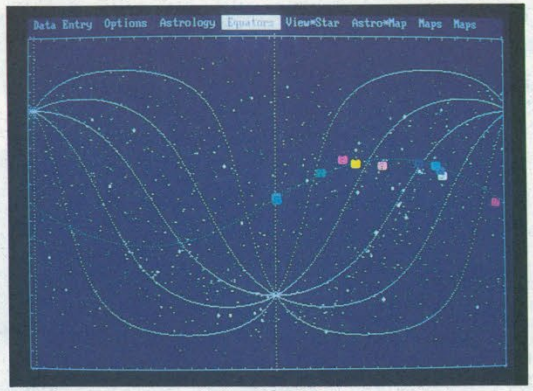
Local Space

Local Space plots the natal chart on geographic maps. These techniques, developed by Matrix founder Michael Erlewine in the early 70's are now carried by most major chart services (including Astro-Computing Services and Astrolabe). Local Space is also featured in a new book by Steve Cozzi, *Planets In Locality. [From Llewellyn – $13.00.]*

This method of plotting both house and planet lines is fascinating. It's similar to walking outside at the time of your birth, pointing to any planet in the sky, and asking what cities are in a line with it. For example, you may have a Venus line that starts at your birthplace, extends out from there, and passes through any number of cities and places. Doing all this in your head or even on paper isn't much help. However, plot it on a map and anyone can see how it works. *AstroMap* offers full Local Space mapping both on the horizon and the prime vertical.

Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy style maps

Originated by E.H. Bailey, Cyril Fagan, Donald Bradley, and Gary Duncan, these maps have become famous through the work of Jim Lewis. His *Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy* service has developed this technique into one that's known to the readers of every major astrology magazine; it's really in demand. It allows you to experiment both with Midheaven/IC contacts and with bodily contacts to the horizon (rising & setting).



All-Sky Map: *Shown above is a plot of the complete Campanus system of houses (not just the cusps) – one of many options available using the program's All-Sky map.*
Hi-Res Printouts: *Reproduced below is a sample of the sharp printouts delivered by AstroMap Hi-Res. In this case, a "hard copy" output of the state of Alaska.*

All-Sky Maps

As far as we know, this technique was first developed by Michael Erlewine. Originally offered as a service (hand drawn maps), it was later published in the 1970's in his book *Astrophysical Directions*. Just as the natal chart can be drawn out on a map of the Earth, its reflection in the heavens is also meaningful. Aside from birth chart plots, this section of the program also provides major coordinate systems such as the Galactic, Supergalactic, and Local System for instant plotting.

3-D House Systems

A variety of spatial-oriented house systems such as Campanus, Regiomontanus, Alcabitius, Porphyry and others can be plotted. This is the first time that entire house systems – not just house cusps – have been made available to astrologers. Most of you are aware that planets with great latitude (Mercury, Pluto) may actually be in a house adjacent to the one indicated on a simple house-cusp wheel. This option lets you see whether a planet is, in fact, in a house by looking (rather than guessing) at its latitude.

System Requirements. *AstroMap Hi-Res runs on IBM-style computers with 512K, 2 drives, and Hercules, EGA or VGA graphics. A hard disk is* ***not*** *required. It won't run on the older CGA style graphics. It runs best on an AT style machine or better, and of course EGA/VGA color is more effective than the Hercules graphics. A version is available for systems with a math co-processor.*

Astrophysical Directions

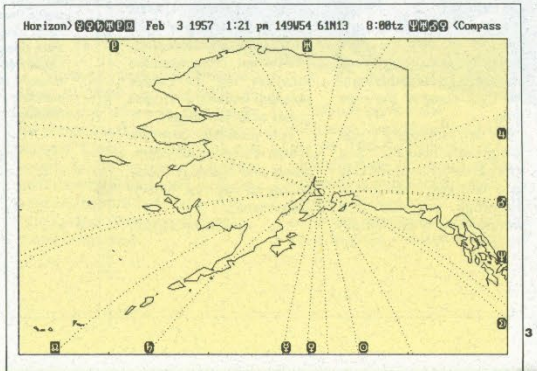
We've included the complete database of Michael Erlewine's *Astrophysical Directions* (published in 1977). This is the acknowledged sourcebook on cosmic structure and all deep space points (black holes, quasars, etc.). Over 2300 items are included with positions and detailed comments: the named stars, over 80 constellations, 747 fixed stars, and much more. The graphic display makes learning astronomy easy. Display single or multiple constellations on Earth/sky maps, and step though each star in a given constellation. Where are the supernovae in your chart? One button graphs them all against your planets and houses.

Map Selection

You get a variety of hi-res maps including the World, North America, United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, Africa, Europe, USSR, Asia, Greenland, and the Mid-East. Individual maps for all 50 states are included for close-up shots.

There are too many options and features to list in detail here. A few examples: geocentric, heliocentric, equatorial, and local space horizon and prime vertical charts can be plotted in chart wheel format. A variety of celestial mapping techniques are also built in – including polar maps, various spherical systems, equators, and more.

AstroMap Hi-Res will be ready in November. Price: **$225.** (If you order by Christmas, just **$200**!) ■



Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy® is a registered service mark of Astro⋆Carto⋆Graphy. It may not be used without permission.

Wayne Moody is our new staff writer

I arrived in Michigan by plane on the morning of July 29th. As we circled to land, I was greeted with both the sun and the moon on opposite horizons. I had witnessed a full moon the morning before, but never from 12,000 feet! It was a breathtaking view from the air.

Along with the beauty of the scene, I was moved by a tremendous inner excitement – this Aquarius full moon was conjunct my own natal moon. More importantly, it was cemented to my career issues and in only a few hours I would begin my new career as the Matrix staff writer.

I arrived in the midst of a whirlwind of activity. The Cycles Conference was getting underway, and Matrix and its Heart Center were filling up with astrologers and others who were also arriving under the Aquarian full moon.

Measured by the signs and portents in sky, the right elements (astrologers and computers) were gathering at the right place at the right time.

As an astrologer, I was loving every minute of it. Just a month earlier I was working in a law firm 9 to 5. My astrology practice and writing were strictly on the side. Now, in the twinkling of a star I'm writing full time and directing public affairs here at Matrix.

Naturally, my first assignment was to write about the conference. It also fell to me to write this announcement on my own arrival!

■ ***Let me introduce myself:***

I've been a contributing writer for *Welcome To Planet Earth* going on five years. I first met Michael Erlewine at the AFA Convention in Chicago, July, 1984 while taking part in an ACT panel with Barry Lynes. In the years since, Michael and I have read each other's works and occasionally exchanged mail.

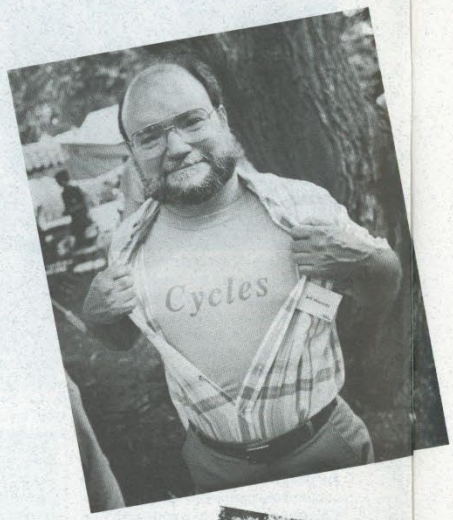
From summer 1984 on, the Heart Center has been marked on my map of Michigan. This isn't a coincidence, because natally Matrix lies under my Uranus midheaven line. I've been aware of this signature since 1984 when I recognized the location for its career potential: working with computers as an astrologer.

Four years later, here I am at Matrix working with computers and astrology – and taking on my first writing assignment...

– Wayne Moody

1988 Cycles Conference

by Wayne Moody



Above: *Dr. Jeffrey Horovitz becomes "Dr. Cycles."* ***Right:*** *Not all the action took place under the "big top:" smaller focus groups tackled specific subjects. Here, speaker Bill Meridian leads one of these groups.* ***Opposite:*** *The scheduled speakers started things off... audience participation followed.*

The first ***Matrix Cycles Conference*** matched the symbolism of the Aquarian full moon under which it began. It was an unprecedented event involving astrology, rhythmic cycles, and computer technology: all three are aquarian concepts.

What first impressed me about Matrix were the grounds. The glow of a brilliant morning sun revealed well-groomed lawns whose greens were occasionally broken by the reds and yellows of bordering flowers. All of this was kept cool by the curtain-like branches of two enormous willow trees. The grounds had a holiday look.

Two large open-air tents, filled with lawn chairs and picnic tables, were wired for sound. Music from outdoor speakers completed the effect. Over the next 72 hours, everything from Jazz to Mozart drifted through our conversations.

As it turned out, about 80 other people arriving at Matrix that day and evening were made to feel as I did: welcome. In fact, we felt so welcome that quite a few of us stayed beyond the weekend. And of course I'm still here!

But a great deal more than a good time was had. This was really a first: seventeen specialists in the area of cycles research were assembled in one place for dialogue and sharing. The first Matrix Cycles Conference was underway.

The Cycles Conference was designed to be different: instead of monologue, there was dialogue. Those attending sat together with the speakers in a totally relaxed atmosphere. Wandering from group to group taking notes, I witnessed first-hand the free exchange of ideas. Once again, the aquarian signs were unmistakable.

What organized structure there was remained centered on the issues that brought the group together: applying natural cycles research. **And of course, the big question was: What does the stock market's future look like?**

The speakers (and others) addressing this question included Wall Street traders and others whose involvement with cycles is more practical than philosophical. Dr. Jeffrey Horovitz shared more than his research when he spoke: he and the others brought sensitivity and a sense of humor to these discussions of possible financial chaos.

Dr. Horovitz is the executive director of the *Foundation for the Study of Cycles* (an international, not-for-profit research & educational institute incorporated in 1941 by Edward R. Dewey).

Horovitz introduced himself as a closet astrologer who tries not to use *"the A word."* However, underneath the doctor's shirt was a tee-shirt that shouted "Cycles" – revealing his true nature. By yanking open the buttons on his shirt, mild-mannered Jeffrey Horovitz became none other than "Dr. Cycles!" This brought a great round of applause.

Unlike "Dr. Cycles," other speakers had their professional reputations publicly connected to their use of astrology. Perhaps the best known was Arch Crawford – a Wall Street Trader with a remarkable record of published predictions.

When Arch and the group arrived at almost unanimous agreement that the world was headed for a massive inflationary depression, the dialogue led to advice on hanging on to what you've got. Strategies ranged from moving wealth into 90-day treasury bills to bags of silver buried in the backyard ($6,000 worth for every four family members).

At one point in the discussion, Arch Crawford pointed out that if 90-day treasury bills (still considered the rock on which the government stands) failed, then people will need to "fall back on dry foods and automatic weapons." This drew laughter, and took the edge off

[Continued from 5]

1988 Cycles Conference

the seriousness of the topic. Arch wasn't finished there. He went on to say, "There's one thing behind that [dry foods and automatic weapons]: the Bible says to store up for yourself treasures in heaven, where rust does not corrupt, nor thieves break through, nor steal."

The subject of surviving a total worldwide economic collapse was handled with great sensitivity. Arch later pointed out that, "Morally and spiritually, at the top of a market people are pretty weird, and as we go into the depression there will be a return to some kind of moralistic thinking. People may turn back and learn to love each other a little bit, so it's not all bad!"

The major trend periods agreed upon by the panelists were March-April 1989 and November 13, 1989. The very credible Foundation for Cycles Research supported these dates with their own independent work. Jeffrey Horovitz presented the conclusions of the Foundation, reporting verification of a 40.68-month cycle in the stock market.

This cycle had been thoroughly tested by Foundation researchers, and met their strict minimum standard of ten repetitions. The cycle had forecasted June, 1987 as a stock market peak period. The actual peak (forecasted by Arch Crawford) was August 24, 1987. The difference was insignificant: both the astrologers and the Foundation predicted what's expected to be the top of the stock market for the rest of the century.

This cycle also agrees with the March/April period chosen by astrologers for a significant trend change. During March 1989, it shows a low point (a trend change) after which the cycle climbs up to the critical November 13, 1989 date.

Astrologically, this date recalls an important anniversary: on November 13, 1929, the market took its first leg down into the Depression. Next year, the same date marks a major astrological event: Jupiter (at 10° Cancer 27') opposes a Saturn/Uranus conjunction (at 10° Capricorn 22'). Cycles researcher and astrologer Neil Michelsen summed it up:

"I think that these factors – which are only partly astronomical – confirm to a large extent what the astrologer-oriented economists have been saying all along."

The speakers rounded out their bearish impressions of the market with positive insights whenever possible. Their collected quotes summarize some excellent decision-making tools:

"The smart strategic position is to have the bulk of your money in cash, so you can be flexible."
– Norman Winski

"What is money? Money down the road might be something different than what we have today. So you have to be very flexible and quick to act if you see something about to come about."
– Norman Winski

"Best time of all to have money is in a major depression… Go back and talk to your parents, or grandparents, or people who lived through the Depression. Its amazing. They'll all tell you we had no money – *nobody* had any. And the people who *did* have money, these are the people who now have big fortunes – by and large because they were able to pick up things literally by signing their names."
– Mason Sexton

"One of the characteristics of a depressionary time is that the market finds the way to hurt the greatest number of people in the shortest period of time. And that would be in the real estate market and also in the junk bond market."
– Larry Pesavento

"Anybody holding junk bonds should not be in the high yield, or junk bonds market. That market is in serious trouble. My trigger will be the Japanese stock market. Once the Japanese stock market crashes, they will not be able to buy the float of our U.S. treasury bonds and when that happens, rates here are going to go through the roof and everything is going to come to a quick halt."
– Larry Pesavento

"If you accept the premise that we're in a major deflation (which I think most of the panelists agree), consider that tangibles are going to deflate at relatively different rates than they inflated. In other words, real estate inflated nationwide at 15%, gold inflated at maybe 3%, Standard & Poors at 6%. But if we're going into the kind of deflationary crash that we're talking about, there's only one thing you need to do and that is maintain the value of what you have now… Just get your money converted to cash, or cash equivalents. It could be 3-5 year treasury notes, gold coins… anything as long as it can be converted to cash quickly. The more liquid, the higher the discount when people need money quickly. Real estate is going to hit a period when it's in free-fall as we get into the more chaotic financial conditions."
– Mason Sexton

Conference speakers (from left to right): Mr. & Mrs. Greg Meadors, Michael Munkasey, Pat Esclavon-Hardy, Norman Winski, William Eng (in back), Dr. Jeffrey Horovitz, Mason Sexton, John VanZandt, Arch Crawford, Larry Pesavento, Carol Mull, Jim Twentyman (in back), Neil Michelsen, John Townley, Gil Herrera, Michael Erlewine

"About the only correction I'd make to what anybody said is, I think we're in a down-moving market for the rest of this century and most of you people will lose a lot of money for two reasons. First, you're all heavily involved in real estate and I think the crash in real estate is going to be greater than the crash in the stock market – just like 1929. Second, the Japanese market has peaked. Look for it to drop in the next two weeks."
– Larry Pesavento

"Everyone who has a family [should consider the following] for each family member: a family of four should have one bag of silver coins, 1964 and under. Basically, what they are is ninety percent little pieces of bullion, of quarters, dimes and halves and they'll always be worth more than the value of money because of Greshem's Law: if the [paper] money runs out, good money will stay there in the form of gold and silver. And you can always take that in to trade for bread or medicine, gasoline – whatever it happens to be. It's not going to decrease in value by very much and if inflation does come, it will increase. It's a very small insurance policy that I recommend everybody use. A bag costs about $5 - 6,000. It's not something you can carry around with you. You bury it in your backyard, or keep it in a safe deposit box."
– Larry Pesavento

"A little technical thing that could save you a lot of money: If you put these assets in a safety deposit box with a bank, make sure that the safety deposit boxes are a separate corporation from the bank. Because if the bank closes down, they can keep you from getting to your lockbox."
– Norman Winski

"I do strongly recommend numismatics and gemstones, as well as cash… Make a percentage of your portfolio cash. Make sure your debts are paid off. Try to get rid of those Mastercards and VISAs and all those things we like to spend on vacations. Try to get those paid off as soon as possible, or at least get them paid down to where they're not going to be stressful should something come up that we don't expect. If you can, get gold bars in order to trade – just a comfort to have should you need to use them."
– Pat Esclavon-Hardy

Cycles

[Continued from 7]

The 1988 Cycles Conference

"Most of you can protect yourselves by being as liquid as possible and not owing a lot of money on your homes. You can learn to use option strategies to sell short and take advantage of down moves in the market, because most of the market will be down. You should also look at buying certain commodities like soybeans and corn because there is a drought situation and it's going to continue for the next 2 or 3 years until Mars moves farther away. I think it's [Mars] coming to perihelion – the closest it's been in 46 years. That's why we're having a drought along with the sunspot cycles. So, if you would learn a little bit about these things, it will enable you to profit from them and just because there's a depression doesn't mean everybody's suffering. If 12-15% unemployment occurs because people are overextended (and you're not one of these people) you'll live a very good life."

– Larry Pesavento

■ ***Political topics were discussed:***

"Now if you look back, you'll notice two very important things happened in August of '87. Number one [Federal Reserve Chairman] Paul Volcker left the Federal Reserve. Secondly, the battle for the Supreme Court reached terminal proportions – becoming very bitter in the public press. The market crashed right after that. So I think that market crash had a lot to do with the political destruction that was going on and the battle for control of this country which is still raging today."

– Arch Crawford

"Greenspan has a minor connection to the Federal Reserve. You almost wonder why he's there."

– Carol Mull

"Another thing from the 1929 scenario was that banks were leaving the Federal Reserve System and becoming state-chartered in great numbers. The historians always say that the Federal Reserve made a mistake and clamped down on credit at that time. They didn't make any mistake; they went after all those banks that were leaving their control and when the whole thing fell apart they saved their buddies and let these other banks that had left the system go under. It was a bitter struggle for control of the country. We're in that struggle again today with these different political groups, and we're going to see that scenario repeated."

– Arch Crawford

"In other words, right after the inauguration, it will be revealed to the country that the Savings and Loan situation is really in desperate straits... One of the keys is going to be when Congress is presented with a bill to bail out these ailing thrifts, of which there are approximately 500 currently, for something in the neighborhood of $60-80 billion dollars. Now this is going to occur at a time when we have a new president, a somewhat new Congress and, I believe, an economy that is clearly going into recession at that point."

– Mason Sexton

"I do believe there will be a new currency. The last time we had a major manipulation in the currency was in '33 with five planets in Aquarius and I believe that we are going to get another one in the 90's when five planets [again] are in Aquarius."

– Bill Meridian

"The inflationary cycle started when Neptune entered Sagittarius, and ended with Saturn square Neptune: the Hunts' failure to corner the silver market around the first half of 1980. [This was] followed by Neptune entering Capricorn and clearly relates to the velocity [availability] of money. Velocity is coming down, down, down ever since. This is the reason why the Federal Reserve can push credit into the system, but it doesn't manifest as increases in the CPI, because they're forcing it into the system but they can't make the people spend the money. The Federal Reserve will get to the point where, if there's any panic or general fright, the velocity of money will drop like a rock and no matter how much credit they push into the system, people will not respond."

– Bill Meridian

An Astro•Talk exclusive? See "Matrix Pioneer Awards" at right.

Nearly two months after these Cycles Conference forecasts, it is instructive to look at recent news:

On September 16, 1988: *"The General Accounting Office said for the first time that the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. cannot clean up all insolvent thrifts without help." –Wall Street Journal*

This announcement came after more than $12 billion in financial aid was extended to insolvent thrifts during a 3-week period beginning mid-August 1988. In mid-September, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board submitted – and then quickly withdrew – a request that Congress put a government guarantee (full faith and credit) behind these billions in notes. Congress is opposed to issuing "a gold credit card" to the FSLIC. Without this guarantee, the FSLIC has been hampered in efforts to attract strong companies to take over failing thrifts. The American Institute of CPA's has recently raised questions as to whether the FSLIC will have the financial resources to meet its obligations.

Congress has been given a clear signal to act now. To wait until after the election appears to invite the worst-case scenario.

So far, the most concise forecast has been Norman Winski's. Norman, recent winner of the *Matrix Pioneer Award,* made these comments in July:

"If you read the book *'Secrets of the Federal Reserve,'* and learn who the power players are – one of the players mentioned is a brokerage firm called Dillion Reed. Old, old money. Currently, the vice-chairman of Dillion Reed is a fellow by the name of Nicholas Brady. Mr. Brady has decided that when Mr. Baker leaves his post as Secretary of the Treasury he would like to hold that office. I'm going to put my money on that Nicholas Brady is going to be our next Secretary of the Treasury."

On September 13, 1988, the Senate Finance Committee gave quick and unanimous approval to the nomination of investment banker Nicholas Brady to become President Reagan's third Treasury Secretary.

[Editor's Note: Nicholas Brady's birth date: April 11, 1930, NYC. Thanks to Carol Mull for this data.]

After approval in the Senate, Brady was sworn in Friday, September 16 as the new Treasury Secretary. The following Wednesday, Brady *"ordered a study to determine whether federal regulators are underestimating the cost of cleaning up the nation's 500 insolvent savings institutions... Private industry analysts have said the cost could go as high as $100 billion... The results of the study will be used in considering administration policy toward the problem, officials said. The results are not expected until near the end of the year at the earliest."*

Chicago Tribune, Sept. 22: *"Speaking out on the issue, Wisconsin Democrat William Proxmire revealed that 'The cost of the S&L bailout will top the combined cost of all previous federal bailouts in history.' "* This includes the aid package to New York and Chrysler.

So the predictions are already starting to prove true – we'll keep watching the news. Thanks are due Norman and all the other Cycles Conference panelists who gave their time and shared their insight so that the rest of us can be better informed. ■

Matrix Pioneer Awards presented at 1988 Cycles Conference

At the Cycles Conference, three individuals received *Matrix Pioneer Awards* for their efforts in substantially increasing public understanding and acceptance of astrology.

The first was Lieutenant Commander David Williams – honored for his outstanding contributions in financial astrology and cycles research. For health reasons, Lt. Commander Williams couldn't be present at the conference. But feelings for him are so strong that a special group phone call was made. Shortly after the announcement of his award, all those in attendance who knew him well gathered to make the call. Lt. Commander Williams was happy to hear from his students and friends.

The other two recipients were panelists at the Cycles Conference. Norman Winski was recognized for his outstanding networking contributions in the establishment of the *Astro-Cyclical Exchange (ACE).* Some comedy was introduced as Mr. Winski was presented with his award. Just as Norman stood up to speak, fellow panelist Dr. Jeffery Horovitz (known for his great sense of timing) held up a phony newspaper with the headline, "SEC LINKS BOESKY & LEVINE TO NORMAN WINSKI". Nonplused Norman's response: "That's what happens when you have Neptune in your tenth house. Success and scandal all at the same time!"

The third recipient, Arch Crawford, was commended for his courage in openly applying his astrological techniques on Wall Street. Arch's award was given for contributions in gaining acceptance for astrology within the financial community. His amazing forecasting record, newsletters, and interviews provide hard evidence to skeptical observers. ■

New Blue★Star editions of *The American Atlas* and *The International Atlas*

The American Atlas and *The International Atlas – Blue★Star* users have asked for these indispensable reference works in computer-readable form. Thanks to a special arrangement with Neil Michelsen of Astro Computing Services, we have the incredible work of ACS researcher Thomas Shanks on-line and ready for instant access. This is the first time that this material has been made available on home computers!

■ ***The International Atlas*** *(Second Edition)* Have you had enough of trying to figure out all those weird time zones and changes for countries you've never even heard of? Here's the solution: the longitudes and latitudes of over 100,000 birthplaces complete with their time changes and zones from 1850 to 2000 for every country in the world.

■ ***The American Atlas*** *(Revised)* 100,000 U.S. city longitudes, latitudes, time changes and zones from 1883 to 2000 on-line. Here is the complete clock-setting history of just about every incorporated or unincorporated city, town, village, neighborhood, airport and military base in the United States. You can forget about the time zone books and zone tables and have whatever you need right at your fingertips from now on.

Matrix has reworked the database and offers it in several distinct forms, depending on your particular hardware requirements:

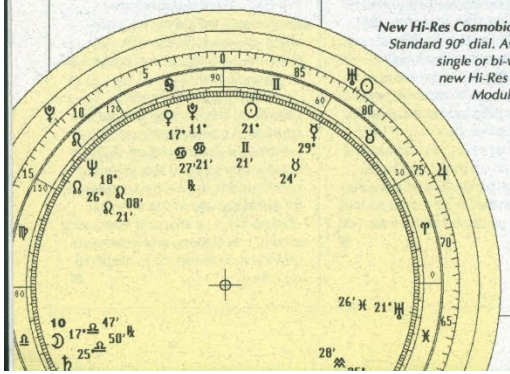
■ **Hard Disk.** Purchase one or both atlases for permanent installation on your hard disk. One purchase provides a lifetime of accurate effort-free service.

■ **Hard Disk with limited space.** If you don't have room for the complete atlas installation, install the core data and access individual countries via floppies as needed. Place the core data on your hard drive, but leave the countries on floppies.

■ **Two Floppy Disks.** If you have two floppies, you can store the core data on one drive and access the individual country disks on the other.

When purchased as a complete set, *The American Atlas & The International Atlas* are priced at $295. The two volumes are also available individually. Choose either *The International Atlas* or *The American Atlas* for $195. If you are interested in purchasing this data for an individual country alone, please contact us.

We're right on schedule with this data and are now taking orders for shipment January 1, 1989. ■



New Hi-Res Cosmobiology Wheel Standard 90° dial. Available as a single or bi-wheel in our new Hi-Res Print Wheel Module. *[Page 12]*

Edith Custer is back!

You can't keep a good editor down… or retired! After perhaps the shortest retirement on record, Edith Custer has returned as managing editor of *The Mercury Hour.* Welcome back Edie!

The Mercury Hour's unusual format of readers' forum has long been appreciated by the astrological community. The *Mercury Hour* needs your support now – subscription rates are: $27/US and Canada, $35/overseas. Write to:

The Mercury Hour
c/o Edith Custer
3509 Waterlick Road #C-7
Lynchburg, VA 24502

New: Advanced Research Module (ARM)

There's no doubt that Matrix Compact Data is the command center for astrological research within the Matrix system. It makes it easy to enter and store data, and results are tabulated and graphed for clear screen viewing or printouts. Software reviewers throughout the astrological world – Richard Nolle, Hank Friedman, Mark Lerner, and Charles Harvey – have told us that Compact Data is an incredible tool. It includes the most asked-for astrological search parameters. Its browsing feature alone is worth the price of admission. But now there's more…

Our new *Advanced Research Module* complements *Compact Data* to extend its power and provide astrologers with an even more comprehensive research tool. The *Advanced Research Module (ARM)* was designed for Matrix by expert astro-researchers Alphee Lavoie and William Weber.

ARM is perhaps the most powerful tool for advanced astrological research ever offered to the general public. It runs on any standard IBM-style computer with two floppies or hard disk and even runs in 256K of RAM.

ARM picks up where Compact Data leaves off. It searches for, finds and tallies up an even more extensive array of astrological factors. More importantly, *ARM* can handle two entire sets of data at once, processing each item on List One with its equal on List Two, and totaling the results. Use any two files (husbands and wives, natal charts and progressed charts – you name it). Whenever you want to compare one set of charts with another, the Matrix *ARM* can handle the job.

ARM is our industrial-strength research tool. While it doesn't have the hi-res graphics of *Compact Data,* don't be fooled by its plain screen menus. *ARM* means business. It's built for speed and power. There isn't room here to list all of the features in *ARM* (much less to describe the ways you can combine them) but here's a rough outline of some of its options:

■ **Natal charts** include the Moon and planets, the four major asteroids, transneptunians, houses, and major Arabian parts (all in geo/helio, tropical or sidereal).

■ **Progressions & directions** of all kinds – secondary, tertiary, minor, solar arc, Naibod, degree/year and more. These can be done either in the zodiac or on the equator (right ascension). Also, there are nine house systems, solar and lunar returns (precession corrections), composite & Davison charts.

■ **Searches** can be done on any of the above plus a great many other items, including:

■ **Aspects** between two (or all) planets, degree of the zodiac, harmonics, strong & weak signs, quadrants, tally planets in signs, duads & decanates, lunar phases, elements, qualities, midpoint structure, planet rising before sun, signs on house cusps, aspects to a point, planet sign positions, house rulerships, sign placements of house rulers, aspects to house rulers, mutual reception, parallel & contra-parallel, retrograde, intercepted planets, house rulers retrograde, rulers intercepted, planets in containment, house cusps sharing signs,

[Continued…]

Alphee Lavoie

Alphee is a professional astrologer, counselor, teacher, lecturer, and researcher with 22 years of experience. He is also the founder of Connecticut's *Astrological Institute of Research* and is recognized as an expert in horary astrology. He has his own radio show and has appeared on all the major television networks.

sign & house stellia, borderline sign placements, houses, highest and lowest planet, midpoints, hemisphere emphasis, solstice points, planetary pictures, chart types, aspect patterns, and Gauquelin sectors. And there's much more.

ARM really shines at counting up various items and printing out results. It even provides Chi-square calculations to test for significance.

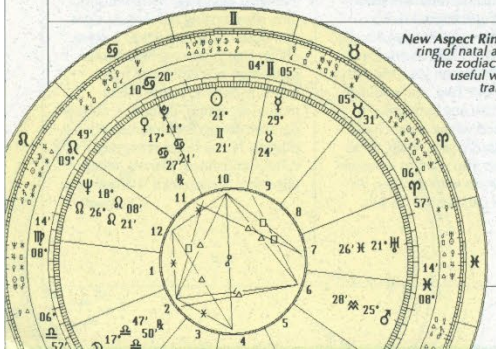
ARM not only reads and writes its own data but also reads chart files from *Blue★Star*, *Compact Data*, and ASCII. With *ARM* you can move files back and forth between various astrological chart file systems. For example, move large research projects into *ARM* and let it rip. Graph the results or move charts back from *ARM* into *Blue★Star* and *Compact Data*.

Imagine zipping through 1000 charts looking for eight moon phases in less than 2 1/2 minutes! Or check the horoscopes for all the countries in the world against the chart of an upcoming eclipse, isolate any contacts, and tally the results. This kind of task is just right for *ARM*. It really does the job.

The *Advanced Research Module* is available now for IBM-style computers with at least 256K of RAM, two floppies or hard disk, and monochrome monitor. Price: **$249.95.** ■

M91 Ephemeris Update for Commodore and Apple

Our M91 Transit Report is approaching its second decade, which means that it's time for Commodore and Apple owners to update their systems to cover the period 1990-2000. The current M91 version on these machines produces reports for the period 1980-1990. IBM owners already have a version that covers the period 1980 - 2010, so this applies only to Commodore and Apple machines. These updates are being completed right now, so give us a call. The update charge will be nominal, depending on how many disks are required. ■



New Aspect Ring Wheel. *This ring of natal aspects around the zodiac is particularly useful when watching transiting planets pass through the signs.*

New hi-res print wheels for Blue★Star

Blue★Star 512K and *Blue★Star 2.1* users: you'll want to get a copy of the new and improved hi-res print wheels . These new printouts include enhancements such as larger, easier-to-read glyphs and many other features you've asked for. Also included in this upgrade is a larger selection of wheel styles including some never offered before. They include:

- Standard house wheel
- Unequal house wheel
- 90° cosmobiology wheel
- 360° wheel
- Aries wheel
- Ascendant wheel
- Local Space wheel
- Aspect ring wheel *[below, left]*

A series of new aspect grids (that accommodate asteroids or transneptunians) with applying/separating orbs, parallels, contraparallels, etc. are also included. Other improvements include your choice of which Pluto glyph to use in your charts, plus the ability to have the degrees and minutes for planets read either from the planet glyph inward toward the center of the wheel or vice versa (depending upon its wheel position).

These new wheels are the result of a survey of what *Blue★Star* users wanted to see in a hi-res wheel package. There is no question that the upgrade amounts to a major improvement for *Blue★Star* users with Epson-style printers (IBM proprinters, etc.).

The price for the upgrade is $75. It's scheduled for release in November. Registered *Blue★Star 512K* and *2.1* users who order by Christmas will qualify for a special introductory price of $50. ■

Cycles

Our new CYCLES program (described last issue) is being offered in three versions to satisfy the professional researcher as well as the casual user. Levels 2 and 3 accept data from the two largest vendors of stock and commodity data: CSI and Computrak.

All three versions of *Cycles* include our *Dial-A-Cycle* database (pop-up cycle graphs for any time period), featuring hundreds of tested cycles direct from the *Foundation for the Study of Cycles.*

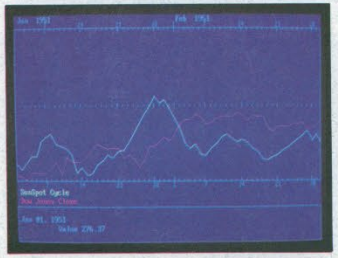
The three versions available are:

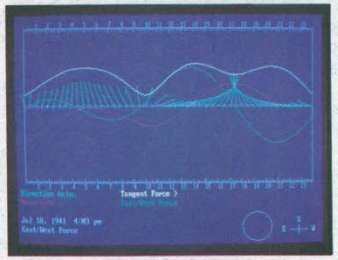
■ **Cycles Level 2** **$500**
This is the complete *Cycles* program as described last issue. There are too many features to list here, but call **1-800-PLANETS**, and we'll send your copy of the Cycles brochure.

■ **Introductory Cycles** **$100**
This version includes many of the more popular features of the larger *Cycles* program, but it does not require a hard disk. Included are daily Dow Jones closings for 100 years, sunspots, chart wheels, 150 years of lunar data, our Dial-A-Cycle feature, and much more. Call or write for your free brochure. A great bargain for the cycles hobbyist.

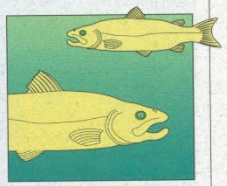
■ **Cycles Level 3** **$1000**
(Blue★Star Cycle System.) This master system includes not only the complete *Cycles* program, but also the full *Blue★Star* system with the *Matrix Time Change Atlas*, our brand new *Hi-Res Screen Module*, *Hi-Res Print Wheels Module*, and the entire *Compact Data* system including extra data disks (1000 CEO's, etc.).

The projected release date for *Cycles* is December first. Let us send you a brochure describing the program in detail. Call or write us for your free copy. ■





Take a new look at natural cycles with CYCLES. Spot the correlations between natural, business, and personal cycles.



■ *CYCLE:*
Salmon populations reach their peak every 9.6 years. As you'll see with CYCLES, this is one of many recorded cycles that share the same "wavelength". View these on the screen compared to planetary cycles, business cycles, or whatever your intuition suggests.

TOP LEFT: *CYCLES' new hi-res wheel of houses uses color to highlight planets and aspects on-screen.*
CENTER: *Dow-Jones openings and closings graphed with sunspot activity (over 100 years of data built-in).*
BOTTOM: *Complex tidal rhythms in a 24-hour period graphed on-screen.*

CYCLES Level One runs on any IBM-style computer with 512K, two disk drives, and Hercules, EGA or VGA graphics. A hard disk is **not** required.
CYCLES Levels Two and Three require 640K and a hard drive.
The programs do not run on the older CGA style graphics. It runs best on an AT style machine or better, and of course EGA/VGA color is more effective than the monochrome Hercules graphics. A special version is available for systems with a math co-processor.

Matrix Compact Data is now in the hands of users. Their reaction: "WOW!"

Matrix Compact Data, our new research system and chart library, is getting rave reviews. If you missed our last issue, *Compact Data* is a fun and fascinating way to explore chart files. We even offer thousands of charts ready-to-use!

Here's a current list of disks that are available now from the *Compact Data Library:*

- **The Circle Book of Charts Volume One & Two**
  Disk #1 is included free with every Compact Data System.
  Disk #2 *(Volume Two: The Circle Book of Charts and More)* may be ordered separately.
- **1,000 Chief Executive Officers**
  Leaders of major US companies. Order Disk #3.
- **Penfield Data/Personalities**
  Disks #4, 5, & 6 are personalities collected by world-recognized data collector Marc Penfield.
- **Penfield Data/Mundane**
  Disk #7 is mundane data collected by Marc Penfield.
- **1800 Scientists**
  Disks #8 & 9 are an untimed data collection of scientists' birthdates.
- **Nolle Timed Data**
  Disks #10 & 11 each hold nearly 1,000 charts from Richard Nolle.
- **AFA Data Exchange**
  Disk #12: 970 charts from the *AFA Bulletin's Data Exchange* column.
- **750 Over-the-counter stocks**
  Disk #13: A collection from Carol Mull's book of the same name.
- **500 Standard & Poor stocks**
  Disk #14: A second set from C. Mull.

Data disks are sold separately: $30 each. The *Compact Data* system is just $100 (Disk #1 included). ■

"Compact Data is extraordinary! An historic breakthrough for astrology and computers. Any serious student or researcher must have this tool."

— **Mark Lerner**, *Editor, Welcome To Planet Earth*

"Compact Data is indispensable for serious astrological researchers and casual chart browsers alike. It's slick, polished... A real gem."

— **Richard Nolle**, *Star*Tech Editor and Reviewer for Dell Horoscope Magazine*

"A research astrologer's dream."

— **Hank Friedman**, *Reviewer, American Federation of Astrologers*

"Your Compact Data and manuals have arrived... Wow! It is most exciting! Many congratulations to you and your team."

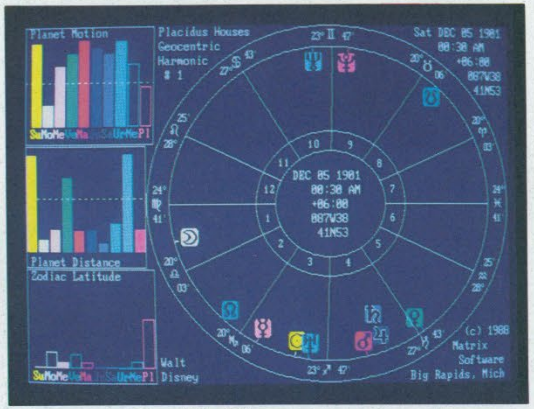
— **Charles Harvey**, *President, Astrological Association of Great Britain*

"Compact Data arrived a couple of days ago and I haven't had a decent night's sleep since. It's fantastic! It is totally mesmerizing as I think about all the combinations possible in my database analysis. Congratulations on a job very well done."

— **Jeffrey Simpson**, *Astrologer [Letter to Matrix after receiving Compact Data]*

System Requirements. *Compact Data is available now for the IBM-PC and compatibles with 256K and two disk drives (or a hard disk). Price: $100. Compact Data Library data is priced at $30 per disk. Let us give you all the details on this exceptional bargain. Write Matrix, or call us today for your free flyer:* ***1(800)PLANETS.***

New Blue★Star Hi-Res Screen Module



Walt Disney in the traditional wheel of houses.

Beautiful chart wheels – in color – right on your computer's screen! Quick data entry, great looking wheels, no waiting for printouts... Even the effect of *motion* as you watch the planets travel through each chart forming ever-changing aspect patterns.

That's our new high-resolution wheel capability for *Blue★Star* users with EGA or VGA color graphics. [If you have Hercules graphics, these screen wheels are still a knockout in black & white!]

The new *Blue★Star Hi-Res Screen Module* is a stand-alone program that we're really excited about. Use it by itself to calculate and view all kinds of charts, or use it to display your *Blue★Star* and *Compact Data* chart files.

This is the sort of screen wheel we've always wanted to offer – now the computers that can handle the job are finally on the market! Imagine how useful it is during a personal consultations: look at the natal chart using the addition of color to highlight hard and soft aspects. Introduce a transit chart for comparison without stopping for a printout.

The *Hi-Res Screen Module* offers chart wheels of many types (with built-in rectification assistance), a built-in graphic ephemeris, paran graphs, rising/setting graphs, harmonic charts, and much more:

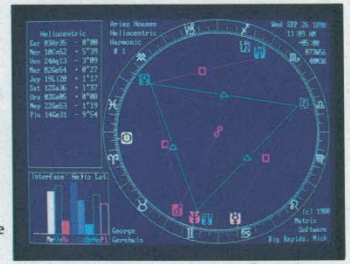
Data entry is a snap. Charts are entered quickly, and you can use the menu selections to choose your preferences:

- Helio- or geocentric
- A variety of house systems
- 360° or ecliptic notation
- Choice of local space coordinates
- Mundane charts
- Current date, time, and place entered automatically

Create custom wheels that best suit your style of working. Go back and change most any custom choices anytime – without recalculating.

Also provided is a one-shot transit feature which transits one planet around your choice of screen wheel.

You can use the *Screen Module* to examine all your *Blue★Star* or *Compact Data* chart files.



George Gershwin on the Aries style wheel.

The program's *Aspect Sequencer* feature gives you the animated effect mentioned earlier. Use it to walk through time – advancing aspects by 1/2 day, 1 day, or 5 days. Follow the transits dynamically through your charts to watch them occur. At each increment of change, you're shown the new planet positions and given the progressed year as well.

The price for the *Hi-Res Screen Module* is $100. It's scheduled for release this November. Order by Christmas, and qualify for a special introductory price of just $75! ■

System Requirements. *The Hi-Res Screen Module runs on any IBM-style computer with 512K, two disk drives, and Hercules, EGA or VGA graphics. A hard disk is* ***not*** *required. It does not run on the older CGA style graphics. It runs best on an AT style machine or better, and of course EGA/VGA color is more effective than the monochrome Hercules graphics. A special version is available for systems with a math co-processor.*

AstroTalk

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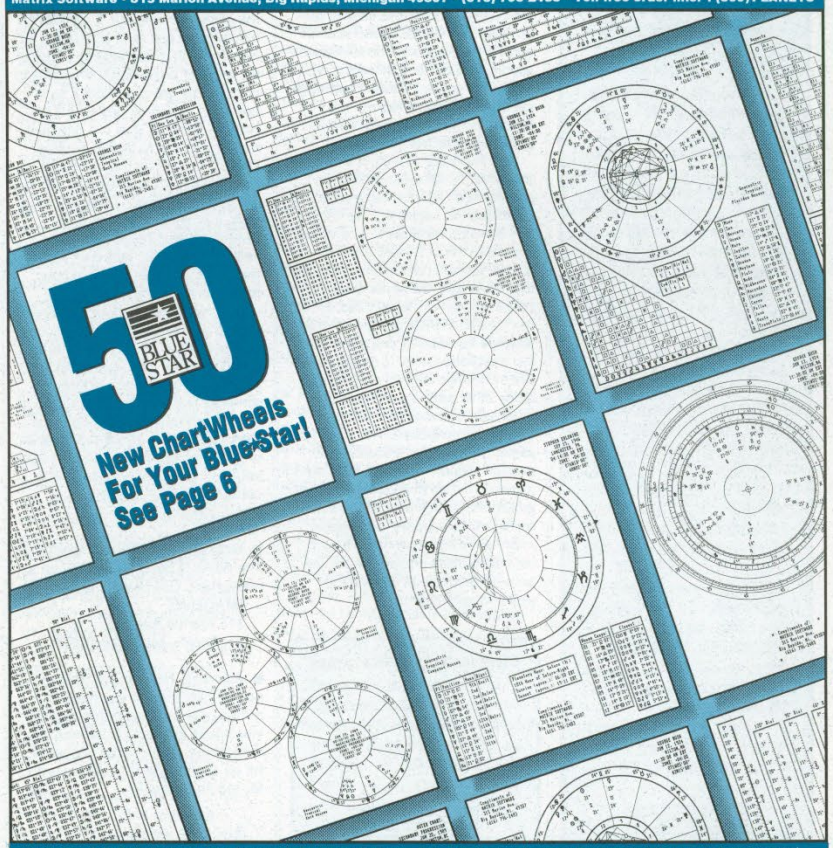

The Astro•Talk Bulletin is published quarterly by Matrix Software, Inc., 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI, 49307. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in the US & Canada. Overseas subscriptions are $10.95 (via seamail). ISBN 0740-6738 © *1989, Matrix Software.*

AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group Volume Six, Number One • January 1989

Dialogue:

Michel Gauquelin Michael Erlewine

A discussion of Gauquelin's *Mars Effect* research, the relationship of scientists and astrologers, and the birth of the neo-astrological movement.

Michael: It's good to be with you again, Michel. What's happening in your life and work?

M. Gauquelin: One fact is that I am turning sixty on November 13. I had never realized that this could happen to me! I am apparently still in rather good shape, but there are a lot of years of hard work behind me and I think there are rather few people from the new generation who are trying to walk in the same direction (I hope there will be more). I don't want to complain about that, but I have to stop and think about what I have been doing and what I can do. I cannot just continue to make statistics and replicate my findings and so on just because it is interesting. I have also to evolve, and maybe to progress. For instance, I told you about this book I am writing, called *The Astrological Copernican Revolution*, which is a progression in my thought.

For this book, I have done a lot of reading, especially about ancient astrology and ancient thought, dwelling in particular on the Renaissance concepts of astrology – a lot of things I was barely aware of. I discovered that, in fact, astrology is more than I had thought – which is not a surprise for you, but maybe for me. Astrology is more than just correlation.

Michel Gauquelin

Michael Erlewine

In the broader sense, the scope of my astrology is now larger. And while I have yet to write about a lot

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[Continued from 1]

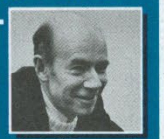
of these ideas, the readings are in my mind, and I hope will result in something of a new kind of book. I'm trying to demonstrate something, which is rather simple: that astrology and astronomy were in fact only one at the beginning.

Ptolemy, as you know, wrote one book about astrology *[The Tetrabiblos]* and one book about astronomy *[The Almagest]*. In his book on astronomy, we know today that 90% of the astronomy that Ptolemy claimed as true was not accurate... was not true. Nevertheless, astronomy was considered, and is still considered, to be a science. People had to wait 1,500 years for Copernicus to appear to change the Ptolemaic ideas about astronomy. Today, while astronomy is still a science, her sister astrology has not had the same luck.

During the Renaissance time, Kepler gave very good hints about many things of an astrological nature. He succeeded marvelously in astronomy, but I think he failed in astrology to make the same move. So, I am trying to show in this book that we are now on the verge of demonstrating that astrology could have a Copernican revolution, too. You see? It's just a little later, in fact, if you are looking in perspective. There are 15 centuries between Ptolemy and Copernicus, and 20 centuries between Ptolemy and now.

I am not claiming that I am another Copernicus, but I think I may be one of the scholars who can help in this revolution. But first, I think this revolution is due to other things: like modern physics for instance, the age of computers, and other people who are working in the fields of astrology and advanced psychology – something like this. It's a large movement. Of course, I hope I have been one of the persons who

For more than fourteen years I claimed I was *against* astrology. Then I claimed that my work was *similar* to astrology. I was balancing between the two.



Michel Gauquelin

have helped. I don't want to say that I am rejecting what I have done with my research. Of course not. But I think that we can put it aside for just a moment, and look for some kind of what I call a neo-astrology, a new astrology. You see?

Michael: Even if we had a Copernican type, I don't think anyone would recognize him or her anyway. It would be very difficult to see it when it was happening. Only the person themselves would have some idea of it, and even then probably a dim one. That's my thought. I've certainly looked around very carefully in the world of astrology, and I can't see any Copernicus, or even a Kepler, among us – not yet!

M. Gauquelin: Well, I do agree with that. I think if I were making some kind of comparison, that before Kepler there was Tycho Brahe. And Tycho Brahe, as we know, produced very accurate positions of the planets. Owing to the work of Tycho Brahe, Kepler was able to demonstrate *Kepler's Laws*. And so I consider myself more like a kind of Tycho Brahe than a Kepler.

Michael: A Saint John the Baptist!

M. Gauquelin: Yes, if you want. There are people who are just amassing data – not only data but facts. But these facts will need an explanation. They will need a theory. We have the Mars Effect, but there is still no theory for explaining it. And so, I think we are waiting for a Kepler, or even a Newton. There is perhaps more similarity with the work of Darwin on evolution. Darwin was collecting facts and facts and facts. Yet, the theory was evolving through the facts. For the moment, astrology – especially that which I am doing – does not raise a theory from the facts.

Therefore, I think astrologers and scientists could agree on the point (and it is certainly well proved now) that there is some correlation between planets and the time of birth. However, there is no real explanation, not even a proto-theory. As you know, I have tried several things, but there is no real theory. So what do you think about this?

Michael: It seems that on the external plane, in the world of science and measurement – that sort of thing – that you are an expert. Yet, I feel that astrology is still sort of bankrupt in some sense even though someone like yourself has done a wonderful job of doing what seemed impossible – literally! At least you have come up with some results. No one else has done anything remotely similar that we know of. Nevertheless, I still feel we're waiting for some major event to happen. It reminds me of the whole story of Atlantis rising, and the thought that Atlantis is somehow within us. As it comes up, it's like a veil being taken away: suddenly we can see.

Once a particular veil is removed, then everyone sees the obvious – what has been revealed, what there is to be seen. I feel we are waiting for a veil to be lifted. The philosopher Hegel had a wonderful phrase in the *Phenomenology of the Mind* – a really seminal and important book. He said something like:

"We go behind the curtain of the self to see what's there, but also for there to be someone or something to be seen."

And I think this gets to the heart of this dilemma. In other words, it seems that we are all willing to go behind the curtain of the self to see what's there, but none (or damned few) have the idea very well in mind that we might have a two-fold purpose: we go behind this curtain *also* for there to be someone to be seen. It's not enough to just look. We must also exist. There has to be something or somebody to be seen behind that curtain. In other words, we must also perform the act or ceremony of living.

The idea I'm trying to get at is that I feel the astrological revolution will come by going within, identifying, and being identified. That's why I have spent so much of my life on heliocentric astrology. The major insights that I've had, the most important astrological experiences, the ones that have been formative, have left an indelible imprint and continue to serve as a reference point, have come from this heliocentric work. When I think of who I am astrologically, I go back to these experiences. And before that time, before these astrological experiences, there is no real time or space for me because I have no memory, astrologically, prior to these certain basic events – this helio astrological experience.

Although you don't claim to be an astrologer, the things you're saying sound *very* astrological to me! They sound the way an astrologer thinks.

Michael Erlewine

Just as you might say that you remember when you discovered the Mars Effect. That has to be a landmark in the darkness of your personal astrological night sky. These discovery events are like fixed stars that shine in it. So, I try pretty much in vain to tell my fellow astrologers what it is that I experience there.

I had that Rosicrucian teacher that I keep telling people about. He would say that he was tuning me like an instrument,and that someday I would respond. When he died, it was up to me to see to his burial and all that kind of stuff. One of the things he said which I have probably told you before, but I'll say again (and this was before helio astrology existed for me) was: "Michael, imagine yourself standing at the center of the Sun." Then he would growl and say, "That's *HOT* stuff!" I thought it was kind of a strange thing for someone to say, but years later that is what I did imagine astrologically. In that experience, I went beyond geocentric astrology as I knew it and found myself exploring what has for me been a whole new kind of astrology – a different dimension from geocentric astrology. It is an experience and an initiation that has yet to be made available to very many astrologers. You appear to understand it and I believe that others will also have it. At that point, when more have it, there will be a revolution in consciousness astrologically that will put traditional geocentric astrology into its proper perspective.

The familiar geocentric motions are like seeing, as Shakespeare writes, "through a glass darkly" and these motions are impossible to understand by themselves. Just like mechanically (celestial mechanics), it's impossible to fully understand geocentric motion without reverting to the heliocentric model. You see, here is a *key* to understanding. Why can we give this obvious physical fact credence and still not recognize that *esoterically* the same must be true? We cannot understand the geocentric model without seeking to seat our consciousness at the center of the system, in this case the solar system.

People can't seem to imagine that our *being* could be connected to the *being* of the sun. Someone like Theodor Landscheidt is one of the very few I have met who seem to have a real initiation in it. Although you don't claim to be an astrologer, the kind of things you're saying sound *very* astrological to me. I mean they sound like the way an astrologer thinks.

M. Gauquelin: Well for more than 14 years I claimed that I was *against* astrology! And then sometimes I claimed that my work was something which is *similar* to astrology. I was in fact balancing between the

[Continued on 4]

two. Without the real hope, or the deep feeling that some theory would be found positively, I would probably never have continued. As far as I remember, I was always, more or less, a believer in a proof for astrology. But of course, *belief* for me was not sufficient, but you know the story. When I published, I made several mistakes. For instance, one good point was to publish my first book, but the one big mistake was to put my real name on it, which killed my academic career. But that's another story.

The other mistake was to challenge astrologers too much. I told you yesterday about some pitfalls that the astrologers at that time were not able to avoid. And so perhaps I despised them a little bit too much, and I claimed that the evidence that I found for the Mars Effect was not astrology at all. In fact, this was some kind of awkward diplomacy on my part to flatter the scientific establishment. I hoped, with naivete, that they might be more interested in my work if I said that not only am I not an astrologer, but also that I have completely demolished astrology. But in fact that was not a good move, since the scientists never accepted my way of working or my results.

And so I persisted, probably too much, in this direction. And now, as you know, after some fifteen years I have slowly changed my position – and not only for political reasons. I discovered that the scientific establishment was just putting me off (or out) and that I was receiving, and I still am receiving, help from astrologers like yourself. I hope that we can work together. In fact, the help that I have received is mostly from the astrological community, and not from the scientific community. I also

I'm not rejecting what I have done with my research, but we can put it aside for a moment, and look for what I call a neo-astrology, a new astrology.

Michel Gauquelin

discovered how non-objective this scientific community can be.

I have evidence, for instance, that Mars is prominent for military leaders and sports champions, more than just by pure chance. It's not Venus or some other planet, but Mars, and this just fits with the astrological tradition. I see this more and more clearly.

If I may just be frank, and accept to be called an astrologer *if* – and that's a rather big "if" [laughs] – *if* the other astrologers (and I am just talking from my view, from my kind of approach – that should be clear!) who call themselves scientific astrologers would be good at it... would be really scientific. I am unhappy that so many astrologers who even now are claiming to do research, are not really doing research. I am in fact closer to people who, like yourself, are researchers but not exactly in my way. In your case I have nothing to say against it. You see?

But these other people are just trying to do simple things like I showed you yesterday [demographic problems], encountering pitfalls, and making very big errors. That's not good. I think the astrologers who are scientifically oriented should be educated scientifically. That's my position. I hope that we may work together on some software projects. Perhaps I have been too much alone, too much involved in my own research to share my experience much with others.

So, if the percentage of people doing good research in astrology is rising, I may say that I am also an astrologer. This is my position. Is it not clear? But for the moment, I'm a little reluctant to say that I am an astrologer. So I think that my opponents call me a neo-astrologer. I think that's not so bad.

In fact, they called me that in derision. Like the painters Manet and Renoir, the Impressionists were called Impressionist because Manet called one of his pictures an impression. And people laughed at it and called them Impressionists. So, I am a neo-astrologer, as they say.

Michael: So you're saying that if it turns out good, you're an astrologer and if it turns out bad, you're not. If enough people are like you, then you are one, otherwise you're not.

M. Gauquelin: Yes! But on the other hand, I think back to your first question. I'm turning sixty and am trying to acquire more knowledge about the history of astrology and the philosophical implications of it. Also, I would like to share more of my experience, in particular my technical experience, with other people because they may just like astrology and it's not being taught at the university. And not only astrology, but research about astrology. And I'm sure that astronomical demographic studies like I showed

you yesterday should be put in computer programs, in software, and that could help a lot of people and also myself to do new research.

But a point which is not clear: you can praise me, or not, for having hand-calculated so many cases of planetary computations. OK! But the calculations for the expectancies were also very hard to do by hand. And so now we have (owing to you – to Matrix), very accurate calculations with a lot of speed. But as for new research, we also need to have some software for doing the research; that is, the expectancies calculations.

And another point: there are a lot of astrologers who are diligent, honest and hard working, but they are not doing astrology as a science, which of course I can understand. I never claimed – or if I did it was a mistake – that astrology is or should be *only* a hard science. You see, my way was to find some correlation, but I am sure that astrology can also be something else. And even people at the far end of myself like Dane Rudyhar. While theirs is not my way of thinking, if we can use the chart like a mandala for developing ourselves, there is nothing wrong with that. Not only is there nothing wrong, but it could only be good. Rudyhar is just an example, perhaps not the best. The problem is the difficulty to reach some meeting point between the two approaches. I think it's important.

Astrology is another new soft science. But in astrology it is certainly a fact that the best astrologers are somewhat scattered. And they should try to find some... not a school. That's probably one of my weaknesses too: I have never tried to launch a school of astrology or whatever... Neo-astrology, or even

We respect the tools of science and the refinement of these tools... But there's almost no development of the *one who uses* the tools.

Michael Erlewine

the Gauquelin School. It's not my way.

Michael: I understand that.

M. Gauquelin: I am just now getting to know you better. I will ask a question of you. It was interesting for me when you told me a few things about the Tibetan lamas you bring here. What do these lamas think about hard facts? Because, I would like to say something: I'm afraid to say that for me, the human brain is not so good at all. My impression is that we are very close to the chimpanzees.

In fact it is a very pessimistic view, but I feel strongly about the idea that we are not very intelligent. We are probably a little more intelligent, in a certain sense, than some animals. It's that our intelligence is completely obscured by emotion. Well, this fact is terrible. I discovered this during the Mars Effect controversy which for me was so interesting. It was a kind of spiritual experience in a certain sense.

Michael: Of course!

M. Gauquelin: I have discovered that even some of my opponents acted completely unfairly, and were in fact 100% ignorant. For instance, that was the case even with Paul Kurtz, chairman for the *Committee for the Scientific Investigations of the Claims of the Paranormal*. My impression is that he may have gone the wrong way in checking astrology for the Mars Effect, but I'm sure he honestly believes that astrology is not true. On the other hand, my impression is that even the sun sign charlatan astrologer probably believes in astrology. A true charlatan is very rare, like a real cynical debunker, perhaps under one percent, I'd say. Complete unfairness, dishonesty... intellectual dishonesty is very rare. The Mars Effect controversy showed me that. However, that which is very frequent is imbecility.

And, the difficulty with humans, and myself in particular, in understanding something is to put aside emotion and look at the facts. During the Mars Effect controversy, I had the impression that I was doing, not exactly meditation, but a kind of interesting spiritual experience. I was so involved in this that sometimes I put myself in the place of the mind of my opponent. And I understood them in a certain way and that's something that helped me to win the battle. Do you see what I mean? So! My impression is I think it's too bad that the Creator, or whatever we might call it – Nature – makes us so unintelligent.

What I am saying here is not original. Arthur Koestler wrote a very interesting book about it: *The Ghost in the Machine*. He was not saying exactly the same thing. He says that the emotion inside us is too strong for our intelligence. My idea is clear.

[Continued on 8]

International Edition of Blue★Star

An international edition of the 512K *Blue★Star* system is being prepared. Aside from having all the screen menus in other languages, it will feature a new on-line help function that explains each part of the program in the language selected. What this means is that the manual will no longer be needed to the degree that it presently is. Almost all questions can be answered while you work via these help files which are always at hand. German, French and Spanish versions will be part of the initial release. This upgrade is scheduled for late spring '89. ■

Beta Testers Wanted

Wanted – beta testers for Matrix programs under development. Be the super sleuth you've always wanted to be: track down bugs, uncover miscalculations, and keep future Matrix programs clean and healthy! Preview the newest Matrix software as you participate in the nurturing of the programs. Just run and have fun, then report any malfunctions or difficulty you might find. Send name, address, and complete computer information (including type of graphics, memory, etc.) to Matrix, attention: Teresa. ■

■ **The new manual for 512K *Blue★Star* is a solid hit.** We can hardly ship them fast enough! If you don't have one, they are $21.95 (shipping included) in the US. Overseas orders: add $15 for shipping.

■ **The new hi-res Screen Wheels & AstroMap programs** (EGA, VGA and Hercules graphics) are also in great demand. Really nice screens!

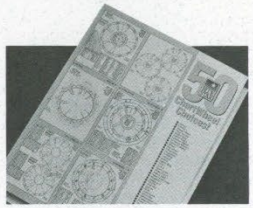
■ **We have received some suggestions from Sophia Mason,** the author of the *Life Progression* report, to further enhance that report. These changes have been added resulting in an even finer report. If you have purchased this program and would like an update, let us know.

■ **Commodore and Apple owners** who own the Transit Report (M-91) may want the update covering the years 1990-2000 – now available.

■ ***Blue★Star* is undergoing constant review and enhancement.** *Blue★Star* users may want to get the latest update to take advantage of the most recent modifications. If you are a registered *Blue★Star* owner, and have never updated your system, give us a call now.

■ **A number of you have inquired about support for your new laser printers.** Laser support for report writers plus ultra-hi-res *Blue★Star* wheels should be ready by spring.

■ **Be a part of the Compact Data effort – and earn money!** Add your own data to the growing *Compact Data Library* or help by keyboarding the data we send you. In either case, we'll pay you royalties. Your work will be part of this data source used by astrologers all over the world. Write us today – we need you! ■

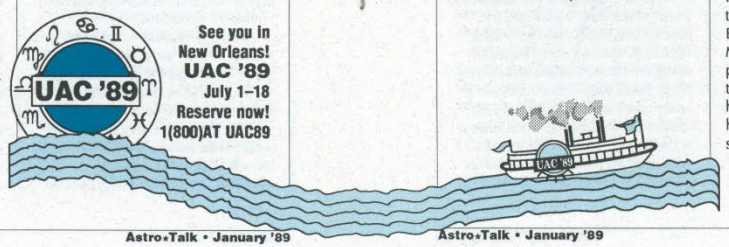


Fifty New Hi-Res ChartWheels For Blue★Star!

Our new hi-res wheel update for *Blue★Star* is really something special! The flyer enclosed with this issue displays some of the 50 different wheels and aspect grids available to you via this inexpensive update. Now you can compete with the very finest chart services in both quality and variety!

We designed this special wheel brochure so you can let your clients see the variety of printouts available through your personal chart service. This entire collection of printout styles comes as part of this significant upgrade which is available now for users of *Blue★Star* 512K and *Blue★Star* 2.1. Price: $75.00

If you'd like extra copies of this hi-res wheel flyer (to give to regular clients, etc.), they're available for 25 cents each. Please include $1 to cover shipping and handling. ■



The American Atlas & The International Atlas for Blue★Star

Last issue, we announced our new *Blue★Star* disk editions of *The American Atlas* and *The International Atlas* – two indispensable reference works for astrologers.

We are now shipping both of these packages on-disk, ready for use with *Blue★Star* or as a stand-alone research tool. Although a hard disk is the best way to use this material, the data is also set up to work on two floppies. Best of all, you can tailor how much of your hard disk you want devoted to the material. Keep the most used countries on the hard disk, and the rest on floppies. The program prompts you to insert the floppy disk for any country not on your hard disk. Retire those heavy books to the reference shelf.

We also have a limited UK version for English *Blue★Star* users that includes Great Britain, Scotland, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Contact our UK rep Martin Davis. ■

Heart Center News

During the Fall of 1988, the Heart Center was fortunate to receive visits from two Tibetan lamas. In October, His Eminence Traleg Kyabgon Rinpoche spent a week with us before giving a public talk at Ferris State University's Rankin Center. Traleg Rinpoche, who is a representative for the Kagyu Lineage, established the Kagyu E-vam Buddhist Institute in Melbourne, Australia, and speaks fluent English. He is completing a Master's in comparative philosophy from La Trobe University. He is a young Rinpoche (33-34 years) and is quite modern and Western in his manner and dress. His Eminence was accompanied by his wife and son.

At the beginning of December, Venerable Tsechu Kusho Rinpoche visited for about two weeks, staying in the home of his student Sange Wangchug, staff artist for KTD Dharma Goods. KTD Dharma Goods is a mail order business for Buddhist meditation materials operated under the Matrix umbrella.

The Venerable Tsechu Rinpoche is president and founder of the *All Buddhist Association* and is working closely with the king of Nepal through a Monastery and Lama Management Organization, which he heads. During his stay in Big Rapids, he presented a wonderful thangka (painting) of Amitabha Buddha as a gift to Michael and Margaret Erlewine. Amitabha is the protector of health and long life. The thangka now hangs in a place of honor in the Heart Center meditation hall. Tsechu Rinpoche concluded his stay at the center with a teaching. ■

Enhanced Printer-Handling For Blue★Star and Professional Report Writers

The 512K versions of *Blue★Star* and the Matrix professional Report Writers have been enhanced to deal with a variety of printer problems. These enhancements include handling of errors that occur when a printer runs out of paper, jams, or goes off-line. In addition, our European customers and others who use page sizes other than 8.5" x 11" can now use all of these programs with any page length that is supported by your printer. If you can set your printer's form feed function to handle the page length, then these 512K Matrix printing programs can handle it, too. Updates are available.

These programs include:

- *Blue★Star* 512K
- *Blue★Star* 2.1

And these professional versions:

- Natal Report
- Transit Report
- *Astro★Talk* PC
- Friends & Lovers
- Life Progressions
- Relating Potential
- Biorhythms
- Alphanumerology
- Lucky Lotto

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Just imagine that we were a hundred times more intelligent.

Michael: Well, what the lamas suggest, and it's certainly what they teach, is that intelligence *is* – period! And we can have no real idea of it other than to live it. As it is, we have no idea of what it's not. We can only know what we are. We have emotions, obscuration, different kinds of problems, and that's why there is some kind of study involved in the Tibetan psychology, like any methodology. In 1964, I went out to Berkeley and studied political methodology with a fine teacher there. But I wasn't too much interested in it. So, I took LSD instead, and proceeded to really learn some more basic things about myself.

My point is that in this country we have respect for learning, for the tools of science, and for learning the refinements of these tools. It's a very great edifice that's been built. However, there's almost no development of the *one who uses* the tools. The most important tool of all is our own mind. And we assume that the mind, right as it comes out of the box, so to speak, is good and ready to use. And we think that from the instant of our birth the mind is good and doesn't need any training! We do allow some intellectual training, you know, in schools. Actually, we allow a lot of *academic* training in the West.

But, for the mind itself, we have no real training to deal with the basic emotions. I have come to see that Western psychology is very, very primitive. In the West, we have perhaps achieved the point of some psychological diagnosis, but we have no remedy. I mean, we may stab at it. On the other hand, the Buddhists have, as you may know, the largest extant body of literature (by an order of magnitude of five or so) of any religion. This means that they have written in great detail about almost everything. They really have, as far as I can tell, done this – I haven't read it all, but I've read in it a good deal.

If astrology is to have a future, we must train our minds.

Michael Erlewine

So! They are very definite about saying we must train the mind and learn to see with clarity. If we can learn to train the mind even a little bit, then we can begin to work through its obscurations.

At this point, I'm still very interested in astrology, but I know that if astrology is to have any future at all, we must train our minds. Some astrologers like to call themselves priests and they enjoy the idea that they are "spiritual." I suggest that if we are so priestlike that we had better get down on our knees once in a while. Why should we not consecrate, dedicate, and purify ourselves so that we can see what is and what is not. To the best of my knowledge, astrologers as a rule are not willing to do this at the present. I can hardly see at all, but that little bit of mind training work that I have done may be all the difference there is. I know it's not that much, but if that's the difference, it may be all the difference in the world. Do you understand what I'm saying?

M. Gauquelin: Yes!

Michael: So, in recent years I've stopped trying to share my thoughts on astrology. In a nutshell, I feel that I've had the great good fortune to have a somewhat authentic initiation into heliocentrics and into the deep space material. I had a striking dream once, in which Johndro, who was an important technical astrologer in this country, appeared to me. He had stalks of light coming out of his eyes. It was a dream that was more real then waking life and it came at the time when I was struggling with the deep space stuff. He just said, "Look!" And I looked up and there was the southern Milky Way as you would see it from the southern hemisphere. It was just resplendent with light – a sea of light.

Some astrologers call themselves priests. If we are so priestlike, we had better get down on our knees once in a while.

Michael Erlewine

Prior to this dream, I was basically afraid of the dark – of death, the black, cold, etc. "Look!", he said. And from that moment I began to make the book *Astrophysical Directions*. I suddenly understood that it wasn't darkness, it was light! And that I was intelligence. The universe is intelligent, and so I went and cataloged all those things and they all made sense to me. They all fit in.

They were all understandable. The universe is about the life and death of stars. It is all the story of our life. It's the same story written large.

So, that was an initiation. I don't know many who have had that initiation and I can't even talk about the helio one because it's so profound for me. I would like to see my fellow astrologers empowered with the same experience relative to their personality, because it would change their lives. But it sounds just like... you know... an evangelist. I apologize for that. But it is astrological. I can back up these astrological experiences with specific techniques. Technique, after all, is what remains after a real life experience passes.

What I'm saying that was remarkable to me is that I was able, for myself, to energize the scientific facts and to experience some of the spirit – that which ensouls the facts. I mean heliocentrics is more than just another chart. It is a total experience of a different dimension. And that to me is what's called an empowerment. The same is true, but slightly less so, for the astrophysical stuff. It is not enough to just study the facts. Let me read to you a short quote from Emerson that a good friend of mine pointed out. This quote says a lot to me. It's from Emerson's essay on history:

"All inquiry into antiquity. All curiosity respecting the Pyramids, the excavated cities, Stonehenge, the Ohio Circles, Mexico, Memphis – is the desire to do away this wild, savage and preposterous There, or Then, and introduce in its place the Here and the Now."

And then this is the statement that I think is interesting.

"Belzone digs and measures in the Mummy-pits and Pyramids of Thebes, until he can see the end of the difference between the monstrous work and himself. When he has satisfied himself, in general and in detail, that it was made by such a person as he, so armed and so motivated, and to the ends to which he himself should have also worked,

When the time comes that astrologers are more objective, I may say that I am an astrologer, and not a neo-astrologer.

Michel Gauquelin

the problem is solved. His thought lives along the whole line of Temples and Sphinxes and Catacombs, passes through them all with satisfaction, and they live again to the mind, or are now."

That's why we study. This is the real meaning of research. It is the refreshing of the mind somehow – simple circulation. The psychological, esoteric research that interests me may never reach the state of facts so that it can be measured or discussed by scientists. But nevertheless, it's still a very real, alive, and satisfying work for me. It's just that it doesn't happen to be very obvious. You're lucky that your work is cresting and appearing in time in such a fashion that it can be observed. I can see that you have worked very hard. You're very satisfied in some deep sense.

M. Gauquelin: Yes, that is true.

Michael: And, because of that, you have no fear for yourself, or the future, basically. You have emptied out or exhausted something within you, just as happens through meditation. The fruit of the meditation is just what you're showing.

M. Gauquelin: Well, that's a good comparison. Yes! In a sense, it's true. I still have problems, but in a certain way I have some sense of elation about my work. However, now I would like to do more.

Michael: Well, of course! I have the same kind of elation. I have only myself at this point, other than the fact that I get some credit for Matrix and stuff. But, I don't value that. My heart is in the helio work and what I really love is the esoteric stuff and few people are able to talk about it.

M. Gauquelin: That happened to you, and that happened to me with the scientists. It was so amazing for me to see a good scientist like George Abell. He was a very good astronomer, you know. Really, he was a good scientist, but when he was examining the Mars Effect it was as if he were stupid! He was like an imbecile. He seemed to lose all his astronomy. That was very interesting to see that his brain was just disintegrating.

In a certain sense, Abell recovered from that attitude, because he was deeply honest. In fact, he was the first to apologize, more or less, for the errors the CSICOP committee made against me. So that was a case for his intelligence. He was a very brilliant person, but could not follow my work and probably he would not have followed you. [laughs]

Michael: No! I'm sure not.

M. Gauquelin: But it was a mistake for him. However, I think in a sense Abell and I are not in the same boat, but we are in two boats that

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are on the same river. People lack understanding in the broadest sense. And so, it's not a question of intelligence or even knowledge. Some people could be very knowledgeable on something, but they cannot understand it. Science is rather like religion. For instance, I was educated in the Catholic Faith myself. In fact, I never believed – I was just told. It's not the same. I was told, and after a while, well, I just asked some awkward questions. You probably did the same. I asked awkward questions and the priests were not able to answer the questions. They say it's just a question of belief, a mystery. I cannot cope with an answer like this.

Michael: Really!

M. Gauquelin: But you know, if you try to question their faith. Even if you are just being friendly, just explaining something, they can react emotionally. And it is the same for astronomers. They are a faith. Even though they are not Catholic or whatever, they have a faith in how some kind of universe should be. They have no room for an astrological effect – whatever we might call it. So you may have a problem getting good listeners. And, well, that was the same for me. I myself almost cheated calculating my own data. I think that's why I say we human people are not very intelligent.

It's incredible! I made very slight amounts of errors in the sectors I was looking for and I was taking a lot of precaution. I was aware of it, and even so it happened. Fortunately that didn't change the results, but it's very discouraging. We cannott be really objective. That's a notion which does not exist in the human brain. There is no objectivity, but you probably agree with that. With the lamas, if I understood you well, objectivity or subjectivity does not mean anything.

I think that's a good example, your training with meditation. If I may compare: my studies and my work generally are also a training to be objective. And that's why, in fact, it's always a fight against subjectivity, against some errors and biases. And going back to the beginning of our discussion: I thought I would like to see more astrologers be more objective in the broader sense of the term. When that time comes, when astrologers are more objective, I may say that I am an astrologer, and not a neo-astrologer. I don't claim to be objective; of course not. It's just that my training – as yours in a different way – has to be more objective, more and more objective. Of course, progress is slow.

The point is that I am not disturbed at all by criticism. I like that and I just receive it and hear it. If it's true, well, I'm wrong – no problem! I was not like this when I was young. And there are so many people – not only the astrologers, but any kind of people who have ideas – they don't want to be criticized, even very gently. If you just say, "Well that's interesting, but!" But! There is no "but." That's why I mentioned yesterday: *don't avoid criticism.* That's my position. I don't mean to be aggressively challenging. Maybe some part of myself is like this. No, it's because it is important. If you are really sure that you are right, you have no fear from any kind of criticism. So, it's probably the only philosophy I got from my experiences. ■

MATRIX SUMMER SEMINARS & NCGR PRESENT THE FIRST

Neo-Astrology Conference

on the
Gauquelin Methodology

Featuring Michel Gauquelin

With:
Robert Donath
Dr. Suitbert Ertel (W. Germany)
Charles Harvey (Great Britain)
Robert Hand
Lee Lehman
Doug Pierce
Thomas Shanks
John Townley
Mark Urban-Lurain
and others
Coordinator: Michael Erlewine

July 21, 22, 23, 1989
Big Rapids, Michigan

Matrix Summer Seminars & NCGR offer a landmark conference on *The NEW Astrology* featuring Michel Gauquelin. The Gauquelin methodology is at the heart of the neo-astrological movement, which also includes subjects like solar research (sunspots, solar flux), geomagnetism, tidal and lunar theory, heliocentrics, market & cycles research, and much more.

For years now, traditional astrology has been giving birth to a new version of itself. Neo-astrology can be distinguished from its parent by its interest in the available facts as a reference point and, with some argument, the scientific method. The pioneer in this field is, of course, Michel Gauquelin. Michel's work has brought astrology into modern science. [*more*]

matrix summer seminars

[*cont.*]

Groups like NCGR (National Council for Geocosmic Research) have taken a keen interest in this new approach to astrological discipline. As you can read in our interview with Gauquelin in this issue, scientists mockingly dubbed Gauquelin's work "neo-astrology", but the phrase fits. This is a new astrology or at least a more rigorous approach. Neo-astrology it is.

The first Neo-Astrology Conference will be held here in Big Rapids as part of our Matrix Summer Seminar series. It features Michel Gauquelin, Robert Hand, Charles Harvey, Thomas Shanks and other leaders in this new movement. This first conference/workshop will be devoted to accessing the impact of the Gauquelin methodology on both the scientific and the astrological communities. Panelists will work together on a design to carry this methodology into the future. In addition, we will try to reach a consensus as to just what the term neo-astrology might include. And last, but not least, the conference will be somewhat of a celebration of this new movement, this new astrology.

Come and join in! Contact Phillip Erlewine at Matrix to make arrangements: (616) 796-2483.

Introducing: the ImageNet HOTLINE!

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NETWORKING THE NEW ASTROLOGY
WHO? WHAT? WHY? WHEN? WHERE?
616-796-3940

The *Astrology Hotline* is a networking referral service for the astrological community with a full-time staffed phone line. Its sole purpose is to facilitate communication among astrologers and to introduce astrology to the general public. **The Hotline is not just another astrological organization. It has no real hierarchy, no officers and a simple public agenda: networking.**

The Astrology Hotline is a part of *ImageNet,* a networking effort on the part of major astrological groups and businesses. In support of the ImageNet concept, the three largest organizations in the U.S. have created special IMAGE committees, each in their own style but all working in cooperation — all networked. NCGR has created *IMAGE SIG,* AFAN has adopted *IMAGENET* and the AFA has established *IMAGE Public Relations Committee* for its members. Many other astrological organizations and businesses are being invited to join as well. The goal is to join together, share resources and provide support for all working astrologers. What all three of these image groups are dedicated to is the (non-sectarian) cooperative exchange of information and materials that will help astrologers prepare for a more active public role in the coming years. ImageNet Works!

Computer/Software Workshops

This year, we're hosting two free workshops for astrologers with questions on software, computers or the business side of astrology. June 10-11 & July 24-25. Call or write to reserve your place. ■

The Networkers Ad Kit

As a first step, we have put together a simple but effective ad kit, the *Networkers Ad-Kit.* It consists of a number of pieces of advertising art (mechanicals) that might be of use to the average professional struggling to put together anything from a business card to a small poster. Accompanying these ad stats is a brochure explaining how to design astrological ads, everything from personal business stationary to display ads for the local newspaper. Using the kit is easy. It provides concrete steps toward a better image through helping you create attractive home-made ads. Or take the kit to your local printer for their use.

The *Networkers Ad kit* is available now to all interested astrologers on a cost-of-production basis. Where we go from here is up to our collective ingenuity. Perhaps networking will stimulate our community and help to remind us that communicating and working together on various projects is exciting and worthwhile. Perhaps you have other ideas or items that could be made available to the entire community.

■ **Networkers Ad-Kit** $10 (postpaid) The Ad-kit is being mailed at cost to networkers. Call or write today:
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■ **Astrology Hotline** The Hotline is now in operation. If you have an astrological business or product that you would like to have referred via the Hotline, please write ImageNet for an application form. There is no fee to join ImageNet. ■

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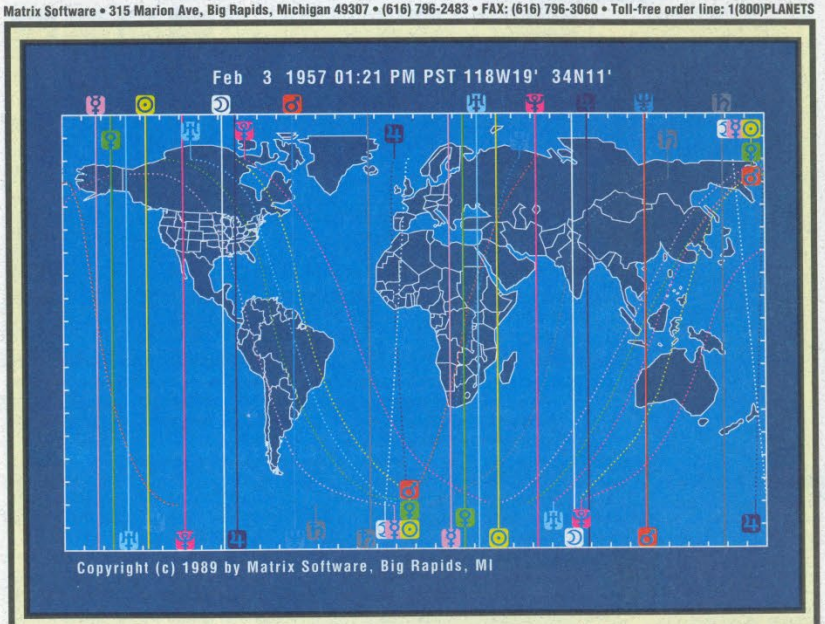

AstroMap
HIRES

Matrix Software

Published quarterly by Matrix Software. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in US & Canada. Overseas: $17.95 (via airmail). ISBN 0740-6738 ©1989, Matrix Software

8M6/89

Welcome to UAC!

AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group — Volume Six, Number Two • Summer 1989

QuickCharts!

New Hi-Res Program For Counselors and Busy Professionals

Reading about *QuickCharts!* is nothing like seeing it run. This new program uses EGA, VGA, or Hercules graphics to produce beautiful chart wheels on your computer's screen. And it's fast! We call the program *QuickCharts!* because it gives busy professionals a wide range of accurate charts in a jiffy...

[Continued on 2]

QUICK·CHARTS!

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Continued from 1

QuickCharts!

QuickCharts! was designed by a professional astrologer with over eight years of full-time counseling experience, and it shows.

We've illustrated some features to give you an idea of what the program can do. There isn't room here to show it all, but here are some highlights.

■ **Pull-Down Menus**
State-of-the-art menus with instant pull-down help messages are used throughout. If you forget what a menu feature is, just ask for help and you'll get an instant update.

■ **Blue★Star Compatibility**
QuickCharts! reads any *Blue★Star* or *Compact Data* file in your collection. In addition, *Blue★Star* can import *QuickCharts!* files.

■ **Time Change Atlas Support**
If you own either the *American* or *International Time Change Atlas*, you can access these from within the *QuickCharts!* environment.

■ **User-Specified Defaults**
Set it once and leave it. Like its big brother *Blue★Star*, *QuickCharts!* remembers your preferences. A variety of user-defined options are remembered and recalled the next time you use the program.

■ **Two Charts Active**
QuickCharts! handles any two charts on-screen at once (up to 60 points!) and of course, any number of additional charts stored on disk.

■ **30 Planets and Points**
The Sun, Moon, planets and sensitive points, ascendant, midheaven, vertex, equatorial ascendant (east point), lunar nodes, and part of fortune are there. Also included are the eight TransNeptunian planets, along with the four major asteroids, Chiron and even TransPluto.

Best of all, any of these active points can be turned on or off for either of the two active charts at any time. If you want to show only Mars aspects, for example, you can do it – and even save it as a default set.

■ **House Systems**
Built-in house systems include Koch, Placidus, Campanus, Equal, Meridian, Regiomontanus, Porphyry, Morinus, Topocentric, Aries, Solar and user-defined.

■ **Options**
You can select to view charts in zodiac or 360-degree notation. Charts can be viewed in sidereal (your choice of ten ayanamsas) as well as the tropical zodiac.

■ **Aspects and orbs**
The 13 built-in aspects have orbs that are user-modifiable.

■ **Screen Displays**
Quality data display is what *QuickCharts!* is all about and this includes many different wheels, including single, bi-wheels and double wheels (2 separate wheels). You can view them in the standard house format, European open-wheel format (Aries or ascendant to left), and in a wide variety of coordinate dimensions – including geocentric, heliocentric, right ascension, Local Space™ horizon, and Local Space prime vertical. In addition, you can even choose to put your helio planets in your geo houses. Cosmobiological wheels for any dial are built-in.

Beta testers love the way our new two-wheel format lets you look at two separate charts (or a single natal from different perspectives) at the same time. For example, display the wheel of houses plus the same chart in aspected open-wheel format. With these many variations, quick chart snapshots are a breeze.

■ **On-Screen Glyphs**
The program includes three different styles of on-screen glyphs (astrological symbols): **1** solid full-color characters, **2** full-color line glyphs ,or **3** monochromatic grey-scale glyphs. Choose your favorite and make it the default set.

■ **Transits & Progressions**
Instantaneous transit charts and a variety of progressions and directions are built-in. With any chart, just press a button to get the current progressed chart. Secondary, solar arc, and degree-for-year progressions and directions are included, as are daily houses and solar arc midheaven style progressed cusps.

■ **Solar & Lunar returns**
Solar and lunar returns are there, precessed or standard. In addition, you can search for quarti, demi, etc. returns or the return of the Sun or Moon to any zodiac point.

Euro-Wheel (right)
Shown is the self-aspecting European open wheel.

Aspect Dial (above)
An electronic version of the old-timey aspect dial. Cursor keys move the dial around the wheel or jump from planet to planet. Spotting major aspects is easy.

Check out the technical muscle built into this small program!

On-Line Data:

QuickCharts! has its own micro-database with essential information for the practicing astrologer:

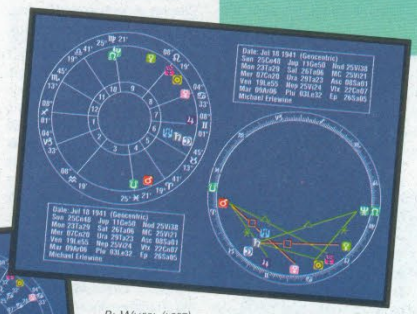
■ **Accurate Ephemerides**
The Sun, Moon, planets and the eight TransNeptunians are available for dates 1700 through 2300 AD. In addition, the sensitive points, ascendant, midheaven, vertex, equatorial ascendant (east point), lunar nodes and part of fortune are included. Also included are the four major asteroids, Chiron and even TransPluto for current times.

■ **Timed Lunar Phases**
(1900-2050) For any chart on the screen, press a button and view an accurate chart for the next lunar phase after that chart date (or starting from today's date). For example, load in your natal chart, press a button and get the next lunar phase from today's date (new, full or quarter moon). Both charts are on-screen at once, aspected and ready to read.

■ **Timed Major Aspects**
In a similar way, you can load in your chart, press a button and get the next major planetary aspect (Mars through Pluto) timed to the minute for the rest of this century.

■ **Timed Stations**
Again, I can elect to display the next station for any planet —with exact timing. Direct and retrograde stations are marked, as are conjunction/opposition points with the Sun.

[Continued on 4]



Double Wheel (left)
View any two wheels on-screen at the same time. These can be two views of the same chart (as shown here), or various views of two different charts.

Bi-Wheel (left)
View any two charts in a single wheel — one within the other. Press a key to switch charts from inside to outside and vice versa.

Continued from 3

QuickCharts!

■ **Parallels**
A special parallel feature lets you graph parallels and contra-parallels in declination, latitude (helio also), altitude, and prime vertical amplitude. Hi-res scan features let you view visual parallels and/or sort them for easy visual access. You can examine two charts at once via this feature.

■ **Miscellaneous data**
QuickCharts! has a special table of esoteric information as shown at right.

■ **Cosmobiological Wheels**
We have complete cosmobiogical wheels (any dial) with a built-in dial for examining planetary pictures.

■ **Composite & Relationship charts**
QuickCharts! is great for synastry comparisons of all kinds. We include the two standard auxiliary synastry techniques: composite and Davison-style relationship charts. Both composite and MC style angles are included.

■ **Local Space Analysis**
On-screen analysis of Local Space azimuth and prime vertical charts makes evaluating these charts easy.

ASPECT LIST (TOP)
QuickCharts! lists aspects and orbs for any series of selected planets or points.

MIDPOINT SORT (ABOVE)
QuickCharts! lists midpoints by planet/point, or sorted in a table (as shown here).

■ **Harmonic Charts**
The complete range of harmonic charts is included.

■ **Diurnal Synastry**
This is a somewhat new technique which allows you to lay any Local Space chart (azimuth or prime vertical) over a second chart and get a meaningful comparison. This technique is based on adjusting the second chart as if it had the same RAMC as the first. Interesting results.

■ **Rectification Assist**
Now a standard in many Matrix programs, this feature allows you to move the wheel around, trying different combinations based on the changing wheel of houses.

■ **Aspect-A-Planet**
Display aspects (sorted by orb), midpoints or angular separations on screen in a flash. A great old standby.

■ **Aspect Sequencer**
This is a feature that needs to be seen in order to grasp its convenience and value. The hi-res sequencing of planets and aspects is something all astrologers have looked forward to: watching planetary patterns and positions change from day to day at the touch of a button. Great for studying the changing sky and for electional astrology. You can sequence planetary patterns through time to find the combinations you're looking for.

■ **Aspect Finder**
Here's an electronic screen version of the old-time aspect finder. These things do a great job of spotting aspects – particularly for beginning astrologers.

■ **Real-Time Astro•Clock**
Matrix was the first to bring astrologers a real-time screen *Astro•Clock* and *QuickCharts!* has one built-in. Watch the changing chart angles ,or view an updated chart at any time.

■ **Sorted Midpoints & Aspects**
Sort any chart (all 30 points plus planet positions) into a list for display. Both midpoints and angular separation lists are available.

■ **Aspect/Midpoint Scan Graphs**
Instant graphs of angular separation or midpoint prominence. Both 180° and 360° graphs for angular separation are available.

New Data Entry:

Type In Data Any Way You Like!
An all new input routine gives *QuickCharts!* flexible data entry so you can enter data however you like it. For example, it accepts dates in all of these formats:

July 18, 1941
Jul 18 1941
18 Jul 1941
07.18.41
7-18-1941
7/18/41
etc.

In addition, European users can elect to enter dates in their preferred manner. This way, "18.7.41" or it's equivalent is allowed.

Throughout the program, data entry follows your lead. It accepts time of day in many formats, including 24 hour (military) or AM/PM style. It recognizes time zone labels and/or time zones in hours, EST, etc. This data entry sets a new standard for flexibility, ease of use and efficiency. Almost any format you feel comfortable with is acceptable to *QuickCharts!*

■ **System Requirements.**
QuickCharts! runs on IBM-style computers with 512K, 2 drives, and Hercules, EGA or VGA graphics. A hard disk is **not** required. It won't run on the older CGA style graphics. It runs best on an AT style machine or better, and of course EGA/VGA color is more effective than the Hercules graphics. A version is available for systems with a math co-processor. ■

New QuickFiles Format:

QuickCharts! has its own powerful file system designed for flexibility, speed, and compactness. *QuickFiles* are fun to work with – beta testers say it's the easiest file system ever. [The *QuickFile* system is also available in *AstroMap* and *Time Cycles*.] *QuickFile* features include:

■ **Variable Size Files**
QuickFiles can contain one chart or thousands. You can store sets of charts under any names you like. A pop-up window lets you see the names of the *QuickFiles* you have in any directory.

■ **Search Features**
Find any chart using the screen directory, or by searching for its location number or any user-defined search phrase.

■ **Tag Files**
Browse through *QuickFiles*, mark the ones you want to pull out and collect them into a new file.

■ **Save Charts**
Save any new chart automatically after entering or at any time. In addition, you can replace any existing chart with another.

■ **Alphabetical Sort (or Not)**
Choose to alphabetize a *QuickFile* chart directory at any time. Or, you may wish to group charts non-aphabetically. You decide.

■ **Import by Blue•Star**
QuickFiles are always ready for instant import by *Blue•Star*, word processor, or (heaven forbid!) some other astrological program.

■ **Quick Exchange Module**
Our new chart conversion module (see article elsewhere in this issue) comes with *QuickCharts!* allowing you to convert *Nova, CCRS, Kepler, ARM, Pathfinder*, etc. files into *QuickFiles*. ■

The Electric Almanac

Freeware: free for the asking. The *Electric Almanac* is just that, an electronic form of the classic farm almanac that people have used for centuries. For some time, we've looked around for a way to introduce the general public to things astrological. Everyone knows almanacs contain a little of everything, including a fair amount of astrology. This new *Electric Almanac* has all of this and more.

For one thing, there are all the various electional items you might see in any almanac: *When do I plant my peas or daffodils? What's the best date to paint my house, or buy a new car?*

The almanac has hundreds of these electional items in a format easier to use than printed tables. You select the item you want and the *Electric Almanac* pops up a three-month calendar of appropriate dates for the category you have selected.

The almanac has tables of the best times each day for hunting and fishing, tables for star watching, planetary hours tables, and more – each one caclulated for your location. In addition, complete daily astrological transits are included along with pop-up written interpretations for each aspect.

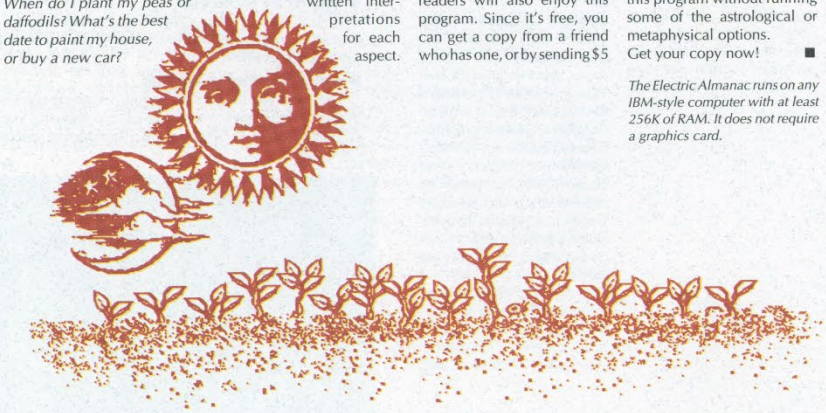
All kinds of planetary *Action Graphs* are included: 30-day, weekly, daily and even hourly graphs make it easy to see planet activity at a glance.

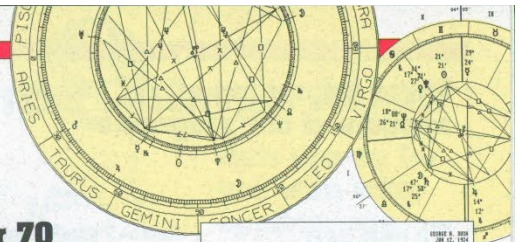
For fun, there are a number of standard oracles, like the Chinese I-Ching (Book of Changes), a Tarot spread, and a couple of sophisticated horary astrology options. There is even a lotto/lottery option that picks lotto numbers based on Pythagorean number resonance for current dates.

Although designed for the general public, *Astro★Talk* readers will also enjoy this program without running some of the astrological or metaphysical options.

Get your copy now! ■

The Electric Almanac runs on any IBM-style computer with at least 256K of RAM. It does not require a graphics card.





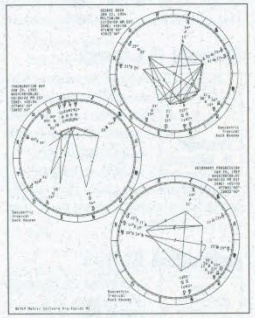
Astrolabe, Cosmic Patterns, and Matrix create a File Standard

That's right! Three major software companies have come together on a common file standard, and others are also considering joining in). A new era of chart and data exchange is now possible. Now *Blue★Star* users will be able to read *Nova* or *Kepler* data files and vice versa. This new format is part of the *QuickFile* format *[see page 5]*. *QuickCharts!* uses the new file standard. Here are some details for those programmers out there:

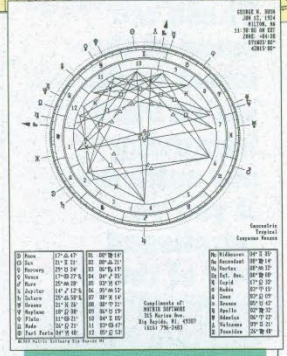
The standard is the essence of simplicity. The first 102 bytes of a record contain the basic birth data in pictured ASCII format. Pictured format means that each piece of data is ready to print, thus a geographic longitude is placed in the file as 075W18'34" (not +751834 or other variant). What happens beyond the 102nd byte of data is up to each company – only the first 102 bytes of data are common ground. The total record size (from the 103rd byte to the terminating bytes) depends upon whose software you're using. This way, we can always read each other's birth or event data, although we may have to recalculate the chart. File reading routines will access any file written in the new standard, find out how large the record is, and use that record length for reading and writing. For example, *QuickCharts!* will read *Nova* data written in the new standard and even add charts to the *Nova* file. When *Nova* accesses the file again, it will detect that only the basic birth data is present and fill in the rest of the data. The same goes for *Nova* users reading *QuickCharts!* files. Details are available to all programmers and/or researchers. Get a copy of the specifications for the standard by writing Matrix, Astrolabe or Cosmic Patterns. Join us! ■

Over 70 PrintWheels For Everybody!

The response to our 50 new hi-res chart wheels has been wonderful! In fact, we're so enthused that Stephen Erlewine has been busy designing still more wheels to add to the set. **At the time of this writing, there are over 70 different *Blue★Star* hi-res wheels, and still more are added each week.** They cover almost any astrological format you could want. The wonderful thing is, you can browse through the collection, and pick out your favorites for a chart service. If the 50+ you now have aren't enough, and you want all 70+, they're available for the cost of disks, shipping, and handling. ■



Shown are a few of the more than 70 new hi-res wheels built into Blue★Star. Above: three chart wheels are combined on one page for comparison.



New: hi-res printouts on your HP LaserJet

The *Arabic Parts Wheel* above wasn't printed on a dot-matrix printer (the two wheels above it were). It's a Matrix hi-res page that was output on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet. Laser output from *Blue★Star* wasn't possible until now: a new program called *LaserControl* from Insight Development Corp. lets you print unusually crisp, clean charts if you have access to an HP LaserJet or compatible printer.

The price of *LaserControl* is $149. For more information, contact:

Insight Development Corp.
1024 Country Club DR. Suite 140
Moraga, California 94556
(415) 376-9451 FAX: 631-0595

Also contact Kevin Fowler, our Technical Support Manager, for a report on our experience in using *LaserControl* with a variety of hardware configurations. ■

We're improving all aspects of our programs

These are some of the latest ways we've been improving our software. If you've purchased any of these programs and are interested in an update, they're available at a minimal cost. Call us for details.

Astro★Talk-PC Report Writer

Thanks to suggestions from our users, our most popular report writer is better than ever. Among other things, a new section has been added to the *Astro★Talk Report Writer* that collects all of the more difficult aspects under the heading "challenges" and easier ones under "strengths". This new option can be included as part of the report. In addition, we've expanded the part of the report that gives timed transits and their interpretation. This feature now provides a number of pages of forecast instead of a single page.

Life Progression

The *Life Progression Report Writer* has also been improved, thanks to suggestions passed along by it's author, Sophia Mason. The new edition is available now.

Friends & Lovers

A number of you have asked that the aspects for each section in this report be grouped by aspect types ("challenges" & "strengths") making it easier to grasp the nature of the relationship. We've done this, and it's available now.

AstroMap Hi-Res

AstroMap Hi-Res now saves charts to disk! And the program uses our new *QuickFiles* format, too. *[Page 5.]*

Blue★Star Set-Up

Blue★Star's set-up routine as been re-improved to make installation even easier than before. In particular, those of you who have a fast hard disk and DOS 3.1 or later can bypass the need for the RAM disk altogether. Also, it is now easier to install from any external drive. [Since most users are already installed, this won't affect you.] If any of you are having installation problems, or want to get rid of a boot disk that you're using, this update makes installation easier.

Enhanced Printer Handling

Blue★Star 512K & 2.1 and most of our Report Writers now feature improved error handling for printer jams, paper outage, and off-line status. Our European customers can now use any page length their printer can be set for.

Jazz Musicians Added To Compact Data Library

Three new disks in our *Compact Data Library* have birth data for almost 3,000 jazz musicians. Taken from a single source, the just-published *New Grove Dictionary of Jazz*, this is a great opportunity for research-oriented astrologers to study a large set of individuals. Since most of the original wave of jazz greats are no longer with us, the date of death (when available) has been included. Price: $30 per disk ■

Are there ways we can serve you better?

We're working on the next generation of *Blue★Star*, and are asking for your help. What do you like or dislike about Matrix Software? Are there features that you never use? What techniques are you looking for? What features have you always dreamed of finding in a package? How much accuracy do you need? How about our manuals, service and customer support? How could we serve you better?

What do we need to know, but can't see for ourselves? What do you feel would be helpful to us? Where are we missing the boat?

We welcome your feedback. As an incentive, we will give a special discount on the next software order from the first 40 customers who send us a detailed evaluation of some of the above topics. Send us detailed criticisms, comments, suggestions, your experience with our staff, etc., and we will respond with a special offer on your next purchase.

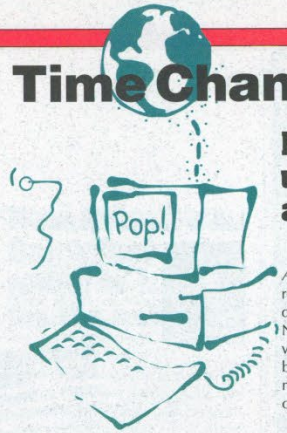
Please, no postcard-like responses. We need in-depth nitty-gritty details. We want your input to help us design the next generation of astrological software. Please address your input to our Joel MacWilliams . ■

Wanted: Astrologer/Programmer (other positions, Too)

We're looking for an astrologer/programmer for our staff. If you have programming experience in the IBM environment, we'd like to know you. QuickBasic experience preferred.

We're also looking for astrologers with office skills and/or communication abilities. Please contact Joel MacWilliams here at Matrix. ■

Time Change Atlas



New pop-up for use with other applications

Our new *ACS Time Change Atlas* is also available as a memory-resident program that pops up an demand from within other programs. Now you can refer to the atlas from within your word processor, database, any program in which you might want peographic coordinates or time change information. ■

Matrix Pioneer Awards

The *Matrix Pioneer Award* is given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of astrology. In the last year, the following astrologers were selected to receive this award:

Eleanor Bach
For high standards of professionalism in educating the astrological community in the application and value of the asteroids (Godesses) through chart interpretation.

Mary Downing
For outstanding organizational leadership, dedication to principles and equanimity in public relations.

Robert Hand
For outstanding technical and intellectual leadership in the field of astrology.

Ken & Joan Negus
For the highest in professional standards and outstanding leadership in the field of astrology. ■

Heart Center Library

The *Heart Center Library* keeps growing, thanks to your contributions of books and periodicals. If you have duplicate books or ones you no longer need, or if you want to find a worthy home for an entire collection, the *Heart Center Library* is available. Publishers or authors of new books, why not send us a copy or two? All donors not only get a tax credit (the library has received non-profit status) for the donation, but can be sure that their contribution helps to build an astrological reference center that is available to all students of astrology on a year-round basis. ■

In the works at Matrix

Here's a glimpse of what's coming soon. As you can see, each of these programs features a major astrological talent. What's more, each one is the first of its kind available for computer-assisted astrology.

Life & Career Cycles

John Townley

Cycle expert John Townley is the author of many books and articles on cycles. Interdisciplinary cycle research (circadian rhythms, biocycles, mundane cycles, etc.) are receiving more and more attention from today's researchers. Astrological cycles are just one part of these studies. Now you can select from a wide variety of cycles built into the program, or enter the cycles you've experienced in your own life. Here's an exciting new way to explore your own personal cycles and compare them with the larger cycles we all share. The program generates a personal report, complete with graphs and text.

Horary and Electional Report

Gilbert Navarro

Horary & electional astrology, with its exacting and complex system of rules, is little used and not well understood by many astrologers. Gilbert Navarro is recognized as one of the world's experts in this area. Thanks to Navarro's knowledge, we've been able to create a single program that handles both horary and electional matters. *Where is that missing possession? Will I recover it? How will this relationship turn out? Will I get the job?* Now you can add this very underrated (and lucrative) area of astrology to your list of services, and provide a complete printed report using the methods that Navarro himself uses.

Astro★Carto★Graphy® Explained

Jim Lewis

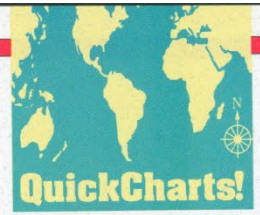
This is the identical *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained* report that Jim Lewis has advertised in about every new age magazine in existence. It is a proven money maker. Now you can offer these same reports as part of your service. The program also produces an *Astro★Carto★Graphy* map. The price includes the right to use the *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained* trademark in your own advertising.

The Sky Within: Using Your Birth Chart As A Spiritual Guide

Steven Forrest

Steven Forrest is well known for his two very popular books *The Changing Sky* and *The Inner Sky*. This is the first Report Writer to offer an in-depth profile with a spiritual orientation. Forrest is an excellent writer, and this report is a spiritual journey through the birth chart. It's perfect to introduce those new to astrology to its wonders. Forrest is very capable of speaking for himself; here's a brief sample:

"...But don't expect the usual 'Scorpios are sexy' stuff. You are a mysterious being in a mysterious cosmos. You're here for just a little while, a blink in God's eye. You face a monumental task: figuring out what's going on! In that work, astrology is your ally." ■



QuickCharts! in German, French, Dutch, and Spanish

QuickCharts! is the first Matrix product to be released in several languages at once. German, French, Spanish and Dutch versions are available now. All on-screen prompts, menus and help messages are in the language of your choice. Sorry, but the instruction manuals are still in English. One step at a time...

Matrix Report Writers go international

Speaking of other languages, we now have report writers in Spanish and Dutch, with German and French versions near completion.

Now available in Spanish:

- *Friends & Lovers*
- *Natal Report*
- *Transit Writer*
- *BioWriter*

Soon: Astro★Talk PC Report Writer

Now available in Dutch:

- *Natal Report Writer*

Soon: Transit Writer

Coming soon in German:

Astro★Talk PC Report Writer ■

New Blue★Star QuickExchange utility is free for the asking

Available right now to all comers is the new *Blue★Star QuickExchange* utility module. There is no charge for this utility (we do require a $5 fee to cover postage and handling.) Availability isn't restricted to Matrix users. This powerful utility makes advanced file handling simple.

For one thing, it converts any *Blue★Star, Compact Data* or *ARM* (*Astrology Research Module*) file to the new *QuickCharts!* format – or vice versa. You can also prepare all these files for import into *Blue★Star*, a database, or a word processor.

There's more! Convert your *Nova* (™*AstroLabe*), *Kepler* (™*Cosmic Patterns*), *CCRS 88*, or *Pathfinder* files into *QuickCharts!* or ASCII format in the wink of an eye.

The *QuickCharts!* format is a great way to store masses of data: it will store 3549 charts on a single 360K floppy disk. Unused *Blue★Star* or *Nova* files, for example, can be collapsed and stored in *QuickCharts!* format for future use.

The program includes pull-down menus for ease of use. See the box at right for a list of features.

The new QuickExchange utility includes all this:

■ **Inspect-Files**
Examine any *Blue★Star, Compact Data, ARM, QuickFile,* etc. file, plus file from other systems like *Kepler* and *Nova*. Convert all these to a new standard file format. *[See page 7.]*

■ **Sorting**
Sort *QuickFiles* by chart name or by date. It takes advantage of available RAM for fast in-memory sorting and switches to disk-sorts for larger files. This routine will handle *very* large chart files.

Plus enhanced utilities for *Blue★Star* users:

■ **Case Conversion**
An option for automatic upper-lower case conversion for chart names

■ **COPY!**
Create, copy or extend (or collapse) any *Blue★Star* files. You can collapse unfilled *Blue★Star* files into smaller ones for easy disk storage.

■ **Set Select**
Select groups of charts to delete or copy from file to file.

■ **File Doctor**
Gives *Blue★Star* files a clean bill of health. Perhaps you've damaged a file somehow. File Doctor checks and optimizes chart files and recovers charts from garbled files. In some cases, the Doctor reclaims unused areas of the file for future use.

■ **File Access**
Easy Access to multiple *Blue★Star* chart files.

■ **Rename chart files.**

■ **Output Directory**
Output directory listings to printer or to database export format. ■

Join us this summer!

Neo-Astrology Conference gets NCGR support

Our 1989 *Summer Seminar* is going to be a joint effort; co-sponsored by Matrix and the NCGR. The subject is "Neo-Astrology."

For years now, traditional astrology has been giving birth to a new version of itself. Neo-astrology can be distinguished from its parent by its interest in the available facts as a reference point and – with some argument – the scientific method. The pioneer in this field is, of course, Michel Gauquelin. Gauquelin's work has brought astrology into modern science.

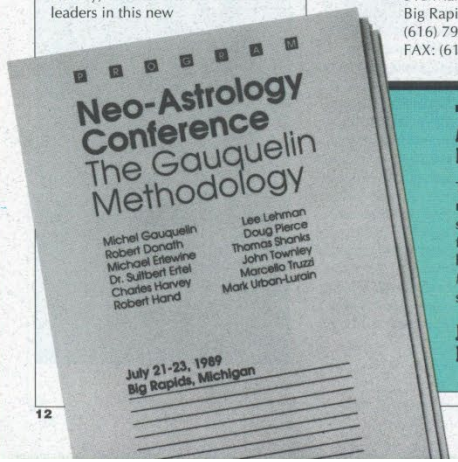
NCGR has taken a keen interest in this new approach to astrological discipline. Scientists mockingly dubbed Gauquelin's work "neo-astrology", but the phrase fits. This is a new astrology – or at least a more rigorous approach. So, neo-astrology it shall be.

The first Neo-Astrology Conference will be held in Big Rapids as part of our Matrix Software's *Summer Seminar* series. It features Michel Gauquelin, Robert Hand, Charles Harvey, Thomas Shanks and other leaders in this new

movement. This first conference/workshop will be devoted to assessing the impact of the Gauquelin methodology on both the scientific and the astrological communities. Panelists will work together on a design to carry this methodology into the future. In addition, we will try to reach a consensus as to just what the term "neo-astrology" might include. Last, but not least, the conference will be somewhat of a celebration of this new movement, this new astrology.

For more information, please contact Joel MacWilliams at Matrix:

315 Marion Avenue
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(616) 796-2483
FAX: (616)796-3060



The Neo-Astrology Conference: A landmark seminar on the NEW astrology!

The Gauquelin methodology is at the heart of the neo-astrological movement, which also includes subjects such as solar research (sunspots, solar flux), geo-magnetism, tidal and lunar theory, heliocentrics, cycle research, and more. Meet Michel Gauquelin and our other distinquished speakers in a relaxed, open-forum atmosphere.

July 21-23, 1989
Big Rapids, Michigan

Free: a software workshop at Matrix - July 24

On the Monday morning following the *Neo-Astrology Conference*, we're offering another of our free workshops on getting the most out of your computer and your Matrix programs. Whether you need advanced tips or a friendly introduction to computer-assisted astrology, this is the place. Kevin Fowler, our Technical Support Manager, prepares the programs for each of these workshops to cover your questions. So come to Big Rapids and get to know your computer, and us, a little better! Like always, our *Computer & Software Workshops* are free – a service we're happy to provide our customers. ■

Astro*Link 2000

Astrologer Glenn Kaufmann is putting push-button phone technology to work for astrology. Using modern Voice Information Technology (VIT), Kaufmann has created *Astro*Link 2000*, an astrological bulletin board and information service soon to be franchised in major U.S. cities. The system allows you to use a touch-tone phone to get a wide variety of information on astrology, astrologers, classes, workshops and what-not. Unlike our own *Astrology Hotline* (which was inspired by Kaufmann's work), *Astro*Link 2000* is geared toward the general public rather than toward practicing astrologers.

Glenn Kaufmann

Kaufmann hopes to see an *Astro*Link* system in every major city, providing easy access to the world of astrology in each area. All you need to start an *Astro*Link 2000* system (aside from a local franchise) is an IBM-style computer, a phone line and some local advertising. Professional astrologers in your area pay a monthly fee to have their services advertised on the hotline. People who call *Astro*Link 2000* can get their daily transit forecast plus information on lectures, classes, counseling, and whatever's going on in their area astrologically. Perhaps most important, here is a means for the public to get up-to-date information about a wide variety of astrological services from a single source. Once the existence of the hotline number is well advertised in a city, the public has an easy way to keep informed and astrologers have a powerful referral source. *Astro*Link 2000* will be shown at UAC. ■

The Astrology Hotline is up and running

The *Astrology Hotline* is a quick way to find out what's happening in the astrological community (use it to tell others what you're doing, too). For the cost of a phone call, you have instant contact with the astrological world – 24 hours a day.

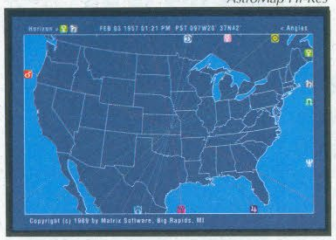
Touch-tone phone technology makes available information on many subjects. You can listen to any or all of these astrological subjects:

• astrological consultation services
• local groups
• national organizations
• publications • mail order bookstores • legal guidelines for astrologers • conference listings • astrological software, and • how to list on the *Hotline*. It's all updated regularly, so call often to really keep in touch. Messages are answered daily.

The Hotline has a simple public agenda: networking.

The *Astrology Hotline* is part of IMAGENET, a networking effort of major astrological groups and businesses. The three largest organizations in the United States – AFA, AFAN and NCGR – are each supporting the networking concept. You can assist in this cooperative exchange of information and materials, too: call the Hotline for more details on how your business or group can be included: **1-616-796-3940.** With our combined efforts, we can help to prepare astrologers for a more active public role in the coming years. ■

AstroMap Hi-Res



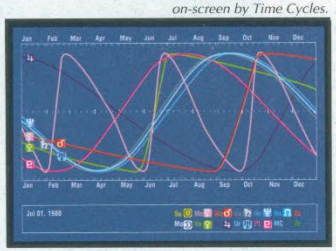
Screen from AstroMap Hi-Res

While at UAC'89, stop at the Matrix booth to see for yourself the hi-res screen quality of our new *AstroMap Hi-Res program*. The *Astro★Carto★Graphy®* and *Local Space™* maps in full color are great.

A number of Matrix customers who are using *AstroMap Hi-Res* have written asking where they can learn more about the local space techniques that are available in that program. There is a new book out by astrologer Steve Cozzi called *Planets in Locality* in which a number of relocation techniques (including local space) are covered. The book is published by Llewellyn and should be available through your local metaphysical bookstore. Copies are also available for $14 (postpaid) from Steve Cozzi, 12820 West Montana Drive, Lakewood, CO 80228. Steve has been giving lectures on the subject in many areas, so you may even be able to catch him in person. ■

Steve Cozzi

Time Cycles



Planetary motion graphed on-screen by Time Cycles.

Time Cycles is new software for cycles research and financial analysis on the IBM. Use it to combine and compare an enormous variety of natural cycles data and study the results in hi-res color. A major use for *Time Cycles* is in stock market analysis: use it to find the correlations between Wall Street's fluctuations and any cyclic activities you choose as indicators.

4300 natural cycles built-in.

By special arrangement with the *Foundation for the Study of Cycles*, this program includes a built-in database of 4300 verified cycles which can be graphed individually or in combination.

Our built-in database also includes the complete Dow Jones Industrial Averages since 1888 (day-by-day), daily counts for sunspots, the geomagnetic index, and many other natural cycles. *Time Cycles* is available in 3 versions (prices: $100/$500/$1000).

Call toll-free **1(800)PLANETS** for more on this major new program. ■

The growing Compact Data Library

Here's a current list of the disks available in the *Matrix Compact Data Library:*

1 **The Circle Book of Charts, Volume One**
1,000 charts (comes with *Compact Data*)

2 **Circle Book of Charts & More**
1,000 more from the *Circle Book of Charts.*

3 **CEO's**
Chief Executives of 998 major US companies.

4 **Penfield Data**
Marc Penfield's, *Information Please: An Astrological Almanac of Birth Data [4 disks]*

8 **1800 Scientists**
9 From Christopher of the *Alpha-Omega Alliance. [2 disks]*

10 **Nolle Timed Data**
11 Richard Nolle's set of timed birth data: political figures, actors, psychologists, writers and scientists. 1898 timed charts. *[2 disks]*

12 **AFA Data Disk**
From the *Data Exchange* column of the *AFA Bulletin.*

13 **Stock Market Data**
14 From Carol Mull's *750 over-the-Counter Stocks* and *Standard & Poor Stocks. [2 disks]*

15 **Astrologers' Birth Data**
Timed birth data for over 650 astrologers worldwide.

16 **NEW! Jazz Musicians**
17 More than 2,900 from
18 *The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz [3 disks]*

And the list continues to grow! Each disk in the *Compact Data Library* is priced at $30. ■

QuickList

A quick overview of Matrix programs

	IBM-PC	APL	C64	MAC				443 ☑
Personal Astrology Software								
Astro★Talk PC	256K	**	**	**		$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Friends & Lovers	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Life Progression	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
AstroMap	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Matrix Numerology	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Lucky Lotto!	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
BioWriter	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Professional Chart Systems	The core of a profitable astrological service business.							
Blue★Star Level One	256K				$49.95			4 for 3
See note below: Blue★Star Level Two	256K				$99.95			4 for 3
Blue★Star Level Three	512K				$300			4 for 3
Blue★Star 2.1	512K				$300			4 for 3
Blue★Star Test Drive Disk	256K						FREE	
Time Change Atlas	256K				$80			
American & International Atlases ($295/pr)	512K				$195 ea			4 for 3
AstroLink Conversion Utility	256K				$50			
Blue★Star 64					$99.95			
Hi-Res Screen Wheels	* 512				$149.95		$100	4 for 3
Color Plotter Wheels	256K				$100			4 for 3
Transit Search	256K				$100			4 for 3
Winning!	256K				$300			4 for 3
Jyotish Vedic Astrology	256K				$300			4 for 3
Matrix Hindu Program	256K				$100			4 for 3
The Matrix M65 Chart System					$300			4 for 3
M65B Research System					$250			
M65 Uranian Module					$50			
For the Mac: Graphic Astrology				**	$200			
New: QuickCharts! Format	Exciting new format for full color charts on-screen – with hi-res screen dumps.							
QuickCharts!	* 512				$149.95		$150	
AstroMap Hi-Res	* 512				$149.95		$225	4 for 3
QuickExchange Utility	512K						$5	
Research: Compact Data	Explore thousands of famous charts in our extensive disk library!							
Compact Data System	512K						$100	4 for 3
Compact Data Library Disks	512K						$30	
Convert: Blue★Star/Compact Data	512K						$30	
Astrological Research Module	256K				$250			
Cycles Research & Stocks	Time Cycles: research & investments. Ganntrader: astrology & the stock market.							
Advanced Time Cycles	* 640				$149.95		$500	
Introductory Time Cycles	* 512				$149.95		$100	4 for 3
Stock Market: Ganntrader	256K				$549			
Matrix Report Writers	In-depth astrological profiles at low cost bring in new customers.							
Astro★Talk Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Natal Chart Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Friends & Lovers Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Relating Potential	256K					$300		4 for 3
Transit Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Life Progression Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Alphanumerology Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Lucky Lotto! Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
BioWriter Report	256K					$300		4 for 3
Matrix Tarot Reader	256K					$300		4 for 3

Reading The Chart

Using Compact Data as an example, the first column shows that the program is available on IBM, and it requires two disk drives (or optional hard drive), and 512K memory. It isn't available on the Apple II, C64, or Mac, so their columns are blank. The price is in the "screen-based" column, which shows that the program isn't designed to print charts or reports. The "4-for-3" column shows that it's available at our "buy 3, get one free" discount offer.

Note on Blue★Star

Blue★Star Levels Two & Three are available in both 256K and 512K versions. When ordering, provide details on your computer system – we'll send the version with the most features possible on your machine.

KEY

To indicate output: charts/data, reports or screen-based.
Indicates no. of drives needed (choose 5.25" or 3.5" for IBM). Hard drive always acceptable.
4 for 3 Our 4-for-3 discount: buy three at same price, get one of same value free!
* New hi-res graphics on IBM: requires EGA or VGA capability (alternate: Hercules).
** Astro★Talk PC: Mac requires 512K & one 800K drive (or two 400K). Apple II & C64 are limited-feature versions: $39.95. Graphic Astrology: 512K & one 800K drive required.

AstroTalk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix Software • 315 Marion Ave, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 • (616) 796-2483 • FAX: (616) 796-3060 • Toll-free order line: 1(800)PLANETS

Coming in June: The Second NeoAstrology Conference

The Common Roots of Astrology & Science

1990

Solstice Seminar

June 23 & 24

Big Rapids, MI

Featuring

Dr. Theodor Landscheidt,

with Robert Schmidt,

Michael Erlewine,

and others.

I have been active in astrology for some 26 years. In the course of that experience I have had the opportunity to spend time with many of the major Western astrologers. I have met some very fine astrologers. My particular love has been for what I call radical theory, ways of looking at the world that cause us to re-order our way of thinking, and perhaps our life. Chaos theory is an example of what I call radical theory. In the whole echelon of astrologers, we have very, very few radical theorists. In my experience, I have met only one astrologer deserving of that name, and that is Dr. Theodor Landscheidt. This is not to say that there are not many great astrologers, but rather to say that when it comes to radical theory, Landschiedt has my complete attention.

And so we are very pleased that we are able to present Dr. Landscheidt as the featured speaker in our 2nd Neo-Astrology Conference. Landscheidt is not one of the quasi-astrologers who hide their interest behind what they consider the more respectable conventional scientific clothing. Landscheidt has always stated that he is, in fact, an astrologer first of all.

In setting up this conference these last weeks, I had a chance to talk with Theodor about this subject. I asked him again about his being an astrologer. His response was: "It is because I am an astrologer first of all that I have been able to make my scientific contributions!"

The second Neo-Astrology Conference will be on "The Common Roots of Astrology and Science." I can't imagine anyone more qualified to present this topic than Landscheidt. He, more than anyone I know of, has dedicated himself to researching modern astrophysical directions, in particular solar activity—the great Sun which is shining out there.

June 23 & 24 Big 1990 Rapids

Landscheidt has examined the world's climate, the stock market, ozone levels, and many other factors in light of their relation to the activity of the sun and the solar system. His work in these areas is unparalleled in the field of astrology. Now that Landscheidt has retired from his position as a Supreme Court Justice in West Germany, he is able to devote even more time to his solar research. Landscheidt is the only astrologer I know who is invited to speak at more scientific proceedings than astrological ones. And all of Dr. Landscheidt's scientific work is based on his metaphysical and mystical understanding of astrology and the cosmos.

Here is a rare chance to spend a weekend with Dr. Landscheidt in a small group format going over some of the most interesting results of the last 20-30 years of astrophysics. Although the panel is still being put together at the time of this writing, it will include Robert Schmidt, (mathematician and theoretical physicist) and this editor (who also has contributed to the understanding of astrophysics vis-a-vis astrology).

The final program is still being developed, and topics to be addressed include all manner of solar activity — solar flares, secular and supersecular sunspot cycles, solar rotation, geomagnetic disturbances, cosmic influence on weather, etc. More importantly, all of this somewhat technical material will be presented under the umbrella of the astrological mandala. We're primarily gathering as astrologers—not as scientists.

Michael Erlewine

Published quarterly by Matrix Software. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in US & Canada. Overseas: $17.95 (via airmail). ISBN 0740-6738 ©1990, Matrix Software

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AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group — Volume Seven, Number One • January 1990

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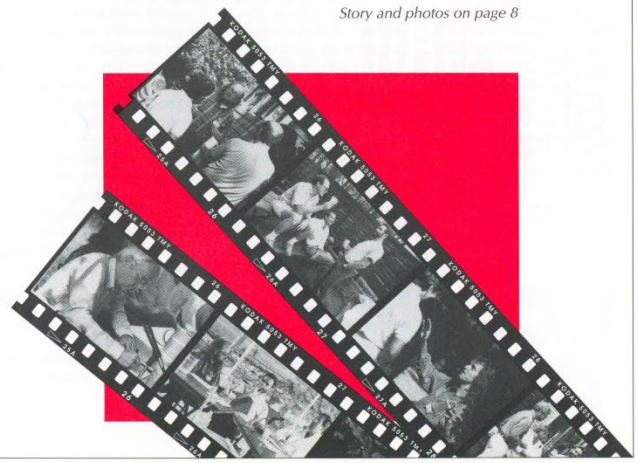
NEOASTROLOGY CONFERENCE REPORT & PHOTOS

MATRIX / NCGR

NeoAstrology Conference

Presented by Matrix and NCGR, this summer's conference saw dozens of top research astrologers get together for a weekend of ideas and creativity.

Story and photos on page 8



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NEW FACES AND NEW PRODUCTS AT MATRIX

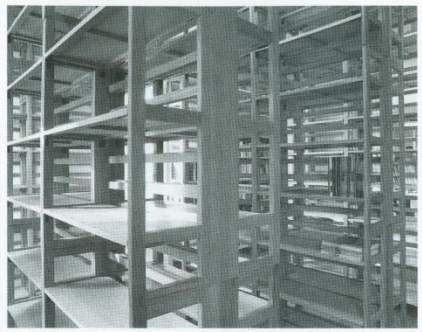
The Growing Heart Center Library

Ellen Black

Do you have books, magazines, or extra copies of any astrological publications? Donate them to the Heart Center Library, and they'll be available to the astrological community. They're also a tax deduction for you.

It's common knowledge that before any discipline can gain wide acceptance with the establishment, there must be an archive or library that is staffed and open to every researcher. The *Heart Center Library*, for which we sought and obtained a 501(c) nonprofit exemption several years ago, has been moving forward at a bit of a snail's pace—until this summer. When Charles Harvey visited us for a conference this past July, he informed us that British astrologers were in the process of merging their three largest libraries into a single collection. He then asked to place their duplicates here at the *Heart Center Library*. This vote of confidence set our staff thinking, and Matrix decided to commit the necessary funds to enlarge our shelf space and pay for a full-time librarian. This we have done.

We added another 50+ bookcases, bringing our shelf space to something like 2300 linear feet. These shelves are arranged in 9-foot-high stacks like most libraries. We then asked NCGR's Margie Herskovitz (who has a huge personal library) to assist us in designing a plan of operation. She flew in and helped us set up what we hope will be a real community project. Margie has agreed to chair the *Library Advisory Board* that includes individuals from most of the major organizations (see sidebar at right).



After interviewing a number of librarian applicants, we decided on astrologer Ellen Black from Cumberland, Maryland. Ellen, who was educated at St. John's College, has an extensive background in philosophy and literature. She also reads French and German.

In summary, there is now a library open to astrologers on a year-round basis. If you cannot visit, you can request lists of what we have, and (copyright permitting) we can provide you with xeroxed materials for your personal research. Having a full-time librarian means there is always someone here to help you locate the information you need.

The nonprofit status ensures that single books or whole libraries can be donated and a tax deduction taken. The *Heart Center Library* is committed to archiving not only books and periodicals but also articles, manuscripts, graphics, and even audio and video tapes. You can help by making sure at least one copy of any book, article, taped lecture, or whatever you've authored is sent to the library. We will be forming seed or starter libraries from our duplicates to help start other libraries in different parts of the country. Questions or donations can be sent to *The Heart Center Library*, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan, 49307, or for more information call (616) 796-3940. ■

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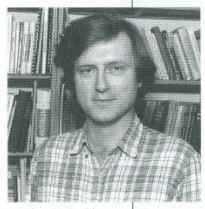
AstroMap HI RES

Robert Schmidt Joins Matrix As Research Director

As mentioned in our article on the recent Neo-Astrology Conference, one of the highlights for many of us was meeting mathematician and theoretical physicist Robert Schmidt. Schmidt has published a number of books and articles on mathematics and the history of mathematics. He is working with astrologer John Townley on translating a book by the Austrian zoologist Paul Kammerer. It is entitled *The Law of Seriality* and has to do with the ultimate basis for the clustering of events that we tend to ascribe to chance. Is it really just coincidence when the same unusual name pops up several times in a very short time? Schmidt and Townley have hopes that ideas from this book can be adapted to provide a physical basis for astrology. Although not astrology as we know it, this book contains the kind of thinking that astrologers are aware of. This is, no doubt, a very important book.



Robert Schmidt

Schmidt, who has been concentrating on the results of modern chaos theory in recent years, has been assisting Michael Erlewine in designing an add-on *Chaos Module* for the new *Time Cycles* program. He has accepted the research chair here at Matrix that has been vacant since Gary Duncan left some time ago. Among other things, he is in the process of reviving the Matrix Journal, which we can expect to see available soon. The journal will contain technical papers and articles on radical theory within the astrological framework.

Robert Schmidt (who is married to our new Heart Center Librarian, Ellen Black) is in the process of developing a theoretical model that could help validate astrology. His approach is not statistical, nor is he directly searching for a causal mechanism. Instead he hopes that his mathematical model can show the consistency and coherence of basic astrological concepts. Connected with this is an attempt to apply chaos theory to correlated cycles (including planetary ones) as if they were individual variables in a larger dynamic system. The new chaos module is proving to be an important tool in this work. ■

Astro★Talk Subscribers: *Your $9.95 payment purchases six issues ($17.95 overseas). We try to produce them quarterly, but sometimes we delay an issue to coincide with new program releases. Rest assured that you'll receive all of your issues as they are published.*

Update on Astro★Map Hi-Res

Those of you who have the new *Astro★Map Hi-Res* program may want our latest update incorporating all of your suggestions. For one thing, we've added separate maps for Great Britain as well as improving several others. In addition, we now have six regional U.S. maps for close-up views. Also, you can now calculate and display progressed and transiting Local Space positions on any of the maps. Thanks to all of you for your great suggestions. The update, including the extra maps, is $25.

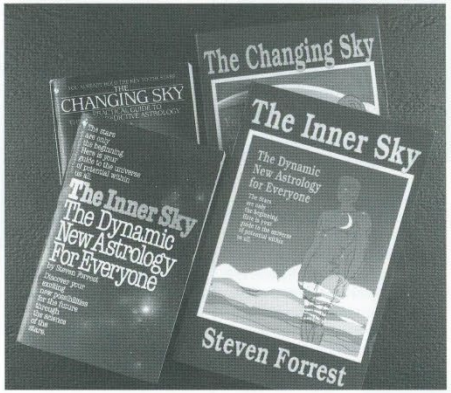
Laser Wheels Coming

Our Blue★Star hi-res chart wheels are now over 80 in number! We have been busy incorporating your suggestions, and many of you will be happy to note that early next year we will have a wide variety of ultra-hi-res laser wheels for your use. The wheels have been designed for any laser printer which supports the Hewlett Packard LaserJet protocol (most printers do). We have special character sets that produce typeset-quality astrological symbols. ■

THE SKY WITHIN

USING YOUR BIRTH CHART AS A SPIRITUAL GUIDE

A NEW MATRIX REPORT WRITER WITH TEXT BY STEVEN FORREST, AUTHOR OF ***THE INNER SKY*** & ***THE CHANGING SKY***



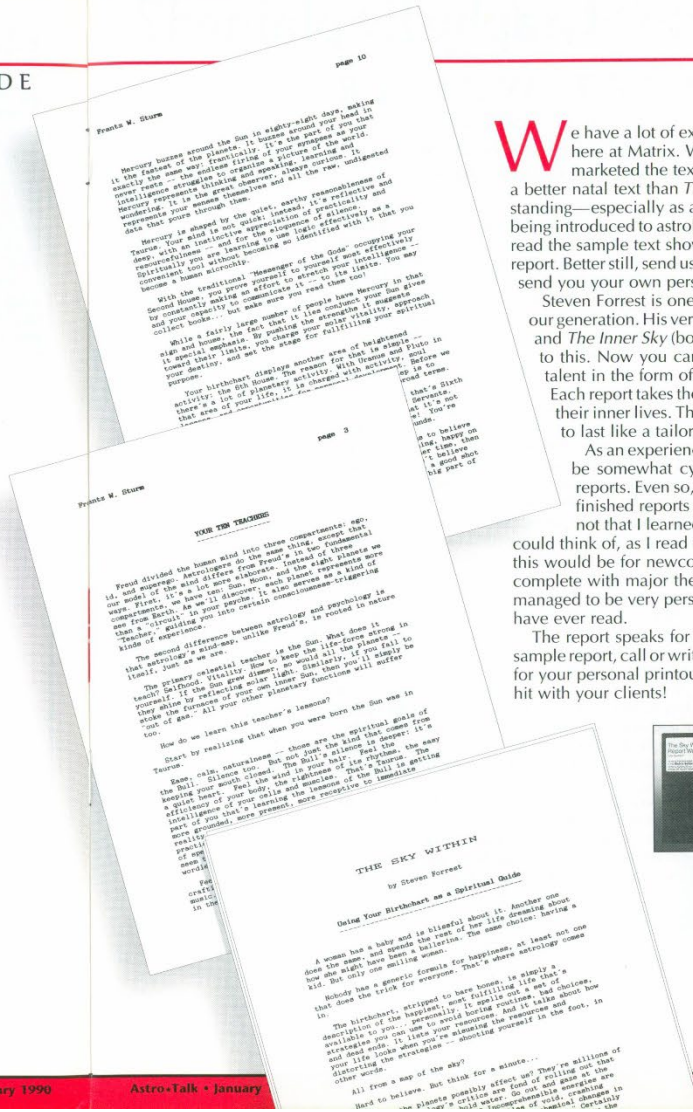
"How can the planets possibly affect us? They're millions of miles away." Astrology's critics are fond of rolling out that argument. But it doesn't hold water. Go out and gaze at the moon. What's really happening? Incomprehensible energies are plunging across a quarter million miles of void, crashing through your eyeballs and creating electrochemical changes in your brain. We call the process "seeing the moon." Certainly the planets affect us. The question is, where do we draw the boundaries around those effects?

Let's go a step further.

Open your eyes on a starry night. What do you see? A vast, luminous space, full of shadows and light. Now close your eyes so tight they ache. Where are you now? What do you see? Again, a vast luminous space, full of shadows and light. Consciousness and cosmos are structured around the same laws, follow the same patterns, and even feel pretty much the same... "

by Steven Forrest

(From the introduction to each report printed by The Sky Within Report Writer)



Steven Forrest

We have a lot of experience with natal report writers here at Matrix. We've written them ourselves and marketed the text of others, and we've never seen a better natal text than *The Sky Within*. This report is outstanding—especially as a first report for those who are just being introduced to astrology. But don't take my word for it; read the sample text shown here or send for a free sample report. Better still, send us $10 and your birth data, and we'll send you your own personal report.

Steven Forrest is one of the best astrological writers of our generation. His very popular books *The Changing Sky* and *The Inner Sky* (both mass-market paperbacks) attest to this. Now you can offer your customers this major talent in the form of *The Sky Within* personal reports. Each report takes the reader on a personal journey into their inner lives. The whole thing flows from first page to last like a tailor-made river of words.

As an experienced astrologer and author, I tend to be somewhat cynical when I read computerized reports. Even so, I was thrilled when one of the first finished reports rolled out of the computer. It was not that I learned so much new about myself. All I could think of, as I read through the report, was how great this would be for newcomers to astrology. It was so fluid, complete with major themes that tied it together, and still managed to be very personal. It is the best of its kind that I have ever read.

The report speaks for itself. For a pre-printed copy of a sample report, call or write. Or send $10 with your birth data for your personal printout. *The Sky Within* is going to be a hit with your clients!

Price: $300

The Sky Within runs on IBM-style machines with 256K, two disk drives or a hard drive, and a printer. Reports average twelve pages in length. Available through our

Astro☆Carto☆Graphy E☆plained?

REPORT WRITER

A new Matrix report writer with text by Jim Lewis, creator of Astro★Carto★Graphy®

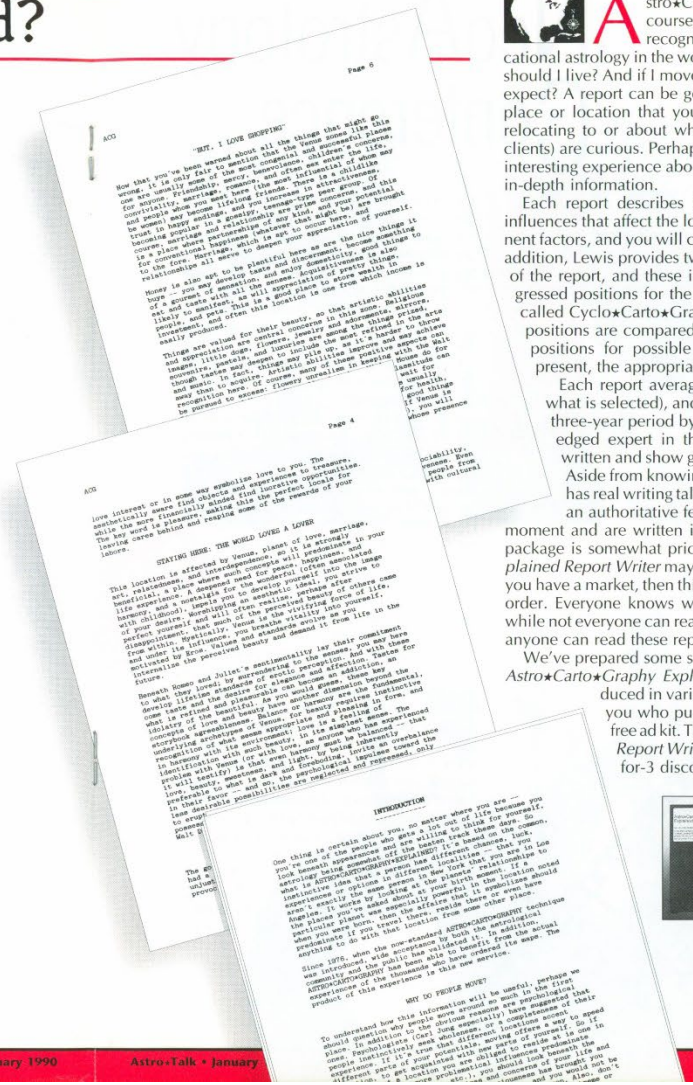
Everyone recognizes Jim Lewis as the world's authority on locality astrology. In 1989, Jim received a Matrix Pioneer Award for his outstanding contribution in the advertising field. More than perhaps any other single person, Lewis has maintained a continuous and thorough advertising campaign to promote Astro★Carto★Graphy. Readers can verify this for themselves: pick up almost any alternative press publications, magazines like *New Age Journal, East/West Journal,* etc., and you are sure to find a large and attractive ad for one of the Astro★Carto★Graphy products. This has been going on for 13 years, and I believe his advertising budget must be over $100,000 a year.

Purchasers of our new *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* have direct benefit of all of Lewis's extensive promotion. Program purchase includes the right to use the *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* logos in your own local and regional advertising. While our contract with Lewis prohibits national advertising (without a separate agreement with Lewis), it does permit you to select up to five states in which you can advertise and use the very well-recognized logo in your own ads and flyers.

This is an exclusive contract with Lewis, and he has never granted anyone the right to use his logo before. This is a first. Of course, this kind of agreement is not inexpensive, and the $495 purchase price reflects this fact.

However, if you are looking for an economical investment that already has a proven national following, here's the ticket. Each *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* includes the software, the limited license to use the logo, and a special ad kit that makes it easy for you to create attractive ads using the logo.

Now that we have gone over business details, let's spend some time on what the *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* is all about. For those of you who have not seen one, we've reproduced some sample pages here, and a description of what the report covers is given at right.



"BUT, I LOVE SHOPPING"

STAYING HERE: THE WORLD LOVES A LOVER

INTRODUCTION

WHY DO PEOPLE MOVE?

Astro★Carto★Graphy is, of course, the most widely recognized form of relocational astrology in the world today. Where should I live? And if I move there what can I expect? A report can be generated for each place or location that you are considering relocating to or about which you (or your clients) are curious. Perhaps you visited a place and had an interesting experience about which you'd like to have more in-depth information.

Jim Lewis

Each report describes both permanent and secondary influences that affect the location chosen. These are permanent factors, and you will carry them throughout your life. In addition, Lewis provides two other important factors as part of the report, and these involve major transiting and progressed positions for the current year. Using a technique called Cyclo★Carto★Graphy, both transit and progressed positions are compared to themselves and to your birth positions for possible contacts. If these contacts are present, the appropriate interpretations are printed out.

Each report averages 6-12 pages (depending upon what is selected), and all of the text was written over a three-year period by Jim Lewis himself, the acknowledged expert in this field. These reports are well written and show great depth and attention to detail. Aside from knowing what he is talking about, Lewis has real writing talent and it shows. The reports have an authoritative feel. They also have a sense of the moment and are written in a modern idiom. Because this package is somewhat pricey, the *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* may not be for everyone. However, if you have a market, then this is bound to pay for itself in short order. Everyone knows what Astro★Carto★Graphy is and, while not everyone can read the Astro★Carto★Graphy maps, anyone can read these reports.

We've prepared some special graphic ad sheets with the *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* logo reproduced in various sizes. While they last, each of you who purchases this software will get this free ad kit. The *Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer* is not available as part of our 4-for-3 discount offer.

Price: $495
Runs on IBM-style machines with 256K, two disk drives or a hard drive, and a printer. Reports average twelve pages in length. Not available through our 4-for-3 discount offer.

NeoAstrology Conference

The NeoAstrology Conference took place "under the big top" at the Heart Center in Big Rapids.

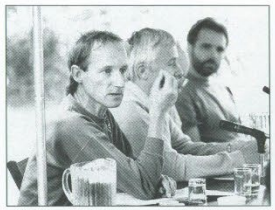
With winter in full swing here in mid-Michigan, those long lazy days of summer are a little hard to bring to mind just now. However, the memory of the first NeoAstrology Conference held here at Matrix in Big Rapids stays with me. The conference was just that: a memorable event.

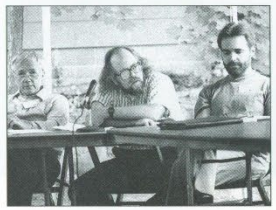
Not only did we bring together some of the finest research astrologers for a three-day weekend of exchange and discussion, but as it turns out, we had a lot of fun too. As general coordinator of the conference, it seemed as if I was in constant motion.

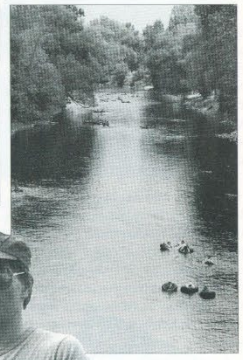
One memory from the conference is very vivid (I think it was Saturday night): I was worn out and took the first opportunity I could to say goodnight and crawl into bed. As I drifted off to sleep, Rob Hand and John Townley were playing some impromptu music outside my window. I knew that John was a veteran musician, but I had no idea that Rob was one, too. With Rob playing an alto recorder and John singing plus playing the concertina and the pennywhistle, I went to sleep to some very lovely melodies. It was a good moment.

For those of you who couldn't attend, or who don't remember just who was there, here is a list of some of the panelists: Michel Gauquelin, Thomas Shanks, Robert Donath, Lee Lehman, Doug Pierce, Dr. Suitbert Ertel, Rob Hand, Charles Harvey, John Townley, Mark Urban-Lurain, Ken McRitchie, Alois Treindl and a great many more, including Robert Schmidt (more about Robert later). Aside from the U.S., we had participants from Canada, Great Britain, France, Austria, Germany, and even three people from Australia.

With a few exceptions, almost the entire conference was held in panel format which permitted a liberal exhange with all present. In fact, perhaps more than any other conference I







At the NeoAstrology Conference:
Top Left: *Charles Harvey*
Top Right: *Michel Gauquelin*
Bottom Left: *Dr. Suitbert Ertel, Robert Hand, Mark Urban-Lurain*
Bottom Right: *Bob Schmidt*
Below: *The Muskegon River flows right through Big Rapids, and it provided a wonderful afternoon of "tubing"—a favorite way to spend a summer day. Matrix Technical Support Manager Kevin Fowler packed for a long trip (above).*

On the last day of the conference, everybody took to the river to beat the summer heat. Pictured here are Michel Gauquelin, Charles Harvey, Alois Treindl, and Ken McRitchie.

MATRIX / NCGR

NeoAstrology Conference

have ever attended, the difference (in expertise) between the invited speakers and the conference attendees, was irrelevant. It was a lively forum.

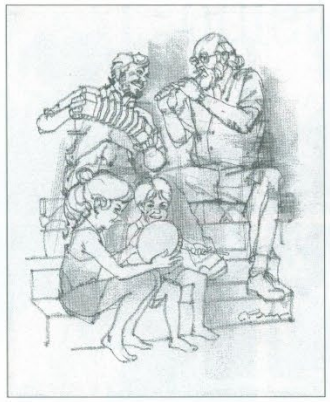
The Heart Center guest rooms were lodging for most speakers which meant the conference grounds were the scene for "after-hour" mixing. I hate to think how late our nighttime goings-on lasted. I know for a fact that one large contingent closed down the local bar and were still going strong.

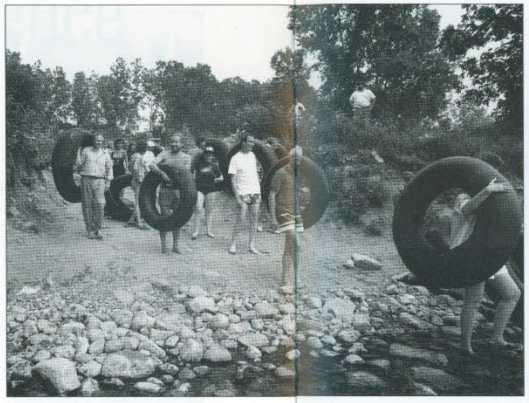
There is not room here to go into all of the material we went over. Please see the sidebar for a list of the topics for the different sessions. In general, this conference was devoted to examining the Gauquelin research methodology. And while this in fact happened, there was a lot more that went on in both formal and private sessions.

It was significant to me that Rob Hand gave me a big hug when he left. Being competitors has not always been fun, and that weekend did a lot to let us get to know one another better. Rob told me on leaving that, although he had been apprehensive about coming here, as soon as he stepped into our kitchen he knew things were going to be fine.

Another highlight for me was meeting Robert Schmidt. John Townley just showed up with Schmidt in tow. I had to take John aside and ask him, who is this guy? Does he belong on the panel, or did he just come to observe? "Put him on the panel, for sure." We did. It was fun.

In a sense, Bob Schmidt and I met each other in the middle of that first panel discussion. In those first moments, we both knew we had met one of those people in our lives with whom we not only have a strong connection, but that will require repeated meetings to satisfy whatever craving it is that draws people to one another. Schmidt, a theoretical physicist and mathematician, is not an astrologer. His interest in modern chaos theory and his ability to turn the light of his mind on almost any problem made him an instant hit with the rest of us, most of who had known one another for years. In fact, Schmidt and I had so much to go over that he and his wife decided to come back for a visit soon after the conference. We then found so much to exchange that they decided to relocate and become a permanent part of the scene here.





Big Rapids Michigan

There is not room here for all the vivid details of the conference goings-on. Audio tapes are available if you are interested; write us. The conference went well. On that last very hot summer day, some 36 of us ventured away from the conference tables and onto the local waterway for several hours of leisurely floating down the Muskegon River. What I can say? The enclosed pictures tell all. I am sure this has to be the first research conference partially held on the open water. With feet locked in each other's tubes, various clusters of us chatted away. Later that night, home safe and dry, the party continued. And that is our report of the first Neo-Astrology Conference. The second conference is scheduled for next spring.

Michael Erlewine

Topics presented at the conference:

NeoAstrology as a science
In search of a model for the emerging science of Neo-Astrology

NeoAstrology as a philosophy
In search of a paradigm for the study of astrological effects, physical mechanisms, etc.

NeoAstrology as a methodology
In search of objective measures of astrological effects; how do our methods embody our theories?

Data collection and sampling
Rules to observe in gathering birth data; problems raised by sampling procedures

Astronomical factors
Distinguishing astrological effects from normal variations in astronomical factors

Demographic factors
Distinguishing astrological effects from normal variations among human populations

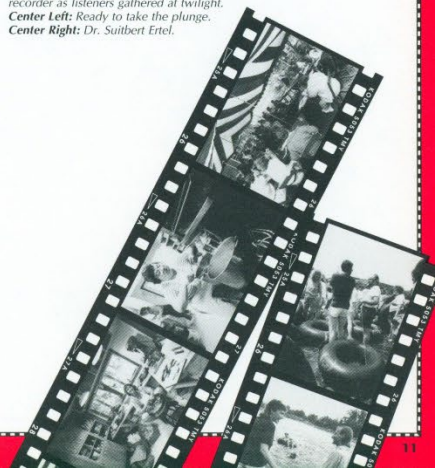
Statistical analysis
Using statistical techniques to test significance of astrological factors; the importance of replications

Research and practice
How do we benefit from participation in a research community? In a community of practitioners?

Facilitating communications
How can we facilitate the exchange of data, findings, and research standards?

Software tools for research
How well do current software tools meet research needs? What tools are still needed?

It was a great time. Three dozen astrologers bobbed and drifted down the Muskegon River in the afternoon sun. This is a new twist for Matrix Summer Seminars, and one we're bound to see more of!
Saturday Night Live: *John Townley and Rob Hand (both professional-caliber musicians) created wonderful music on the concertina and recorder as listeners gathered at twilight.*
Center Left: *Ready to take the plunge.*
Center Right: *Dr. Suitbert Ertel.*



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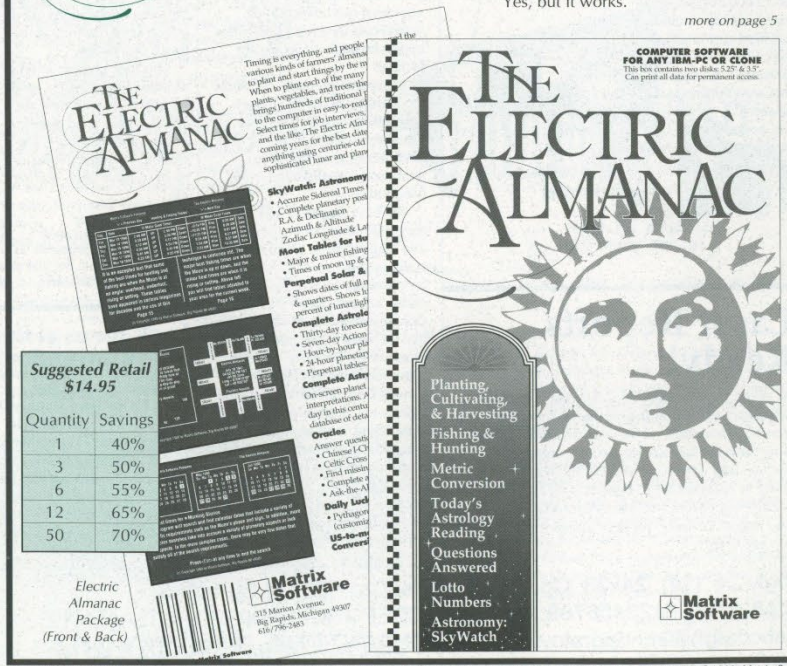
The Electric Almanac

We are happy to offer you, our customers, access to The Electric Almanac for resale to your clients or for use at shows, conferences, what-have-you. The program retails for $14.95. Feel free to order as many as you like. Of course, you are free to continue giving copies of the Electric Almanac to your friends if you like, but now you can also sell them. Sometimes the best way to give something away is to put a price on it. Crazy logic?

Yes, but it works.

more on page 5



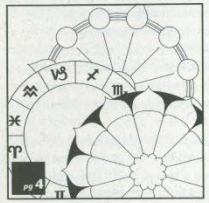
Electric Almanac Package (Front & Back)

Published quarterly by Matrix Software. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in US & Canada. Overseas: $17.95 (via airmail). ISBN 0740-6738 ©1990, Matrix Software

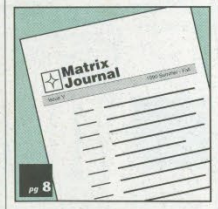
AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group — Volume Seven, Number Two • Summer 1990

INSIDE



ART WHEELS



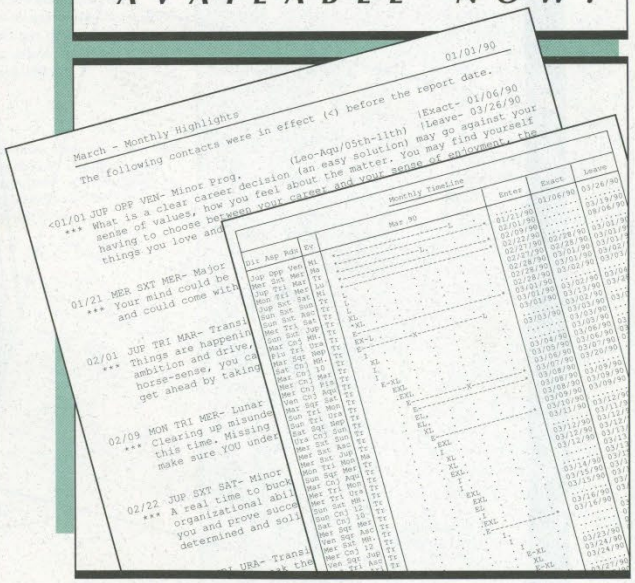
NEW: MATRIX JOURNAL

HI-RES MAPS - THEY LOVE THEM IN GREAT BRITAIN

TimeLine

Transit and Progression Report Writer

AVAILABLE NOW!



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MORE SALES SUPPORT!

We are expanding our network of field representatives. What does this mean to you? It means that there is someone close to you who has a similar interest in astrology and is knowledgable about Matrix products and happenings. These people can explain program features, give demonstrations, place your orders, help load your new software on your computer, and even teach you how to run it. For the name of the representative closest to you, call 1-800-PLANETS Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 7:00 pm eastern time.

Would you be interested in becoming a Matrix representative? Send us a letter of application explaining why you would be a good Matrix Representative. Tell us about your background in astrology, your experience with Matrix programs, and a little about the astrological groups in your area.

UPDATE...

QUICK·iST CHART

QuickCharts also continues to be improved, and it too now includes laser screen-dump support. This very powerful hi-res screen program has become a mainstay for counseling and electional astrologers, anyone who needs a wide variety of attractive charts in a hurry, thus the name QuickCharts. Any two charts can be displayed in dozens of different ways, such as transits, progressions, returns, or composites. All these techniques and many others are available in moments. High-quality screen wheels can be dumped to laser or Epson-style printers at any time.

Requirements: IBM 512K, two drives, and graphics required (Hercules, EGA/VGA). Recommended: AT-style machine with EGA/VGA. Hard drive not required. Price: **$150**
Update to existing owners: $25

THE SKY WITHIN

USING YOUR BIRTH CHART AS A SPIRITUAL GUIDE

"This is a new-style natal report with fantastic text by well-known author and astrologer Steven Forrest. This report is unique in the field of computerized readings as it reads as though Steven had written and typed out the report just for you. It is very personal, inspiring and comprehensive. A personal, flowing, poetic interpretation of a person's birth chart."

Mark Lerner, Editor
Welcome to Planet Earth

This program continues to get rave reviews. It is the most well-received natal report writer we have ever produced. Many of those using this program report that their clients love it. They tell us that they have never gotten such great feedback from their customers about a written report before. In other words, these reports sell and satisfy.

Requirements: IBM 256K & two drives (or hard disk) required. Price: **$300**

TIME CYCLES

GRAPHIC TOOLS FOR TIMING EVENTS IN NATURE AND THE MARKETPLACE

This is our latest program designed for the research-oriented astrologer and cycles/market enthusiast. There is not space here to even begin to describe the many features of Time Cycles. Write or call for our complete brochure. Here is what Richard Mogey, the director for the prestigious Foundation for the Study of Cycles had to say about Time Cycles in his review of the program in *Cycles* magazine:

> *"Time Cycles gives you access to a great deal of information. You can examine planetary positions, solar data, or stock market cycles and compare them with each other or with the Foundation's extensive databank of cycles (the program includes 4,300 known and tested cycles from the Foundation's own database). You can graph the cycles against any period of time, and you can combine cycles to show complex relationships. I was at first overwhelmed with how much is included in the program, but then settled down and explored each of the modules. My feelings turned to amazement. The program is extremely thorough, and can easily be run without reference to the manual. It was a real joy to easily call up our own cycles and explore them in relation to cycles in other natural phenomena. . . I can't recommend this program highly enough."*

The Foundation also has decided to offer the program to its many members. Further, Matrix and the Foundation for the Study of Cycles have agreed upon a common file standard for data distribution. It is now possible to get a wide variety of additional data to run and graph with Time Cycles. Most of the data available separately from the Foundation for the Study of Cycles is now available, configured for Time Cycles.

In addition, we have a great series of data from market analyst Paul Rabrich and his company, The Investor's Toolkit Data.

"I can't recommend this program highly enough."
Richard Mogey
Director, Foundation for the Study of Cycles

Time Cycles Series

Time Cycles — $495
Requires IBM-style computer with 512K and hard drive. Time Cycles runs best on an AT-style machine or better. Hercules, EGA/VGA graphics required (doesn't support CGA graphics).

Introductory Time Cycles — $100 *A reduced version of the same program.*
Requires IBM-style computer with 512K, hard drive, and graphics required (Hercules, EGA/VGA).

Special Offer
Additional Time Cycles Data

We have been able to develop some additional data sets that may prove of interest to some of our users. This is only a sample of the data available. Please call or write for a complete list.

Matrix Event Data
- All Major Earthquakes
- All Tidal Waves
- Major Magnetic Storms (AA★Index)
- Major Magnetic Storms — (AP★Index)
- Solar Sector Boundary Crossings
- Elongations planets Mercury & Venus
- Perihelia/Aphelia — All planets
- Geomagnetic Auroral Electrojet Index
- Lunar Angular Motion
- Lunar Parallax
- Tidal Force
- Geomagnetic KP Index (Daily, 1932-1990)
- Geomagnetic AA Index (Daily, 1868-present years)

Data from the Foundation for the Study of Cycles
- Bond Yields
- Corn Prices
- Business Activity
- Copper
- Consumer Price Index
- Crude Oil
- Gross National Product
- Gold Prices
- Hogs
- Interest Rates
- Wholesale Prices
- Retail Sales
- Housing Starts
- Unemployment
- Wheat Prices

Data from Investor's Toolkit
- OEX - SP100
- XAU - Gold Index
- XMI - Blue Chip Index
- UTY - Utility Index
- XII - Institutional Index - AMEX
- XOI - Oil Index - AMEX
- XCI - Computer Index - AMEX
- FNC - Fancy Index -
- FNN - On Pacific Stock Exchange
- DOW - DOW
- TRN - DOW Transports
- DOW - Utility Index

4-4-3 DISCOUNT

Our very popular 4-4-3 package is now more flexible! In the past, this special offer only applied to four porgrams of the same price. This is still true of Level I and Level II programs, but we have added some options at Level III. If you select Three professional-level (Level III) Report Writers, you can then choose AstroMap Hi-Res, QuickCharts!, ARM, or the American & International Atlases set as the fourth program.

We hope this new outlook will allow you to put together the ultimate package to meet your individual needs.

Level III **($300.00** *Unless otherwise indicated.)*

- Winning Blue★Star 2.1
- Blue★Star 512k
- Blue★Star 256k
- Natal Report Writer
- Transit Report Writer
- Biowriter
- Numerology
- Relating Potential
- Life Progression
- Friends & Lovers
- Astro★Talk
- Sky Within
- Time Line
- Vedic
- Tarot
- Lucky Lotto
- AstroMap Hi-Res $225.00
- QuickCharts! $150.00
- American & International Atlases (set) $295.00
- ARM $249.95

Don't forget! You can still create your own Level I or Level II 4-4-3 package from the separate lists below.

Level I **($49.95)**

- Life Progression
- Astro★Talk
- Friends & Lovers
- Biowriter
- Numerology
- Lucky Lotto
- AstroMap
- Blue★Star
- United Kingdom Atlas

Level II **($99.95)**

- Astro★Talk
- Compact Data
- Friends & Lovers
- Biowriter
- Numerology
- Lucky Lotto
- AstroMap
- Life Progression
- Screen Wheels
- Hindu
- Blue★Star
- Cycles Introductory

Matrix Journal

IS BACK!

The first *Matrix Journal*, at the time called *Matrix Magazine*, came out in 1978. It was dedicated to radical astrological theory and techniques. It focused on the technical concerns of astrology, in particular computers and their use by astrologers.

Now, some 13 years later, *Matrix Journal* is back. Once again we are calling for technical articles and papers. The first issue is available now. However, before you send for a copy, please understand that, because of its technical nature, the journal may not be of interest to everyone. There are no general articles on astrology to be found here, and no statistical studies. In fact, with so many fine publications on astrology and research available, we are going to limit *Matrix Journal* to technical papers that might not be published anywhere else. To us, radical astrological theory means a concern for the ultimate roots of it all. So look for papers devoted to grounding astrology and cultivating an authentic astrological world-view.

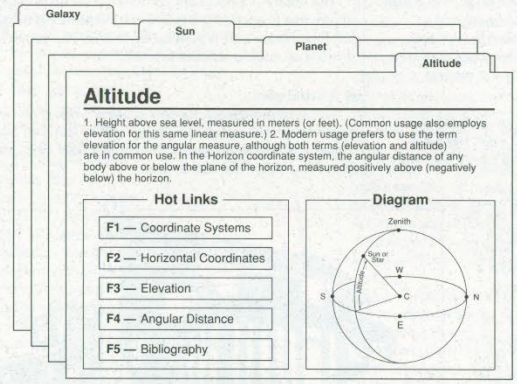
Some of you may enjoy ordering a copy just to see what is happening. The first issue of the new *Matrix Journal* is available now and can be ordered for $10 (post-paid). It includes the following articles:

- *Toward a Physical Basis for Astrology* by John Townley is an exposition of Paul Kammerer's ideas of "persistence causality" (in his *Law of Seriality*) as a complement to modern chaos theory, showing that this supplementary causal concept may furnish a basis for the natal horoscope and the mode-locking of mundane cycles to planetary ones.
- *Relative Velocity as a Primary Factor in Astrological House Differentiation* is the first in a series of papers by Robert Schmidt seeking to examine the validity of the causal or "scientific" view of astrology by subjecting the fundamental astrological principles to a consistency argument. Among other things, this paper interprets the Gauquelin effect.

This first issue also includes two articles by Michael Erlewine on the Lunation Cycle, and contributions by James Neely. Two other important papers round out the issue: *Intensive Magnitude and the Space-Time Continuum* and *Modeling Astrological Systems With the Damped, Harmonically Forced Oscillator* — a must-read for you chaos buffs. Those readers out there interested in technical matters and radical astrological theory, let's hear from you as subscribers and contributors. ***Available now!***

For only $10.00 (post-paid) you will receive the first issue of the new Matrix Journal!

Astro★Index



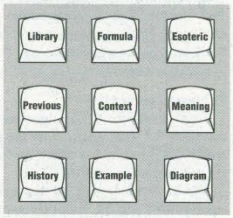
Astro★Index is in the process of being converted into electronic form for easy computer access.

Our Astro★Index project is still in progress and once again on the front burner. For those of you who don't know about Astro★Index, it is a comprehensive encyclopedia of astrological terms and diagrams we have been working on here at Matrix for many years. At this point we have several hundred pages of material (text, diagrams, bibliography) in rough form which our staff uses when answering the various astrological questions that come in over the phone or by mail. Aside from Michael Erlewine, a number of distinguished astrologers have contributed to it thus far, including a nine-month stint by Gary Duncan.

At this point, Astro★Index is in the process of being converted into electronic form for easy computer access. Once installed, it will provide an instant astrological reference work, always available to you as a pop-up application that includes diagrams, biographies, calculation material, interpretations, and even an exhaustive bibliography. Each entry is hot-linked, and you can explore the database at will. Hot-words connect you to other parts of the index that are relevent to what you are examining. Pop-up diagrams provide visual aids. All of this at the touch of the button. In addition, we are adding the ability to learn astrology as you explore the data base. We still have a ways to go until the project can be released. We are looking for a few good scholarly types as beta testers. Astro★Index will be a major reference work on astrology.

Coming Soon 1991

Learning-Levels Keypad



Astro★Index does more than just hot-link you to references. This multidimensional program makes learning astrology intuitive and self-stimulating. For example:

Let's say that you are looking at the entry for an astrological term such as "Altitude." The entry (as shown above) gives a simple explanation. From the hot links, you have learned more about Altitude. Astro★Index offers still more via a set of special reference keys. Press the CONTEXT key and get an overview of the term (see it in context). Press the EXAMPLE key and see it used in a sentence (get the jargon). Press the FORMULA key and see how it is calculated. Press the HISTORY key and find out where the term originated. Press the MEANING key and see what kind of interpretations have been given to the term. Press the LIBRARY key to see where to read more about the term. And press the ESOTERIC key to see something about its inner meaning.

The great thing is that in Astro★Index you will have an easy way to learn astrology. A chain of buttons leads you on a complete tour of astrology, guided by your interest and inclinations.

Work and Visit Matrix

Software development is not the only thing happening at Matrix. Other areas of interest include education (Heart Center Library, Astro★Index) and public relations (Astrology Hotline). Some of you have asked to visit and work with us for a period longer than a few days. Until now, we have not been set up to handle this kind of request.

■ Heart Center House

Open year round, this eight-bedroom center has been available for short visits. Now the Heart Center has been refashioned to provide space for long-term guests who want to visit and work with us.

We have many projects that need work: Astro★Index and the Heart Center Library are the two that come to mind first. If you have extra time, can manage to find your way here, and are willing to help out, we can provide you with a place to stay and (depending on the project) some spending money.

Here is a chance to hang out and work with our excellent staff on projects of value to Matrix and/or the entire astrological community. Who knows, perhaps you are at a crossroads in your life and could benefit from a change of scene. Anyone interested should call or write me at Matrix.

Here are some of the projects in process:

■ 24-Hour Astrology Hotline: (616) 976-3940

On line since June 1989, the hotline is staffed in person from *8:00 AM* to *5:00 PM EST* during working days and by answering machine on weekends and evenings. The hotline exists to help those interested in astrology find the information or contacts they need. We need help gathering information into booklets on astrology to be made available to the general public.

Translators Wanted

Matrix is looking for experienced translators to work on a contract basis helping us produce versions of our programs in other languages, particularly German and Spanish. You don't need to know a lot about astrological terms; we are looking for people with fluent conversational styles. If interested, please send us a sample of your work, including a copy of the original text (if possible). Address it to:

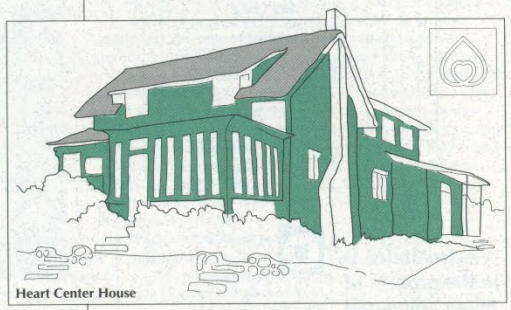
Matrix Software
Kris Shapar
315 Marion Avenue
Big Rapids, MI 49307

■ Heart Center Library

The library is a nonprofit corporation set up to establish a library that is open to the public on a year-round basis. The full-time library staff is paid for by Matrix. This project will provide an endless amount of work.

■ Astro★Index

Our electronic encyclopedia is being worked on by Matrix science researcher Robert Schmidt and by Michael Erlewine. Those of you with an interest in writing could help. More about this elsewhere in this issue.



Heart Center House

■ Tibetan Buddist Center

Matrix is also a center for studies and practice in Tibetan Buddhist methods of training the mind. We have a full-time staff member working on transcribing important Buddhist texts and making them available here in the West. We have many projects in the works in this area.

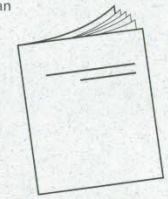
■ Neo-Astrology Conferences

Our yearly summer seminars offer in-depth workshops on different astrological themes. A feature of these conferences is the panel-type format, where everyone (including those attending) is invited to participate. Common meals and late night discussions add up to an opportunity for speakers and attendees to get to know each other on a one-to-one basis. We always need help staffing the conferences.

- A note from Michael Erlewine

Bob's Printing Service

Wouldn't you rather have your astrological book or publication printed by literate, sympathetic people knowledgeable in astrology? Heart Center librarian Ellen Black, herself an astrologer, and Matrix science research director Robert Schmidt have moved their printing business here to Big Rapids. They specialize in short-run books (less than 1000 copies), small magazines, and newsletters. With satisfied customers all over the country, they can provide excellent references.



Matrix uses the services of Ellen Fremedon Printing services for many of their flyers, booklets, and manuals. They do a great job, are fast, and also inexpensive.

For estimates or further information, write:

Ellen Fremedon Printing
P.O. Box 1015-C
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(616) 796-5365

Laser Reports Ready!

Many of our most popular Report Writers now print on Hewlett-Packard or compatible (Series II or later) laser printers! For months we've been flooded with calls expressing the need for laser output. We responded! Now you can take advantage of solid line boxing and underlining in Astro★Talk PC, Friends & Lovers, The Sky Within, Life Progression, and Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writers. This laser update costs $25.00. Call 1-800-PLANETS.

Heart Center Library

We are pleased to announce that Professor Kenneth Negus has become a member of our library advisory board.

The Heart Center Library collection of astrological books and publi-cations continues to grow. There have been a number of major contributions from individuals, and publishers have been very cooperative about sending us copies of new books. We have significantly improved our collection of periodicals by asking publishers to donate back issues we are lacking.

Increasing numbers of people are learning about the library and calling in with reference questions. Callers have not only been astrologers, but have included journalists and even film studios.

We have begun to address the problem of book cataloguing and classification. Since existing systems make scant provision for astrology as a discipline, we contacted the Library of Congress directly. After learning that we were a specialty library in astrology, both the supervisory organization of the Dewey Decimal System and the Library of Congress cataloguing department itself seemed more than willing to entertain any proposed revisions of their present schemes. This is exciting because it means that our cataloguing efforts could have a wide-spread influence.

Windows 3.0

"WOW!"

We have seen the new Windows 3.0 from Microsoft and we are impressed! Previous versions of Windows were worthless from our point of view. This baby works!

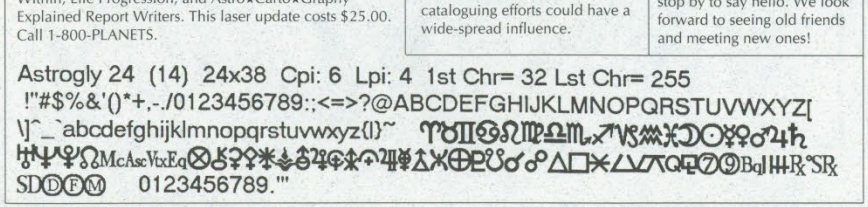
Within minutes I had all kinds of programs (such as Quick Charts, Hi-Res Astro Maps, word processors) running on my machine — all at the same time. I can switch between applications (all of which keep running) at the touch of a button.

This new graphic interface (designed by artists) is tasteful and filled with delicate colors. There is no question in my mind that this is the graphic interface the majority of us have been waiting for.

If you are running Windows 3.0 and need support for our programs in this environment, just give us a call at: (616) 796-2483.

Look for us at the AFA Convention!

Warren Kinsman and Kevin Fowler from Matrix will be at the AFA convention in Orlando in July. We will have all the latest programs to show you. Be sure to look for us in the Vendors' Area and stop by to say hello. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones!



Astrotalk

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Matrix software

315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
616/796-2483. For orders & catalog requests,
call 1/800/622-4070 (in Illinois: 1/800/942-7317).

The Matrix Synastry Writer Is Ready!

Our newest report writer takes a good, long look at your personal relationships. *(See page 7)*

Astrotalk

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.Two #4 Sep/Oct'85

H.E. Tai Situ Rinpoche Visits The Matrix Heart Center

For the last two years, a small group of us here at Matrix have been studying the eastern approach to astrology. Our study has led from the printed word to learning and working with the living practicioners of the ancient science. With the opening of the *Matrix Heart Center*, we are now more able to invite teachers to visit here with us.

Our first visitor to the new center was his eminence the ven. Tai Situ Rinpoche, one of the four main lineage holders of the Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism, and a recipient of the complete teachings of Vajrayana Buddhism.

H.E. Tai Situ is now on a international campaign for world peace involving a series of large conferences to be held thruout the world in August of 1987. Matrix has volunteered to help with the campaign, and thus the visit.

Readers might like to know a little about the background of Tai Situ Rinpoche. The word Rinpoche or "precious one" is used only in connection with certain very high lamas as an indication that the particular lama is of the highest spiritual attainment. Tai Situ is not only a Rinpoche, but he is also said to be a lama in continuous incarnation. Certain very high lamas have been found to continue from birth to birth in an unbroken chain. They are called tulkus. Within a short time after death, a tulku takes birth and continues on with a particular direction or mission.

Tai Situ was recognized as a high incarnate lama, the 12th in the Situ line of tulkus, when he was less than two years old. The 11th Situ tulku predicted his own rebirth before his death and stated that his incarnation would be born in Taiyul, Tibet in February of 1954. Such an infant was indeed found at that time and place and the 18-month old child was taken to one of

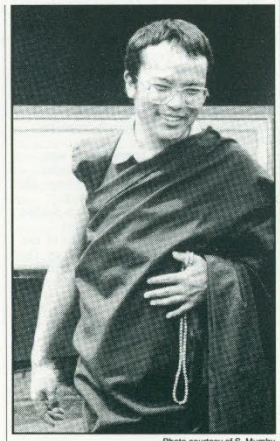

Photo courtesy of S. Mumby

Tibet's leading monasteries at Palpung, "accompanied by an escort of more than 1,000 horsemen, headed by an envoy of the Dalai Lama, emissaries of the kings of Bhutan, Nepal and Sikkim and many eminent lamas".

There he was enthroned as the 12th Tai Situ Pa, but this did not mean that he was simply the 12th heir of the 14th century teacher. His consecration meant that he had been recognised as the exact same teacher, now beginning his 12th incarnation in that role. **Cont. on pg. 2**

"Star-Aid:" It's Our Turn To Help

Recently, we have all become aware of the plight of the famine victims in Africa, if only by hearing *BAND-AID*, and *LIVE-AID*. As astrologers, we take pride in being aware of our connections with cycles. We do research on the relationship of the planetary cycles to rainfall and drought. So it seems that we should also be in tune with the effects of these cycles. In *Astro*Talk* (March 84), we published an article on Hammaker-Weaver's theory of the demineralization of the topsoil leading to both colder and drier winters, and to droughts, violent storms and winds, leading to erosion of much of the Earth's farmland (reprints on request). It might well be argued that the African famine is a living proof of his theory. But more importantly, beyond the theoretical, this is something that is happing to a massive portion of the population of the Earth.

We recently recieved an article from our friend, astrologer Karen Johns, describing the plight of the famine victims, and imploring us to help. To quote her letter to us: "I have watched the astrological publications for many months and have seen little or nothing that links us to the world of pain and suffering going on right in our backyard. While we network within, for ourselves, we seem so very unconnected out there. Hopefully, you will help me change that. We must care. And what better to care about than mankind and it s continuation. Drought, famine and death know no boundaries. The USA is susceptible too, as are we, its residents."

If rock musicians can get together and do something to help, why can't astrologers? If you are interested, write to Karen Johns at 1203 E. Second, Royal Oak, MI 48067.

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H.E. Tai Situ Rinpoche Visits Big Rapids

(cont.)

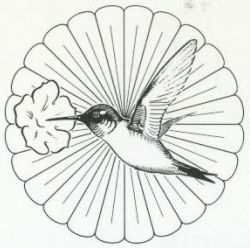
Tai Situ Rinpoche, now in his early thirties, speaks fluent English and is very keen on all aspects of modern life. His visit here at the Heart Center was brief but very memorable. His obvious great warmth and unforgettable smile remain with us still. He spoke about the need for us all to co-operate and become civilized in our search for a lasting world peace.

Tai Situ Rinpoche was accompanied by lama Gegela and Hecate Massoubre during their stay here. One goal of the visit was a discussion of the upcoming world peace conference in 1987. Situ Rinpoche brought with him a very handsome mandala or logo that he had designed himself. It shows the four main races (white, black, yellow and red) flowing together towards a center (or from a common center). Our center has offered to help design some of the literature to be used in the publicity campaign for the upcoming conference.

The peace conference will be more than a demonstration in favor of peace. "Its purpose is to bring people together from all over the world who will lead the way to peace. We aim at this conference to develop practical ideas and suggestions, and to translate them into action on a global scale. Celebrations and gatherings in more than 40 countries will take place while the conference in San Francisco works to create a vision of peace reflected in every area of human endeavor."

As a Buddhist, Tai Situ Rinpoche appeared anything but dogmatic. " I don't really care how many Buddhists there are in the world, because everything has the Buddha nature, all beings have the truth. Everything has the essence of Buddhism. So it is not necessary for them to take the Buddhist image; that doesn't really matter."

Aside from his knowledge of Vajrayana Buddhism, H.E. Tai Situ is skilled in astrology and medicine as well as poetry, history and calligraphy.



The Matrix *Heart Center* opened September 1, on schedule. Aside from H.E. Tai Situ Rinpoche's visit, other visitors to the *Heart Center* in September include the venerable Khenpo Tsultrim Gyatso Rinpoche, a high Tibetan lama. Khenpo Rinpoche, making his first visit to the U.S., is the European abbot for the Kagyu sect of Tibetan Vajrayana Buddhism. Rinpoche, along with three translator/students, spent several days here in early September. Visitors to the center during that time had the opportunity to experience authentic Dharma teachings twice a day.

At the center in recent weeks was Stephen Forrest, author of the popular Bantam astrology paperback *The Inner Sky*. Also scheduled thru September are astrologer/author Jeff Green from Seattle, WA who will be here to do a video interview and Charles Jayne -- one of the fathers of modern technical astrology. Our fall schedule includes a number of high Tibetan lamas, astro-researcher Michel Gauquelin and others.

Remember that we now can offer you food and lodging here at the *Heart Center*, so come and share some time with us. Visitors live and work together with the Matrix staff and special guests. If you want to know who is scheduled when, the best thing is to give us a call.

The Matrix Heart Center is an information co-operative and meeting place where astrologers from around the world gather to exchange ideas and get to know one another. Located less than one block from Matrix Software, the center offers comfortable rooms and good food to visiting astrologers and their families. Instruction at the center is not limited to computer and technical matters. Meditation training and astrological instruction are available. Visitors share in group discussions on a wide range of subjects. Schedule a visit here soon.

New Health & Medical Report Writer Is Nearly Completed

Our new medical and nutrition report based on text by Eileen Nauman is almost finished and should be available within a month. As the medical data base and the various pieces of text are extensive, only the IBM PC is now large enough to handle this amount of information. With the *Medical Writer*, we are moving into a new level of astrological text generators. This is no cookbook approach. The logic involved is very complex and quite extensive.

This should be a most valuable report since very few astrologers have a working knowledge of medical astrology. The program will provide a complete nutritional readout as well as a health and medical report. We will have more details in the next issue of *Astro*Talk*.

Community News

Coming Events

San Diego, CA.
San Diego Astrological Society Jamboree, Oct. 31 -- Nov. 3, 1985. Contact: Lynnette Greenleaf, P.O. Box 16430, San Diego, CA 92116.

Chicago, IL.
NCGR National Conference: Window into the New Age, Nov. 8-10, 1985. Contact: Gina Knight, 1609 Larch Drive, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, (312) 635-9443

Cannes, France.
First World Congress of Astrologers, Dec. 13-15, 1985. Contact: Stella M. Kalman, P.O. Box 1306, Campbell, CA 95009.

San Diego, CA.
United Astrology Congress, Jun. 26-July 1, 1986. Contact: Marguerite Dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Los Angeles, CA.
American Federation of Astrologers Convention, July 15-20, 1986. Contact: AFA, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282-0901.

Astro*talk

Editors: Michael Erlewine, Margaret Erlewine, Martin Wolf
Art Director: Tom Erlewine
Office Staff: Kevin Fowler, Mike Foust, Jim LeVeque

Astro*Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bimonthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $8 per year via seamail ($14.50 airmail). ©**1985 Matrix Software**

In The Journals

ASPECTS Vol 10, #3, Summer 1985. Contact: P.O. Box 556, Encino, CA 91426.
Cancer Ingress by Judy Johns, *A Rapist Coe Revisted* by Joan McEvers, *General Motors Knows About Saturn!* by Noel Jan Tyl, *Stock Market Outlook* by Raymond Merriman, *Astro-Psychology -- Part III* by Richard Idemon, *Uncovering Themes in Delineation -- Part III* by Maritha Pottenger, *The Importance of Major & Minor Configurations: Part IV* by Hans Peter Sauerwein, *Response To Diverse Letters* by Ruth Hale Oliver, *Don't These Transits Ever Bring Anything Good?* by Beth Koch, *My Kansas City Song* by Juliann C. Ryan, *Building Blocks* by Nancy Cassidy, *Keys To Learning* by Joan McEvers.

THE ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL Vol 27, #3, Summer 1985. Contact: P.O. Oakfield, Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RS England.
The Fixed Stars in Natal Astrology: Part I by Dr. Felix Jay, *My Researches Into Astrology: Part I* by Wladyslaw Schinzel, *Reply To Charles Jayne* by Geoffrey Dean, *Do Most Astrologers Dwell in a Fool's Paradise?* by Charles Jayne, *The Seventh Harmonic and Hidden Fate* by Adrian Duncan, *The Astrologer's Adjuncts Then and Now: Part I* by Annabella Kitson, *A Study in Eclipses* by Olivia Barclay, *Dead-End Aspects* by G. M. Aceto and more.

KOSMOS: The Quarterly Publication of ISAR, Vol. XIV, No. 3, Summer 1985, Contact: P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.
President's Report by Carol Tebbs, *The Astrological Jigsaw Puzzle* by Maritha Pottenger, *The Business Cycle* by Bill Hansen, *A Diagram of Disease* by Ingrid Naiman, *Excerpts from Esoteric Astrology* by Alice A. Bailey, and more.

Other Newsletters, bulletins, catalogs Received:

Welcome To Planet Earth, Monthly, tabloid size. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403.

Mercury Hour, The original idea exchange publication: Articles, letters, review, etc. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd. C-7, Lychburg, VA 24502.

American Federation of Astrologers Bulletin, Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282.

TAPE & BOOK CLUB BULLETIN, Bi-monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: RKM Publishing, P.O. Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123.

PLANET WATCH with Eleanor Bach, Monthly newsletter. Contact: 319 West 18th St., New York City, NY 10011.

CAO Times, Articles, comments, etc. Contact: Box 75, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10013.

PLEIADES: A Newsletter for Experiential Astrology, Contact: 2515 N. Racine Ave., Chicago, IL 60614.

ASC: The Key, Periodical on Chiron. Contact: Zane Stein, 757 E. Main St., K-201, Lansdale, PA 19446.

Astro*Calendar

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving outer planets. Aspects are geocentric unless marked "*H" to indicate a heliocentric aspect.

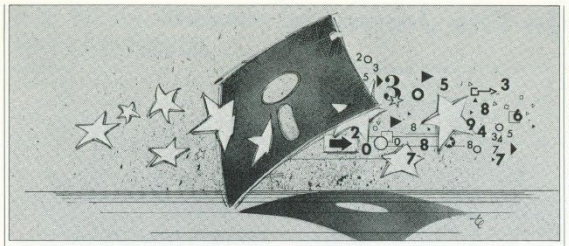
OCTOBER 1985

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
01	17:17	29SC02	MAR SQR SAT	*H
05	03:36	17SA24	JUP SXT URA	*H
10	08:33	02CP52	MAR TRI NEP	*H
10	11:44	02CP52	JUP SSQ NEP	*H
10	17:01	17SA28	VEN TRI URA	*H
10	23:35	17AQ52	VEN OPP JUP	*H
14	06:07	04SC35	MAR SXT PLU	*H
30	15:41	00SA00	SAT TO SAG	*H

DECEMBER

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
13	16:02	07SA53	MAR SQR URA	*H
22	03:06	21AQ35	MAR INC JUP	*H

NEW



Astro★Link

This new program links your chart files to the wide world of off-the-shelf software.
—By Doug Pierce

Do you have research questions to explore, or a specialized type of chart report to produce, or a friend with whom you want to exchange chart collections but your computers can't read the same disks? Perhaps you simply want a printout of all the chart data you have entered into a file, or a way to link your chart files with a mailing list program. There are any number of good reasons for needing to get at the information in our chart collection. For a growing number of us, there has been an unmet need for some special software that allows access to chart files from outside our M-65 or *Blue*Star* systems. This is what Matrix *Astro*Link* is all about.

Integrate with Astro•Link

With *Astro*Link*, you can convert your M-65 or *Blue*Star* chart files into a format that is readable by any word processor, file manager, communications, database, statistics, or other program that reads standard ASCII files. In other words, you can feed your chart collection to almost anything that processes information, and take advantage of the unique features of the software of your choice. This is the most useful sort of software integration we know of. If you are interested in telecommunications, and your dream is to assemble a vast library of chart collections for access by astrologers everywhere (or if you are one of those astrologers everywhere), you need *Astro*Link*, a modem, and a communications software package. *Astro*Link* is currently available on the IBM PC, and in development on the Commodore, and Apple II machines.

With *Astro*Link*, you can convert files in both directions, from M-65 to ASCII files and back again. For all those promising research projects that are on the back burner for one reason or another, or if you just want to explore groups of charts in novel ways, *Astro*Link* can team up your M-65 or *Blue*Star* system with powerful database packages like *SAVVY* or dBASE II/III, to help get your ideas in motion and put your computer to work.

Astro•Link features:

*Astro*Link*'s menus help you construct your favorite chart data description by allowing you to select only those data items you want included. For example, you can include longitudes and/or latitudes in any or all of the standard coordinate systems (geo, helio, and equatorial), with any or all planets included. You can choose to include secondary charts as well as natals in your output file, and you can select charts individually, specify an alphabet range, or have *Astro*Link* automatically output the entire chart file collection. An auto-job feature lets you save these file descriptions for future use; you only have to set them up once. For you techies out there, note that you can specify field, record, and file terminators to accomodate whatever your database package needs in order to read external files. We are including output specs for a number of popular database packages, to simplify the transfer process a bit.

*Astro*Link* simplifies your processing tasks in other ways as well. In addition to positional data for planets and other points, the program automatically generates sign index, house index, and an aspect list for each planet -- if needed. Even in those database packages that provide a built-in programming language, it is no fun to write routines for calculating aspects and house positions. *Astro*Link* does this for you.

On the database end:

*Astro*Link* is an ideal tool for getting your chart data into your choice of databases, spreadsheets, etc. Once you have your chart data transferred to your favorite data base or spreadsheet, what happens next? Depending on which type of data base program you have selected, you either have a menu-driven package that requires a minimum of effort to learn, or else you have some homework to do. One example in the "minimum of effort" category is the Nutshell file manager from Leading Edge. It is also reasonably priced (less than $100, I believe). It will do a decent job if your research questions are strictly of the look-up variety (i.e., no logic or calculation involved). What this means is that you can request all charts with a specific planet in a specific sign or house, and/or with a specific aspect between a specified pair of planets, and so on. You can even have multiple tests of this sort that are all applied in the same search. This covers a good many search situations, and may be all you need. However, Nutshell is slooowww when it comes to basic file handling utilities like reading external files or deleting records.

The question of whether to go for a more sophisticated database comes down to how much power you need. There is a large class of research questions that cannot be handled by a system like Nutshell. For example, consider the following: "Select charts where the ruler of the 10th house is in hard aspect to the ruler of the 1st". Or, "Select charts where a planet in the 2nd house is in hard aspect to Saturn". In general, any question dealing with rulerships, or with unspecified planets, aspects, etc. (such as "a planet in House II" or "in hard aspect"), requires a system that can handle some logic, and therefore, that has a built-in programming language. Also, if you need to create your own specialized search or report fields that are calculated from longitudes, such as Arabic Parts, you need a package with some ability to do calculations.

If you have an IBM PC or clone, there are many powerful databases to choose from, most of which are pricey ($400 and up). One of these database packages recently became very attractive to us, when the price was reduced from $395 to $139! This package is called *SAVVY*, and it is one of the more mature databases around (now in version 5.0). It is also currently available in a $79 version for the *SAVVY* interpreter alone (which is all I use anyway, though the extra source code is essential for office database uses). *SAVVY* looks to us like a breakthrough product, with its ease of use, low price, and powerful language. Since we cannot purchase or even review a fraction of the available packages, we have chosen one that we feel has the best combination of power and price. If you have suggestions about other products of this type that you have found valuable for astrological research, we would like to hear from you.

Sample Template For Astro★Link Using SAVVY.

We are currently developing a *SAVVY* application that will be of interest to any of you who work with groups of charts. *SAVVY* is being molded into a specialized working (or playing) environment for exploring astrological patterns across (and between) groups of charts. It is simple and intuitive to use, and yet, if you are so inclined, you can make it into anything you can imagine. To give you some idea of what it is like to work in this environment, I want to take you on a guided tour of a typical session:

I have a chart collection on disk that I have just converted with *Astro*Link*, and now I want to get these charts into the *SAVVY* database environment. I start *SAVVY*, and choose from the main menu to access a chart file. I place the file disk in the drive, and away it goes, displaying each chart name as it is read. I have over a hundred charts in this file, with all the optional search fields included, so it takes a few minutes to do this. When this is complete, my chart collection is in an efficient form for any sort of searching I might want to do.

Back at the main menu, I choose to edit the rule library, where my collection of search phrases resides. This is where the power of the system becomes apparent. Windows appear with phrases that have empty slots, and symbol types like Planet and Sign that I can select to fill these slots. I have been meaning to check out a friend's suggestions about mutual receptions, so I need to add a mutual reception rule to the rule library. As I select phrases and fill in slots from the windows with the cursor keys, they appear in the editing window until I have the following:

Mutual Reception

Planet1 and Planet2 are in mutual reception
if Planet1 Occupies Sign1 and

Planet2 Rules Sign1 and

Planet2 Occupies Sign2 and

Planet1 Rules Sign2.

When asked how I want the wording to appear, I supply the phrase, "are in mutual reception", and then name this rule "Mutual Reception". Now, I can choose to add this to a window I have called RULERSHIP FACTORS (or create this window if I haven't already). This window will be available whenever I need it again. I can now use the Mutual Reception rule when defining other rules, in the same way I used "Occupies" and "Rules" in the above example. I can literally create my own astrological language of search rules. There are many other factors I can use as well, dealing with aspects, house factors, and so on. The number of rules in a library and the size of a chart file are limited only by disk capacity (which makes me wish for a hard disk someday).

Now I return to the main menu and choose to perform a search. I select Mutual Reception, and replace Planet1 with Sun to find charts where the Sun is in mutual reception with any other planet. I could choose to leave both planets unspecified, in which case *SAVVY* would find all charts with any mutual receptions, regardless of the planets involved. I could also specify both planets if I wished, for a more specific search. Once the search is completed, I can select to output the qualifying charts to either screen or printer. I can also apply other rules to just these charts instead of the entire chart file.

There are many other ways of using this package that I don't have room to describe here. We think this will be of interest not only to researchers, but also to many astrologers who have been intimidated by the idea of doing research. I plan to use it to develop and test some electional techniques. I hope someday to learn more about mundane astrology, and can get excited about the prospect of working with several national charts, maybe even with a file of transit events, and looking for timed connections between charts, not just similarities across the group.

If you have questions or contributions related to this article, please let us know. For those of you who have expressed interest in an IBM version of our M-65 Research Module: We are teaming up *Astro*Link* with *SAVVY* for several reasons, none of which mean that this is our final answer to M-65-B Research on the IBM. We want to make this type of tool available as soon as possible, and *SAVVY* facilitates the development process toward this goal with a language of impressive power and simplicity. We also want to provide a system you can tailor to your own special applications with relative ease. Even in the early days of astrological computing, when most users were also programmers, the task of adapting someone else's astrological program was on a level of difficulty that would discourage most of us. Writing an astrological application in a computer language like BASIC or Pascal is a demanding task, as we at Matrix can testify.

The *SAVVY* language insulates you from many of the headaches normally encountered in working with conventional languages such as these. In addition, we are including several features that are designed to simplify your customization of *SAVVY*. Of course, you don't have to learn any programming at all, even *SAVVY* programming, to make full use of the astrological tools we are providing within this environment.

To use a *SAVVY* application like the one described here, you need to purchase the *SAVVY* language as well as the our *SAVVY* template. We may choose to distribute the *SAVVY* language directly if demand warrants; call us for *SAVVY* ordering information.

Machine Talk

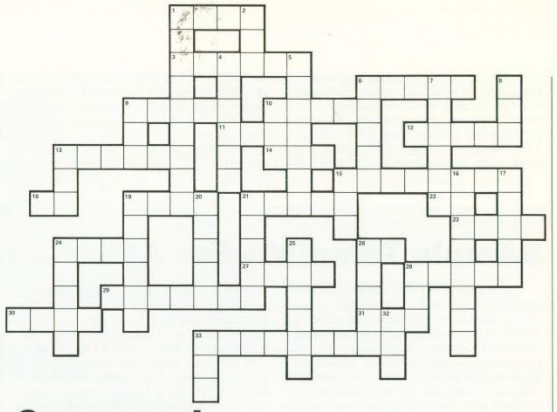
Not a long column this issue due to the lack of really newsworthy events in the industry. Many of the hardware manufacturers (Apple, Commodore, Atari, etc.) are experiencing a shakedown. They are laying off employees, triming upper management and, in general, cutting back. Profit & loss reports have shown loss.

Both Commodore and Atari have announced their new 68000 (chip) based machines, but neither have delivered any units to speak of. Atari claims to be delivering but no units have appeared in this area. IBM had declared that it will not be introducing the long awaited PC II this year. Aside from a rash of AT clones in the works, not a whole lot is happening. IBM is delivering the AT in quanity.

In summary, the computer market is becoming more conservative. The IBM PC standard is now more standard then ever. More and more companies are claiming their latest machines are IBM clones or will run IBM software "as is" with little or no modification. The whole idea of IBM compatibles is dead in the water. You either are a clone (can run almost all IBM software) or you are no longer in the running. And the price on IBM PC clones continues to drop. We have had no trouble with our Tandy 1000 thus far. We got it, 256K, 2 double-sided drives and a monitor for $1500. A nice machine at a good price!

APPLE IMAGE WRITER

Apple owners will be glad to note that we now have astrological glyphs for the Apple *Image Writer* printer. These new glyphs are available on the Apple *M-65 System*. Please drop us a note for more details.



Crossword

(Names of well known astrologers)

Across:

1. NCGR's indefatigable Downing.
3. Everyone loves this lady editor whose ancient relative may have been killed by indians.
7. His method of locality astrology is very popular.
9. Mr. Hines of MicroCycles.
10. The father of harmonic astrology.
11. A popular European house system.
12. Well known Chicago astrologer (last name).
13. No doubt one of the best astrological researchers working with large computers today.
14. An advertising genius, opera singer, editor and astrologer.
15. Well known female expert on the stock market.
18. Time before noon.
19. Perhaps the most popular lecturer in the U.S. today.
22. Are astrologers accepted by the establishment? The answer is still...
23. Manley Palmer ----.
24. Our second largest organization.
26. Mercury (abbreviation).
27. West coast astrological conference.
28. One of the fathers of modern technical astrology. An institution, all by himself.
29. The husband and wife team at the heart of the AFA.
30. Perhaps the most read astrological magazine. Hint: It begins with "Mercury".
31. Popular speaker on the gold market (first name).
33. A whole family of astrologers.

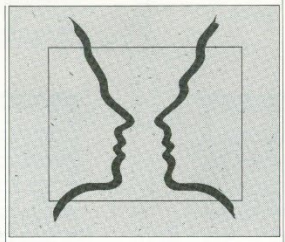
Down:

1. Thanks for the ephemerides!
2. Yukon Standard Time.
4. Ray Merriman's astrological publishing company.
5. A great American astrologer as well as a composer.
6. Well-known mundane astrologer.
7. This is the Richard who sails on the boat with Liz.
8. Latin word for Sun.
9. The major light.
10. Popular panel discussion on astrological techniques.
13. Well-known stock market astrologer from NYC named Crawford.
15. Standard time on the East Coast.
16. One of the great woman research astrologers (hint: San Francisco area).
17. Well known reviewer of astrological books.
19. Lady board member of the AFA named Susan.
20. President of our largest professional organization.
21. Noted lady researcher into heliocentrics.
24. NCGR's Ken and Joan.
25. President of The Astrological Association in Great Britain.
26. Has his own astrological school, also an AFA board member.
28. Astrologer Delphine ---.
32. Aquarian Revelation Center (abbreviation).
33. Standard time on the West Coast.

NEW

The Matrix Synastry Writer

It's ready!
And its interpretations of personal relationships are right on target.



It seems that just about everyone enjoys reading about relationships. No text program has been more eagerly awaited by Matrix customers than Lenore Canter's *Synastry Writer*. We are happy to say that it is indeed finished and now being shipped on the IBM PC. Versions for the Commodore and Apple computers should be ready by the time you receive this issue of *Astro*Talk*. *Synastry Writer* is our most ambitious text writer to date, both as regards size and complexity.

As the program neared completion, the staff here at Matrix stood in line to get a copy of their favorite relationships. Their response was beyond our expectations. Everyone loved it. Two staff members hesitated to show it to their partners on the ground that it might be *too* revealing. One felt that "This is a better description of our relationship than I could have written myself." All agreed that the *Synastry Writer* is the best text program we have produced to date.

"This is a better description of our relationship than I could have written myself!"

Due to the length of the text, this program took longer to complete than we imagined. In many cases, the program checks a whole series of aspects or other astrological conditions to see if they are correct before writing out the particular paragraph. The program was designed to reproduce what Lenore Canter does in an actual counseling session, as much as possible. Synastry expert John Townley, who helped put us in touch with Lenore cantor in the first place, says that "Lenore Cantor is the foremost practitioner in astrology as regards compatibility and personal counseling." Charles Jayne has similar praise for her work.

The report itself is very complete, and averages between 16-20 pages long. It is divided into four distinct parts: (1) How you approach relationships, (2) Your particular relationship with this partner, (3) How your partner approaches relationships and (4) Your partner's relationship to you.

The first part of the text gives a detailed analysis of your 7th house by sign and planet emphasis. It then goes on to detail your major natal aspects and this includes aspects to the angles too.

The second part is even more detailed. Here you will find an interpretation of each of your partner's planets in the houses of your chart. In addition, a cross aspect analysis between the planets in the two charts is provided in full.

The third part, similar to the first in scope, provides an analysis of your partner's 7th house by sign and planets along with a complete breakdown of the major aspects to planets and angles.

The fourth part provides an analysis of each of your planets as they appear in the houses of your partner along with a cross aspect analysis between the two sets of planets. In other words, the first two sections of the report view the relationship from your perspective, the last two view the same relationship from your partner's.

From a programming standpoint, we also have some new twists. For one, we have moved with this report writer to variable length records for the first time. Each paragraph is as long as it needs to be. Some are short, others long. The result reads much more like a personally typewritten report. Also of interest is the fact that we have included the use of the two persons' names throughout the text along with the correct gender. In other words, instead of a sentence like this:

"When you first met him/her, he/she struck you as a natural partner and you were instantly attracted, felt comfortable, and wanted to get to know him/her more intimately"

... the report reads:

"When you first met Margaret, she struck you as a natural partner and you were instantly attracted, felt comfortable, and wanted to get to know her more intimately". As you can see, a great improvement.

Like many Matrix programs, you may choose to include or exclude the astrological key references. In other words, phrases at the left of the text like "Her Sun in your 7th" may be left out, if desired. We have included the astrological keys as part of the sample report printed here. The price of the Lenore Canter *Synastry Writer* is $350. Due to its size, complexity and long development time, the *Synastry Writer* is not included as part of the "Four for $1000" report writer offer.

We would be glad to send you a xerox of a sample report. However, this program is so good that you may want to have an actual report for yourself and a partner. We are not set up to do this. However, we have arranged for you to order such a report at a significant discount. *The Great Bear*, P.O. Box 5164, Eugene, OR 97405 has agreed to make *Synastry Reports* available to *Astro*Talk* customers for $15 each (on a one time basis). They sell for $25 in their catalog.

Since relationships are so important to all of us, customers may want more than a single report. Aside from romance, check out how you relate to your children, parents, friends and not-so-friends. These reports are complete, very well written and read like they were hand typed just for you. We are certain that our *Synastry Report* will be a welcome addition to your chart services.

Sample printouts shown on next page.

Astrotalk

FIRST CLASS

Matrix software

315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
616/796-2483. For orders & catalog requests,
call 1/800/622-4070 (in Illinois: 1/800/942-7317).

The Matrix Synastry Writer Is Ready!

Our newest report writer takes a good, long look at your personal relationships. *(See page 7)*

Astrotalk

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Vol.Two #4 Sep/Oct'85

H.E. Tai Situ Rinpoche Visits The Matrix Heart Center

For the last two years, a small group of us here at Matrix have been studying the eastern approach to astrology. Our study has led from the printed word to learning and working with the living practicioners of the ancient science. With the opening of the *Matrix Heart Center*, we are now more able to invite teachers to visit here with us.

Our first visitor to the new center was his eminence the ven. Tai Situ Rinpoche, one of the four main lineage holders of the Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism, and a recipient of the complete teachings of Vajrayana Buddhism.

H.E. Tai Situ is now on a international campaign for world peace involving a series of large conferences to be held thruout the world in August of 1987. Matrix has volunteered to help with the campaign, and thus the visit.

Readers might like to know a little about the background of Tai Situ Rinpoche. The word Rinpoche or "precious one" is used only in connection with certain very high lamas as an indication that the particular lama is of the highest spiritual attainment. Tai Situ is not only a Rinpoche, but he is also said to be a lama in continuous incarnation. Certain very high lamas have been found to continue from birth to birth in an unbroken chain. They are called tulkus. Within a short time after death, a tulku takes birth and continues on with a particular direction or mission.

Tai Situ was recognized as a high incarnate lama, the 12th in the Situ line of tulkus, when he was less than two years old. The 11th Situ tulku predicted his own rebirth before his death and stated that his incarnation would be born in Taiyul, Tibet in February of 1954. Such an infant was indeed found at that time and place and the 18-month old child was taken to one of

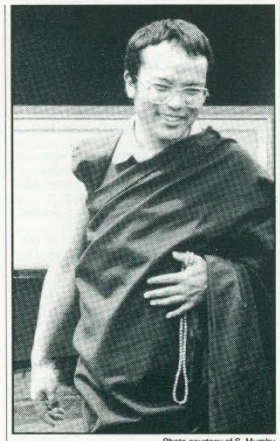


Photo courtesy of S. Mumby

Tibet's leading monasteries at Palpung, "accompanied by an escort of more than 1,000 horsemen, headed by an envoy of the Dalai Lama, emissaries of the kings of Bhutan, Nepal and Sikkim and many eminent lamas".

There he was enthroned as the 12th Tai Situ Pa, but this did not mean that he was simply the 12th heir of the 14th century teacher. His consecration meant that he had been recognised as the exact same teacher, now beginning his 12th incarnation in that role. **Cont. on pg. 2**

"Star-Aid:" It's Our Turn To Help

Recently, we have all become aware of the plight of the famine victims in Africa, if only by hearing *BAND-AID*, and *LIVE-AID*. As astrologers, we take pride in being aware of our connections with cycles. We do research on the relationship of the planetary cycles to rainfall and drought. So it seems that we should also be in tune with the effects of these cycles. In *Astro*Talk* (March 84), we published an article on Hammaker-Weaver's theory of the demineralization of the topsoil leading to both colder and drier winters, and to droughts, violent storms and winds, leading to erosion of much of the Earth's farmland (reprints on request). It might well be argued that the African famine is a living proof of his theory. But more importantly, beyond the theoretical, this is something that is happing to a massive portion of the population of the Earth.

We recently recieved an article from our friend, astrologer Karen Johns, describing the plight of the famine victims, and imploring us to help. To quote her letter to us: "I have watched the astrological publications for many months and have seen little or nothing that links us to the world of pain and suffering going on right in our backyard. While we network within, for ourselves, we seem so very unconnected out there. Hopefully, you will help me change that. We must care. And what better to care about than mankind and it s continuation. Drought, famine and death know no boundaries. The USA is susceptible too, as are we, its residents."

If rock musicians can get together and do something to help, why can't astrologers? If you are interested, write to Karen Johns at 1203 E. Second, Royal Oak, MI 48067.

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H.E. Tai Situ Rinpoche Visits Big Rapids

(cont.)

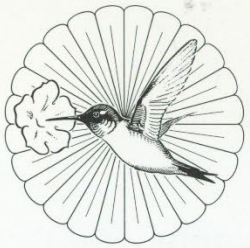
Tai Situ Rinpoche, now in his early thirties, speaks fluent English and is very keen on all aspects of modern life. His visit here at the Heart Center was brief but very memorable. His obvious great warmth and unforgettable smile remain with us still. He spoke about the need for us all to co-operate and become civilized in our search for a lasting world peace.

Tai Situ Rinpoche was accompanied by lama Gegela and Hecate Massoubre during their stay here. One goal of the visit was a discussion of the upcoming world peace conference in 1987. Situ Rinpoche brought with him a very handsome mandala or logo that he had designed himself. It shows the four main races (white, black, yellow and red) flowing together towards a center (or from a common center). Our center has offered to help design some of the literature to be used in the publicity campaign for the upcoming conference.

The peace conference will be more than a demonstration in favor of peace. "Its purpose is to bring people together from all over the world who will lead the way to peace. We aim at this conference to develop practical ideas and suggestions, and to translate them into action on a global scale. Celebrations and gatherings in more than 40 countries will take place while the conference in San Francisco works to create a vision of peace reflected in every area of human endeavor."

As a Buddhist, Tai Situ Rinpoche appeared anything but dogmatic. " I don't really care how many Buddhists there are in the world, because everything has the Buddha nature, all beings have the truth. Everything has the essence of Buddhism. So it is not necessary for them to take the Buddhist image; that doesn't really matter."

Aside from his knowledge of Vajrayana Buddhism, H.E. Tai Situ is skilled in astrology and medicine as well as poetry, history and calligraphy.



The Matrix *Heart Center* opened September 1, on schedule. Aside from H.E. Tai Situ Rinpoche's visit, other visitors to the *Heart Center* in September include the venerable Khenpo Tsultrim Gyatso Rinpoche, a high Tibetan lama. Khenpo Rinpoche, making his first visit to the U.S., is the European abbot for the Kagyu sect of Tibetan Vajrayana Buddhism. Rinpoche, along with three translator/students, spent several days here in early September. Visitors to the center during that time had the opportunity to experience authentic Dharma teachings twice a day.

At the center in recent weeks was Stephen Forrest, author of the popular Bantam astrology paperback *The Inner Sky*. Also scheduled thru September are astrologer/author Jeff Green from Seattle, WA who will be here to do a video interview and Charles Jayne -- one of the fathers of modern technical astrology. Our fall schedule includes a number of high Tibetan lamas, astro-researcher Michel Gauquelin and others.

Remember that we now can offer you food and lodging here at the *Heart Center*, so come and share some time with us. Visitors live and work together with the Matrix staff and special guests. If you want to know who is scheduled when, the best thing is to give us a call.

The Matrix Heart Center is an information co-operative and meeting place where astrologers from around the world gather to exchange ideas and get to know one another. Located less than one block from Matrix Software, the center offers comfortable rooms and good food to visiting astrologers and their families. Instruction at the center is not limited to computer and technical matters. Meditation training and astrological instruction are available. Visitors share in group discussions on a wide range of subjects. Schedule a visit here soon.

New Health & Medical Report Writer Is Nearly Completed

Our new medical and nutrition report based on text by Eileen Nauman is almost finished and should be available within a month. As the medical data base and the various pieces of text are extensive, only the IBM PC is now large enough to handle this amount of information. With the *Medical Writer*, we are moving into a new level of astrological text generators. This is no cookbook approach. The logic involved is very complex and quite extensive.

This should be a most valuable report since very few astrologers have a working knowledge of medical astrology. The program will provide a complete nutritional readout as well as a health and medical report. We will have more details in the next issue of *Astro*Talk*.

Community News

Coming Events

San Diego, CA.
San Diego Astrological Society Jamboree, Oct. 31 -- Nov. 3, 1985. Contact: Lynnette Greenleaf, P.O. Box 16430, San Diego, CA 92116.

Chicago, IL.
NCGR National Conference: Window into the New Age, Nov. 8-10, 1985. Contact: Gina Knight, 1609 Larch Drive, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, (312) 635-9443

Cannes, France.
First World Congress of Astrologers, Dec. 13-15, 1985. Contact: Stella M. Kalman, P.O. Box 1306, Campbell, CA 95009.

San Diego, CA.
United Astrology Congress, Jun. 26-July 1, 1986. Contact: Marguerite Dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Los Angeles, CA.
American Federation of Astrologers Convention, July 15-20, 1986. Contact: AFA, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282-0901.

Astro*talk

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Astro*Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bimonthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $8 per year via seamail ($14.50 airmail). ©**1985 Matrix Software**

In The Journals

ASPECTS Vol 10, #3, Summer 1985. Contact: P.O. Box 556, Encino, CA 91426.
Cancer Ingress by Judy Johns, *A Rapist Coe Revisted* by Joan McEvers, *General Motors Knows About Saturn!* by Noel Jan Tyl, *Stock Market Outlook* by Raymond Merriman, *Astro-Psychology -- Part III* by Richard Idemon, *Uncovering Themes in Delineation -- Part III* by Maritha Pottenger, *The Importance of Major & Minor Configurations: Part IV* by Hans Peter Sauerwein, *Response To Diverse Letters* by Ruth Hale Oliver, *Don't These Transits Ever Bring Anything Good?* by Beth Koch, *My Kansas City Song* by Juliann C. Ryan, *Building Blocks* by Nancy Cassidy, *Keys To Learning* by Joan McEvers.

THE ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL Vol 27, #3, Summer 1985. Contact: P.O. Oakfield, Goose Rye Rd., Worplesdon, Surrey, GU3 3RS England.
The Fixed Stars in Natal Astrology: Part I by Dr. Felix Jay, *My Researches Into Astrology: Part I* by Wladyslaw Schinzel, *Reply To Charles Jayne* by Geoffrey Dean, *Do Most Astrologers Dwell in a Fool's Paradise?* by Charles Jayne, *The Seventh Harmonic and Hidden Fate* by Adrian Duncan, *The Astrologer's Adjuncts Then and Now: Part I* by Annabella Kitson, *A Study in Eclipses* by Olivia Barclay, *Dead-End Aspects* by G. M. Aceto and more.

KOSMOS: The Quarterly Publication of ISAR, Vol. XIV, No. 3, Summer 1985, Contact: P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.
President's Report by Carol Tebbs, *The Astrological Jigsaw Puzzle* by Maritha Pottenger, *The Business Cycle* by Bill Hansen, *A Diagram of Disease* by Ingrid Naiman, *Excerpts from Esoteric Astrology* by Alice A. Bailey, and more.

Other Newsletters, bulletins, catalogs Received:

Welcome To Planet Earth, Monthly, tabloid size. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403.

Mercury Hour, The original idea exchange publication: Articles, letters, review, etc. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd. C-7, Lychburg, VA 24502.

American Federation of Astrologers Bulletin, Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282.

TAPE & BOOK CLUB BULLETIN, Bi-monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: RKM Publishing, P.O. Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123.

PLANET WATCH with Eleanor Bach, Monthly newsletter. Contact: 319 West 18th St., New York City, NY 10011.

CAO Times, Articles, comments, etc. Contact: Box 75, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10013.

PLEIADES: A Newsletter for Experiential Astrology, Contact: 2515 N. Racine Ave., Chicago, IL 60614.

ASC: The Key, Periodical on Chiron. Contact: Zane Stein, 757 E. Main St., K-201, Lansdale, PA 19446.

Astro*Calendar

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving outer planets. Aspects are geocentric unless marked "*H" to indicate a heliocentric aspect.

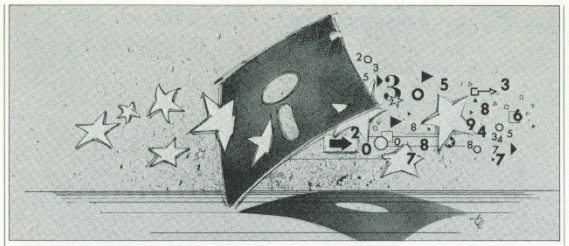
OCTOBER 1985

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
01	17:17	29SC02	MAR SQR SAT	*H
05	03:36	17SA24	JUP SXT URA	*H
10	08:33	02CP52	MAR TRI NEP	*H
10	11:44	02CP52	JUP SSQ NEP	*H
10	17:01	17SA28	VEN TRI URA	*H
10	23:35	17AQ52	VEN OPP JUP	*H
14	06:07	04SC35	MAR SXT PLU	*H
30	15:41	00SA00	SAT TO SAG	*H

DECEMBER

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
13	16:02	07SA53	MAR SQR URA	*H
22	03:06	21AQ35	MAR INC JUP	*H

NEW



Astro★Link

This new program links your chart files to the wide world of off-the-shelf software.
—By Doug Pierce

Do you have research questions to explore, or a specialized type of chart report to produce, or a friend with whom you want to exchange chart collections but your computers can't read the same disks? Perhaps you simply want a printout of all the chart data you have entered into a file, or a way to link your chart files with a mailing list program. There are any number of good reasons for needing to get at the information in our chart collection. For a growing number of us, there has been an unmet need for some special software that allows access to chart files from outside our M-65 or *Blue*Star* systems. This is what Matrix *Astro*Link* is all about.

Integrate with Astro•Link

With *Astro*Link*, you can convert your M-65 or *Blue*Star* chart files into a format that is readable by any word processor, file manager, communications, database, statistics, or other program that reads standard ASCII files. In other words, you can feed your chart collection to almost anything that processes information, and take advantage of the unique features of the software of your choice. This is the most useful sort of software integration we know of. If you are interested in telecommunications, and your dream is to assemble a vast library of chart collections for access by astrologers everywhere (or if you are one of those astrologers everywhere), you need *Astro*Link*, a modem, and a communications software package. *Astro*Link* is currently available on the IBM PC, and in development on the Commodore, and Apple II machines.

With *Astro*Link*, you can convert files in both directions, from M-65 to ASCII files and back again. For all those promising research projects that are on the back burner for one reason or another, or if you just want to explore groups of charts in novel ways, *Astro*Link* can team up your M-65 or *Blue*Star* system with powerful database packages like *SAVVY* or dBASE II/III, to help get your ideas in motion and put your computer to work.

Astro•Link features:

*Astro*Link*'s menus help you construct your favorite chart data description by allowing you to select only those data items you want included. For example, you can include longitudes and/or latitudes in any or all of the standard coordinate systems (geo, helio, and equatorial), with any or all planets included. You can choose to include secondary charts as well as natals in your output file, and you can select charts individually, specify an alphabet range, or have *Astro*Link* automatically output the entire chart file collection. An auto-job feature lets you save these file descriptions for future use; you only have to set them up once. For you techies out there, note that you can specify field, record, and file terminators to accomodate whatever your database package needs in order to read external files. We are including output specs for a number of popular database packages, to simplify the transfer process a bit.

*Astro*Link* simplifies your processing tasks in other ways as well. In addition to positional data for planets and other points, the program automatically generates sign index, house index, and an aspect list for each planet -- if needed. Even in those database packages that provide a built-in programming language, it is no fun to write routines for calculating aspects and house positions. *Astro*Link* does this for you.

On the database end:

*Astro*Link* is an ideal tool for getting your chart data into your choice of databases, spreadsheets, etc. Once you have your chart data transferred to your favorite data base or spreadsheet, what happens next? Depending on which type of data base program you have selected, you either have a menu-driven package that requires a minimum of effort to learn, or else you have some homework to do. One example in the "minimum of effort" category is the Nutshell file manager from Leading Edge. It is also reasonably priced (less than $100, I believe). It will do a decent job if your research questions are strictly of the look-up variety (i.e., no logic or calculation involved). What this means is that you can request all charts with a specific planet in a specific sign or house, and/or with a specific aspect between a specified pair of planets, and so on. You can even have multiple tests of this sort that are all applied in the same search. This covers a good many search situations, and may be all you need. However, Nutshell is slooowww when it comes to basic file handling utilities like reading external files or deleting records.

The question of whether to go for a more sophisticated database comes down to how much power you need. There is a large class of research questions that cannot be handled by a system like Nutshell. For example, consider the following: "Select charts where the ruler of the 10th house is in hard aspect to the ruler of the 1st". Or, "Select charts where a planet in the 2nd house is in hard aspect to Saturn". In general, any question dealing with rulerships, or with unspecified planets, aspects, etc. (such as "a planet in House II" or "in hard aspect"), requires a system that can handle some logic, and therefore, that has a built-in programming language. Also, if you need to create your own specialized search or report fields that are calculated from longitudes, such as Arabic Parts, you need a package with some ability to do calculations.

If you have an IBM PC or clone, there are many powerful databases to choose from, most of which are pricey ($400 and up). One of these database packages recently became very attractive to us, when the price was reduced from $395 to $139! This package is called *SAVVY*, and it is one of the more mature databases around (now in version 5.0). It is also currently available in a $79 version for the *SAVVY* interpreter alone (which is all I use anyway, though the extra source code is essential for office database uses). *SAVVY* looks to us like a breakthrough product, with its ease of use, low price, and powerful language. Since we cannot purchase or even review a fraction of the available packages, we have chosen one that we feel has the best combination of power and price. If you have suggestions about other products of this type that you have found valuable for astrological research, we would like to hear from you.

Sample Template For Astro★Link Using SAVVY.

We are currently developing a *SAVVY* application that will be of interest to any of you who work with groups of charts. *SAVVY* is being molded into a specialized working (or playing) environment for exploring astrological patterns across (and between) groups of charts. It is simple and intuitive to use, and yet, if you are so inclined, you can make it into anything you can imagine. To give you some idea of what it is like to work in this environment, I want to take you on a guided tour of a typical session:

I have a chart collection on disk that I have just converted with *Astro*Link*, and now I want to get these charts into the *SAVVY* database environment. I start *SAVVY*, and choose from the main menu to access a chart file. I place the file disk in the drive, and away it goes, displaying each chart name as it is read. I have over a hundred charts in this file, with all the optional search fields included, so it takes a few minutes to do this. When this is complete, my chart collection is in an efficient form for any sort of searching I might want to do.

Back at the main menu, I choose to edit the rule library, where my collection of search phrases resides. This is where the power of the system becomes apparent. Windows appear with phrases that have empty slots, and symbol types like Planet and Sign that I can select to fill these slots. I have been meaning to check out a friend's suggestions about mutual receptions, so I need to add a mutual reception rule to the rule library. As I select phrases and fill in slots from the windows with the cursor keys, they appear in the editing window until I have the following:

Mutual Reception

Planet1 and Planet2 are in mutual reception
if Planet1 Occupies Sign1 and

Planet2 Rules Sign1 and

Planet2 Occupies Sign2 and

Planet1 Rules Sign2.

When asked how I want the wording to appear, I supply the phrase, "are in mutual reception", and then name this rule "Mutual Reception". Now, I can choose to add this to a window I have called RULERSHIP FACTORS (or create this window if I haven't already). This window will be available whenever I need it again. I can now use the Mutual Reception rule when defining other rules, in the same way I used "Occupies" and "Rules" in the above example. I can literally create my own astrological language of search rules. There are many other factors I can use as well, dealing with aspects, house factors, and so on. The number of rules in a library and the size of a chart file are limited only by disk capacity (which makes me wish for a hard disk someday).

Now I return to the main menu and choose to perform a search. I select Mutual Reception, and replace Planet1 with Sun to find charts where the Sun is in mutual reception with any other planet. I could choose to leave both planets unspecified, in which case *SAVVY* would find all charts with any mutual receptions, regardless of the planets involved. I could also specify both planets if I wished, for a more specific search. Once the search is completed, I can select to output the qualifying charts to either screen or printer. I can also apply other rules to just these charts instead of the entire chart file.

There are many other ways of using this package that I don't have room to describe here. We think this will be of interest not only to researchers, but also to many astrologers who have been intimidated by the idea of doing research. I plan to use it to develop and test some electional techniques. I hope someday to learn more about mundane astrology, and can get excited about the prospect of working with several national charts, maybe even with a file of transit events, and looking for timed connections between charts, not just similarities across the group.

If you have questions or contributions related to this article, please let us know. For those of you who have expressed interest in an IBM version of our M-65 Research Module: We are teaming up *Astro*Link* with *SAVVY* for several reasons, none of which mean that this is our final answer to M-65-B Research on the IBM. We want to make this type of tool available as soon as possible, and *SAVVY* facilitates the development process toward this goal with a language of impressive power and simplicity. We also want to provide a system you can tailor to your own special applications with relative ease. Even in the early days of astrological computing, when most users were also programmers, the task of adapting someone else's astrological program was on a level of difficulty that would discourage most of us. Writing an astrological application in a computer language like BASIC or Pascal is a demanding task, as we at Matrix can testify.

The *SAVVY* language insulates you from many of the headaches normally encountered in working with conventional languages such as these. In addition, we are including several features that are designed to simplify your customization of *SAVVY*. Of course, you don't have to learn any programming at all, even *SAVVY* programming, to make full use of the astrological tools we are providing within this environment.

To use a *SAVVY* application like the one described here, you need to purchase the *SAVVY* language as well as the our *SAVVY* template. We may choose to distribute the *SAVVY* language directly if demand warrants; call us for *SAVVY* ordering information.

Machine Talk

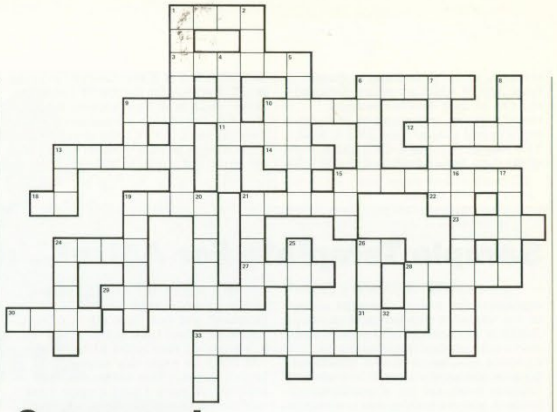
Not a long column this issue due to the lack of really newsworthy events in the industry. Many of the hardware manufacturers (Apple, Commodore, Atari, etc.) are experiencing a shakedown. They are laying off employees, triming upper management and, in general, cutting back. Profit & loss reports have shown loss.

Both Commodore and Atari have announced their new 68000 (chip) based machines, but neither have delivered any units to speak of. Atari claims to be delivering but no units have appeared in this area. IBM had declared that it will not be introducing the long awaited PC II this year. Aside from a rash of AT clones in the works, not a whole lot is happening. IBM is delivering the AT in quanity.

In summary, the computer market is becoming more conservative. The IBM PC standard is now more standard then ever. More and more companies are claiming their latest machines are IBM clones or will run IBM software "as is" with little or no modification. The whole idea of IBM compatibles is dead in the water. You either are a clone (can run almost all IBM software) or you are no longer in the running. And the price on IBM PC clones continues to drop. We have had no trouble with our Tandy 1000 thus far. We got it, 256K, 2 double-sided drives and a monitor for $1500. A nice machine at a good price!

APPLE IMAGE WRITER

Apple owners will be glad to note that we now have astrological glyphs for the Apple *Image Writer* printer. These new glyphs are available on the Apple *M-65 System*. Please drop us a note for more details.



Crossword

(Names of well known astrologers)

Across:

1. NCGR's indefatigable Downing.
3. Everyone loves this lady editor whose ancient relative may have been killed by indians.
7. His method of locality astrology is very popular.
9. Mr. Hines of MicroCycles.
10. The father of harmonic astrology.
11. A popular European house system.
12. Well known Chicago astrologer (last name).
13. No doubt one of the best astrological researchers working with large computers today.
14. An advertising genius, opera singer, editor and astrologer.
15. Well known female expert on the stock market.
18. Time before noon.
19. Perhaps the most popular lecturer in the U.S. today.
22. Are astrologers accepted by the establishment? The answer is still...
23. Manley Palmer ----.
24. Our second largest organization.
26. Mercury (abbreviation).
27. West coast astrological conference.
28. One of the fathers of modern technical astrology. An institution, all by himself.
29. The husband and wife team at the heart of the AFA.
30. Perhaps the most read astrological magazine. Hint: It begins with "Mercury".
31. Popular speaker on the gold market (first name).
33. A whole family of astrologers.

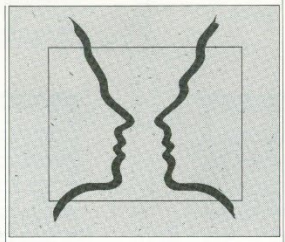
Down:

1. Thanks for the ephemerides!
2. Yukon Standard Time.
4. Ray Merriman's astrological publishing company.
5. A great American astrologer as well as a composer.
6. Well-known mundane astrologer.
7. This is the Richard who sails on the boat with Liz.
8. Latin word for Sun.
9. The major light.
10. Popular panel discussion on astrological techniques.
13. Well-known stock market astrologer from NYC named Crawford.
15. Standard time on the East Coast.
16. One of the great woman research astrologers (hint: San Francisco area).
17. Well known reviewer of astrological books.
19. Lady board member of the AFA named Susan.
20. President of our largest professional organization.
21. Noted lady researcher into heliocentrics.
24. NCGR's Ken and Joan.
25. President of The Astrological Association in Great Britain.
26. Has his own astrological school, also an AFA board member.
28. Astrologer Delphine ---.
32. Aquarian Revelation Center (abbreviation).
33. Standard time on the West Coast.

NEW

The Matrix Synastry Writer

It's ready!
And its interpretations of personal relationships are right on target.



It seems that just about everyone enjoys reading about relationships. No text program has been more eagerly awaited by Matrix customers than Lenore Canter's *Synastry Writer*. We are happy to say that it is indeed finished and now being shipped on the IBM PC. Versions for the Commodore and Apple computers should be ready by the time you receive this issue of *Astro*Talk*. *Synastry Writer* is our most ambitious text writer to date, both as regards size and complexity.

As the program neared completion, the staff here at Matrix stood in line to get a copy of their favorite relationships. Their response was beyond our expectations. Everyone loved it. Two staff members hesitated to show it to their partners on the ground that it might be *too* revealing. One felt that "This is a better description of our relationship than I could have written myself." All agreed that the *Synastry Writer* is the best text program we have produced to date.

"This is a better description of our relationship than I could have written myself!"

Due to the length of the text, this program took longer to complete than we imagined. In many cases, the program checks a whole series of aspects or other astrological conditions to see if they are correct before writing out the particular paragraph. The program was designed to reproduce what Lenore Canter does in an actual counseling session, as much as possible. Synastry expert John Townley, who helped put us in touch with Lenore cantor in the first place, says that "Lenore Cantor is the foremost practitioner in astrology as regards compatibility and personal counseling." Charles Jayne has similar praise for her work.

The report itself is very complete, and averages between 16-20 pages long. It is divided into four distinct parts: (1) How you approach relationships, (2) Your particular relationship with this partner, (3) How your partner approaches relationships and (4) Your partner's relationship to you.

The first part of the text gives a detailed analysis of your 7th house by sign and planet emphasis. It then goes on to detail your major natal aspects and this includes aspects to the angles too.

The second part is even more detailed. Here you will find an interpretation of each of your partner's planets in the houses of your chart. In addition, a cross aspect analysis between the planets in the two charts is provided in full.

The third part, similar to the first in scope, provides an analysis of your partner's 7th house by sign and planets along with a complete breakdown of the major aspects to planets and angles.

The fourth part provides an analysis of each of your planets as they appear in the houses of your partner along with a cross aspect analysis between the two sets of planets. In other words, the first two sections of the report view the relationship from your perspective, the last two view the same relationship from your partner's.

From a programming standpoint, we also have some new twists. For one, we have moved with this report writer to variable length records for the first time. Each paragraph is as long as it needs to be. Some are short, others long. The result reads much more like a personally typewritten report. Also of interest is the fact that we have included the use of the two persons' names throughout the text along with the correct gender. In other words, instead of a sentence like this:

"When you first met him/her, he/she struck you as a natural partner and you were instantly attracted, felt comfortable, and wanted to get to know him/her more intimately"

... the report reads:

"When you first met Margaret, she struck you as a natural partner and you were instantly attracted, felt comfortable, and wanted to get to know her more intimately". As you can see, a great improvement.

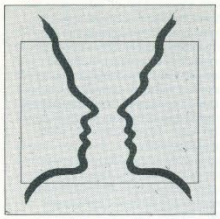
Like many Matrix programs, you may choose to include or exclude the astrological key references. In other words, phrases at the left of the text like "Her Sun in your 7th" may be left out, if desired. We have included the astrological keys as part of the sample report printed here. The price of the Lenore Canter *Synastry Writer* is $350. Due to its size, complexity and long development time, the *Synastry Writer* is not included as part of the "Four for $1000" report writer offer.

We would be glad to send you a xerox of a sample report. However, this program is so good that you may want to have an actual report for yourself and a partner. We are not set up to do this. However, we have arranged for you to order such a report at a significant discount. *The Great Bear*, P.O. Box 5164, Eugene, OR 97405 has agreed to make *Synastry Reports* available to *Astro*Talk* customers for $15 each (on a one time basis). They sell for $25 in their catalog.

Since relationships are so important to all of us, customers may want more than a single report. Aside from romance, check out how you relate to your children, parents, friends and not-so-friends. These reports are complete, very well written and read like they were hand typed just for you. We are certain that our *Synastry Report* will be a welcome addition to your chart services.

Sample printouts shown on next page.

Synastry Samples:
These sample pages are from our new Synastry Writer.



ASTROLOGICAL COMPATIBILITY BETWEEN
MICHAEL ERLEWINE
AND
MARGARET ERLEWINE

REPORT FOR MICHAEL ERLEWINE
Your Relationship with Margaret Erlewine

She has a personal vitality and energy you admire but don't customarily express yourself. When you first met Margaret she struck you as a natural partner and you were instantly attracted, felt comfortable, and wanted to get to know her more intimately. This relationship is a true partnership. While there may be a lot of admiration and respect, neither of you assumes authority over the other. You may particularly appreciate your connection with her when dealing with the public. She enhances your image.

Your emotional tie may have initially blossomed in a group situation where you share both friends and interests. Her emotional qualities instantly established her as a friend whom you could trust. You admire sensitivity and perceptiveness. She appears to intuitively understand your goals, particularly those which transcend your individual concerns. You share social and political views. A close involvement with a group of friends deepens your bond. This is essentially a beautiful friendship.

You have a strong intellectual compatibility and this would be an excellent working or business partnership. You also

REPORT FOR MICHAEL ERLEWINE
How You Approach Relationships
Page 6

It's never been possible for you to live according to anyone else's timetable. For that reason, you prefer to work for yourself and to make your own rules. In order for you to sustain a close, personal tie, you must find someone as independent as you.

You are guided far more by your spiritual ideals than by more material motivations. While intimate ties are important to you, if the other person didn't share your most cosmic goals, the relationship could not last. Your dreams often become realities.

You are not always aware of your own magnetism. Others find you intense and, sometimes, controlling. You have such strong fears of losing relationships that sometimes you imagine that people are turning against you when the opposite is more often true.

REPORT FOR MICHAEL ERLEWINE
How You Approach Relationships

SEM on 7th Cusp — Any kind of confinement- mental, physical or emotional- is abhorrent to you. You cannot and will not be emotionally stifled by your partners. Thus, you may often be close to more than one person simultaneously in order to avoid feeling too dependent. When you make a commitment (and you may do so more than once), your partner must be as intellectually stimulating, curious and restless as you are. Your boredom tolerance is noticeably low. You don't form emotional ties unless there is mental rapport.

MER Ruler of 7th — Your dreams, ideals and speculations about matters which transcend day-to-day living are so central to your existence that any person you feel close to must be someone with whom you can discuss these ideas since no one else seems to understand them. Your partners are bright, verbal, curious people who, on the surface may not appear to have a great deal of emotional depth. However, they connect with you intellectually and that tie appears to be the channel through which you can share emotionally.

MER in 7th House — You love good conversation, frequent change of surroundings and a stimulating environment. You tend to draw people often a good deal younger than you- who are extremely verbal and share your many interests. Personal ties may develop through your work. Your close ties are usually with professional people. They may also be creative in business or the arts, requiring them to speak or write for the public. Your relationships are often marked by frequent letter-writing and telephone calls and traveling.

JUP in 7th House — Either there will be more than one significant relationship in your life or you will be closely connected with someone who has been previously involved. Either way, your relationships are generally fortunate and you are unlikely to be single for long. You attract professional educated people who enjoy the respect of the community. On some level, morals are always an issue in your relationships owing either to a shared philosophy or personal lapses (yours or your partner's) others would never suspect.

SUN SXT MON — Whether or not your parents themselves had a successful marriage, you came away with a clear sense of the masculine and feminine and how they integrate. You are comfortable with the opposite sex and have no problem forming healthy, enduring relationships.

REPORT FOR MICHAEL ERLEWINE
Your Relationship with Margaret Erlewine
Page 10

The affection and good feeling you share are so strong, you are inclined to share projects and activities which will be lucky and fulfilling for your both. Her kindness and generosity expands your feelings and your love inspires her to be successful.

This is a serious relationship. She inspires in you the kind of love and respect which makes you want to live up to the standards yo [illegible] share. This could never be just a casual love affair. It either becomes committed or it ends. You admire strength.

She holds a special fascination for you. The bond between you might be somewhat obsessive. She often exerts an influence over you others may find difficult to understand. This relationship can transform the way you love and relate the rest of your life.

Your impatience or bossiness cuts no ice whatsoever with her. She will make her opinions known quite clearly and get make for some likely moments between you which, on some level, you enjoy.

REPORT FOR MICHAEL ERLEWINE
Your Relationship with Margaret Erlewine
Page 9

There is a very powerful sexual energy between you. If this is not a sexual relationship, it will manifest as a subtle but intense power struggle. Either way, Margaret will have a quietly transforming effect upon your life. She can manipulate you. This can also be an important business relationship. Her personal or material resource can have a transforming affect upon your finances-particularly if the project involves research, psychology or any field which deals with digging below the surface.

While you may communicate very well on a rational level, sometimes you may feel as if the other person doesn't really understand you. You may find her emotional responses incomprehensible as well. You have to make a special effort to share and connect.

There is something about her basic philosophy or world view which throws you somewhat off-center emotionally. You may often find yourself caught up by her enthusiasm or going along with things which are not truly representative of your own feelings.

No matter how close you are to Margaret, you're never

REPORT FOR MICHAEL ERLEWINE
Your Relationship with Margaret Erlewine
Page 8

Somehow, when you're together, you feel more expansive, more capable, even luckier than usual. With her encouragement and assistance, you are more inclined to take chances on cherished projects. She shares your views which cements your relationship. Sometimes the added confidence you derive from this relationship causes you to overestimate your resources and take on more than you can handle. This excessive enthusiasm can create problems because the two of you together often feel you can do no wrong.

It would be better if this was a friendship or business relationship. There could be difficulties if it was more intimate or sexual. Of course, things can be worked out. The problem has to do with trust. You're a little afraid to be vulnerable to her. You have a strong sense of responsibility for her financial situation. If you don't actually wind up paying her bills, you are certainly concerned about her expenses. Her lack of funds or judgment might reduce your own business prospects.

You were struck by her uniqueness and individuality from the beginning-primarily because it connected with an unconventional bent of yours that you might have been tentative about expressing. Your shared interest were bonding. You connected quickly. There was always something unusual about this relationship. She may be very different from the sort of person you had been close to previously. She would also have affected your relationships with others. You may have ended old ties when starting this one.

If your spiritual values are strong, deeply-felt and solidly thought out, this relationship can be inspirational in helping you to realize your dream and achieve your goals. If the rest of the world doesn't understand your vision, you still have each other. However, if your personal philosophy is less well-established, this relationship can add to the confusion by contributing elements of illusion or even deception to your sense of what you're hoping to attain in life. Margaret can dissolve your dream.

REPORT FOR MARGARET ERLEWINE
Your Relationship with Michael Erlewine

It's very important for the success of this relationship that you work together on a project of intense mutual interest. Otherwise, you will find yourself feeling subordinate to Michael which you won't like much-unless, of course, you enjoy feeling subordinate. If you are working together on a project of interest, you will grant him the authority role and you will play the helping role. He is physically dependent upon you to keep him comfortable and functional and will change personal habits for you.

One thing you two don't have to worry about is a communications problem. You've always been able to talk very freely to him in the happy confidence he understands not only what you are saying, but what you mean. He is also responsive to your writing. Travel affects your relationship. Either circumstances cause you to take many short trips together or separations lead to letter-writing which intensifies the emotional tie not so much by what is written as by what is meant. You communicate without words.

You really rely on his judgment in your work. You would do

REPORT FOR MARGARET ERLEWINE
How You Approach Relationships
Page 13

Intelligence is sexy to you. Even if you find someone physically attractive, if he/she isn't bright, verbal and someone you can talk to, you're not interested. You have a highly developed aesthetic sense and are drawn to people of taste, wit and charm.

Your imagination is so powerful that, if you don't have a strong creative or spiritual outlet, you may at times be over-influenced by your own fantasies or those of others. Beware of gullibility. In the long run, telling the truth is in your best interest.

Evangeline Adams called this aspect 'The Divine Discontent'. You are so romantic and idealistic it is difficult for any mortal person to sustain your interest without disappointing you. Your need to idealize loved ones may make you susceptible to illusion.

You learned at an early age to be cautious with people in a position of authority. This reserve may also extend to personal relationships with those you may admire or respect. Old parenting issues inevitably infiltrate all of your close relationships.

REPORT FOR MARGARET ERLEWINE
How You Approach Relationships

You are unconventional and independent and are irresistibly attracted to unusual projects, ideas and causes. However, you are not inclined to take center stage yourself and are more comfortable working in a group, leaving the leadership to partners. Your partner, on the other hand, loves the limelight, enjoys the attention and has no qualms whatsoever about taking charge. He is charismatic, creative and emotionally expressive and often relies on you for ideas and a clear, detached perspective.

You are restless and independent and, no matter how close you become to someone, you always remain your own person and there is a part of yourself you cannot share. You are uncompromisingly true to your convictions which must be shared by those close to you.

You're sensitive and perceptive and in touch with your feelings. No matter how difficult a situation is, you feel you can deal with it if you can understand it. A partner who is less expressive of his emotions would make you feel uncomfortable.

Lucky you. As a child you received a great deal of love leaving you not only with the capacity to love deeply yourself but with the security of knowing that you have value and that there will always be people you can turn to. You form love ties easily.

Your close personal relationships are marked by a sense of comradeship, friendship and a mutual respect for each other's need for independence. Once a relationship is established, you don't require constant contact and reassurance. Space enhances the tie.

You often feel emotionally misunderstood. You may have learned as a child to hide your true feelings in order to accommodate those around you. As an adult, your outer manner often belies your inner responses more than you may consciously realize or intend.

There will be at least one relationship in your life which will totally transform it. Its onset will closely follow a major ending or separation from someone else. You can always identify the major phases of your life by the

Perpetual Motion?

For many years, there have been persistent rumors of a "perpetual motion" machine that runs directly off the Earth's magnetic field. While this can be put in the same category as the pill that changes water to gasoline that the oil companies are keeping secret, flying saucers and longevity pills, there have been at least two important if somewhat eccentric figures that claimed to have such a machine.

The first was Nicola Tesla. Tesla is the true father of the modern electrical age. He, not Marconi invented the radio. He also invented alternating current, which made long distance transmission of electricity possible, and designed the generators for the Niagara Falls dam. Tesla was an extreme eccentric who at times claimed to be from Venus. But he could design a machine entirely in his mind, and visualize what the wear would be after several years of use. He claimed to have a scheme that would utilize the entire Earth as a generator, and provide unlimited power.

The other figure is Wilhelm Reich. Reich is the father of modern body therapy, such as Bioenergetics. He also led an unusual life. He was thrown out of both the Vienna Circle and the Communist party. He believed in orgones, or units of cosmic life energy, and claimed they could be concentrated in his orgone boxes and used to heal, control weather, and generate mechanical energy. He actually had a machine that would run with no apparent energy source. There is even a movie of it in existence. He alarmed the federal government to the extent that they burned his books, and put him in jail, where he died, so he was obviously up to something.

Now another man has come along with this sort of machine. This is Joseph E. Newman. Newman has been attempting to get a patent for his discovery since 1979, but the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) wants no part of him. He has since taken the patent office to court.

At the first court hearing on Newman's suit, Judge Thomas P. Jackson of the U.S. District Court in Washington D.C. called for the appointment of a "Special Master" to evaluate Newman's machine. The judge appointed William E. Schuyler Jr., a former PTO commissioner and electrical engineer.

In his report, released last September, Schuyler states, "Evidence before the Patent and Trademark Office and this court is overwhelming that Newman has built and tested a prototype of his invention in which the output energy exceeds the external input energy, there is no contradictory factual evidence."

However, the judge refused to accept the findings of the Special Master and ordered Newman to turn his machine over to the National Bureau of Standards for testing. He left the decision on whether a patent should be granted to the PTO.

Newman objected to the judge's decision, and instead, decided to hold a public demonstration. For the occasion, he shipped a new 9,000 lb prototype of the machine from his home in Lucedale, Mississippi to the Capital Centre in Largo, Maryland. The machine is a massive permanent magnet which whirls within a giant copper coil the size of a cement mixer. Apparently it received energy only from batteries which provide less than 2 milliamps of current. Yet it provides enough energy to light up a rack of florescent and incandescent bulbs.

Newman, like Tesla, says he knew the machine would work before he built it. He has an unconventional theory of electromagnetism which he says explains the machine. In the model he uses to describe electromagnetism, Newman pictures magnetic lines of force as streams of spinning, "gyroscopic" particles that travel at the speed of light. His machine operates by taking advantage of the particles' mechanical energy, "like putting a paddle in a river". To replace any energy lost, a tiny bit of mass is converted into more streaming particles.

Thus, it is not quite a perpetual motion machine, nor would it violate the law of the conservation of mass and energy. Most scientists do not take him seriously. The problem is that Newman is self taught, and cannot present the kind of mathematical model that physicists use to describe such phenomena.

However, a small group of legitimate scientists, including Arnold R. Smythe, a New Orleans engineer, and Gerald Miller, an electrical engineer from Fountain Valley, California, have taken an interest in his work. Smythe says, "Quite frankly, I really don't know why this machine works, but I do know that it works." Meanwhile, Newman has attracted a group of investors that are helping fund his battle with the Patent Office. It has cost $100, 000 over the past five years. Newman faces another hearing this month. He would like the judge to grant him the pioneering patent he seeks. "I'm a fighter," he says, "and I'll fight like hell."

For astrologers, it has long been agreed that the Earth's magnetic field is something we interact with. This may be the first physical piece of evidence that leads to a model of the universe that astrology fits into.

The Shadow Knows...

Who knows what secrets lurk at the heart of our universe? In the last twenty years, we have gone from a nice orderly cosmos, full of mostly stars and planets to a universe full of quasars, black holes, and radio stars. It is clear that much of the universe is not like our little corner. We are like Dorothy, finding out that the whole world is not just like Kansas. First came anti-matter, posited by P.A.M. Dirac, about 50 years ago. This is matter that is a mirror image of normal matter. For example: in our atoms, the electrons have a negative charge, and the protons a positive one. In anti-matter, this would be reversed. Since anti-matter and matter would explode violently upon contact, there isn't much of it close at hand. But anti-particles, such as positrons, (particles similar to an electron, but with a positive charge) are regularly seen in particle accelerator experiments.

Now, an even stranger variety of stuff has been predicted: shadow matter. Shadow matter would be very much like ordinary matter, but completely invisible to us. It would interact with us only through gravity, which means almost not at all. There could be a shadow man standing right next to you, indeed, even in exactly the same place, and you probably would not be aware of it. This sounds like science fiction, and also like mysticism: other dimensions, other planes of being. It also sounds very much like the "clairvoyant" planets some astrologers have been claiming exist for many years. These bodies would interact with us in some minimum physical fashion, but perhaps there could be people who have a special awareness of them.

There seems to be a pattern in modern physics which leads it ever closer to what were called spiritual or mystical beliefs. The belief in the existence of universes other than our own, shadow worlds, fairylands, Shangri la or whatever have a long history.

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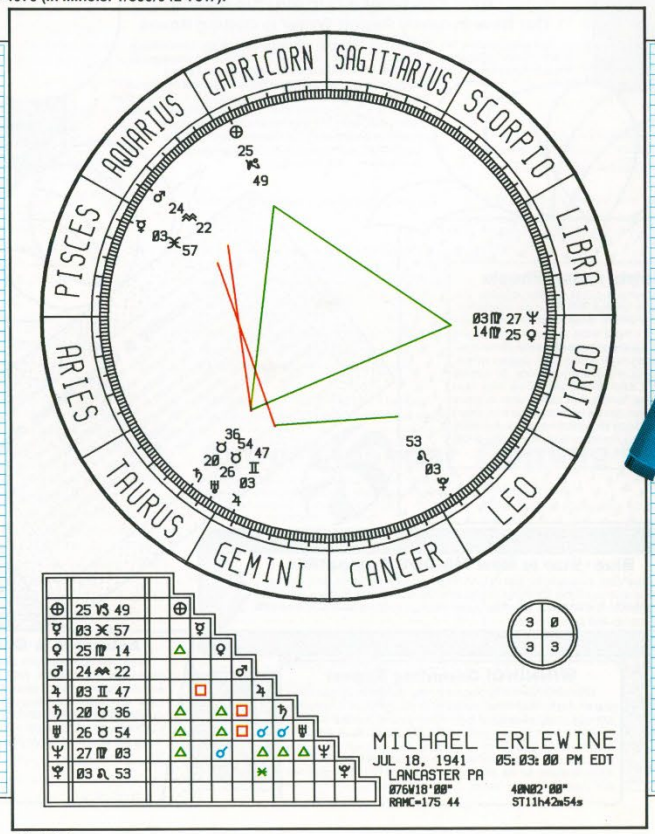
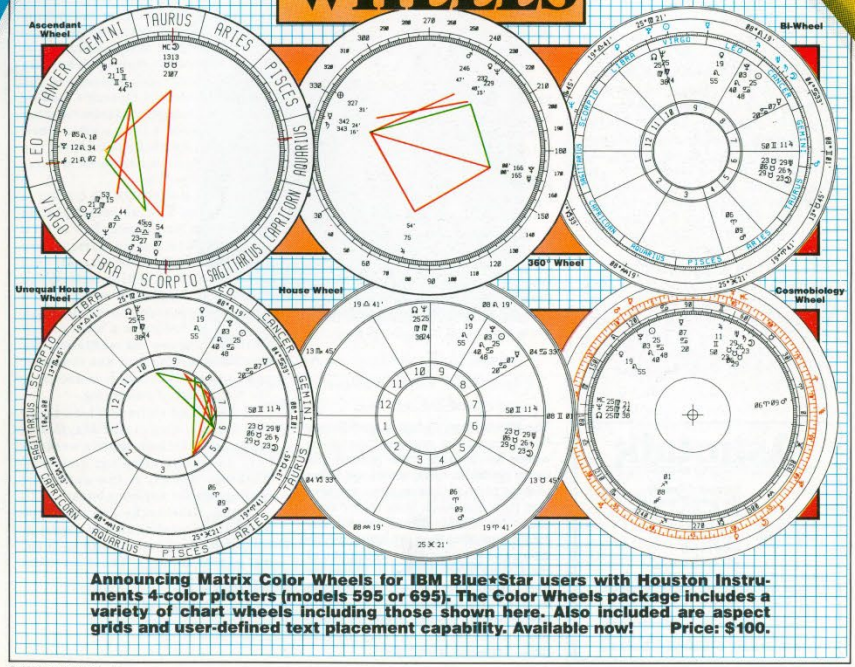


Aries Wheel

Bimonthly Bulletin For The Matrix User's Group Volume Two, No. 5 Nov/Dec '85

Astro☆talk

COLOR WHEELS



Announcing Matrix Color Wheels for IBM Blue*Star users with Houston Instruments 4-color plotters (models 595 or 695). The Color Wheels package includes a variety of chart wheels including those shown here. Also included are aspect grids and user-defined text placement capability. Available now! Price: $100.

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Matrix News

We have been busy since the last issue. Here are some of the highlights.

BLUE*STAR. Thanks for all of the positive feedback on our new *Blue*Star* system for the IBM PC and the Commodore 64! We are glad you like it. One thing that surprises me is the number of you who are moving into the 16-bit IBM PC environment.

SYNASTRY WRITER. The *Synastry Writer*, with text by Lenore Canter, is a real success. I can't believe the response to this program. People love it. No report writer has produced this kind of response. It appears to be a real money maker too.

APPLE II. Our *Synastry Writer* is now available for the Apple II as well as the IBM PC and the Commodore 64. We are working hard to get new programs onto the Apple and, in general, to increase our support for this machine.

COMMODORE SERVICE NEWS! Commodore has managed to surprise us with a new service policy, and it is a welcome surprise. Service on the Commodore 64 and its peripherals now includes *Federal Express* pickup and return as part of its standard fee. An example: for $85 you can have your disk drive repaired, and that includes overnight delivery service, both ways. That's a deal. The number to call for pickup is 1-800-248-2983.

ASTEROIDS & CHIRON are now available for *Blue*Star* on the IBM. Accurate positions for the four major asteroids and for Chiron for the years 1750-2000 can now be added to any Matrix chart file thanks to help from asteroid expert Mark Pottenger. The price is $50. ▶

Astrotalk

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Astro★Talk (ISSN 0740-6738) is published bimonthly by Matrix Software, 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Subscription rate in the US & Canada is $7 per year. Overseas subscriptions are $8 per year via seamail ($14.50 airmail).

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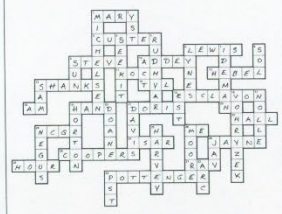
Crossword Solution

The solution to last issue's puzzle:



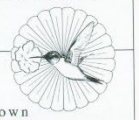
WINNING! GAMBLING REPORT, designed for us by Joyce Wehrman will be ready on the IBM PC by the end of December. We have been deluged with requests for this one. Joyce flew in to help us with the final design. It's going to be a winner. Price is $300.

ASTRO*LOCALITY AND LOCAL SPACE MAPS. Now you can produce hi-res maps of the U.S. and world using either or both of the most popular relocation mapping techniques, *Astro*Locality* and *Local Space*. This program runs on the IBM PC with the Epson RX/FX-80/85 dot-matrix printers. Output includes full scale maps, detailed display of chart data and handy instruction sheet. This program should be available by the time you read this. $300.

COLOR WHEELS. Our new *Color Wheels* are described elsewhere in this issue. Don't they look good? ■

The Matrix Heart Center is an information cooperative and meeting place where astrologers from around the world gather to relax, exchange ideas and get to know one another. Located less than one block from Matrix Software, the center offers comfortable rooms and good food to visiting astrologers and their families. Instruction at the center is not limited to computer and technical matters. Meditation training and astrological instruction are available. Visitors share in group discussions on a wide range of subjects. Schedule a visit soon.

Heart Center News



Our new center, now two months old, is already developing its own character. A steady stream of visitors (mostly professional astrologers) have been stopping by, spending anywhere from just a day and night to a week or more. The feedback we are getting from guests is that they see the center as a refuge or retreat for overworked professional astrologers on the edge of burnout. A place to relax, exchange information and take a deep breath before heading back to their routines.

Visitors to the new center, of late, include astrologer Jeff Green and part of our interview with Jeff is presented elsewhere in this issue. Other visitors included astrologer Tom Brady from Santa Fe, New Mexico,who presented his original work using harmonics, as well as shared his experience working with the American Indians in the Southwest. One of Detroit's leading astrologers, Laura Des Jardins and her fiance stopped by for a visit. Chris Abdo and Anne Brooks from the motor city also came for some training in running *Blue*Star*.

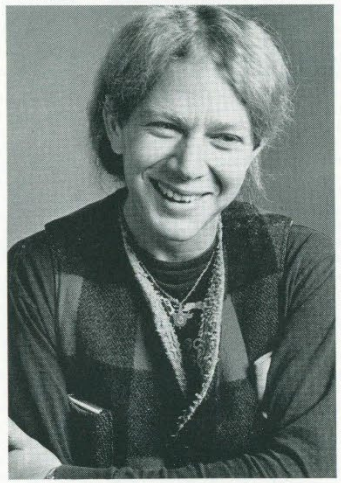
Ken McLeod, meditation teacher in charge of the Tibetan center of Kalu Rinpoche in Los Angeles flew in for a weekend. Ken has completed two complete meditation retreats (6.5 years), each of which lasted the traditional 3 years, 3 months and three days required for ordination as a monk. Ken led us in a weekend of Dharma discussion and meditation. We have been working with Ken to typeset and format his recent translation of *The Great Path of Awakening*.

Robert and Colleen Thibodeaux and family, owners of *Mayflower Bookstore* in Detroit, spent a weekend here discussing astrology and mind training. Robert is the author of several popular astrology books.

Bruno Collevechio, an advanced meditation teacher and an expert in Hindu astrology visited with us in the last part of October. Those are some of the highlights.

A DIALOGUE WITH

JEFF GREEN



The following is an extract from a conversation between Michael Erlewine and astrologer Jeff Green of Seattle, Washington. The dialogue was videotaped at the Matrix Heart Center in Big Rapids during the fall of 1985. Jeff has been very active on the lecture circuit and his new book, Pluto: The Evolutionary Journey Of The Soul should be available from Llewellyn Publications by the time that you read this.

Michael: I would like to know how you became an astrologer.

Jeff: The way I became an astrologer is this: I spent a period of time in a monastery in California, a Vedanta monastery. At that time, I had a very dim view of astrology. I had what I call spiritual arrogance. I had a teacher that said, "Look, you can't have this opinion without studying what you don't understand about." He gave me a book, and I read two pages and had a great vision. The vision told me I would be an astrologer, much to my horror. There were many other things in that vision: opening up to relationships, leaving the monastery, and so forth. And I knew it was true. This was when I knew I would be an astrologer.

At this point, I didn't know a thing about astrology. So I said, "Lord, if you want me to be an astrologer, teach me astrology." And for a series of years, the Lord gave me a dream every night in which he taught me astrology.

Michael: What kinds of things did you learn? You report yourself to be totally self taught... everything came from inside. Obviously, everyone out here would like to know how that was possible. How did it come? What are some of the things that you saw?

Jeff: Well, as an example... just for the sake of examples, I would have a dream about the nature of Venus. I would be taught all the correlations of Venus: what Venus correlated to in human nature, in life... at all levels, as a basic principle. I would be shown it in a variety of culminations, and signs and so forth. This process was accelerated by the fact that I would translate this into my waking life.

Wherever I would find myself in the world, I would simply put out a flyer advertising free charts. You never find a lack of clients when it is free. This is how I would translate what I found in my dreams into reality. I would actually talk to people, observe people, and do the traditional astrology... which is observation and correlation. As that process deepened over time, the dreams deepened. I would find myself with questions at a conscious level, after doing readings in my waking life. Those questions would invariably be answered in the dreams. That went on for a period of years.

When I approached my Saturn return, I found myself in Seattle, ▶

Washington. On that day, I was walking down the street, in Seattle... it happened to be on a Sunday when everything was closed. There was a new astrology store there, Astrology Et Al, which is owned by a woman named Margaret. I looked in the window, and she was standing there with her husband. She asked me in, one thing led to another, and I started working there and became a professional.

I believe it was around 1976. From that day forward, I started to make a living doing astrology. Of course, for all of us the first few years can be an infinite struggle to make a living. But as the years have gone by, every year has brought increasing responsibilities, and an increasing work load. And along with that comes the money. That is how I found myself as an astrologer.

Michael: So at this point in time you are doing full time astrology, and you have for quite a while.

Jeff: Yes, I have been a full time astrologer since that point. Since that point, the workload has increased to the point that I now do seven or eight charts a day, and teach at night. For the last few years, I have been traveling in the U.S. and Canada doing lectures and workshops. That of course has itself been increasing. Now I have written a book on Pluto, and that will be coming out shortly.

Michael: Some of the things I think you should share with the readers are the ideas you shared with us yesterday. The time you spent studying with the American Indians is really interesting, and also, tell us a little about your experience in Viet Nam, and in that cave that you mentioned.

Jeff: At one point in my life, I found myself in the Viet Nam war; via the U.S. Marine Corps. It was a very severe experience for me. It was during the height of the war. The Tet offensive and so forth. I experienced lots of death. I was a very young boy; I was nineteen. Very angry. At the end of my time there -- after a series of experiences, actually -- in the last week I was there, I found myself in a Buddhist monastery which was carved out within a mountain.

There was a Theravadin Buddhist monk that I knew, who did not speak English, and of course I did not speak Vietnamese, except for swear words. We had a conversation for eight hours.

It was telepathic in nature. At that point in my development, I was not aware of what was happening. In hindsight, I can see what he imparted in me. He penetrated what I call the soul. He seemed to really know me, as great ones do, and imparted the instructions for my life -- awaking my consciousness.

As it turned out, after I got back from Viet Nam I found myself acting. I found myself making decisions that were not based on simple ego planning, or ego decisions. I just acted. I traveled the world for a couple of years to find out what it all meant.

At a certain point I found myself living with the Navaho in New Mexico. For those who know the Indians, they are not that open to white people. I think most of us can understand that. But I was initiated into their religion. This included peyote initiation, and many, many openings occurred within me with respect to that tradition; including what I have learned to call the vision of the blackbird. This involves being able to see the spirit in all things: the spirit of the earth, the spirit of the plants, the spirit of the animals, the spirit of the river. It involves developing a natural ability to dialogue or commune with the spirit of all things; which in Sanskrit are called devas. Very powerful!

Cooperation Among Astrologers

Michael: We are talking about the idea of cooperation between astrologers, and the state of modern astrology. We have mentioned the fact that astrologers as a group, at least in this country, have very generous egos, and are often quite competitive. A lot of this, we can all agree, comes out of the insecurity that we feel by not having our profession recognized as a right livelihood by the general populace. There is paranoia and fear that comes out of being impoverished and having our livelihood constantly reduced to a game -- or form of entertainment -- when that is not how we perceive it. So, given the fact that we have some fragile egos, your message, Jeff, seems to be one that I endorse... one of cooperation -- to operate together. How do we do that? What are your suggestions?

Jeff: Well, my feeling is that we should start from the point of acknowledging that all of us have an identity, all of us have values, all of us have beliefs, at all levels of reality, in all walks of life. They are unique to ourselves, and relevant to ourselves, and are certainly part of our natural and legitimate life journeys. If we narrow this down to astrology, this must be true. Wouldn't it be a better situation for all of us as astrologers to acknowledge the legitimacy of everybody else's work, everybody else's point of view, and working with that, acknowledging it, facilitating it, enhancing it -- rather than putting it down, or having to shape it or alter it, in order to justify our own. This only props up the ego. It only promotes polarization. I agree with your assessment. Astrology, at least in our world, is an inherently insecure profession simply because of the impact of astronomers and scientists who use utterly wrong rationales to put it down. They haven't even bothered to test it.

Michael: I cannot blame the state of astrology and astrologers on the fact that the astronomers and scientists have made fun of us -- ridiculed us. Isn't it true that had we been able to be of more service to our society, then we would be more accepted, and might be making more money, etc.? The fact is that astrologers... I think that there is a great something missing in us. Something we are not providing in the way of service to society. It is our responsibility and our fault that we are not getting the money and the standardization.

I feel that at this point quite a lot of us would be willing to take our place along with the doctors and lawyers and Indian chiefs and be a part of society. But instead, we exist as a fringe group -- a very definite minority. When I went to get a bank loan once for my first little computer, I didn't get the loan, but they made it very clear to me that when they checked the list of occupations, astrologers were directly above migrant workers in terms of risk. That's interesting. That's a fact. That shows you how much the establishment thinks of the reliability of who we are and what we have to say.

I have to ask myself the question, and I have for years, What is missing? Is a lot of what we are doing pipe dreaming? Yes, we should support each other's work. In astrology it is very definitely true that what works for me might not work for you. We respect the right for you to have a different house system, and so on. But I think that there is another level of standardization where the critical faculty should be brought into line and brought to bear on the whole thing. We should be critical of ourselves at least enough to say, "What is missing?" If we are so darn good, and so darn "of the moment", why can't we deliver? Why aren't we delivering?

Jeff: To me this means that there is an intrinsic insecurity within the profession that was developed within the last two or three hundred years in western society... Progressively the astrologer has been relegated to this buffoon-like, comic, ludicrous role, from the western science point of view. Therefore, there is an inherent insecurity in the profession of astrology. This creates the effect of feeling threatened or defensive about anyone else's point of view.

Michael: Sure, when we spoke yesterday, one of the things I mentioned to you was that, put crudely, when astronomy and astrology parted company (since astronomers used to be astrologers, and astrologers used to be astronomers) maybe the astrologers got away with the mystical good looks -- the peaks and visions -- and astronomers got away with the discipline and training. For the most part, until this generation, astrologers have been without mathematics entirely.

When we get to understanding the astronomy part of it, I am afraid the average astrologer has been absolutely devoid of any interest in looking at the outer sky -- which I can support. I am not particularly interested in looking at the outer sky myself. But most astrologers have no understanding of the structure of what's out there; of what a star is, or what the life of a star is, or anything. Even though everything we do is about stars, and the lives and deaths of stars.

We have to wonder what astronomy -- which is very disciplined, and very old (I think next to botany, it is the oldest of all the academic professions, and also very fossilized, and very conservative) -- has going for it. What can we do to find out what it is we lost, if anything, in terms of discipline and training? How can we reintegrate that, so we are a whole being again? I really believe that we are not a whole being. At least I can speak for myself.

I have spent a good twenty years studying the stuff and getting progressively more technical. I have learned mathematics. I have learned enough astronomy. I have learned computer science, and so forth, in order to try to get at the heart of technique, as if there was a technique... as if, by perfecting the various tools at my disposal, I could find a tool that was powerful enough to give me the kind of results that would then allow me to give society something that was so significant that they would have to say, "Ah ha, you guys really are useful... just like going to the doctor. We need you."

Instead, what I find is that I do not find any technique in either my own repertoire or the repertoire of others that is that strong. I have been reduced to the one thing that never even occurred to me, which is the fact that I spent zero time on self discipline. I never questioned that I was ready; that I myself was a good instrument or even a trained instrument. I am now openly questioning the rest of astrologers as I am questioning myself. I'm saying, "we really have not got much formal training in serving society." We have no lineage. Our organizations as a rule are a kind of a joke. Even the grand British one, The Astrological Association, is very loosely organized in the sense of a rigorous passing down of knowledge from generation to generation. I am at that point. After all these years, I am back to saying I must start at the beginning again -- towards training myself in how I present astrology to others.

Jeff: I think you have identified the key issue. We can use the analogy of learning music. If one was going to be interested in music: it is not enough just to learn the techniques. If one is playing a trombone, one can be OK on a technical level. But what constitutes the essence of a true musician? Clearly, it must be an individual who is following an inner inspiration; letting the techniques follow, not lead. The greatest artists, poets, and musicians in the world, throughout history, have been the ones that have been inwardly inspired.

I feel what you are saying, Michael, is that we have to emphasize development of the whole person. It is not enough just to learn astrology, and consider it as a be-all and end-all in and of itself. It is not a religion, as you pointed out yesterday. We really have to get more into this issue of developing the whole person. I think if we approach it this way... The work you doing here at the Heart Center is a perfect example. This is the issue: developing the whole person, developing one's total self. We can bring in the issue of one's spiritual nature, one's timeless nature, or as the Buddhists would say, one's Buddha nature. I think if we start from this point of view, regarding astrology or any other profession, this makes a person approach it in a whole way. I think if we do this, we lead to the effect of developing the astrologers within the profession; then we will have a cooperative consciousness, and not a defensive consciousness. In this way, promoting service and awareness to the whole, i.e. society, will fall into place all by itself as a natural consequence of these issues.

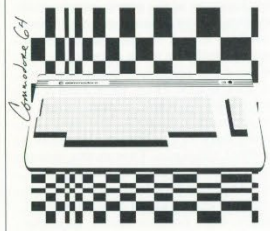
Michael: I want to say something of a critical nature again. One of the problems I have with cooperating is this: I am glad to cooperate, but we have no standards. We have no psychological standards and we have no standards of meaning. Everyone is free to have all their own meaning, just as they want it. This is as it should be. It is good to have this freedom. But at the same time, while I might encourage you, I do not not want to encourage the

[Cont. on 13]

Machine Talk

Many of you have called or written to ask that we review that status of the more popular home computers prior to the holiday season.

Why not start with the most popular computer, which will not be news to any of our readers. The fact is that, right now, Big Blue is king. IBM continues to dominate the marketplace. When I say IBM, I am referring to the official IBM PC & AT plus all machines that are clones of that standard. Most industry experts agree that the IBM standard is going to be with us for a long time. This trend is confirmed by the recent announcement by Intel of the 80386, a new 32-bit microprocessor that will be



upward compatible with the 16- bit 8088 (the chip now in most IBM style machines). Since IBM holds a significant portion of Intel's stock, it is reasonable to assume that the 80386 -- or 386 as it is called -- will be the chip of the immediate and not-so-immediate future. IBM has all but stated that the 386 will be the designated chip for the next level of machines. Industry sources are in agreement that IBM is putting everything they have into the 32-bit environment. The fact that the 32-bit 80386 will be upwardly compatible with almost all current IBM software goes a long way to guarantee that the standard set by IBM is the way of both the present and the future.

Given the fact that IBM is the current machine of choice, how can a user get into that environment with the least damage to their pocketbook? There are a lot of inexpensive IBM PC and AT clones that are now on the market or just coming out. What should we watch for? If you are considering moving up to an IBM type machine, be sure to read thru our special *IBM Buyer's Guide* included elsewhere in this issue. Right now, let's look at the rest of the marketplace.

Commodore

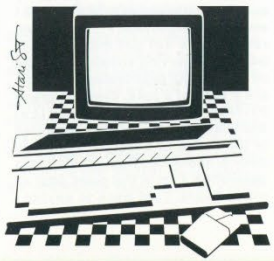
What's happened to Commodore? They've had a rough year, moving from a position of real strength to one of less momentum due to their own mistakes. The C-64 was (and is) a great machine at a great price. However, Commodore muddied the waters by announcing the new C-128 machines, which are little more than a C-64 for more money. It is believed that Commodore was not making enough profit on the C-64 and introduced the C-128 in attempt to change this fact. The C-128 promised all kinds of things, most of which are not worth the extra expense. Let's look at some:

For one, there is the 128K. This seems good until you understand that C-64 programs running on the C-128 won't be using that extra 64K. No sir. The C-128 powers up in one (only one) of three modes: (1) C-64 emulation, (2) the new 128K and (3) CP/M mode. The C-64 mode is identical to the C-64. No big deal. The C-128 mode, at first glance, looks like an improvement, no? No. The reason is that there is a brand new BASIC interpreter for the 128k mode. The bad news is that (at the time of this writing), no compiler for this new interpreter. This means that programs will run very slowly in this mode. In other words, we can't take C-64 programs which are running out of memory in 64K and just move them over to the 128K mode where they will have a renewed life. No. They won't run there, or won't run fast enough.

The third mode, that of CP/M, is not so great either. There may be thousands of CP/M programs out there, but most of them are best left out there. Who wants them? They lack any of the screen finesse and smarts that we have grown to expect from the programs we use each day. I no longer have a great desire for the "100 easy BASIC programs" like I used to. Today I want the just-right-for-me word processor, the just-right-for-me data base, etc.

In other words, the 128K mode is a come-on -- at least at this point. The general public is not wise enough to know that although there is 128K, it will perhaps never realize its potential. As nice as the C-128 appears, I see it as a dog that will never go anywhere the C-64 couldn't take you. The sad part is that Commodore has ignored the C-64 this last year and it has languished and fallen in popularity while nothing else has taken its place. Commodore should have continued to

push the C-64, instead of encouraging people to ignore it in favor of the C-128.



The Amiga & Atari ST

I am sure you are wondering what we have to say about the new MacIntosh act-alikes from Commodore and Atari, the Amiga and the Atari ST. They are only just beginning to be delivered and, of course, have very little software support. The Atari ST does not even have a BASIC interpreter. These two

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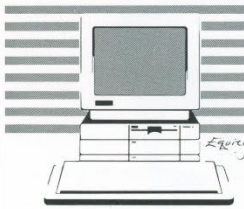
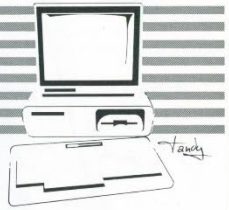
IBM BUYER'S GUIDE

Saving money on an IBM-style computer system can be a very involved process. There are many factors to consider, and many possible options -- each with ups and downs. Let's start at the top. Here is what we want:

IBM PC with 256K and keyboard.
Two 360k IBM drives
Monochrome monitor
Video/printer card





First Choice: An IBM right off the shelf. We gave a call to our local Computerland store to get a price for the above system, which includes everything you need except for whichever printer you want. The price is $2350, and this includes all IBM equipment except for the monitor and the video/printer card -- which are other brands.

Second Choice: IBM Board, non-IBM parts. Next, we looked thru a lot of discount ads for the same general system as the above. In each case, I made sure that the motherboard and case were standard IBM, but the rest of the system makeup could be of various brands. We feel it is important to have the IBM motherboard, case and keyboard. As for the disk drive, the name IBM adds nothing magical. There are many decent drives: Tandon, Mitsubishi, Teac, etc. Everyone is moving to the half-height drives just now. I like them too.

Although the prices varied, almost all of these second line systems weighed in at between $1925 and $2000. You save around $400 by buying direct thru the mail from a discount house. You lose any in-store support, on-site servicing and whatever other goodies you might extract from a local outfit. You may have to mail your machine across the country and wait for it to find its own way back.

Third Choice: Off-brand PC clones. These are non-IBM systems. At this point the price varies a lot, and it is hard to tell how good any particular system is. A good example is that of *PC'S LIMITED*. We have done business with them and they have some of the very best prices. Their Turbo PC with 640k, 2 360k disk drives, a printer/video card and a monochrome monitor can be had for $1199, and that includes shipping! The number to call is 1-800-426-5150. Before you pick up that phone, please understand that you have to ship it to Texas to get it serviced. This machine comes with a 1 year warranty on parts and labor. I asked them what happens to you after that first year. Their response is that the machine is quite standard and -- aside from the motherboard -- should be able to be repaired in many places.

Most systems of this level are priced from $1200-$1700. I have very little way of finding out what is good, bad or indifferent in all of these "cheapie" systems. If you must save a dollar, then here is a way to do it. However, my suggestion is you might be better off to take out a loan for the difference between a cheapie and a more expensive machine and gain a lot more security. Instead of worrying if this or that piece of software or this or that fantastic bargain on hardware will work on your machine, you could browse thru all the magazines secure that everything you see works on your equipment.

Epson Equity 1: Epson America, well-known for its excellent printers, is introducing its first IBM PC clone in November of 1985. For $995 (list) the user gets a computer, keyboard, 256K, one 360k disk drive, and a parallel and RS-232 printer ports. While there is no clock/calendar functions, there are three expansion slots included in the price. A second disk drive will cost $299, video card $129 and video monitor $149. An additional 256K card is $169. The retail on the above system is $1741. Since Epson products are almost always available at discount, the actual price should be under $1500.

Chances are this will be a hot machine. We can assume that service will be available just as it is for the Epson printers. It looks to me that this may well be the safest and least expensive way to get into an IBM PC.

Tandy PC Clone: The Tandy 1000 with 384K, 2 drives, a color monitor and printer port was selling at $1500 when I phoned this morning. Their system with a 10 megabyte hard disk and one floppy was about $2000. The Tandy machines are a good conservative choice (not the Tandy 2000 which is a compatible, not a clone). They run a tad slower than the standard IBM, take only short peripheral cards and have some other idiosyncrasies that result in your dependence upon Tandy parts. All in all, they are a decent machine for a fair price.

Clone Summary

In the beginning software compatibility with IBM was the big thing. There were the IBM clones which were 99% software compatible and there were the IBM compatibles that only ran some of the IBM software. People went for the clones, and stayed away from the compatibles. Today, almost all of the IBM compatibles have left the marketplace and no serious IBM style machine is anything other than a direct clone, which means that just about any software that will run on an official IBM computer will also run on the clone.

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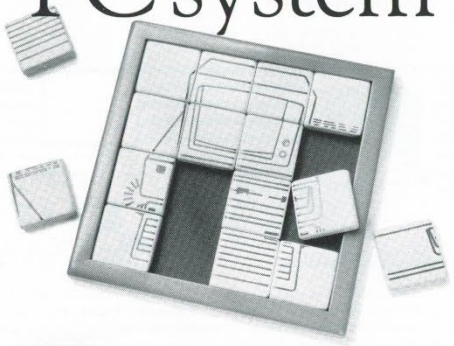
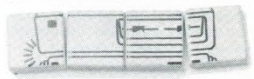
Building a PC system



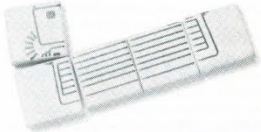
Whether you buy an IBM or an IBM clone, the actual purchase of a PC system can be confusing. It's not too easy to compare costs because different prices may be quoted for systems that aren't comparable. One dealer may quote a low price for a system that includes only the computer, keyboard, one drive and has no video board, monitor, or printer interface; another dealer may be quoting a price that includes all of these as well as a second drive. When you get a price quote from a dealer, make sure you get a list of what is included. Better yet, make a list of what you want in your system and then give this list to all potential dealers so you get a quote on just the system you want. Very few people have a "pure" IBM system, since the official IBM expansion boards are not price competitive, space efficient or that outstanding.

Here are the main components and options for a PC system:



COMPUTER: This is the main box that contains the computer, memory, expansion slots for peripherals, and room for disk drives. The "mother board" is the main circuit board that holds all of the "main" memory and slots used for expansion. The IBM itself usually will hold 256K on the mother board itself and has five expansion slots. Any memory to take it up to its 640K maximum will have to be on an extra memory board that plugs into one of the slots. Some clones will have room for 640K of memory directly on the mother board and may have more than five expansion slots. The Epson *Equity 1* and Tandy 1000 have room for only 128K on the mother board and an extra card is needed to expand this to 256 or 384K, which is nearly essential. Always put the maximum memory possible on your mother board; after all -- RAM is cheap! You may wish to compare the price of a PC with full memory to that of buying the PC with minimum memory and adding the extra memory chips yourself. Mail order firms are now offering 64K of RAM for as little as $8. How can you afford to pass it up?

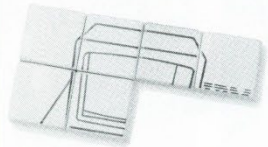
Many PC clones include more in the main computer than IBM itself does (with IBM everything is extra). It is common to find that the video board and line-printer port are included in the main computer package which isn't true with IBM.



KEYBOARD: With an IBM, the keyboard is a $200 *option* for heaven's sake. With most clones it will be included with the main computer. There are various non-IBM keyboards available for the IBM, some of which are cheaper and some of which have added features. It is probably wise to keep to one that is similar in key layout to the IBM since some software will be designed to work easiest with this layout.

VIDEO BOARDS: This may be the hardest decision when buying a PC. With the IBM you must buy a video board before you can plug your monitor into it, and you must decide which one to get. IBM itself offers several different options, and other manufacturers offer still more. With many clones you may not have to worry about these. The two main choices IBM offers are: (1) the IBM color board which offers graphics and color (not very many colors and not very good ones) and (2) the IBM monochrome board which offers high-quality text as well as a line-printer port. Many users who have only the color card and use the computer for long periods of time find that its text is very painful to read and wish they had the monochrome board. IBM also now offers an extended graphics card and a professional graphics card, but unless you have special software that uses these, or plan to write it yourself, these are not worth the expense.

Many manufacturers offer alternatives to the IBM video boards. Perhaps the best known is Hercules,

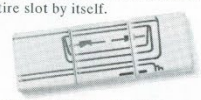


which offers a Graphics Card for monochrome monitors and a Color Card for color monitors. The graphics card allows you to have high quality on-screen text as well as high-resolution graphics in black and white. Both cards offer a parallel printer port. The Hercules boards have been so successful that now many manufacturers offer copies of them rather than copies of the IBM boards. Avoid graphic cards, like the *Paradise* board, that need a special software driver to be loaded before you get any video because there is the added danger of other software conflicting with these drivers.

VIDEO MONITORS: Your monitor will have to match whichever video board you have; other than that, you have a large selection available from many manufacturers. For color boards, you will get better quality with an RGB monitor than with a composite monitor.

PARALLEL PRINTER PORT: You will need a parallel printer port to drive your printer (and a cable). Some clones will have this as part of the main computer, most video board manufacturers have followed IBM's lead and include a printer port on their boards. Most multi-function boards include printer ports. Chances are you will wind up with more than one, but be sure that your system has at least one before buying everything.

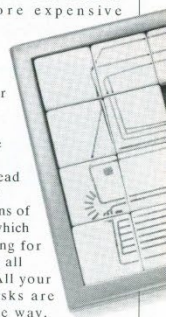
MULTI-FUNCTION BOARDS: These are the best-sellers of the IBM peripherals, most imitating the AST *Six Pak Plus*. So many manufacturers are competing here that prices have been dropping weekly. Mail-order firms are now offering them for as low as $135 with a full 384K of RAM (which takes a 256K PC up to its maximum of 640K). At prices like these it's usually worth it to boost your PC up to maximum memory. Who knows how long prices on these will stay this low, or if they will even drop further. Besides the memory, you usually get a parallel printer port, a serial port (which can be used for a modem or a serial device like a plotter), a battery-driven clock (with software that will read the date and time at power-up), and sometimes a game port. These are very simple to install and take one long expansion slot. These boards are a real bargain when you consider that a serial port board by itself costs around $100 and uses an entire slot by itself.



DISK DRIVES: A PC is usually purchased with at least one floppy disk drive which means it will have the disk-controller logic already included. With the IBM there is the capability of adding up to a total of four floppy drives, though some clones will allow only two. Adding a second drive is a very simple job and IBM-compatible drives are now selling between $65 and $95 dollars -- this is cheaper than the cost of getting a drive repaired! The standard IBM drives are dual-sided (DS), double-density (DD) and hold approximately 360K. They are available in full height (3 1/2" high front) and as half-heights (1 3/4" fronts). The half-height drives are now more popular and are the cheapest units. With the IBM you could replace the two full-height drives with four half-height drives -- though there's not a great deal of advantage in having more that 2 floppies. Usually if you want more storage you will go to a hard disk.

Why A Hard Disk?

There seems to be some confusion about hard disks. The question goes like this: "10 or 20 megabytes of memory is no great amount. Why bother with a hard disk? Why not just keep your programs on a bunch of floppies?" Also,"With many machines you lose one floppy when you get a hard disk. How can you make easy backups without two disks?" And,"You can't backup a hard disk without purchasing more expensive equipment."



The value of the hard disk is not (as many people believe) in its greater storage capacity. It is the convenience and speed of the hard disk that recommends it. Instead of surrounding your computer with dozens of boxes of disks thru which you rummage, looking for things, you have it all on the hard disk. All your boxes of master disks are shelved out of the way. Everything you need is already inside your computer.

With the hard disk, you can switch from application to application at the touch of a button. It's a very great convenience. And they're fast: Programs load much more quickly from the hard disk than they do from floppies. We are adding hard disks to many of our PCs here at Matrix. Out goes one of the standard drives and in its place goes a 20 megabyte hard disk

and a half-height floppy. This leaves us with two floppies and the hard disk. As for backing up the hard disk, we keep the originals on floppies and move the most important (new) files to floppies at the end of each day. In other words, we don't try to back up the entire hard disk.

Many people are upgrading their PC's by adding a hard disk, and this has caused the price of hard disks to drop. Ten megabyte drives are now selling for about $400 and 20 meg drives for about $500. This includes the controller card and cables. It does NOT, however, include the new power- supply which most PC users will need when adding a hard disk. A 135-watt power supply (the size included in the XT) will cost around $90.

These hard disks are half-height drives and when adding one to a PC you can replace your drive B with a half-height hard disk and a half-height floppy (you'll need a special bracket to mount the two half-height drives together). You don't have to lose the advantages of two floppies while adding the hard-disk and you have a replacement drive A should you ever need it. This is a fairly easy job to do, but instructions are usually non-existent or very poor. It is advisable to get a hardware-knowledgeable friend to help you.

SERVICE. Rule # 1: A service center at hand is worth a dozen at a distance. When we are spending our money, the low-priced clones look mighty tempting. However, once we have spent our money (and saved a few bucks), the rules change: now ease of service and resale value are foremost in our minds. What, then, are the tradeoffs?

I can speak from experience on this one. There were no service centers when we got our first computers. Almost every machine I owned had to be shipped to California for repairs. That meant boxing, insuring, shipping and living without it for weeks at a time. Another danger is the small company that may be here today but gone tomorrow. The local service center that smiles when you bring in your IBM clone for repairs today may shrug their shoulders a year from now and tell you that there is just nothing they can do. They can't get parts anymore.

All repairs are expensive. After the warranty is over, you must pay for the service you get and it usually costs more than you think it should. This will be true for every brand. If you have more than one service center near by, ask them what their minimum charges and hourly rates are. The cost of repairs is probably not going to be much of a deciding factor between competitive machines -- they will probably all cost much the same.

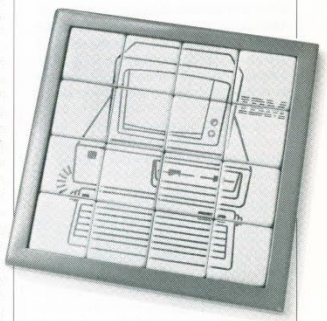
How long you will be without your machine is many times more important than how much it will cost to get it repaired. If you have a simple job and a local seviceman, then you may get it fixed within a day or two. If it is a very busy service center, you may still have to wait one or two weeks. With Radio Shack they nearly always ship it off to a regional repair center — it usually takes one or two weeks. If you ship it yourself to a central repair station, regardless of brand, it's going to take about two weeks or even longer.

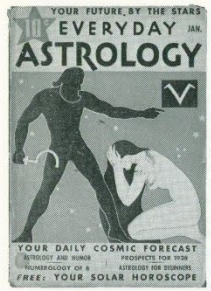
If you bought it from a local dealer that offers service then you have a place to take it for help. Computer stores, however, go out of business even more often than computer companies. It's possible that even if your computer is still being made no one in your area will have anything to do with it. You will then have to call the company to find the nearest service center. Even IBM owners may find themselves far from a local service center and there are towns that don't have Radio Shack stores. This is not a hell of lot different than other appliances or electronic goods except that there aren't many independent servicemen.

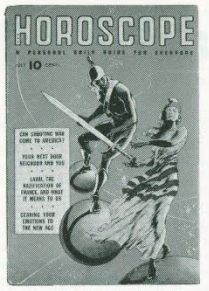
This situation is begining to change and repair centers that work on all types of TV's may soon be repairing computers as well. Actually, they're a lot easier to fix than a TV. The trend in computers towards cheaper chips, cheaper drives and so forth will probably mean that the service-man will need to do little more than swap chips, swap boards, swap drives, swap monitors, etc. If this happens, then the plain-vanilla, generic PC which is, by definition, made from the cheapest, most commonly available parts will be repairable by any electronic hack.

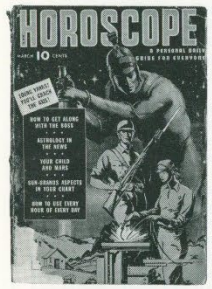
There are signs that the "PC" may be becoming as commonplace as "kleenex" and IBM will have served only as the first prototype model. If everyone is making a PC, and they are all following the same design and using the same type of parts, then they will be able to be serviced anywhere. This could serve to calm the computer-paranoia.

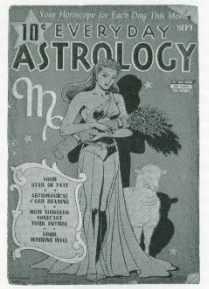
IBM clones that are running Matrix software include: IBM PC, AT and Jr; AT&T PC-6300; Columbia MPC-4420, 4620, 4820, 4210, Professional 47, Professional 49; Compaq Deskpro 286, model 2, model 3, plus, portable, portable 286; Eagle PC plus 1, plus 2, plus xl; Heath/Zenith H-160; ITT Xtra model 2, model 3, model 4, xp; Leading Edge PC; Tandy 1000, 1200 HDPC; Epson Equity 1.

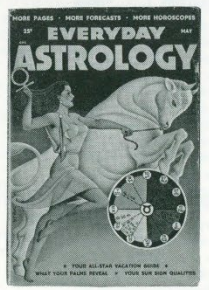




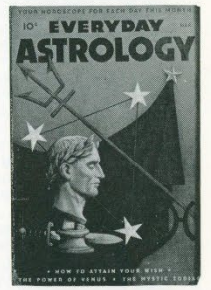


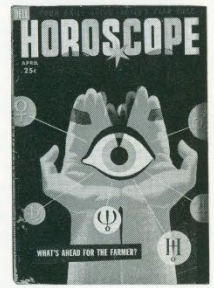


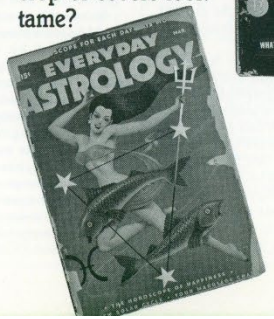




The Matrix library was the beneficiary of a large collection of old astrological magazines—some from early in the century. Our thanks to Jean Boyer for the gift! We thought you might like to see some of the covers that shouted from magazine stands during the Age of Illustration. Don't they make today's crop of covers look tame?







Machine Talk

[Cont. from 6]

machinesbothuse the fast 68000 16-bit micro-processor which is the same chip that is in Apple's Macintosh. And, like the Mac, these machines have high resolution screens, pull-down menus and roll-around mice. Unlike the Mac, both of these machines have full color hi-resolution graphic capabilities. Depending upon who you read, one or the other of these new machines is the greatest thing since Christmas, while the other probably won't make it thru the year. Let's talk about them:

COMMODORE AMIGA. The Amiga is a powerful computer that comes with 256K of RAM and an 880k disk drive using the new Sony 3 1/2 inch format. Its forte is supposed to be its high speed graphics and multi-tasking ability. Multi-tasking means that you can run more than one program at the same time. In other words, your astrology charts can be calculating, while you write a letter.

Although the Amiga offers a lot for the money, it is expensive (around $2000 for starters). With very little software as yet, it's too early to tell whether this machine will be the trend setter that Commodore thinks it might (or had better) be. I remember the same kind of ballyhoo about the Apple Macintosh which has had only a modest success.

ATARI ST: Oddly enough, a machine that is almost identical (in many ways) to the Amiga. It too is a Mac look-alike with high speed graphics. Only it does not feature multi-tasking. Instead it comes standard with 512K of RAM, one 360K Sony-type disk drive, a monitor and all kinds of extras for about $700 -- less than half the price of the Amiga. You can tell already that I favor the ST, right? Right!

The reason is that the Atari ST appears to offer more bang for the buck. A 512K color graphics machine with a disk for $700 is amazing. Wait! Don't run out and buy one just yet. We don't have any software on either of these new machines. We, like perhaps yourself, are waiting to see how they turn out -- whether they sink or swim. We are looking at some new compilers for these machines, so there is no reason we can't have Matrix programs on them in the future. But, right now, no.

Apple IIc

I know you Apple owners out there think that we hate the Apple II machines. Maybe you'd like to know that we just purchased a brand new Apple IIc for development purposes. Apple has made some real attempts to extend the life of the machine. After all, no machine is as old as the Apple II and still being promoted. This is a fact. I predict that Apple will have one of their best Christmas seasons to date. Why? Because I feel that people are confused about the state of the market. After all, even IBM couldn't guarantee the success of its PCjr and the Commodore C-64 has kind of dropped out of view. This adds up in my mind to be a plug for the oldest micro on the shelf: the Apple II. Apple knows this and they have brought out some new goodies for Apple II users, such as a high density floppy, etc.

My complaints on the Apple have been its advanced age coupled with its high price. No company to my knowledge has consistantly charged more money for their product than Apple.

Macintosh

Mac fans, what can I tell you? The Mac is a nice machine that does not appear to be selling at the rate that we had hoped it might. We have one set of astrology programs on it, and another about to be released for the 512K Mac. Michael Munkasey has pledged to mount our entire *Blue*Star* package on it. The statistics show that sales for the Mac have been slow.

The Bottom Line:

Where does that leave you would-be computer buyers? The best deal in the 8-bit world is still the Commodore C-64 with one disk drive and a printer. For the price, there is nothing that touches it. Our programs run faster on the C-64 than on the Apple II, and there is more available memory that we can use. The Apple IIc is nice machine, but I wish they would lower the price by about half.

In the 16-bit environment, I would like to see you in an IBM PC or AT, one of the Tandy machines or possibly the new Epson PC clone. ■

IBM GUIDE

[Cont. from 7]

Once you are assured of software compatibility with your clone, you are ready to consider the idea of hardware compatibility.

This means that disk drives, memory expansion cards, monitor cards, etc. designed for the IBM will plug directly into your clone and work. This can be a big price advantage if you plan to add onto the system either immediately or in the future. There is an entire industry centered around making peripherals for the IBM PC. The competition is heavy and the prices are low. Periodicals like *PC MAGAZINE* and *PC WEEK* are filled with ads trying to attract the PC owner. If you plan to buy a hard disk, for example, you might find a price difference of over $500 between what you can put in an IBM and what you can put into some of the clones. With some of the clones you may have only one manufacturer to choose from, or it may not be a possibility at all.

What to do? Of course, the safest bet is to lay down your green and walk out with an official IBM PC. You haven't saved a cent unless you consider resale value and serviceability as a savings. I do. In lieu of that, buy an IBM chassis and motherboard and complete the system using less expensive parts from other manufacturers. The next safest bet is to buy the new Equity I computers from Epson. They are inexpensive and promise to be a solid buy. Then there are the Tandy PC clones that are available at your Radio Shack store. We have one, and while they are a tad sluggish, they seem worth the money. We have had no trouble with ours and service is available even in tiny Big Rapids. That kind of security is hard to ignore.

Beyond that, we have the flood of inexpensive IBM clones such as the new Leading Edge PC, which is made in Korea. And there are a flock of foreign-made AT clones ready to hit our shores. They will look and work great and you can save a considerable amount of money over purchasing from Big Blue. The only negative side is that service may be very far away. Also how many years will there be service of any kind? These are questions to ask yourself.

Now let's talk about what you get regardless of how much money you spend. What is an ideal hardware configuration? A year ago, our average PC customer had an IBM-style machine with 256K and two 360K disk drives. The same system as listed earlier in this article. Not so anymore. Today's IBM customer has an IBM style machine with 500-640K of RAM, one (or two) 360k drives and a 10-20 megabyte hard disk.

The reason for the change is simple. The cost of RAM memory has plummeted until today's user is missing a bargain if they do not have at least 512K. RAM costs almost nothing now. The same is true for disk drives. 360K disk-drives can be had for between $80-$100 while 20 megabyte hard disks (with controller) are available for less than $500. That's inexpensive compared to even a year ago.

D I A L O G U E

[Cont. from 5]

woolly-minded types of astrologers. There are people going off and laying heavy trips on other people. Like, "Beware of an accident next month." There we have a problem, because we want to encourage each other to be everything we can be, and at the same time we have no organization, we have no standards.

It would be great if we had tests to say, "you are not an astrologer until you pass this." But most of the tests are ridiculous -- absolutely ridiculous. I would not take them, and I probably couldn't even pass them. I think a lot of astrologers feel that way; that we couldn't even pass the damn tests. That is because it is someone else's idea about what it is to be an astrologer. We vary so much.

One of the things we have been working on at Matrix, with Doug Pierce, Doug Smith and a number of other people is semiotics, the study of meaning. It has to do with trying to go beyond the scientific psychological list of facts that people credit as being the facts of the mind, and saying, as a group of astrologers who perhaps are more sensitive, to look into our own mind -- the mind of astrology and the feelings of astrology -- and come to some general agreement as to what we feel to be there. So that we can begin to see outlines of things that we could agree as a group are there.

It is like Atlantis rising. Leave aside the techniques that are so personal that they work for you but not for me when I do them, and vice versa. What can we, as a group, agree upon that is in our common astrological mind? Like a scientist, I am interested in things that we can verify. However, unlike the rules of the scientist, I would like develop our own series of astrological rules in a disciplined way. I am willing to come to some general agreement: I would like to see some standards developed.

I also agree with you about the idea of technique. Technique is the essence of experience. It is the residue that is left over after the experience has been had. It is very dangerous to give someone technique with no initial training. Yes, they can go use it, but they have no idea whatsoever how it arose. That is why I have come all the way around to not even wanting to teach beginning astrology any more.

When I went to study the Tibetan method of astrology, I was totally shocked. First I read some of the books and material which are available (and there is very little). This led me to the actual Tibetans themselves. The practicioners. I came to them, and I said, "I am ready, I am an astrologer with twenty years experience, I can do all this." In one case I traveled 800 miles to visit one of these teachers to request permission to begin a particular practice and he said, "No, you can't do that. With all due respect to your experience in astrology, you must start at the very beginning. Because in this area of training your mind, Michael, you are a beginner." That was kind of a hard pill to swallow.

I am not the only astrologer who is going to be led by the nose to that point, and told, "You either want to begin taking training, in terms of calming and disciplining your mind, and learning the ethics of training your mind, or else you are just going to exist in this world where you may be tremendously able in a limited fashion, but you will never be the whole person you want to be."

Jeff: I agree with this. This comes back to the point of developing the inner person, and letting the techniques follow.

Michael: It can't be something that is just done. It is very difficult to develop the inner person by yourself. There really exist traditional lineages and methods of doing it that are far beyond what we could put together alone.

Jeff: This is true. I think what this Buddhist fellow was saying is that you have to develop the whole person... We can't do the traditional western thing and impose something on someone as if only we are right. We can only suggest. We can only speak from our heart, from our own reality. If we agree with these kinds of issues, and these kinds of statements and beliefs, we can only present that. We plant the seed and replant that seed. Wherever that seed is meant to land and take hold, wherever it is meant to land into the fertility of someone's mind, it will do so. That is all we can do. Then stand back and see what happens.

Community News

In The Journals

KOSMOS: The Quarterly Publication of ISAR, Vol. XIV, No. 4, Fall 1985, Contact: P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.
Research Seminar on Methods, Comets and Genethliacal Astrology by George Noonan, *Financial Panel Discussion* by Dobyns, Merriman and Michelsen, *Why do Statistical Results Appear in Cadent Houses?-* by Francoise Gauquelin, *Addendum to Francoise Gauquelin's Article* by Zipporah Dobyns, *AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome* by Ingrid Naiman and more.

THE MUTABLE DILEMMA, Vol. 8, No. 4, Virgo 1985, Contact: 5953 W. 86th Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90045.
Maritha on Counseling by Maritha Pottenger, *Progressions in Action* by Jalien Shandler, *Asteroids and Egypt* by Rita Bremer, *The Challenge Corner* by Zip Dobyns, *Astrological Quizzes* by Maritha Pottenger, *A Brief Discussion of the Gauquelin Research* by Zip Dobyns, *Reagan Update* by Zip Dobyns.

ASPECTS, Vol. 10, No. IV, Fall 1985, Contact: P.O. Box 556, Encino, CA 91426.
Libra Ingress by Judy Johns, *Astrological Sleuthing* by Charlotte Tuton, *Stock Market Outlook* by Raymond Merriman, *Locality Astrology* by Charles Jayne, *Computer Corner* by Kelley Miles Essoe, *Keys to Learning* by Joan McEvers, *Changing Sex Roles* by Bill Tierney, *The Wheelbarrow* by Leigh Tobias, *Helio: Questions & Answers* by T. Patrick Davis, *ABC Basic Delineation* by Marion D. March, *The Importance of Major & Minor Configurations - Part V* by Hans Peter Sauerwein, *Astro-Psychology -- Part IV* by Richard Idemon, *Building Blocks* by Nancy Cassidy, *Data Column* by Lois Rodden, *New & Full Moon Cycles* by Karma Welch.

The Schneider-Gauquelin Research Journal, Vol. 3, No. 3, September 1985, Contact: Marie Schneider, B.P. 317, F - 75229 Paris, Cedex 05, France.
The Greek Error or Return to Babylon by Francoise Gauquelin, *The Influence of Mercury on Contracts* by Brye Bonner, *Mercury Retrograde and Divorces A Reassessment* by Thomas Shanks, *Death by Traffic Accident* by Cornelius Kuypers, *The Chi Square Test* by F. & D. Gauquelin, *Subroutines: The Gauquelin Sectors* by Paul Hewit, *Time Changes in Greece* by George Archavlis, *Data Accuracy and more.*

TRANSIT, No. 50, August 1985, Contact: Michael Harding, 24 Birchington Court, West End Lane, London NW6 4PB, Great Britain.
A Natal Astrologer's Guide to Horary by Olivia Barclay, *Astrology Test Paper* by Lou Nation, *Brussels Football Riot, Midpoint Corner* by Michael Harding, *Computer Update* by Ananda Bagley, *Neptune in Capricorn* by Nick Campion, *The Young Men at Sea -- A report from Iceland.*

Other newsletters, bulletins, catalogs Received:

Geocosmic News -- The National Council for Geocosmic Research Newsletter. Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 1985, Contact: 78 Hubbard Avenue, Stamford, CT 06905.
Contains articles, news, notes, etc. including a list of birthdata for well known contemporary astrologers.

Welcome To Planet Earth, The best monthly tabloid in the field. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403.

Mercury Hour, The original idea exchange publication: Articles, letters, review, etc. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd. C-7, Lychburg, VA 24502.

American Federation of Astrologers Bulletin, Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282.

TAPE & BOOK CLUB BULLETIN, Bi-monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: RKM Publishing, P.O. Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123.

PLANET WATCH with Eleanor Bach, Monthly newsletter. Contact: 319 West 18th St., New York City, NY 10011.

CAO TIMES, Many fine articles, news, comments, etc. Contact: Box 75, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10113.

PLEIADES: A Newsletter for Experiential Astrology, Contact: 2515 N. Racine Ave., Chicago, IL 60614.

ASC: The Key, Periodical on Chiron. Contact: Zane Stein, 757 E. Main St., K-201, Lansdale, PA 19446.

Astro★Calendar

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving outer planets. Aspects are geocentric unless marked "•H" to indicate a heliocentric aspect.

NOVEMBER 1985

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
13	16:02	17SA52	MAR SQR URA	•H
22	05:27	21AQ40	MAR INC JUP	•H

DECEMBER 1985

Day	*Time*	*Place*	*Aspect*	
10	14:54	02SA47	SAT SES NEP	
11	02:53	00LI00	MAR LIBRA	•H
14	04:38	01SA20	MAR SXT SAT	•H
18	12:32	03CP17	MAR SQR NEP	•H

Coming Events

Cannes, France.
First World Congress of Astrologers, Dec. 13-15, 1985. Contact: Stella M. Kalman, P.O. Box 1306, Campbell, CA 95009.

San Diego, CA.
UAC 86 -- United Astrology Congress, Jun. 26-July 1, 1986. Contact: Marguerite Dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Los Angeles, CA.
American Federation of Astrologers Convention, July 15-20, 1986. Contact: AFA, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282-0901.

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Our new mapping module for *Blue*Star* produces hi-res maps of the U.S. and world using inexpensive Epson-type dot-matrix printers. The program includes **Astro•Locality** maps as originated by Gary Duncan in 1952 and popularized by Jim Lewis and **Local Space** relocation maps as developed by Jim Michael Erlewine complete with support pages including planet graphs. Your customers can now enjoy the finest in relocation analysis. Runs under *Blue*Star* on the IBM PC (and clones). Price $300.

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WINNING! Gambling Report
WINNING! Gambling Report Writer, designed by gambling expert Joyce Wehrman, includes all you need for a complete service: daily sheet that tells when you're "on the wheel", monthly scan shows major aspects, likely days etc. and special betting table-of-houses for any location. Here is a program that customers will want to order each month. Price $300. Available on the IBM PC. A version for Commodore C-64 and Apple II is in the works.

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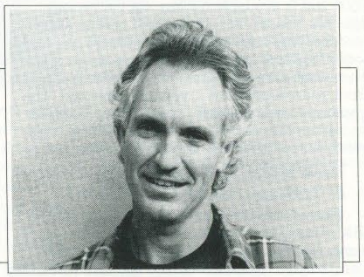
ACT'86 IS COMING IN JUNE & JULY—AT THE AFA CONVENTION IN LOS ANGELES AND AT UAC'86 IN SAN DIEGO. THESE SPEAKERS WILL BE THERE—SOME AT L.A., SOME AT SAN DIEGO, MANY AT BOTH. SEE PAGES 9 & 10 INSIDE FOR MORE INFO.

Bi[illegible]or The Matrix User's Group Volume Three, No. 1 Jan/Feb '86

Charles Jayne: 1911-1985
A tribute to a great astrologer.
Page 6.

Astrotalk

A Conversation With Tom Brady



Tom Brady is one of astrology's bright new stars. He cuts through a lot of what clogs up most discussions and reveals the inner struggles of our field. His accent on astrological experience as something to live rather than to think about is right on target. The following is a conversation with Tom Brady & Michael Erlewine.

Michael: **I feel that you have a very down-to-earth approach to astrology and to harmonics. Tell us about that.**

Tom: Everything that I have been involved in within astrology has an underpinning to it. The underpinning is that it was all done as a critique of current intellectual trends in this society.

The people that I had gotten involved with astrologically were involved with the ninety degree dial. We had gotten interested in Uranian astrology, and Cosmobiology, simply because we found those techniques, especially the ninety degree dial, useful. Within Uranian we eliminated a lot of stuff.

But we found the ninety degree dial to be a tremendously concise and precise tool. We were off in the desert all by ourselves. We didn't have any teachers in the formal sense. This tool was popped in our hands, and we began to play with it--literally. We never got terribly involved in midpoint pictures, and the more traditional Cosmobiological way of using the tool. What we got involved with was using it as a rather complex aspectarian.

I am sure you are familiar with the dial. You are looking at conjunctions, squares and oppositions at one point on the dial. At any point across from that you are looking at semisquares and sesquisquares. At anything at right angles to that, you are looking at 22 1/2 degree aspects. You can further divide that quarter down into eighths. Then you are looking at 11 1/4 degree aspects. We began to find in our work that those very minor aspects, if they bunched up together, seemed to be as important in terms of predictive situations, or in terms of explaining situations that we were looking at, as some of the more traditional major aspects. We were doing that independently, and noting some of the things that happen when you work with a ninety degree dial. Number one: it begins to condition you to look solely at hard aspects, and you begin to forget about trines and sextiles. There was something that disturbed me about that, although at the time, I didn't understand it.

In 1978, I went to Chicago, to an NCGR conference, and I heard Charles Harvey speak. He wasn't talking directly about harmonics. The

[Cont. on 3]

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astrologers that might gather. In other words, only the few know what the many pretend to know. He had little faith in large organizations. His renowned ARC association was reserved for those astrologers that he considered worthy. Membership was by invitation only.

Because of this trait, Charles had an ongoing vision of getting the best astrologers in the world together with each other for a face-to-face exchange of ideas. It was this kind of thinking that led to the formation of ACT (Astrological Conference on Techniques) by Charles and myself, and the creation of the Johndro Award which is given to astrologers who have made a major technical contribution to astrology and who exhibit a generosity of spirit. Rob Hand and I have now proposed that this award be renamed the Johndro-Jayne Award.

Jayne participated in a wide variety of astrological groups and associations. Some examples: He was vice-president of Nicholas DeVore's Astrologic Research Society, founded his own Astrological Bureau in 1953, founded Astrological Research Associates in 1958, which published the first international astrological periodical, *In Search*. Jayne, along with Charles Emerson, Harry Darling and Dr. Edgar Wagner, was one of the founding fathers of NCGR. Charles was the author of many articles in Nicholas DeVore's *Encyclopedia of Astrology*, including a number that did not carry his name or initials. Almost all of the sections on cosmic structure were his work. In addition, he was president of the Astrologers Guild of America from 1958 to 1960. In 1970, Charles created ARC, the Association for Research in Cosmecology, and began publishing the very fine technical journal *Cosmecology Bulletin*. He and clinical psychologist David Goodman, created the Astro-Psychological Consultation Center in New York City in 1973.

In addition, through ARC, he formed a great many symposia in conjunction with major astrological associations such as NASO, STAR, NCGR, etc. He served as chairman of the resolutions committee at the 1972 AFA convenion, and was a guest of honor at the Cambridge Astrological Association.

Jayne was far more than an astrological technician locked up in some ivory tower. In the more than 50 years during which he studied and practiced astrology, he gave countless classes, seminars and weekend workshops, not to mention his counseling practice, which was constant. Charles appeared in many publications including LIFE magazine, and was on radio and TV a number of times including appearances on The David Susskind show. He has written extensively for all kinds of astrological magazines, Dell Horoscope in particular. For over nine years, he and his wife

Vivia (a first-rate astrologer in her own right) wrote what has been called the best daily newspaper astrology column in the business. It appeared in the New York *Daily News*.

Charles was well educated. He studied philosophy at Princeton University, electrical engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and psychology at Columbia University, not to mention courses at the Asia Institute. From 1961-'69, he was a technical analyst on Wall Street. On the esoteric side, he was well schooled in occult theory in general and Theosophy in particular. He had the very good fortune to work with Miss Eleanor Hesseltine, a very high being whom he considered his direct or root teacher in spiritual matters.

Jayne brought order and conscience to an astrology that was suffocating from over-psychologizing and humanism. It is not a coincidence that both Rudhyar and Jayne left this world around the same time. Both were seed men and great astrologers. Both assisted in developing an approach to astrology that has an enormous following. This is not to say that Rudhyar did not value technique or that Jayne disdained psychology. That would be a wrong

reading of what is being said here.

Rudhyar gave an entire generation a feeling for astrology. He developed the psychological and humanistic side of our field. Jayne, almost his alter ego, did all he could to restrain and to prune this tendancy. He was an advocate of science and facts, but a science that fed on inspiration and inner direction rather than on itself.

Where Rudhyar ripened as the culmination or exemplar of a psychological approach to astrology, Jayne was the beginning of the reunion of astrology with the technical disciplines of math and astronomy, after a separation of many centuries. While Rudhyar served to achieve a culmination, Jayne marked the beginning of a new style of astrologer, with one foot in the technical and the other in the spiritual.

I will miss Charles Jayne, both as a friend and as a progressive force within the astrological community. Astrologers of the caliber of Jayne are few and far between. I am sure that many of our readers would have liked to have known Charles. Just for the record, Jayne was very friendly and easy to approach. He liked to meet others who loved astrology, who lived astrology.

Knowing Charles was a tremendous experience. A certain type of information is handed down from generation to generation, from mouth to ear, in person. You cannot learn everything from books or even in the lecture hall. If I may be permitted, I'd like to make a pitch for those leaders within the astrological community who are still with us. Take some time and seek them out. Get to know and learn from them. I did this with Charles Jayne and it changed my life.

Charles is survived by his wife, Vivia, who is carrying on their practice. She may be reached at 5 Old Quaker Hill Rd. Monroe, NY 10950. The Jayne's books are available from the American Federation of Astrologers, 6535 S. Rural Rd. Tempe, AZ 85282-0901. Research on Jayne's post and prenatal charts is now being carried on in Berkeley, California by Arthur Young. Larry Ely is also working with this material. ■

ACT '86

We have been very busy preparing the schedule for not one, but two ACT conferences in the coming year—one at the UAC (United Astrology Congress) from June 26-July 1, 1986 at the Bahia Hotel in San Diego and one at the AFA (American Federation of Astrologers) convention from July 15-20 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. This is the first time we have tried to schedule two conferences at once and it has been a lot of work. For those of you who have never attended an ACT roundtable discussion, we should mention something about what they are all about.

What is ACT? ACT consists of a group of astrologers from all over the U.S. and the world who are interested in communicating about topics of current interest in astrology—a kind of information cooperative.

How and when did ACT begin? ACT was started in the late 1970s by Charles Jayne and Michael Erlewine, who felt astrologers ought to meet face-to face and hold open dialogues on topics of common interest. We need to get to know one another on the issues. ACT is not an organization, in the common sense of the term. It has just enough structure to make sure that the panel members are notified where and when they are to meet. An attempt is made to invite astrologers who are well versed in the subject up for discussion. Participation is open ended. Members of the audience often know as much or more about these subjects as those on the panel. Audience members at one conference often become panel members at the next—and vice versa.

What is the workshop format? Very informal. ACT panels are nothing more than a circular arrangement of chairs with panel members, moderator and participating audience all seated together. The moderator introduces the topic and invited speakers, at which point discussion begins. Since everyone is involved (even the audience), ACT discussions are almost always interesting.

How can you participate? Easy—just show up at either UAC or AFA (or both!) this summer and join in. You can sit in and listen or get up and have at it. This full audience participation is part of what makes these sessions so animated. ***Everyone is involved.***

[See page 10]

ACT '86

Suggested Topics for ACT 1986:

- *The Full-Time Counseling Astrologer*
- *Astrological Certification: Why or Why Not?*
- *Astrological Business Co-op Panel*
- *Ethics in Astrology (What are they and where can I get some?)*
- *Astrology and the Media (Possible Strategies)*
- *The Current Image & Place of Astrology in Society and Why?*
- *Is Prediction in Astrology Possible? (Yes, but does it work?)*
- *Religion & Astrology*
- *Mundane & Geopolitical Astrology Panel*
- *Meditation & Astrology (How do they work together?)*
- *Locality Astrology Panel*
- *Psychology & Astrology*
- *Professionalism in Astrology*
- *Astrology's Roots in the Ancient Traditions (East & West)*
- *Stock Market Session: Where's the Crash?*
- *Economics & Astrology Panel*
- *Research & Statistics Update*
- *Asteroid Panel*
- *Tropical vs. Sidereal*
- *Astrology: Fate vs. Free Will*
- *Chart Synthesis by Computer*
- *Future Trends -- The 1980s and Beyond.*
- *What Use is Astrology?*
- *Astrology & Gambling Review*
- *Astrology in the East*
- *Harmonics Panel*
- *Computer Roundtable*
- *Astrological Training: What's Missing?*
- *Health & Medical Astrology*
- *Heliocentric Update*
- *Cosmic Structure: A Review*

♥ ♠ ♦ ♣

Winning!

A NEW PROGRAM FROM MATRIX

The Matrix *Winning!* program is being expanded to feature the latest techniques from Joyce Wehrman's popular system. These include previously unpublished techniques such as putting transiting planets "On the Wheel", as well as those covered in Joyce's popular book, *Winning!*. For those of you who haven't heard, the "On the Wheel" technique works with "hits" of transiting house cusps to planets and to selected natal house cusps. These "hits" pinpoint the best times (to the *minute!*) for gambling or speculation. Joyce affirms that the addition of transiting planets on the wheel makes the difference between small wins and big wins.

Other features we have added at Joyce's recommendation include Transpluto's positions and the transiting true node. The latest theories on the orbit of Transpluto have been incorporated into our calculations for this hypothetical planet.

The icing on the cake is that we are making it easy for the user to be creative in customizing the *Winning!* program in several ways. Not only can you select active planets and aspects (with your choice of orbs); you can also choose which planets will be positive indicators and which will be negative. Finally, there are several printout formats to choose from, depending on how much information you want, and how you want it laid out on the printed page.

♥ ♠ ♦ ♣

Community News

In The Journals

Kosmos: The Quarterly Publication of ISAR, Vol. XV, No. 1, Fall 1985, Contact: P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Astro-Nonsense at ISAR by Barry Lynes, *Security Factors in Astrology: Moon and Saturn* by Jeff Jawer, *Life is a Quincunx* by Maritha Pottenger, *12* Book Reviews.

Transit No. 51, November '85, Contact: Michael Harding, 24 Birchington Court, West End Lane, London NW6 4PB, Great Britain.

Separated Twins by Sheila Geddes, *The Unknown Man* by Helen Franzini, *Neptune in Capricorn* by Nick Campion, *Astrological Anagrams* by Olivar Swingler, *Midpoint Corner* by Mike Harding, *Astrologer's Medicine* by Vivienne Thompson, *A Natal Astrologers Guide to Horary* by Olivia Barclay, *Data News*, more.

Considerations Vol. III, No. 1, Contact: P.O. Box 491, Mount Kisco, New York 10549.

Dane Rudhyar: A Seed Man for the New Era by Alexander Ruperti, *Moon in Scorpio Square Pluto* by Barbara Koval, *Is All Contained Within the Natal Horoscope?* by Ken Gillman, *Blood All Over The Place* by Axel Harvey, *Advanced Rectification, Part IV* by Alexander Marr, *A Reconstruction of Mesoamerican Astrology* by Bruce Scofield, *Let's Consider, Data Etcetera*, more.

The Astrological Journal Vol. XXVII, No. 4, Fall 1985, Contact: Dick Llewellyn, Bay Villa, Plymouth Road, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5PQ, England.

Astrology: The Meaning of Astronomy by Laurence Cassidy, *The Fixed Stars in Natal Astrology: Part 2* by Felix Jay, *My Researches into Astrology: Part 2* by Wladyslaw Schinzel, *Harmonics, Signs and Numbers: Part 1* by Peter Norris, *The Other Person in Your Partnerships* by William Henry, *Nicholas Culpepper: Herbalist & Astrologer* by Olivia Barclay, *An Introduction to the Comet* by Andrew Bevan.

Other newsletters, bulletins, catalogs received:

Geocosmic News —*The National Council for Geocosmic Research Newsletter*, Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer '85, Contact: 78 Hubbard Avenue, Stamford, CT 06905.

Contains articles, news, notes, etc. including a list of birthdata for well known contemporary astrologers.

Welcome To Planet Earth The best monthly tabloid in the field. Too many articles to list. Very high quality. Contact: WTPE, 2437 Miami Lane, Eugene, OR 97403.

Mercury Hour The original idea exchange publication. Articles, letters, reviews, etc. Contact: Edith Custer, 3509 Waterlick Rd. C-7, Lychburg, VA 24502

American Federation of Astrologers Bulletin Monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: AFA Bulletin, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282.

Tape & Book Club Bulletin Bi-monthly. News, articles, etc. Contact: RKM Publishing, P.O. Box 23042, Euclid, OH 44123.

Planet Watch *with Eleanor Bach*, Monthly newsletter. Contact: 319 West 18th St., New York City, NY 10011.

CAO Times Many fine articles, news, comments, etc. Contact: Box 75, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10113.

AFAN Network Newsletter Best update on the legal situation vis a vis astrology. Contact: Jim Lewis, 191 Frederick St., Apt. 41, San Francisco, CA 94117.

ASC: The Key Periodical on Chiron. Contact: Zane Stein, 158 Poplar St., Ambler, PA 19002

The Fraternity News *Journal for the Fraternity of Canadian Astrologers.*, Contact: Nancy Atwood, 13155-24th Avenue, Surrey, B.C., V4A 2G2, Canada.

Coming Events

Sommerset, England.

The Astrological Association Annual Summer School, May 26-30, 1986 Contact: Wootton Hall Cottage, Chewton Mendip, Somerset BA3 4PA, England.

San Diego, CA.

UAC 86 -- United Astrology Congress, Jun. 26-July 1, '86. Contact: Marguerite Dar Boggia, P.O. Box 38613, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Los Angeles, CA.

American Federation of Astrologers Convention, July 15-20, 1986. Contact: AFA, P.O. Box 22040, Tempe, AZ 85282-0901.

Astro★Calendar

Here are the major aspects for the next two months involving outer planets. Aspects are geocentric unless marked "•H" to indicate a heliocentric aspect.

FEBRUARY 1986

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
12	10:31	29AQ00	MAR TRI JUP	•H
14	16:28	00SC00	MAR TO SCO	•H
22	10:17	03CP41	MAR SXT NEP	
23	06:22	19SA05	MAR SSQ URA	•H
24	09:19	00PI00	JUP TO PI	•H
26	06:57	05SC32	MAR CJN PLU	•H

MARCH 1986

Day	Time	Place	Aspect	
6	06:57	22SA10	URA SSQ PLU	
16	13:20	05PI41	JUP SXT NEP	
21	19:32	06PI54	JUP TRI PLU	
25	09:22	04CP04	MAR SSQ NEP	•H

Matrix News

Apple II & C-64 Owners: Tell us what you think...

Those of you who are using Apple II or Commodore 64 machines know that our Matrix Designer Wheel series are not available for these machines due to the large amount of memory needed by Designer Wheels. Each wheel requires 64K of RAM by itself, not including the program. However, it may be possible to mount our new *Color Wheels* on both the Apple II and Commodore 64 machines. We could use the new HI-80 plotter from Epson which retails for around $600 and is available for less via the various discount houses. Before the staff here at Matrix launches into such a project, we would like to get some feedback from you, our users to see if you even want such a program. We would like to hear from you via postcard if you are interested. The question to ask yourself is: would you consider laying out that much cash just to get these high precision color wheels. Please let us know.

Now Make That Asteroids, Chiron & *Transpluto* On The IBM-PC.

Our new *Asteroids & Chiron* option for the IBM Blue*Star is undergoing a slight change of name. It will now have to be called *Asteroids, Chiron and Transpluto*—since we have just added Transpluto to the group. All of these are stored in a single extension record which is automatically allocated to any chart file that you create with this new option turned on.

*Blue*Star's* Now Available In An MS-DOS Version

An MS-DOS version of *Blue*Star*, which runs on almost any IBM type (MS-DOS) machine that supports an ANSI file is now available.

Synastry Writer Goes C64 & !

Don't forget our new *Synastry Writer* is still getting rave reviews and is available on the the IBM, Commodore 64 and Apple II computers.

Color Wheels Are Ready On IBM

Matrix *Color Wheels* are now ready and being shipped for the IBM PC for those of you with the Houston Instruments 595 or 695 plotters. We are working on a version for the Epson HI-80 plotter too.

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Thrangu Rinpoche is an incarnate lama or tulku who now resides in Nepal. He is the supreme scholar in the Kagyu order of Tibetan Buddhism, and is knowledgeable concerning their astrological system. Thrangu Rinpoche was accompanied by Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche, the head abbot of the Kagyu lineage in this country and translator Chojor Radha.

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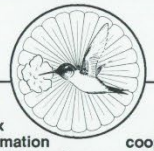

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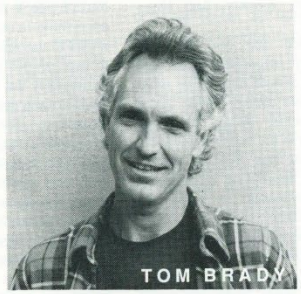

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People were speculating about the meaning of the 125th and 67th harmonics. That seemed absolutely mad...Western thinking gone wild... "What can we speculate on now that has absolutely no meaning, but will pass another half hour in our lives?"

The lectures were titled harmonics, but he was really talking about the wave theory ideas that Addey was toying with near the end of his life, and that Rob Hand picked up on. That whole little group was involved in it.

We did pick up a copy of Addey's book, *Harmonics and Astrology*. At one point in that book, he talks about the fourth harmonic as a series of hard aspects, and suddenly it dawned on us that what we were using the ninety-degree dial for was looking at a harmonic family. Any time you take a number and continually double that number, you get the aspects that derive from dividing the chart by those numbers that you arrive at. It gives you an harmonic family.

This idea occurred to us: Why not do dials for those other harmonics? As one person expressed it, "My god, I am so glad there is something more involved in astrology than the ninety degree dial." We began to look at these different dials. The first thing we found out was that we were so conditioned by the ninety degree dial that every other dial we attempted to interpret came out sounding like the ninety degree dial. So we began to question the role of language in the whole process. This is what I meant when I said it was a critique of the thinking we were involved in at that time. We began to realize that our language was completely conditioned by the manifest world, or the external conditions. We take the fourth harmonic to indicate how a person "outers" himself: how they manifest themselves, how they externalize themselves. We were so conditioned by those kinds of things that we were looking at other harmonics just like we looked at the fourth harmonic (although we had gotten key words from Addey such as creativity for the fifth harmonic, spirituality the seventh, and final forms and destiny for the ninth harmonic). We were all attempting to talk about these phenomena with a language that was conditioned by fourth harmonic experiences.

***Michael:* This whole society is geared on the fourth harmonic: the whole idea of materiality and materialism. It is not a totally unattractive thing, it's just unbalanced.**

Tom: Unbalanced, yes it is. The first time I was around harmonics people was in 1978. I sat in on this discussion where people were speculating about the meaning of the 125th harmonic and the 67th harmonic. That seemed absolutely mad to me. It was just a feeling, a feeling of the West gone wild, and western thinking. "What can we speculate on now that has absolutely no meaning for any of us, but we will pass another half hour in our lives?"

Yes, this was a parallel experience to work that I had been doing in other areas of formal academic training at a previous time, which I had never fully understood. Suddenly through the use of this dial, things began to click for me. We began to experiment with these other harmonics. Perhaps the reason that astrology was locked into a set of aspects, namely the conjunction, square, sextile, trine and opposition, and was not paying too much attention to the septiles and noviles and quintiles was because we as human beings had lost touch with what these aspects were really attempting to talk about. We had words for them, we had a language for them, but somehow it was a flat language.

[Cont. on 4]

People were always saying, "sure the fifth harmonic is creativity, sure the seventh harmonic shows the spiritual aspect in your chart," but it was always brushed over very quickly, and never really dwelled on.

Addey dropped one hint that we thought was very important. And that was: Why should certain aspects be more important than other aspects? Why aren't all aspects—in some sense—of equal weight? We began to toy with the idea that the English school was making a very large mistake by attempting to interpret these higher harmonics in terms of systems of thought that had been conditioned by the cultures that were in effect for the last 2,000 years.

So what our harmonics work really amounted to is negative aid. That is, we have been throwing stuff out, saying, "It is not this, it is not this, etc." We have pared things down. At this point in time, we understand that the fourth harmonic family seems to be oriented toward things that are external to us. We found this to mirror a history of consciousness in this century.

The Uranians and the Cosmobiologists are very interested in that hard aspect series, because they were attempting to establish a verifiable astrology. The Uranians themselves were hypothesizing planets like the physicists were hypothesizing particles.

When I go to an astrology conference and I brush up against astrologers, I do not get the feeling of highly developed people. I get the feeling of highly specialized people.

When I went to Chicago to the ACT conference in 1982, and sat on that ACT panel on harmonics, my reaction to what I was hearing from the other people on the panel was that they, like all of us in astrology, were not critiquing the way that they were thinking. They were busy thinking in the mode that they were thinking, whatever that was. I really feel that astrology at this point in time has to critique what it is doing at a very very basic level. To my mind, it is simply a very conditioned state, and that conditioned state does not lead to the degree of freedom that astrologers have the illusion that they are realizing for themselves.

This reminds me of another thing we realized early in the harmonics work. That what these harmonics seem to be talking about seem to be states of being, and not types of thinking. Astrology seems to be locked into a highly verbal pattern, as if everything in our experience can be talked about in the same way. I think if we look at any of the major religious traditions, particularly the Buddhists or the Sufis, we begin to see that there are whole areas of experience that they realize as non-conceptual, or beyond the limits of language. But they can still be codified, and what I mean by codified is simply expressed, through the use of gesture, the use of dance, the use of the human body as an instrument of expression. I think that in whatever way a person can do it, if they begin to widen their modes of expression, it begins to have an effect on our understanding of what some of these specific aspects within an astrological chart are talking about.

I think those are two things you can do that are quite important. If someone were to undertake one or both of those, it would be quite a major thing. I think that a lot of people, in one way or another, are doing that. I know what you are doing here at Matrix certainly is a manifestation of that sort of approach. People within experiential astrology are making a lot of quite clumsy attempts, but at least they are out there. I think it is quite interesting that the work being done in astrodrama is considered as entertainment. At the conferences, it is Saturday night entertainment, not a core issue within it. That is a revealing prejudice in terms of language.

A lot of this is an intuitive thing on my part. It is me reacting to what I am exposed to. When I go to an astrology conference and I brush up against the astrologers, for the most part, I do not get the feeling of highly developed people. I get the feeling of highly specialized people.

Michael: **That can't surprise you forever. So what do you do?**

Tom: I think what you do is you become a model. You make an experiment of your life. You simply say, "OK, If I am correct in this intuition, then the best thing I can do is to begin to be what I say to the degree that I can." If that is a correct process, through time it will be verified in the quality of my being.

Michael: **What about supplementing the West by going to the East? That is what many of us have done.**

Tom: The other point is that maybe the best way to get back to what the early Greeks meant is to go to the East. Because the East is alive at this point in time. By touching that we actually find out where our roots come from. In a certain sense we really are in a planetary situation here. The East does seem a source for this. The Greeks defined being as the quality of a person's presence.

Michael: **Shakespeare says, "You are no more yourself then you now here live."**

Tom: OK, Same thing! He was onto it too. This has a thread. All we can say is that in some sense, the culture lost it. But I think being communicates itself in the person's presence. When you are in the presence of a person who has developed their being to some wide degree, that is communicated to you in non-verbal ways.

Michael: **And in verbal ways!**

Tom: OK, I won't eliminate the verbal ways.

Michael: **All ways.**

Tom: Yes, all ways, better yet! I believe that astrologers, were they to begin to see that it is important for the quality of their astrology to develop the quality of their being, would begin to communicate to themselves. Then they would communicate to the culture at large a whole different quality of presence that would actually be attractive.

Michael: **Yes, I think they have to develop that.**

Tom: Yes, they have to consciously develop that, and I really think the best way at this point in time is to do what you suggested; to look to some of these lines that have come to us from the East.

Michael: **Some of which are not broken.**

Tom: Some of which are not broken at all, some of which are very continuous, and some of which are actually more alive here at this point in time then they are in their homeland. It is as if astrology at this point in time has maxed out on technical stuff. That whole end is developing finally. Nobody has to worry about that.

Michael: **It's launched.**

Tom: It is a well oiled machine. It's cranking on all by itself. In kind of an ironic way, it seems to me as if astrologers have temporarily to turn their back on what they think astrology is, and experiment with some of these other types of practice, these other types of human discipline. This will eventually effect the quality of their astrological thinking. Sometimes we read a book, and we don't get what the person is talking about, so we go off and we experience other things in our lives. Years later, we go back to the book, and we know exactly what they are talking about. Even though we haven't been studying that material. It is as if we have caught up through other areas of our life.

In the Tibetan tradition, there is a real distinction made between a person's knowledge and a person's being. It is emphasized in many of the stories, especially about Marpa and Milarepa. There comes a point in time, sometimes, when you are way overloaded with knowledge and you have to go out and develop your being to catch up to yourself, so that your knowledge has a context, and a wholeness and a completeness about it.

Astrology at this point in time is top heavy in the knowledge end. That knowledge does not have a basis in what we could call the heart. The Pueblo Indians say they think with their heart. They don't think with their head. When you ask a Pueblo where he thinks, he points to his chest, rather than to his head. And that is from personal experience.

It seems to me that when I look at astrology, and other astrologers, that is the direction of evolution for us as a group.

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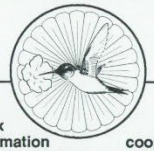

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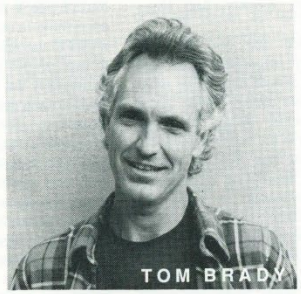

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People were speculating about the meaning of the 125th and 67th harmonics. That seemed absolutely mad...Western thinking gone wild... "What can we speculate on now that has absolutely no meaning, but will pass another half hour in our lives?"

The lectures were titled harmonics, but he was really talking about the wave theory ideas that Addey was toying with near the end of his life, and that Rob Hand picked up on. That whole little group was involved in it.

We did pick up a copy of Addey's book, *Harmonics and Astrology*. At one point in that book, he talks about the fourth harmonic as a series of hard aspects, and suddenly it dawned on us that what we were using the ninety-degree dial for was looking at a harmonic family. Any time you take a number and continually double that number, you get the aspects that derive from dividing the chart by those numbers that you arrive at. It gives you an harmonic family.

This idea occurred to us: Why not do dials for those other harmonics? As one person expressed it, "My god, I am so glad there is something more involved in astrology than the ninety degree dial." We began to look at these different dials. The first thing we found out was that we were so conditioned by the ninety degree dial that every other dial we attempted to interpret came out sounding like the ninety degree dial. So we began to question the role of language in the whole process. This is what I meant when I said it was a critique of the thinking we were involved in at that time. We began to realize that our language was completely conditioned by the manifest world, or the external conditions. We take the fourth harmonic to indicate how a person "outers" himself: how they manifest themselves, how they externalize themselves. We were so conditioned by those kinds of things that we were looking at other harmonics just like we looked at the fourth harmonic (although we had gotten key words from Addey such as creativity for the fifth harmonic, spirituality the seventh, and final forms and destiny for the ninth harmonic). We were all attempting to talk about these phenomena with a language that was conditioned by fourth harmonic experiences.

***Michael:* This whole society is geared on the fourth harmonic: the whole idea of materiality and materialism. It is not a totally unattractive thing, it's just unbalanced.**

Tom: Unbalanced, yes it is. The first time I was around harmonics people was in 1978. I sat in on this discussion where people were speculating about the meaning of the 125th harmonic and the 67th harmonic. That seemed absolutely mad to me. It was just a feeling, a feeling of the West gone wild, and western thinking. "What can we speculate on now that has absolutely no meaning for any of us, but we will pass another half hour in our lives?"

Yes, this was a parallel experience to work that I had been doing in other areas of formal academic training at a previous time, which I had never fully understood. Suddenly through the use of this dial, things began to click for me. We began to experiment with these other harmonics. Perhaps the reason that astrology was locked into a set of aspects, namely the conjunction, square, sextile, trine and opposition, and was not paying too much attention to the septiles and noviles and quintiles was because we as human beings had lost touch with what these aspects were really attempting to talk about. We had words for them, we had a language for them, but somehow it was a flat language.

[Cont. on 4]

Charles A. Jayne, Jr.
Born October 9, 1911
Jenkintown, PA at
10:53 PM (given) but
10:39:30 PM (rectified)
Charles passed away on
December 31, 1985 at
8:32 PM at Arden Hill
Hospital in Goshen, NY.

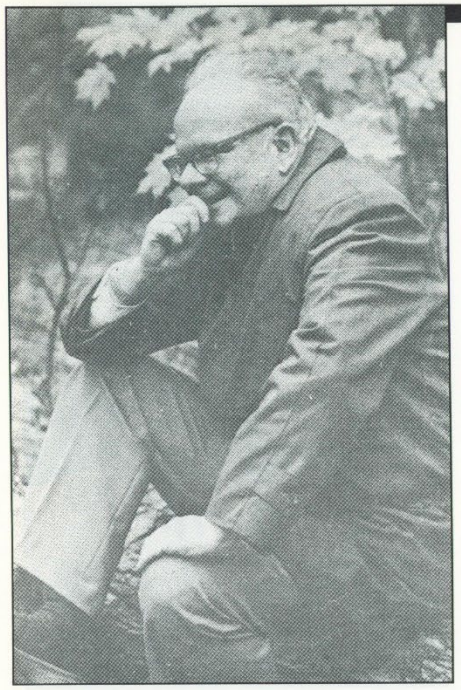
1911-1985

Charles Jayne

It is hard for me to believe that I met Charles Jayne just ten years ago last December. He filled such a vacuum in my astrological life that it seems as if I must have always known him. □ One did not have to spend much time with Charles in order to sense that here was a real astrologer. He practiced what he preached. He loved astrology. He was easy to approach and welcomed astrological ideas of all kinds. There are very few modern technical astrologers who did not know and benefit from knowing Charles. He was a key man in our field—a meeting ground and inspiration for an entire generation of astrologers with a technical bent. This includes astrologers like Robert Hand, Arthur Blackwell, David Black, Capel McCutcheon, Michael Munkasey, David Cochrane, Roger Elliot, Charles Harvey, Bill Meridian, Neil Michelsen and a great many others.

By Michael Erlewine

There can be little question that Charles Jayne is the father of modern technical astrology, at least from the tropical standpoint. This is a matter of record, for it is impossible to examine the great many articles and books he has written without coming to this conclusion. After all, he wrote his first technical article (on eclipses) some 46 years ago! Since that time, a continuous stream of books, lectures and papers have come forth, almost all of them of a technical nature. Technical in the sense that they always exhort the reader to examine the techniques and methods they use and to use them with care and awareness. Jayne's book on progressions and directions is still the most comprehensive ever published. His work on eclipses, sensitive points, cosmic structure, locality astrology, rectification, long-term cycles, and pre- and post-natal charts is also outstanding.



Jayne was a forerunner or model of what's now the standard among modern astrologers: the mixture of both astrological insight and technical proficiency. L. Edward Johndro is the only astrologer (to my knowledge) prior to Jayne who mixed an intense concern for precise astrological techniques with spiritual insight. Jayne was always quick to acknowledge his affinity with and debt to Johndro. In particular, Jayne was interested in the astronomical structure of astrology. And by astronomy, I don't mean just a minimal amount of knowledge about the heavens that might be gleaned from a course or two in the subject. Nor do I mean astronomy of the dry academic sort that some astrologers use to elevate themselves above the rank and file. To Charles Jayne, astronomy was the physical signature of the spiritual and the intuitive. He had no fear of being caught up in some dry academic dustbowl. Astronomy was, above all, revelatory for Jayne. It fueled his theoretical leanings. He knew that the spiritual world is reflected in the physical, and he listened for the latest scientific results like words from an oracle. He often remarked that the physical universe is but the shadow of God.

Lest I paint Charles as too saintly, let me say something about Jayne in his more wrathful forms. Charles was no friend of mediocrity and he fought it wherever it appeared. In particular, he couldn't bear astrologers arrogating themselves or making money based on what he considered faulty or erroneous astrological logic and/or concepts. He was adept at unmasking the pretentious and the greedy. It made no difference to Charles if you were a world famous astrologer or a local tyro, he would not hesitate to set you straight—on the spot. I doubt that there is a single close friend of Charles who has not found themselves upon occasion on the wrong side of Charles regarding one issue or another.

Charles believed that the quality of astrology varied in inverse proportion to the quantity of

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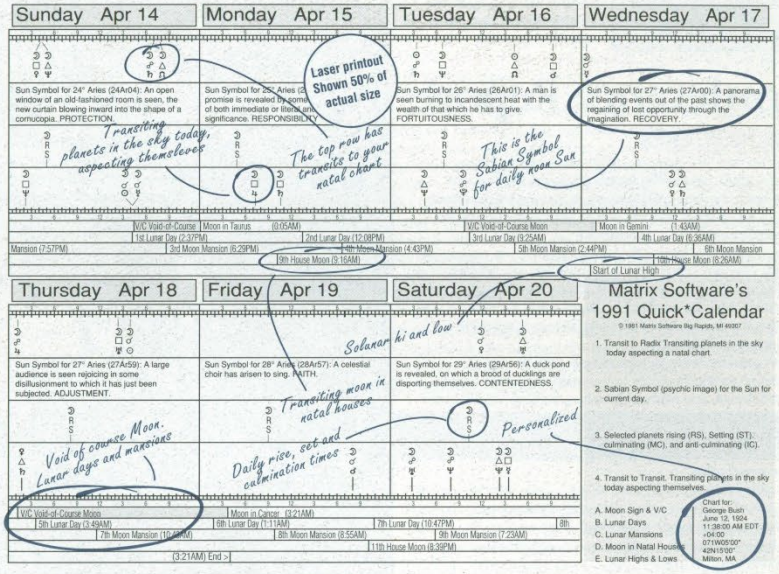

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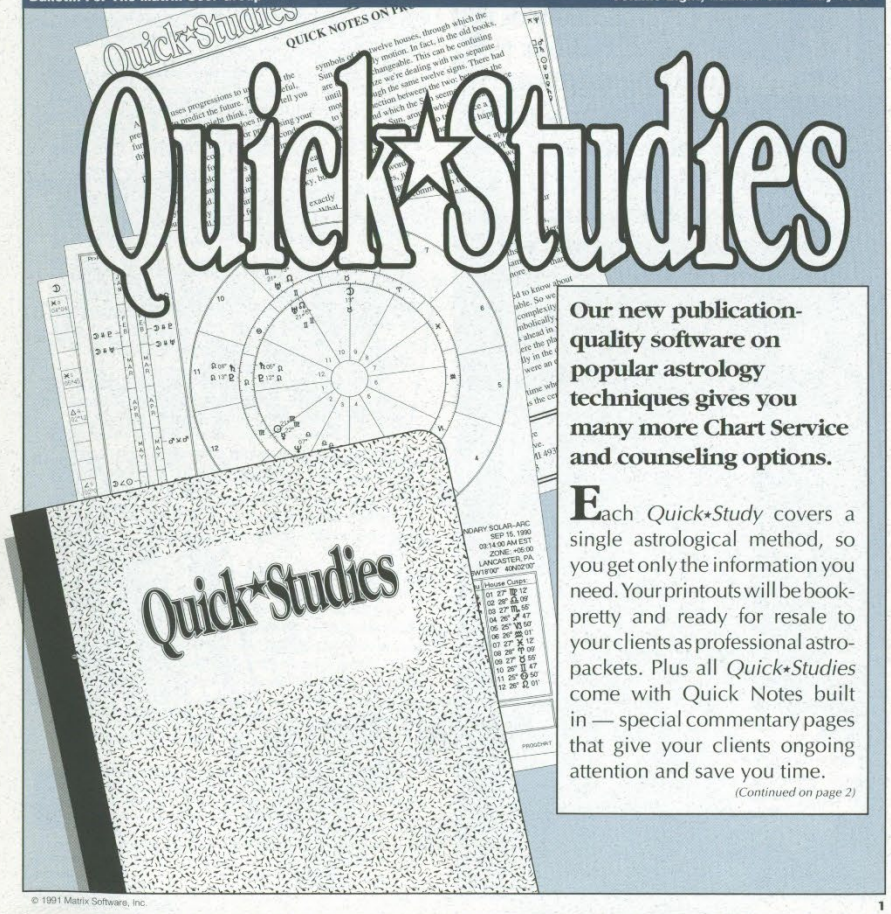
AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group — Volume Eight, Number One • May 1991

Quick*Studies



Our new publication-quality software on popular astrology techniques gives you many more Chart Service and counseling options.

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(Continued on page 2)

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Quick★Studies

Reach more clients faster! Matrix is famous for outfitting astrologers with tools to give their practices a more professional touch. *Quick★Studies* is our latest line of programs that maximize your profits with speed and built-in incentives.

continued from front cover

All *Quick★Studies* work off a common base program, so batch-processing is a snap — we made it that way because astrologers, more and more, are working with multiple techniques. Now your astrological service can be tailor-made. *Quick★Studies* even makes use of the convenient Time Change Atlas you may already have.

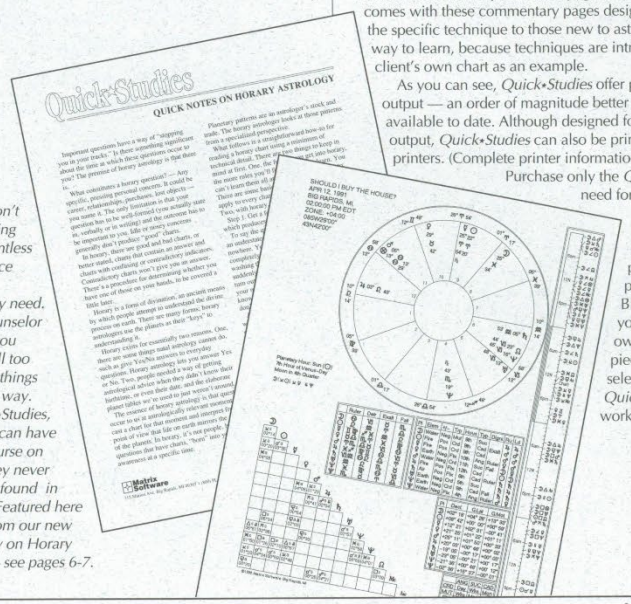
Quick★Studies require no special screen graphics — good news for popular graphs and maps (see pages 4 and 8). The high-definition output makes all the difference. And your clients will appreciate a permanent, publication-quality record of your consultation, laser printed and suitable to 3-punch for a notebook.

Quick★Studies reports can be resold to both beginners and professionals. Professionals like *Quick★Studies* because all the information they need for day-to-day work is assembled on one easy-to-read chart sheet, such as the ones shown below.

When you're printing out *Quick★Studies* for beginners, include the built-in Quick Notes pages. Each *Quick★Study* comes with these commentary pages designed to introduce the specific technique to those new to astrology — a great way to learn, because techniques are introduced using the client's own chart as an example.

As you can see, *Quick★Studies* offer publication-quality output — an order of magnitude better than anything else available to date. Although designed for laser printer output, *Quick★Studies* can also be printed on dot-matrix printers. (Complete printer information is on page 4.)

Purchase only the *Quick★Studies* you need for your particular clientele. If you are on a budget or don't need the power of a large package like the Blue★Star system, you can build your own chart service, piece by piece, by selecting just the *Quick★Studies* your work requires.


Quick★Studies

QUICK NOTES ON HORARY ASTROLOGY

Important questions have a way of "stopping you in your tracks." Is there something significant about the time at which these questions occur to you? The premise of horary astrology is that there is.

What constitutes a horary question? — Any specific, pressing personal concern. It could be career, relationships, purchases, love objects — you name it. The only limitation is that your question has to be well-formed (you actually state it verbally or in writing) and the outcome has to be important to you, life or death, or generally don't "predict" good charts, or bad charts, there are good and bad charts, or better stated, charts that contain no answer, charts with conflicting or contradictory indicators. Contradictory charts won't give you an answer. There's a psychology for determining whether you have one of those on your hands, to be covered a little later.

Horary is a form of divination, an ancient means by which people attempt to understand the divine process on earth. There are many forms, horary astrologers use the planets as their "keys" to understanding it.

Horary exists for essentially two reasons. One, there are some things naked astrology cannot do, such as give Yes/No answers to everyday questions. Horary astrology lets you answer Yes or No. Two, people needed a way of getting astrological advice when they didn't know their birthtime, or even their date, and the elaborate planet tables we've used in past astrology (a must for horary astrology) is not required.

The essence of horary astrology is that you occur to us astrologically to represent you and cast a chart for that time on earth answers the point of view that life on earth answers the of the planets. In horary, it's not people, questions that have charts, "here" into awareness at a specific time.

Planetary patterns are an astrologer's stock and trade. The horary astrologer looks at these patterns from a specialized perspective.

What follows is a straightforward how-to for tracking a horary chart using a minimum of technical detail. There are a few things to keep in mind at first. One, the [illegible] get into horary. You can't learn them all at once. Two, with horary there are more rules you'll [illegible] apply to every horary. Three, with horary there are some basic [illegible] which predominate.

Step 1. Get a h[illegible]

To do the [illegible] an understanding [illegible] numbers. T[illegible] completely [illegible] available [illegible] subdivide [illegible] turn out [illegible] know

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Beginners don't feel like paging through countless books to piece together the methods they need. And as a counselor or teacher, you remember all too well finding things out the hard way. With Quick★Studies, your clients can have an entire course on astrology they never would have found in book form. Featured here are pages from our new Quick★Study on Horary Astrology — see pages 6-7.

Quick★Studies offers a variety of options for your business.

Chart Services — Offer *Quick★Studies* as part of your regular service. Sell *Quick★Studies* Fact Sheets (individual wheels, charts, graphs or maps) to professionals and the whole *Quick★Studies* packet with Quick Notes commentary pages to beginners. Expand your business with neat, easy-to-read *Quick★Studies* that go beyond plain printouts. Introduce those new to astrology to complete astrological concepts in the same way that most of us learned — expressed in the language of our own birth charts. What better way is there to learn?

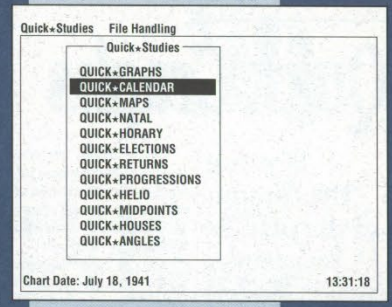
Classes — Provide your classes with a comprehensive introduction to specific astrological techniques using their own charts. *Quick★Studies* come complete with Quick Notes commentary pages, which means students can take with them an entire concept at the end of every class. You present the idea in class and send a *Quick★Study* home as a personal reminder of how the technique works in their charts. The Quick Notes will help to document your teaching and provide students with a means to review the various astrological techniques.

A notebook filled with *Quick★Studies* is a mini-course in astrology, using the student's own chart as the example — amounting to the book we always wanted to buy. Busy teachers wish they could take the time to individualize their classroom presentations. With *Quick★Studies*, that is now easy to do.

Counseling — A *Quick★Studies* packet makes a great take-home present at the end of a counseling session. It serves two purposes. First, it is a nice gesture, something extra for them that costs you very little. Second, you can introduce the clients to new astrological concepts that can become part of future counseling sessions.

Gifts — Send out a *Quick★Study* along with your yearly client reminders (birthdays) and/or at the holiday season. These small packets let your clients know you care about them, while introducing them to another facet of their chart and life. As a professional, you know how many techniques in modern astrology are almost unknown to the general public. *Quick★Studies* open doors for friends and clients at a minor expense to you. Once purchased, each *Quick★Study* is ready to give you years of service at no additional cost to you other than the paper it's printed on!

Requirements for all Quick★Studies: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 640K and hard drive and on printers compatible with Epson FX 9-pin or LQ 24-pin dot-matrix, Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500, and LaserJet Series II or Series III. No special screen graphics required. Base program (which comes with your first *Quick★Study* at no extra charge) includes extensive Quick File handling capabilities as well as instant file alphabetization, custom color desktops, user logos, and editing of all jobs selected at any time.



Quick★Studies — Order just the ones you need. Right away you'll get the base program that supports all *Quick★Studies* applications. It's easy to call up just the application you want. All *Quick★Studies* work off a single, easy-to-use screen with modern "pull-down" menu options.

Every *Quick★Study* that you have in the menu is listed for easy reference. You can keep on adding to the list with new *Quick★Studies*. And you can batch-print without ever leaving the base program. Simply enter the data and then print the charts with the touch of a key — plus Quick Notes, always your option.

Of course, you can store all chart data in a common file to use with any *Quick★Study* at any time. *Quick★Studies* even calls up the convenient Time Change Atlas you may already be using with Blue★Star.

Turn the page to read about individual Quick★Studies

ONE OF OUR NEW Quick★Studies

Quick★Graphs

Plotting the motion of the planets was never easier!

Quick★Graphs can produce graphic ephemerides of all kinds within a time span of 1700-2300 for most planets and bodies. This includes a wide variety of output.

You can create graphs in zodiac longitude (or latitude), using either geocentric or heliocentric positions. Choose from tropical or sidereal graphs. Or, you may elect to produce graphic ephemerides in right ascension or declination. Also included are distance-value graphs, both in geo and helio.

Transiting bodies (in addition to the planets, Sun, Moon, and lunar node) include the four major asteroids, Chiron, the eight transNeptunian (Uranian) planets, and Transpluto. In addition, you can include up to ten user-selected transiting midpoints in your graphs.

Of course, all these can be charted against a natal chart, including the major planets, Sun, Moon, lunar node, MC, ascendant, vertex, equatorial ascendant, part of fortune, and/or all 12 house cusps. Also, the eight Uranians, four major asteroids, Chiron, and Transpluto can be included. You can even add up to ten user-defined zodiac points.

In short, you have a lot of power and control over what planets and points you include in your graph, as both transiting and natal bodies.

Time Spans — You have a wide variety of time spans to select from (one to fifty years on a page). For the longer spans, turn off the fast-moving planets and watch the outer planet transits to your natal chart.

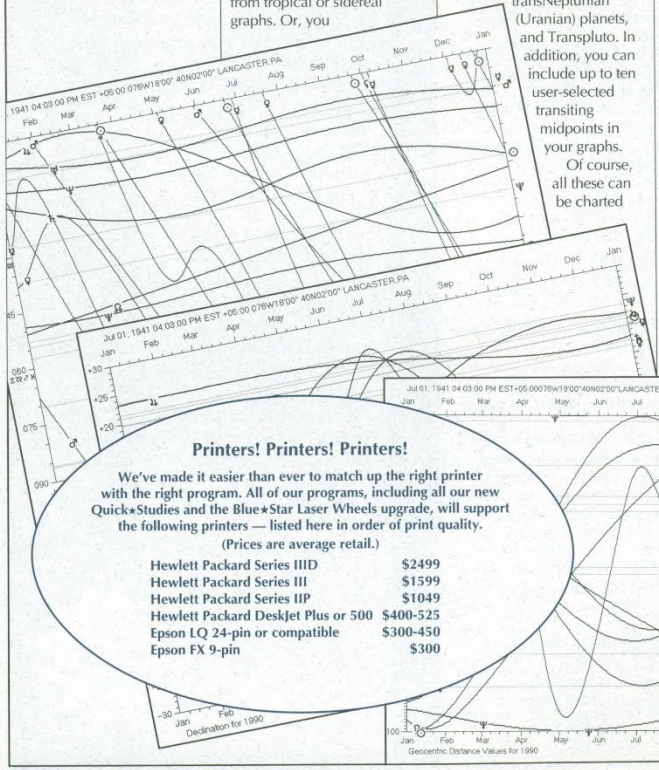
Progressions & Directions — Transits are not the only technique available to you in *Quick★Graphs*. You have secondary progressions or directions, using solar arc, naibod arc, or the popular degree-for-a-year arc. Progressed angles include naibod, solar arc, and solar arc MC (derived angles). All of the above can be plotted against your natal positions.

Dials — Your choice of any cosmobiological dial from 1 to 180 degrees.

Houses —Twelve house systems are included.

Quick Notes — As with all *Quick★Study* applications, you get Quick Notes built in. This means that, should you desire it, every *Quick★Graph* you produce can be accompanied by commentary pages that show the first-time user how to read and use the graphs. A *Quick★Graph* plus notes provides you with a ready-for-sale astro-packet ordering tool that requires none of your valuable time spent in explanation. *Quick★Studies* are complete in themselves.

Special introductory offer: Until July 1, 1991, buy *Quick★Graphs* for only $50 and get acquainted with our new *Quick★Studies* programs! After July 1, *Quick★Graphs* will be available for $125.



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We've made it easier than ever to match up the right printer with the right program. All of our programs, including all our new Quick★Studies and the Blue★Star Laser Wheels upgrade, will support the following printers — listed here in order of print quality.

(Prices are average retail.)

Hewlett Packard Series IIID	$2499
Hewlett Packard Series III	$1599
Hewlett Packard Series IIP	$1049
Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500	$400-525
Epson LQ 24-pin or compatible	$300-450
Epson FX 9-pin	$300

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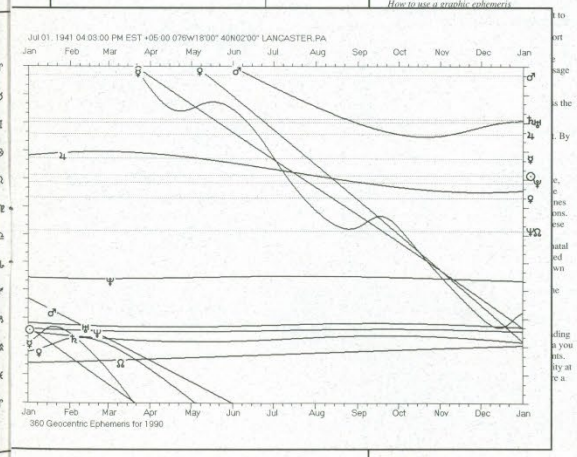
Base program included with your first *Quick★Study* at no extra charge. Price: **$125.00**

Do you have an idea for Custom Wheels & *Quick★Studies*?

Quick★Studies and other chart forms are a major focus at Matrix. In fact, we are interested in adding a wide variety of astrological techniques to our offerings. Perhaps you have some ideas. Whether it is a special chart form you have always wanted, an esoteric technique that should be available, or "what have you?" — we'd like to hear what you want. We can't guarantee that every suggestion will become a *Quick★Study*, but if it looks like something a number of you would like to see, we will do it.

As mentioned elsewhere in this issue, well-known astrological editor Tom Bridges has joined the Matrix staff and will be responsible for putting together many of the Quick Notes pages that go with *Quick★Studies*. No hastily worded paragraphs here. Each page is carefully crafted to ensure that the astrological concept being presented is complete, up to date, and presented in a form that will help improve the image of astrology.

And *Quick★Studies* look great too! Our art department has made sure of that.



Quick★Studies

QUICK NOTES FOR THE GRAPHIC EPHEMERIS

How to use a graphic ephemeris

interrelationships between the planets. Using a regular ephemeris, you don't see as easily where or when the transiting planets are crossing either themselves or your natal chart. Not only that, but a graphic ephemeris includes a graphic representation of your birthchart on the same page so you don't have to do a lot of looking back and forth comparing transiting positions to natal positions. Using a graphic ephemeris is much faster than using a book, and faster too than running multiple charts. A graphic ephemeris quickly lets you find events you want to analyze in more detail, at which point you can run charts for exactly what you want to see.

Dials — You can graph the planets using the 360-degrees of the zodiac (degrees are listed at left-side of page), but many astrologers prefer to look at "dials" — sort of "condensed" versions of the zodiac that make some parts of you chart much plainer to see and understand. The 90- or 45-degree dials are two examples. With dials, the 360 degrees of the zodiac are simply represented by a smaller number, so the spacing between the degrees is larger, but what a difference it makes. Usually the new number is one that relates to a special aspect, such as four, for square or 90-degrees. The number times the aspect always gives you 360.

In effect, these alternate dials are ways of folding the zodiac in half (opposition), into quarters (square), and so on. If you fold a chart in half, making a 180-degree dial, all the oppositions appear as conjunctions. They're not really conjunctions, of course, but when you're interested in spotting oppositions quickly, dials are very useful. It's a way of seeing them more easily. Now since oppositions are pretty easy to

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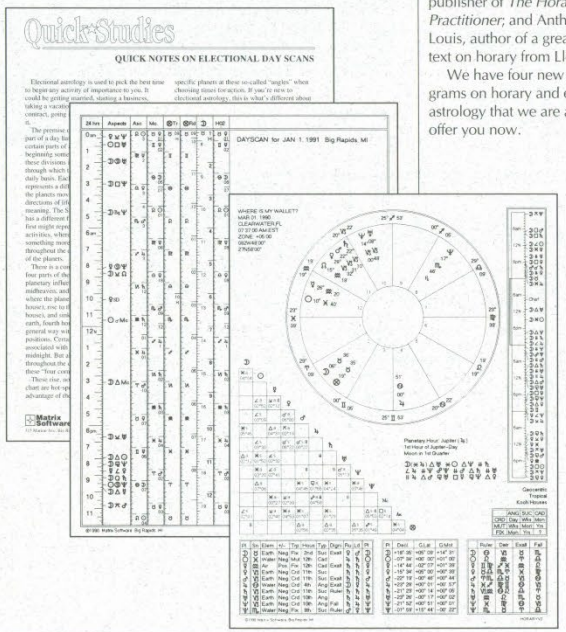
Matrix Software

Quick*Studies in Horary and Electional Astrology

Horary astrology is famous for its insight into complex human relationships and purchasing decisions — and even for finding lost objects. Electional astrology matches our desires and needs with the proper moment, greatly increasing our chances for success.



Astrologers the world over are rediscovering ancient horary and electional techniques and greatly increasing their ability to attract clientele.

Many of you have asked for a variety of horary and electional options. We're in contact with the experts in these fields and putting together the best options possible: Gilbert Navarro, teacher and lecturer with a worldwide following; Alphee Lavoie, well-known expert in horary and electional astrology; Carol A. Wiggers, QHP, publisher of *The Horary Practitioner*; and Anthony Louis, author of a great new text on horary from Llewellyn.

We have four new programs on horary and electional astrology that we are able to offer you now.

The first two are *Quick*Studies* and the other two are written by astrologer Alphee Lavoie (described on page 11). All are easy to use, and they make doing those complicated horary and electional charts easy and profitable.

Horary techniques are astrology's oracle — ask any and all kinds of questions and let the heavens provide some sort of sign or answer. Questions like "Should I buy this house right now?" or "Will this job work out?" are horary questions. Electional astrology is used to pick the best time to do (or not do) something. Electional methods are the primary form of astrology in the Far East, where the auspicious or proper time for particular activities is closely watched.

Quick*Horary

This *Quick*Horary* offers astrologers a selection of wheels, tables, and other graphic printouts presenting the information needed by the practicing horary astrologer. We have the chart forms used by Gilbert Navarro as well as forms designed for the beginner and the occasional practitioner. As you can see, these are more than just wheels. They include hard-to-calculate information, which is listed for you on the next page.

Planetary Day and Planetary Hour: The planetary hour is accurately calculated for the actual day and latitude of the chart, usually only approximated through the use of planetary hour tables.

Lunar Aspects: Shows the aspects just previous to the chart to all those formed before the Moon changes sign.

Aspect Time Scale: Shows the timing of aspects in relation to the chart. May include parallels, sign ingresses, house ingresses, and stationary points. This is a graphic aspectarian that can be used to test the history of the question and determine refrained, frustrated, or prohibited aspects.

30-degree position scales: A visual guide for determining applying and separating planets as well as event sequences.

Speed of planets: Fast or slow.

Essential and Accidental Dignities: According to William Lilly.

Arabic Parts: Part of Fortune, Part of Death (Delays), Part of Marriage, Part of Find.

Lilly's Planetary Strength: The strength of each planet according to Lilly's point system. This material is complex and difficult to calculate by hand. For each planet this feature shows the ruler of its Sign, Exhaltation, Triplicity, Term, and Face. More importantly, it determines if each planet is:

- In mutual reception
- Peregrine (without any essential dignity)
- Combust
- Cazimi
- Under the Sunbeams
- In its Joy
- In Detriment or Fall
- Conjunct major fixed stars
- Besieged
- On a critical degree
- Void-of-course moon

In addition, aspects may be calculated using Lilly's planetary orbs instead of the usual aspect orbs.

A planet's house positions may be determined using a 5-degree leader for each cusp.

Also included are tables showing the planet's element, polarity, modality, house position, ruler, and lord.

As many of you know, we're working on our horary and electional packages under the direction of Gilbert Navarro, recognized as a world expert in these fields.

Requirements for all Quick*Studies: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 640K and hard drive and printers compatible with Epson FX 9-pin or LQ 24-pin dot-matrix, Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500, and LaserJet Series II or Series III. No special screen graphics required. Base program included with your first *Quick*Study* at no extra charge.
Price: **$100.00**

Quick*Elections

A second *Quick*Studies* package is available for electional needs. It allows the professional astrologer to select certain features to monitor across the twenty-four hours of the day. A time scale along the left of the page will indicate the hours and minutes of the day(s), while selectable columns on the right will display various changing astrological data. You can design the page to present just the data you wish to monitor. Possible items to watch:

- House positions of any of the planets or Part of Fortune.
- Sign on any of the angles or house cusps.
- Lilly's planetary strengths as they change through the day according to their accidental dignities.
- Changing rulership for any house.
- Changing rulership for any planet.
- Lunar & planetary aspects.
- Stationary times.

Requirements for all Quick*Studies: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 640K and hard drive and printers compatible with Epson FX 9-pin or LQ 24-pin dot-matrix, Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500, and LaserJet Series II or Series III. No special screen graphics required. Base program included with your first *Quick*Study* at no extra charge.
Price: **$100.00**

The kinds of horary and electional questions astrologers are being asked:

"Will we get the loan?"

"Where are my keys?"

"Should I buy this car?"

"I'm confused about my boss; would you cast a chart to describe our interaction?"

"When should I get married?"

"Please pick a good time over the next month for me to sell this stock."

"I have a very important practice coming up and I need the perfect time; can you help me?"

"Is this a good time for my interview or should I try to reschedule?"

"I have an opportunity to invest in this flower business. First of all, should I? And then, what's the best time to do it?"

Quick★Maps

The Official AstroMap Hi-Res Upgrade

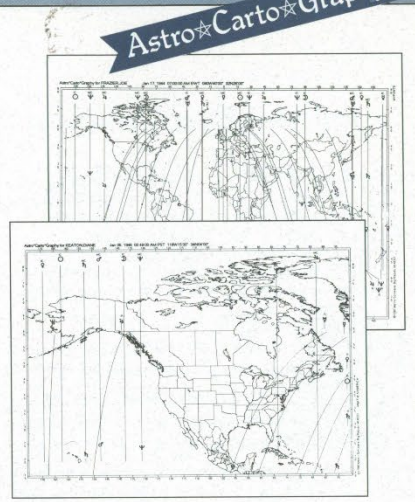
Relocation maps, whether *Astro★Carto★Graphy* or Local Space,™ are popular — and they sell. Clients love them. In fact, many of you running local Chart Services have asked us to provide full-page AstroMaps and batch-processing so you can print more than one map at a time. *Quick•Maps*, the *AstroMap Hi-Res* upgrade, provides just that, for laser or dot-matrix printers.

Since we came out with *AstroMap Hi-Res* in 1988, many of you have called and written with ideas. Now, redesigned to fit with our new *Quick•Studies* concept, you can have full-page maps in landscape mode (page lengthwise) suitable for display or 3-punching for a notebook.

With *Quick•Maps*, the days of screen dumps are over. You don't have to update your system to EGA-compatible display to have *Astro★Carto★Graphy* and Local Space maps. With *Quick•Maps*, print beautiful, full-page maps for your clients and friends — hi-resolution with a variety of printable map options. And always your choice, print out Quick Notes commentary pages to make a complete astro-packet for resale, classes, or gifts.

The *Astro★Carto★Graphy* maps of Jim Lewis look better than ever! Better yet, this new printer version of *AstroMap Hi-Res* includes user-logos for your Chart Service built right in. Even if you don't have the current version of *AstroMap Hi-Res* (or, for that matter, *Blue•Star*), you can have full-page *Quick•Maps*. Since it's not screen-oriented, you don't need hi-res monitor graphics or color display — only a Hewlett Packard or Epson dot-matrix (either 9-pin or 24-pin) compatible printer (see requirements).

Full-page *Quick•Maps*, a batch-processing professional printer version, is ready to provide customers with good-looking output and commentary. Relocation is hot, and both Local Space and *Astro★Carto★Graphy* maps are in great demand.



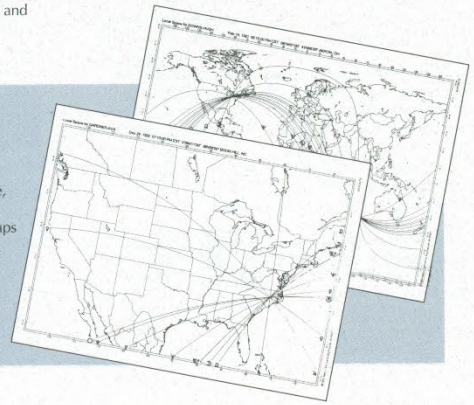
Full-Page *Quick•Maps* is available for $200 to all registered users of *AstroMap Hi-Res*. Otherwise the price is $300, and this program is part of our 4-for-3 special offer.

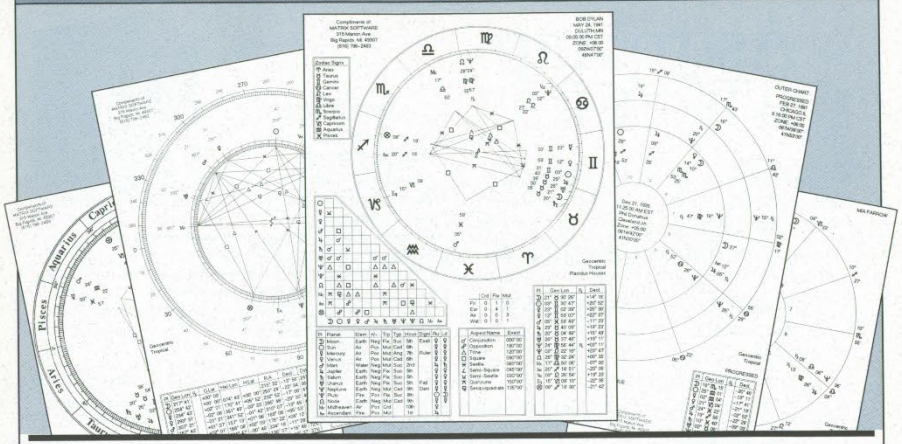
(Astro★Carto★Graphy with permission of Jim Lewis.)

Requirements for all Quick•Studies: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 640K and hard drive and printers compatible with Epson FX 9-pin or LQ 24-pin dot-matrix, Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500, and LaserJet Series II or Series III. No special screen graphics required. Base program included with your first *Quick•Study* at no extra charge. Price: **$300.00**

Local Space Available as an Independent *Quick•Study*

Since Local Space as a technique was first described and developed by Matrix programmer Michael Erlewine, we are rather partial to this method of relocation. So we have a special *Quick•Studies* package with full-page maps in landscape mode (page lengthwise) on this fascinating technique for both laser and dot-matrix printers. Like all *Quick•Studies*, it includes batch processing, user-logos, and the new Quick Notes pages. The Local Space *Quick•Studies* program is available as a special offer until July 1 for $100.





Laser Graphics Are Here!

Don't miss out on our new Blue★Star laser wheel collection.

A number of you have phoned or written about hi-res printed output for the new Hewlett-Packard-style laser printers. You will be pleased to note that at this point we can offer two forms of support:

Laser Driver Upgrade: We have designed a laser driver that will provide astrological glyphs on all of the original Blue★Star printer output, *including* the transit search printouts. It includes support for some Matrix Report Writers as well. This laser driver is available now to all *registered* owners of Blue★Star or applicable Report Writers for an upgrade fee of $50. The upgrade does not support Hi-Res wheels.

Laser Graphics Package: On the other hand, although our laser driver allows us to insert high-quality astrology glyphs in the *older* Blue★Star output, this driver cannot provide the complex circles and boxes required for the hi-res wheels — a much loved Blue★Star add-on for many of you.

Full laser support has taken a lot more development time than we had imagined — over a year — but the result is worth it!

"The laser wheels arrived — they are extremely impressive."

Sean Lovatt, Somerset, England

We could not use the built-in graphics language in the HP laser printers, so we created our own graphics language, which meant redesigning each wheel to work with laser printers. Each of these new wheels has been re-built from the ground up for the higher-resolution standard now available. And the finer resolution available in the lasers even made it possible for us to add new details to many of the pages.

To create the laser wheels, we did many things. For example, we created a wide range of new character sets (of varying sizes) from scratch, implemented a special drawing language, developed a method of high-speed page image, and much more.

Laser Wheels: Chart wheels and their various aspectarians, dials, etc., are the centerpiece of any professional chart service. Matrix has always had great graphic wheels — our 80 chart wheels for dot-matrix printers are a hot item. Nevertheless, the new laser collection puts them all to shame.

The entire set of laser wheels (88 wheels and grids) is available until July 1, 1991, to *registered* Blue★Star users at the introductory price of $150.00. After that, the price will be $200.00 for the set.

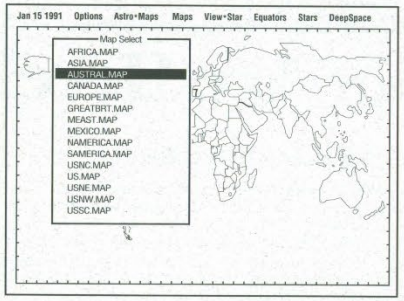
As we designed this new laser series, we had in mind those of you who operate a professional chart or publication service. We feel that these are the best-looking wheels on the market, bar none.

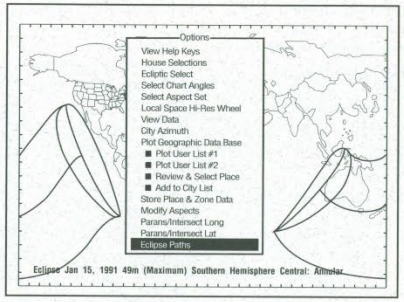
Requirements for all laser graphics: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 640K and hard drive and printers compatible with Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500, and LaserJet Series II or Series III. New laser wheels also work on printers compatible with Epson 9-pin or 24-pin dot-matrix.
Price: **$150** until July 1, 1991.

AstroMap HI RES

This update for the screen version of *AstroMap Hi-Res* has:

- **Well-defined maps**
- **A pop-up directory of all maps on your hard disk**
- **Easy-to-read constellation guides**
- **Eclipse paths**
- **Parans**
- **A save-screen function**





ProgramUpdate

In addition to our up*grade* described on page 8, you will be happy to note our latest up*date* to the screen version. These are two separate programs. Thanks to your suggestions, we continue to improve this fun program. New features include a pop-up directory of all maps on your hard disk. This is helpful since we have also made over 100 new maps available. See top illustration. These include almost all sections of the world in greater detail, plus 48 individual state maps complete with county boundaries. Also, the outlines of the built-in state maps have been very much improved.

Also new are complete eclipse paths for any eclipse for hundreds of years into the past or future (see bottom illustration). The path of the totality is drawn on a world map along with the various accompanying lines that show the limits where that particular eclipse can be observed. Now you can see at a glance what countries are involved with a given eclipse.

In addition, we have added a really nice feature to the various star maps that are built into the *AstroMap Hi-Res* package — constellation lines. Now you can see the shape of all 88 major constellations with connect-the-dots stars. Better yet, you can elect to view these along the celestial equator or as seen from your local perspective. One handy use of this last feature is that you can print out a local star map, showing all constellations with their names, and walk outside with a star map custom-made for the moment.

AstroMap Hi-Res Update for registered users . . . . . $ 25.00
Special offer until July 1:
Update with complete set of new maps (109) for all registered owners. $100.00
The new map sets will only work with the updated program.

AstroMap Hi-Res for first time buyers $225.00
With complete set of new maps (109) $300.00

Requirements: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 512K, two drives, and graphics (Hercules, EGA, or VGA). Hard drive *not* required. Special version available for systems with math co-processor.

Individual map set prices (109 maps total)

U.S. States Plus *(5 disks, 55 maps)*	$ 40.00
European Map Set *(2 disks, 17 maps)*	$ 30.00
South/Central America *(1 disk, 9 maps)*	$ 20.00
African Map Set *(1 disk, 9 maps)*	$ 20.00
Asian Map Set *(1 disk, 9 maps)*	$ 20.00
Canada/Arctic Set *(1 disk, 10 maps)*	$ 20.00

The new map sets will only work with the updated program.

These two programs from Alphee Lavoie are easy to use, based on over 30 years of experience in the fields of horary and electional astrology.

Father Time

The Electional Astrology Program

Electional astrology has been little used here in the West because of the complexity of the calculations involved, yet it is perhaps the most useful form of astrology on a day-to-day level. In the East, electional astrology is the predominant form of astrology, used where people are more concerned with picking the proper moment to start or stop something.

With *Father Time*, electing the days and times to begin events is easier than ever before! *Father Time* offers you many options. You can choose the time span within which you want to initiate your event (for example, from Sept. 1, 1990, to June 15, 1991), give a choice of days, (only Saturdays and Sundays, or Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays), and specify a time of day (between 9 AM and 10 PM, or all through the day). And the time you select can be different for each day.

You can choose whether you want the event to happen quickly or over a long term. For instance, if you are putting your home on the market to sell, you would want the sale to be completed within a short period of time. If, on the other hand, you are starting a business and want it to have longevity, *Father Time* will choose a time to begin it that will give the business a long life. And finally, the program lets you set three different orbs at three different places to sharpen your findings.

With all this information, *Father Time* goes to work, and in seconds finds and saves on a disk the three best charts in your chosen time frame.

All these can be viewed on the screen or sent to the printer. And the on-screen graphics are great! You can view two charts on the screen at the same time and, with one keystroke, graphically see their mutual aspects. *Father Time* has its own natal chart calculator and also permits importing of *Star Trax*, *AGS*, and *Matrix* chart files.

If you were afraid of electional astrology or thought electional charts were too complicated, give *Father Time* a few seconds to find the best times for you and your clients.

Requirements: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 256K, and 2 drives (or a hard drive). Price: **$249.00**

Nostradamus

The Complete Computer Horary Program

Nostradamus is a horary program that answers all your questions of how, why, when, where, and who! It will fully describe people, places, situations, health, etc., and it will tell you if you should or should not act on an issue.

It is easy to use, because its brain is powered by a built-in English dictionary. All you have to do to get an answer is type in your question — just as you would ask an astrologer. You don't have to know anything about horary techniques or even about astrology.

Nostradamus will do all the work for you. It will find the proper houses and give you answers to complex questions such as: Will my mother's boss's daughter get this job? It can describe the place where you lost an article and even suggest who is sending those anonymous letters.

Nostradamus lets you analyze your questions with in-depth detail either on the screen or via the printer. Its sophisticated programming allows you to get a quick and accurate answer to your questions.

Nostradamus was designed by professional astrologer Alphee Lavoie, who has over 30 years of experience in the field of horary and electional astrology.

Requirements: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 256K and 2 drives (or a hard drive). Price: **$249.00**

Now you can give your customers a printout of their personal tarot reading.

NEW PROGRAM

Graphic Tarot Report

Computer tarot programs are not new; there is even a mini one in the Matrix shareware *Electric Almanac* program. But the new *Graphic Tarot Report Writer* is really classy, featuring graphics of all 78 cards in the traditional Rider-Waite tarot deck.

The clear and direct interpretive text, written by tarot expert Nancy Garen, prints a report that focuses in depth on your question. Just type a question on the screen, choose the kind of tarot spread that interests you, and let the computer lay out the cards. Or, if you don't trust the computer to shuffle, you can lay out your own cards, tell the computer which they are, and get a complete report to send to your long-distance clients.

The report is thorough, with the added advantage that the graphic of the tarot card under discussion appears alongside the text.

Graphic Tarot is filled with interesting features, such as your choice of 15 different types of card spreads including the classic Keltic Cross and a variation, a zodiac spread, and even a colossal 32-card spread. The spreads appear as a separate page that can be printed by itself.

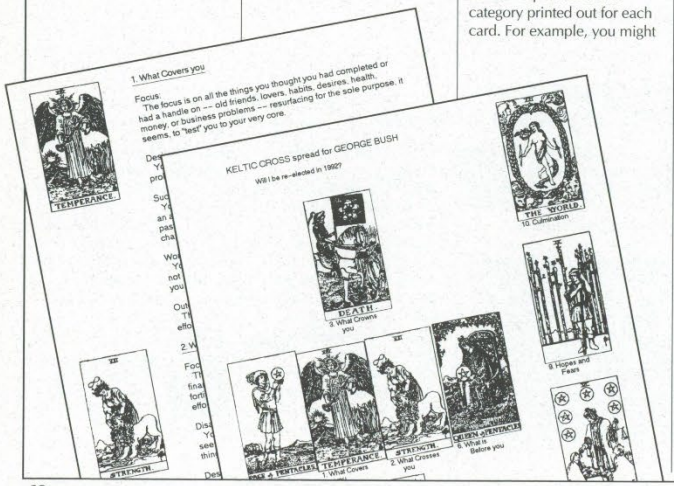
Focused Interpretations

The interpretations for each card include 32 built-in category paragraphs, so you can be sure of a specific answer to questions, rather than generalities. Here is how this works: Let's say your client asks a question about finances. You can turn on any (or all) of 32 different categories and have a response for that category printed out for each card. For example, you might want to turn on "Finances," "Rewards," "Fortune," "Success," or any others of the 32 available categories. In this way, you can tailor each report to help make it of greater value to your client.

The tarot cards can be shuffled any number of times, and an audiovisual view of the actual shuffle makes running the program fun. User questions can be input and will appear on the final printout.

Here for the first time is a complete tarot package including the famous Rider-Waite deck in glorious graphics! You can answer tarot questions through the mail, on the spot, or over the phone, and offer the customer a complete printout.

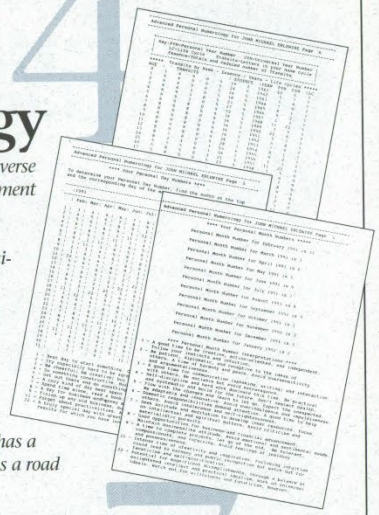
Graphic Tarot for IBM-style computers is $300. Please indicate whether you want HP Laser or Epson-style dot-matrix tarot cards. If you need to support both printers, the price is $320.



Requirements: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 640K, hard drive, and a graphics printer. Price: **$300**, to support either HP Laser or Epson-style dot-matrix printers. **$320 to support both.**

NEW PROGRAM

Advanced Personal Numerology



APN is based on the vibrational interaction that occurs in our universe between all matter and all human beings. The means of measurement for all vibrations is numbers. Numbers are a series of symbols of unique meaning in a fixed order. Numerology makes use of the symbolism attributed to numbers in all possible dimensions: physical, emotional, intellectual, and intuitive.

Individual vibrations can be modified and controlled by the conscious mind through awareness of one's environment and conditional or situational influences that are occurring at any given time. Advanced Personal Numerology *provides a basis for determining these external vibrations and their influence on the individual. By being aware of certain vibrational elements or experiences that will be encountered in the future, the individual has a better basis for decision-making. Thus, numerology can be used as a road map in life to determine which direction is most suitable.*

Advanced Personal Numerology (*APN*) calculates and interprets your personal numbers, teaches you the fundamentals of numerology, and is a great moneymaking tool for anyone who has an IBM-style computer.

APN includes two major report sections: *Charts*, a very comprehensive numerology report that covers all major aspects from the date of birth for 100 years, and *Interpret*, a complete interpretation of all charts shown in the first section.

Another nice feature of the program is the option of viewing all the charts and interpretations on the screen or writing the entire report to the disk as an ASCII file. The program allows for batch-processing by entering a number of names and dates of births. Also included is the ability to identify "Y" and "W" as vowels or consonants.

Charts: The chart section of the program prints out 8 pages of calculation and includes the following:

- Motivation Number
- Impression Number
- Expression Number
- Hidden Tendencies Numbers
- Karma Lessons
- Subconscious Response Number
- Levels of Consciousness
- Emotional Reaction and
- Attitude Letter
- Cornerstone Number
- Key Number
- Destiny Number
- Maturity Number
- All Life-Cycle Numbers and Cycles
- All Turning-Point Numbers and Cycles
- All Challenge Numbers
- Birth Day Number
- All Lucky Years from time of birth through 100 years
- Lucky Months of the Year
- Lucky Days
- Best Time of the Day
- A Synthesis Section showing personal appropriateness of specific Gemstones, Planets, Colors, and Musical Keys
- Detailed Career Information
- Every Personal-Day Number for the next 365 days with an interpretation of each number
- All Transit/Essence/Universal Year/Personal Year/Life Cycle Numbers from time of birth through 96 years
- Over 45 different personal number combinations for every Pick 6 Lottery

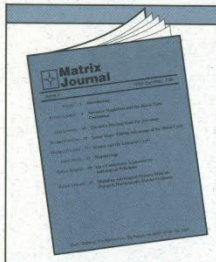
Interpret: The interpretation section includes an individualized interpretation of all items in the Report section. This is a 10-page report, complete with explanations and personal interpretations. Also included in every report is a definition of numbers, aspects documentation, and general characteristics of numbers.

The full report (Chart and Interpretation) is 23 pages and is a great addition to your chart service.

The manual includes a special feature for the beginning numerologist: instructions on how to calculate every number in the program. This will enable the beginner to learn the system used by *APN*.

For fancy reports, editing can be done to the ASCII files with most word processors. The documentation includes a bibliography of all sources used. This bibliography completes a well-documented numerology system.

Requirements: Runs on IBM-compatible machine with 256K, one floppy drive (optional hard drive), and an 80-column printer. May not run on all printers. Price: **$300.**



Matrix Journal

We're really happy about this review by Kenneth Irving of *American Astrology* on the inaugural issue of *Matrix Journal* (an excerpt).

Second issue scheduled for summer 1991
First issue still available. $10 (postage paid)

"Nearly ten years ago, the last issue of one of the finest technical magazines (all right, the finest) reached the eager hands of a small group of readers. In the interim, the editor and publisher of *Matrix Journal*, Michael Erlewine, has been busy building his software company into one of the largest astrological businesses of any kind in the world. It was nice to see Matrix Software grow, of course, but *Matrix* the journal was missed, and for a particular reason. There are many other good journals out there, but they tend toward either the self-consciously scientific or the self-consciously astrological. The original Matrix can perhaps best be described as unself-consciously technical.

"Ten years later, the new *Matrix Journal* still has a technical bent, but the interest has turned from technique toward an effort to elaborate workable theoretical concepts for understanding astrology and expanding our knowledge of it. The mark of both the original and the continued *Matrix* is that they dare to place very technical aspects of scientic research and very technical aspects of astrological theory and research on a level playing field.

"This is not the sort of earnest and pompous 'scientific astrology' that one might find in other journals, nor can it really be compared to the intellectual synthesis of astrology and psychology happening in various circles across the Atlantic Ocean. The *Matrix* approach is to turn the universe upside down and dump all the pieces on the table in order to try to sort things out and see what makes astrology tick. In this sense, it is bold and daring, but at the same time it is careful and precise, as the authors in this volume rarely get within sight of the sort of metaphorical thinking that plagues most efforts at dealing with astrology on a scientific level.

"This sort of intensive theoretical thinking tends to happen in nova-like bursts. If you have any interest at all in the theoretical side of astrology, get involved with the *Matrix Journal*. It's worth it. I'm sitting by my mailbox waiting for the next one."

Kenneth Irving, American Astrology, February 1991

International News — *Matrix is Worldwide!*

These translations of our programs are ready.

- TRANSIT WRITER — *Dutch, Spanish, German, Danish*
- AstroMap HIRES — *German, Spanish, French*
- QUICK CHARTS — *French, Spanish, German, Dutch*
- Astro★Talk ReportWriter — *Portuguese, German*
- BIOWRITER — *Dutch, Spanish*
- Natal Report — *Dutch, Spanish*
- friends & lovers — *French, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, German, Portuguese*

We need translators

We are still looking for qualified translators who are willing to work in exchange for Matrix programs. If interested, please send a sample translation from colloquial English, together with English original, to Kris Shapar at Matrix Software.

Matrix would like to find out what astrological trends are becoming popular in your country. What new programs would you like to see us develop that reflect these? What program changes would make it easier for you to use our programs? Suggestions are welcome.

Shipping Notice!

UPS International Shipping is now available for many countries. This usually guarantees delivery within 4 days. The rates are reasonable, but higher than domestic. We are happy to ship this way if time is important. Please ask for prices.

Dr. Theodor Landscheidt discussing the "Mandelbrot Set," which he presented in support of the well-known astrological dictum: "As above, so below."

Conference Report

by Michael Erlewine

The Second Neo-Astrology Conference was held June 23 & 24, 1990, here in Big Rapids. Featuring Dr. Theodor Landscheidt, the theme of this conference was The Common Roots of Astrology & Science, and its primary focus was the solar activity work of Dr. Landscheidt.

The conference, held at the Heart Center house, was a real success. Theodor Landscheidt presented his very detailed work on solar activity, plus a number of other subjects — all of them fascinating. After listening to Dr. Landscheidt, it is clear that he is, without a doubt, one of the most important researchers working in astrology today.

Also speaking were Richard Mogey, Director for the Foundation for the Study of Cycles, Matrix Science Director Robert Schmidt, and Michael Erlewine. Richard Mogey spoke on the history of science and astrology, Robert Schmidt on chaos theory, and Michael Erlewine on the theory of lunar gaps. Michael Munkasey and James Neely were also here as resource specialists.

As with all events at the Heart Center, what went on outside of the presentations was also interesting. Group meals, late-night discussions, and impromptu evening seminars made for a great time. I can't remember a better mix of people than we had for this conference.

In Development:

Blue★Star 3.0 is now in development, taking into account suggestions from users, plus other things that we might like to add. Although much of the internal operation will remain the same, the user interface will be much improved.

New Manual:

Revised Blue★Star Limited manuals. Perfect-bound. Available at $6.95 (includes shipping charges for U.S., Canada and Mexico).

Astro★Talk Subscribers:

Your $9.95 payment purchases six issues ($17.95 overseas). We try to produce them quarterly, but sometimes we delay an issue to coincide with new program releases. Rest assured that you'll receive all of your issues as they are published.

The Heart Center Library

Do you have books, magazines, or extra copies of any astrological publications? Donate them to the Heart Center Library, and they'll be available to the astrological community. It's common knowledge that before any discipline can gain wide acceptance with the establishment, there must be an archive or library that is staffed and open to every researcher.

The Heart Center Library, for which we have obtained a 501(c) nonprofit exemption, is growing all the time. There is now a library open to astrologers on a year-round basis, with a full-time staff to answer your questions. If you cannot visit us in Big Rapids, you can request photocopied materials (copyright permitting) for your personal research.

The library's nonprofit status ensures that you can take a tax deduction on donations of single books or entire libraries. Our Library Advisory Board includes individuals from most of the major astrological organizations. For more information, call (616) 796-3940.

New Addition to the Matrix Staff

Tom Bridges, until recently one of the chief editors at Llewellyn Publications, is well known in the astrological community.

Bridges has a degree in English from Dartmouth College and the University of Minnesota, having first studied math and sciences, and is especially skilled in languages and writing. A talented astrologer besides, with a special interest in horary astrology, Tom Bridges is a welcome addition to the Matrix staff.

Tom is overseeing the creation of Quick Notes (part of the new *Quick★Studies* series described elsewhere in this issue) and has joined the *Matrix Journal* as Associate Editor. You can also contact Tom with your interest in helping out on Astro★Index, our ongoing encyclopedia project. With additional skills in marketing, advertising and public relations, Tom will organize our interaction with astrologers everywhere so that professionals and organizations always have an inside line.

Important: Shipping Information

Please note the following shipping charges went into effect February 1, 1991:

USA, Canada, Mexico	**UPS/First Class Mail**	
Orders under $100	$ 7.50	
Orders over $100	$10.00	
Blue Label (2nd day):	add $ 5.00	
Red Label (next day):	add $10.00	
	Overseas	**Pacific Rim & Africa**
$ 49.95 programs:	$10.00	$10.00
$ 99.95 programs:	$25.00	$25.00
$300.00 programs:	$35.00	$45.00

(Overseas shipping has a 10-20 day delivery time.)

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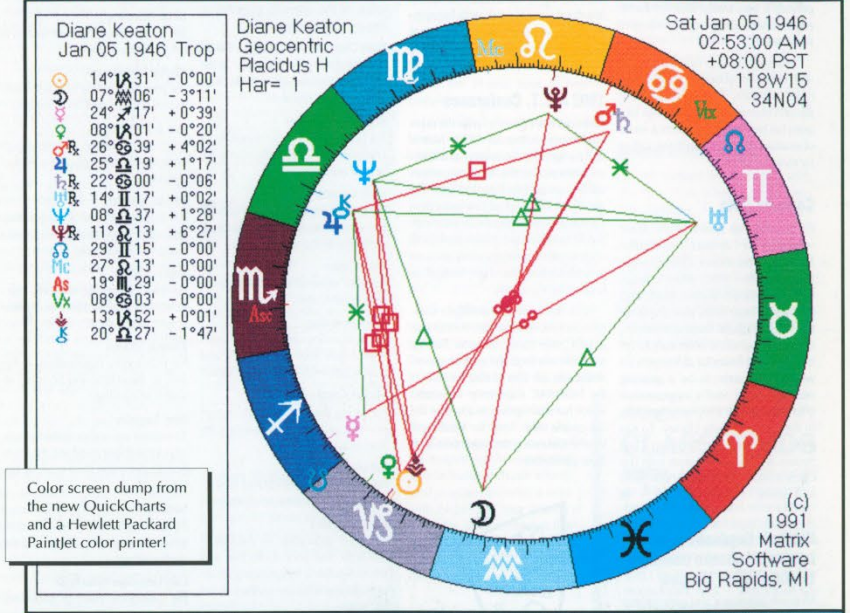
PERMIT 84

AstroTalk

Matrix Software • 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 • 616/796-2483 • FAX: 616/796-3060 • Toll-free order line: 1/800/PLANETS



Color screen dump from the new QuickCharts and a Hewlett Packard PaintJet color printer!

QuickCharts Upgrade!

Our new upgrade features color printouts, VGA hi-res screens, and a new "Punch 'n Go" menu option. See page 8 for details.

Matrix Software

Published quarterly by Matrix Software. A six-issue subscription is $9.95 in the US & Canada. Overseas: $17.95 (via airmail). ISBN 0740-6738 ©1991, Matrix Software, Inc.

AstroTalk

Bulletin For The Matrix User Group
Volume Nine, Number One • January 1992

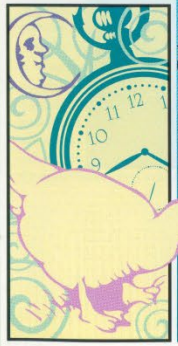
INSIDE

QUICK★STUDIES GIVES YOU MORE THAN CHARTS; YOU ALSO GET NOTES ON TECHNIQUES—**PAGE 3**

QUICK★CALENDAR: NOW IT'S EASY TO PRINT WEEKLY ASTROLOGICAL CALENDARS—**PAGE 4**

QUICKCHARTS JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER AND BETTER—**PAGE 8**

THE ELECTRIC ALMANAC GOES BIG-TIME—**PAGE 6**



INTERVIEW: NOEL TYL

WE RECENTLY ENJOYED A VISIT WITH NOEL TYL HERE AT MATRIX, AND TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW THIS WELL-KNOWN ASTROLOGER AND AUTHOR

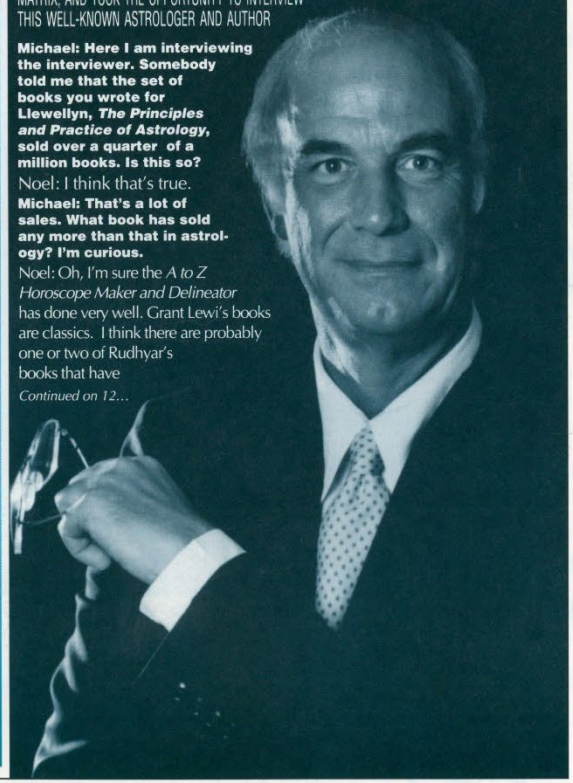
Michael: Here I am interviewing the interviewer. Somebody told me that the set of books you wrote for Llewellyn, *The Principles and Practice of Astrology*, sold over a quarter of a million books. Is this so?

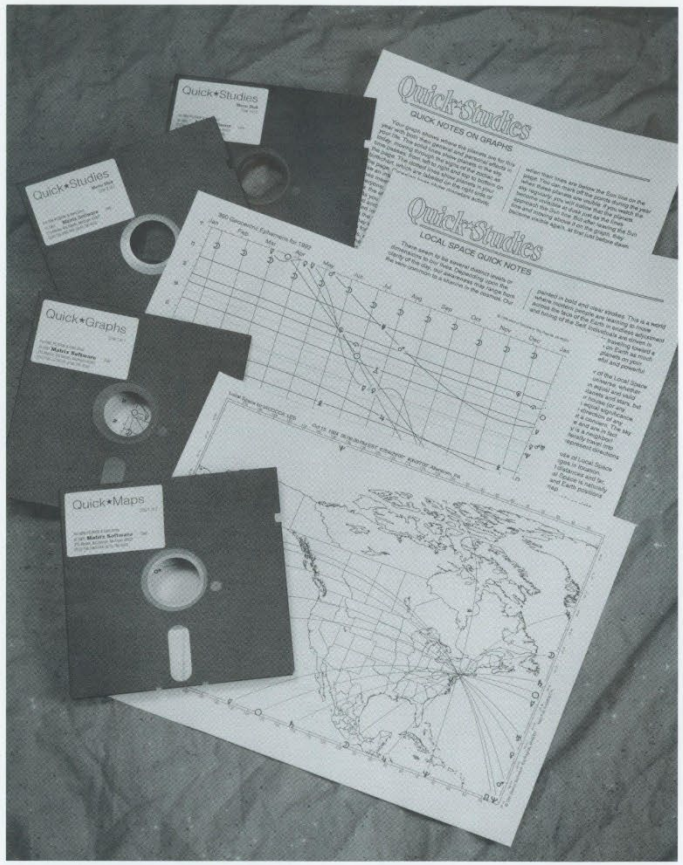
Noel: I think that's true.

Michael: That's a lot of sales. What book has sold any more than that in astrology? I'm curious.

Noel: Oh, I'm sure the *A to Z Horoscope Maker and Delineator* has done very well. Grant Lewi's books are classics. I think there are probably one or two of Rudhyar's books that have

Continued on 12...





Above: *Quick★Graphs ($125). Also Quick★Maps ($300), which features Local Space™ and Astro★Carto★Graphy® maps. Both programs were described in a previous issue of Astro★Talk — please call for information. Quick★Maps includes Local Space™ and Astro★Carto★Graphy® Maps and is available to registered users of AstroMap Hi-Res for $200.*

Quick★Studies

Chart printouts *plus* pages of notes explaining the techniques used.

Quick★Studies are a series of programs on popular astrology techniques whose printouts include explanatory notes and commentary. These supplemental pages, called Quick Notes, are an option with every Quick★Study printout. Each Quick★Study performs just one specific technique, so you can tailor-make a chart service perfectly suited to your needs.

QUICK STUDIES

Most astrologers concentrate on certain preferred techniques as the core of their counseling and chart services. We've developed Quick★Studies in response to your requests for the techniques you emphasize in your consultations.

Charts plus commentary change wheels, graphs, and maps into lessons, based on your client's own birthchart. We provide pre-written Quick Notes covering the basics, or with a word processor you can write your own notes. Either way, you will have publication-quality output. Your clients are sure to like the combination of personal charts and notes — a step beyond books on astrology.

If you are on a budget or really want to make your software pay, you may not need all the options and power of a large calculation program. Quick★Studies are excellent for building a chart service in an affordable way. Once purchased, each Quick★Study will provide years of service. We can send sample Quick★Studies printouts to help you decide what you need.

Batch-processing and user logos, much-loved features in our Blue★Star calculation program, let you print groups of charts and reports with your business name while you are doing other things. The batch-processing in Quick★Studies lets you combine techniques that are usually in separate programs.

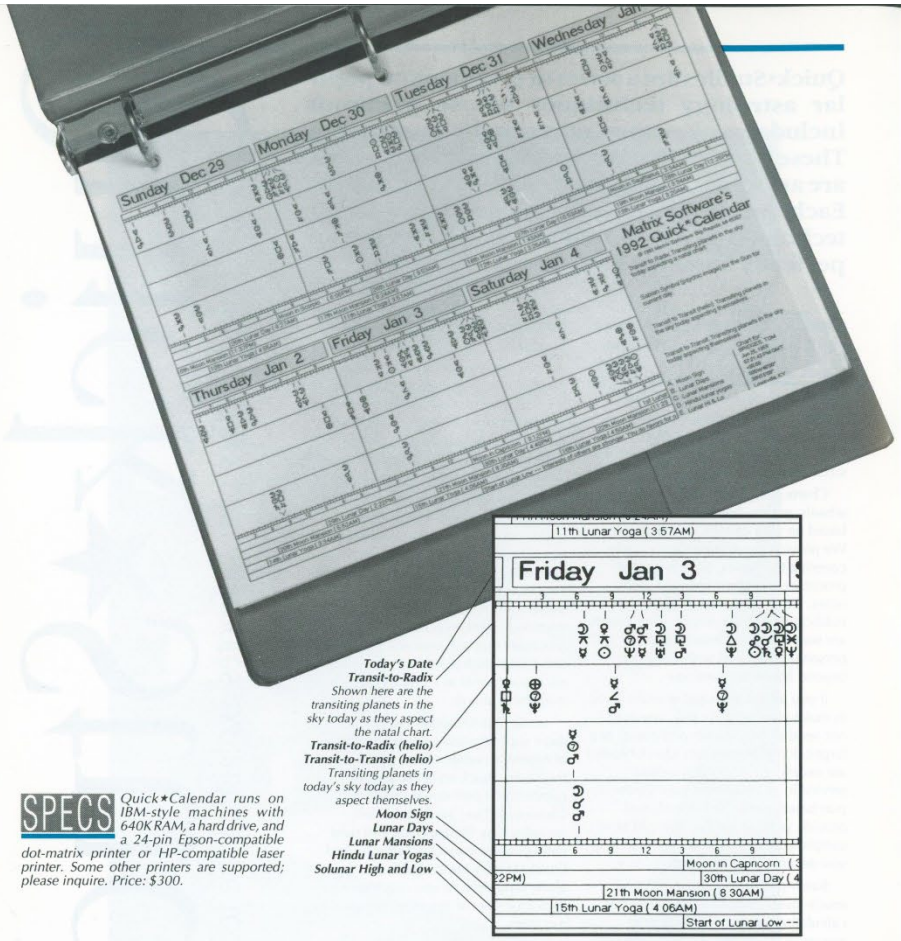
For consultations and the classroom, Quick★Studies give students comprehensive introductions to the techniques they want to learn about, using their own chart. They also serve as great reminders of the class or consultation.

Quick Notes commentary pages can be printed with each Quick★Study. Notes pages are especially nice for beginners. With charts and notes in one astro-packet, Quick★Studies are ready for resale. The graphics and page layout set a new standard of good looks in resale astro reports. If you want to write your own notes, you can use any word processor that will save ASCII or "text only" files, then print them in the same attractive format as the ones we provide (see photo at left).

Some Quick★Studies require the more sophisticated calculating power of Blue★Star, while others work from their own Quick-style menu with combination pull-down and Punch 'n Go menus. The Quick-style menu includes easy file-handling and data entry options from QuickCharts. And Quick★Studies are available as stand-alone programs, so you don't have to own Blue★Star or any other program to run them.

SPECS

All Quick★Studies run on IBM-style machines with 640K RAM, a hard drive, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix printer or HP-compatible laser printer. Some other printers are supported; please inquire. The following pages show many of the techniques included in our Quick★Studies series. Prices vary.



Today's Date
Transit-to-Radix
Shown here are the transiting planets in the sky today as they aspect the natal chart.
Transit-to-Radix (helio)
Transit-to-Transit (helio)
Transiting planets in today's sky today as they aspect themselves.
Moon Sign
Lunar Days
Lunar Mansions
Hindu Lunar Yogas
Solunar High and Low

SPECS *Quick★Calendar runs on IBM-style machines with 640K RAM, a hard drive, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix printer or HP-compatible laser printer. Some other printers are supported; please inquire. Price: $300.*

Quick★Calendar

Over the years, we have received many requests for a personal astrological calendar, especially in the form of printouts for chart services. Quick★Calendar creates personal weekly calendars and batches weeks for longer periods of time. Its many options give you great flexibility. The format is suitable for punching into notebooks for a permanent record.

QUICK CALENDAR Quick★Calendar is especially nice for weekly updates between client sessions. Quick Notes on the most popular calendar options come with the program, or you can write your own notes on more specialized options for clients who have a particular interest.

■ **Transit to natal, geo or helio**
Quick★Calendar gives you transits to the natal chart — unusual in an astrological calendar. Standard transit-to-transit aspects, in geo or helio, are also included, with aspects timed to the quarter hour. You can print both types of transits, in both geo and helio, on a single page for a very nice four-row spread of planetary information for each calendar day. (See photo.)

■ **Standard planets, asteroids, and TransNeptunians**
Choose from all standard planets and points, including the ascendant, midheaven, and lunar node, and make your selections a default set for that session's batch-processing. You can also choose from all eight TransNeptunian planets, the four commonly used asteroids, Chiron, and Transpluto, all with attractive glyphs.

■ **Aspect set for transits**
All standard aspects are available, including conjunction, sextile, square, trine, inconjunct (quincunx), and opposition. You can also choose less-used aspects such as semisextile, semisquare, septile, quintile, and sesquisquare.

■ **Sabian symbols**
The Sabian symbols (psychic images associated with the position of the daily Sun) are a popular feature. For each day, the Jones images can be printed beneath the transit data. These are not the symbols normally found in Jones' work, as they are drawn from his lecture notes. They are fresh and exciting, and not available in any book.

■ **Retrograde and direct stations**
Quick★Calendar can show stations, either retrograde or direct, for any planet that is subject to this phenomenon.

■ **Lunar phases, daily Moon sign, sign changes, and void-of-course**
The Moon's void-of-course periods and related phenomena are clearly noted.

■ **Solunar high and low times**
A transiting Moon technique favored by Charles Jayne — a personal lunar cycle.

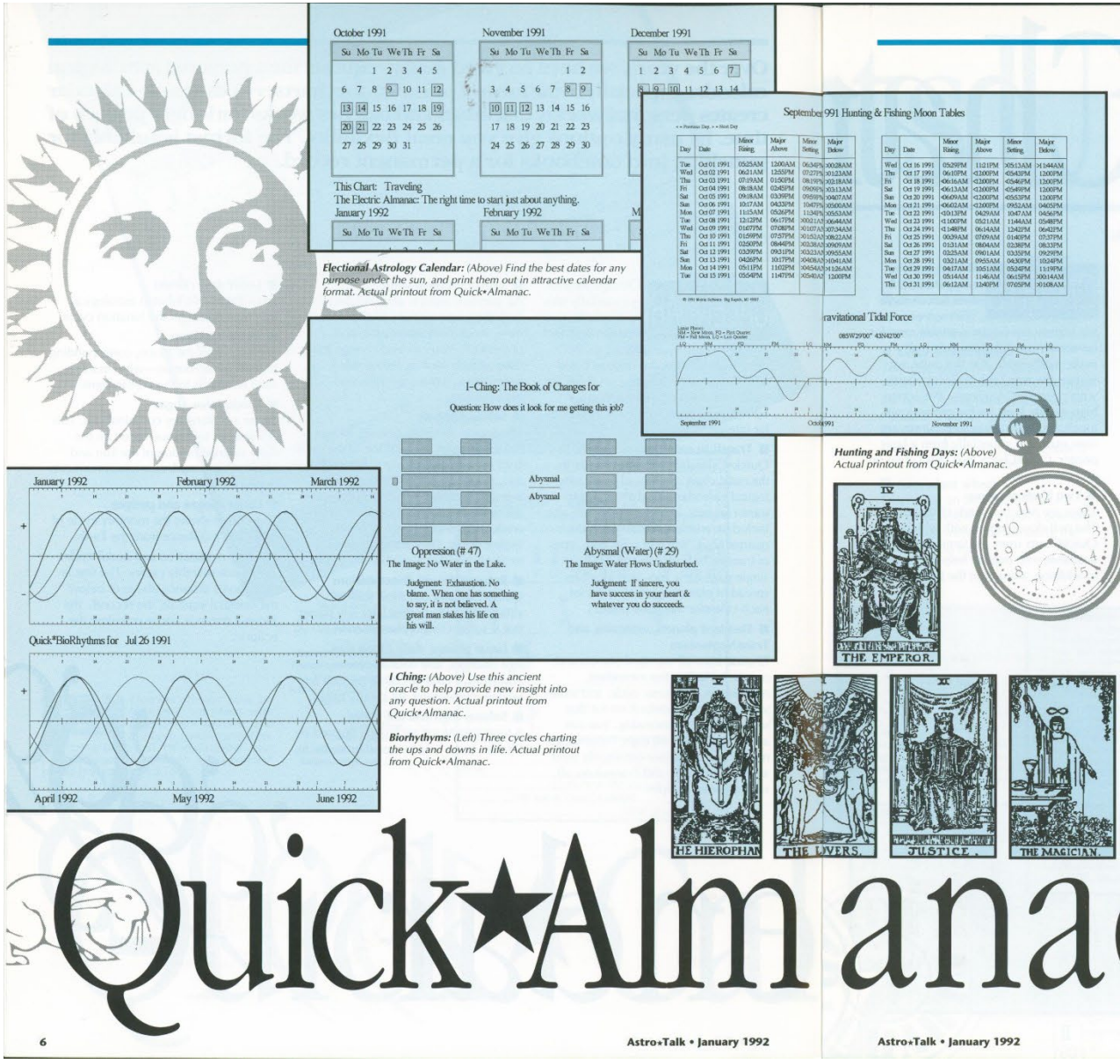
■ **Lunar days (Tithis)**
From the Hindu/Tibetan astrological tradition, based on the lunation cycle.

■ **Moon mansions**
The houses of the Moon, corresponding to daily lunar motion—what monthly solar motion is to the zodiac signs.

■ **Hindu lunar yogas**
Yogas are planetary combinations. This is a solunar technique based on the daily sidereal motion of the Sun and Moon. Yogas mark auspicious moments during the month.

■ **Lunar apogee and perigee**
This option shows the monthly cycle of the Moon's distance from the Earth.

■ **Lunar declination and nodal cycle**
Two more monthly cycles. The first is the Moon's distance above or below the celestial equator, the second, the Moon's distance above or below the ecliptic.



Electional Astrology Calendar: *(Above) Find the best dates for any purpose under the sun, and print them out in attractive calendar format. Actual printout from Quick★Almanac.*

I Ching: *(Above) Use this ancient oracle to help provide new insight into any question. Actual printout from Quick★Almanac.*

Biorhythyms: *(Left) Three cycles charting the ups and downs in life. Actual printout from Quick★Almanac.*

Hunting and Fishing Days: *(Above) Actual printout from Quick★Almanac.*

Tarot card spread: *(Left) Divination using symbolic picture cards and Rider-Waite graphics. Actual printout from Quick★Almanac.*

Quick★Almanac

Quick★Almanac is the answer for those of you who have wanted an almanac for chart services. Now the most popular options of our Electric Almanac are available as printable programs, all under the title of Quick★Almanac.

QUICK ALMANAC

The fun Electric Almanac program we started a few years ago as a piece of shareware wouldn't print, so it was of limited use in chart services. Quick★Almanac is the chart services edition of Biorhythms, I Ching, Tarot, Lotto, good days and bad days, hunting and fishing dates — it gives you all these in full-page format that you can sell to your clients.

Quick Notes commentary pages turn each almanac option into a complete astro-packet that is perfect for clients. Quick★Almanac printouts also make great gifts. Its selection of printouts and notes add fun to any consultation.

■ Best dates & good days

Print out a 3-month calendar of best dates for any of over 200 categories, including starting a diet, going for a promotion, beauty and hair, harvesting crops, traveling for fun, selling things, and more.

■ Tarot cards

The modern deck of playing cards comes from the traditional tarot deck. This option in Quick★Almanac gives a spread from the 22 "major arcana" or main picture cards for each question. We are pleased to be able to offer the Rider-Waite deck in graphical computer format. The Quick Notes explain the symbolism of the cards.

■ I Ching oracle

Each I Ching printout shows two symbols, with textual guides for interpretation. The Quick Notes explain basic meanings. The I Ching shows change — the coming and going of goodness and Great Being in your life. The symbols are guides, based on the principle of the Tao, or interrelated natural laws.

The I Ching provides symbolic answers to questions for you or a client. You can type in your client's question and print out the I Ching on the spot, ready to interpret, adding a sense of the moment to your chart services.

■ Biorhythms

Cycles — the ups and downs in life — are familiar to everyone. Each biorhythm graph covers a 6-month period of physical, emotional, and mental cycles, shown as lines with peaks and crossings. These three natural rhythms or cycles, including key days and crossroads, are common to all of us. Based on the time and day of birth, they describe each person uniquely. They begin at your birth moment and flow without pause throughout your life.

■ Hunting & fishing days

Monthly reports of optimum times for outdoor folk! Includes gravitational tidal graph for the Moon.

SPECS

Quick★Almanac runs on IBM-style machines with 640K RAM, a hard drive, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix printer or HP-compatible laser printer. Some other printers are supported; please inquire. Price: $300.

QuickCharts Upgrade

With all of the new features included in QuickCharts, it's like showing you a new program. Our on-screen calculation program has been significantly enhanced and is now more versatile than ever for counseling sessions and demonstration purposes in the classroom or at conferences.

QUICK CHARTS

■ **VGA screen compatibility & new screen fonts**

VGA screens are the highest resolution available, and for on-screen consultations they really make a difference. On this page, we feature the new look of QuickCharts, with clearer VGA screens. We added high quality fonts for the professional touch. QuickCharts screen dumps are now *excellent*, especially from a laser printer. QuickCharts also looks great on an EGA monitor.

■ **Two kinds of menus**

There are now two kinds of menus. The pull-down format with which QuickCharts users are familiar is still available with pop-up help messages. In addition, a touch of the (**M**) key gives you the handy new Punch 'n Go menu, as illustrated — two full screens of keyboard shortcuts for implementing options from the pull-down menus, plus a few new ones.

■ **Color screen dumps**

The back cover of this issue of Astro•Talk shows a color wheel from the new QuickCharts and a Hewlett Packard "PaintJet" printer. With this QuickCharts upgrade, your color screen displays will print in color, if you have a color printer.

■ **Ascendant wheel**

Displaying an ascendant wheel — or any other wheel — is now a one-step procedure when you are using the Punch 'n Go menu.

■ **Auto wheel**

The alternate Punch 'n Go menu allows you to select the type of wheel you want to use when displaying a secondary chart.

■ **Using an Atlas**

You no longer need more than one version of QuickCharts. Without changing versions, you can access Blue•Star charts and use whatever Matrix Atlas you have available.

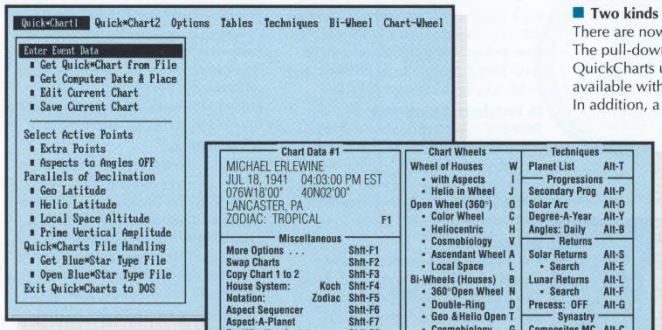
■ **Switch to other Matrix programs**

If you have Blue•Star on your hard drive, you can use the Switcher program to move from QuickCharts to Blue•Star. (Switcher comes with QuickCharts if you already have Blue•Star.) With Switcher, you can also move directly from QuickCharts to AstroMap Hi-Res, Quick•Studies, or Quick Exchange. All foreign language versions of QuickCharts (with upgrade) are also available. Call for details.

■ **Enhanced QuickFile handling with function keys**

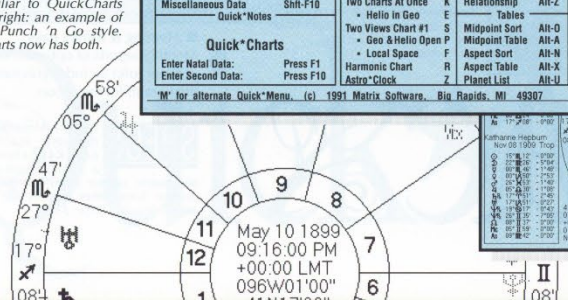
The function keys will accomplish many tasks quickly while you're in the Data Entry window: Open the directory of your active chart file; enter Atlas information directly into the Data Entry window; enter the date and time from your computer's internal clock; open a directory of commonly used places and coordinates; open a directory of clients' and friends' charts; open a different QuickFile or a Blue•Star file to obtain chart data.

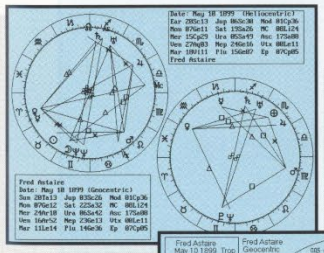
SPECS *QuickCharts runs on IBM-style machines with 640K RAM, a hard drive, and EGA or VGA graphics. Screen dumps to Epson-compatible, HP-compatible laser, and IBM printers. Color screen dumps to Epson-compatible color printers and HP PaintJet. (QuickCharts no longer supports Hercules graphics.) Price: $150. Upgrade: $35 until March 1, 1992, $50 thereafter.*

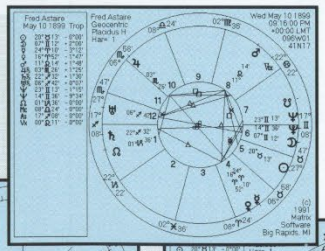


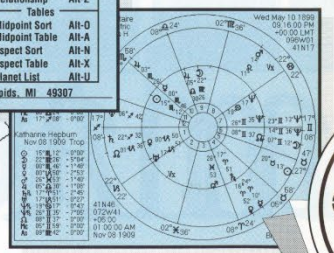
Above: the pull-down menu style familiar to QuickCharts users. At right: an example of the new Punch 'n Go style. QuickCharts now has both.

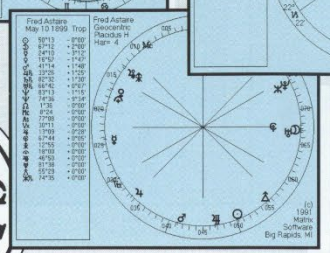
The new QuickCharts screens are now easier to read and the color capability available on VGA monitors is excellent!

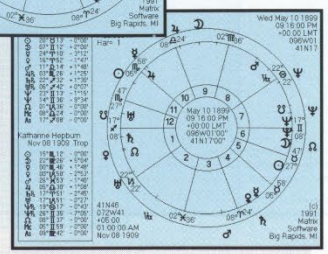












Astrologers have long waited for a program that handles the large number of time-consuming horary calculations. Two horary packages are available (along with a horary upgrade for Blue★Star), including Quick Notes on a variety of horary topics. Using a word processor, you can write your own notes for clients or classes.

QUICK HORARY

■ **Master Horary Package ($150)**
This has everything — over 20 wheels, grids, aspectarians, and printouts, including translation and collection of light. Previously unadvertised, translation and collection are (we believe) available for the first time in any astrology program; mutual receptions are also given for those who follow the traditional method. With the Master Horary Package, two additional *Quick★Studies* are included: Arabic Parts and Fixed Stars (described below).

■ **Basic Horary Package ($100)**
This is same as the Master Package without translation and collection of light and with limited Arabic parts and fixed stars. This is the program we presented in the last issue of Astro★Talk. It is especially suitable for those just getting into horary.

■ ***Quick★Study* on Arabic Parts ($50)**
This program is included with the Master Horary Package. From a menu of over 130, choose up to 8 Arabic parts to appear on a wheel. You can create your own parts or change existing parts to suit your needs. Points accepted include planets, cusps, house rulers, planet rulers or dispositors, planetary day or hour rulers, and zodiac longitudes. This *Quick★Study* includes alphabetical or zodiacal sorting and aspectarians.

■ ***Quick★Study* on Fixed Stars ($50)**
There are over 275 fixed stars and critical degrees with this *Quick★Study*, including those most commonly used by horary astrologers. Select up to 8 to appear on a wheel, get the aspects of the stars, and add new stars to the list using your word processor.

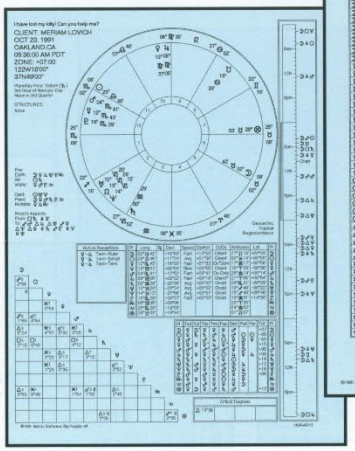
■ **Blue★Star horary upgrade ($50)**
We recommend this upgrade for Blue★Star users who need only a select few horary wheels. This upgrade is designed for laser wheels. An alternate version is available for hi-res wheels. (You can ask for the upgrade free when you order the Master Horary Package.)

■ **Expert Quick Notes**
Standard Quick Notes come with all *Quick★Studies*. In addition, we have asked experts Gilbert Navarro, Carol Wiggers, and Anthony Louis to write their own Quick Notes packages. These will detail a specific approach to horary and will be useful add-ons for students following a certain method. Expert Quick Notes are still in progress.

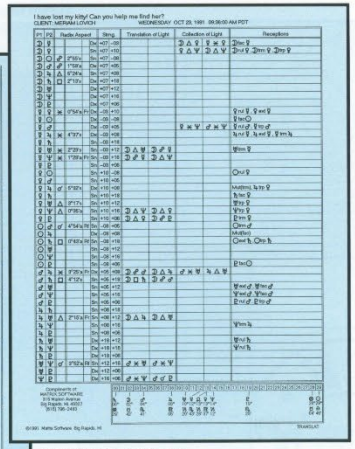
SPECS

Quick★Horary runs on IBM-style machines with 640K RAM, a hard drive, and an Epson-compatible 24-pin dot-matrix printer or an HP-compatible laser printer. Other printers are supported — please inquire. Quick★Horary uses our Blue★Star menu style.

BLUE STAR



Right: Master Horary Wheel with graphic Aspect Time Scale.



Above: Translation of light and collection of light.

Quick★Progressions provides the secondary or day-for-a-year method of progressions, well known to professionals and students. The many charts, tables, aspect time scales, and commentary pages give you and your clients a great deal to discuss. Until March 1, 1992: just $100.

QUICK PROGRESSIONS

Our flagship Quick★Study for Blue★Star has the sophistication and speed of a large calculation program. Chart services can make use of a progressions program as a staple in annual readings. The charts and notes are well organized, and you have flexibility (for example, various ways of progressing the midheaven). There is a lot to choose from, and you probably won't want to present it all at once but refer to it throughout the year in your consultations. The Quick Notes are perfect for beginners just getting the idea of progressions.

Quick★Progressions is now available at the special price of $100, making it a great value. The regular price for this program will be $150.

■ **Secondary progressions — a familiar symbolic system in astrology**
We suggest a page or two of Quick Notes with a selection of printouts on secondary progressions. The easy-going text is good for beginners.

■ **The secondary progressed Moon**
A printout of three aspect cycles of the progressed Moon (81 years!) covers a lifetime of important lunar aspects. Progressed Moon-natal Moon, progressed Moon-natal Saturn, and the progressed solunar phase are given, along with the house position of the progressed Moon.

■ **A selection of wheels**
A selection of standard wheels, double wheels, biwheels, and tables means you can customize a progressions package for an individual client. You have a choice of progressed or natal houses for the progressed planets. Progressed house rulers are given, along with natal. There is room on the pages for clients to make their own notes about events corresponding with the aspects.

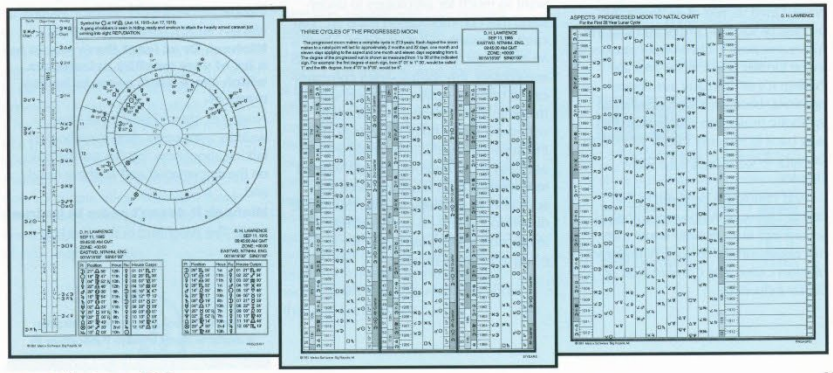
■ **Lunar progressed-to-natal aspects sorted by planet**
This gives the progressed Moon's aspects to all natal planets and points through a chosen lunar cycle of 28 years.

SPECIFICATIONS: *Identical to those used for Quick★Horary on the facing page.*

■ **Aspect time scale**
A favorite for its ease-of-use. The scale shows aspect chronology and varying hit-density throughout the year. Progressed-to-progressed aspects are given on one side of the scale, and progressed-to-natal aspects on the other.

■ **Progressing the midheaven**
Several options are offered for progressing the midheaven, an important first step in progressing the natal chart. Many of you have asked for a choice in doing this. There are solar arc MC (with derived ascendant), solar arc cusps, Naibod MC (with derived ascendant), Naibod cusps, and the traditional method.

■ **Sabian symbol for progressed Sun**
The Sun progresses about one degree per year. The Sabian symbol (a psychic image associated with that degree) is a year's symbol and can be used in any way that has meaning for you. The Sabian symbols are very provocative images.



INTERVIEW

NOEL TYL

Continued from front cover

had a constant sales history over thirty years. *Astrology and Personality* was written in 1936, the year I was born. Rudhyar wrote that book, which to this day challenges the mind and the spirit to further growth.

Michael: You are coming out with a new book, and again making yourself available on the lecture circuit — becoming more active astrologically. I remember Charles Jayne describing three times in his life when he wandered off into stockmarket stuff for a while and then returned to astrology. He never gave up astrology, but at the same time, it was not the primary focus for him. Now I get the idea that you are reinstituting astrology as a primary focus. You have been doing your ad agency, and you've also been doing AFAN. What has caused this change of direction?

Noel: I just wrote a seventeenth book, a book I never thought I would write. I thought I'd said everything I knew how to say on paper. And here was an opportunity to challenge my own growth again and to share it with others.

Michael: Let's talk about this new book.

Noel: *Prediction and Astrology* — it's a dangerous subject.

Michael: That's a big topic. Give us some insight into its contents.

Noel: I tried to, first of all, teach the process of solar arc projection into the future, because it's been sorely neglected in the United States. Solar arcs are "where it's at" in many astrologers' opinions, because it's a fundamental symbolic projection system that goes way back to Ptolemy's early work with primary directions, and it's much simpler.

And I think it is centered in the brilliant work of the cosmobiological school and Ebertin, who wrote that marvelous formative book of midpoint pictures called *The Combination of Stellar Influences.*

Michael: One of the most important things you've told me here is that you have written your own version of the various midpoint combinations.

Noel: I've updated it, in my opinion. I took out the enormous strain of Germanic pessimism that pervades Ebertin's work, which was written (as you know) at a very pessimistic time. This is the appendix of the book. It's about 85 pages.

Michael: That alone is something I know a lot of people will look for. How do you think this relates to your contribution to astrology?

Noel: I think my contribution is as a teacher in astrology, singularly focused on the creativity of the one-on-one relationship as a guide or as a counselor… I don't necessarily like those words… as sharing space with somebody and putting a tremendous *fact* in the foreground. And that fact is that under stress, under development, nobody wants to be alone. And in that moment with the client, neither astrologer nor client is alone. This is a very powerful, powerful gift, worth a hundred dollars to pay for. If somebody says to me, "How do you pick a good astrologer?" — a question I've had on a hundred television shows — I say you look into their eyes, you listen to them speak. You find out that what you know about life is much more important than what you know about astrology.

Our symbols mean nothing until we give them meaning from experience. And then astrologers must learn — and this again is the teacher speaking — I want so much for astrologers to understand that communication is the art. You can't necessarily put it on paper. There is an exchange of emotion and rapport and eye contact, this spirit-to-spirit communication that takes place in a good session (reading), that is dependent on artful communication. All of this brings me to the need constantly for the teaching of astrology to be improved. That's where I feel needed, and I think the more our educators in astrology get into this artistic dimension of one-on-one, personal interaction through astrology, we're going to be more reliable.

Even with famous astrologers, for example, for whom I am an astrologer — nobody will be named — I say, "I'm not going to say a word in Astrology, and you have to understand that." And it's always been successful, because I think I'm an engaging conversationalist as well as a reasonably good astrologer; when I'm sitting with these people... I haven't statistically charted this, but I have found perhaps 60-70% of all my clients will probably tear up — or literally shed a tear, sometimes convulsively — within five or six minutes of our discussion. This is not anxiety, it is recognition. It is the feeling of release. I hear, "God, I knew you would get to that!" What does that mean? That means "I've been wanting someone to talk about this with me, and the fact that you can tactfully and gracefully present it to me, and I trust you, and I can talk about it, makes me glad I came to see you." That to me is an art form, and not everyone can do it. And you have to do it in different ways with different clients. You have to use your strengths.

Michael: What about predictability in astrology?

Noel: Again, this brings us back to the fact that astrology is not predictable. It is not 100% reliable. And I think the more we recognize that, the more we free ourselves from the expectations of astrology that often get in the way of good performance. I like to say that if it were so reliable, as many people like to assert and as many critics falsely suggest, then the government would have taken over and we'd be charged for it on our income tax, and we'd get these reports and put $5 in a grand central kiosk...

Michael: Or at least there would be a lot of very wealthy astrologers, which there don't seem to be too many of.

Noel: Yes, there'd be a lot of very wealthy astrologers. And everybody is talking about how they've got the hold on the stockmarket and all these trends and...

Michael: It doesn't seem to be true.

Noel: The proof isn't in the pudding.

Noel Tyl's book *Prediction In Astrology* is available from Llewellyn Publications by calling 1/800/THE MOON.

Michael: No. We had the best stockmarket newsletter astrology writers here. There were some twenty-one of them. And to a person, no one seemed to have any money. I had to pay the way for many of them, under the cover, just to get them here, aside from the ones I'd already agreed to pay for. Whatever they were doing wasn't enough to even make a decent living.

> Perhaps 60–70% of my clients will literally shed a tear within five or six minutes of our discussion. This is not anxiety, it is recognition."

Noel: I think we have to know that it doesn't always work. And as soon as you say that, you're free. If you say the converse — if you say "Prediction and astrology is just a matter of mastering the technique"— you're a prisoner.

Michael: Why doesn't it work?

Noel: I don't know that we know the answer to that question. Boy, have I pondered it! It can be that your hands might be dirty, and you're being distracted, and perhaps you're not the best medium for the symbolism. Or maybe you're not listening to the answers to the questions you're...

Michael: What does the average astrologer tell himself?

Noel: I don't know. I just think you have to admit fallibility. I think wisdom comes from knowing what you don't know. At age 54, I have learned through my career in astrology what I do not know. What I do know, I have a high reliability about — a high reliability. And that's the making of a professional. A tennis star knows just when to lob the ball as an offensive measure, or when to aim a certain shot down a certain alley. You learn these things. And knowing what you don't know keeps you from erring off the path of your major strength.

Michael: What did you learn about yourself in this book-writing process? Obviously, any time we get really energized, we end up learning more about ourselves. Was it something like that?

Noel: Well (chuckle), the motivation of my writing this book, which I never thought I would write, was very poignant and swift in my consciousness. I had made some predictions for a major life change of my own, which did not come to pass as I anticipated. And they were very grand. I talk about them in the book. And they were very disruptive. It was a midlife crisis. It was a change of direction in my life. It's still happening as we speak now.

Michael: I'd like to hear a little bit about that. We all are interested, especially those of us who are a little younger than you but close to your age. What is going on?

Noel: My sun is in 10 degrees of Capricorn, and we know that for the last two years we have had successive transits of Neptune, Saturn, and Uranus over that degree. The United States is at 12 Cancer. There are 10 or 12 degrees of cardinal signs all over this world that are feeling an accumulation of extraordinary developmental tension, affected by conjunction, opposition, or square. I absorbed it all in a very very powerful way when, at the same time, a major solar arc measurement (solar arc Uranus) made a conjunction with my ascendant. That's powerful! And in 90% of all cases, it is a major individual change of life direction, usually with concomitant geographic displacement.

I applied for new life directions in other cities. I was trying to work the astrology. It has yet to come to pass. But this delay (this slight delay, because it is starting to come to pass) enriched me, I guess, through a lot of self-questioning, analysis of my needs, strategizing about the best deployment of adult perspectives and energy. And I said, "My gosh, I'm going to write about this." The teacher in me came out again, and perhaps it is a return with greater intensity than in the last ten years, for instance, to the astrology world. And I'm highly enthused about this, and we shall see. ■

QUICK MIDPOINTS

COMING SOON

Quick★Midpoints features Noel Tyl's Solar Arc and Midpoint Pictures Directory. Clients will like the fact that the traditional listing of aspect "hits" is presented with skilled interpretation.

Midpoints, sensitive halfway points between two planets, have become a mainstay of astrological interpretation, particularly with transits and progressions.

Whether or not another natal body is between the two planets, midpoints are strong interpretive elements in a chart. They are not always easy to spot, and computer programs have been a big help.

Many of you have asked for a friendly midpoints program and have made helpful suggestions on the printouts you would like to see. Quick★Midpoints will make it easy to introduce your clients to midpoints. Let this technique be the focus of a reading — Quick★Studies are good business!

■ **NOEL TYL'S TEXT**
Noel Tyl's strong interpretive images, inspired by Ebertin's famous work, are printed beside each progressed and transiting aspect, whether or not you use midpoints and his method of solar arcs.

■ **MIDPOINT TREES**
A feature many of you will love! This Quick★Study includes midpoint trees, useful shorthand showing a complex network of planets related through midpoints.

■ **PROGRESSION METHODS**
Options include transit-to-transit, transit-to-natal, progressed-to-progressed, or progressed-to-natal aspects, with a choice of mid-heavens. Choose from secondary, tertiary, solar arc, or Naibod. Transits can appear with any of these, as can the midpoint pictures of a natal chart.

SPECS

Quick★Midpoints runs on IBM-style machines with 640K RAM, a hard drive, & a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix printer or HP-compatible laser printer. This program uses our Blue★Star menu style. Quick★Midpoints is coming soon. Call us for more information.

BLUE STAR

NEWS

More astrology for the Macintosh coming soon

While IBM has always had a larger share of the market, there have been regular requests for the availability of astrology on the Mac. In the next issue of Astro•Talk, we will have more information on a line of state-of-the-art astrology programs for the Macintosh offered by Astrolabe.

These new programs for the Macintosh will take advantage of the Mac's superb screen menus, file logic, graphics, and typography. The text is well written, and can be edited within any Mac word processing program (such as Word) so you can put your personal stamp on gift or retail reports. Add your own name, business, or advertising message and choose from the Mac's extensive font menu to vary the look of your reports. There are dozens of nice-looking chart styles to choose from.

The first program to appear will be *Celeste I*, a calculation and wheel program with several editing features that will be of interest to publishers and those with specialized formatting and wheel requirements. *PNR (Professional Natal Report)*, the Mac version of a favorite, featuring Macintosh graphics, will also be available. Stay tuned for more.

Astrolabe has produced the most complete line of report and calculation programs on the Mac. We are pleased to be making them available. Dennis Haskell's popular *Graphic Astrology* program continues to be available as well, and we will be offering his *MacEditScope* report program with Michael Erlewine's text. ■

Blue•Star Ephemeris Generator

The Blue•Star "EphemGen" module has been updated for compatibility with Hewlett Packard laser printers. The pages are very nice. The same large ephemeris range (from 600 BC to 2400 AD) is available for a variety of output: Standard Planets & Moon, Standard Planets without Moon, Right Ascension, Standard Declinations, Heliocentric, Geocentric, Daily Asteroids and Chiron, TransNeptunians, with increments anywhere from one day to one year. Contact us for more information on how to run "EphemGen." ■

Matrix Journal

The first issue of the Matrix Journal is still available, as the second issue is nearing completion. The Journal, which resumed publication last year after a 10-year hiatus, is technical in nature and not for everyone. Its focus is radical astrological theory.

The editors have decided on the articles for the second issue and are getting them ready for publication. Look for work by James Neely, Theodor Landscheidt, Robert Schmidt, Michael Erlewine, and Robert Zoller. ■

Report Writers

We are taking advantage of our new laser printer driver to update all remaining Report Writers. This includes the earliest ones, such as Transit Writer.

In addition, we have many new translated Report Writers available. In **French**: The Sky Within, Astro•Talk, BioWriter, and TimeLine; **German**: TimeLine; **Spanish**: The Sky Within and TimeLine; **Portuguese**: Transit, Natal; **Dutch**: Astro•Talk, The Sky Within, TimeLine, and Graphic Tarot; **Danish**: Astro•Talk; **Italian**: Graphic Tarot. We also have versions of QuickCharts in **Italian** and **Danish**, and AstroMap Hi-Res in **Danish**. ■

The Mac's been hard at work polishing its astrology skills.

Are 9-pin printers on their way out?

The magazines all talk about it, with the price of laser printers dropping to about $600 and 24-pins to about $300.

At Matrix we have always been strong supporters of 9-pin printers because of their low cost and high speed. At the same time, many of our 24-pin users have requested additional 24-pin support. One reason is the ability the 24-pins have to handle complex graphics.

With Quick•Studies, we decided to limit printer support to laser printers and 24-pin dot-matrix printers. The reason is that Quick•Studies emphasize graphics, and printing nice-looking graphics requires a 144 dpi mode (or better). The Epson LX series, the IBM Proprinter line, and others can do no better than 120 dpi. We tested Quick•Studies at the 120 dpi mode, and the results were not acceptable.

Quick•Studies need at least a 144 dpi setting to produce attractive glyphs and graphics. The lower-line 9-pins do not work well, if at all. Some 9-pins, those that handle the complete Epson FX commands, can do 144 dpi, though they suffer a degradation of speed and quality. Rather than degrade or limit the output, we have designed Quick•Studies and Laser Wheels (and programs to come) to work with 24-pin and laser printers. With the price of higher-line printers coming down, it makes less and less sense to write separate drivers for the 9-pins, which will never give very good graphic results anyway.

Many of you have decided it's time to upgrade your printer. Of course, we're happy about that. If you are shopping for a new printer, look to the 24-pin Epson compatibles, the Hewlett Packard DeskJet series, or (the ultimate) the HP LaserJet series. These printers will let you do things no 9-pin will ever let you do. Please call our technical support line if you have any questions about which printer to buy (616/796-2483). ■

Endangered species?

Annual Matrix Award

We are pleased to announce, with The New York School of Astrology, that Matthew T. Miller has been awarded the 1991 Annual Matrix Award. The award is $1000 of software. Matthew Miller is a first-year student at The New York Astrology Center. He came to the center with a background in film production, literature, and opera. He plans a full-time career in astrology. ■

THE ASTRO★TALK

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED: Astrologers! We are looking for bright and dedicated programmers, researchers, editors, and writers to relocate to Big Rapids and begin new careers. (Writers: All the better if you also have computer page-layout and design experience.) We also need someone to test our programmers' work — what a great way to have a say in the programs!

Perhaps you are at a crossroads and would benefit from contacting us. We would like to hear from you. Please call or write Tom Bridges. With all inquiries, we'd like to see a resume, cover letter, and birth data.

Matrix Software

Matrix Pioneer Awards

Since the late 80s, the Matrix Pioneer Award has been given to those who have made outstanding contributions to astrology. Recipients to date include:

Eleanor Bach
For your high standards of professionalism in educating the astrological community in the application and value of the asteroids (Goddesses) through chart interpretation.

Gary Duncan (Neil Llewellyn Bloch)
For outstanding contributions in the areas of computer-assisted astrology and statistical research.

Bob & Sara Cooper
For business and organization leadership and personal dedication to the field of astrology.

Arch Crawford
For outstanding contributions in gaining a wider acceptance for astrology within the financial community.

Edith Custer
For your editorial excellence in the field of astrology.

Mary Downing
For outstanding organizational leadership, dedication to principles, and your equanimity in public relations.

Michel Gauquelin
For being the first to achieve real scientific validation and results in the field of astrology.

Robert Hand
For outstanding technical and intellectual leadership in the field of astrology.

Kenneth Irving
For your dedication to theoretical astrology and your distinctive and fair "voice" as a longstanding writer of book and software reviews.

Charles A. Jayne
For outstanding contributions in technical astrology.

Theodor Landscheidt
For outstanding contributions in the areas of radical astrological theory and solar research.

Mark Lerner
For diligence & longevity in publishing the excellent astrological monthly *Welcome To The Planet Earth.*

Jim Lewis
For outstanding contributions in the area of marketing astrology to the general public.

Al H. Morrison
For your outstanding contribution to the field of astrology.

Michael Munkasey
For your outstanding technical proficiency and research in astrology.

Ken & Joan Negus
For their leadership in setting high professional standards in the field of astrology.

Lois M. Rodden
For superb astrological data collection, organizing astrologers around a fundamental purpose.

Bruce Scofield
For your pioneering research, practice, and publication in Mesoamerican astrology.

Thomas Shanks
For outstanding contributions in the area of theoretical and practical research in astrology.

John Townley
To express our appreciation for your wonderful bright mind and the many contributions you have made to our field.

Noel Tyl
For professionalism, brilliant conversation, marketing savvy, and the master classes.

Carl Llewellyn Weschcke
For over thirty years of publishing almanacs, astrological texts, and practical guides to western occult traditions, proving the viability of these subjects in the marketplace.

LCdr. David Williams
For outstanding contributions in the area of financial astrology and cycles research.

Norman Winski
For outstanding networking contribution in establishment of the Astro-Cyclical Exchange (ACE).

Matrix Program Support

Frank Sturm, Matrix "tech support" manager, recently gave a workshop on Matrix programs at the New York Astrology Center. It was not an astrology class but a how-to session on how to run our programs. It was well received. If you would like first-hand, expert assistance for your group, give Frank a call.

Many of you have called or written with questions about the Matrix Winning! program, which is based on Joyce Wehrman's techniques. This program has become the subject of a series of seminars offered by Jean Boyer. Call us for more information. ■

Compact Data

Carol Mull has given us the latest volume in the Compact Data Library. She assembled almost 2500 incorporation charts — times when companies and corporations went into business. These times give charts for the beginnings of these companies, obviously valuable information for business and financial astrologers (of which there seem to be a growing number). Carol Mull's incorporation chart disk sells for $30, like other disks in the Compact Data Library. To run these, you need the Compact Data System ($100), which comes with The Circle Book of Charts (over 1000 charts) as a bonus. ■

Vladimir Bogdanov and Lyudmila Lobenko coming to Matrix from Moscow

Moscow astrologer and programmer Vladimir Bogdanov, and his wife, linguist Lyudmila Lobenko, are soon to join Matrix for a year of work and cultural exchange.

Vladimir visited Matrix last May for two weeks at the encouragement of astrologer Jacob Schwartz. Vladimir's interest in Buddhism makes the chemistry especially nice for both of us. Vladimir has many interesting and sophisticated astrological techniques he wishes to implement. He has done special work with harmonics and chart comparison. He is a real gentleman, only 26 years old, and we look forward to having them. ■

1992 A.C.T. Conference

Astrologers are gearing up for the main conference events of 1992. Matrix will be running a conference-within-a-conference at the AFA convention in Chicago over the Fourth of July. The A.C.T., or Astrological Conference on Techniques, will run concurrently with the AFA convention. It is an attempt to unify modern astrological research on a worldwide basis. Tom Bridges is organizing the event.

The third United Astrologers Congress, or UAC, is scheduled in Washington, DC, over Easter weekend. The first two were very large and great successes. Astrologers are also looking forward to the NORWAC conference in Seattle, which has really grown in size over the last couple years. Look for Matrix and Warren Kinsman at the tradeshows of all these conferences. ■

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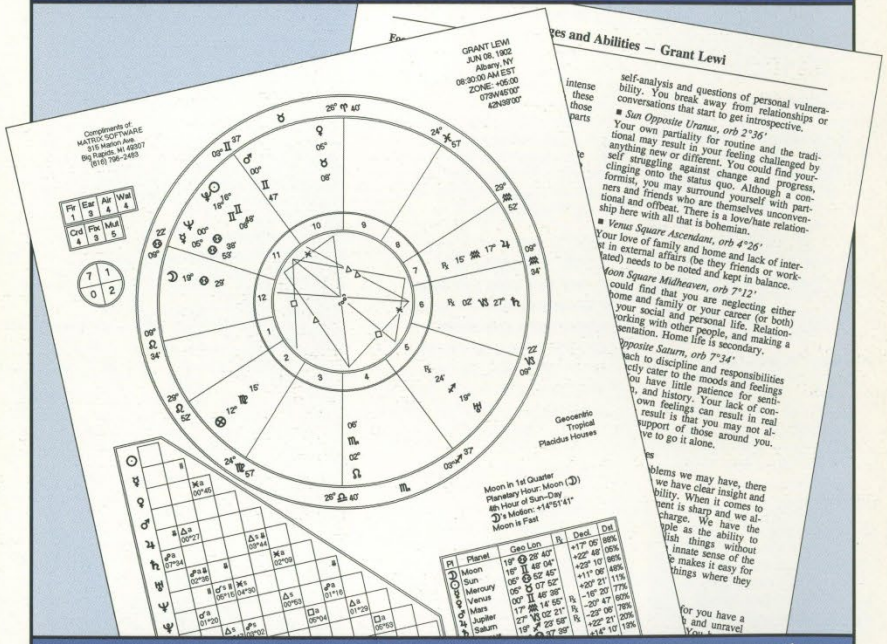


Report Writers Upgrade

Our new upgrade features a hi-res wheel, proportional fonts, improved editing ability, and a save-to-file option (continued inside back cover).

Matrix Software

Published by Matrix Software, ISBN 0740-6738 © 1992, Matrix Software, Inc.

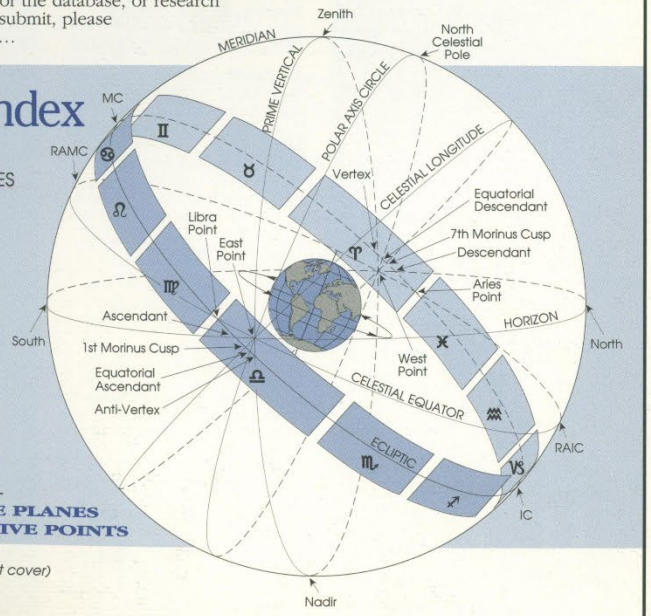
AstroTalk

Astro•Index – an Astrological Encyclopedia and Database

Astro•Index is a vast astrological database and encyclopedia in progress at Matrix Software. Over the years, it has benefited from the contributions of countless astrologers in its development from a simple collection of definitions to a compilation of core astrological reference material. The text work continues. In the meantime, Astro•Index is being demonstrated at major astrology conferences. If you have ideas for the database, or research you would like to submit, please contact the editors...

Astro•Index

- TERMS
- BIBLIOGRAPHIES
- BIOGRAPHIES
- ARTICLES
- FORMULAS
- TABLES
- DIAGRAMS
- CHARTS



From Astro•Index —
COORDINATE PLANES WITH SENSITIVE POINTS

(Continued inside front cover)

Astro★Index

(continued from front cover)

The heart of the Astro★Index system is an extremely powerful text-retrieval system with built-in thesaurus that locates literally any word within the system (including synonyms) within seconds. Related topics are suggested throughout the database, but you can choose any word or subject on which you want more information. Definitions, biographies, tables, formulas, articles, bibliographies, information on schools and astrological centers — all are linked and cross-referenced. The result is an advanced astrological encyclopedia, of which the user is the master, moving from subject to subject at will.

- All the elements are tightly connected. For example, you can look up a particular term, find related terms and the names of people who have written on these subjects, scroll through articles, and browse the database for a modern specialist in the field.
- Astro★Index is several large libraries of information, all on computer. It is still growing but at present has —
- Over 2000 astrological, astronomical, mathematical, and historical terms, with graphics, formulas, and tables
- Many hundreds of biographies of figures in astrology, past and present
- Articles and extended discussions of major astrological topics and questions
- Current information on consulting astrologers, astrological schools, and centers
- Astrological "round table" — the opinions of famous astrologers on major questions
- Chart database — thousands of people and historical events
- Notepad — collect information from the database for use in your research or writing

Matrix NEWS

Quick•Study on Solar Arcs

A highlight of Noel Tyl's new and highly acclaimed book — *Prediction in Astrology* (published by Llewellyn Publications) — is the 80-page "Professional Solar Arc Analysis Directory."

■ **Ebertin's images** — Tyl has updated and modernized Rheinhold Ebertin's influential images from *The Combination of Stellar Influences*. Through 858 combinations of direct solar arc contacts and indirect contacts to midpoints, Tyl has given astrologers an invaluable interpretive tool. For users of Blue★Star, the amount of time spent preparing for a client consultation is greatly streamlined.

■ **A hit list with text** — Tyl's "Solar Arc Analysis Directory" is now available in the form of a Solar Arc Upgrade for Blue★Star, with Quick Notes on solar arc technique, also written by Tyl. The upgrade provides solar arc contacts, given month-by-month, adjacent to Tyl's interpretive text. In the amount of time it takes to enter data and print the list, the astrologer now has a complete three-year (or more) overview of solar arc contacts to natal planets and natal midpoints — all with Tyl's text!

The program comes ready to print a solar arc hit list using Tyl's preferred method. Several other arc techniques are available, including converse directions.

SPECIFICATIONS

The Solar Arc Prediction Package requires the latest version of Blue★Star and an IBM-style machine with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and an Epson-compatible 24-pin dot-matrix printer or HP-compatible laser printer. Epson-compatible 144 dpi 9-pin printers are also supported. The program is available to registered owners of Blue★Star for $125.

The Matrix Solar Arc Prediction Package is available at our "four-for-three discount."

Quick•Study on Fixed Stars

On a clear night, countless stars are visible in the heavens. Where to begin in chart interpretation? The Quick•Study on Fixed Stars draws on centuries of stellar interpretation.

■ **Hi-resolution printouts** — The program's eleven printouts include fixed star conjunctions to natal points, star-planet occultations, terrestrial longitude, aspects and midpoints to natal fixed stars, and nine styles of sorted fixed star lists. Quick Notes come with the program explaining fixed star techniques.

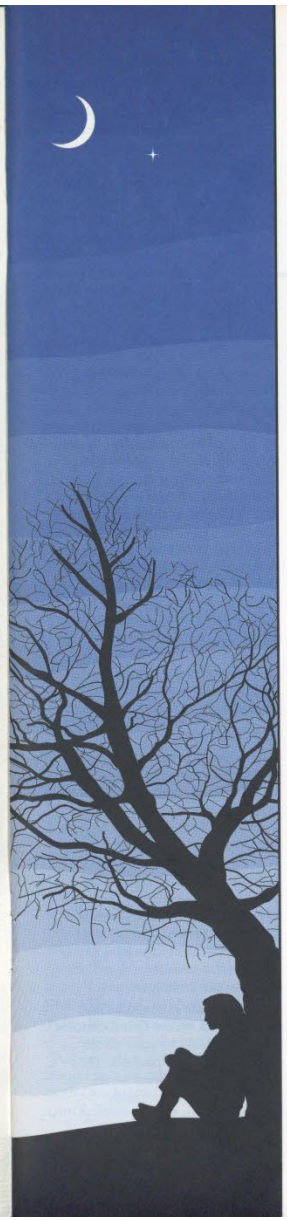
■ **The Fixed Star Editor** — Many astrologers will want the Quick•Study on fixed stars for this feature alone. The star editor includes the complete database of stars and galactic points from Michael Erlewine's *Astrophysical Directions*.

Included with the program are files of 275 named stars and the star lists used by Lilly, Ebertin, and Robson. With the program's tag-and-copy feature, you can customize a star list for your research. The fixed star editor also has options for choosing the epoch (try your year of birth), tropical or sidereal, and making a special star file for use within the Quick•Horary program (described on page 18).

SPECIFICATIONS

The Quick•Study on Fixed Stars requires a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and an Epson-compatible 24-pin dot-matrix printer or an HP-compatible laser printer. Epson-compatible 144 dpi 9-pin printers are also supported. ***$50***

(continued on inside back cover)



Matrix SOFTWARE

INTRODUCING QUICK★STUDIES 2
Easy-to-use programs on astrology techniques that add flexibility to your chart service.

QUICK★CALENDAR 4
A personal weekly transit calendar your clients will love.

QUICK★ALMANAC — SIX PROGRAMS IN ONE! 7
The popular techniques in the Electric Almanac have been converted for chart service use, complete with Quick Notes.

SECONDARY PROGRESSIONS 10
Quick•Progressions features beautiful graphic printouts and time scales for this popular technique.

RELOCATION MAPS WERE NEVER BETTER LOOKING! 12
No more screen dumps — Quick•Maps prints full-page Astro★Carto★Graphy and Local Space maps.

FULL-PAGE GRAPHIC EPHEMERIDES 14
Graphic ephemerides in a wide choice of formats with Quick•Graphs.

ELECTIONAL ASTROLOGY 17
Quick•Elections monitors the rapidly changing daily indicators in astrology.

DOZENS OF PRINTOUTS FOR HORARY ASTROLOGY 18
Quick•Horary is both a great teaching tool for the beginner and a real time-saver for the professional.

What kind of computer do you need for Matrix programs?

The Quick•Studies in this catalog require an IBM-style system with at least DOS 2.1, an 8088 micro-processor, 640K or more RAM memory, and a hard drive. We recommend the latest version of DOS and an 80286 (or greater) micro-processor to improve the operation of your programs. Some Matrix programs, including a version of Blue★Star, are designed to work without a hard drive. Call 1(800)PLANETS for a complete catalog of our programs.

The minimum requirement for Quick•Studies is an Epson-compatible 144 dpi 9-pin printer. An Epson-compatible 24-pin printer will give you improved performance. The Hewlett Packard (or compatible) LaserJet series is the ultimate.

Quick•Studies require no special monitor. Some Matrix programs require or benefit from an EGA or VGA monitor or a Hercules graphics card.

We don't sell computers! Instead, we program for the machines that have become favorites with computer users. For astrological work, we heartily recommend an IBM-PC or compatible machine, but we try to offer something useful for other computers. If you have an Apple or Commodore computer, call 1(800)PLANETS for more information.

Sure we play favorites. We work with these machines every day and we get to know them inside and out. But we know there are lots of reasons for choosing a computer, and no one system is best for everybody.

Matrix Software
315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone (616) 796-2483 FAX (616) 796-3060

Introducing Quick★Studies

These are a series of programs on popular astrology techniques. Each Quick★Study handles a specific technique, letting you tailor-make your chart service. Quick Notes turn charts, graphs, and maps into lessons based on your clients' birthcharts.

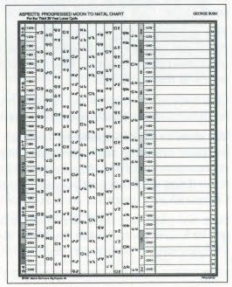
Most astrologers concentrate on several preferred techniques as the core of their counseling and chart services. We have developed Quick•Studies in response to techniques you emphasize in your consultations. Quick•Studies cover single astrological methods, so you get only the information you need. And your clients are sure to like the fact that the charts and notes relate specifically to them. This is a step above books on astrology, which are "learn by example" rather than "learn for yourself."

If you are on a budget or really want to make your software pay, you may not need all the options and power of a large calculation program. Quick•Studies are an excellent choice for building a chart service in an affordable way with the techniques that interest you. By selecting the Quick•Studies your work requires, you have maximum efficiency. Once purchased, each Quick•Study is ready to give you years of service at no cost to you other than the paper it's printed on!

TECHNIQUES

Quick•Studies focus on specific astrological techniques (such as graphs or maps). We are continually developing new ones to suit your needs. This catalog contains the most up-to-date information at the time of publication. We would like to hear your ideas.

SEE PROGRESSIONS ON PAGE 10



PRINTING CAPABILITY

Many of you have asked for more printouts — especially graphs and maps. Every Quick•Study offers full-page printouts in laser or 24-pin dot-matrix mode (and 144 dpi 9-pin). Quick•Studies are designed for ease of use and publication quality. With the price of the new laser printers dropping, hi-resolution output is easier than ever. Many customers are updating their printing capability to take advantage of the new graphic potential of Quick•Studies. Great-looking pages and quiet printing have always made laser printers desirable — now they are also a practical choice for your chart service. Because Quick•Studies are printing programs, no special screen graphics are required.

QUICK NOTES

When you're printing out Quick•Studies for beginners, include the ready-made Quick Notes commentary pages — or write your own notes using a word processor (your word processor must save ASCII or text-only files). Each Quick•Study comes with built-in technique notes designed to introduce a specific subject to beginners. This is a great way to learn, because the client's own chart is used to illustrate the technique.

The combination of charts and Quick Notes makes Quick•Studies ready for resale to your clients as professional astro-packets. They look like they've been taken from a book, with a classy double-column format, publisher's-quality type, and graphics — way ahead of anything else available to date!

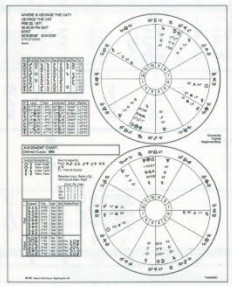
FOR YOUR CHART SERVICES

Offer Quick•Studies as part of your regular service. Sell Quick•Studies wheels, charts, graphs, maps, etc. to professionals, and the whole Quick•Studies packet with Quick Notes commentary pages to beginners. Expand your business with neat, easy-to-read Quick•Studies that go beyond plain printouts. Each Quick•Study is a mini-course in astrology. Introduce those new to astrology to complete astrological concepts in the same way most of us learned, expressed in the language of our own birth charts — what better way is there to learn?

BATCH-PROCESSING

Batch-processing, a much-loved feature in our Blue★Star calculation program, lets you line up numerous charts and reports to be printed in a "batch" while you go about other business. The batch-processing in Quick•Studies combines techniques that are usually treated in separate programs.

SEE HORARY ON PAGE 18



USER LOGOS

For an added professional touch, you can print Quick•Studies and Quick Notes with your business logo. Logos are a valuable marketing tool that help your clients remember you. An easy-to-use option in Quick•Studies lets you create a logo in your own words for both Quick•Studies and Quick Notes.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Provide your classes and students with a comprehensive introduction to specific astrological techniques using their own charts. The Quick Notes commentary pages mean students can take with them an entire concept at the end of every class. You can present the idea in class, then send a Quick•Study home as a personal reminder of how the technique works in their charts. The Quick Notes will help you document your teaching and let students review the various astrological techniques. Busy teachers wish they could take the time to individualize their classroom presentations. With Quick•Studies, that is easy to do.

COUNSELING

A Quick•Studies packet makes a great take-home present at the end of a counseling session and serves two purposes. First, it is a nice gesture, something extra for your clients that costs you very little. Second, you can introduce them to new astrological concepts that can become part of future counseling sessions.

GIFTS

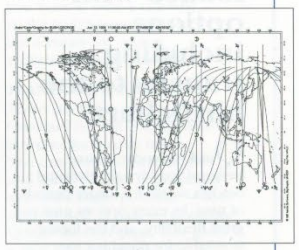
Send out a Quick•Study along with your yearly client reminders (birthdays) and/or at the holiday season. These small packets let your clients know you care about them, while introducing them to another facet of their chart and life. As a professional, you know how many techniques in modern astrology are almost unknown to the general public.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

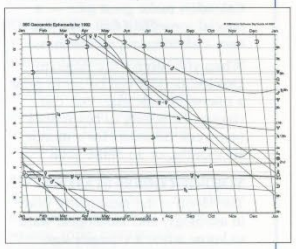
Quick•Studies make use of the American, International, or Matrix Time Change Atlas you may already be using. Maps appear for the first time in full-page publication-quality format. The printouts can be 3-hole-punched for a notebook — your clients will appreciate having a permanent record of their consultations with you. Professionals like Quick•Studies because all the information they need for day-to-day work is assembled on one easy-to-read chart sheet.

Some Quick•Studies require the larger calculation power of Blue★Star, while others work from their own Quick-style menu with combination pull-down and Punch 'n Go menus. Both versions provide unlimited batch-processing and easy selection of options. The Quick-style menu includes all the easy file-handling and data-entry options that are part of QuickCharts. If you don't own Blue★Star, you can get a stand-alone version of Quick•Studies.

SEE MAPS ON PAGE 12



SEE GRAPHS ON PAGE 14



All Quick•Studies run on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Monocrome monitors are fine, and you don't need Hercules graphics.

4 for 3

Quick•Studies are available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Quick★Calendar

This daily astrological calendar is loaded with options — including transits to the birthchart.

Quick•Calendar creates personal weekly calendars and batches weeks for longer periods of time. Its many options give you great flexibility, and the format is suitable for punching into notebooks for a permanent record. Calendars make great gifts — a special something that says you care and brings repeat business.

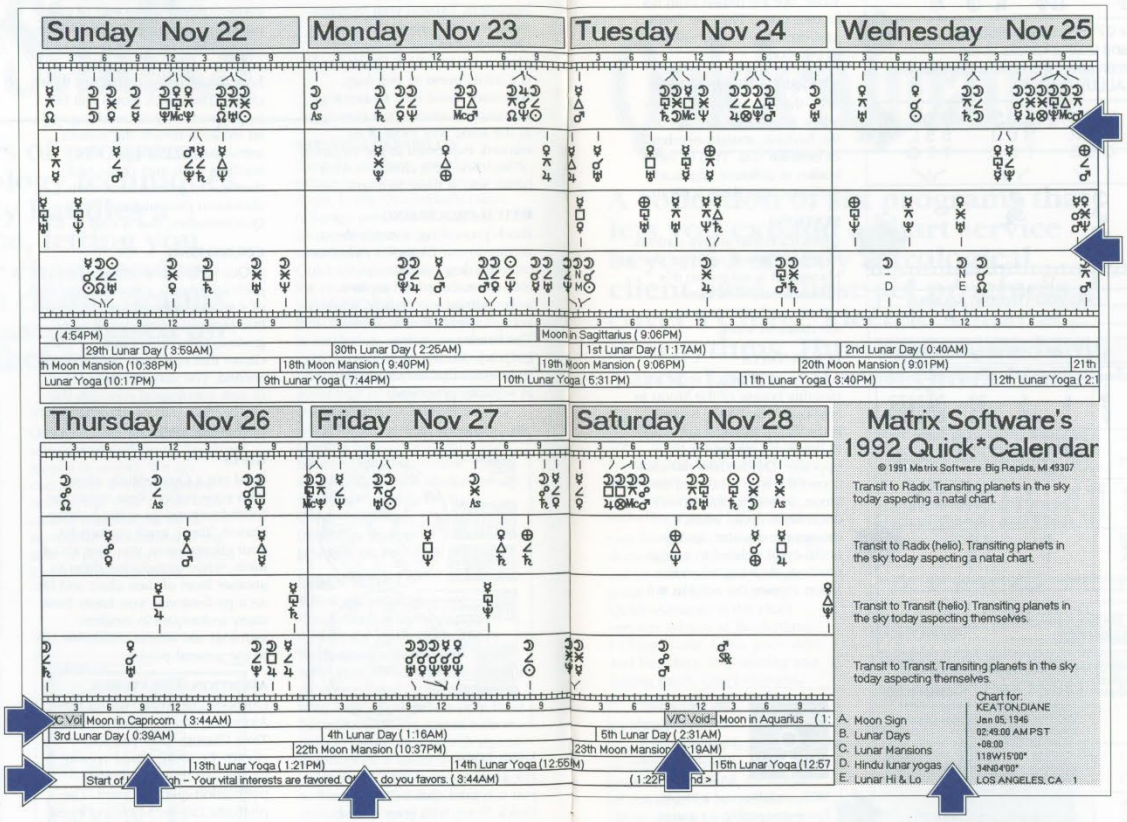
When you receive the program, Quick•Calendar will be set to print a one-week calendar. You can change the setting to batch-print one-week calendars for a month, six months, or an entire year.

VOID-OF-COURSE STATUS

The Moon is the most active body in astrology, and astrologers want to know when it changes sign. Quick•Calendar shows you exact times (hours and minutes). The void-of-course Moon is not just interesting to horary and electional astrologers; its link to action in general has been widely noted.

SOLUNAR HIGH AND LOW

The solunar high signals a time when things come to you. It occurs monthly when the transiting Moon enters your natal Sun. The solunar low shows a time when you have to put out more effort in order to be in a good position later; it occurs when the Moon is in the sign opposite your natal Sun sign. Quick•Calendar will show solunar highs or lows for the calendar week.



MOON MANSIONS

Moon mansions show the houses of the Moon, analogous to the 12 solar houses. Moon or lunar mansions are mainly used in Eastern astrological traditions. Quick•Calendar uses a tropical system of 28 mansions — one for each of the 28 star groups transited by the Moon in a month.

HINDU LUNAR YOGAS

Yogas are planetary combinations, and lunar yogas are solunar transit periods showing when the combined longitudes of the Sun and Moon equal the average daily sidereal motion of the Moon. They mark auspicious moments during the month.

LUNAR DAYS (TITHIS)

Lunar days are part of the Hindu and Tibetan astrological traditions. Particular lunar days are worth noting, especially the 1st, 8th, 10th, 15th, 23rd, 25th, and 30th. Each lunar day is an increment of 12° of solunar elongation, beginning with the New Moon at 0°.

CALENDAR LEGEND

This describes the options selected for a particular calendar run and gives the data used to calculate the calendar.

TRANSIT-TO-NATAL

Quick•Calendar gives you natal transits timed to the quarter hour. Transits are available in geocentric or heliocentric. You can specify the date and time zone for which you want to print a calendar, so the transit-to-natal aspects are accurate for your or a client's present residence.

TRANSIT-TO-TRANSIT

These are aspects in the sky today (standard fare for any calendar) timed to the quarter hour. You can print transit-to-transit and transit-to-natal in geocentric and heliocentric positions — four separate sets of data — all on one Quick•Calendar page. This gives a nice four-row spread of planetary information.

STANDARD PLANETS

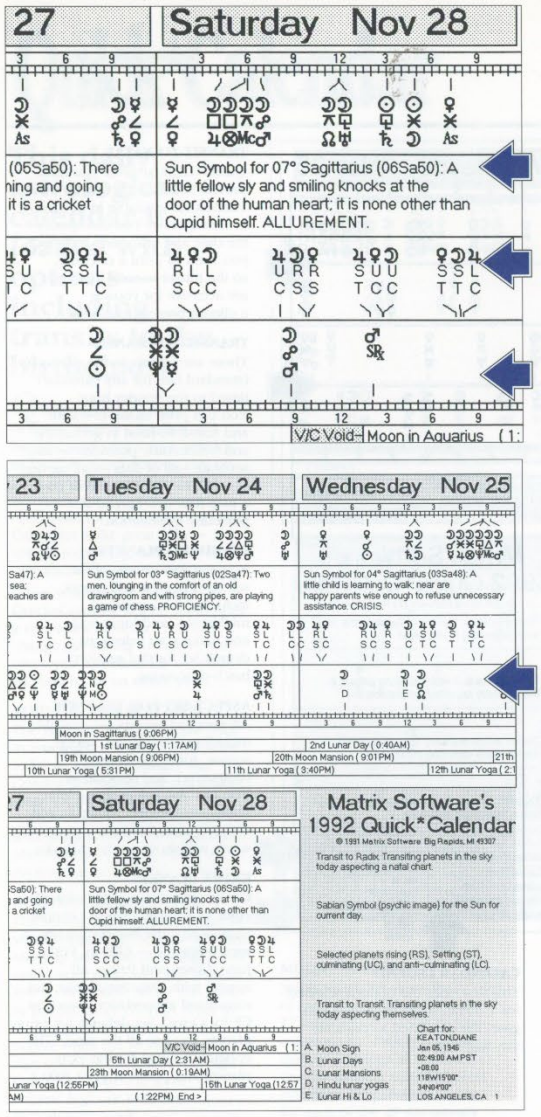
You can choose any of the standard planets and points, including the ascendant, midheaven, and lunar node, and make your selections a default set for that session's batch-processing.

ASPECT SET FOR TRANSITS

All standard aspects are available, including conjunction, sextile, square, trine, inconjunct (quincunx), and opposition. You can also select semisextile, semisquare, septile, quintile, and sesquisquare. Only the aspects you select will show on the calendar.

EXTRA PLANETS

Choices are also available for all eight TransNeptunian or Uranian planets plus the five commonly used asteroids — Chiron, Vesta, Juno, Ceres, and Pallas. All appear with attractive glyphs, not romanized abbreviations (such as CE for Ceres). Set defaults for extra planets you use all the time. (The ephemeris range for the extra planets and points is 1929-2000.)



SABIAN SYMBOLS

The Sabian symbols are a popular feature. For each day, the Jones images can be printed beneath the transit data. These are not the symbols normally found in Jones' work, but are drawn from his lecture notes. They are fresh and exciting — not available in any book.

RISE, SET, CULMINATION

With this option, you can see when selected bodies are on the horizon, straight overhead, or beneath you. Two or more bodies at different angles at the same time show a paran.

STATIONS

Quick*Calendar shows stations, either retrograde or direct, for any planet that is subject to this phenomenon — if there are any such events during the calendar week.

LUNAR DATA

Apogee and perigee show the monthly course of the Moon in relation to the Earth. Perigee is the Moon's closest approach to the Earth. Apogee is the opposite. Quick*Calendar also shows the four phases of the Moon, as well as the Moon's declination cycle, when it crosses the equator, and its nodal cycle, related to its sign position, showing when the Moon crosses the ecliptic. ■

Quick*Calendar runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$300**.

4 for 3

Quick*Calendar is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Quick*Almanac

A collection of six programs that lets you expand a chart service beyond a strictly astrological client base. These six programs cover I Ching, Electric Almanac, Biorhythms, Hunting and Fishing, Tarot, Lotto, all with Quick Notes.

Biorhythms, I Ching, Tarot, Lotto, good days and bad days, hunting and fishing dates — traditionally, there's a little bit of everything in an almanac, including a good bit of astrology.

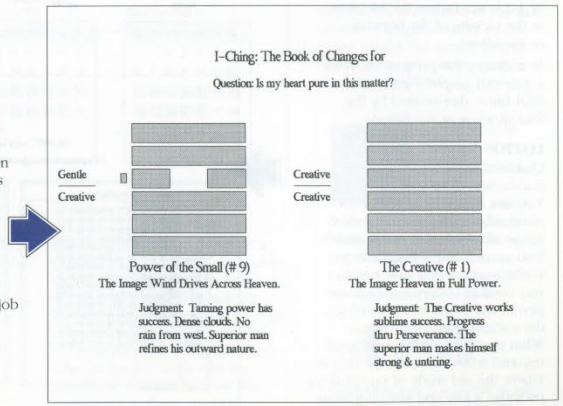
Our fun Electric Almanac program doesn't print, so it is of limited use in chart services, though great fun to browse through. Quick*Almanac is the chart services edition of Biorhythms, I Ching, Tarot, Lotto, good days and bad days, and hunting and fishing dates. Quick*Almanac printouts make great gifts.

I CHING

The I Ching starts with a question or personal concern. It can be as general as "What is the nature of this day?" or as specific as "How does it look for getting this new job?" Quick*Almanac's main menu prompts you for the question. From there, it's a simple matter of processing the job and in a matter of seconds, Quick*Almanac will be sending the symbols to your printer.

The sixty-four I Ching symbols have been in use for thousands of years. I Ching printouts include two of these symbols. Interpretive text is given below each symbol, including the Image (such as *Thunder and Wind*) and the Judgment (such as *Success. No blame. It furthers to have somewhere to go. Great man stands firm & doesn't change direction.*) The Image and Judgment give you a means of relating to your question.

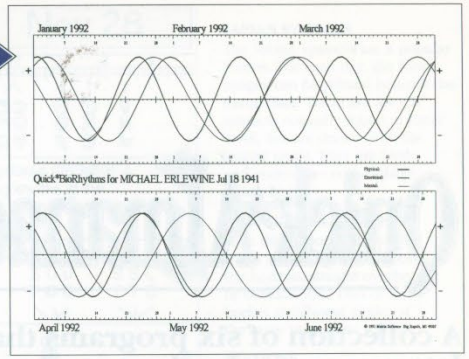
The I Ching is related to the Tao, or Way, in Chinese philosophy. At the heart of this philosophy is the idea of change as an unceasing fact of life. The dragon — ancient Chinese symbol of goodness, bounty, and Great Being — comes and goes in life, bringing with it a rhythm of question and resolution. The I Ching provides symbolic answers to questions, which can be guides through difficulty and can serve to clarify the truth.



BIORHYTHMS

Cycles, the ups and downs in our lives, are familiar to everyone. Biorhythms are the three natural rhythms or cycles we all experience — physical, emotional, and mental. Based on the time and day of birth, they describe a person uniquely. Quick★Almanac prints a 6-month Biorhythm graph that makes the cycles and their interrelationships easy to see.

The accompanying Quick Notes explain Biorhythms, along with Key Days (transition periods in your emotional, mental, or physical outlook) and Crossroads (when the three sets of lines cross each other, revealing the level of clarity). You can write your own notes for clients with specific concerns.

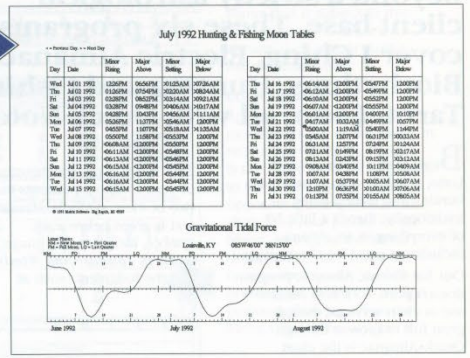


HUNTING & FISHING DAYS

Try the bait stores! These are monthly reports of optimum times for outdoor folk. This printout from Quick★Almanac shows a one-month table of good times for hunting, fishing, and wilderness activities.

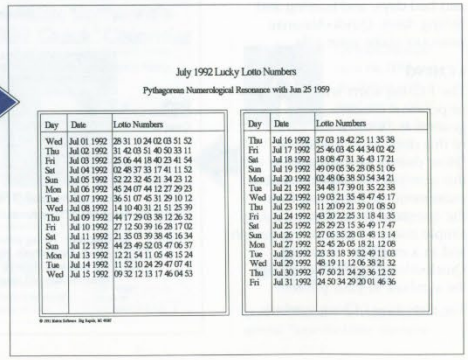
Major good times are shown by the Moon's daily transit of the highest and lowest points in the sky (culmination and anti-culmination). Minor good times are shown by the rising or setting of the Moon — whatever time of day these events occur. Times are given exact to the minute, at the middle of a peak activity period of 1-2 hours (when the Moon is in the vicinity of the horizon or meridian).

In addition, the printout includes a 3-month graph of gravitational tidal force, demarcated by the four quarters of the Moon.

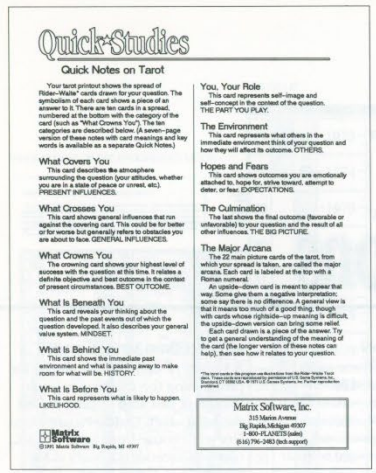


LOTTO

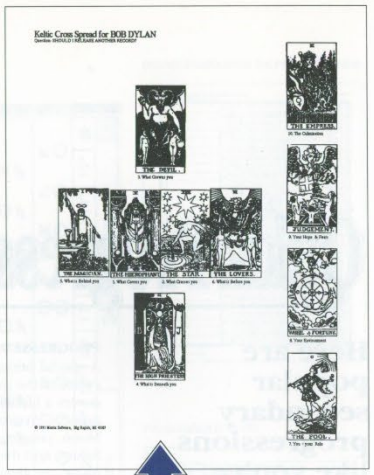
Quick★Almanac provides lotto numbers in most states' formats. You can set Lotto to print 1-10 numbers per day in a numerical range of 0-99 for an entire month. You get a month's numbers, so you're sure to have one when you need it! Lottery numbers are part of the world of numerology, the ancient study of numbers. What number clusters will bunch up, and when, and where? This is where the old study of numerology provides a key and stepping-stone to an inside track on luck.



Day	Date	Lotto Numbers
Wed	Jul 01 1992	28 31 10 24 02 03 51 52
Thu	Jul 02 1992	31 42 03 51 40 50 33 11
Fri	Jul 03 1992	25 06 44 18 40 23 41 54
Sat	Jul 04 1992	02 48 37 33 17 41 11 52
Sun	Jul 05 1992	52 22 32 45 21 34 23 12
Mon	Jul 06 1992	45 24 07 44 12 27 29 23
Tue	Jul 07 1992	36 51 07 45 31 29 10 12
Wed	Jul 08 1992	14 10 40 31 21 51 25 39
Thu	Jul 09 1992	44 17 29 03 38 12 26 32
Fri	Jul 10 1992	27 12 50 39 16 28 17 02
Sat	Jul 11 1992	21 35 03 39 38 45 16 34
Sun	Jul 12 1992	44 23 49 52 03 47 06 37
Mon	Jul 13 1992	12 21 54 11 05 48 15 24
Tue	Jul 14 1992	11 52 10 24 29 47 07 41
Wed	Jul 15 1992	09 32 12 13 17 46 04 53
Thu	Jul 16 1992	37 03 18 42 25 11 35 38
Fri	Jul 17 1992	25 46 03 45 44 34 02 42
Sat	Jul 18 1992	18 08 47 31 36 43 17 21
Sun	Jul 19 1992	49 09 05 36 28 08 51 06
Mon	Jul 20 1992	02 48 06 38 50 54 34 21
Tue	Jul 21 1992	34 48 17 39 01 35 22 38
Wed	Jul 22 1992	19 03 21 35 46 47 45 17
Thu	Jul 23 1992	11 20 09 21 39 01 08 50
Fri	Jul 24 1992	43 20 22 25 31 18 41 35
Sat	Jul 25 1992	28 29 23 15 36 49 17 47
Sun	Jul 26 1992	27 05 35 29 03 45 13 14
Mon	Jul 27 1992	52 45 26 05 18 21 12 08
Tue	Jul 28 1992	23 33 18 39 32 49 11 03
Wed	Jul 29 1992	48 19 11 12 06 38 21 32
Thu	Jul 30 1992	47 50 21 24 29 36 12 52
Fri	Jul 31 1992	24 50 34 29 20 01 46 36



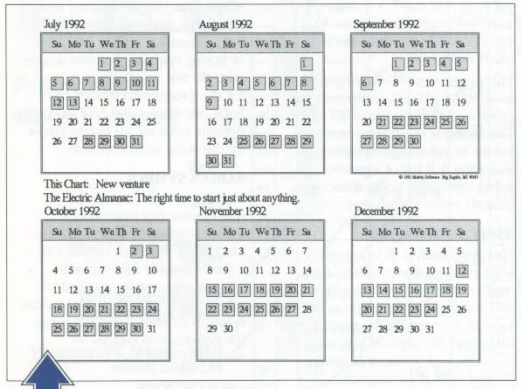
ALL QUICK★ALMANAC PROGRAMS INCLUDE QUICK NOTES



TAROT

This program uses the 22 major arcana or main picture cards of the Tarot — the forerunner of modern playing cards. We are pleased to offer the cards in beautiful Rider-Waite© computer renditions.

A 10-card spread is given for each Tarot printout, covering ten interpretive categories of a tarot reading. Quick Notes (above) explain the symbolism of the major arcana. A single sheet of Quick Notes covers the basics; longer Quick Notes give interpretation and key words. ■



ELECTRIC ALMANAC

The Electric Almanac (or "the right time to start just about anything") is a six-month printout of good days for one of over 200 events offered in the program — from getting a dog, to sending mail, to hot weather painting, and mining for gold! The good days for engaging in your chosen activity are boxed and shaded for each month.

The Electric Almanac is part of a long tradition of charting favorable and unfavorable times for many different activities. Why not get the best odds you can? Try a range of calendars for several activities. For example, you could have one calendar for traveling, one for purchases, and another one for good times to throw a party.

Quick★Almanac runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$300**.

4 for 3

Quick★Almanac is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Quick★Progressions

Here are popular secondary progressions like you've never seen them! This is a well-organized set of charts and notes for a favorite system.

Quick★Progressions uses the secondary or day-for-a-year method of progressions — well known to professionals and students. Its many charts, tables, aspect time scales, and commentary pages will give you and your clients something to talk about — repeat business!

A SELECTION OF WHEELS

The selection of wheels in Quick★Progressions — a total of 10, including double wheels (two per page), bi-wheels (wheel-within-a-wheel), aspect time scales, and tables — lets you customize a progressions package for an individual client. Choose natal or progressed houses for the progressed planets, with natal and progressed house rulers.

PROGRESSED MOON

A special printout of three aspect cycles of the progressed Moon covers a lifetime of important lunar aspects. Progressed Moon-natal Moon, progressed Moon-natal Saturn, and the progressed solunar phase are given, along with the house position of the progressed Moon. With its great graphics, this printout will make a strong visual impression on your clients. You can choose from Blue★Star's usual aspect sets.

The progressed Moon's aspects to all natal planets and points are given in a lunar cycle of 28 years. The Moon is the fastest moving planet in secondary progressions, making a full list of aspects (and going through a void-of-course period) every three years.

ASPECT TIME SCALE

This is a favorite. It is a vertical scale running the length of the page, showing the chronology and varying density of progressed aspects throughout the year. You can select the aspects you want to watch and set your program to read only these aspects.

MOON-SATURN CYCLE

The secondary progressed Moon and transiting Saturn cycles are virtually aligned. Printouts show the aspects and Quick Notes cover interpretation.

PROGRESSED MIDHEAVEN

A variety of options are offered for progressing the midheaven — an important first step in progressing the natal chart. Quick★Progressions lets you choose from Solar Arc MC (derived ascendant), Naibod MC (derived ascendant), and traditional methods (done for the accumulated meridian transit, where one day is equal to one year). For derived charts, you have Blue★Star's wide selection of house systems. For astrologers who do not use derived houses for the progressed wheel, the Solar Arc Cusps and Naibod Cusps options advance all house cusps by the solar arc increment.

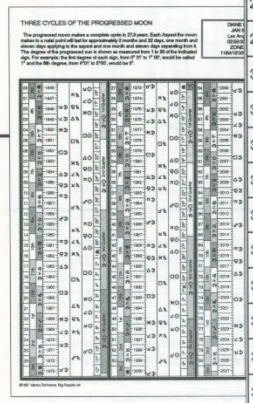
SABIAN SYMBOL

The Sun progresses about one degree per year. The Sabian symbol (a psychic image associated with that degree) is a year's symbol and (as with all symbols) can be applied to your current situation. The Sabian symbols of Marc Edmond Jones are provocative images — straightforward and to-the-point.

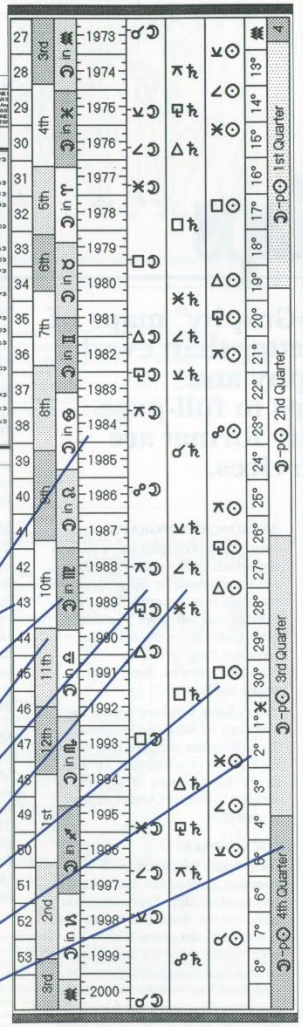
USER OPTIONS

The list of printout options in Quick★Progressions will look familiar to Blue★Star owners. All standard and extra planets are available, for which different aspect sets can be chosen. ■

THREE CYCLES OF THE PROGRESSED MOON



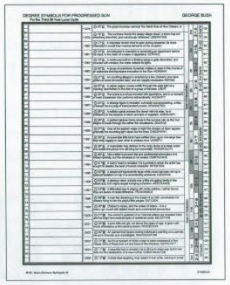
CLOSE-UP



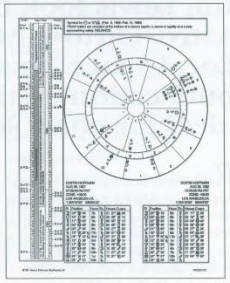
Progressed Moon Features

- Year
- Age
- Sign of progressed Moon
- House position of progressed Moon
- Progressed Moon–natal Moon aspects
- Progressed Moon–natal Saturn aspects
- Progressed Moon–natal Sun aspects
- Degree position of progressed Sun
- Progressed solunar phase

DEGREE SYMBOLS FOR THE PROGRESSED SUN



PROGRESSED BI-WHEEL



Quick★Progressions runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$150**.

4 for 3

Quick★Progressions is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Quick★Maps

The Astro★Carto★Graphy® maps of Jim Lewis look better than ever! Astro★Carto★Graphy and Local Space™ maps in full-page publication-quality format are ideal for chart services.

Relocation maps are popular — whether Jim Lewis's Astro★Carto★Graphy or Michael Erlewine's Local Space — and they sell! Clients love them. In fact, since we came out with AstroMap Hi-Res in 1988, your comments and letters with ideas for program improvements have poured in. Now there is Quick★Maps, designed to fit with our Quick★Studies concept. You can print full-page maps in landscape mode (page lengthwise) suitable for display or 3-hole-punching for a notebook.

FOR CHART SERVICES

Quick★Maps is not a part of AstroMap Hi-Res. It is designed specifically for those of you who run chart services and need publication-quality map printouts with commentary. We felt we could best meet your requests with a separate program that has more chart services resale potential than AstroMap Hi-Res.

ASTRO★CARTO★GRAPHY

Astro★Carto★Graphy lets a person see which parts of the birthchart are emphasized by geographical location. It is a popular form of relocational astrology, but until now, publication-quality maps have not been available. For chart services, these map pages are fantastic!

Your clients will love seeing the astrology of relocation in their lives. Whether they are preparing for a move or a vacation, or want to see the influence of a previous residence, Astro★Carto★Graphy is excellent.

LOCAL SPACE

Local Space maps interpret direction in your life, both literally and symbolically. Every time you walk out the door, you're heading in a certain direction. With a Local Space map, it's immediately clear which planet occupies that direction. You will be interested to see what direction your friends live from you, near or far, or see what planets are connected with your present residence and your job. There's a lot you can do with Local Space!

BUILT-IN MAP SETS

Quick★Maps gives you a variety of local and international maps in addition to the standard world map. For zooming in on an area of special planetary influence, these 13 maps are great.

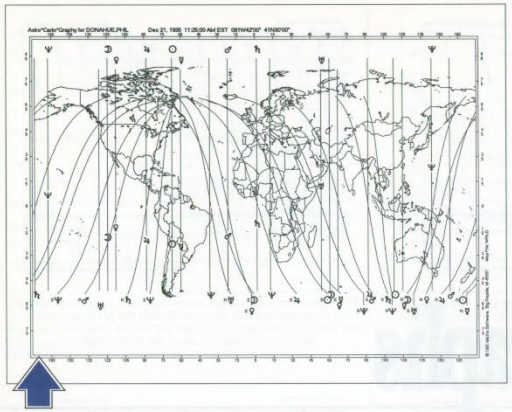
SPECIAL FEATURES

These techniques are simple to operate! Everything difficult is preprogrammed and preselected, and available in easy-to-use pull-down menus. You can batch-process Astro★Carto★Graphy and Local Space maps (as well as overlays of both maps on a single page) to handle the busiest client loads.

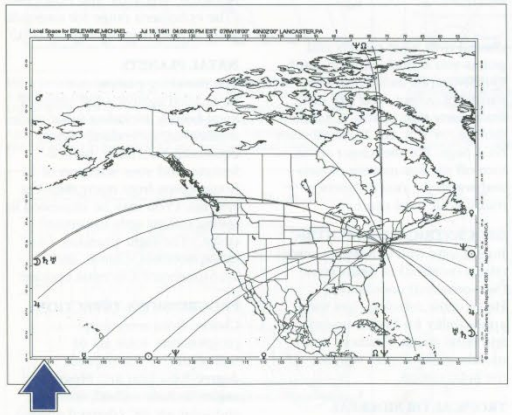
QUICK NOTES

An Astro★Carto★Graphy or Local Space map with Quick Notes is a complete interpretive package for clients just getting started. These notes come complete with planetary key words appropriate for Astro★Carto★Graphy (Jim Lewis has given them his stamp of approval). ■

(Astro★Carto★Graphy with permission of Jim Lewis.)



Astro★Carto★Graphy, in the words of Jim Lewis, "enables a person to determine which parts of the natal chart potential will be accented, highlighted, or brought into consciousness in a new location." The lines on your map are sensitive areas on the globe, unique to you. Anywhere along a line, you experience the force of a particular planet. When you move, your orientation to the lines changes. Crossing lines show parans and mark sensitive latitudes the world over. The position of planet glyphs shows where on the globe a planet is at the zenith, 90° above the horizon (ascendant and midheaven are exactly square).



On a Local Space map, the planets are represented as directions on the globe. Lines originate at the birthplace and extend in both directions. The most remarkable factor of the Local Space map is that every object in the universe, whether celestial or on the Earth, has an equal and valid position in the map. Not only planets and stars, but cities, countries, and even your house (or any building) are represented with equal significance. The only important thing is the direction of any object in space.

Also available separately — Local Space

Since Local Space as a technique was first described and developed by Matrix programmer Michael Erlewine, we are rather partial to this method of relocation. We have a special Quick★Studies package with full-page maps in landscape mode (page lengthwise) on this fascinating technique for both laser and dot-matrix printers. Like all Quick★Studies, it includes batch-processing, user-logos, and Quick Notes pages. The Local Space Quick★Studies program is a part of Quick★Maps, but is available separately for $100.

Quick★Maps runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$300**. Quick★Maps is available to registered owners of AstroMap Hi-Res for $200.

4 for 3

Quick★Maps is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Quick•Graphs

The graphic ephemeris is the astrological tool of the 90s. Now you can print full-page publication-quality graphs in your favorite style, including progressions and dials.

The graphic ephemeris is a useful tool for counseling astrologers and a big hit with clients because it's so visual. With Quick•Graphs, traditional planetary data comes to life in picture form, much easier for beginners. Astrologers know all too well how an ephemeris page, or even a chart wheel, looks to clients who don't know how to read them.

A graphic ephemeris gives clients with limited time a quick sense of the patterns and cycles at work in their lives. Planetary influences are readily recognized as personal influences when you choose to plot natal and transiting planets at the same time.

TIME SPANS

Quick•Graphs can produce graphic ephemerides of all kinds within a time span of 1700-2300 for most planets and bodies. The user-defined points option gives you a lot of power and control over what planets and points you include in your graph. Quick•Graphs includes a wide variety of output. You can pick from many time spans: 1, 3, and 6 months, or 1, 5, 10, 25, or 50 years on a page. For the longer spans, turn off the fast-moving planets and watch the outer planets transit your natal chart.

GEOCENTRIC/HELIOCENTRIC

Run graphs with either geocentric (Earth-centered) or heliocentric (Sun-centered) coordinates. Heliocentric astrology has wide applicability for both mundane and natal charts. Financial and mundane astrologers will like the helio option.

TROPICAL OR SIDEREAL

Graphs can be produced using tropical positions or the sidereal positions traditionally used by Eastern astrologers.

TRANSITING PLANETS

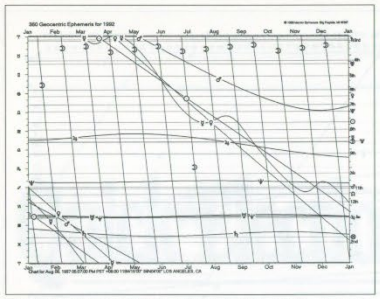
Transiting bodies (in addition to the planets, Sun, Moon, and lunar node) include Chiron and the four major asteroids (Vesta, Pallas, Ceres, and Juno); Transpluto; and the eight TransNeptunian or Uranian planets (Cupido, Hades, Zeus, Kronos, Apollon, Admetos, Vulcanus, and Poseidon). (The ephemeris range for asteroids and Uranian planets is 1929-2000.)

NATAL PLANETS

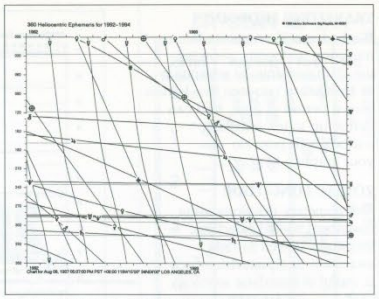
The transiting planets can be charted against a full range of natal bodies, including lunar node, midheaven, ascendant, vertex, equatorial ascendant, part-of-fortune, and your selection of 12 house cusps from many different systems. (You may be interested in seeing transits only to certain cusps.) The eight Uranians, four major asteroids, Chiron, and Transpluto are also natal options.

PROGRESSIONS/DIRECTIONS

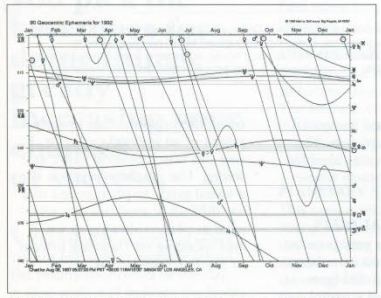
Choose from secondary progressions, solar arc or naibod arc, or the popular degree-for-a-year arc. Progressed angles include naibod, solar arc, and solar arc MC (derived angles). All these can be plotted against your natal positions. You can also experiment with unusual progressed positions such as the the part-of-fortune.



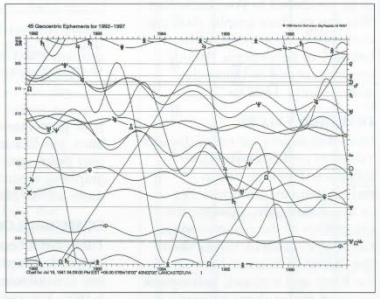
The most popular graphic ephemeris features the twelve signs of the zodiac along the left side of the page and the time-span (in this case, one year) across the top of the page. Natal planets are shown on the right side of the page. Crossing lines show conjunctions. Lines that curve up show retrograde motion.



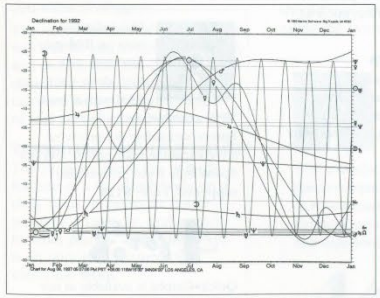
This is a two-year graphic ephemeris using heliocentric coordinates and 360° notation. Heliocentric natal planets are shown on the right side of the graph. In this graph, the five major asteroids are shown as transiting bodies.



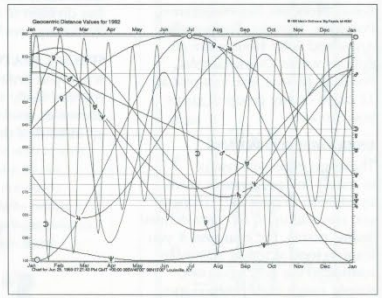
Many people are using special zodiacs, called dials, that feature a particular aspect type or harmonic. In the 90° dial shown above, crossing lines show conjunction, square, or opposition. Choose any dial from 1 to 180. This graph also shows the TransNeptunian natal planets used by Uranian astrologers. Transiting midpoints can be added to the graph for any combination of planets.



This is another dial — a 45° graphic ephemeris featuring 8th harmonic aspects (semisquares and multiples). Transiting TransNeptunian planets have been added to the graph. Dials show more action in the slow-moving bodies. Note the retrograde motion of the lunar node, counter to the predominant downward motion on the page.



This is a declination graph showing the planets' distance above or below the equator (the zero line across the center of the page). Crossing lines show parallels of declination. Natal declinations are given on the right side of the page.



This is a graph of geocentric distance values, showing the change in the planets' actual distance from the Earth — their apogee /perigee cycles. Natal distance values are given on the right side of the page. Crossing lines indicate that two bodies are at the same relative point in their apogee/perigee cycles. Heliocentric distance values can also be graphed (aphelion/perihelion cycle).

TRANSITING MIDPOINTS

We had specific requests for transiting midpoints, showing the changing angular separation or elongation between two bodies over a period of time. You can define up to ten transiting midpoints to print on your graphs.

ZODIAC LONGITUDE

Plot planetary positions using traditional zodiac or ecliptic longitude as well as right ascension or equatorial, which is useful in mundane astrology.

LATITUDE/DECLINATION

Latitude and declination graphs are useful for showing parallel aspects, either among transiting planets or as compared to your birthchart. You can produce graphs showing declination, geocentric zodiac latitude, or heliocentric latitude (position above or below the solar plane).

DISTANCE VALUES

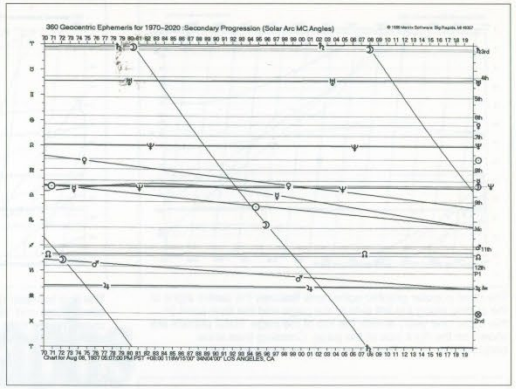
More astrologers are using distance values to evaluate planetary influence. Distance values can be graphed geocentrically or heliocentrically, showing the orientation of the planets' orbits. Geocentric distance values show the changing distance between the Earth and a planet; heliocentric distance values show a planet's distance from the Sun, equivalent to the perihelion/aphelion cycle.

ELEVEN HOUSE SYSTEMS

Koch, Placidus, Campanus, Equal, Meridian, Regiomontanus, Porphyry, Morinus, Topocentric, Aries, and Solar Houses are all options within Quick★Graphs. For natal houses, you can plot all 12 cusps or any group of cusps you choose.

USER-DEFINED POINTS

These are especially useful in transit and progression work. In addition to your natal planets, you can add up to ten user-defined zodiac points. For example, if you want to look at transit activity in relation to the year's eclipses, simply assign each position to a user point. They will show up on your graphs as dotted horizontal lines, just like natal planets. The user point option is also ideal for graphing sensitive points where there are no planets.



Several progression options are available in Quick★Graphs. Shown above is a 50-year graph of secondary progressions, featuring progressed Moon contacts to both progressed and natal positions, as well as natal house cusps and user-defined points (such as an eclipse). Solar arc and day-for-a-year progressions are also available.

COSMOBIOLOGICAL DIALS

These have become very popular. In Quick★Graphs, you can choose any cosmobiological dial from 1-180°. You may find it useful to treat certain astrological aspects as single "families." Picking a dial is as easy as determining the aspect type you want and entering the number that corresponds to that division of a circle, such as 90° for squares.

SPECIAL FEATURES

When you print a graph, you can easily see any retrograde planets as solid lines that curve up instead of down, with stations being the uppermost or lowermost points of an isolated cycle. Or you can watch heliacal rising and setting. Use graphs when you want a visual guide to phenomena that are difficult to read out of a table, such as planets slowing down and speeding up (heading toward or leaving a station). ■

Quick★Graphs runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$125**.

4 for 3

Quick★Graphs is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Quick★Elections

Electional astrology lets you pick the best times for doing things, greatly increasing your chances of success.

Quick★Elections lets you select certain features to monitor across the twenty-four hours of the day. A time scale will indicate the hours and minutes of the day(s), while selectable columns on the right will display various changing astrological data. You can design the page to present just the data you want to observe.

The many features of this program will enable you to determine easily and exactly, for you or your clients, what took lots of manual calculations or a rough process of trial and error in the past.

TRANSITING PART-OF-FORTUNE

The program treats the part-of-fortune as a transiting body on a daily basis, showing its house position, angularity, and aspects to other planets and points. This is an important element in electional work.

RISE, SET, CULMINATION TIMES

These are a body's conjunctions with the horizon, zenith, and nadir, varying with geographical location. Find times for planets, fixed stars, asteroids, and extra planets.

SIGN ON HOUSE CUSPS

These are the changing house rulerships throughout the day. The strength of the planet ruling the relevant house cusp is an important factor in an electional chart.

PLANETARY STRENGTHS

This option shows how the strengths change throughout the day according to their accidental dignities, particularly valuable for showing when planets have their greatest influence.

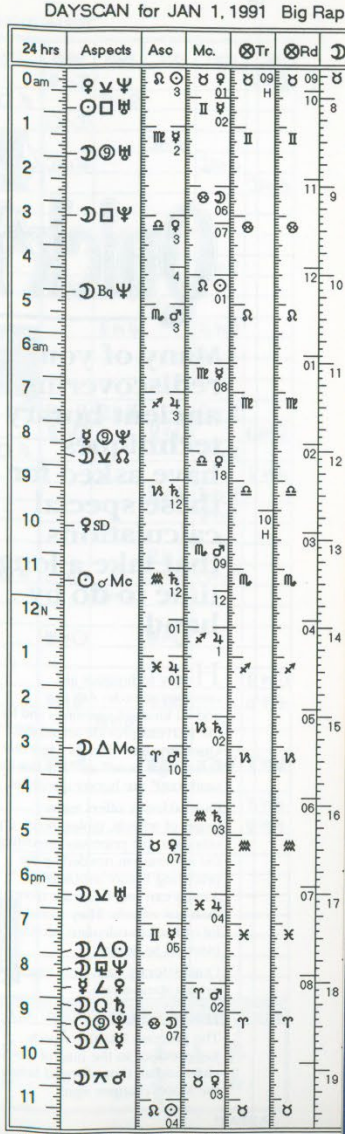
ASPECTS

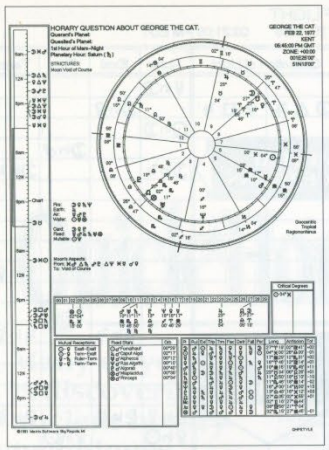
The Moon is very important in electional charts. Its aspects should be closely watched, as should those of the planets ruling the event. ■

Quick★Elections runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$100**.

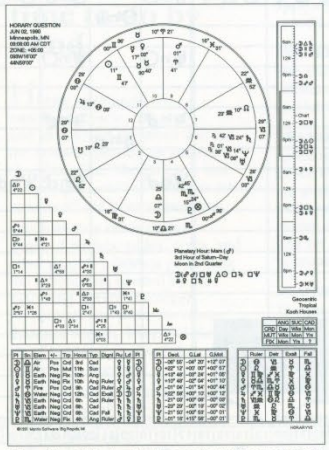
4 for 3

Quick★Elections is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

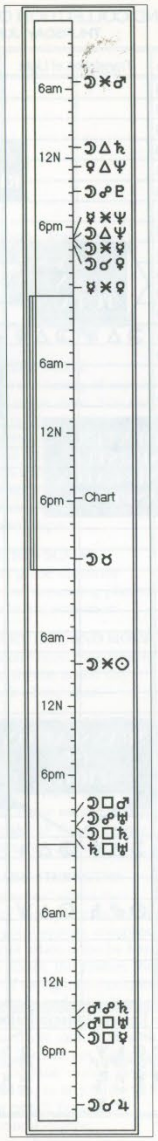




Several styles of wheel printouts are available. Above: A reproduction of the form used by Carol A. Wiggers, QHP, who publishes the "Horary Practitioner." There is an aspect time scale on the left and a European-style wheel with accented angle lines, offset cusps, and unequal houses. The page includes lunar aspects, strictures, planetary day and hour, a 30° position scale, mutual receptions, fixed star conjunctions, antiscia, and dignity with Lilly's point totals.



This printout is featured in the popular textbook on horary by Anthony Louis, *Horary Astrology: The History and Practice of Astro-Divination.* An aspect time scale gives aspects for the four days surrounding the chart. A second aspectarian shows refranation, frustration, prohibition, applying/separating, and orb. Tables show planetary day and hour, lunar aspects, dignity, declination, motion, dispositor, and more.



MASTER HORARY PACKAGE: THREE QUICK★STUDIES IN ONE! $150

This version of Quick★Horary has over 60 pages of wheels, grids, aspectarians, and printouts, including translation and collection of light, which are (we believe) available for the first time in any astrology program. Printouts also give mutual receptions for those who follow the traditional method. The Master Horary package also includes two additional Quick★Studies: Arabic Parts and Fixed Stars.

BASIC HORARY PACKAGE $100

This provides most of the features of the master package, including a selection of Arabic Parts and Fixed Stars (but no translation or collection of light). This program is especially suitable for those just getting into horary.

EXPERT QUICK NOTES (COMING SOON)

Standard Quick Notes come with all Quick★Studies. In addition, we have asked experts Gilbert Navarro, Carol Wiggers, and Anthony Louis to write their own Quick Notes packages. These will detail specific approaches to horary and will be useful add-ons for students.

Quick★Horary runs on IBM-style machines with a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and a 24-pin Epson-compatible dot-matrix or HP-compatible laser printer. 144 dpi Epson-style 9-pin printers also supported. Price: **$150**.

4 for 3

Quick★Horary is available at our special "four-for-three discount."

Matrix Blue★Star NEWS

Quick★Study on Arabic Parts

Arabic parts are a centuries-old astrological forerunner of modern techniques using planetary combinations. They are called "Arabic" because of their wide use among medieval Arab astrologers. Using an "A + B − C" formula, planets, cusps, rulers, and specific zodiac longitudes can be combined to create sensitive points in a chart. We researched several books to come up with over 130 traditional Arabic parts. In case we missed any, you can create your own parts — a lot of fun!

■ **Program features —** The program's eight hi-resolution printouts include a chartwheel showing the aspects between parts and natal points. On other wheels, you can print up to 14 letter-coded Arabic parts, a 30° position scale, parts formulas, aspects, midpoint aspects, and complete lists of the parts in your program with aspects (as many as will fit on the page). Specify the orb you want to use for aspects between planets and Arabic parts.

■ **Custom Parts —** A special option within the menu lets you add up to four custom parts to a wheel or list. Simply name the part and give the formula (such as "MA + MO − SU" for Mars plus Moon minus Sun). Letter-code custom parts for reference in a chartwheel.

■ **Quick Notes —** Over 20 pages of Quick Notes come with the program, explaining Arabic parts. Topics include a general introduction to Arabic parts, the part-of-fortune, aspects to the part-of-fortune, William Lilly's point system for the part-of-fortune, and how to create your own Arabic parts.

SPECIFICATIONS

The Quick★Study on Arabic Parts requires a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and an Epson-compatible 24-pin dot-matrix printer or an HP-compatible laser printer. Epson-compatible 144 dpi 9-pin printers are also supported. ***$50***

(continued from inside front cover)

Make Your Own Chartwheels!

Looking at the 80-plus wheels and grids in Blue★Star's LaserWheels collection, you may have wished you could combine different charts into one — a certain wheel, your favorite aspectarian style, or a data table exactly suited to your counseling style. MakeWheels and EditWheels let you customize chartwheels literally from scratch.

■ **MakeWheels —** Features "cut and paste" formatting — old news in the publishing world but hot news in astrology. It's like having electric scissors and glue to compose a page with your favorite elements. MakeWheels gives you the same flexibility with your favorite LaserWheel designs. When you have the chartwheel you want, you can add it to the Blue★Star LaserWheel menu.

"Here are the keys to the kingdom! Now we can design our own laser-quality chartwheels and tables exactly to our own specifications. I've waited years for a program like this!"

Hank Friedman –
Software reviewer, *AFA Bulletin*

■ **EditWheels —** EditWheels is for the advanced user. What do we mean by advanced? It's easy to make mistakes! EditWheels gives you direct access to the programming language our programmers use to create LaserWheels — like a foreign language if you aren't familiar with it. EditWheels lets you alter a chartwheel for a specific purpose. There's practically no limit to what you can do.

SPECIFICATIONS

MakeWheels (with EditWheels) requires Blue★Star LaserWheels, a hard drive, 640K RAM with at least 585K available, and an Epson-compatible 24-pin dot-matrix printer or an HP-compatible laser printer. Epson-compatible 144 dpi 9-pin printers are also supported. ***$50***

Report Writers Upgrade

(continued from back cover)

Report Writers

Good news for chart services! We are updating selected Report Writers by adding a hi-res wheel to the printout, proportional font capability, easier text-editing, and a save-to-file option.

Available Now

■ **Save-to-File —** This feature lets you save the report text to a file rather than sending it to your printer. For those of you who want to format straight ASCII text, using your word processing program, this is a great advantage. File options include ASCII with line breaks and ASCII continuous-stream (better for most word processors) and delayed printing, which lets you run a report now and print it later.

The complete new Report Writer upgrade will feature these options

■ **Hi-Res Chartwheel —** Report Writers print a hi-res wheel with the text, meaning you don't have to order the wheel as a second job. The hi-resolution look will be an attractive, professional accompaniment to a report, besides being a useful reference for your client.

■ **Proportional Fonts —** Report Writers make use of any fonts your word processor and printer will handle, really improving the look of your reports. The back cover shows the new look of the text.

■ **Editing Text —** You have been able to do this before, but never so easily! Make changes in the text for particular clients, or save the text permanently for use in all your reports.

Call us for information on how to obtain your Report Writer upgrade!

Quick•Horary

Many of you rediscovering ancient horary techniques have asked for these special calculations that take a long time to do by hand.

Horary techniques are astrology's oracle: Ask any and all kinds of questions and let the heavens provide an answer. Questions like "Should I buy this house right now?" or "Will this job work out?" are horary questions.

Quick•Horary offers many pages of wheels, tables, notes, and other graphic printouts presenting the information needed by the practicing horary astrologer. As you can see, these are more than just wheels. They include a lot of hard-to-calculate information essential to horary.

Quick•Horary runs from Blue•Star or as a stand-alone.

LUNAR ASPECTS
The program lists the aspects just previous to the time of the chart and all those formed before the Moon changes sign.

ASPECT TIME SCALE
This shows the timing of aspects in relation to the chart. You can include parallels, sign ingresses, house ingresses, and stationary points. This is a graphic aspectarian that can be used to test the history of the question and determine refrained, frustrated, or prohibited aspects.

30° POSITION SCALES
This visual guide identifies applying and separating planets as well as event sequences.

PLANETARY DAY AND HOUR
The planetary hour is accurately calculated for the actual day and latitude of the chart.

TRANSLATION/COLLECTION
Astrologers are especially happy to see these calculations, which are available in the Master Horary package only. These three-planet events can easily escape notice, and yet make all the difference in answering a question.

PLANETARY STRENGTHS
The program calculates the strength of each planet according to Lilly's point system, complex and difficult when done by hand. For each planet, this feature shows the ruler of its sign, its exaltation, triplicity, term, and face. More importantly, it determines if each planet is in mutual reception, peregrine (without any essential dignity), combust, cazimi, under the sunbeams, in its joy, in detriment or fall, besieged, or on a critical degree.

STRICTURES
The traditional cautions to reading a horary chart are presented clearly: void-of-course moon, late or early ascendant, Saturn in or ruling the seventh house, and Moon in the "via combusta" zone.

FRUSTRATION/REFRANATION
These hard-to-see events are pre-calculated for you, a welcome convenience.

ANTISCIA
These "mirror points" are pre-calculated to save you time and mental energy.

DIGNITIES
This is the traditional set of essential and accidential dignities, expressed as weighted scores showing clearly which planets are dominating the chart.

OTHER PROGRAM FEATURES
The Quick•Horary program also shows daily planetary motion, the speed of the planets (fast or slow), and lets the user determine a planet's house position with a 5° leader on the cusp the planet is closest to. In various tables, Quick•Horary shows elements, polarity, modality, oriental and occidental, and dexter and sinister aspects. The printouts include Ptolemy's table of essential dignities and debilities (as used by Lilly) — a handy reference to a lot of information essential to reading a horary chart.

TRANSLATION OF LIGHT AND COLLECTION OF LIGHT

HORARY CLIENT — THURSDAY JUN 25, 1959 — 03:21:00 PM EDT

P1	P2	Radix Aspect			Strength		Translation of Light		Collection of Light		Ruler	Exal	Trip	Term	Face
☽	☿			Sn	-01	+13					☿ in ☽				☿ in ☽
☽	♀			Sn	-01	+16			☽ △ ♃	♀ □ ♃		☽ in ♀			
☽	☉	△	5°23's	Sn	-01	-09					☉ in ☽				
☽	♂			Sn	-01	+09							☽ in ♂		
☽	♃			Dx	-01	-04					☽ in ♃			☽ in ♃	
☽	♄	⚹	5°04's	Dx	-01	+06									☽ in ♄
☽	♅			Sn	-01	+11									
☽	♆	△	4°34's	Dx	-01	+05									
☽	♇			Sn	-01	+13									
☿	♀			Sn	+13	+16								☿ in ♀	
☿	☉			Dx	+13	-09									
☿	♂			Sn	+13	+09							☿ in ♂		
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☿	♄			Sn	+13	+06									
☿	♅			Sn	+13	+11									
☿	♆			Sn	+13	+05									
☿	♇			Sn	+13						♇ in ☿	♇ in ☿		♇ in ☿	
♀	☉			Dx	+1						♀ in ☉		♀ in ☉		☉ in ♀
♀	♂	☌	3°58's	Dx					♀ □ ♃	♂ □ ♃				♂ in ♀	
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♀	♅	☌	4°47's	Dx	+16	+11								♅ in ♀	
♀	♆			Sn	+16	+05									
♀	♇			Sn	+16	+13							♇ in ♀		
☉	♂			Sn	-09	+09			♂ □ ♃	☉ △ ♃	♂ in ☉		☉ M ♂	☉ in ♂	
☉	♃			Sn	-09	-04						☉ in ♃			
☉	♄	☍	0°19'a	Dx	-09	+06									
☉	♅			Sn	-09	+11					♅ in ☉		♅ in ☉		
☉	♆	△	0°49'a	Pr Sn	-09	+05									
☉	♇	⚹	1°22's	Sn	-09	+13									♇ in ☉
♂	♃			Sn	+09	-04					♃ in ♂		♃ in ♂		♂ in ♃
♂	♄			Sn	+09	+06						♄ in ♂			
♂	♅	☌	0°49's	Dx	+09	+11									
♂	♆			Sn	+09	+05					♆ in ♂		♆ in ♂	♆ in ♂	♆ in ♂
♂	♇			Sn	+09	+13									
♃	♄			Sn	-04	+06									♄ in ♃
♃	♅			Dx	-04	+11									♅ in ♃
♃	♆			Dx	-04	+05	☽ △ ♆	☽ △ ♃							
♃	♇			Dx	-04	+13									
♄	♅			Dx	+06	+11									
♄	♆	⚹	0°30's	Dx	+06	+05	☉ ☍ ♄	☉ △ ♆							
♄	♇	△	1°41'a	Pr Dx	+06	+13									
♅	♆			Sn	+11	+05									
♅	♇			Sn	+11	+13									
♆	♇	⚹	2°11'a	Rf Dx	+05	+13									

MUTUAL RECEPTIONS

LILLY'S POINT TOTALS

COLLECTION OF LIGHT

DEXTER/ SINISTER AND RADIX ASPECTS

TRANSLATION OF LIGHT

30° POSITION SCALE

00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

☿ ☉ ♄ ♆ — 02°03°03°04°
♏ ♋ ♑ ♏ — 07° 29' 48' 18'
℞ ℞

☊ ☽ — 08°08°
♎ ♐ — 45' 62'

☿ ♂ — 14° 14°
♌ ♌ — 03' 52'

♀ — 18°
♌ — 51'

♃ ☿ ⊗ — 23° 25° 27°
♏ ♋ ♊ — 01' 45' 47'
℞

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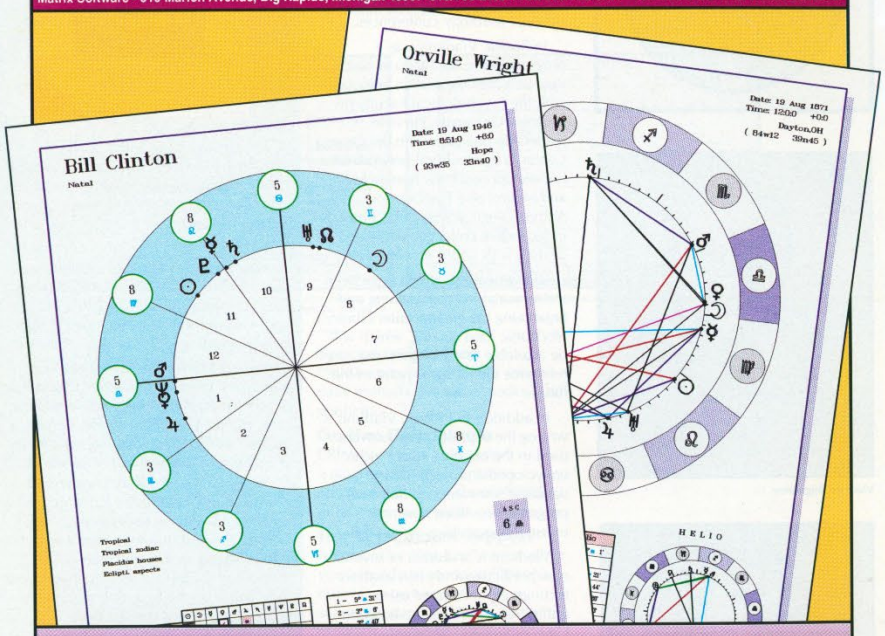

PRIMA

Matrix Software

THE FIRST ASTROLOGY PROGRAM OF ITS KIND — A TRULY COMPREHENSIVE GRAPHIC TOOL WITH HIGH-RESOLUTION OUTPUT (SEE INSIDE, PAGE 18)

- All natal, transits, progressions, and directions
- Locality techniques
- Synastry and group comparison techniques
- On-screen graphic ephemerides
- Primary directions
- Color high-resolution chartwheels
- Dynamic on-screen moving wheels (aspect finder)
- "Angles clock" for rectification assist
- On-line glossary and help menus
- 3-D spatial horoscopes
- Comprehensive Uranian support
- Hot keys and user-customized menus
- Foreign-language data entry

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Bulletin for the Matrix User Group

Volume Ten, Number One • January 199

INSIDE

PRIMA — THE FIRST ASTROLOGY PROGRAM OF ITS KIND, BY VLADIMIR BOGDANOV. PAGE 18

NEW BLUE★STAR MENU COMING SOON — A MASTER MENUING SYSTEM FOR MATRIX PROGRAMS. PAGE 2

REPORT WRITERS UPGRADE — HI-RES WHEELS WITH STAND-ALONE REPORT WRITERS. PAGE 6

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT FOR URANIAN ASTROLOGY AND COSMOBIOLOGY — NEW QUICK★STUDIES FOR BLUE★STAR.

QUICK★MIDPOINTS (WITH MIDPOINT TREES).

QUICK★GRAPHS FOR BLUE★STAR (WITH EBERTIN-STYLE GRAPHS). PAGE 12

SKYLOG

Steven Forrest's new Report Writer

WHEN STEVEN FORREST WROTE THE SKY WITHIN REPORT WRITER, WE SAID WE HAD NEVER SEEN A BETTER TEXT FOR A NATAL REPORT. AFTER NEARLY THREE YEARS, THAT REMAINS TRUE.

Now SkyLog, Steven Forrest's new Report Writer, does for transits and progressions what The Sky Within does for natal.

We know many astrologers will want to include both reports with their chart services, as companion pieces ...

Continued on page 8...

BLUE STAR

New chartwheel packages are available with Blue★Star, the hottest designs going … over 100 wheels built into the program, 100s more you can design. (And if you already have Blue★Star and want to update your chartwheels, here are the choices.)

LaserWheels 300 UPDATE TO ORIGINAL LASERWHEELS

The ultimate look for chart services and publishers

"Dpi" (dots per inch) is a measurement of print resolution (the higher the number, the better the print). Original LaserWheels has 150-dpi output. LaserWheels 300 has twice the resolution — a marked improvement on something that was already the best wheels package available to astrologers.

Matrix is known for the highest-quality graphic output available. LaserWheel designs are simply the ultimate for chart services. The unmatched speed, variety, and graphic excellence of LaserWheels make it the finest wheels package available anywhere.

The LaserWheels 300 package of publisher's-resolution chartwheels for chart services and publications is included with Blue★Star, at no extra cost, for users who have an HP-III or compatible laser printer with at least 4 mb of printer RAM. LaserWheels 300 requires Blue★Star. Registered owners of Blue★Star who have upgraded to an HP-III printer with extra RAM can have LaserWheels 300 for $25. LaserWheels 300 includes Original LaserWheels (150-dpi).

ArtWheels COMING SOON!

An add-on application of designer wheels for chart services

This is another new wheels package and an add-on application for Blue★Star. ArtWheels are charts with art backgrounds in the form of designs and reproductions from intricate woodcuts and more modern images — ranging from the ornate to the more Zen-like. They print directly from Blue★Star, just like Hi-Res Wheels or LaserWheels. Choose from over 30 ArtWheels designs to dress up a horoscope for a client. Suitable for framing, ArtWheels are a pleasure to behold, besides containing the Blue★Star horoscope information necessary for interpreting any chart.

The ArtWheels package of designer chartwheels for chart services is available to registered owners of Blue★Star as an add-on application. ArtWheels requires Blue★Star and an HP-compatible LaserJet or Epson 24-pin (or 9-pin/144-dpi) printer. (ArtWheels is not included with Blue★Star.) **$100 COMING SOON**

Here is a summary of chartwheels packages available for different printers:

HPIII-compatible LaserJet printers with 4 mb printer RAM and PCL5
Blue★Star includes LaserWheels 300 and Original LaserWheels (150-dpi).

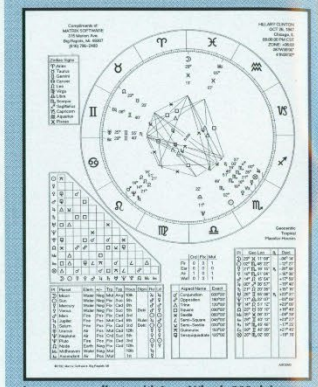
HPII-compatible LaserJet printers (no extra printer RAM)
Blue★Star includes Original LaserWheels (150-dpi).

Epson-compatible 24-pin or 9-pin/144-dpi printers
Blue★Star includes Original LaserWheels (150-dpi).

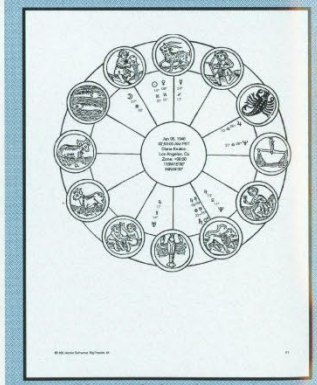
ClipWheels, MakeWheels, EditWheels
Specialty wheels packages for specific needs. See following page.

ArtWheels
An add-on application of designer chartwheels for Blue★Star.

LaserWheels — for unmatched printing speed and design flexibility. Arlene Kramer's Star★Dial chart is now part of Blue★Star; see page 16.

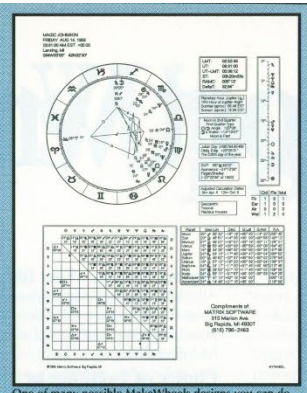


Impress your clients with LaserWheels 300-dpi chartwheels — the ultimate in chart service printouts!



Clients will love ArtWheels graphic chartwheel printouts — an add-on chartwheels package for Blue★Star.

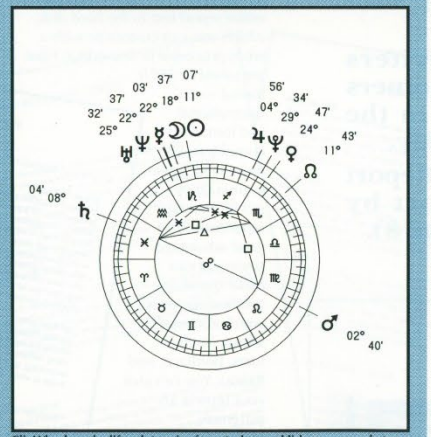
Blue★Star is now shipped with the maximum-quality chartwheels package your printer and computer system will allow, at no extra charge. Registered owners of Blue★Star who have upgraded printers to allow better-quality wheels can have a chartwheels upgrade for $25.



One of many possible MakeWheels designs you can do yourself — and save as TIFF files for desktop publishing.

"Here are the keys to the kingdom! Now we can design our own laser-quality chartwheels and tables exactly to our own specifications. I've waited years for a program like this!"

Hank Friedman –
Software Reviewer, *AFA Bulletin*



ClipWheels make life a lot easier for astrology publishers — on whatever scale — who are used to doing photostat reductions for their chartwheels. Above, a custom-designed ClipWheel, in actual size, for Michel Morin's *Quo Vadis* astrological date book.

"ClipWheels save me the trouble of reducing the size of the Hi-Res wheels to fit in the columns of *Mercury Hour*. They are the right size — you just pick the one you want."

Edith Custer –
Publisher, *Mercury Hour*

MakeWheels with EditWheels

A powerful chartwheel customizing tool

MakeWheels and EditWheels let you custom-design chartwheels for your customers.

When looking at the 100-plus wheels and grids in Blue★Star, you may have wished you could combine elements from different charts into one chart. MakeWheels is a tool for this purpose. You choose the size and type of wheel, the aspectarian, and where to place these elements on the page. There is a save-as-TIFF option for desktop publishers.

EditWheels is the technically oriented counterpart of MakeWheels. Successful operation of EditWheels requires familiarity with programming language.

MakeWheels (with EditWheels) is included with Blue★Star for customers whose printers handle Original LaserWheels (HP-compatible LaserJet printers or Epson-compatible 24-pin — or 9-pin/144-dpi) — dot-matrix printers). MakeWheels is a chartwheel page design program with "cut and paste"-style operation; EditWheels is a highly technical companion program providing direct access to our programmers' wheel creation language. **Due to the advanced nature of EditWheels, all technical questions concerning its operation must be handled through the mail.** (For customers who already have the latest version of Blue★Star, there is a $25 update fee to obtain MakeWheels/EditWheels.)

ClipWheels

Chartwheels for desktop publishing

We'd like to make a standing offer to publishers (of whatever size, whether of books or newsletters) …

Let us custom-design the chartwheel (or set of wheels) that you use in your publications. We will provide the wheels *according to your exact size specifications*, so you can avoid photostat reduction work (which takes time and gets expensive).

There is no charge for this service if you already have Blue★Star and LaserWheels. We will work with you to come up with the wheel or wheels you want. Perhaps you have a favorite wheel from the Blue★Star LaserWheel or Hi-Res Wheel collection, which we simply need to create in a smaller size for you — let us know what that size is. Or perhaps you have ideas for chartwheel designs of your own. We'll be happy to work with you to come up with the wheels you want!

ClipWheels custom-designed publisher's chartwheels require Blue★Star and LaserWheels. They are available at no cost and upon request to publishers (on any scale) who would like to have custom-fitted chartwheels for their publications (wheels that do not require photostat reduction). Tell us the wheel style you are looking for and the size or sizes you need; we will custom-design ClipWheel charts that you can print from Blue★Star. ClipWheels require an HP-compatible LaserJet printer or Epson-compatible 24-pin (or 9-pin/144-dpi) dot-matrix printer.

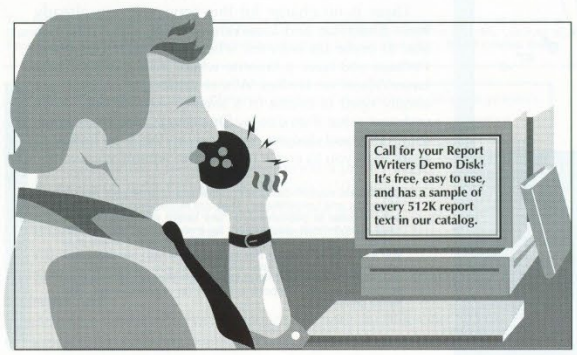
Report Writers Upgrade

Great news for chart services!

An upgrade to stand-alone Report Writers offers more astrological support than ever before. You no longer need the Blue★Star program to print beautiful Hi-Res or LaserWheels. You can now save chart data to the hard disk, or save report text to a file for editing and custom formatting. You also get the chart service business options formerly available only with Blue★Star.

In addition, a free Report Writers Demo Disk gives you and customers samples of every 512K report in the Matrix catalog. Call for yours today.

And, aside from an upgrade to Report Writers, there is a new report by Steven Forrest — SKYLOG (see page 8).



Report Writers chart file
All 512K Report Writers now save chart files to your hard disk — possible before, but only if you had Blue★Star.

Choice of 14 Hi-Res or LaserWheel designs
All Report Writers now print a choice of 14 Hi-Res or LaserWheels designs (depending on what printer you have), batched with a report. Changing applications to Blue★Star is no longer necessary.

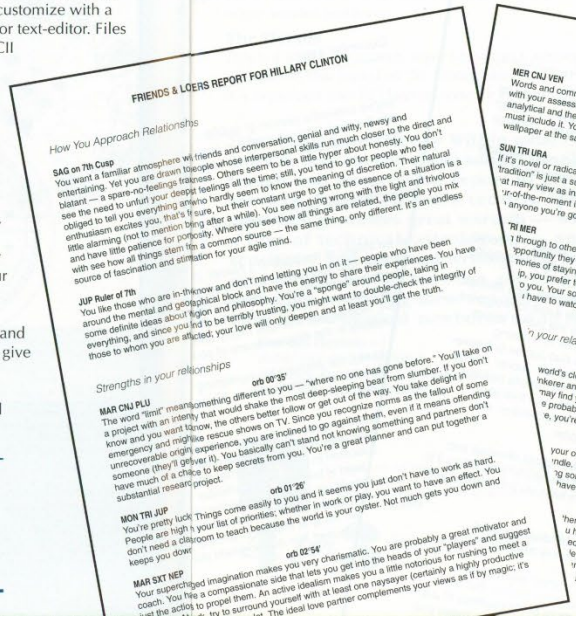
Output-to-file
An output-to-file feature saves an entire report text to the hard disk, which you can customize with a word processor or text-editor. Files are saved in ASCII format — an international text format for computers. For those who want to do a fancy job formatting reports, this is a great advantage, since you can make use of any text features your word processor allows (such as fonts, boldface, and italics). You can give your reports an extremely professional and polished look.

■ *Report Writers' output-to-file feature is now available for Astro★Talk PC, Friends & Lovers, and TimeLine; other reports will follow.*

Output-to-file options include text with line breaks (paragraph return after each line), continuous-stream text (no word wrap — the preferred format for most word processors), and delayed printing, which lets you run a report now (perhaps while traveling) but print it later. Any word processor or text-editor will let you view report text on screen.

"Business" Blue★Star
The Report Writers Upgrade includes a complete Blue★Star 2.1 business system for chart services — the same system shipped with the Blue★Star calculation program. It provides many chart service perks, such as customer invoicing and printing of mailing labels. The Report Writers upgrade includes two more options previously found only in Blue★Star:

- The Blue★Star ephemeris generator, which creates a printed ephemeris for any time span from 600 BC to 2400 AD;
- A research module that lets you search through and compare all the charts on your hard disk for aspects, house and sign position. ■


FRIENDS & LOERS REPORT FOR HILLARY CLINTON

How You Approach Relationships

SAG on 7th Cusp
You want a familiar atmosphere w friends and conversation, genial and witty, newsy and entertaining. Yet you are drawn to people whose interpersonal skills run much closer to the direct and blatant — a spare-no-feelings frankness. Others seem to be a little hyper about honesty. You don't see the need to unfurl your deepest feelings all the time; still, you tend to go for people who feel obliged to tell you everything and who hardly seem to know the meaning of discretion. Their natural enthusiasm excites you, that's for sure, but their constant urge to get to the essence of a situation is a little alarming (not to mention tiring after a while). You see nothing wrong with the light and frivolous and have little patience for profundity. Where you see how all things are related, the people you mix with see how all things stem from a common source — the same thing, only different. It's an endless source of fascination and stimulation for your agile mind.

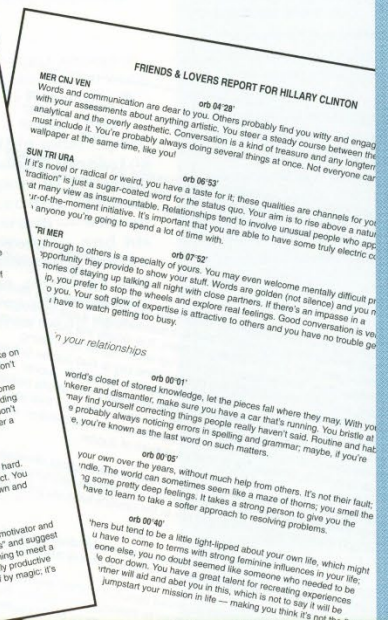
JUP Ruler of 7th
You like those who are in-the-know and don't mind letting you in on it — people who have been around the mental and geographical block and have the energy to share their experiences. You have some definite ideas about religion and philosophy. You're a "sponge" around people, taking in everything, and since you tend to be terribly trusting, you might want to double-check the integrity of those to whom you are attached; your love will only deepen and at least you'll get the truth.

Strengths in your relationships

orb 00°35'
MAR CNJ PLU
The word "limit" means something different to you — "where no one has gone before." You'll take on a project with an intensity that would shake the most deep-sleeping bear from slumber. If you don't know and you want to know, the others better follow or get out of the way. You take delight in emergency and might like rescue shows on TV. Since you recognize norms as the fallout of some unrecoverable origin experience, you are inclined to go against them, even if it means offending someone (they'll get over it). You basically can't stand not knowing something and partners don't have much of a chance to keep secrets from you. You're a great planner and can put together a substantial research project.

orb 01°26'
MON TRI JUP
You're pretty lucky. Things come easily to you and it seems you just don't have to work as hard. People are high on your list of priorities; whether in work or play, you want to have an effect. You don't need a classroom to teach because the world is your oyster. Not much gets you down and keeps you down.

orb 02°54'
MAR SXT NEP
Your supercharged imagination makes you very charismatic. You are probably a great motivator and coach. You like a compassionate side that lets you get into the heads of your "players" and suggest just the action to propel them. An active idealism makes you a little notorious for rushing to meet a try to surround yourself with at least one naysayer (certainly a highly productive The ideal love partner complements your views as if by magic; it's


FRIENDS & LOVERS REPORT FOR HILLARY CLINTON

MER CNJ VEN
orb 04°28'
Words and communication are dear to you. Others probably find you witty and engag with your assessments about anything artistic. You steer a steady course between th analytical and the overly aesthetic. Conversation is a kind of treasure and any longfer must include it. You're probably always doing several things at once. Not everyone ca wallpaper at the same time, like you!

SUN TRI URA
orb 06°53'
If it's novel or radical or weird, you have a taste for it; these qualities are channels for yo tradition" is just a sugar-coated word for the status quo. Your aim is to rise above a natu at many view as insurmountable. Relationships tend to involve unusual people who ap or-of-the-moment initiative. It's important that you are able to have some truly electric c anyone you're going to spend a lot of time with.

TRI MER
orb 07°52'
through to others is a specialty of yours. You may even welcome mentally difficult pr opportunity they provide to show your stuff. Words are golden (not silence) and you n ories of staying up talking all night with close partners. If there's an impasse in a p, you prefer to stop the wheels and explore real feelings. Good conversation is ve o you. Your soft glow of expertise is attractive to others and you have no trouble ge have to watch getting too busy.

n your relationships

orb 00°01'
world's closet of stored knowledge, let the pieces fall where they may. With yo inkerer and dismantler, make sure you have a car that's running. You bristle at may find yourself correcting things people really haven't said. Routine and ha e probably always noticing errors in spelling and grammar; maybe, if you're e, you're known as the last word on such matters.

orb 00°05'
your own over the years, without much help from others. It's not their fault; ndle. The world can sometimes seem like a maze of thorns; you smell the g some pretty deep feelings. It takes a strong person to give you the have to learn to take a softer approach to resolving problems.

orb 00°40'
hers but tend to be a little tight-lipped about your own life, which might u have to come to terms with strong feminine influences in your life; eone else, you no doubt seemed like someone who needed to be le door down. You have a great talent for recreating experiences rtner will aid and abet you in this, which is not to say it will be jumpstart your mission in life — making you think it's not the

Matrix astrologer Tom Bridges has written a new text for the popular Friends & Lovers report.

The sample pages at the left — from a Friends & Lovers report for Bill and Hillary Clinton — were created using Report Writers' new save-to-file feature and a word processor; they feature Tom Bridges' new Friends & Lovers text. Customers now have a choice of Michael Erlewine's text or the alternate Bridges text with Friends & Lovers purchases. As a special offer, all Report Writer alternate texts — Erlewine, Jayne, Nolle, and Cochrane for Transit and Natal Writers — are available for $100 each until March 1, 1993 (regular price, $150).

Translated Report Writers
Many Report Writers (and other Matrix programs) are now available in new foreign-language versions:

- **Dutch** Graphic Tarot;
- **Spanish** Sky Within and Astro★Talk;
- **Portuguese** TimeLine, Sky Within, AstroMap Hi-Res, and QuickCharts;
- **Swedish** Friends & Lovers and (coming soon) Astro★Talk and TimeLine;
- **Norwegian** Astro★Talk and Friends & Lovers.

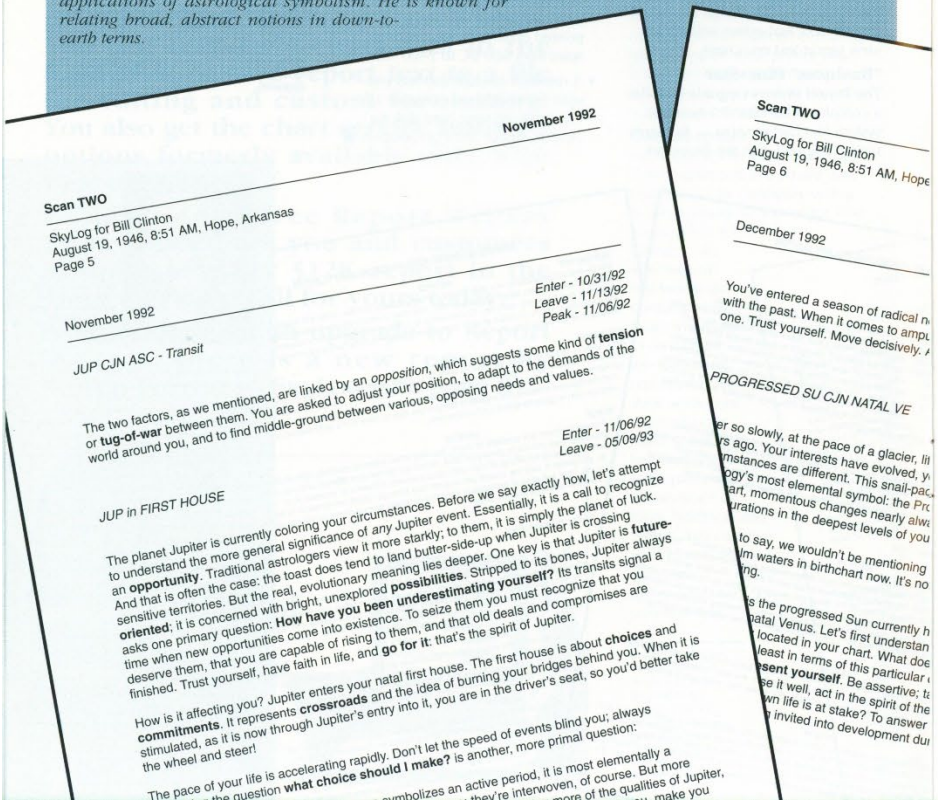
SPECS

The Report Writers Upgrade requires an up-to-date 512K Report Writers program, either as a stand-alone program or as an add-on application to the Blue★Star program. Report Writers and Blue★Star require an IBM-compatible machine with 512K, a hard drive, and a printer. The Report Writers Upgrade is not available as part of our "four-for-three" special discount. For **$100,** upgrade the first four Report Writers you may have; there is a **$25** additional charge to upgrade more than four Report Writers ($125 is the most you would pay for all reports you need to upgrade).

SKYLOG *Steven Forrest's new Report Writer*

SkyLog is a new transit and progression Report Writer with text by Steven Forrest, author of the popular Sky Within Report Writer and some of the most popular astrology books ever written. We're very excited about SkyLog!

Steven Forrest received a degree in Religion from the University of North Carolina in 1971 and shortly thereafter established his astrological practice. In 1984, Bantam Books released his first book, The Inner Sky, *followed in 1986 by* The Changing Sky. *In 1988, with his wife Jodie, he published the third volume in the "Sky" trilogy,* Skymates. *He has just completed his fourth book, for ACS Publications,* The Night Speaks, *an extended argument for the intellectual and philosophical plausibility of astrology. Steven's work focuses almost exclusively on personal, individual applications of astrological symbolism. He is known for relating broad, abstract notions in down-to-earth terms.*



Scan TWO

SkyLog for Bill Clinton
August 19, 1946, 8:51 AM, Hope, Arkansas
Page 5

November 1992

JUP CJN ASC - Transit

Enter - 10/31/92
Leave - 11/13/92
Peak - 11/06/92

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by an *opposition*, which suggests some kind of **tension** or **tug-of-war** between them. You are asked to adjust your position, to adapt to the demands of the world around you, and to find middle-ground between various, opposing needs and values.

JUP in FIRST HOUSE

Enter - 11/06/92
Leave - 05/09/93

The planet Jupiter is currently coloring your circumstances. Before we say exactly how, let's attempt to understand the more general significance of any Jupiter event. Essentially, it is a call to recognize an **opportunity**. Traditional astrologers view it more starkly; to them, it is simply the planet of luck. And that is often the case: the toast does tend to land butter-side-up when Jupiter is crossing sensitive territories. But the real, evolutionary meaning lies deeper. One key is that Jupiter is **future-oriented**; it is concerned with bright, unexplored **possibilities**. Stripped to its bones, Jupiter always asks one primary question: **How have you been underestimating yourself?** Its transits signal a time when new opportunities come into existence. To seize them you must recognize that you deserve them, that you are capable of rising to them, and that old deals and compromises are finished. Trust yourself, have faith in life, and **go for it**: that's the spirit of Jupiter.

How is it affecting you? Jupiter enters your natal first house. The first house is about **choices** and **commitments**. It represents **crossroads** and the idea of burning your bridges behind you. When it is stimulated, as it is now through Jupiter's entry into it, you are in the driver's seat, so you'd better take the wheel and steer!

The pace of your life is accelerating rapidly. Don't let the speed of events blind you; always ... the question **what choice should I make?** is another, more primal question:

... symbolizes an active period, it is most elementally a ... they're interwoven, of course. But more ... mors of the qualities of Jupiter, ... make you

Scan TWO

SkyLog for Bill Clinton
August 19, 1946, 8:51 AM, Hope
Page 6

December 1992

You've entered a season of radical n... with the past. When it comes to ampu... one. Trust yourself. Move decisively. ...

PROGRESSED SU CJN NATAL VE

...er so slowly, at the pace of a glacier, lit... ...rs ago. Your interests have evolved, y... ...mstances are different. This snail-pac... ...ogy's most elemental symbol: the Pro... ...art, momentous changes nearly alwa... ...urations in the deepest levels of you...

...to say, we wouldn't be mentioning ...lm waters in birthchart now. It's no ...ng.

...s the progressed Sun currently h... ...natal Venus. Let's first understan... ...located in your chart. What doe... ...least in terms of this particular ... **...sent yourself**. Be assertive; t... ...e it well, act in the spirit of the ...wn life is at stake? To answer ... invited into development du...

Continued from front cover

SkyLog is a big report, with many options. It covers both transits and progressions — subjects usually requiring separate reports.

The complete SkyLog report for a year's transit and progression aspects can run in the neighborhood of 60 pages! That spells "chart service powerhouse," but it might be more than astrologers will want to give at one time (or their clients will want to receive). For this reason, SkyLog can be customized by printing any or all of four different reports (called "scans") in time periods of 3, 6, 9, and 12 months. Thus SkyLog gives your chart service a variety of new options.

SkyLog creates a report on an individual's transits and secondary progressions. There are three sections: The Invitation, The Means, and The Details, each of which is organized chronologically (rather than by planet), making for a more flowing and intuitive report.

The Invitation
This gives the big picture, including an analysis of a few major transits and secondary progressions.

The Means
The Means covers "second order" events, emphasizing major sextiles and trines.

The Details
This is a month-by-month, aspect-by-aspect astrological view of the year based on the Moon, Mercury, and Venus; it is organized into 12 chapters (one for each month). ■

"My clients love The Sky Within natal report, and I'm very excited about adding the SkyLog transit and progression report to my chart services. Steven Forrest's creative spiritual approach generates great warmth — without a hint of technical 'astrologese' — and his sensitivity and personal writing style build a meaningful bridge between astrology and humanity — making these reports especially ideal for astrological 'newborns' of all ages."

Samuel Heaton —
Astrologer and Proprietor,
Cheshire Rose Books & Information,
Fair Oaks Village, California

SPECS

SkyLog runs on IBM-compatible machines with 512K, a hard drive, and a printer. It is available as a stand-alone program or as an add-on application to Blue•Star. **$300**

4 for 3 SkyLog is available as part of our "four-for-three" special discount.

The SkyLog Scans

The core of SkyLog is the four Scans, which rank a year's astrological events in a hierarchy of descending importance. Scans One and Two form The Invitation, Scan Three forms The Means, and Scan Four forms The Details. Each Scan covers a set of possible events, not all of which will be active in any one chart. The length of a report will vary according to the astrological conditions in an individual's life. Any one or all of the Scans can be printed to vary the length of your report and the subject matter you cover. As you can see, SkyLog covers a lot of territory. It's a master's look at the big and little pictures.

Scan One
- **Transiting Saturn conjunct natal Saturn;**
- **Transiting Uranus opposite or square natal Uranus;**
- **Progressed Sun house and sign ingresses;**
- **Progressed Sun conjunct or opposite progressed Moon;**
- **Progressed Sun conjunct any natal planet;**
- **The transits of Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto conjunct natal Sun or ascendant.**

Scan Two
- **Transit house ingresses of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto;**
- **Outer-planet transits conjunct, square, or opposite natal planets or angles;**
- **Outer-planet transits square or opposite natal Sun or ascendant;**
- **Progressions of Mercury, Venus, Mars, ascendant, and midheaven conjunct, square, or opposite any natal planet or angle;**
- **Progressed sign and natal house ingresses of Moon, Mercury, Venus, and Mars;**
- **Progressed Sun sextile, square, trine, or opposite any natal planet or angle;**
- **Transits of Jupiter conjunct natal Sun, ascendant, or house cusps.**

Scan Three
- **Progressions of Mercury, Venus, Mars, ascendant, and midheaven sextile or trine any natal planet or angle;**
- **Transits of Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto sextile or trine any natal planet or angle;**
- **All transiting Jupiter aspects to natal planets and points;**
- **Progressions of the Moon in any aspect with a natal planet.**

Scan Four
- **Transits of Sun, Mercury, Venus, and Mars through any aspect to any natal planet or angle;**
- **Transiting Mercury stationary;**
- **Transiting Moon to 12th house cusp and ascendant.**

Matrix Program News

Many new Report Writers are on the way from some of the biggest names in astrology. Other Matrix news covers the Matrix Journal, astrologers visiting Matrix, new Compact Data releases the ACS PC-Atlas on-line, plus Matrix on-line the GEnie and Prodigy computer bulletin boards.

New Report Writers! *coming soon*

Llewellyn Publications' Grant Lewi Natal and Transit Report Writer

We are pleased to announce that Llewellyn Publications — publisher of astrology books since 1901 — will work with us to offer two very popular books in Report Writer format: Grant Lewi's *Heaven Knows What* and *Astrology for the Millions*.

Grant Lewi was one of this century's greatest astrologers, a pioneer in psychological astrology and perhaps the greatest writer the field has known.

The Sun-Moon blend delineations in *Heaven Knows What* are legendary, and the work on transiting Saturn in *Astrology of the Millions* has earmarked professional astrological interpretation ever since.

The Optimum Child Report Writer

Many customers with chart services have requested a report written specifically for children. Such a report is in progress — based on astrologer Gloria Star's excellent book *The Optimum Child* (Llewellyn Publications). The text covers how a child experiences the houses, signs, and planets.

Gloria Star's approach is psychological, yet practical, and every parent, grandparent, or teacher can relate to Gloria Star's illustrations of the proper use of the astrological chart in guiding a young child.

Raymond A. Merriman's Solar Return Report

Noted astrologer Raymond A. Merriman will write a solar return Report Writer based on his well-known book on the subject, *The Solar Return Book of Prediction*. This will be our first solar return report and a welcome addition to many chart services.

Those familiar with Merriman's book know his friendly, easy-to-understand style — highly educational, especially for novices. What an ideal report this will be for clients having a birthday reading!

Raymond A. Merriman's Solar Return Report fills an important gap in reports, noted by many astrologers who run chart services.

Bill Herbst's Oracle of Love Report Writer

"Perhaps the most accurate set of symbols I have seen, ***The Oracle of Love*** *is uncannily accurate in summing up situations."*
– The Utne Reader

The Oracle of Love — A Modern American Oracle of Sex, Love, and Intimacy, is a new book by Bill Herbst, author of the highly acclaimed textbook on interpreting planets in houses, *Houses in the Horoscope*. It will soon be available to customers as a Report Writer.

The Oracle of Love is a new interpretation of the Sabian Symbols, Marc Jones' classic 1925 set of 360 symbolic scenes. Most astrologers are familiar with the symbols, but often only through their traditional linkage with degrees of the zodiac. Bill Herbst has reinterpreted each Sabian symbol to reveal its meanings in love, sex, and intimate relationships.

Together, the 360 scenes represent a virtual encyclopedia of love. Unlike an ordinary text, however, specific scenes can be accessed in a divinatory manner, by asking questions of the oracle concerning intimacy in your life.

The Oracle of Love Report Writer will also be able to be used as a traditional astrological interpreter of planet degrees, cusp degrees, or degrees in aspect to planets.

Bill Herbst is a great writer. Look for more details on Bill Herbst's *Oracle of Love Report Writer* in a future issue of *Astro★Talk*.

Asteroids Report Writer

Canadian astrologer Viniita Hutchinson will write an Asteroids Report Writer covering the four major asteroids — Ceres, Pallas Athena, Juno, and Vesta — and the comet Chiron. The Asteroids Report Writer will cover natal aspects to the standard planets and make an excellent supplement to any Natal Report Writer. We'll keep you informed on its progress.

Vedic Report Writer

A Vedic Report Writer is in progress that will complement the Matrix Vedic calculation program. It will include the meanings of the ascending sign, the yogakaraka planets, the ascending Drekkana symbols, the ascending Nakshatra, the meanings of the Moon sign and Nakshatra, the meanings of the Sun sign, and many other elements. The text has been written by the excellent Vedic astrologer Swami Prakashananda.

Heron & Hawk Careers Report, by Paul Hewitt

Vocational Report Writer available soon. If you've been looking for a vocational report, this is for you. Canadian astrologer Paul Hewitt has done many years of research with thousands of clients to put together this very professional career analysis. Look for full details in a forthcoming issue of *Astro★Talk*.

ACS PC-Atlas

Tom Shanks' PC Atlas is one of the most significant pieces of astrological programming in the last ten years. It now exists in many forms, including versions for Matrix programs and for the Macintosh programs of Time Cycles Research. Some customers with the original PC-Atlas have requested Atlas compatibility with Matrix programs. This is now available.

New Compact Data Releases

Belgian astrologer Jacques de Lescaut has completed two more disks in his signs of the zodiac series. "1000 Libras" and "1000 Scorpios" bring the total to 8000 charts in this library covering 1000 famous personalities per Sun sign. Call for more information on Compact Data.

GEnie and Prodigy astrology networks

Matrix has joined the GEnie and Prodigy bulletin boards and we welcome your e-mail and electronic chit-chat. Whether you have a question about program operation or about a technique, we're happy to hear from you. We're easy to find on GEnie: Look for "Software, Materials, and Sources" under the "Astrology RT," then go to Topic 17, Matrix Software. On Prodigy, leave personal e-mail for Frantz Sturm, head of technical support.

"What a suberb job you have all done cataloging the Library's books. It really is a splendid, clear, and professional job. Many, many thanks and congratulations to everyone involved."
Charles Harvey –
The Asrological Association
Urania Trust Library, England

Heart Center Library

A lot has been going on at the Heart Center Library. We have added a room to the Library — and another 400 board feet of shelf space. Thanks to all those who have made tax-deductible donations (and to the skills of Matrix General Manager Phillip Erlewine, who doubles as a crackerjack carpenter).

The Library is staffed full-time and is home to some 3,000 books on astrology and related subjects, not to mention many years of astrological periodicals, magazines, and the like.

The Library's entire catalog of books is also now on computer, complete with cataloging information, including synopses — no small task. Thanks to Vladimir Bogdanov and Ludmila Lobenko, a computerized card catalog makes it very easy to locate any book we have, and even get information on books we don't have.

Some of you might be interested in having the Library's catalog of books on your home computer as a reference tool. We are adding some refinements so we can do just that, and we will let you know when it's available. We will also make the catalog available in spiralbound book form ("hardcopy") — a complete listing of books, including summaries. For more information, call the Library directly at 616/796-3940.

As always, we extend our thanks to the Library's dedicated board of advisors:

- Margie Herskovitz
- Robin Armstrong
- Doris Chase Doane
- Mary Downing
- Charles Harvey
- Dr. Theodor Landscheidt
- Dr. Lee Lehman
- Dr. Ken Negus
- Barbara Somerfield
- Carol Tebbs
- Henry Weingarten
- Carl Llewellyn Weschcke.

Ludmila Lobenko, Moscow astrologer and Heart Center Library staff librarian, keeps the shelves meticulously organized. Thanks to Ludmila, and her husband Vladimir Bogdanov, books are easy to find. (For more on Vladimir and Ludmila, see inside back cover.)

Wall-to-wall shelves — the Heart Center Library, located on Matrix premises, is a great place to research astrology. The Library has added 400 additional feet of shelving for recent donations. Many people have been extremely generous, making tax-deductible donations of books and periodicals they no longer need. The Heart Center Library is a permanent astrological archive.

The Heart Center Library is opened to the public and staffed full-time. If you'd like to visit, give the library a call at 616/796-3940. If you're looking for information on the availability of a particular book, we'd be happy to hear from you. When copyright restrictions do not apply, we can fulfill requests for photocopies of hard-to-find books (there will be a copying and shipping charge). We are glad to answer some general astrology questions, but do not have staff available for personal readings.

"Of the many fine ... journals now available to astrologers, there is none finer than the Matrix Journal, which is dedicated to dealing with the most important technical and philosophical questions in astrology."
Kenneth Irving –
American Astrology Magazine

Astrologer Bill Henry to begin work at Matrix

Bill Henry, experienced astrologer and skilled editor, has returned from five years in England as a librarian to begin work at Matrix as a writer and editor for the Astro★Index encyclopedia, among other projects. Bill will also be helping out with program documentation and Quick Notes. He is a specialist in midpoints and Uranian techniques, but his interests in astrology are very eclectic. Bill taught astrology in England, notably at Liz Greene's well-known school of psychological astrology. Welcome Bill Henry!

Astrologers visit Matrix

Rod Suskin, leading astrologer from Capetown, South Africa (and a practicing Sangoma — initiated witchdoctor), visited Matrix this past summer. Astrology is experiencing a boom in South Africa and Rod is one of the key players. Astrological software is little known and hard-to-get in South Africa; Rod wrote his own program to fill the needs of his students.

Larry Ely, of Amherst, MA, spent a weekend at Matrix this fall, researching rectification in The Heart Center Library and spending time with the astrologers on staff. Larry is preparing a comprehensive chart rectification service. From what we've seen, he is one of the best in this field since Charles Jayne.

Matrix Journal

Volume 1, no. 2 of the Matrix Journal is now available at a cost of $10 (postage paid; $15 overseas). It includes articles by Michael Erlewine, James Neely, Robert Schmidt, Theodor Landscheidt, Vladimir Bogdanov, Tom Bridges, and translation work by Robert Zoller.

The Matrix Journal is published periodically as the quality and number of submissions indicate. The editors welcome manuscripts on radical astrological theory and new techniques; but due to the specialized nature of the material, only a limited number can be accepted for publication. Translations of modern, medieval, and ancient astrological texts are encouraged, as are manuscripts from women astrologers (we know you're out there; let's hear from you!).

Uranian Astrology and Cosmobiology

SOFTWARE SYSTEMS FOR THE SPECIALIST

New Quick★Studies for Blue★Star cover Uranian and Cosmobiology techniques.

Uranian astrology and Cosmobiology are very exacting systems, capable of refined predictive work. The basic tools are midpoints (sorts and trees), a graphic ephemeris, hit lists, and a dial — all of which are now available.

Blue★Star with LaserWheels already includes

- Arlene Kramer's Star★Dial charts;
- Ebertin-style cosmograms;
- Contact cosmograms;
- Midpoint sorts in 22°30′, 45°, and 90° formats;
- Progressed and transit hit lists with midpoints and TransNeptunian planets;
- Meridian houses;
- Geocentric latitude;
- True lunar node.

To develop additional software for Uranian astrologers and Cosmobiologists, we worked with several specialists in the field, in particular **Arlene Kramer** and **Haloli Richter** (for more about Arlene Kramer and Star★Dial, see page 16). With more people learning the Uranian and Cosmobiology systems, and with busy astrologers continuing to seek ways to reduce chart preparation time, there has been a need for programs that provid more comprehensive support.

Quick★Midpoints

Midpoint trees and sorts are now available in all standard forms for any planet set and user-specified orb.

Many of you have requested a midpoint trees update to Blue★Star including selectable points, TransNeptunian planets, the Aries point, and all the standard graphic styles. Trees can now appear

- In standard planetary order;
- In Uranian planetary order;
- With direct and indirect hits;
- With aspects (if any) to the planets involved in the midpoint.
- Trees for a specific set of criteria, such as Sun/Mars only.
- Trees can also be created for planetary pictures or formulas.

Quick★Midpoints creates many different styles of midpoint trees, as well as sorted lists of midpoints (including midpoints to the Aries point), in the 4th harmonic (90° midpoints), 8th harmonic (45° midpoints), and 16th harmonic (22°30′ midpoints).

Quick★Graphs for Blue★Star

New for Blue★Star, with Ebertin-style graphs — the easiest-to-read, hi-res printing graphic ephemeris available for home computers and chart services.

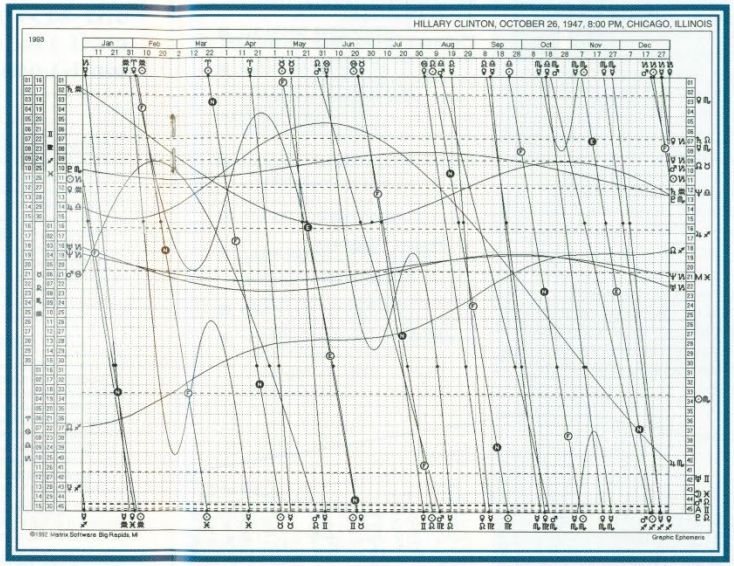
Due to many requests (especially from Uranian astrologers and Cosmobiologists), we have created a graphic ephemeris as an add-on application to Blue★Star — taking advantage of Blue★Star's powerful calculation and search module.

Quick★Graphs for Blue★Star features an Ebertin-style ephemeris (at right). There is no tool more valuable for long-range work. Graph options include

- Transit-to-natal aspects;
- Choice of harmonic;
- Lunations and eclipses;
- True or mean node;
- Tropical or sidereal zodiac;
- Selectable planets and points;
- Uranian planets and asteroids.

BLUE STAR

■ *Due to the sophisticated search and graphics, the Quick★Graphs and Quick★Midpoints programs require the Blue★Star program. See page 15 for program specifications and prices.*



Ebertin-style 45° graphic transit ephemeris with lunations, natal planet contacts, and sign changes. The Blue★Star graphic ephemeris optionally labels planets on their respective lines or, as above, at the sides of the graph.

The Graphic Ephemeris

"Finally, there is a home-grown graphic ephemeris that helps the professional. I can't live without it!"

Counselor and Astrologer Haloli Richter – McLean, Virginia

The graphic ephemeris is a useful and popular astrological counseling tool. At a glance, you can view an entire year's (or more) transiting and natal aspects, with sign ingresses, lunations, and eclipses.

The graphic ephemeris above is shown in Ebertin-style 45° or 8th-harmonic format. Rheinhold Ebertin, pioneer of the Cosmobiology system, developed a special ephemeris form, which you can now print for yourself from your home computer.

The 45° format above means that all crossing lines on the graph show an aspect in the 8th harmonic: conjunction, semisquare, square, sesquisquare, or opposition — an effective way of encapsulating this dynamic aspect group. The graphic ephemeris can also be printed in your choice of harmonic formats.

These techniques bring speed and conclusiveness to delineation and prediction. If you've ever wondered why some events aren't showing up in the chart, perhaps they are "buried" in one of the higher harmonics of dynamic aspects.

You can add natal positions to the graphic ephemeris — as above — to show transit-to-natal aspects. Natal planets are shown by the broken horizontal lines next to planet glyphs printed on the right edge of the graph. A solid line crossing a natal line shows a transit-to-natal aspect.

A graphic ephemeris drawn for the first 90 days after birth is known as a Life Diagram; it shows all dynamic secondary progressed aspects for the first 90 years of life.

Note also that all of 1993's lunations and eclipses are clearly shown by symbols on the Sun line ("N" for New Moon, "F" for Full Moon, and "E" for eclipse).

About Uranian Astrology and Cosmobiology

Uranian astrology was founded by Alfred Witte. Cosmobiology was developed in the 1930s by Rheinhold Ebertin, based on work done by Witte. These astrologers are among the very greats of this century.

Uranian astrology — "the astrology of tomorrow" — and Cosmobiology — "the scientific discipline concerned with the possible correlations between the cosmos and organic life" — both use midpoints, or the halfway position between two planets or points. Uranian astrologers use "planetary pictures," or symmetrical pairs of midpoints, explained below. Here are some basic concepts:

Axis: the line connecting a midpoint and its opposite point is called an axis.

Antiscia: two points the same distance from 0° Aries on the dial. On the 90° dial, Cardinal and Mutable signs form antiscia pairs, as do the first and last 15° of Fixed signs.

Planetary Picture: Two or more pairs of midpoints sharing a common axis.

Natal Picture: All four points in the planetary picture are natal points.

Predictive Picture: One of the points in the picture is a transiting or directed point.

A + B – C = D: Shorthand for a planetary picture, where A/B and C/D are the two pairs of midpoints that share an axis.

Core Techniques in Uranian Astrology and Cosmobiology

Core Techniques

Special hit lists are central to the practice of Uranian astrology and Cosmobiology. See sidebar on page 15 for the different packages available.

Besides Quick★Midpoints and Quick★Graphs for Blue★Star, we offer separate packages providing other necessary information for Uranian astrologers and Cosmobiologists.

Solar Arc Directions

Solar arc directions are the heart of predictive astrology in the Uranian and Cosmobiology systems. True solar arcs are given

- To the second of arc;
- In intervals of a day, week, month, or year, for a specified time period;
- With solar arcs to the even minute.

The solar arc hit lists in the Core Techniques Quick★Study save literally hours of laborious hand calculation — freeing astrologers up for the more important business of interpretation. Planets can arc in three ways — to other planets, to their own midpoints, to other midpoints — with choice of

- 4th, 8th, or 16th harmonics;
- TransNeptunian planets;
- Aries point and true node;
- Ascendant and midheaven;
- Equatorial ascendant and vertex;
- Enter and leaving orb.

Using Blue★Star's Link feature, hit lists involving both transits and progressions can be shown chronologically on one printout. A choice of glyph styles is available (for example, "Mc" or "M" for midheaven and "Asc" or "A" for ascendant).

Uranian's 22 house systems

The Uranian package includes all 22 planet-based horoscopes in high-resolution printouts.

Pictures (planetary formulas)

The Uranian package calculates planetary pictures for any combination of planets you specify in the A + B – C = D format. (Over 5000 pictures are possible.)

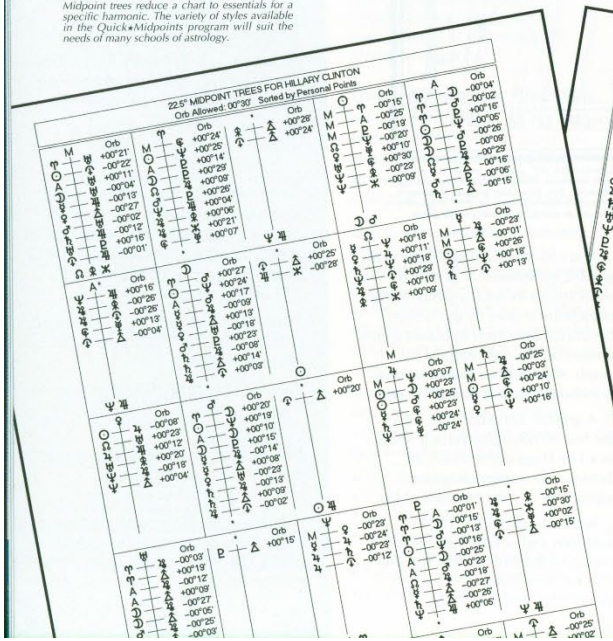
Harmonic pictures

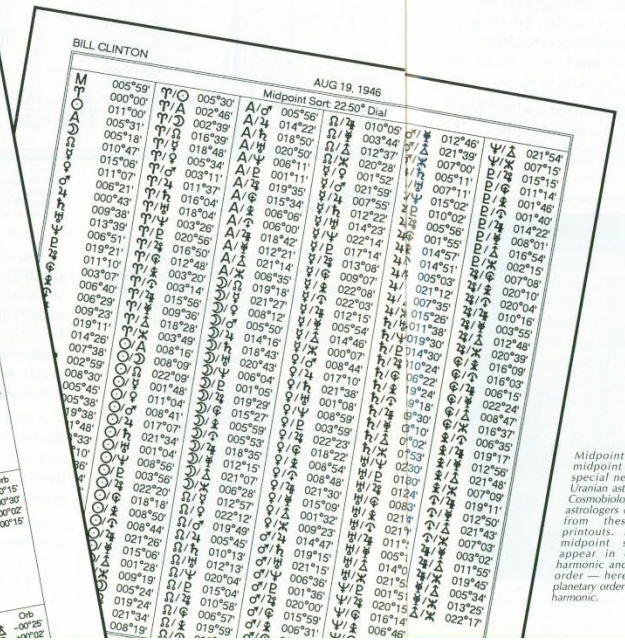
This is a list of solar arc-to-natal aspects for a specified time period and choice of harmonic.

45° linear diagram

Cosmobiologists use the 45° linear diagram to capture an entire climate of current astrological events in a client's life — natal, transits, progressions, midpoints, and more. ■

Midpoint trees reduce a chart to essentials for a specific harmonic. The variety of styles available in the Quick★Midpoints program will suit the needs of many schools of astrology.





Midpoint sorts and midpoint trees are special needs of the Uranian astrologer and Cosmobiologist, but all astrologers can benefit from these useful printouts. Note that midpoint sorts can appear in choice of harmonic and planetary order — here, Uranian planetary order in the 16th harmonic.

BLUE★STAR FIRSTS

- GRAPHIC EPHEMERIS
- MIDPOINT TREES IN CHOICE OF HARMONIC AND STYLE WITH SELECTABLE POINTS
- HARMONIC MIDPOINT SORTS AND HIT LISTS
- PLANETARY PICTURES
- ARIES POINT IN HIT LISTS AND MIDPOINT SORTS
- URANIAN PLANETARY ORDER, WITH "A" AND "M" ABBREVIATIONS FOR ASCENDANT AND MIDHEAVEN

SPECS

The Quick★Study programs on these pages all require the Blue★Star calculation program. They run on IBM machines with 640K, a hard drive, and HP-compatible LaserJet or Epson-compatible 24-pin or 9-pin/144-dpi dot-matrix printers.

The programs are available in three ways:

1. Individually;

The individual prices for the programs are:

Quick★Graphs for Blue★Star	**$125**
Quick★Midpoints	**$125**
Core Techniques	**$100**

2. As a "four-for-three" special with Blue★Star. For this package, the total price is **$550**;

3. As a package, without Blue★Star. For this package, the total price is **$300**;

Registered owners of the original Quick★Graphs stand-alone Quick★Study, take note: If you already have Blue★Star, the new Quick★Graphs is available for only **$50**.

4 for 3

All programs described above are available at our "four-for-three" special discount.

To order Arlene Kramer's Star★Dial — a necessary tool for practicing Uranian astrology — turn the page.

Quick★Studies

The Matrix line of Quick★Study programs on astrology technique keeps on growing! Here is a list o available Quick★Studies. We are interested in your ideas for others

Quick★Horary (Master Version
Over 80 pages of charts and note covering horary techniques in de It's a comprehensive horary tour the beginner or professional. Includes 20 pages of Quick Note by Anthony Louis. **$150**

Quick★Progressions
Secondary progressions like you' never seen, with many publicatio quality charts and notes. **$150**

Arabic Parts and Fixed Stars
Two more Quick★Studies — also included with Quick★Horary Mas Version above — cover over 80 stars, 1500 galactic points, and 1 Arabic parts. **$50 each**

Noel Tyl's Prediction Package
Contains Tyl's special solar arc midpoint hit lists and notes to go with his book *Solar Arc Predictio* (Llewellyn Publications). **$125**

Quick★Calendar
Creates weekly astrological transi calendars, with transits to natal a over ten lunar phenomena. **$300**

Quick★Maps
Creates Astro★Carto★Graphy® an Local Space™ maps in full-page, publication-quality output. **$300**

Quick★Almanac
The most popular options in the Electric Almanac converted for c service use — Tarot, I Ching, Hunting & Fishing, Biorythms, an Good Days/Bad Days. **$300**

The programs in the Uranian and Cosmobiology package will begin shipping on February 1, 1993.

Uranian Astrologer Arlene Kramer

"Having preprinted Star★Dial charts on my home computer is a dream come true! For 25 years, I've spent a great deal of time putting charts on the 90° dial. Now I get the Star★Dial charts instantly from Blue★Star. I am delighted by the time savings and convenience now available to me."

Arlene Kramer
Master Uranian Astrologer and creator of Star★Dial

Star★Dial and Arlene Kramer

The Star★Dial chart prints from Blue★Star!

Students of the Uranian system of astrology cannot be without a good dial, and they might as well have the best — Star★Dial.

Arlene Kramer, acknowledged master of the Uranian system, has created a special 90° dial for chartwork in the Uranian system. It is the best dial available. The Star★Dial chart now prints from Blue★Star and LaserWheels — an exact fit.

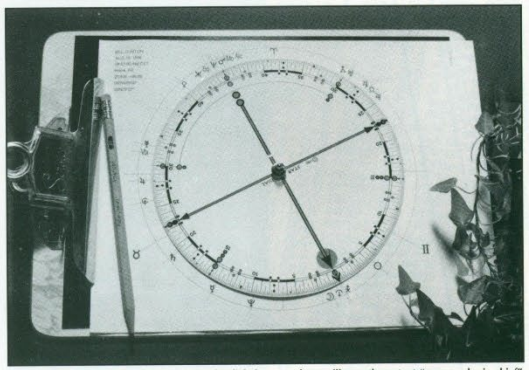
Star★Dial is an extremely rapid aspect calculator. Arlene Kramer and Steve Pincus created Star★Dial for students of Uranian astrology, and it is a work of art. Blue★Star produces a special chart exactly fitted to the dial, with TransNeptunian planets included.

Star★Dial is a durable, expertly crafted tool that will last you a lifetime of work. Many astrologers have more than one Star★Dial for group and family consultations. Arlene Kramer's Star★Dial comes with clipboard and complete instructions to get you started.

■ Star★Dial itself is now available through Matrix in one of two ways:

- **$36 for the complete package, including clipboard, fasteners, and blank charts;**
- **$30 for the same package without a pad of blank charts.**

Star★Dial will be shipped directly to you from Arlene Kramer, but please call Matrix to order.



Uranian astrology is a powerful system. On the dial above, students will note the potent "commander in chief" axis in Bill Clinton's chart (the Zeus/Kronos axis — with the Moon nearby — in exact 8th-harmonic aspect with Mars and a host of other points in early Cardinal degrees).

"Star★Dial completely transformed the way I do astrology. This 'instant aspect finder' gives the fastest (and best) predictions and delineations I have ever seen — or expect to see. Star★Dial *is* precision in astrology. Its beautiful, colorful design makes it a pleasure to work with. And now that exact Star★Dial charts print from Blue★Star and LaserWheels, I can spend a lot less time plotting planets on the wheel and more time reading the chart. I highly recommend Star★Dial to all astrologers who use a 90° dial in their work."

Tom Bridges –
Astrologer at Matrix and student of Arlene Kramer

Star★Dial – For Astrologers Who Want the Best!

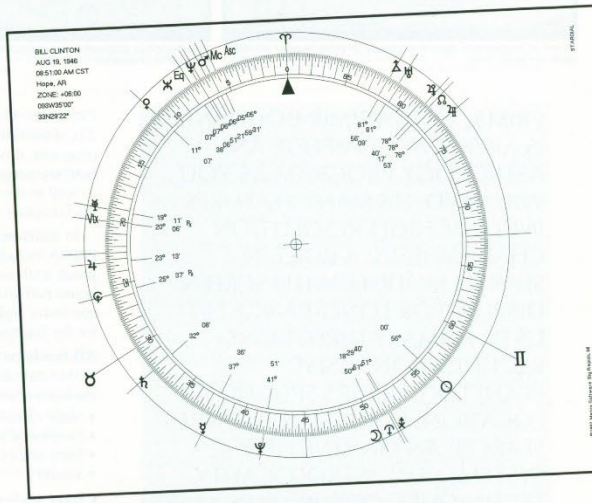
Order your Star★Dial now from Matrix and it will be shipped to you personally by Arlene Kramer.

Understanding the Star★Dial

by Arlene Kramer

The Star★Dial is a precision instrument, like an engineer's slide rule. It is used to accurately measure the dynamics of the personality and to accurately forecast events.

The Star★Dial and chart form are divided into 90° rather than 360°, to identify challenging planetary aspects and planetary symmetries easily. This layout groups planets by cardinal, fixed, and mutable qualities, in separate thirds of the chart. To understand the concept of symmetry, imagine a vertical line running through the center of the human body. The ears, arms, and legs are symmetrically placed about the axis. The essential theme here is equal distances from a given axis. Planetary symmetries quickly reveal basic dynamics within the individual, unlock personality characteristics sometimes hidden in the 360° chart, and dramatically increase one's ability to time events accurately. Dial techniques do not invalidate traditional astrological methods: they add a new dimension to astrological interpretation and prediction.

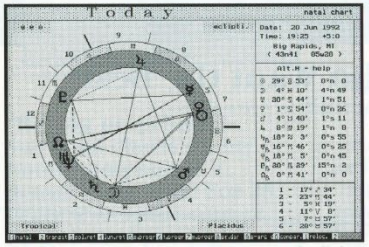


Star★Dial (used with the chart above) is a beautifully crafted astrology tool. It is indispensable for students of Uranian astrology, who can now save hours of preparation time with preprinted Star★Dial charts from the Blue★Star and LaserWheel programs (see page 4 for more on LaserWheels).

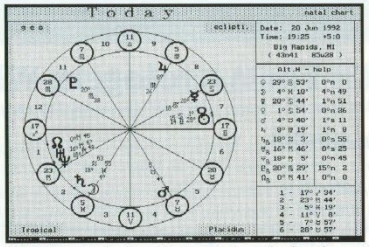
Excerpted from the introduction and notes included with Star★Dial.

PRIMA

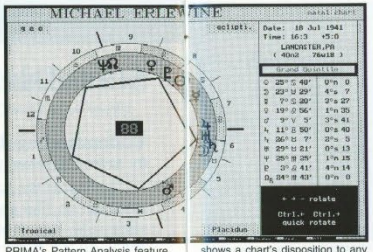
THE FIRST ASTROLOGY PROGRAM OF ITS KIND — A TRULY COMPREHENSIVE GRAPHIC TOOL, WITH HIGH-RESOLUTION OUTPUT AND INTERACTIVE SCREEN PRESENTATION



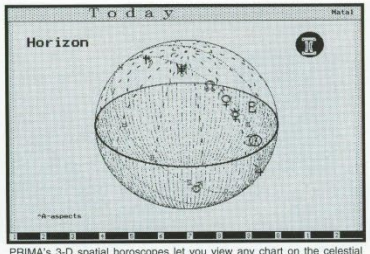
PRIMA's European-style chartwheel appears on screen in color with data tables and aspect lines.



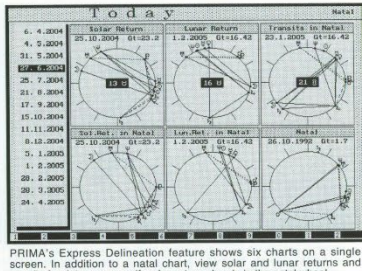
PRIMA also has an American-style screenwheel, one of twelve styles available in the program.



PRIMA's Pattern Analysis feature shows a chart's disposition to any of the standard whole-chart patterns. You can set a pattern in motion to determine a chart's zodiacal bias or changing sensitivity to the pattern.



PRIMA's 3-D spatial horoscopes let you view any chart on the celestial sphere with reference to a chosen coordinate plane and zodiac sign — in this case the horizon and Gemini.



PRIMA's Express Delineation feature shows six charts on a single screen. In addition to a natal chart, view solar and lunar returns and transits for dates you specify, plus return planets in the natal wheel.

PRIMA, BY VLADIMIR BOGDANOV, IS ABOUT AS COMPLETE AN ASTROLOGY PROGRAM AS YOU WILL FIND. ITS MANY FEATURES INCLUDE HIGH-RESOLUTION CHARTWHEELS; A BUILT-IN SEARCH MODULE WITH SCREEN DISPLAY FOR LONG-RANGE HIT LISTS; PRIMARY DIRECTIONS; RECTIFICATION ASSIST; PLANETARY HOURS SPECIFIC TO LOCATION; PLANETARY PICTURES SEARCH; AN ON-LINE HELP SYSTEM; NEW ASTROLOCALITY TECHNIQUES; COLOR MAPS AND COLOR WHEELS.

PRIMA, by Vladimir Bogdanov (meet Vladimir on page 23), is the first in the new Europa line of Matrix programs. It is a major new astrology program, with both on-screen graphics and high-resolution printing, as well as numerous techniques geared specifically to the European astrologer.

In addition to traditional astrology techniques, PRIMA includes many fresh ideas. Such techniques as group analysis, "unidirectional" Local Space lines, house path mapping, chart pattern analysis, harmonic spectrum, and others are now available to astrologers for the first time through PRIMA.

All basic astrology techniques

PRIMA calculates all the standard techniques that form the basis of an astrology consultation:

- Natal calculations
- Progressed and directed charts
- Transiting configurations
- Synastry

Chart styles

European (and some American) chart styles are offered in 12 formats. Choose from:

- 12 house systems
- Tropical or sidereal zodiac (with any ayanamsa)
- Geocentric or heliocentric cosmography

Pop-up windows present chart data, which can be edited and resaved when a rectified time or relocation is being tested. A "random moment" feature casts a chart for a time and place chosen by the program.

Selected planets and points

PRIMA calculates all standard planets, angles, and the lunar node, as well as:

- Equatorial ascendant and vertex
- Part-of-fortune and many other Arabic parts
- TransNeptunian planets
- Chiron and the four major asteroids
- Over 200 fixed stars

Built-in search engine for hit lists

PRIMA has a built-in search module for transits, secondary progressions, and solar arc directions for the full range of its 2200-year ephemeris. This is an unusually powerful feature in what is mainly a screen-oriented program! You view the hits on screen, and each screen gives you one day's hits covering all techniques (color-coded). A screen dump gives you a printed record. Four levels of hits can be viewed:

- Transit-to-natal;
- Transits, secondary progressions, and solar arc directions to natal;
- All of the above plus transit-to-transit, progressed-to-progressed, directed-to-directed, transit-to-progressed transit-to-directed, and progressed-to-directed;
- Hits to natal midpoints.

The Europa Line of Matrix Software

While Blue★Star has "Eurowheels" and many other European-style printouts, astrologers overseas also want a European-style interface — one in their native language with the option of inputting the accented letters that are almost completely absent from English.

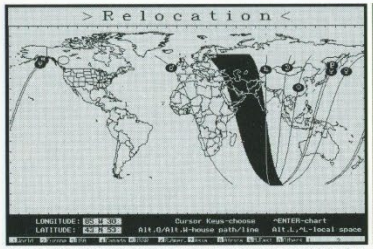
With Europa programs, menus and screen messages are contained in easily edited files. You can call up the file and edit the information that appears on the screen using the program's built-in text editor. On-screen help messages (amounting to a manual on disk) will be available in as many languages as we can coordinate with our overseas customers and sales representatives.

The Europa line of Matrix programs is under the direction of Vladimir Bogdanov, a Russian programmer and astrologer whom we have had the privilege of working with in Big Rapids. He is doing some great stuff. The first program to be offered is PRIMA. It has been custom-designed with the European astrologer in mind — European-style wheels, techniques, and comprehensive color printer support. Other Europa programs in the works cover rectification, synastry, and a sophisticated "astrologer's desktop" (an on-line desk database for addresses, text work, bibliography, terms).

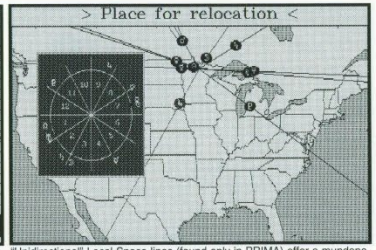
Look for additional Europa programs in future issues of the *Astro★Talk* bulletin.

"I have maintained the belief that the 'best' astrological program did not exist, that it is an astrologer's personal need that determines the best-suited program. After working with PRIMA, I have had to revise that belief. Prima sets a new level in astrological programming. I think it is the most useful astrology program in existence. I'm blown away!"

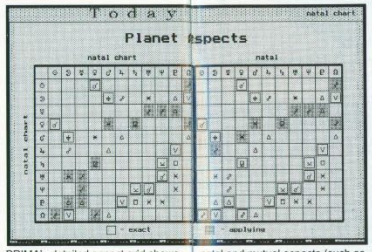
C. Michael Smith –
S.O.S Consulting



Vladimir Bogdanov's house path mapping technique appears for the first time in PRIMA. For any chart data and any house system, see where the planets map in each of the twelve houses.

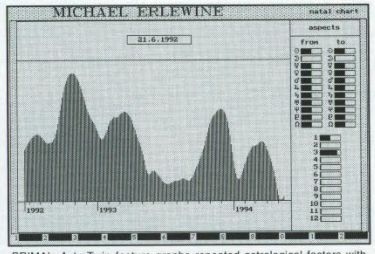


"Unidirectional" Local Space lines (found only in PRIMA) offer a mundane, external, event-oriented horizonal perspective. A pop-up chartwheel appears with planet lines for any location you specify.

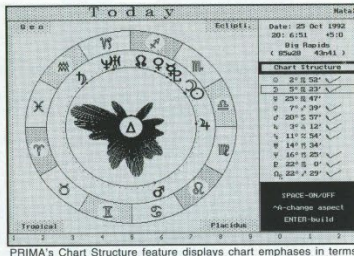


PRIMA's detailed aspect grid shows with a solar return) on one screen, with

natal and mutual aspects (such as exact and applying noted.



PRIMA's AstroTwin feature graphs repeated astrological factors with planet and harmonic weights you specify.



PRIMA's Chart Structure feature displays chart emphases in terms planet and aspect criteria you specify. For example, you may wish to kn what part of the chart is "hot" in terms of trines to Venus and/or Saturn.

Astrolocality Techniques in PRIMA

PRIMA provides comprehensive astrolocality support, including three entirely new techniques and color maps to color printers.

Local Space

Two types of Local Space maps are available in PRIMA: the familiar curved lines, pioneered by Matrix programmer Michael Erlewine, representing a direction in 3-D space and providing a more spatial, abstract, and "essential" perspective; and the new "unidirectional" lines of Vladimir Bogdanov — representing directions on the surface of the earth (keeping the same orientation to the meridians and parallels) and providing a more mundane, external, event-oriented perspective. Astrologers will want to work with both techniques.

Chartwheel pop-ups for any location

This is one of many special features in PRIMA. For any location on a map, you can "pop up" a relocated chartwheel for that location (the longitude and latitude of the mouse cursor position are shown at the bottom of the screen).

House-path and house-line maps

Never before programmed, ***house-path maps*** "paint" a path on the computer screen showing where a planet is located in a particular house (with each edge of the path representing a cusp). The intersection of two paths shows where planets occupy the same house. This is a powerful technique for finding house emphases for any data.

House-line maps let you specify a map orientation in terms of house structure. For example, you can ask PRIMA to show you for what locations the Sun is aligned with the eleventh cusp of the chosen house system — or for any point you specify in the eleventh house. As with Local Space maps, you can always pop up a chartwheel for a specific location.

PRIMA can use maps from AstroMap Hi-Res

Any and all of the 100-plus detailed maps available to registered users of the Matrix AstroMap Hi-Res program can be used in PRIMA — without having duplicate files take up space on your computer system (PRIMA's setup allows pathing to the directory in which the maps are located as well as to the latest versions of the Matrix International and American Atlases and the ACS PC-Atlas that users may have).

MapEdit

PRIMA comes with a utility called MapEdit that can be used to alter any maps you may have — for example, plotting cities and adding regional and new national borders. The program has mouse support and is easy to use.

2200-year ephemeris

PRIMA assures accurate planetary positions from 0 AD to 2200 AD, but it will calculate BC positions and 2200-plus positions with nearly equal accuracy. From 1800 to 2100, the calculations are accurate within seven-hundredths of a minute of arc for the Sun, three-tenths of a minute of arc for the Moon, and half a minute of arc or better for the planets through Saturn. Pluto (along with the Moon, the most difficult to calculate) is accurate within 4.5 minutes of arc. For years outside this 300-year range, accuracy ranges from one-tenth of a minute of arc for the Sun and one minute for Moon to 12 minutes for Pluto. PRIMA is an accurate program!

On-screen aspectarian

A single screen shows planetary positions and aspects (applying and exact marked). Uranian planets and the asteroids can be included.

Synastry and Group Analysis

In addition to standard composite, relationship, and the coalescent chart technique by the astrologer Dhruva (synastry using harmonics), PRIMA includes advanced chart comparison techniques for groups of more than two people.

whether by transit, progression, or in synastry. The cursor key advances a pointer around the zodiac in increments of one degree. For each degree the pointer moves, the aspects between this point and all the planets in the chart are shown with aspect lines and symbols in the center of the chartwheel. It is the fastest way we have seen to find the degrees of your chart (whether or not there are planets nearby) that are sensitive to transit, progression, and synastry.

Progressions and directions

Choose from seven types of progressions and seven types of directions — including secondary, tertiary, and minor progressions; solar arc, Naibod, primary, ascendant, vertex, and symbolic directions. PRIMA lets you choose either directed midheaven with derived ascendant and intermediate cusps, or all cusps directed.

Primary directions

PRIMA provides this hard-to-find data in wheel form. An aspectarian shows mutual aspects between the natal chart and the directed chart.

Return charts

PRIMA calculates returns for all planets, including quarti and demi lunar returns and when the Moon returns to the place of the Sun.

On-screen graphic ephemeris

PRIMA has an on-screen graphic ephemeris in both bar-graph style and line style, with a choice of harmonic notation. It shows transits (entering and leaving orbs), signs, houses, and retrogrades — all with a vertical day-cursor option that aligns planetary positions with a particular date.

Dynamic (moving) chart

Have you ever had a wheel of transits on screen and wanted to know when the Moon would make its next aspect to Jupiter? Astrologers have always used some kind of printed aspectarian to get this information. PRIMA's remarkable dynamic chart feature shows a "living chart" on screen — it takes any chart and sets it in motion for a time increment of your choice, from one-tenth of a day to many days. What an ideal tool for electional astrology! With PRIMA, electional work is very easy.

Aspect search

This feature allows you to search any chart on-screen for sensitive points,

Interface nodes

Michael Erlewine's technique in complete detail, showing not only "inclinations" and "disinclinations," but also the exact numerical positions of the nodes. Interface nodes show the relationship between crossing planetary orbits and the planets themselves — a new interpretive dimension.

Chart structure

This feature graphically shows the predominant aspect type in a chart as well as the structural importance of any one planet in terms of the rest of the chart. It is a powerful graphic reminder of the interdependent influence of the planets.

Astro★Talk!

Michael Erlewine's original Astro★Talk is available as an on-line interpreter. This great learning tool gives you instant, on-screen interpretation for planets by sign, house, and aspect.

Horoscope Dating

This powerful feature accesses PRIMA's 2200-year ephemeris to find the possible times of a planetary

QuickList

A quick overview of Matrix programs

	IBM-PC	APL	C64	MAC				443 ✓
Personal Astrology Software								
Astro★Talk PC	256K	**	**	**		$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Friends & Lovers	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Life Progression	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
AstroMap	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Matrix Numerology	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Lucky Lotto!	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
BioWriter	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
The Electric Almanac	256K						FREE!	
Professional Chart Systems	The core of a profitable astrological service business.							
Blue★Star Level One	256K				$49.95			4 for 3
Blue★Star Level Two	256K				$99.95			4 for 3
Blue★Star Level Three	512K				$300			4 for 3
Blue★Star 2.1	HARD DISK 512K				$300			4 for 3
Time Change Atlas	256K				$50			
American & International Atlases	512K				$195 EA			4 for 3
AstroLink Conversion Utility	256K				$50			
Blue★Star 64					$99.95			
Hi-Res Screen Wheels	512 *				HI-RES OUTPUT		$100	4 for 3
Winning!	256K				$300			4 for 3
Jyotish Vedic Astrology	256K				$300			4 for 3
Matrix Hindu Program	256K				$100			4 for 3
The Matrix M65 Chart System		256K			$300			4 for 3
M65B Research System		256K			$250			
M65 Uranian Module		256K			$50			
For the Mac: Graphic Astrology				**	$200			
New: QuickCharts! Format	Exciting new format for full-color chart screens—with hi-res screen dumps.							
QuickCharts!	512 *				HI-RES OUTPUT		$150	
AstroMap Hi-Res	512 *				HI-RES OUTPUT		$225	
QuickExchange Utility	512 *						$5	
Research: Compact Data	Explore thousands of famous charts in our extensive disk library!							
Compact Data System	512K						$100	4 for 3
Compact Data Library Disks	512K						$30	
Convert: Blue★Star/Compact Data	512K						$30	
Astrological Research Module	256K				$250			
Cycles Research & Stocks	Time Cycles: research & investments. Ganntrader: astrology & the stock market.							
Advanced Time Cycles	HARD DISK * 640				HI-RES OUTPUT		$500	
Introductory Time Cycles	512 *				HI-RES OUTPUT		$100	
Stock Market: Ganntrader	256K				$549			
Matrix Report Writers	In-depth astrological profiles at low cost bring in new customers.							
Astro★Talk Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Natal Chart Writer	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
Friends & Lovers Report Writer	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
The Sky Within Report Writer	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
Relating Potential	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
Transit Writer	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
Life Progression Report Writer	256K					$300		4 for 3
Alphanumerology Report Writer	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
Lucky Lotto! Report Writer	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
BioWriter Report	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3
Matrix Tarot Reader	256K	256K				$300		4 for 3

KEY

To indicate output: charts/data, reports or screen-based.
Indicates no. of drives needed (choose 5.25" or 3.5" for IBM). Hard drive always acceptable.
4 for 3 Our 4-for-3 discount: buy three at same price, get one of same value free!
* New hi-res graphics on IBM: requires EGA or VGA capability (alternate: Hercules).
** Astro★Talk PC: Mac requires 512K & one 800K drive (or two 400K). Apple II & C64 are limited-feature versions: $39.95. Graphic Astrology: 512K & one 800K drive required.

Reading The Chart

Using Compact Data as an example, the first column shows that the program is available on IBM, and it requires two disk drives (or optional hard drive) and 512K memory. It isn't available on the Apple II, C64, or Mac, so their columns are blank. The price is in the "screen-based" column, which shows that the program isn't designed to print charts or reports. The "4-for-3" column shows that it's available at our "buy 3, get one free" discount offer.

Note on Blue★Star

Blue★Star Levels Two & Three are available in both 256K and 512K versions. When ordering, provide details on your computer system – we'll send the version with the most features possible on your machine.

Matrix Software
315 Marion, Big Rapids, MI 49307
616/796-2483 FAX: 616/796-3060
Orders & info requests, call toll-free:
1/800/PLANETS

QuickList

A quick overview of Matrix software's programs

Calculation Programs	IBM-PC	APL	C64	MAC				4 for 3
Blue★Star	HARD DISK 512K				$300			4 for 3
Blue★Star (floppy-disk version)	512K				$300			4 for 3
Blue★Star Limited	256K				$99.95			4 for 3
Blue★Star Jr.	256K				$49.95			4 for 3
Time Change Atlas	Runs with Blue★Star, 512K Report Writers, or QuickCharts				$50.00			
American & International Atlases ($295/pr)	Runs with Blue★Star, 512K Report Writers, or QuickCharts				$195 EA			4 for 3
★ Astro★Map Hi-Res	512K				HI-RES OUTPUT		$225 ❖	4 for 3
★ QuickCharts	512K				HI-RES OUTPUT		$150 ❖	4 for 3
Winning!	HARD DISK 512K				$300			4 for 3
Jyotish Vedic Astrology	256K				$300			4 for 3
Matrix Hindu Program	256K				$100			4 for 3
*** Graphic Astrology					$200			
Interpretation Programs								
The Sky Within Report Writer	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
** Astro★Talk Report Writer	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Friends & Lovers Report Writer	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
TimeLine Report Writer	512K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Astro★Carto★Graphy Explained Report Writer	512K				$495 ❖			
Pythagorean Numerology Report Writer	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Transit Writer (M91)	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Life Progression Report Writer	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
BioWriter	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
AstroMap	256K					$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Natal Report Writer (M90)	256K				$300 ❖			4 for 3
International Versions	HARD DISK 512K				$300 ❖			4 for 3
Advanced Personal Numerology	256K				$300 ❖			4 for 3
Relating Potential	256K				$300 ❖			4 for 3
Graphic Tarot	512K				$300 ❖			4 for 3
Lucky Lotto!	256K				$300 ❖	$99.95	$49.95	4 for 3
Electric Almanac	256K						$14.95	

Looking for more Commodore 64 and Apple Programs? Call 1-800-PLANETS

Astrological Research Systems								
* Advanced Time Cycles	HARD DISK 640K				HI-RES OUTPUT		$500 ❖	4 for 3
* Introductory Time Cycles	HARD DISK 640K				HI-RES OUTPUT		$100 ❖	4 for 3
Compact Data System	512K						$100	4 for 3
Compact Data Library Disks	512K						$30	
ARM (Astrological Research Module)	256K				$249.95			4 for 3
Ganntrader	256K				$699			

Type of output: charts/data, reports, or screen-based.

KEY

4 for 3 Our 4-for-3 discount: buy three at same price, get one of same value free!
Number of drives needed. (IBM: Choose 5.25" or 3.5" for IBM. Hard drive always acceptable
Indicates no. of drives needed (choose 5.25" or 3.5" for IBM). Hard drive always acceptable.
❖ Supports laser printers as well as dot matrix printers.
* Hi-res graphics on IBM: requires EGA or VGA capability (alternate: Hercules).
** *Astro★Talk PC*: With IBM 3.5" drive, only 1 drive required. Mac requires 512K & one 800K drive (or two 400K). Apple II & C64 are limited-feature versions: $39.95.
*** *Graphic Astrology*: 512K & one 800K drive required.

When Ordering:
Provide details on your computer system so we can send the version that works correctly on your equipment.

Reading the Quicklist

Using *Timeline* as an example, the first column shows that the program is available on IBM and it requires a hard disk and 512K memory. It isn't available on the Apple II, C64, or Mac, so their columns are blank. The price is in the "reports" column, which shows that the program is designed to print reports, and the ❖ shows it supports laser printers as well as dot matrix printers. The "4 for 3" column shows that it's available at our "buy 3, get one free" discount offer. And the final column says you'll find a description of it on page 22 of the catalog.

LAST-MINUTE SOFTWARE NEWS FROM MATRIX

Astro-date pages! One of our new Quick★Studies, featured throughout this issue of Astro★Talk.

Now you can create personalized calendars from your own computer. Quick★Calendar is perfect for many occasions: gifts, clients, classes, your weekly appointment calendar, to name a few. You can customize each Quick★Calendar page choosing from many options.

- Geocentric or heliocentric
- Transits to natal and "current sky" transits
- Sabian symbol for the daily Sun
- Over ten different lunar phenomena
- Daily rise and culmination
- Quick Notes commentary pages
- And much more.

Plus Quick★Calendar looks great, especially with a laser printer! **See back cover for illustration.**

Requirements: IBM-compatible computers with 640K and a hard drive, and printers compatible with Epson 9-pin or 24-pin dot-matrix, Hewlett Packard DeskJet Plus or 500, and LaserJet Series II or Series III. No special screen graphics required. Base program (which comes with your first Quick★Study at no extra charge) includes extensive Quick File handling capabilities as well as instant file alphabetization, custom color desktops, user logos, and editing of all jobs selected at any time. Price: $300

Major Atlas Upgrade

Our PC upgrade of the International and American Time-Change Atlases is complete. And it's something else!

Thomas G. Shanks, fomerly Research Director of ACS, has done a great job. He has added 50,000 new entries to the American Atlas alone, and many many time-change additions to the International. These resources are just awesome — perhaps the greatest user-friendly options ever to come out, saving hours of look-up time. And now years of professional testing have made them the best available — the most complete on-line geographic coordinate database going.

For present Atlas users, the new International version is about the same size as the previous one. You can upgrade with no problem. But the new American Atlas is much larger than our last version and it takes up a lot more memory on your computer. Not all users have this much memory. If you're not sure how much memory your computer has available, call our technical support line at (616) 796-2483 and we'll be happy to help.

Requirements: For the Upgrade, registered users of the American and International versions can have the set for $100. The price to upgrade each Atlas separately is $65. The International runs from hard drive or floppies. American runs from hard drive only. Previous American floppy version will continue to be available.

First Time Buyers: For the International Atlas, an IBM-style computer with 640K and Blue★Star, a 512K Report Writer, or QuickCharts on hard disk. Takes 3.7 MB memory. Price: $195

For the American Atlas, an IBM-style computer with 640K and Blue★Star, a 512K Report Writer, or QuickCharts on hard disk. Takes 5.5 MB memory. Hard disk only. This version of the American Atlas cannot be run from floppies: Price: $195

Special Offer: $295 when you purchase both Atlases as a set. Same requirements as above.

CALL TOLL-FREE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER OR GET MORE INFORMATION: 1/800/PLANETS

Matrix Software
315 Marion, Big Rapids, MI 49307
616/796-2483 FAX: 616/796-3060

LAST-MINUTE SOFTWARE NEWS FROM MATRIX

NEW:

This program is fun and it's FREE! It's a great way to introduce astrology to people everywhere. Get your copy from a bulletin board service or a friend, or send us $4.95 for postage and handling. We'll send the *Electric Almanac* for your IBM-style computer!

- *Planting, Cultivating, and Harvesting Dates*
- *Fishing & Hunting Times*
- *Today's Astrology Reading*
- *Your Lotto Numbers*
- *Metric Conversion*
- *Questions Answered*
- *Astronomy: SkyWatch*

This new program for counselors and busy professionals puts beautiful hi-res chart wheels right on your computer's screen!

Use *QuickCharts!* during a counseling session to display charts on-screen—fast! Reads files from *Blue★Star* and *Compact Data*, and with our new *QuickFiles* format, it even reads files from *Nova, Kepler, ARM,* and *Pathfinder!* Multiple wheels, too. Hi-res screen dumps let you print out your *QuickCharts!* Just $150. (Described in detail in our last issue of *Astro★Talk.*)

Explore *Local Space* and Jim Lewis's *Astro★Carto★Graphy* techniques with high-resolution map graphics!

AstroMap Hi-Res produces beautiful *Astro★Carto★Graphy*-style maps on-screen or as printouts. Give your clients a hi-res relocation map of the entire world, or of any state, country, or continent. Features also include star maps, relocated angles, and astrophysical directions techniques. $225.

Over 80 Printouts!

Now *Blue★Star* has more than 80 chart wheel styles as standard equipment! Over six dozen ways to please your clients!

- *Single wheels, double wheels, or tri-wheels*
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