Declining Enrollment Plagues Social Work School

By STEPHEN BASKIN
Pediatric surgery professor Mark Baskin, 38, yesterday led a protest against the University and called for a new Center City clinic.

Baskin, a University of Michigan pediatrician in Philadelphia, has been working on a new center City clinic for several years.

He said that the current hospital, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, is too far away from the center City school.

"We need a new center City clinic," Baskin said. "I think we need to do something about the center City school."
### Campus Events

#### Beer on Sale
Six Pack Specials - $2.75
- Your Favorite Brands at the Lowest of Prices
- Miller - $2.95
- Moosehead - $4.95
- Genesee Cream Ale - $2.75
- Schmidt Lite - $2.75
- St. Paul Girl - $2.25
- Lowenbrau - $3.50
- Collins - $2.75
- Molson Gold - $4.95

Visit our Campus for the Best Buy in Suds.

#### Live Chassidic Rock, Kugel, Soups, Salads, Cakes, and More at the Stop-by and Sit-down Feast

- Free

#### PURIM BASH
Houston Hall
West Lounge 3 - 6 pm

sponsored by Lubavitch House
Hear Megilla on Locust Walk
11, 12, 1, 2

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### News In Brief

#### General Leads in Guatemala Elections

The congressional请选择开始的页面... saga continued as the president’s term neared its end. The outgoing Congress will name the new president of the Geschichtliche Gesellschaft, and President Reagan said that he would name a new president in a day or two. The outgoing Congress will name the new president of the Geschichtliche Gesellschaft, and President Reagan said that he would name a new president in a day or two. The outgoing Congress will name the new president of the Geschichtliche Gesellschaft, and President Reagan said that he would name a new president in a day or two. The outgoing Congress will name the new president of the Geschichtliche Gesellschaft, and President Reagan said that he would name a new president in a day or two. The outgoing Congress will name the new...
Dental School Opens New Clinic
Program Joins Teaching, Practice

By JOHNNY SIMON

The Dental School began opera-
tions at its new facility yesterday. The school is located at 1324-26
Graduate Hospital on the University's West Campus.

The new Dental Center, as the new building is named, joins the
school's Pennsylvania Experiment, a program which combines
clinical teaching and research.

"This building provides a
thrive in new facilities," said Presi-
dent Daniel D. Wartenberg.

The Dental School, which
has been housed in the Dental
Pavilion since 1947, will now use
the new center as a focus for its
research activities.

"We are very pleased with
the new facility," said Dr. William
R. Grogin, Dean of the Dental
School. "It will allow us to provide
a better educational experience
for our students and faculty."
Unrepresentative Leadership

By Joshua Tanzer

"As long as it is going on in the South, the white folks have got to come in and do something about it," said Hugh Rankin, a professor at the University of Mississippi. "And if they don't, we've got to get it done ourselves." The students from across the country were in town to protest the growing racial tension on the campus.

The failure of the rally was just a symptom, not a cause, of the students' lack of confidence in their leaders.

By Thomas S. Broussard

The University has not been a successful example of what the administration says it is trying to achieve. The administration has made promises, but they have not been fulfilled.

Letters to the Editor

The Need for Affirmative Action

By Donald T. Nguyen

The need for affirmative action is crucial for the future of America. It is necessary to ensure that all students, regardless of their race, have equal opportunities to succeed.

Mistaking and Offensive Stereotypes

By Richard A. Marlow

The use of offensive stereotypes in the media is harmful to society. It is important to recognize and stop the use of these stereotypes.

A Call to Participation

By Brenda L. Page

The University community needs to come together and participate in the upcoming events. It is important to be involved and make a difference.
KITE and KEY
STUDENT TELETHONS:
A BIG SUCCESS
$75,342 from
2,001 donors
We'd like to thank the participants:

ALUMNI CHILDREN -
CLASS OF '57
PI KAPPA ALPHA

PI KAPPA ALPHA
QUADETTES

BALDWIN - MC KEAN
COLLEGE DEMOCRATS
GLEE CLUB
IVY NEWCOMERS
MORTAR BOARD
PANHELLENIC
PHI GAMMA DELTA
PHI SIGMA KAPPA
SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON
SIGMA CHI
SIGMA PHI EPSILON
STOUFFER COLLEGE HOUSE
THETA XI
UNDERGRADUATE ART HISTORY CLUB
WHARTON WOMEN
ZETA BETA TAU

Special thanks to the winners:

FRATERNITY: 1 PI KAPPA ALPHA
Winners 2 SIGMA PHI EPSILON
3 PHI SIGMA KAPPA

Individual: 1 Daniel Geller
Leaders 2 Jon Abramczyk
3 Shawn Hartpence

ORGANIZATION: 1 Quadettes
Winners 2 Stouffer
College House
3 Baldwin-McKean

Individual 1 Tim Smith
Leaders 2 Felice Cohen
3 Lee Schalop
The Chestnut Cabin Celebrates the Arrival of SPRING BREAK!

Web. March 10: the hooters! Ernie, March 11, Skip Castro Band & Session w/ Peter R.

Bands begin at 10 pm

Chesnut Cabin
35th & Chestnut St.
382-1201

OPENINGS AVAILABLE

DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

PIZZA

(6 pm - 12:30 am)

$1 off-Pizza (Per Person)

WILD SNACKS

Wild snacks like "Macho Nachos." Off-color dishes that will make mouths crazy with desire.

NEW LONDON STYLE PIZZA

....WE NOW DELIVER TO STUDENTS!

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Expanded menu includes:

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50% Discount for Steaks

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Free delivery

ON 40TH & CHESTNUT STREETS

EAT WITH A CONSENTING ADULT.

What you eat is your own business as long as you don't hurt anyone else. So find a friend, move in together, evict or force someone who has the same mad, insatiable appetite for drinks and dishes that will make mouths crazy with desire. Wild snacks like "Macho Nachos." Off-color dishes that will make mouths crazy with desire.

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Cagers

If victorious from page 8 it will mean that East is in its old familiar, "Tell them to go to the N.C.A.A." Andy Reske said. "We wanted to stay in the lead." In addition, it will mean that the Quakers moved into the second day of beautiful weather, a welcome addition to the outlook. The victorious from page 8 it will mean that East is in its old familiar, "Tell them to go to the N.C.A.A." Andy Reske said. "We wanted to stay in the lead." In addition, it will mean that the Quakers moved into the second day of beautiful weather, a welcome addition to the outlook.

Fencers

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Big 5

Although the Quakers won the first two games of the day, they were still under a great deal of pressure. The team had been prepared for this type of situation, and were determined to come out on top.

Thinclds

Although the Quakers won the first two games of the day, they were still under a great deal of pressure. The team had been prepared for this type of situation, and were determined to come out on top.

UA MEETING

TODAY Vice Provost Somerville will present the General Fee

7:30 pm Bodek Lounge

Howard House

All Welcome!
Fencers Win Eastern Title, NCAA Finals Next Week

**BY PETER MICHAEL**
The fencing team, coming off a strong showing in the UIC Invitational last weekend, has the competitive momentum as it heads to the NCAA Title next weekend. The Quakers, who knocks off the Princeton men, 218th and women, 160th, and the Philadelphia Frisbee Club, 216th.

The Princeton and Philadelphia teams were all placed in the same region. Best yet, all three will remain in the same region. Best yet, all three will remain in the same region. Best yet, all three will remain in the same region. Best yet, all three will remain in the same region.

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GREAT WRITING STARTS WITH A LITTLE LISTENING, A LITTLE BEER, AND A LOT OF LEGWORK.

When the guys at Miller asked me to write an ad on writing, I said, "Forget it. Not even if you held a gun to my head." So they held a bottle of Lite Beer to my mouth. They're a pretty persuasive group.

THUGS TO MUGS
If you're going to write anything, know what you're talking about. And that means three things: Research, research, and more research. The more you know, the more you can tell your reader.

Take my characters. A lot of them base on actual people. There's this buddy of mine who pops up in every book I write. In one story he's a cop. In another, a private eye. In one, I made him a millionaire. So I took this after the rich image. He bought me a lot of free dinners (and a lot of Lite Beer from Miller). So use the people you know as models.

Even locations should be based on real things. If you're writing about a bar, know that bar. Hang out there. Watch the bartender. The customers. Whatever they drink, you drink. When they drink Lite Beer, you drink Lite Beer. Remember—research is most fun when you soak up as much subject matter as you can. It can only help you paint a better picture.

HI. DOLL
No caper is complete without dames (or ladys in proper English). Experience has shown me that in mystery writing, the sexier the dames, the better. Experience has also shown me that sexy scenes make great punctuation marks. This is where research has the greatest potential. Use your own discretion in this matter. But when you write about it, don't be too explicit. That way, your reader gets to paint a more vivid picture.

CAPER TO PAPER
O.K., you've got your characters, locations, and dames lined up. Now comes the good part. Putting your caper to paper. There's no mystery to it. As long as you write the ending first, the rest will follow. Write short, terse, to-the-point sentences. Be as clear as possible. And make sure you've got the right stuff around for when you get thirsty. After all, writing is pretty thirsty work.

I suggest a couple of mugs of Lite Beer—whos ever heard of a caper that didn't involve a couple of mugs?

Why Lite Beer? It's a lot like me and my books. Great taste, less filling (some people can't get their fill of my books), and always good to spend time with.

At any rate, follow my advice and, who knows— you might turn out a heck of a story. Or you might turn out to be a heck of a Lite Beer drinker.

by Mickey Spillane
Planning pays off when buying home computers

The home computer revolution has taken the world by storm. Already, many homes have computers, and by the year 2000, there will be as many homes owning personal computing machines as now own color television sets. What all of this means is that there is much money at stake, and this is apparent when one looks at the number of companies in this industry. Radio Shack, Apple, Commodore, Texas Instruments, and recently IBM are all out to grab a piece of the huge growing pie that is the personal computer market.

When looking for a home computer, the buyer should consider his own needs and wants. Will the computer be used for instructional activity or just for games? Will the computer serve business needs? Will the user be storing large volumes of information? Questions such as these must be answered before one can truly buy a computer that fits one's needs.

Another consideration to be made once those questions are answered is the individual company's line of products. Does this company have the software (pre-written programs) that are wanted to be used? Does it produce a wide range of printers? Of disk drives? Of game cartridges?

Once these questions are answered, buying a computer becomes much easier. If the computer is basically going to be used to play games, then manufacturers like Atari, Apple and Radio Shack should be given preference because of their commitment to the "arcade" peripherals.

Ask the salesperson to demonstrate a few games. Look at them, play them and ask questions. Is this the kind of game set-up that is wanted? What about the company's plans for future games?

If the computer is to be used for personal finances, or for business applications, Commodore, Radio Shack and IBM should definitely be considered. Their best efforts are in the more analytical areas. Yet, when looking at the computers, watch for special functions, or built-in programs that may save much time and painstaking effort.

When buying a computer, the consumer often hears of terms such as "4K RAM" or "16K RAM." These terms refer to the memory capacity of the computer. Each "K" of memory stands for approximately one thousand memory spaces, or places where data can be stored. Therefore, a 4K computer can store approximately 4,000 pieces of information and a 16K can store 16,000. The "RAM" stands for "Random Access Memory." This refers to the part of the memory that is accessible by the user. Sometimes the term "ROM" is used and that refers to "Read Only Memory," which houses the pre-written programs and the information to understand the language that is being used on the computer. This information storage area is basically inaccessible.

If communication between the computer and the outside world is desired, then the consumer should find out if the computer has an interface board. The interface board allows it to translate information so that data can pass between the computer and the world. In addition, a modem is needed to connect the computer to the telephone. They come in various forms and the cost depends on the actual model chosen.

With services now available such as the Dow Jones Stock Service, the Associated Press wire service and a nationwide memo board (which allows one user to connect to the outside world at a cost of $2750), manufacturers also have to consider if the computer is going to be used to play games, then manufacturers like Atari, Apple and Radio Shack should be given preference because of their commitment to the "arcade" peripherals.

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Hungry critters invade arcades

One of the biggest fads of the year has to be the Pac-Man craze. The little electronic creatures scurry over more than 100,000 video screens across the country, making Pac-Man one of the most popular video games ever.

The game, a Japanese creation, seems to be popular with all segments of the population. Many video arcade owners have noticed that this is the first game that has attracted a large following among women. In addition, many older people who would not even glance at something like Space Invaders, are now finding themselves hooked on the little yellow man. And the soon to be released home version is expected to result in record-breaking sales.

The game was licensed in 1980 by the Midway Company, yet it never really gained mass attraction until late in the summer of 1981. It wasn't until the end of 1981 that Pac-Man took its place with the frisbee, hula hoop, and platform shoes. Songs, bookbags, lunchboxes, stationery, posters and virtually everything else one could think of was available with Inky, Blinky, Pinky and Clyde.

The game itself consists of a yellow dot that is controlled by the player, the Pac-Man and four hungry "ghosts" that try to eat the Pac-Man. The player maneuvers the "Man" through a maze, collecting points by eating dots (each worth 10 points). There are four larger dots in the corners (worth 50 points), and when Pac-Man eats one of those dots, the tables are turned and he gets to eat as many of the ghost as he can catch. The first ghost capture is worth 200 points with each successive one doubling the point total of the previous capture (the fourth ghost eaten being worth 1600 points). The player does all of this without trying himself not to be eaten.

Another way of obtaining points is by capturing the special targets that appear in the center of the maze. The first one, the cherries, are worth 100 points, and as the player attains additional boards, the bonus objects become strawberries, peaches, apples, limes, pudding, and bells. Each board, starting with peaches, repeats the objects so that actually two boards have peaches, two have apples and so forth. The last object to appear is the key, worth 5000 points. Once a player reaches this level, any additional mazes just repeat the keys as bonuses.

Each ghost has its own nickname, reflective of its personality. Blinky, the red one, is the only ghost that is fast enough to catch Pac-Man. His nickname is Speedy, whereas the slowest one, Clyde (who is orange in color), is called Poky. The blue Inky is nicknamed Bashful because of his tendency to avoid contact with the Pac-Man. Shadow is the alias of Pinky (the pink one, of course), because he has a tendency to follow the Pac-Man around wherever he goes.

When a maze has been completed by eating-up all

Continued on PAGE 8
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- Pentax ME Special 1/2 $169.99
- Canon AV-1 1/1.8... $179.99
- Ricoh FF-1 rangefinder $79.99
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- Pentax MV 1/2... $169.99
- Olympus OM-2 1/1.8... $319.99

MORE CAMERAS
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- Polaroid Pronto Sonar Instant $39.99
- Polaroid SX-70 #2... $149.99
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- Polaroid One Step w/ film $29.99

Camera Specials
- Pentax ME Special f/2 $169.99
- Canon AV-1 f/1.8... $179.99
- Ricoh FF-1 rangefinder $79.99
- Minolta XD-5 1/2... $259.99
- Pentax MV 1/2... $169.99
- Olympus OM-2 1/1.8... $319.99

RICOH KR-5 B (was $140)
Class B merchandise
$99.99

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ANSCO POCKET CAMERAS
SALE!
$24.99
Model 411 with built-in telephoto lens and built-in flash.

P.R.O. ACCESSORIES
28mm 1/2.8 WIDE ANGLE LENS
$79.99

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$149.99
(Reg.: $170)

All Metal TRIPOD #2337
New: $24.99

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SATURDAY, MARCH 13
6 HOURS ONLY - 10 AM - 4 PM
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CASH ONLY SALE
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We've brought in thousands of $$ worth of merchandise from our 17 locations... Cameras, Video, Movie, darkroom & accessories. These specials are available only at our Warehouse in Broomall.

PLUS MANY UNADVERTISED SPECIALS!

Sony Stereo Cassette Player, AM/FM dual speakers CF-55 (was $140)
NOW: $119.99

Texas Instruments CALCULATORS
#1025... $6.99
#1030... $12.99

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIALS
Sale March 9 - 16th Sunday March 21

ANSCO POCKET CAMERAS
SALE!
$24.99
Model 411 with built-in telephoto lens and built-in flash.

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$149.99
(Reg.: $170)

SAVE $2.00 on any FILTER in stock
Present this coupon for savings on the filter of your choice. (in stock March only) EXP. 3/30/82 (DP)

SAVE $1.00 on FILM DEVELOPING
On the developing & printing of your next roll of color print film! (DP)
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* open Sunday
Video cassette recorders, commonly referred to as VCRs, allow the recording of favorite television programs right off the airwaves and playing them back later when more convenient. Or they can be used to record one show while watching another.

In addition, VCRs can also be used with pre-recorded tapes that allow viewers to watch feature films, learn how to cook, even get a tour of a company's manufacturing facilities—all in the comfort of one's living room.

Video tape recorders are not new. Television stations have been using them for years. It was only until recently, however, when the technology was improved and prices cut drastically that they were within the reach of the average consumer.

Like any major purchase, it is wise to investigate the various brands and models available, as well as prices, to determine which machine is best for particular needs. Prices can range from $600 (even lower in some discount stores) to more than $1300, depending on the features desired.

There are also two different types of systems, or formats available. They are VHS and Beta, and depending on the plans for the machine, the budget limitations, and where the machine is going to be used, one system might be a better buy than the other.

Almost every major consumer electronics company is offering some sort of video-cassette recorder. Most are made by two or three major manufacturers and the individual retail companies simply stick their brand labels in strategic positions on the machine. Just because a VCR has a Magnavox label on it doesn't mean it was manufactured by Magnavox. It is just distributed by them.

The VHS format is used by Panasonic, Quasar, Magnavox and RCA, among others. The Beta system was developed by Sony and along with Zenith and a handful of other companies distribute machines using that format.

The tape cassettes used by each of the two systems are slightly different in size. This, along with numerous technical considerations, means that tapes from one system cannot be used on the other. Therefore, if there are plans to exchange tapes with friends and neighbors, make sure they have the same system.

As for price, VHS machines are available for less than the cheapest of Beta recorders. A "stripped down" model, that will do basic recording and playing functions and features a timer that allows the recording of one show each day when not able to watch television is the choice of most consumers.

These models are purchased by the person who wants to play pre-recorded movies, record one show while watching another, or record one show per day. They are available for under $600.

As features are added, such as a more sophisticated timer, which allows for the recording of several shows up to two weeks in advance, the prices go up. Convenience functions such as wireless remote control, slow motion, freeze frame and speed search, that will play movies at about ten times normal speed, may be nice for someone who can afford an extra $500 to spend, but prove superfluous for the average purchaser.

The least expensive Beta format machine will cost around $800. The higher price is because of the higher manufacturing costs associated with this technology and because almost all shows can come with the convenience features mentioned as "standard." That is fine if they are desired—not so good if saving money is the goal.

Despite what retailers may say, there is no significant difference in picture quality. If the machine is in good condition and quality recording tapes are used, there is no reason to notice the picture is coming from a reel of half-inch wide tape.

If the recorder will be used to record shows and movies directly off the air, keep in mind that the recorder will put down on tape what would otherwise appear directly on the screen. Although filtering circuitry will sometimes improve the picture quality a little, if the television reception is bad, the VCR will record that same picture.

Blank tapes are available so that shows can be come with the convenience features such as speed-scan, slow-motion, and free-frame are available using either system. The Magnavox system's advantage lies in the fact that the disks will never wear out since a stylus will never come in contact with the disk surface.

Their system also allows for pictures in a specific frame on a disk for display. If viewing a single scene from a two-hour movie is desired.

Video disk players are an alternative to video-cassette recorders. As its name implies, the video disk unit can only play back pre-recorded movies and other fare, whereas VCRs can record as well as play back.

Like VCRs, there are two technologies currently in use and, as expected, the two are in no way compatible with each other.

The laser disk, used by Magnavox and the like, is a shiny platter similar to a LP record. But instead of a needle, a stylus is used to pick up the signals that will turn into picture and sound on the television. The Magnavox player, for example, uses a stylus-mounted electrode to extract picture and sound information from the grooves on an electrically-conductive disk. What this means is that the player uses a stylus like the one in a phone cartridge to pick up the signals. As with VCRs, features such as speed-scan, slow-motion, and free-frame are available using either system. The Magnavox system's advantage lies in the fact that the disks will never wear out since a stylus will never come in contact with the disk surface.

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Disks limited in options

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ICELANDAIR INTRODUCES NEW BARGAIN FARES TO MORE OF EUROPE.

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Satisfy needs when looking for a stereo

For the first time stereo system buyer, walking into a stereo retailer can be quite an intimidating experience. Hi-fi stores have grown into sprawling labyrinths of sound rooms and displays. They are filled with components that resemble a Star Wars control panel, rather than Grandpa's Victrola, complete with pushbutton controls, blinking lights and digital displays. Despite all this chaos, it is still possible to make an intelligent decision when purchasing a stereo system. Before shopping, several questions must be answered. How much money should be spent? What kind of music will be played on the stereo and how loud will it be played? Also, know the size of the room in which it will be used. This information should be told to the salesman prior to looking at specific models.

It is important that the equipment is purchased in the proper order. The AM-FM receiver should not be selected first, even though it is considered the "heart of the system." Most stereo novices cannot hear the difference between one receiver and another, even though technical specifications may vary widely. Therefore, start with something that can be evaluated by anyone — the speakers. Sound is what is being bought, so start with the part of the system that delivers the sound. The speakers are the biggest variable and the only way to make a judgement is to listen to them.

Sound decisions can only be made by the purchaser, as the salesman has no idea of the buyer's personal tastes. He can only point out the differences between units. Bring along an album or tape, so that a familiar sound can be tested on the system.

After the speakers have been decided upon, it is time to select a receiver, or a separate amplifier and tuner which perform the same functions as a receiver but generally with better quality. Various speakers require different amounts of power to drive them properly. The salesman should provide the necessary information as to which receivers will match the speakers already selected. The selection of receivers will include a wide range of features and prices. Do not use technical specifications as a first measure, as many manufacturers use different testing procedures, based on a variety of different infor-

Some receivers that are not available elsewhere. They may be good quality products, but it makes it impossible for the consumer to shop around.

Most likely, either a turntable or cassette deck will be purchased. Again, this decision also rests with the buyer's likes and habits. For example if listening to music while driving is desired, a home tape deck should be bought so that the tapes can be used in the future car system. Most basic systems will include just a turntable. There is more of a variety (and higher quality) of prerecorded music available on records than on tapes. If musical programming or taping a friend's album is desired, a turntable and a tape deck will both be necessary. Remember, it is always possible to save money and purchase one of the components later.

There are three types of tape decks to choose from - cassette, 8-track, and reel-to-reel. The most popular and most convenient is the cassette. The only reason to buy a cartridge is if an 8-track deck is already in use somewhere else, like a car. Reel-to-reel is only needed if taping more than recorded music is desired.

The next consideration in tape decks is price. Cassette decks range in price from under $200 to more than $1,000. As with receivers, the price variations are caused by different features. But unlike receivers, there are some tape deck features that are important considerations.

Doby, is one such feature. It is a noise reduction system, which reduces "tape hiss" during recording and playback. It is a very crucial feature to have included on the tape deck.

Other important features include: automatic stop when the tape reaches the end, direct change function controls so that the stop button does not have to be used between functions, and coupled left-and-right-channel recording level controls so fading in or out can done with only one hand.

There are other features, such as three heads, closed-loop dual capstan tape transport systems, and mic-line mixing. Most of these are found only on more sophisticated higher-priced machines, and are not essential to good quality recording and playback, particularly for the first-time system buyer.

One of the most overlooked, yet crucial, parts of a system is the phono cartridge. This device transforms the thousands of little wiggles of a record groove into electrical impulses, which are then transformed to sound by the speakers. It is very easy to purchase very expensive components yet achieve poor sound quality due to an inferior cartridge. Make sure to tell the salesman not to skimp on the cartridge.

After selecting all the components of the stereo system, double check that everything has a competitive warranty. Finally, be sure to ask the salesman to demonstrate how to hook up all the components and how to use them.
Pac-Man

Continued from PAGE 4

the dots, bonus points are offered by the succeeding boards. Each board gets trickier, however, as the four ghosts pick-up speed as the player advances through the levels.

Pac-Man is one of the few games where point totals do not determine the length of the game. An extra Pac-Man is given at the 10,000 point level, but that is the only one given. The most important aspect in learning how to play Pac-Man for long periods of time is in the completion of mazes. That is why there is so much emphasis in the game regarding memorizations of patterns. Only through mental exercise can one truly become effective in mastering this game of consumption.

Pac-Man fever, as it has been called by many people and immortalized in song, is still going strong and shows no signs of old age. If its growth continues at its present rate for another year, it may become one of the biggest fads ever. And wouldn't Speedy, Poky, Bashful, and Shadow be happy about that?

Home computers

Continued from PAGE 3

to send messages to another user anywhere in the United States, making sure that your computer has the ability to communicate with other computers is something that should definitely be considered. Another decision should be made based on whether the system will be expanded in the future or if the current system will suffice. If the buyer believes that he will have to expand the memory of the computer in the future, he should check and make sure that expansion kits are available and at what cost. Usually it is less expensive if one buys a 16K computer to begin with, rather than a 4K and expand it to a memory size of 16K.

Along these lines, the availability and cost of printers, disk drives (which have the ability to store on record-like disks hundreds of thousands of pieces of information) should be looked into. These hardware items become very valuable in problem solving and information storage when one becomes more familiar with computers.

There may seem to be a lot of things to know when buying a computer, but once the consumer starts looking, he becomes much more comfortable with the terms and information. And all that work does pay off in many hours of learning and enjoyment.

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Video recorder options

Continued from PAGE 6 —
watched on pre-recorded tapes. At first, it was necessary to buy pre-recorded tapes at prices ranging around $80 up to $150 and more.

People began exchanging tapes with friends and soon stores opened that allowed people to exchange tapes throughout the store. Rental outlets are opening all over the country at a phenomenal rate. There are dozens in the Delaware Valley area alone, mostly located in small shopping plazas.

Rental prices vary, but most places will rent a film for 24 hours for around three dollars. Weekly rates are around $10, and many outlets offer a weekend rate — pick up on Thursday, drop off on Monday — for a mere $5. Most stores require a hefty deposit which must be forfeited should one decide to run off with Bo Derek in 10.

Far and away the most frequently rented movies are “X” rated. The Wall Street Journal estimates that up to 70% of rentals are of pornographic films. Most Philadelphia stores contacted admit the porn films are very popular. An “X” feature might cost the store $50 and can be rented out dozens of times. The potential for profit is tremendous.

More conventional films are also available, including Disney features, and films from all major distribution companies. Mail-order rental clubs have also appeared.

Surprisingly, VHS films are much easier to find on the east coast than Beta. Some stores only carry VHS format tapes. The stores that do handle Beta usually have a limited selection, something to consider if planning to rent tapes. On the west coast, Beta is more accessible than VHS.

For either system, blank tapes cost around $14 to $20 each, depending on the brand name. A VHS machine can record up to six hours on a single tape, a recently developed machine will record up to eight while the Beta machines will record up to five hours at their slowest speed setting. Both formats allow for the operation at several speeds. Picture quality may be drastically reduced on the slowest setting when compared to the fastest.

Another alternative is to buy a portable machine with a color camera attachment. This will enable the recording of some historic event on tape. Portable machines are generally more expensive than table-top models, and the color cameras are expensive. Unless future plans call for the recording of many sporting events, weddings or kids’ birthday parties, it might be wise to hold off on such a purchase.

The decision of where to buy a VCR is a personal one. If sales help and “full service” associated with specialty stores is desired, by all means spend the extra few dollars to make sure the right machine is purchased. If a particular VCR is known and saving money is desired, mail order or discount department stores might be the best choice.

Very few retail outlets have the facilities to service VCRs and virtually none are authorized to do factory warranty service. Most distribution companies have factory service outlets on the east coast. Buying from a store that can do factory authorized work may cost a little more now, but it could save lots of time and aggravation during the life of the machine.

Video-cassette recorders are the anarchistic invention of the century. They virtually allow one to be in two places at the same time, if one of those places is in front of the television.

No doubt the technology will probably improve and prices might come down even further. However, a proposed royalty on recorder purchases that will go to movie producers and actors could increase the price ten to twenty dollars.

Disks offer less

Continued from PAGE 6 — and its location is known on the disk, it can be called up to that particular sequence. The RCA system is much simpler to use, and the video-disk cannot be touched by human hands since it is always inside a cardboard jacket when outside the player. Either system has the capability to replay the disk hooked up to an amplifier.

While Magnavox likes their system and RCA likes their product, consumers don’t seem to care for either. They have not been selling very well and despite efforts by both manufacturers, sales are only a fraction of what was expected when the products were announced a few years ago.

The main reason they sit on dealer’s shelves, despite recent price reductions, is that no one wants to buy a machine that will only play back, pre-recorded material when for a few dollars more a machine that can both play back and record can be purchased.

Good selections of disks are hard to come by. Most dealers contacted carry only a couple of dozen disk titles, while the same dealers have hundreds of different tapes available, and finding a store that will rent video-disk is almost impossible.

It leaves little choice, but to buy, and with prices for disks ranging from about $20 to $30, not many people are doing so. Few people care to watch a movie more than once. What is really hurting the disk manufacturers is their refusal to distribute “X” rated video disks, standard in the tape industry.

If there are no future plans of recording and a limited selection of pre-recorded movies is satisfying, buy a video-disk player. If not, a VCR would probably be a better idea.

— Douglas Neumetzger
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