The Future

The next club meeting is on Saturday, October 19, at the Hunterdon Medical Center, 8:30 until noon. We do NOT have to rush off at the witching hour. Jim Russ joins our great speakers' list. His topic is the Connectix personal camera. Program Chairman Woodall predicts that he will tell about Windows NT in November, YOU need to offer something for January, February is tentatively for Norton Utilities, March might be about Adobe Photoshop and Pagemaker, after that the crystal ball clouds over. Bill might fill in one of those blanks with "computers and astronomy" if you tell him you'd like to hear that.

Art Gerke remarks that no one comes to look at his setup until it's time to pack up and then they have lots of questions. He doesn't just copy shareware for you; he is another of our major general help resources. Look for him toward the front of the room, before the 9:30 meeting instead of after. If Steve Steinberg is again standing in for Art, the above is still true. Steve answers questions too.

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon Computer Club was held on September 21, 1996, at the Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ. Doris Moore presided over sign-in and name tags. Katie Dufty and her dad, Rich, took care of fund raising. Mike Middleton benefited from Katie's efforts. Phil Stonesifer was awarded this month's copy of **MS Works for Windows.**

President Maureen Barron called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Chet Forgey and Geneva Scerbo were welcomed as guests, but have in fact visited before, and now have become members. Chet is one of the few people to claim life long residence in Flemington. He was principal of the Middle School for years, then taught English at North, and now has time to learn about his computer. Geneva is in her second term ! at the Senior Center. She inherited a Leading Edge with a dead battery, then an AT&T 6300, and then in frustration bought a Pentium with all the fixin's.

Ute Benn visited first about a year ago, and was welcomed back. She is the IS manager at HMC. That translates to network manager for a lot of machines.

Jeanette Zink and Dan Mirota and Vicki Waldron were first time guests. Jeanette teaches specific programs but wants more background knowledge. Vicki is very interested in creating web pages, (and has already called to help with Computer Volunteers.) Dan avoided the introduction session.

Treasurer Jac Carroll reported a balance of $1009.25

The secretary noted that ten copies of *The Secret Guide to Computers 22nd Edition* had been ordered, as voted in August. These were all sold at this meeting, and a new order for 10 copies was authorized. The club price is $9.00. (A week later Borders still had the 21st edition for $15.)

Steve Steinberg carried in a computer and set it up to show Art's CD ROM directories of shareware. We need details on getting copies, and cost. Art has bought about 100 CD's without any reimbursement. Any shareware you hear of is probably in his collection.)

John Warsinksi told of a computer show at the Sheraton Hotel off I-80 one stop east of Ledgewood, going on as he spoke.

Rick Williams brought his Diablo Daisy Wheel printer hoping to find a home where it would be cherished. It still works as a typewriter. Lon Hosford took it to show students at RVCC, and mayhap to start a computer museum there.

COMPUTER VOLUNTEERS

Pat Frusco asked members to read the new handout listing all of the club's help projects to date, with stars beside the ones that still need help.

Evelyn Stewart reported that the Senior beginner classes have started the fifth semester. She is teaching 2 beginner classes and . 2 Word Processing classes. Four alumnae are teaching 6 beginner sections. John Warsinksi is teaching several beginner classes and one section of Quicken. John explained that the Center welcomes old machines from 286 up. John makes them work and they are lent to Seniors at no charge, to keep indefinitely or until they get something better.

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JAC Carroll reported that Sprint now has a Clinton number, offering a PPP account, unlimited, using NetScape. Call 800-359-3900 for information.

NOMINATIONS

The by-laws call for nomination of all officers in September, closing nominations in October, and voting, by ballot, in November. Nominations from the floor were as follows:

President:
   Rick Williams, Lon Hosford.
   Gordon Graham
(Maureen declined to run again.) Later in the meeting Gordon withdrew his name.
Vice-President:
   Pat Frusco (incumbent) ,
   Joe Burger
(Pat called the editor a few days after the meeting and withdrew her name.)
Treasurer:
   Jac Carroll (incumbent)
Secretary:
   Evelyn Stewart   (incumbent)

The meeting was adjourned at 10 AM and members moved to the auditorium.

THE PROGRAM
   Creating a Web Page
   Anthony Versarge, Presenter

Anthony started by explaining that the easiest way to make a page is to fill in blanks. There are many programs that provide ready made pages for you to adapt. AOL, CompuServe and Prodigy all offer facilities for making a page, in WIN 95. Anthony used NetScape for a browser. NetScape 1.1 comes with some server setups (e.g.Prolog); version 2 works much better; and Netscape 3 or Gold is what you need to make web pages. Version 2 can be downloaded and tried free, or ordered for $49.95. NetScape Gold costs 20 or 30 dollars more, but is free to students

and educators. Anthony has been a Beta tester for the Gold version. He uses Eclipse as a Server.

(Ed aside to beginners: To do anything on the Internet you need a 14.4 or 28.8 modem, a telephone, communications software (e.g. Procomm, Works, Windows Terminal) a Server (Eclipse, Prolog, Pipeline), and a browser (Netscape or MS Explorer) The server involves a monthly fee around $20. The other software items are one time purchases - until you upgrade, of course.)

Throughout the program Anthony experienced shutdown and disconnect and error messages, even with his top notch equipment. This was helpful to many members who thought they were alone in having these problems. The solution was just try again, right away.

Anthony used his page to show the various parts you create. First, a title. He urged people to choose a theme or topic rather than just rambling on about family and hobbies. You can have a plain background or patterned. Avoid large graphics in your intro because they take so long to show up on a screen that the reader will move on to some other page. 10K is the maximum desirable size for an image. Lon Hosford added here that you should use pictures for information not as navigation links, because of download time.. (Ed: If you run the mouse over a picture and the pointer turns to a hand, you know that picture is a link and you can click on it to go somewhere else, slowly.)

The next feature you put in is a list of LINKS to anything you want, most commonly favorite sites you have discovered.. The page creator you use helps with this so you don't have to learn hypertext language or other exotic codes. On the Web, anything underlined is a link. When you click on it, you get another page.

If you set Autoload Images to OFF, pages load withouot the images, much faster. You can design your page to show text in the blank image boxes.

You should have a link to your email page, so people can send comments right from your web page. The e-mail form that shows up on your home page is a .gif image of your regular e- mail form.

A page takes 1 Mb of space, normally. Eclipse allows 2, some allow 5, and you can buy more. You can have more than one page if you like, with a different name of course.

Some pages show a counter that records the nunber of hits (calls). 500 in a month is high. Many pages are visited only by family and friends of the maker.

Someone asked about WinModem. This is a modem made just for Windows.

Other authoring programs Anthony mentioned were Hot Dog and Hot Metal. HotDog is from Sausage Software (http://www.sausage.com) to download from the Net. $99.95 list. http://www.anawave.com) HoTMetal lists for $159. Its address is http://www.softquad.com These help you design the whole page, not just fill in a page someone else has designed.

Anthony showed his Hunterdon County page. (Ed: I asked later if he had any contact with the Freeholders about using the county name and he explained that anyone can use any name, thus upsetting large companies who find someone has beaten them to the use of their own name. There are 3 Hunterdon pages: Anthony;s, somebody else's and the official county government one.)

We saw GeoCities in detail. This lets you make a home page, free, giving you a shared URL (Universal

Resource Locator)   and providing a guest book where each caller can leave his/her name. This is where Anthony made his first page. He has also made one for Hunterdon County, and has started a business desgining pages. Address below. You won't find these on the search engines (e.g. Yahoo) unless each maker has recorded his page with them.

Somewhere in all this, Anthony showed us how to find the HTML (hypertext markup language) code for people who want to make a web page the hard way. Your note taker got lost there.   See email address below, and ask.

Anthony's presentation can only be called overwhelming,   as to   his knowledge of the field, his clarity , and his ability to make a complex subject entertaining. He's looking at colleges. Perhaps you'd like to snag him for yours.

Proving the clarity, just a few hours after the presentation Paul Glattstein emailed that he was so impressed that he "went right home and made a page on Prolog."

Web and email addresses related to the program:

http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/1411

anthonyv@eclipse.net
      email

http://www.anthony.surgenet.com
      Anthony's business page

hotdog http://www.sausage.com
      Authoring software

hoTMetal http://www.softquad.com
      Authoring software

http://www.geocities.com
      Make a free home page.

http://www.allhunterdon. com
This is Anthony's page

http://www.hunterdon.com
This is somebody else's page

http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us
This is the county government serious page.

http://home.ptd.net/~pglatt
 Paul's new home page

pglatt@prolog.net
Paul's email

COMPUTER NOTES FROM ALL OVER

FIRST UNION BANK CD   not a certificate, a CD-ROM disk

Certain customers received a CD ROM disk which seems at first glance to be the annual report in a new form. But it also loads a Netscape version for MCI email, Windows Quick Time and other extras. It's a chore to delete. Do we need a multi-media presentation for a bank report?

THE SERIOUS SURFER

From: Anthony Versarge
 Subj: another great Internet do

check   out www.home.netscape.com/comprod/mirror/client_download.html and get the **PowerPack 2.0 Netscape Navigator add-on**. It has an IRC chat program, spell checker, and Norton Anti-virus for the Internet (it scans files as you download them). It's a little large, about 7 megs, but I think it's worth it.

THE PRACTICAL SURFER

Type   www.Flemington.net   or www.express-times.com   or csquare.com to find out local events right when you are looking for something to do, in the Flemington area or   the Easton area. Type www.paturnpike.com for weather and construction news before you set out.

THE IMPRACTICAL SURFER

From: Anthony Versarge   To: All
Here's a little something I found in a newsgroup. I can't make this stuff up:

The Canadian Medical Association has come up with a new illness: Internet Addiction Disorder (IAD).

Symptoms include loss of control, craving and withdrawal symptoms, social isolation, marital ` discord, academic failure, excessive financial debt, and job termination.

See:
Netaholics Anonymous
http://simba.safari.net/~pam/netanon
Webaholics Home Page
http://www.webaholics.com:80

VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

If you can't get a BBS or an Internet connection, try turning your modem on.

AGE CANNOT WITHER -

"One is never too old to use a computer, receive a compliment, or direct a duplicate game." ...Muriel Brigham, of Newport, Washington, believed to be the oldest game director in the world,   recently introduced computer scoring into her weekly duplicate. she's just turned 98.

        ref   Alan   Truscott's Bridgecolumn in the NY Times

WEIRD SIGHT

With no golfer in sight, a bag of clubs rolls along the greensward, beckoned by its owner with the remote control. I haven't seen one tip over yet. Will a

radio operated Snoopy Snuffer be as satisfying to a two year old as one that follows him because he pulls the string?

PUBLISHER UPDATE

"97% of MS Pub users love it just the way it is..." but you should buy Pub97 for $45.98, if you have Win95, and get 150 fonts and 5000 clip art files. You also get access to Clip Gallery Live on the Web.   You also get 100 new Wizards, including, of course, a Web Page Wizard.   You also get Printovation, "...an intelligent online software package and a complete printing service that helps you order professional printing, folding, binding, and delivery services direct from your PC ", using Pub or Word 6 (or 7) . You can get this free software without Pub97 by calling 800-386-7127, or look at www.printovation.com

To see a sample of Clip Gallery, visit www.microsoft.com/publisher/upgrade/

Remember, you're
Unique - just
like everybody else.

WPW Tagline

SHOWS

For advance shcedules:
 Ken Gordon
http://WWW.pcshow.com
Market Pro
http://www.marketpro.com
Tri States
http://www.makcom.com/
tri-state
Peter Trapp - phone 607-369-2796

Next few dates:
Oct 12 Tri-States Freehold Armory

Oct 19 Market Pro Westfield Armory
Nov 3 Market Pro Parsippany Hilton
Nov 3   Market Pro   Garden State Exhibit Center Somerset
Nov 9, 10 Ken Gordon Edison
Nov 23, 24   Market Pro Allentown Fairgroiunds
Dec 7 Ken Gordon Wayne
Dec 12   Ken Gordon Edison
Dec 21,22 Ken Gordon Edison

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Peter Trapp Show - Sept 7

The intricate directions on the card were accurate and led to a large building called Merchant's Square, 1901 S 12th and Vultee Sts., off Lehjgh Ave. in Allentown. The main show was in a room about the size of a high school gym. I was late and it really did shut down at 3 PM as advertised, so I could only peek in. In a nearby room the overflow merchants were set up and they were less interested in closing so my fellow sleuth got the accessories she wanted, and I got 5 copies for $1.00 each, still factory wrapped, of Express Publisher v 2 for DOS, which is the program that did this newsletter for years until I splurged on MS Pub. So now our senior classes can have legal desktop publishing.

The remainder of the very large building was full of an amazing number of boutiques, shoppes, antiques and what nots, all very spruce and shiny, so you can bring along a compulsive shopper to browse for hours while you shop for sensible stuff. There are chairs in the long corridor.

Tri-States show - Oct. 5 - Ukrainian Hall Somerset

This is on Davidson Ave , the same wild left turn onto Atrium drive that you make for the row of hotels and the Garden State Exhibit Center. It's sort of satisfying to go to a show small enough that you can see it all. The big thing here was that the food included carved-on the-spot roast beef served on fresh hard rolls. Your reporter will choose the Ukrainian Hall over Edison at every opportunity. Prices and

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merchandise are similar at every show.

T H E   CLASSIFIED SECTION

For Sale
From: Anthony Versarge
 Old Compaq laptop computer parts? I've got a dead LTE LITE/20 (386) that I bought 3 months ago. I've got a 60 MB HD, 4MB memory card, 1.44 floppy, 2400 modem, a battery, a power pack, and a carrying case that will fit almost any notebook. anthonyv@eclipse..net
Wanted to Buy
From: **Kristen Johnson**
Color printer email me on MMW or kristen.johnson@hcrhs.hunterdon.k12.nj.us
Wanted free
for **Liz Dunbar**
Old computer cards, green or brown, for craft work. Please give them to Evelyn Stewart at a meeting. Thanks.
Wanted
from **Lon Hosford**
defunct **mother boards** from 8088 to Pentium Pros.
defunct **hard drives with controller card**.
defunct **sound boards**.
defunct **CDROM drives with controller cards.**
defunct **Network cards**
defunct **3.5 inch flopppy drives** with controller   All donations to be used at RVCC (our Comm College) Lon Hosford 908 996 7941

email 71161.1146@compuserve.com

BETA -
   Better
      Expect
         Trouble
            Ahead
               WPW

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Jac Carroll explains the failure of the DiskCopy command

> What is the cause of the message "error creating imge file. Diskcopy will revert to a multiple pass copy", and what is the cure? Thanks

You've misplaced your SET TEMP=C:\TEMP line in your AUTOEXEC.BAT. Without that line DISKCOPY doesn't know where to send the temporary file it needs for the copy processing and so gives you the error message about it.

Lately I've been setting up Windows 3.x machines with,

```
@echo off
c:\dos\daily\onceaday         downloaded
from this BBS
 if errorlevel 1 goto skip;
if we ran today just go to :skip
deltree /y c:\temp;
delete the temp subdirectory
 mkdir c:\temp;
make a new temp subdirectory
c:\dos\scandisk /all /autofix /nosave /no
summary
:skip
 set temp=c:\temp
;this needs to be set with every boot
 c:\dos\smartdrive /x/v
blah, blah
cd \windows
 win :  ;don't display the Windows
advertising
```

Deleting the TEMP directory is a bit heavy handed but I believe people would rather not pay for service calls because of shutting down their computers while programs are still running.

```
        ERROR:
Keyboard not attached.
Press F1 to continue.
                    Liz Dunbar
```

LOST DRIVES

Bill Woodall answered a plea for help when a machine said there were no floppy drives in existence:

What you're seeing is technically due to "resource exhaust in KERNEL.EXE" - or, in human terms, you came close to running out of memory for windows, so the system tossed out the floppy drives as a way to keep things going. The general cure for this is to get out of Windows and reboot the system.

The reason Windows wants to toss the floppies: maintaining the file directory for a floppy diskette takes around 32KB for a 5.25, and about 48KB for a 3.5... regardless of how many files are present on the diskette. As soon as you access a diskette, this memory is allocated...and won't be released until the end of the current Windows session.

ABSTRACT COMPUTING

Huge Disks
by Paul M Glattstein

Hard disks are becoming faster, cheaper and larger on almost a month to month basis. With this trend more and more people are switching to 1 or 2 gigabyte (GB) and larger drives. A common question is how to organize and partition such a drive. What is the best arrangement? One huge partition or many small ones? Let's take a look at some of the issues and see what answers emerge.

First, let's consider the question of one partition versus many. The advantages of a single drive with one partition are fairly clear. With only one drive there is no need to change drives to access a program and it's easier to keep track of where program and data files are located. The problem of several partitions each with too little space to store a large program is avoided and the drive can be logically organized into sub-directories to provide a convenient structure for program and data storage. Unfortunately, as the drive gets larger and larger the time to list directories and search for files gets longer and longer. The time to perform routine maintenance checks such as CHKDSK and SCANDISK increases significantly and running a disk defragmentation program such as the Norton Speed Disk can take several hours. Worst of all a read/write problem with the drive can result in major problems with data recovery or cause the loss of all data. Most of these issues are eliminated or minimized with multiple partitions on a single drive. The smaller partitions result in faster access time and maintenance checks can be done in sequence one partition at a ti me. Read/write problems are usually limited to a single partition and rarely is the entire drive affected. The answer seems pretty clear, a single partition may be fine for small drives but huge disks should be divided into several partitions.

Next, let's look at the "alphabet barrier". The total number of disk partitions is limited by the available letter designations A to Z for all of the installed drives. Letters A and B are reserved for floppy drives even if there is only a single one installed. Another drive letter should be set aside for a CD ROM drive, usually D since it is the second physical fixed drive in most systems. A RAM Disk is very convenient is many circumstances and so another drive letter should be reserved for one. Out of the 26 available drive letters we are left with 22 to assign to fixed disk partitions. No matter how many fixed drives or how large they are we can have no more than 22 partitions. At first this may seem like a non-issue but, a little calculation shows that it can become a real problem on larger systems. If we set the partition size at 128 MB we have 8 partitions per gigabyte and run out of drive letters on a 3 GB drive. If we use a drive compression program, such as Stacker, we run out of drive letters twice as fast. Each drive requires 2 letters, one for the compressed volume and the other for the addressable drive. With 128 MB partitions we run out of letters in less than 2 GB. So, we need to find a partition size that is neither too large to manage or so small that we have too many of them.

What is the best partition size? Not an easy question to answer because as the partitions size gets larger we wind up wasting more and more space on small files. The minimum amount a of space occupied by a file is defined as a cluster. On small fixed disks the cluster size is set at 4 sectors of 512 bytes each or 2048 bytes. As the partition size increases so does the cluster size as follows:

Partition Size	Cluster Size
up to 128 MB	2048 bytes (2 KB)
128 MB to 256 MB	4096 bytes (4 KB)
256 MB to 512 MB	8196 bytes (8 KB)
512 MB to 1024 MB	16384 bytes (16 KB)
1024 MB to 2048 MB	32,768 bytes (32 KB)

From the above it's clear that a large partition such as 1GB will result in a lot of wasted space if we have many small files each of which takes up a 32 KB cluster. Even a 540 MB drive with a single partition will tie up a lot of disk capacity in 16 KB clusters. Think of all the batch files, icon files and other small files which need far less than 1 KB each but, will grab a full cluster no matter how large it is. The best compromise is probably somewhere between 200 MB and 500 MB for each partition. This will result in either a 4 KB or 8 KB cluster and avoids issue of too many small partitions or very large clusters.

Now, how about backup. With a huge fixed disk the question of backup becomes a significant issue. Even with a 250 MB tape drive it can take a lot of time and effort and too many tapes to backup the whole thing at one time. A good strategy is to try for a partition size that can be easily backed up onto a single tape or removable disk. If we keep program files and data files on separate partitions then the program partitions might be larger than the backup media since the files change infrequently and need less frequent backup. The data files should be backed up every time the data is changed and so it's more convenient to have the partition size no larger than the backup media size. 250 MB tape drives are common and 430 MB ones are also available. With this in mind an approach that uses 250 MB or 450 MB partitions (depending on the tape drive size) for both program and data seems to be a good choice. If 250 MB results in too many partitions the program partitions could be increased to 500 MB without too much inconvenience. Even with a larger tape drive such as a 4 GB DAT drive or a 1GB JAZ drive any

partition larger than 500 MB should be avoided so that the cluster size is not too large.

In conclusion, to seems that the best strategy for a huge disk drive is to divide it into 250 MB or 500 MB partitions to avoid large cluster sizes and still stay within the alphabet barrier. The size should be selected to match the backup system capacity and if necessary program partitions can be larger than the data partitions.

1995 Paul M. Glattstein
Send comments to pglatt@prolog.net

THE SILLY SECTION

Paul Glattstein forwarded this

KABINDA, ZAIRE--In a move IBM offices are hailing as a major step in the company's ongoing worldwide telecommunications revolution, M'wana Ndeti, a member of Zaire's Bantu tribe, used an IBM global uplink network modem yesterday to crush a nut.

Ndeti, who spent 20 minutes trying to open the nut by hand, easily cracked it open by smashing it repeatedly with the powerful modem.

"I could not crush the nut by myself," said the 47-year-old Ndeti, who added the savory nut to a thick, peanut-based soup minutes later. "With IBM's help, I was able to break it." Ndeti discovered the nut-breaking, 28.8 V.34 modem yesterday, when IBM was shooting a commercial in his southwestern Zaire village. During a break in shooting, which shows African villagers eagerly teleconferencing via computer with Japanese schoolchildren, Ndeti snuck

onto the set and took the modem, which he believed would serve well as a "smashing" utensil.
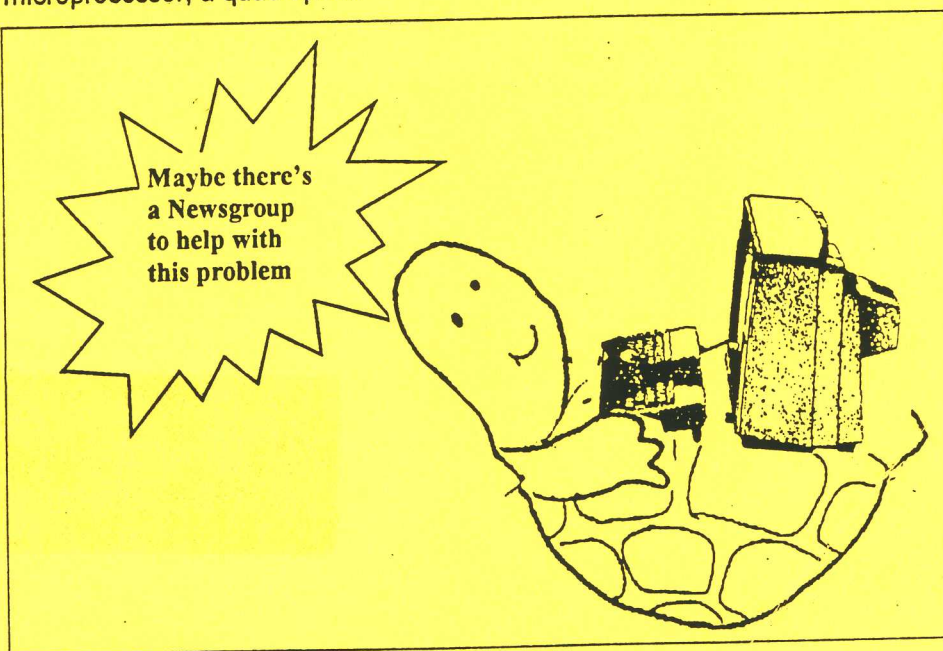
IBM officials were not surprised the longtime computer giant was able to provide Ndeti with practical solutions to his everyday problems. "Our telecommunications systems offer people all over the world global networking solutions that fit their specific needs," said Herbert Ross, IBM's director of marketing. "Whether you're a nun cloistered in an Italian abbey or an Aborigine in Australia's Great Sandy Desert, IBM has the ideas to get you where you want to go today."

According to Ndeti, of the modem's many powerful features, most impressive was its hard plastic casing, which easily sustained several minutes of vigorous pounding against a large stone. "I put the nut on a rock, and I hit it with the modem," Ndeti said. "The modem did not break. It is a good modem." Ndeti was so impressed with the modem that he purchased a new, state-of-the-art IBM workstation, complete with a PowerPC 601 microprocessor, a quad-speed internal CD-ROM drive and three 16-bit ethernet networking connectors. The tribesman has already made good use of the computer system, fashioning a gazelle trap out of its wires, a boat anchor out of the monitor and a crude but effective weapon from its mouse.

"This is a good computer," said Ndeti, carving up a just-captured gazelle with the computer's flat, sharp internal processing device. "I am using every part of it. I will cook this gazelle on the keyboard." Hours later, Ndeti capped off his delicious gazelle dinner by smoking the computer's 200-page owner's manual.

IBM spokespeople praised Ndeti's choice of computers. "We are pleased that the Bantu people are turning to IBM for their business needs," said company CEO William Allaire. "From Kansas City to Kinshasa, IBM is bringing the world closer together. Our cutting-edge technology is truly creating a global village."

Maybe there's a Newsgroup to help with this problem

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Next Meeting - Saturday, October 19
Coffee 8:30 AM
Meeting 9:30   Program 10:00

Raffles, Q AND A SESSION, 11:00 - 12:00

Hunterdon Medical Center Main Entrance
Rt 31 North of Flemington
Presenter: Jim Russ - the Connectix Personal Camera

Guests Welcome - all ages all interests

HCC NEWSLETTER

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB
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