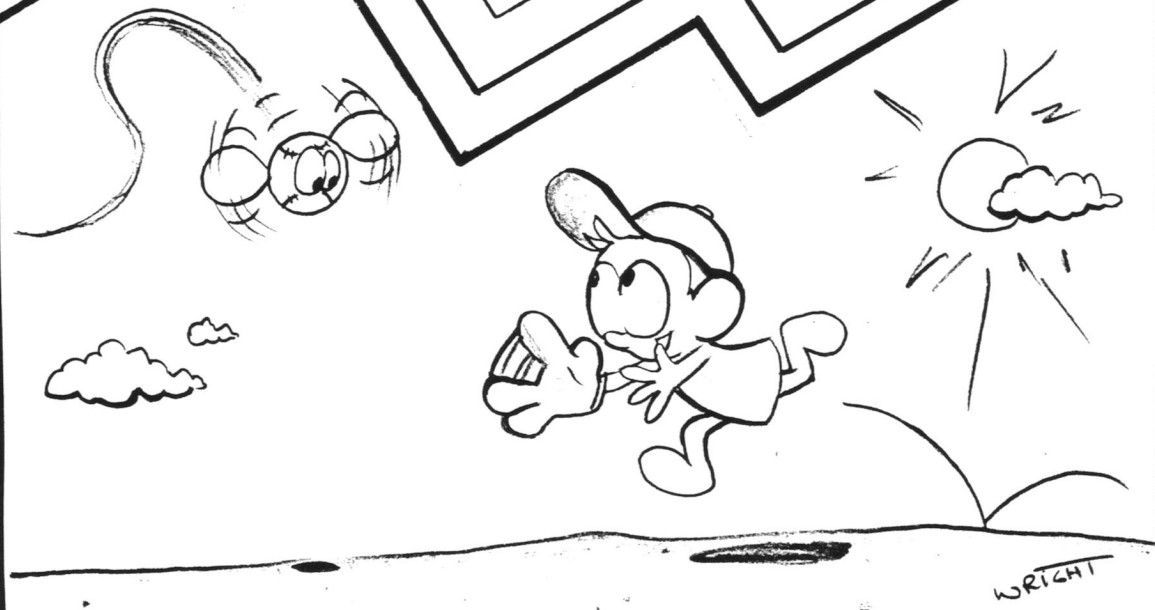


THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 1984

NABU NETWORK Corporation

# THE ALL NEW GRUNT PRESS

ISSUE 9



THE GRUNT PRESS  
THE EDITOR'S SAY

Hello. My name is Edmond Hum.

Since The Grunt Press has become a newspaper for all of the NABU Network Corporation to reckon with, we now have correspondents reporting to us from Richmond Road, Finance, the Delivery Systems Development group, the Microsoftware Systems group, the Message Center, the Receiving area, and good ol' reliable QA (always a story, every issue).

Want to write about your department? Do you know of someone at NABU whom you would like to interview? Hey, put those words on paper (or better yet, on Wordstar!). The deadline is Tuesday, June 19 for all you budding authors. If you need to, give me a call at extension 430 here at Baxter Center.

P.S. Be sure to catch the June issue of Ottawa magazine. Yours truly has an article in its summer supplement (it'll be nice to see my name on glossy paper instead of on yellow). Special thanks go to Michelle Couture for her editorial advice.

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FINAL MONTH FOR THE GETAWAY DRAW!

By Lynda Bright

Great news: we're dispensing with the minimum number of leads to qualify for the monthly draw. Every lead you send that results in an in-home demo will count, and one of you will receive either \$250 or a getaway weekend for two to the value of \$250 (just for the record, over 90% of the leads you've sent have resulted in demos and of these, most of the demos are now NABU subscribers!).

If your name hasn't been drawn yet, there's still a possibility for the month of June. In fact, we're extending the deadline to July 6 to give you a few extra days!

As for those of you who are working towards qualifying for the grand prize -- you could be spending a week for two in the sunny south in the middle of winter.

GO FOR IT!

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(Cartoon submitted by Sue Mitchell)

Worship of God, tidiness and punctuality are the rules of a respectable firm.

As of now, the employees will work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday being reserved for religious services. The morning prayer will be said, every day, in the main office.

Everyone is subjected to overtime at the decision of management.

The senior employee is responsible for keeping the office tidy. The newly-arrived employees must report to him 40 minutes before prayer time, and at the end of each day if needed.

Attire is to be simple. The employees must never wear bright colours. They must always wear proper stockings. It is forbidden to wear rubbers and coats in the office, since a furnace is at the personnel's disposal. Exceptionally, scarfs and hats may be worn in the office during winter. Furthermore, it is advisable to bring four pounds of coal a day in winter time.

Smoking is forbidden during office hours. An employee's honour and righteousness will be suspect, should he smoke cigars, drink alcoholic beverages, hang around poolrooms or political circles.

Absorption of food is permitted between 11:30 and 12:00. Work however, must not stop.

The employee shall be respectful and humble towards customers, management and newspaper men.

Every member of the personnel must do his utmost to keep in good health, as wages will not be paid in case of illness.

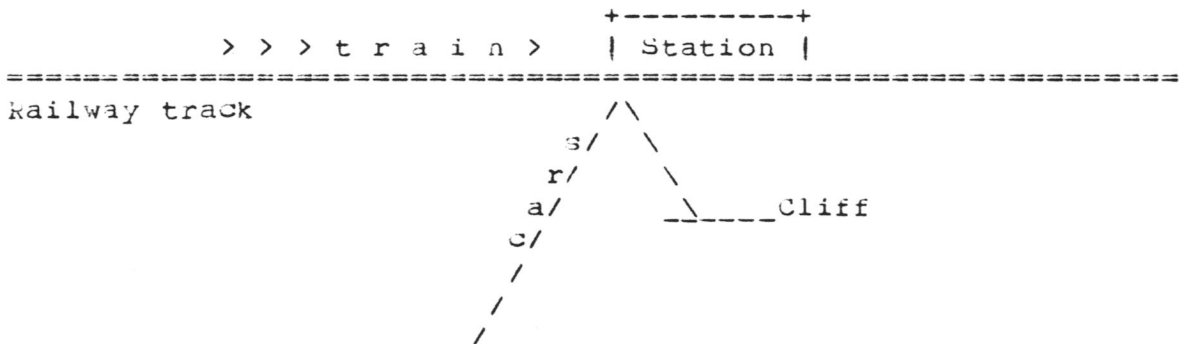
It is advisable for everyone to save an important part of his income in order not to become the concern of the collectivity should he be too old, or unable to work.

In closing, we draw your attention to the leniency of these new rules. We therefore expect great improvement in your work.

AND NOW .... LDI

The latest demand to issue forth from THE POWERS THAT BE, with all the force of a crumpled memo, is LDI. That's Local Data Insertion to you.

What's local data insertion? Well imagine a freight train travelling at 6.3 megabits per second. Some of the train cars have a chalk mark on the side. Sitting in the station siding is a line of cars to join the train (see diagram).



And now, our hero, the shunter. He stands at the junction in the tracks, and by judicious juggling of the switch, he removes the cars with a chalk mark and substitutes the cars waiting in the siding. Cars which have been switched out of the train trundle down the right hand track to fall over the cliff into oblivion (only in Canada, you say?). And all without slowing the train.

So that's local data insertion. Simple really. Those of you who have been listening<sup>g</sup> will be able to answer the test question:

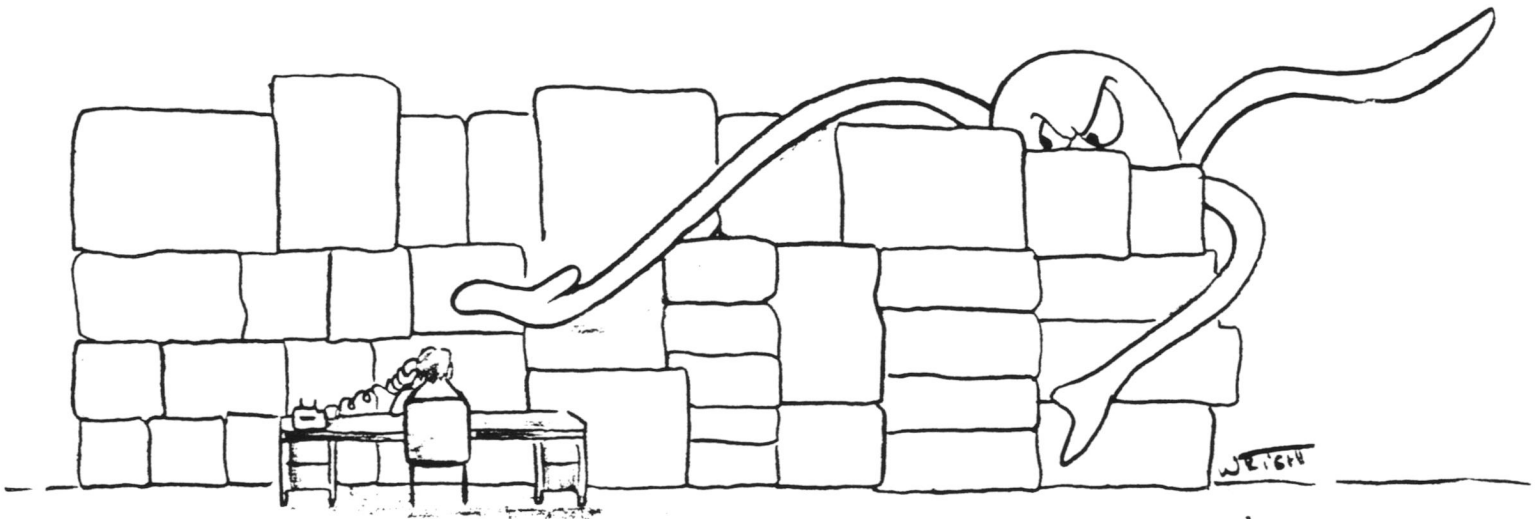
What's the name of the station master?

(John Kelly, obviously)

T. Walker

After taking a minute to read what I have just written, it seems that I am going from bad to worse. So, let me close by apologizing for the cinnamon-apple tea, I must have lost my head!

RECEIVING AREA



You are looking for your pet WHAT?!!!

**BRUCE ROBERTSON:  
DEPARTING NABUITE AN OLYMPIC SWIMMER**

By Edmond Hum

When Canada's Bruce Robertson churned to history in the 100-meter butterfly in Belgrade, Yugoslavia nine years ago, the aquatics world sat up and took notice. That gold medal performance at the first ever World Aquatics Championships showed that Canada was just about to be taken seriously in the sport.

- "Canadian Aquatics" magazine  
July 1982



When former NABUite and swimmer Mary Bermel first joined the company and heard the name "Bruce Robertson", she thought it couldn't possibly be the same Bruce Robertson who won a silver medal in the '72 Olympics. "Bruce appeared so unassuming," says Mary. "He was a stalwart member of Jim Groenewald and Peter Reid's band of watchdogs over the corporate finances."

Bruce, who is Manager of Applications Support, and who will be leaving to work for Price-Waterhouse in Dusseldorf, West Germany in mid-July, has an staggering list of accomplishments:

- \* two medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics, a silver in the 100 meter butterfly behind Mark Spitz and a bronze in the 4 X 100 medley relay.

- \* gold in the 100 meter butterfly and bronze in the relay at the 1973 World Championships.

- \* two silver medals at the 1974 Commonwealth Games in Christchurch, New Zealand in the 100 meter freestyle and the 200 meter freestyle, and a bronze in the 100 meter butterfly, plus three relay medals, two gold and one bronze.

- \* three silver medals in relay events and two bronze medals individually at the 1975 Pan Am Games.

- \* inducted in 1977 into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame.

- \* inducted into the Canadian Amateur Athletic Hall of Fame, the B.C. Sport Hall of Fame and the Aquatic Hall of Fame of Canada.

- \* made an member of the Order of Canada in 1973 for being world champion that year.

- \* has had lunch with Queen Elizabeth II, met Prime Minister Trudeau and former Premier Dave Barrett of B.C., and been honored by Governor General Jules Leger.

"Sometimes I get awed by what I've done," says Bruce. "Did I really do all these things?"

When people find out about Bruce's illustrious past, they respond with an incredible mixture of different reactions. "For some people, it doesn't make a difference," says Bruce. "Others will ask me for my autograph. And some will just walk up to me and say, "Wow"."

more...

BRUCE ROBERTSON - continued

Bruce, his wife Sheila and their two-year-old son live in Morewood, Ontario, which is near Russell on Highway 417 towards Montreal. They will be flying out July 23 to spend a couple of years in Europe to learn about the culture and languages there. Bruce, a chartered accountant, will be working for the firm he used to work for before NABU, Price-Waterhouse.

He says he's learned a lot in his three years at NABU. "So many companies are run by their structure. NABU runs by its people," says Bruce. "The pace has moved so incredibly fast. It's been an incredible experience that I would not have passed up on. The people I've met here have basically been a dedicated and hard-working bunch."



Photos courtesy of The Citizen



## NICE GIRL - continued

One of the interesting features of my position is that it allows me to be in contact with a large number of employees throughout the working day, and therefore I am able to get to know some of the employees on a more personable level. Since the Facilities department had Dutch doors installed in the Message Center, I have contemplated on a number of occasions to place a sign on the outside of my office door which would read "Psychiatrist and Counselling Services Available: Reasonable Rates", similar to that of Lucy Van Pelt in the "Peanuts" comic strip. Would you believe I have offered advice on such topics as how to cope with a two weeks' visit from your parents in your very first apartment, what to do when your apartment is flooded and have even given suggestions on what to wear on that all-important second date. This consulting service is done while also performing my other duties and I would like to add that I do not charge NABU the going consultant rates!

Getting back to answer the next question regarding the Brian Mulroney family portrait. Since I am the one who sorts the incoming mail from the post office, I also receive mail for ex-NABU employees as well as defunct NABU subsidiaries. One particular envelope was addressed to a defunct subsidiary, and since it had the PC party logo on it, I took it upon myself to open the envelope. Inside, much to my surprise, was an 8 X 10 autographed color glossy of the Mulroney family. I thought to myself, "Why not put it up on the wall? It would make a great conversation piece." And voila, this article evolved...

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## NEWS FROM THE Q.A. DEPARTMENT

By Glen Gauvin

The SWAT team has been kept busy lately reviewing the new Cymbal educational software soon to be released. Cymbal has developed a whole range of programs covering such topics as science and math tutorials, to a metric conversion quiz. We are anxiously awaiting the NABU versions of the MSX games that Chris Wallace and John Shortt have brought back from Japan (providing they can decipher Japanese).

A familiar face has returned to QA after a brief (?) absence. Kunthi Paikera has returned from her vacation in Europe. More good news: Al McKillen, another familiar face in QA, will be continuing his stay at NABU through the summer.

By the way, Terry Newcombe: how did you discover that the women's showers at Queen's are at shoulder height?

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A belated cheer of welcome to programmers TIM RANGER and STEVE UNDERWOOD, who went from part-time to full-time May 16.



DAVE ALLAN - continued

Instead of throwing up on your screen at compile time.

One other rule of thumb to avoid an Oscar for runtime special effects is to declare all common variables 'static' (especially structures and arrays ).

### Other stuff:

Myself and a few other NABUite musician types are interested in putting together a band for fun and perhaps a social event or two. We are currently looking for a drummer and a vocalist, but as it is in fun, virtually any musical offering will be considered. Contact myself at ext. 432 or Ian Page at ext. 447.

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### COOKING FOR 40 CAN BE FUN!

By Donna From

Last weekend I enjoyed having the dubious title of camp cook for a Beaver Camp. Beavers are boys aged 5 to 8 and my husband has been their leader for the past 4 years (do you know how embarrassing it is to tell people your husband is a Beaver leader? ... "He's a WHAT?!").

This is the third year I have worn this hat and I have found this year's experience to be the easiest yet. I constructed my standard spaghetti casserole for 50. This year's group was made up of:

- 20 Beavers
- 10 Adult leaders
- 5Rovers (15 to 17 year old boys)

I know this only comes out to 35 people, but have you ever fed a group of 15 to 17 year old boys who have never uttered the words, "I'm full"?

Everything went smoothly, except for the time my husband walked into the kitchen in the midst of me browning 10 lbs. of hamburger, baking 6 cakes and stirring up the ingredients for 48 muffins and asking, "Where is my scout shirt, hon, and have you seen where the flashlights are?". I screamed something unmentionable, closed the doors to the kitchen and continued creating the next day's meals.

We had the best weather we have ever had, and the most well-behaved little boys. They dutifully went to bed after a full day of constant activity at 10:30 pm Saturday and no one heard a peep from them until 11:00 pm Saturday, when one of them had to go to the washroom. I believe this feeling was contagious because after  
more...

DATELINE: 2008 A.D. - continued

daquiris in seven to twenty-one seconds. I can vouch that our engineers are working night and day perfecting this product." Enthusiasm is shared by other employees; one official who asked to remain anonymous said: "I think it's a great idea. I know I'd have two or three in my home."

NABU spokesmen are remaining tight-lipped on whether humans can be transported by the new device, but reports have been made of the NABU Baseball team having after-game drinks in a Madrid cafe only a half hour after a game in Britannia Park.

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#### AMBLINGS AND STUFF FROM MSS

By Eric Mesdag

First thing I want to do is welcome Joanne Warkus back. She has been off for a while (we've always thought she was off a little anyway), and we were just getting used to the quiet. But she's back now, sporting two wooden clubs disguised as crutches. I'll feel safer when she can leave those things at home.

So you want to know what's been happening in Software Engineering, eh? Well, I'll tell you what MSS is doing. We've been a busy bunch, (aren't we always) with the release of CP/M, the work on foreign micros, updates to IOS, further work on the disk utilities, and providing a little support for demonstrations.

It seems that we are now in the season of shows. Even Engineering people are affected by the hustle and bustle that these shows create. Indy Singh has been travelling and demonstrating that foreign Micros can be run using the NABU Network. And I have been spending some time helping people with the CABSERVE system.

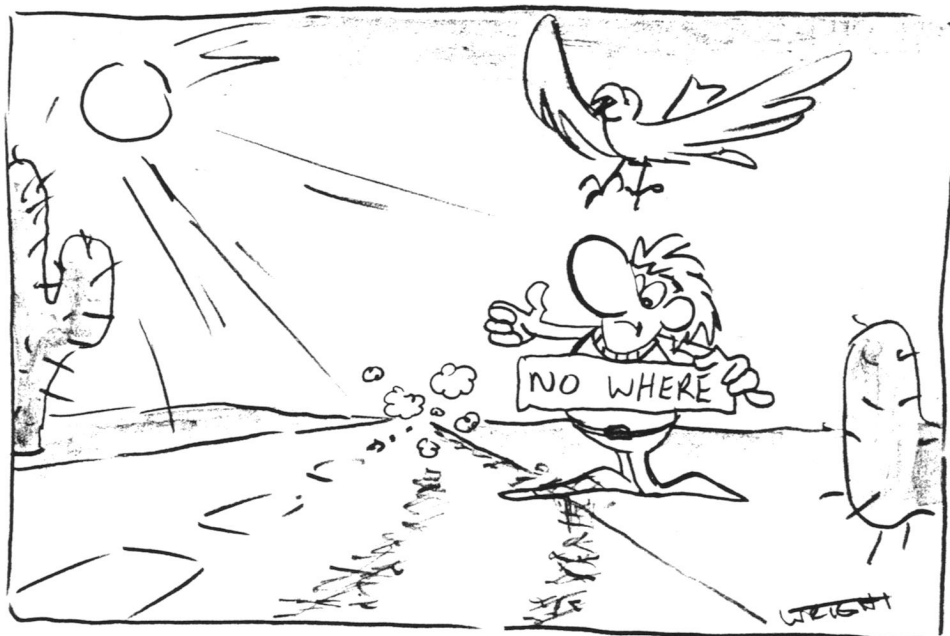
Those of you using CABSERVE for testing applications might be interested in an item called "How to Lose a Hard Disk" by John Allen. He may have submitted a detailed account to The Grunt Press, but I'll outline it here. First take a quick glance at submit files available, and find one called makehard.sub. Give it a quick scan, not bothering to read the first line. Then foolishly execute submit file. Realize the first line contained the command to reformat the Hard Disk. Panic. Amid the unprintable mutterings which were heard as John gathered up software and re-entered changes in source code were some improvements in the format program to ask if it is OK to wipe out a hard disk. They have been noted, John.

Turning to baseball, I have to report that the season is off to a slow start. NABU 2 has only played one game in the first more...



NABU EMPLOYEES GREET NEW STAFF MEMBERS

MICHAEL COWPLAND RECRUITING AT NABU



ANNOUNCING A CONTEST!!

Guess the caption to this cartoon! Send your funny line(s) to Ed Hum, and see your name and caption in the next issue of THE GRUNT PRESS.