



**Questionable  
Taste Gazette**

**1993**

**"You mean we have to  
stay here until we reach  
a decision?"**



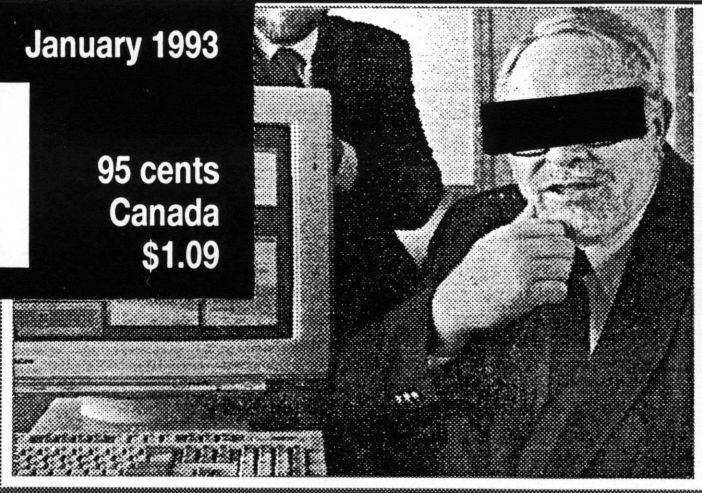
***Studies  
Reveal  
Math IS  
Hard!***

How to eat a meal near a keyboard — *safely!*  
It's a mouse AND a scrub brush!

January 1993

# RN

95 cents  
Canada  
\$1.09



## Staff Slaps SCO with Look & Feel Lawsuit

CEO tells how  
UNIX ruined his marriage.

**Biff's Tips**

## Desperate Delta Lo

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

*Beginning of time, 1970**New Year's Day*

1

2

*Full Moon*

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

*End of time 2038**New Moon*

17

*Martin Luther  
King Day*

18

19

20

21

22

*Chinese New  
Year begins  
(4691, the  
Rooster)*

23

24

31

*USENIX  
Technical  
Conference  
begins*

25

26

27

28

29

30

# January 1993

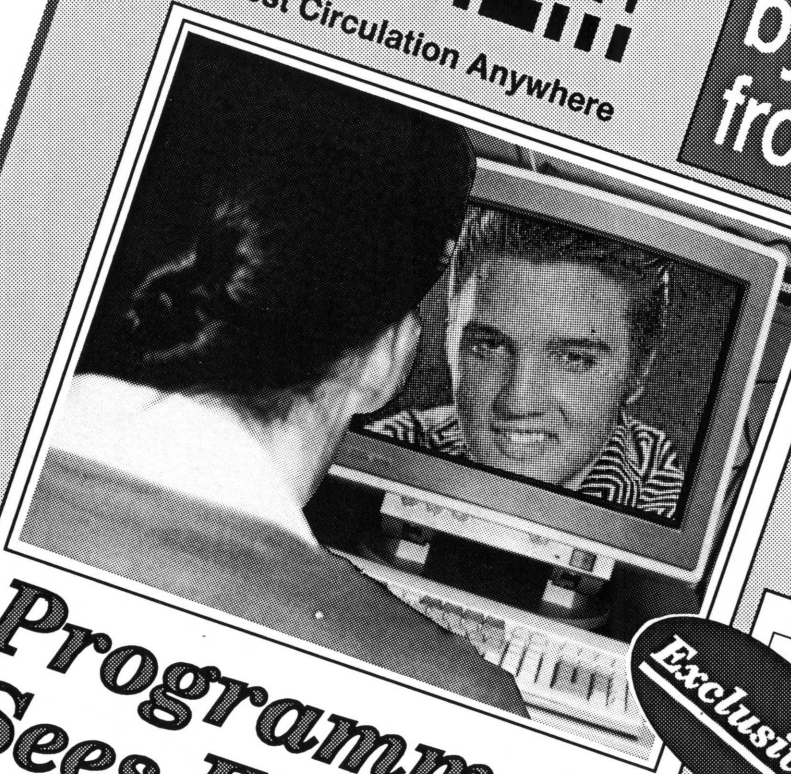
July 1993  
\$7.09 Canada

# FLAME!!!

Hottest Circulation Anywhere

## UNIX Eaten by Mastadon from UTAH

as programmers  
as programmers  
watch in horror  
watch in horror



### Programmer Sees Elvis in GUI!

**Exclusive!**



Why MT XINU  
didn't Hire  
Madonna....

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

*Groundhog Day*

2

3

4

5

*Full Moon*

6

7

8

9

10

11

*Lincoln's Birthday*

12

13

*St. Valentine's Day*

14

*President's Day*

15

16

17

18

19

20

*New Moon*

21

*Washington's Birthday*

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

# February

Tired of having your negative ions bouncing around, wreaking havoc in the machine room? S'motherAll offers new system administrator jumpsuits. Keep your ions where they belong with our patented "and-keep-it-in-there" system. Call now, and you'll get matching system administrator Birkenstocks! Offer void where prohibited. S'motherAll. Call 555-JUMP.

# Silicon Squares Scandal Causes Static

## Fate in Hands of Lawyers

— 2 March 1993

Critics and grateful fans couldn't find enough compliments for the recent change from Hollywood to Silicon Squares. The show, which airs against PBS's Computer Chronicles, boasts celebrity guests Richard Stallman, Admiral Grace Hopper, Steven Jobs, Dennis Ritchie, Ken Thompson, Alfred Aho, Caspar Weinberger, Brian Kernighan, and in the center square, Charro ("Feliz Navidad!"). The revised show received higher ratings than any time in the show's twenty-two year history.

Network executives were estatic, and to tell the truth, mildly surprised. That was, until the ugly truth hit the fan.

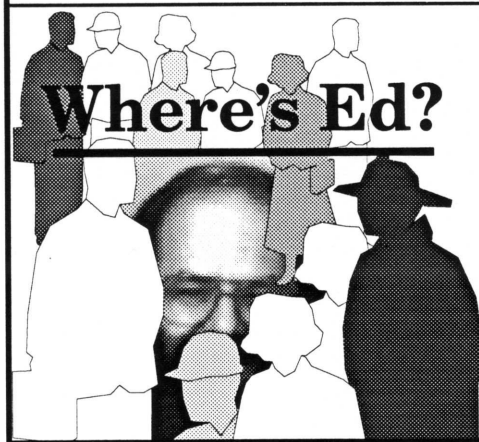
Last Friday, PBS gossip columnist Coke® E. Coberts uncovered, in a tell-all interview with Paul Rubens, that Rubens had his hand in writing and then rehearsing answers with all nine panelists. Charro stated, in characteristic fashion, "Mea culpa, from the bottom of my heart, O.K.?" The other software stars had no comment. The fate of the new venture is now in the hands of copyright and patent attorneys.

## Software Daily

**YES**, I want to try **SOFTWARE DAILY**. With each subscription I will get the *new* Dennis Ritchie action figure **free**, along with Totally Hair Ken Thompson and *loads of accessories*, including hairbrush, styling gel, and GNU utilities. All for only **\$9.95** annually. Sign me

put his hands on my shoulders and suddenly a surge  
been to see? And I told them, Dr. Jesus."

**NEW! from the author of Where's Waldo?**  
Explore the world of system software with loved ones.



At a bookstore  
near you! \$16.99  
As seen  
on TV

## Housewife Kidnapped by Aliens

**Kidnapped housewife given secret of parallel processing in object-oriented environment.**

"At first I was really mad. I was trying to watch the new Silicon Squares and this little guy interrupted," said Betty Yost of Fort Bragg. "He kept at it until I didn't know what I was

on," she said. "But, when he explained that I'd be able to parallel process, I didn't care whether the circle got Stallman's square or not."

Since her experience,

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

4

5

6

*Full Moon*

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

*St. Patrick's Day*

17

18

19

*Spring begins*

20

*New Moon*

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

# March

and then the next thing I knew, the sheep were all gone, and now I've been hit with this lawsuit! Can you figure that?".

## Biff Predicts



Famous industry watch dog raises a leg on the future:

- Bill Gates founds ashram in India.
- VAX rises from the dead.
- VMS market share grows.
- Stallman becomes major Apple shareholder.
- MT XINU changes name to Llevon.
- Elvis fingered as next Digital president.
- Government standardizes tax collection; paper tape chosen as exchange medium.
- POSIX committee incorporates JCL feature.
- 80% of palm tops sold in 1993 lost in handbags.
- /dev/null discovered under polar icecap.

pan eat as a career, which isn't surprising, when you stop to figure the cost of feeding 80 penguins. Even though the venture was not successful, Ken's exposure to multiple-module memories and interleaving prom-

when Dennis was home from the office for Christmas break and Naomi was four months into her pregnancy, the young couple decided, despite their mounting guilt, to try to make a break with the past

degree in computer science in 1978. Dennis accepted the job with a major software company. The young family had a close and affectionate relationship with his daughter. But as Naomi and Dennis began to raise their feathers and start their own software business, the chips everywhere began to fall together for feeding and Naomi keeps busy hitting the notes. Says Naomi, "I'm taking a day at a time."

**NEW! from the author of Where's Waldo?**  
Explore the world of software tools with your kids.

**Where's Biff's Leg?**



*At a bookstore  
near you! \$16.99*

**As seen  
on TV**

**Why are we giving away  
our best Vaxen for only  
\$29.99 each?**



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

*Full Moon**Daylight Savings Time begins @ 2 AM*

4

5

*First day of Passover*

6

7

8

9

10

*Easter*

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

*New Moon*

18

*USENIX Mach III Symposium begins*

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

# April

Tired of coming home from work and finding nothing in the refrigerator? Weary of trying to think of what to eat for dinner? With our new "Surprise Me!" labor-saving dinner preparation device, you simply key in a list of preferred foods, indicate what hours you are typically out of the house, and leave your housekey in an unmarked envelope under your dormat. When you return from a busy day, you'll find a surprise! So, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? Act now! Call us! 555-DOOF. Doof inc. is a subsidiary of Skoorc, Inc.

# **World Readable**

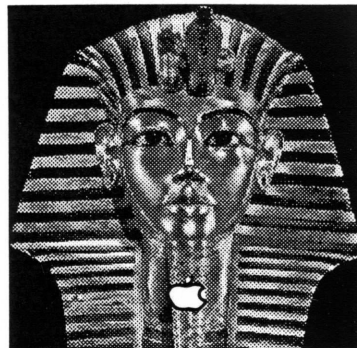
May 1993  
99 cents  
Canada \$1.09

?

---

**Ask  
Biff**

---



Logo discovered in ancient pyramid. Egypt sues Apple over trademark.

- "Other kids laugh at my floppies!"*
  - "My brother is a nerd. What can I do?"* p. 3
  - "My dad won't let me play with user interface guys."*
- 

## **DOCTORS WARN**

**MT XINU EXERCISE VIDEO  
MAY BE HARMFUL TO HEALTH**

---

**"Tape Drive lifts and power cycling too much," they say.**



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



*Biff's  
Birthday 1978*

1

*Full Moon*

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

*Mother's  
Day*

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

*New Moon*

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

30

*Memorial  
Day  
observed*

31

25

26

27

28

29

# May

Have you ever wondered if your name suited you? Maybe you're a "Steve" but feel like a "Donald?" If the answer is yes, you are not alone. I can help you find out what your name is supposed to be — all you need is a \$1 bill!

Here's how to get started. Take your first name. Assign each letter a numerical value based on its position in the alphabet (a=1, b=2, etc.). Now, take the \$1 bill, and add up the digits in the serial number. Multiply that by 7. Now, make out a check to Madame XINU for that amount, and BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR ACTUAL NAME. Mail it to me, and within 4–6 weeks, you'll receive your personalized Name Analysis.

# CLOSED SYSTEMS

June 1993/\$1.25 U.S./\$1.95 Canada

*Dear  
Biff*

*p. 3*

## How New NT User became Impotent.

*"I only tried it  
for a few  
minutes,"  
he  
claims.*



*Computer scientists reveal  
how piercing relieves bus  
constipation.*

*Scientists discover Michelangelo virus  
sexually transmitted!*

## Valley Guy Eats Mainframe!



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

*Full Moon**Queen's  
Birthday  
celebrated*

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

*New Moon**Summer begins**Father's  
Day*

20

*USENIX  
Technical  
Conference  
begins*

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

# June

Announcing the new, improved AmaZoMatic! It slices, dices chops, grinds, bumps, compiles, snorts, chortles, spits, debugs! Try it on onions, carrots, "hello world"! Try it today. Moneyback guarantee. 555-AMAZ.

# Internet

INQUIRER

July 1993. Free Distribution.

Biff's ★★★★★  
Star Talk ★★★

Sagittarius: stay away from  
spinning magnetic objects!

Aries: wild times ahead!

Leo: hostile takeover looms!

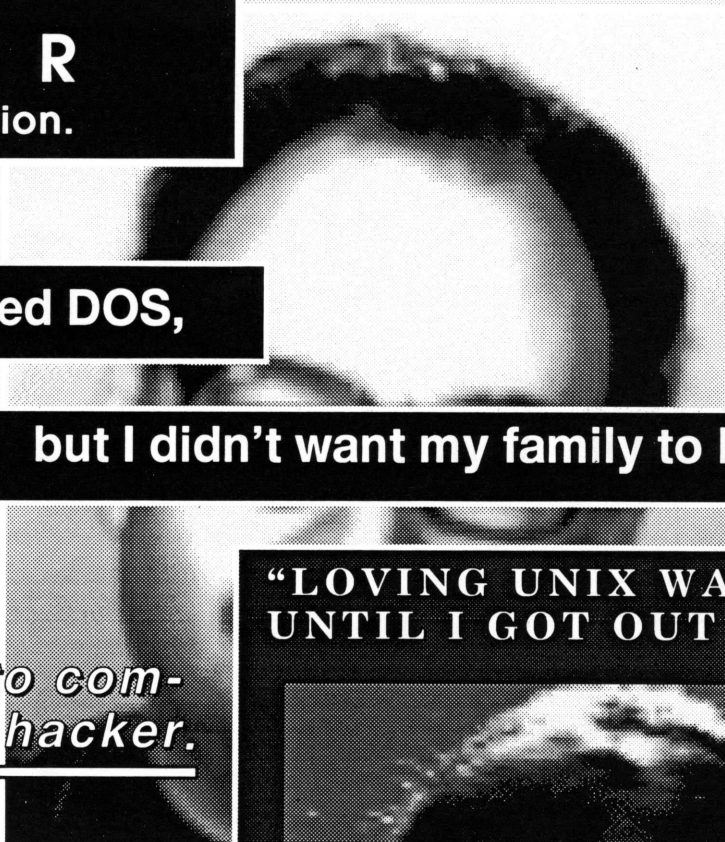
I used DOS,

but I didn't want my family to know.

*Woman gives birth to com-  
puter child. Blames hacker.*

*"I changed my diaper  
pail for a bit bucket."*

“LOVING UNIX WAS EASY  
UNTIL I GOT OUT OF JAI



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

*Full Moon**U.S. Independence Day*

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

*New Moon*

18

*MT XINU  
incorporated  
10 years ago*

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

# July

Do you know the magic significance of the number 7? Have you ever wondered if there's some key that could unlock your ability to attain happiness? I am offering for a limited time only . . . Seven Dwarfs Analysis.

Are you a Grumpy? a Dopey? a Sneezzy? Finding out might change your dull, ordinary, despicable, downright unpleasant little life into a fairy tale.

## Celebrity Corner Recipes

*Exclusive*

Bill Joy  
shares  
his recipe  
for a  
summer  
drink with  
the look &  
feel of  
Coke.®

*Across the  
country  
programmers  
use Sparc 10s  
for food  
preparation*

10 easy meals: from boiling eggs with awk to preparing a 5-course meal with Ingres. . . .

*What's going on inside ...*

# Computer Detective

August 1993  
99 cents

## *Please Don't Take MY LOVECHILD!!!*



*— a mother's passionate plea —*

## Biff's Corner

Our canine expert digs up dirt about Solaris 3.9, IBM, and foreign trade.



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

*Full Moon**USENIX Mobile  
& Location of  
Independent  
Computing  
Symposium  
begins*

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

*New Moon**System  
Administrators' Day*

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31



# August

Do you know the magic significance of the number 7? Have you ever wondered if there's some key that could unlock your ability to attain happiness? I am offering for a limited time only — Seven Deadly Sins Analysis. Which is your favorite sin? Lust? Gluttony? Avarice? What does it mean that you can't remember the other 4 sins? Call me at 555-SLOTH for your first free appointment.

# Tabulation

FOR COMPUTER  
PROFESSIONALS

September, 1993



Volume 1: 9.93

Price: \$1.09

**Biff Pokes:** details, p. 3.



System Operator,  
Mauled by Tape Drive,  
Remembers the Horror.



“That’s why we stopped allowing  
refried beans in the machine room.”

**Critics Choice** ■■■■

**DOS removers, do they  
do what they claim?**

An indepth look at leading

Strategic partnerships:  
What CEOs should know about  
space aliens. The industry’s only

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>Labor Day</i>	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	<i>New Moon</i>	16	17
				<i>Rosh Hashanah (5754)</i>		
19 <i>USENIX 2nd Symposium on Microkernels &amp; Other Kernels begins</i>	20	21	<i>Autumn begins</i>	22 <i>USENIX SEDMS IV begins</i>	23	24
				<i>Full Moon</i>		<i>Yom Kippur</i>
26	27	28	29	30		

# September

Do you know the magic significance of the number 7? Have you ever wondered if there's some key that could unlock your ability to attain happiness? I am offering for a limited time only — Analysis for \$77 an hour. Madame Xinu. 555-7777.

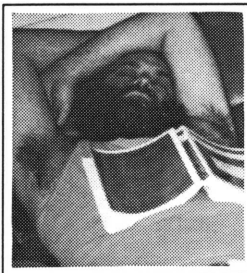
UrethraNet®

## Improve productivity Increase throughput

UrethraNet silently encircles your workplace, providing under-the-desk comfort stations for every client. Easy installation and maintenance.

30 day moneyback guarantee.

To order, call 510/644-0146.  
Be sure to ask about our other fine operating systems today.



"I'm not only the founder, I'm also a UrethraNet client!" — Jon Hale

*Never walk that long lonesome hallway again!*

"Now that we have UrethraNet, I love my work! I never leave my workstation, from the time I arrive until our Thursday staff meeting. It's true! Now, my heart really belongs to data!"  
— Haley Jonson, client

AMAZING  
OFFER

Only \$29.99 per node!

## Seven Amazing Uses for Mag Tape

Many companies simply discard what might be a valuable

tightly bundled for a yule-time merkin or goatee, for example.

actually. We were all pretty surprised about it, but you can tell from her quacking that she enjoys the work, and she does a good job, so we're just hoping that the university doesn't come down on us about the citizenship requirement." ♣

hold a grudge. If of it as tit for tat. As far as hair can't find better Scheduling, pro shape analysis. A by it.

## Space Aliens from buy MT XINU

### Industry Analysts Shocked by Sudd

In a sudden hostile take-over, which surprised company founders, the Calendar Products division of MT XINU was acquired by Space Aliens, Inc. In a rapid re-organization, the OS development division was gutted, with 100% of the engineers jumping to the

CP division. Pr announced that software produ for the birds! T name to *Drib*. Fault-tolerant s hummingbirds.

For a short time, you can get that new party game everyone's been talking about ABSOLUTELY FREE. That's right, it's **Pin the Leg on Biff!**

You won't be sorry!  
!!!!!!!

Ca  
Yo  
ne

## *Biff Cooks*

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

*USENIX  
UNIX Security  
Symposium  
begins*

4

5

6

7

8

9

*New Moon*

10

*National  
Coming Out  
Day*

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

*Full Moon*

31

*Halloween*

25

26

27

28

29

*Standard time  
returns at  
2 AM on the  
31st*

30

# October

SWM, VI, DBX, S/M seeks pipe into GREP with SQL DB.

SBP w/CTRL issues sks. window mgr. SHFT & META A+

**MAC WEENIE DESPERATELY NEEDS BOOTING. NO SMOKERS, PLS.**

FUN(YOU) {DOUBLE ME;  
RETURN ME/YOU; }

I'm tired of the BBSs and am ready to go network wide. PC compatible, loves long sessions at the terminal, pouring over hex dumps and clean windows. Seeks same. 510 644-0146.

#### **Bidirectional?**

Bisynchronous modem seeks connection with same. Speed and parity unimportant. Dial me up sometime! 300-600-1200.

#### **Controllers Wanted**

Dominate me with your disks and floppies. Come on Kernel, tell me what to do!

Daughters of Remote Programmers Support Group  
phone 510 644-0146. Ask about our development participation plan.

Rhumba lessons. 510 644-0146. Don't forget to ask for AutoSupport.

Attractive, healthy, TCP-guy looking for special cable to lay. My place or yours? Send photo to Xinu Box 145.

*Dysfunctional VAXen need not reply.* Are you sleek, modern, and quick to compute? Do you have enough expansion slots to support numerous peripherals? Then, you're the hardware for me! email [vax@NOT.com](mailto:vax@NOT.com).

**Looking for Love.** Not just another clone! It's hard to find someone compatible these days. Get in touch! Let's see if we can communicate! 510 644-0146.

# Geek away!!!

**POW!**

# r m - f

**IEEE  
Seal of  
Approval  
1993**

2 for  
\$19.95

**MT XINU: Keeping the world safer.**  
Contains no harmful fluorocarbons

Send your order today to [helpme@mtxinu.com](mailto:helpme@mtxinu.com). MasterCard, Visa, and Diner's Club accepted



"I used to be afraid at night. I'd hide my code. But now, I'm a new person." — Shula Biermann

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



*USENIX  
LISA VII  
begins*

1

2

3

4

5

6

*New Moon*

7

8

9

10

*Veteran's  
Day*

11

12

13

*Sadie  
Hawkins  
Day*

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

*Thanksgiving  
Day (U.S.)*

25

26

27

*Full Moon*

28

29

30

# November

We hear a lot of questions about what's fair. Daisy was quite resentful about the lay-off policy, but I don't know what she expected us to do. When push comes to shove, a poodle is a poodle!" ♣

*On a Rampage*, continued from page 2.

A coworker noted: "He was always a really quiet fellow, but pleasant. And he was more than just a technical writer. He was always composing poetry for our documentation. A lot of it was that weird techno-deconstructionist stuff, but hey, I can appreciate that modern stuff! Anyway, it turns out that all this time, he's been keeping a weasel under his desk .... We always did wonder about all those sandwiches he brought for lunch— three sandwiches a day! "

"So, he gets back from vacation, and finds his weasel dead as a doorknob, and he thinks the electric field from all the equipment we keep up in his office has killed off his weasel. He went totally nuts, spouting his poetry, and waving a piece of broken chair around. (We'd gotten in the habit of storing broken equipment in his office ... chairs and machines, old tape drives and the like ... I guess we just figured he didn't really mind, and then it just got to be a habit)...



hair really belongs to data!"  
— Haley Jonson, client

**Only \$29.99 per nose!**

## Ralston Purina Buys USL

**Provo — 2 December 1993**

In the latest in a surprising series of takeovers, Ralston Purina quietly purchased controlling interest in UN\*X Systems Laboratories. CEO of Ralston, Chuck Steak, boasted, "We're branching out to new markets."

The new system, which will change names from UN\*X to "Diskchow®," is scheduled to be released in February

— *continued*, p. 7

Try your hand at  
writing .....



## Biff's Holiday Tips

**What to do with those write rings.**  
It's easy to make treats for neighbors

**Holiday dazzle with 9-track tapes!**  
Twelve ideas! Why not surprise rel-

*contin*

stated  
mayo  
standa  
oleo n  
final d  
ever d  
able w  
I ere I  
fit.

She at  
could  
specia  
bed ju  
each r

Finally  
hospit  
urgent  
but co  
pay th  
even t  
insura  
for ye

Many  
sent d



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



*World Aids Day*

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

*First day of Chanukah*

9

10

11

*New Moon*

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

*Winter begins*

21

22

23

24

*Christmas Day*

25

*Full Moon*

26

27

28

29

30

31

# December

This year,  
folks,  
you're on  
your own.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

*USENIX  
Technical  
Conference  
begins*

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

30

31

25

26

27

28

29

# January 1994

## Credits, Acknowledgements, Legal HooHaa and an Apology:

This 1993 Calendar was conceived and produced by the sick minds of the employees, hangers-on and street people in and around

MT XINU  
2560 Ninth Street, Suite 312  
Berkeley, CA 94710

solely for the embarrassment of nerds everywhere.

Designed and produced by *Grand Sick-O Jazzbo* Marks.

October center-fold photo provided by Lisa Hale.

Any references made in this publication that actually resemble real people, real companies, real products, real tabloids or reality is sheer luck.

## We're Sorry!

We at MT XINU are distressed to have to inform our customers that the highly successful and popular nerd repellent, **Geek-Away**, is no longer available in the United States. Our lawyers tell us we also cannot comment on the slimy lawsuit brought by a small, vicious pack of so-called "scientists" from an unnamed Technological Educational Institution in the northeast.

Watch this space for our next product, **Lawyer-Off**, coming soon to an underground merchant near you!

Trademarks: Mach386 is a trademark of MT XINU, Inc; UNIX is a registered trademark of whoever owns UNIX Systems Laboratories this week; Sparc is a trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc.; Uh-Huh! is a trademark of the PepsiCola Company; Totally Hair Ken is a trademark of Mattel, Inc.; Coke is a registered trademark of The Coca Cola Company; any other tradenames used in this publication are trademarks of their respective companies; so there.