

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

S

FOIA Number:

S

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential
Library Staff.**

Record Group/Collection:	Donated Historical Materials
Collection/Office of Origin:	Frieden, Lex, Collection
Series:	Printed Materials
Subseries:	Periodicals

OA/ID Number:	52131
Folder ID Number:	52131-006

Folder Title:

"Mainstream: Magazine of the Able-Disabled - March 1993"

Stack:

Row:

Section:

Shelf:

Position:

MAINSTREAM

MAGAZINE OF THE ABLE-DISABLED

Disability Issues:
The Litmus Test
For Health
Reform

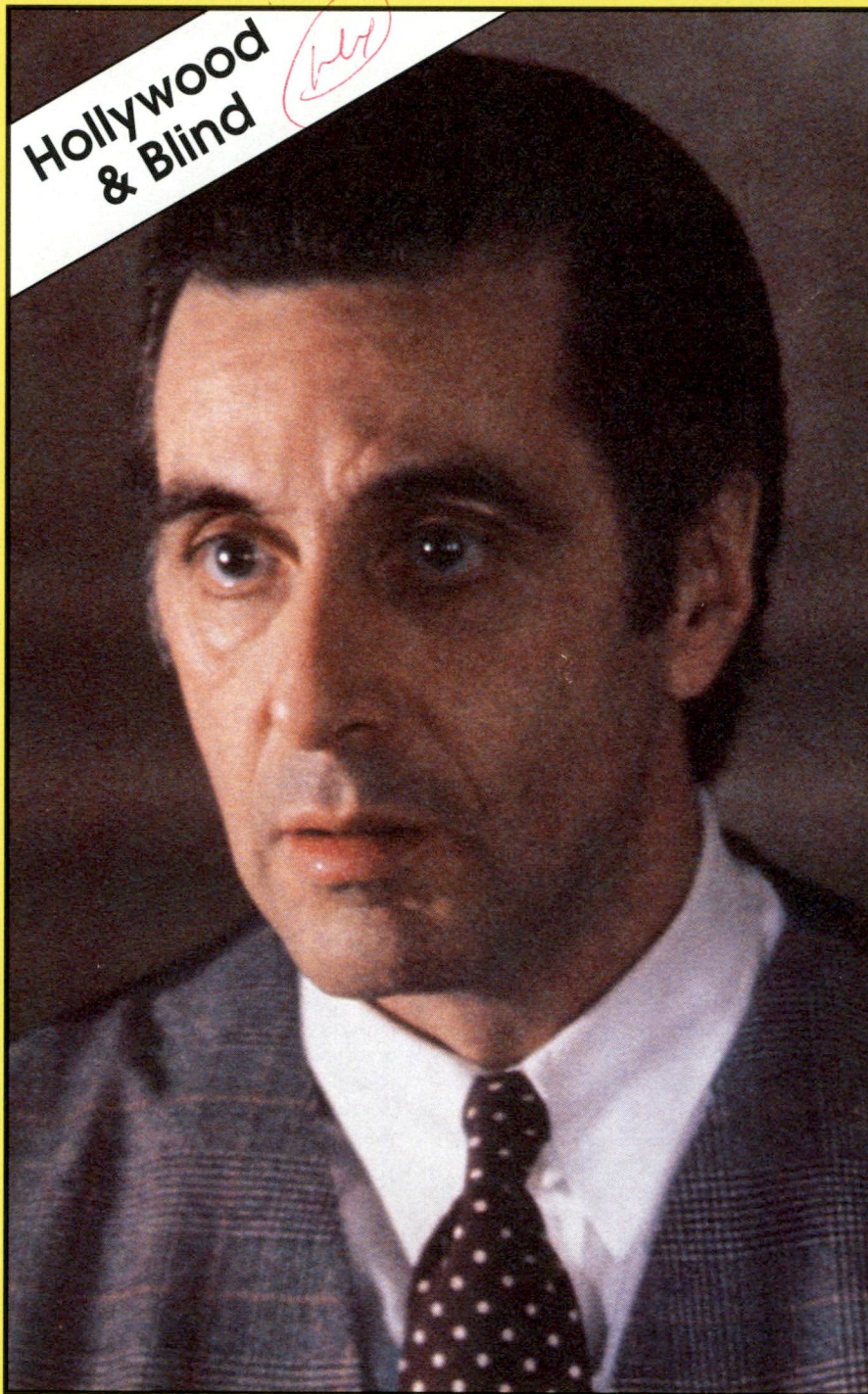
ADA Ticket To
Ride Airport
Shuttles

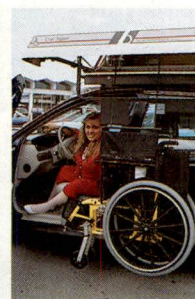
Running Your
Home And
Family By
Computer

Communicating
Made Easy

Are You
Ashamed Of
Being Disabled?

Hollywood
& Blind





Ford Mobility Motoring Makes Life More Rewarding!

Ford Motor Company understands that a physical disability doesn't mean life can't be rewarding. For many, there's no greater reward than the feeling of freedom and independence that comes from driving.

That's why your Ford and Lincoln-Mercury dealers want your active life to include a Ford, Lincoln or Mercury car or van, or a Ford light truck. And that's why the Mobility Motoring Program was created ... to make adapting your new Ford or Lincoln-Mercury vehicle easier and more rewarding!

A Smoother Road to Travel

Mobility Motoring starts with a toll-free call. You'll know you've arrived when your Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer hands you a check for up to \$750 toward the installation of adaptive driving or passenger equipment.¹ There's nothing for you to send in ... and there's no waiting for your check to arrive!

You'll also receive a complimentary Ford Cellular Telephone² and a complimentary one year membership in the Ford Auto Club



Ford and
Lincoln-Mercury Divisions

which includes 24-hour emergency road service.

Information You Need ... for Informed Decisions

The Ford Mobility Motoring Program also provides ...

- a friendly toll-free information line to answer your questions.
- a special toll-free line for "TDD" users.
- a list of nearby assessment centers authorized to provide a "prescription" for your vehicle's adaptive equipment.
- a list of local adaptive equipment dealers and installers.
- sources of funding which may be able to provide assistance *in addition* to the amount you receive from the Mobility Motoring Program.

¹ Ford Motor Company will authorize the selling Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer to pay the vehicle purchaser an amount equal to the cost of vehicle adaptive equipment conversion, up to a maximum of \$750.

² Customer is responsible for a 121-day minimum activation on the Ford Cellular System. Some local individual carriers may require a longer agreement as well as other related service and usage charges, so acceptance is optional. To be eligible for the complimentary Ford Cellular Telephone, the customer must also live in an area covered by the Ford Cellular System at the time of purchase or lease. Ask your Dealer for complete cellular phone details.

Best of all, you get Ford Motor Company's products and services. A Company where quality and service is always "Job 1!"

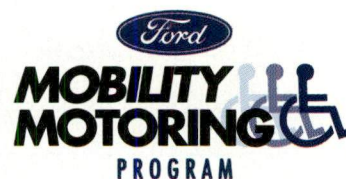
So whether your life demands a new Ford, Lincoln or Mercury car or van, or a Ford light truck ... just call 1-800-952-2248 (for TDD users: 1-800-TDD-0312). You'll discover that Mobility Motoring is your kind of reward!

Free Mobility Motoring Video!

This video shows how easy it is to open the door to Mobility Motoring rewards. You'll meet people who have learned how simple the process really is. You'll also get an overview of how Ford products adapt ... for versatility, convenience and just plain motoring fun. Just ask for your free video when you call us.

Program Period

October 1, 1992 - September 30, 1993



A New Car, Van or Light Truck ... Adaptive Equipment ... and On-the-Spot Cash!

When it comes to personal hygiene, Panasonic addresses some sensitive areas.

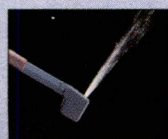


Personal hygiene is just that: personal. So naturally, you want to be as clean as you possibly can. Fortunately, now there's a way.

Introducing the Panasonic IntiMist™ Personal Hygiene System. It's something of a breakthrough in personal hygiene, for it's designed to thoroughly cleanse by using a warm spray of water and warm air to dry.

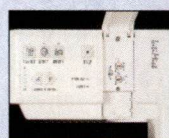


The key to the IntiMist is that it comes with two special nozzles. One functions as a bidet for women, providing fresh feminine cleansing in a very sanitary and simple manner. The other nozzle works as a smart alternative to toilet paper, and can be used by every member of the family.



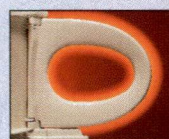
If you're wondering about the cleanliness

of the nozzles, you'll be happy to know they're self-cleaning, and are cleaned before and after each use.



Part of the beauty of the IntiMist is that all the controls are located just to your side.

And the nozzles can only be activated when someone is sitting, so there's no chance of being accidentally sprayed by water. You'll also find the entire experience is quite pleasurable, especially with the



heated seat that comes with adjustable temperatures.

So why not do all you can to improve your personal hygiene. Especially when

Panasonic has made it so easy to do with the IntiMist Personal Hygiene System.

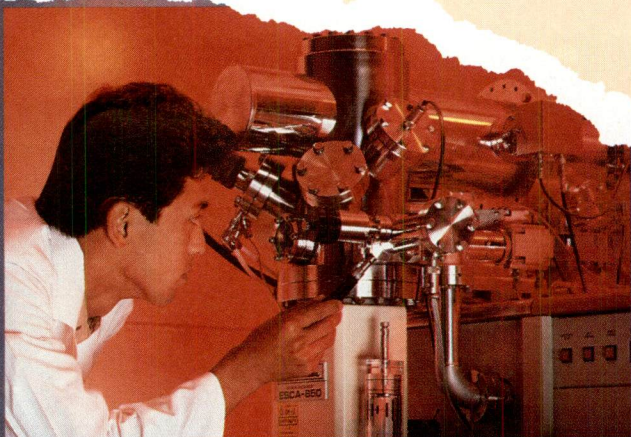
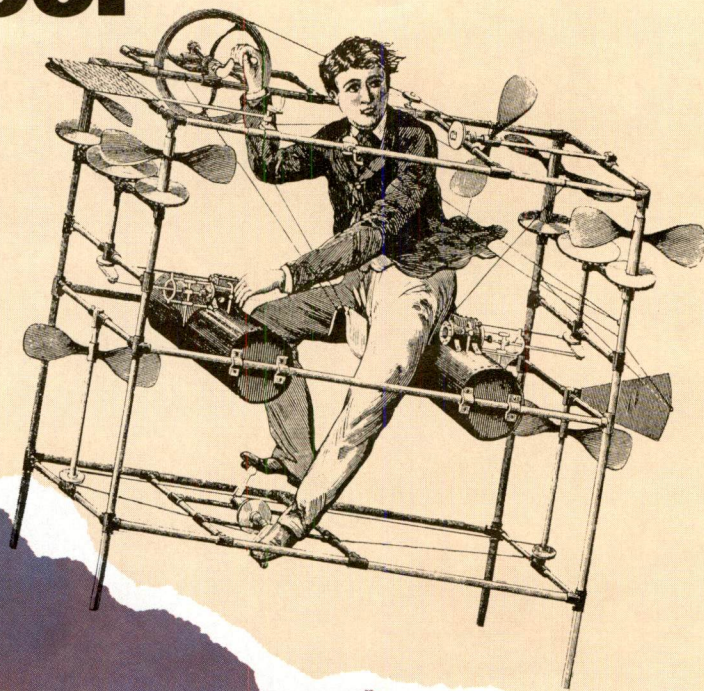
Panasonic

Home & Building

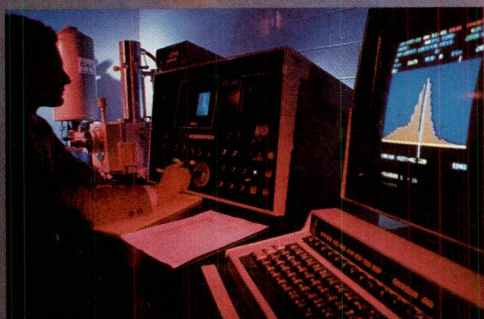
For your nearest IntiMist dealer, call us at 1-800-334-7181.



Is This Your Idea of a High Tech Career with The Government?



Think Again.



The fact is, the U.S. Government is one of the largest high tech organizations in the world. We hire more computer specialists than IBM. More scientists than any other employer in the nation. And with 85 supercomputer systems up and running, the Federal Government offers the widest variety of high tech opportunities around.

You'll work on challenging projects in world renowned laboratories with the latest equipment. And you'll be able to advance your education through on-the-job training and graduate study.

Call the Career America Connection today at (912) 757-3000. Think again about a high tech career with the U.S. Government.

The U.S. Government. Find Out Why It's Becoming The First Choice.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Career
AMERICA

MAINSTREAM

MAGAZINE OF THE ABLE-DISABLED

Volume 17, Number 6

March 1993

Features

Virtual Reality 13

Technology opens doorway to worlds imagined and beyond.

By Scott LaFee

Reality Now 15

The future sounds promising for virtual reality, but technology today offers a sparkling array of aids for communications.

Hollywood & Disability 24

Doing The Wrong Thing 24

'The Switch' misses the connection. By Marta Russell

Hollywood's New Blackface 25

Just spray 'em with chrome. By Bill Bolte

Trauma Time 35

Disability issues must be a litmus test for evaluating the validity of any proposal for Health Care Reform. By Fred Pelka

Shuttle Muddle 43

If they provide transportation for everyone else, hotels and private transportation entities have to provide equivalent service for people with disabilities. By Mary Lou Breslin

Computing In The Key Of Life 46

Woman uses a machine to connect with her family and run her household. By Laura Leigh Schiller

Ain't It A Shame That So Many Of Us Feel Ashamed 54

By William G. Stothers

Departments

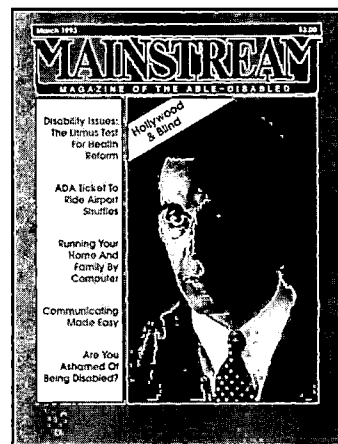
Editorial 6

News and Commentary 8

Calendar 50

Classified Ads 51

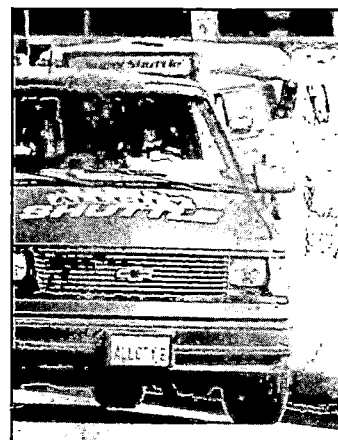
On the Cover



Page 25
Al Pacino in
"Scent of a Woman"
Photo courtesy of
Universal Studios



Page 13



Page 43



Editorial

You Want To Win An Oscar?

The formula is pretty simple. Be cast in the role of a person with a disability. Unless of course, you happen to have a disability, and then it is not so easy to be cast at all.

The remarkable part is that people with disabilities do all sorts of things. Those are the very things that seem to amaze the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Is it people's fear of disability? Or, is it ignorance: "I don't know how they do that!" or "I wouldn't be able to do that if I were disabled!" These attitudes contribute to both phenomena — awarding Oscars for "degree of difficulty" and not hiring disabled actors because it is really impossible for anyone with a disability to do what the script calls for anyway.

We all know how difficult it is to act like you have a disability. Just watch all those people trying to limp away from their cars, after they have parked illegally without a handicapped placard or license plate.

We have seen many Oscars go to non-disabled actors portraying persons with disabilities.

There was Dustin Hoffman for "Rain Man." Daniel Day Lewis for "My Left Foot." Jon Voight for "Coming Home." Cliff Robertson for "Charly." Patty Duke for "The Miracle Worker." This year we'll probably see Al Pacino up for "Scent of a Woman," and maybe Mary McDonnell for "Passion Fish."

Isn't it about time that Hollywood start casting people with disabilities in these roles? But what about the Box Office? Hollywood HAS to cast someone with name recognition and a following to insure financial success. And how do you get a following if you are never cast?

Marlee Matlin won an Oscar for "Children of a Lesser God." This gave her the credentials (read: name recognition) she needed for "Reasonable Doubts." Imagine that — a deaf woman actually playing a deaf woman! Will wonders never cease?

Of course, Harold Russell did win two Oscars for the same role in "The Best Years of Our Lives." As a person with a disability — a double arm amputee — he "actually" played an amputee returning from World War II. It seems that the Academy, thinking that Russell would not win the *real* Oscar, created a *special* award just for him. I don't know if they were being patriotic or patronizing. Imagine their surprise to see Russell go home with an Oscar under each of his prosthetic arms.

In Greek and Shakespearean Theater, the roles of women were played by men. This practice was discontinued in the late 1800s. African-American roles were played by Caucasians using make-up, or blackface until the mid-1900s.

Maybe by the year 2000, we will look back and say, "Did non-disabled actors *really* portray people with disabilities? They didn't do that, did they?"

Until then, I guess Hollywood will just continue to spray the actors with chrome.

Cyndi Jones
Publisher/Editor

MAINSTREAM
MAGAZINE OF THE ABLE-DISABLED

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Cyndi Jones

MANAGING EDITOR

William G. Stothers

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING SALES

Edie, Shack

ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLISHER

Carol Howg

DESIGN & PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

Susan McGowan

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Eric Backman

Scot Hart

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Bill Bolte

Ed Hooper

Gary Bosworth

Douglas Lathrop

Mary Lou Breslin

Michele Molnar

Marti Gacioch

Karen Stone

Carol Gill

MAINSTREAM and Magazine of the Able-Disabled are registered trademarks of Exploding Myths, Inc., U.S. Patent Office. **MAINSTREAM** is published 10 times a year by Exploding Myths, Inc.

Editorial and Business Offices are located at 2973 Beech Street, San Diego, CA 92102, (619) 234-3138.

Advertising Office is located at 687 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02194, (617) 444-0600.

All **subscription** correspondence should be sent to: **MAINSTREAM**, PO Box 370598, San Diego, CA 92137-0598. Subscription rates are \$20/1 year; \$36/2 years. CA residents add sales tax of 7.25%.

MAINSTREAM welcomes manuscripts, photographs and artwork for publication consideration, but assumes no responsibility for them. Any unsolicited materials must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All rights in portions published vest in publisher. Letters to **MAINSTREAM** or its editors are assumed intended for publication in whole or in part and therefore may be used for such purposes.

MAINSTREAM does not endorse or guarantee any products or services reviewed or advertised in this magazine. Readers are urged to investigate products carefully before purchase.

Reproduction of any portion of this publication without written permission is prohibited.

©1993 Exploding Myths, Inc.

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

ISSN NUMBER: 0278-8225

LIBERATED



Communication is the essence of human life. Indeed, the ability to communicate is the attribute that most separates us from the rest of the animal world. For someone who has never been able to communicate, therefore, to suddenly have the ability to express emotions, to share ideas, to interact with others - that would be truly liberating.

Introducing Liberator™. New from Prentke Romich Company, Liberator is the most flexible and powerful communication device available. Offering features that permit virtually anyone, regardless of age or cognitive level, to communicate more quickly and effectively, Liberator sets a new standard for speech output communication devices.

Audible scanning and audible menus provide valuable feedback for people with visual impairments. Predictive scanning, word processing functions, notebooks, and a printer permit faster, more efficient communication. For those who will be configuring the system, Liberator's user friendly menus make it easy. Liberator's keyboard allows operation by touch or by switch-activated scanning, which permits the user and therapist to work together much more efficiently. Other features provide greater power and functionality to overlays of any complexity.



Prentke Romich Company

1022 Heyl Rd. Wooster, OH 44691

800-262-1984 • 216-262-1984 • FAX 216-263-4829

Canada Inquiries - 800-253-1984

by William G. Stothers

NY toilets revisited

New York City's experiment with public toilets last year was deemed a success, despite complaints from the disability community that only some of the toilets were wheelchair-accessible and required a special magnetic card to enter.

Now the city council is considering a franchise for building public toilets, and the complaints are being taken into account. Plans call for giving preference to a company that can provide a single public toilet for both disabled and non-disabled people.

According to the New York Times, the French company that provided the toilets for last year's experiment said it would not submit a bid if forced to come up with a single-toilet design. The company, JCDecaux International, claims the more spacious accessible toilets are trashed by homeless people and drug users. Other companies are said to be interested in bidding on the project.

Bush honored

Before leaving office in January, President George Bush was honored by members of the disability community in Washington. Bush was awarded the first annual George Bush Medal for work in disability rights at a ceremony at the Capital Hilton hotel attended by people such as Justin Dart, Jr., Even Kemp, I. King Jordan, Ginny and Dick Thornburgh, Sen. Bob Dole, Rep. Steny Hoyer, Tony Coelho, and Patrisha Wright.

Bush praised those who worked on the Americans with Disabilities Act, which he called one of his administration's finest moments.

"ADA broadens our economic mainstream so that all Americans can share in the responsibilities and rewards of hard work worth doing. A few critics ... have complained about the costs of ADA ... as if some rights were simply too expensive. But when you add together federal, state, local and private funds, it's been costing almost \$200

billion annually to support our disabled in artificial isolation. And this legislation takes an economic inefficiency and reinvents it then as opportunity and enterprise," Bush told the group.

Bush also said he wants to stay involved in the disability rights movement.

Protest in Germany

More than 50,000 people turned out on a frigid, rainy, windswept night in Cologne, Germany, in January to protest prejudice and violence against people with disabilities.

The demonstration was organized by a group of people with disabilities following neo-Nazi attacks on foreigners and people with disabilities. Political parties, labor unions, students and workers joined the demonstration, according to the New York Times.

The organizers were overwhelmed and pleased by the event, but were far from satisfied that the threat, to them or to others, is over. >

NEW from

tash

...of course!

MacMini keyboard

A TASH Mini keyboard that plugs directly into the Apple Macintosh – no interface required.

All the features and benefits of the TASH Mini can now be accessed in an easier-to-use format at considerable savings in cost.

One key selection changes key functions to mouse functions or vice versa. Color-coded for ease of use and full flexibility through the Mac control panel.

INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$495

until March 31, 1993

Write for our 1993 technical aids catalogue (note our new address)



tash INC.

To order this and other quality products, contact
Technical Aids & Systems for the Handicapped Inc.
Unit 1, 91 Station Street, Ajax, ON, Canada L1S 3H2
Phone (416) 686-4129 • Fax (416) 686-6895

"I Love You."



That's what Howard Brown said to his wife, Grace.

Just three little words, but she was overjoyed.

Because he hadn't been able to say those words for more than a year and a half. And she was afraid he might never say them again.

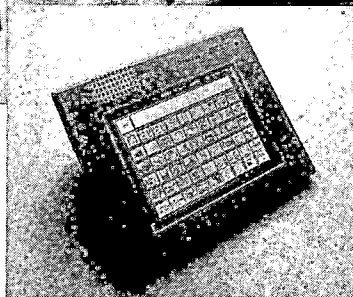
At the age of 56, Howard had suffered a stroke that left him nearly speechless. And he tried various communication aids for six months without success.

But Howard and Grace refused to give up.

So when they heard about the DynaVox® electronic communication aid — even though it was almost a year after Howard's stroke — they determined to give it a try.

And that's made quite a difference.

Because the DynaVox's user-friendly, state-of-the-art technology is designed to free people like Howard from the constraints of old-fashioned machines. Its intuitive, language-based architecture allows them to develop a new, more natural sense of self-expression. And, best of all, it's so fast and easy to learn that most people can begin using it in less than half an hour.



Of course, Howard doesn't use the DynaVox in anything *like* the way we intended it. But we're actually rather pleased about that. Because it means we've made it flexible enough to help him find his *own* solutions.

"He doesn't use it much for communication," says Grace. "He uses it to help him learn to say words *himself* — he repeats them after the computer. It's a great help. There's so much improvement since he's had the DynaVox."

And the secondary benefits are immeasurable.

"The *encouragement* it has given him!" she says. "To *know* that he can say words he could not say before."

Howard agrees. "Is good," he says. "Talk! Happy! It'll be okay."

"I think the DynaVox is great," says Grace. Because it's helped Howard learn something even more important than those three little words. "It's helped him learn to say my name."

So if you know someone who might benefit from the DynaVox, we urge you to give us a call.

Because there's nothing we like better than making new friends.

Unless it's helping those friends find their voices at last.

D y n a V o x®

A **SENTIENT SYSTEMS** TECHNOLOGY

Sentient Systems Technology, Inc. ■ 2100 Wharton Street ■ Pittsburgh, PA 15203 ■ 1-800-344-1778

Going, going...

Evan Kemp is leaving the chairmanship of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission with the changing of administrations in Washington. Kemp is planning to set up a law practice with his chief of staff, Bob Funk, former White House counsel Boyden Gray, and Gordon Mansfield from HUD. They plan to keep a close watch on ADA issues.

The disability community is anxiously waiting to see who will get jobs with the Clinton Administration, but appointments have been slow in occurring. Who will be named Rehabilitation Services Administrator to replace Nell Carney? Will Justin Dart, Jr. be asked to stay on as head of the President's Committee on Employment of Persons with Disabilities? Who will replace Bob Davila at OSERS? George Covington, who worked for Dan Quayle, has gone back to the national parks service from whence he came. Will Al Gore, or maybe even Bill Clinton, have a disability issues person on their personal staffs?

The issues of health care, personal attendant services, work disincentives,

Social Security, and ADA implementation are of critical interest to our community. We need to have strong voices putting forth our perspective in the councils of power. Voices at the top level are vital, but there are lots of lower level positions that have significant impact on disability issues. And there is also a push to get people with disabilities appointed to jobs that aren't related to disability. It's called mainstreaming — and it's politically correct.

Last hurrah

It takes your breath away. In one of her final acts as chairperson of the National Council on Disability, Sandra Swift Parrino presented an award to the National Dystrophy Association "for outstanding leadership in the advancement of public awareness for people with disabilities."

Parrino cited the Jerry Lewis Labor Day telethon as a pioneering force in increasing public awareness and encouraging social mainstreaming of people with disabilities.

Jerry Himself said, "We're honored by this wonderful acknowledgement of

MDA's efforts to promote the rights and opportunities for people with disabilities."

Less than two weeks after this award on Jan. 25, Parrino was asked by the Clinton Administration to leave the chairperson's job, which she has held for more than two terms. Under the reauthorization of the Rehab Act, the NCD chairperson will be limited to two terms henceforth. Board member John Gannon was named acting chairman.

No word as of early February on who will get the NCD chair. A slew of disability activists have made bids for a seat on the board.

Goodnight, Sandy. 'Night, Jerry.

DREDF changes

Mary Lou Breslin, former executive director of the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, has been appointed president of the organization. The action followed the resignation of Jim Gleich as exec director after a year. The DREDF board also named staff attorney Linda D. Kilb to the new position as Managing Director to work with the management team composed of DREDF's program directors. ■

VAN RENTALS for Wheelchair and Scooter Users

Go where you want, when you want with Wheelchair Getaways. Now you can rent our fully equipped, wheelchair accessible, luxury vans at more than 42 locations nationwide.



For franchise information call 1-800-642-2042

Our vans feature:

- power lifts
- raised roofs or lowered floors
- plush interiors
- front & rear air conditioning
- state-of-the-art tie-down systems
- hand controls at most locations

Scooter rentals available at participating franchises.

Directory of Locations

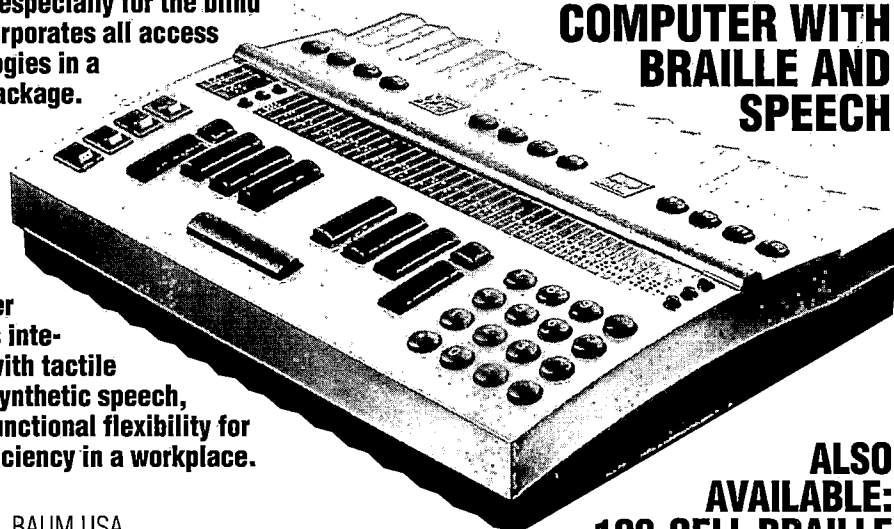
Atlanta, GA	1-800-554-6893	Harrisburg, PA	1-800-221-6501	Norfolk, VA	1-800-382-0386	San Francisco, CA	1-800-638-1912
Atlantic City, NJ	1-800-831-9831	Hilton Head, SC	1-800-742-2929	North Myrtle Beach, SC	1-800-742-2929	San Jose, CA	1-800-638-1912
Austin, TX	1-800-828-1736	Indianapolis, IN	1-800-637-4398	Northern NJ	1-800-344-5005	Sarasota, FL	1-800-348-9424
Baltimore, MD	1-800-642-2042	Lancaster, PA	1-800-221-6501	Northern IN	1-800-826-9764	Savannah, GA	1-800-742-2929
Central, NJ	1-800-221-0034	Los Angeles, CA	1-800-659-1972	Oakland, CA	1-800-659-1972	St. Petersburg, FL	1-800-348-9424
Charleston, SC	1-800-742-2929	Marco, FL	1-800-452-4968	Orlando, FL	1-800-242-4990	Tampa, FL	1-800-348-9424
Chicago, IL	1-800-637-2597	Miami, FL	1-800-637-7577	Philadelphia, PA	1-800-642-2042	Trenton, NJ	1-800-221-0034
Columbus, OH	1-800-858-8267	Myrtle Beach, SC	1-800-742-2929	Phoenix, AZ	1-800-257-5423	Virginia Beach, VA	1-800-382-0386
Denver, CO	1-800-238-6920	Naples, FL	1-800-452-4968	Reading, PA	1-800-221-6501	Washington, D.C.	1-800-642-2042
Eastern Shore, MD	1-800-831-9831	Newark, NJ	1-800-344-5005	San Antonio, TX	1-800-828-1736	Westchester County, NY	1-800-228-0185
Fairfield County, CT	1-800-228-0185	New Orleans, LA	1-800-962-9320	San Diego, CA	1-800-659-1972	West Palm Beach, FL	1-800-637-7577
Fort Lauderdale, FL	1-800-637-7577					Williamsburg, VA	1-800-382-0386
Fort Myers, FL	1-800-452-4968					Wilmington, DE	1-800-831-9831

DAVID: BRAILLE COMPUTER

David is the first portable computer created especially for the blind and incorporates all access technologies in a single package.

Computer power is integrated with tactile Braille synthetic speech, OSCR, functional flexibility for high efficiency in a workplace.

386 SL NOTEBOOK-SIZE COMPUTER WITH BRAILLE AND SPEECH

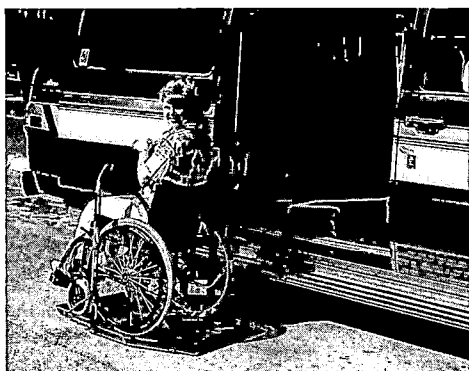


**ALSO AVAILABLE:
108-CELL BRAILLE
AND SPEECH
TERMINAL**

- 386 SL 20 MHz Processor
- Built-in 80 MB HD and 1.44 MB FD
- 6 MB RAM
- Ser., Par., VGA, QWERTY, "Access"
- 40+4 Characters Braille Display
- 9+2 Keys Braille Keyboard
- Menu Driven Configuration
- Optical Sensor Cursor Routing (OSCR)
- Multi-Layer Programmable Controls
- Flexibility of Navigation, Functions, Modes
- Synthetic Speech (2 of 4 languages)
- SWING Grade 2 Bi-Directional Translator
- VISION Integrated Software
- MS-DOS 5.0
- 5 Hours of Operation on Battery
- Weight: 8 pounds



BAUM USA
17525 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 303
Encino, California 91316-3843
(800) 225-3150, (818) 981-2253, FAX: (818) 981-7124



Left-Hand Rotary Wheelchair Lift



MINI-TRANS with Disappearing Ramp

Pick-A-Lift A world class manufacturer of the finest quality swing lifts.

- Van / Bus / Motor Home
- Weighs Only 150 lbs
- Lifts 650 lbs
- Easy Installation
- Requires only 31" to operate in a conventional parking space
- Fully Automatic
- All Electrical 12VDC
- Full Safety Features
- Installed in Sliding or Hinged Doors
- VA Accepted



Pick-A-Lift, Inc.



MINI TRANS

The One With The Disappearing Ramp

- Lowered Floor
- Unobstructed Side Door
- Power/Manual Ramp
- Auto Kneel
- Clear Line of Vision
- Fuel Economy
- Interior Configuration may be Changed Easily
- Wheelchair Passengers Face Forward
- VA Accepted

2051 E. Edgewood Dr. • Lakeland, FL 33803
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1208, Eaton Park, FL 33840 USA (813) 665-5355
1-800-328-LIFT (5438) • FAX (813) 666-1181

Where would we be without diversity?



Far from our position as a market leader in the automotive industry!

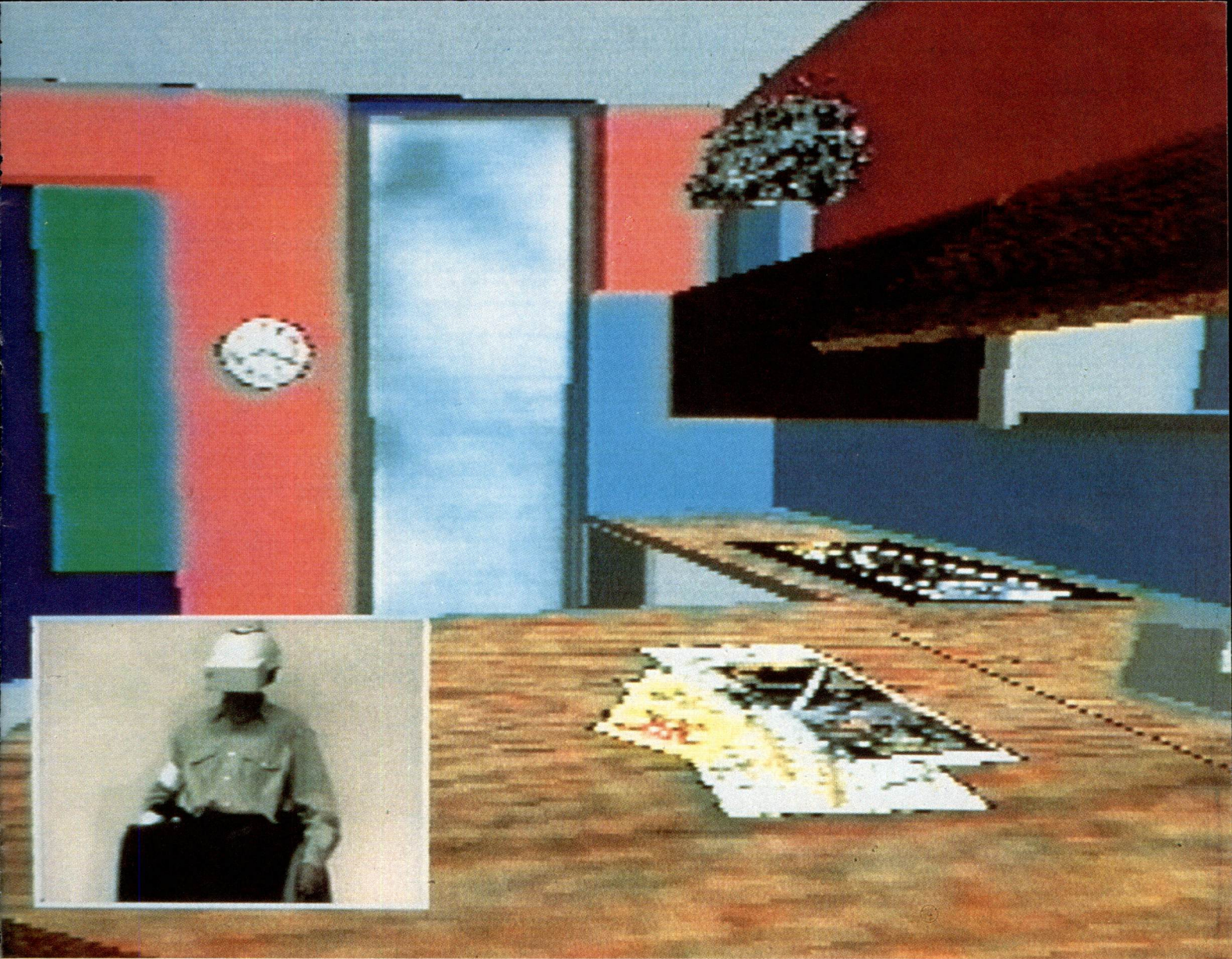
Capturing the imagination of the motoring public in the '90s means addressing an unprecedented diversity of needs and wants. And Toyota strives to be the best at this. We are expanding our marketing channels. Increasing the number of options available. And providing an ever-increasing range of career opportunities throughout the United States.

Toyota is more than a network of independently-owned car dealerships. We are Toyota's U.S. Headquarters and regional offices, committed to supporting our dealer network. And we hire more than top salespeople and mechanics. We offer a broad range of opportunities nationwide and at our Torrance, California Headquarters. From marketing, customer relations, distribution, and finance to automotive sales support positions, we have a need for talented individuals at all levels.

We offer competitive salaries, comprehensive benefits including a vehicle purchase program, and outstanding working environments.

To find out more, write to: **Human Resources, Dept. KK, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., 19001 S. Western Avenue, A-124, Torrance, CA 90509.** An Equal Opportunity Employer.





Wearing a helmet and a glove (inset), a wheelchair user enters a virtual office environment in order to check access.
Photo by Trimble & Associates.

Virtual Reality

Technology Opens Doorway To Worlds Imagined And Beyond

By Scott LaFee

Whenver Bob Crandall vacationed in Montana, he stayed at a particular motel. It wasn't a great motel, but it did boast the only room for miles around that was "specially designed for the handicapped."

Crandall, who was paralyzed in a car accident, almost always left a note for the motel managers afterward suggest-

ing some way in which to make the room better.

"They would forget that people in wheelchairs need air conditioners and TV's that are within reach. Or room under counters for feet. Or enough space to back up when you opened a door."

After years of tinkering with the room, often following Crandall's ad-

vice, the motel's management decided to completely remodel it with professional direction from architects skilled in designing barrier-free environments.

"The problem was," said Crandall, "the first time I wheeled myself into the bathroom the chair hit a bar under the sink. I couldn't get close enough to wash my hands."

Augmentative Communication

Adapted Toys & Devices

Sensory Manipulation

Capability Switches

Recreation Equipment

Language Software

Positioning Systems

Large Print Books

Mobility

Audio Cassettes

Videos

... and more!



1992-93 Vol. VI

New & Expanded

JESANA Ltd.

A Very Special Catalogue

P.O. Box 17, Irvington, N.Y. 10533

Toll Free 1-800-443-4728

Fax 1-914-591-4320

Reality

"Architects can claim to design places without barriers – but it's my experience that they still make mistakes."

But they might not in the future with a new system that permits both non-disabled persons and persons with disabilities to use and explore rooms, buildings, even whole worlds, before they are even built.

It's called wheelchair virtual reality.

Virtual reality is a cutting-edge technology that combines high-speed computers with sensors capable of

"Architects can claim to design places without barriers – but it's my experience that they still make mistakes."

CANON COMMUNICATOR

CC-7S/CC-7P

LARGE MEMORY CAPACITY AND LOADED WITH EASY-TO-READ FUNCTIONS

As a communication aid for people with speech disorders, autism, Downs syndrome, surgical problems etc., the Canon Communicator has proven itself to be one of the most reliable of all facilitated communicators.



Do you need a new Canon Communicator, paper, cords, battery packs, chargers, armbelts, etc.? IBEX International has all of these and other accessories in stock at all times.

We at IBEX International have been associated with the Canon Communicators since they were introduced in 1977.

FACILITATED COMMUNICATION (AUTISM)

MANY USER-FRIENDLY FUNCTIONS

Because all the Communicator's operations are done on the keyboard, anybody able to press buttons can print out the messages on the thermal tape.

- Enlarged print
- Message Memory
- Calculator function
- Sound Memory (CC-7S model)
- Memory duplication
- Memory recall mode
- Single key operation mode



For information, catalog, prices and accessories for all Canon Communicators, Contact:

IBEX International

P.O. Box 102
Sharon, MA 02067
617-784-2833

measuring motion, heat, spatial relationships. In addition, it can create worlds both imagined and unimagined, places where the users can see, hear, touch and move without handicap.

The current driving force behind virtual reality is the entertainment industry. Sophisticated video games using helmets equipped with miniature televisions and Datagloves that monitor movements and transmit commands are popping up in arcades in many cities.

These games allow participants to enter fantastical cities where pterodactyls are fended off by laser beams and everybody can fly.

But it is the promise of what virtual reality can do for people like Crandall that most excites inventors like John Trimble, doctor of physiology, mechanical engineer and behavioral scientist.

Trimble, who recently quit his job at the Veterans Administration Rehabilitation Research and Development Center in Hines, IL, has developed a Virtual Barrier-Free Design system with Ted

continued on page 18

REALITY NOW

The future sounds promising for virtual reality, but technology today offers a sparkling array of aids for communications. Electronic devices can convert text (printed, written or braille) to speech and speech to text. A variety of telecommunications devices for the hearing impaired is available. Computer control devices, software programs and resource databanks are also proliferating. The following are companies that offer these products, listed by primary category. Other categories are noted by symbol (☎ ♣ ♦ ♠ ● ✕) after the company name. Call or write to them for details of what they can provide.



A user-friendly computer system allows Laura Schiller, who has ALS, to communicate with her family and run her household. Story, page 47.

☎ TEXT TO SPEECH

AbleNet ✕
1081 Tenth Ave. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414-1312
(800) 322-0956

ABOVO, Inc.
96 Rhinebeck Ave.
Springfield, MA 01129
(413) 594-5279

AICOM
1590 Oakland Road, Suite B112
San Jose, CA 95131
(408) 453-8251

American Printing House
P.O.Box 6085
Louisville, KY 40206-9990
(800) 223-1839

Arkenstone
1390 Borregas Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94089
(800) 444-4443

Artic Technologies
55 Park Street, #2
Troy, MI 48083
(313) 588-7370

Berkeley Systems Inc.
2095 Rose St.
Berkeley, CA 94709
(800) 877-5535

Companion Products
International ☎
P.O.Box G
Milford, PA 18337-0208
(800) 25-VOICE

Computability Corp. ☎ ☎ ♦
40000 Grand River, Suite 109
Novi, MI 48375
(800) 433-8872

Echo Speech Corp.
6460 Via Real
Carpinteria, CA 93013
(805) 684-4593

Franklin Electronic Publishers,
122 Burrs Road
Mount Holly, NJ 08060
(800) 762-5382

GW Micro ☎ ●
310 Racquet Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
(219) 483-3625

Henter-Joyce, Inc.
10901C Roosevelt Blvd. N.
#1200
(800) 336-5658

Home Health Express
49 Walnut St. Unit 4
Norwood, NJ 07648
(800) 828-7123

IBEX International ✕
P.O.Box 102
Sharon, MA 02067
(617) 784-2833

IBM ☎ ☎ ♦
1000 NW 51st St.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
(800) 426-4832
(800) 426-4833 TDD

Innocomp
33195 Wagon Wheel Drive
Solon, OH 44139
(800) 382-VOCA

Jesana ♦
P.O. Box 17
Irrington, NY 10533
(800) 443-4728

Marblesoft ♦
12301 Central Ave NE, Suite 205
Blaine, MN 55434
(612) 755-1402

Maxi-Aids ☎ ☎ ♦
42 Executive Blvd.
P.O. Box 3209
Farmingdale, NY 11735
(516) 752-0521

Med Labs ♦
28 Vereda Cordillera
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 968-2486

NanoPac, Inc. ☎ ♦
4833 S. Sheridan Rd.
#402
Tulsa, OK 74145
(918) 665-0329

Phonic Ear, Inc.
3880 Cypress Drive
Petaluma, CA
94954-7600
(707) 769-1110 V
Ext. 234 TDD

Prentke Romich ♦
1022 Heyl Rd.
Wooster, OH 44691
(800) 262-1984

Sentient Systems
2100 Wharton St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
(800) 344-1778

Shea Products
1721 West Hamlin Rd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
(313) 852-4940

Synergy ☎ ♦
66 Hale Rd.
East Walpole, MA 02032
(508) 668-7424

Telesensory Systems, Inc. ☎ ♦
455 N. Bernardo Ave.
Mountain View, CA 94043
(800) 227-8418
(415) 960-0920 TDD

Tash, Inc. ☎ ☎ ♦
91 Station Street, Unit 1
Ajax, ON L1S 3H2
Canada
(416) 686-4129

Tiger Communication
System, Inc. ✕
155 East Broad St. #325
Rochester, NY 14604
(716) 454-5134

KEY

☎ TEXT TO SPEECH

☎ SPEECH TO TEXT

☎ TDD'S and/or PHONE COMMUNICATIONS

♦ COMPUTER CONTROL DEVICES

● BRAILLE

✕ OTHER

Words+, Inc.
P.O.Box 1229
Lancaster, CA 93584
(800) 869-8521

Xerox Imaging Systems
9 Centennial Drive
Peabody, MA 01960
(800) 977-2000

🗣️ SPEECH TO TEXT

Dragon Systems
320 Nevada Street
Newton, MA 02160
(800) 825-5897

Madenta Communications ❖
Suite 209 Advance Tech. Center
9650 20 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6N 1G1
Canada
(800) 661-8406

Voice Connexion ⚡
17835 Skypark Circle, Suite C
Irvine, CA 92714
(714) 261-2366

📞 TDDS AND PHONE COMMUNICATIONS

American Loop Systems
43 Davis Rd., Suite 2
Belmont, MA 02178
(800) 438-5667
TDD (800) 955-7204

DiRAD Technologies, Inc.
21 Aviation Rd.
Albany, NY 12205
(800) 933-4723

GTE Special Needs
12380 E. Firestone Blvd.
P.O. Box 1013
Norwalk, CA 90650
(800) 821-2585 V/TDD

Harris Communications
6541 City West Parkway
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
(800) 825-6758
(800) 825-9187 TDD

KRI Communications, Inc.
129 Sheldon Street
El Segundo, CA 90245-3916
(800) 322-4968 V/TDD

Sieman's Hearing
10 Constitution Ave.
Piscataway, NJ 08855
(800) 766-4500

Temasek Telephone, Inc.
260 E. Grand Avenue
Suite 19

So. San Francisco, CA 94080
(800) 647-8887

Ultratec, Inc.
450 Science Drive
Madison, WI 53711-1056
(608) 238-5400 V/TDD

❖ COMPUTER CONTROL DEVICES

ACS Technologies
1400 Lee Drive
Clinton, PA 15108
(800) 227-2922

Apple Computers ⚡
20525 Mariani Ave.

Cuperertino, CA 95014
(800) 776-2333

Asahel Engineering, Inc.
East 235 Main St.,
Pullman, WA 99163
(509) 334-2226

BrainTrain ⚡
727 Twinridge Lane
Richmond, VA 23235
(804) 320-0105

Consultants for
Communication Technology
508 Bellvue Terrace
Pittsburgh, PA 15202
(412) 761-6062

Don Johnston Development
Equipment
P.O.Box 639
1000 N. Rand Road, Bldg. 115
Wauconda, IL 60084
(800) 999-4660

Du-It Control Systems Group
8765 Township Road #513
Shreve, OH 44676
(216) 567-2906

Dunamis, Inc.
3620 Hwy. 317
Suwanee, GA 30174
(800) 828-2443

Equal Access Computer
Technology
39 Oneida Rd.
Acton, MA 01720
(508) 263-6437

In-Touch Systems
11 West View Road
Spring Valley, NY 10977
(800) 332-MAGIC

LC Technologies, Inc. ⚡
4415 Glenn Rose Street
Fairfax, VA 22032
(800) 733-5284

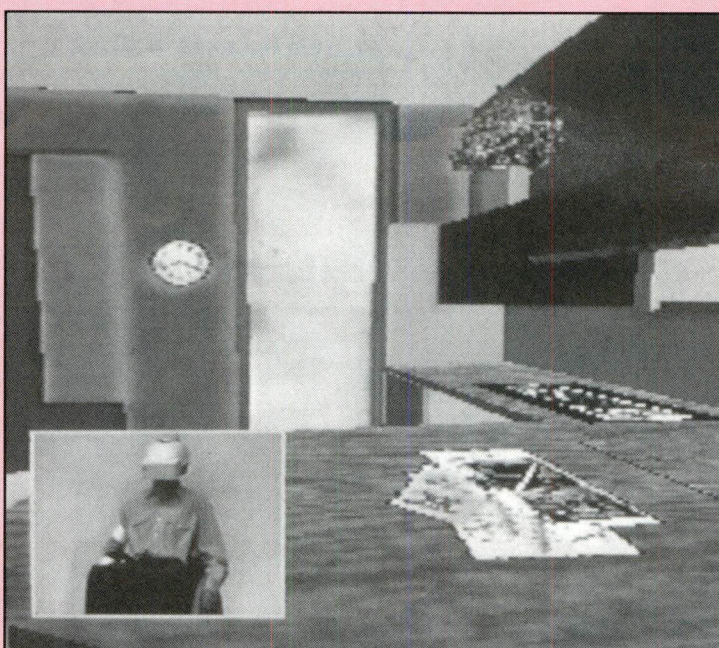
Mastervoice
10523 Humbolt Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
(310) 954-6581

Microsystems Software, Inc. ⚡
600 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01701
(800) 828-2600

NEXT Computers ✖
900 Chesapeake Drive
Redwood City, CA 94063
(800) 848-NEXT

Peal Software ⚡
P.O.Box 8188
Calabasas, CA 91372
(800) 541-1318

Pointer Systems ⚡
One Mill Street



Virtual reality lets a wheelchair user check out building plans before they leave the drawing board. Story, page 13.

Burlington, VT 05401-1529
(802) 658-3260

Quartet Technology Inc.
7565 Tiptoe Lane
Cupertino, CA 95014
(408) 253-1971

Toys for Special Children ⚡
8 Main Street
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706
(914) 478-0960

Unicorn Engineering Co.
5221 Central Ave., Suite 205
Richmond, CA 94804
(800) 899-6687

WesTest Engineering Corp.
1470 N. Main
Bountiful, UT 84010
(801) 298-7100

World Communications
245 Tonopah Drive
Fremont, CA 94539
(510) 656-0911

● Braille Input & Output

Baum, USA ⚡ ✖
17525 Ventura Blvd.
Suite 303
Encino, CA 91316-3843
(800) 225-3150

Blazie Engineering ⚡ ❖ ✖
105 E. Jarrettsville Road
Forest Hill, MD 21050-1611
(410) 893-9333

Duxbury Systems
435 King Street
P.O.Box 1504

Littleton, MA 01460
(508) 486-9766

✖ OTHER

Assistive Listening Device:

Meta Vox
8375 Leesburg Pike, Suite 421
Vienna, VA 22182
(703) 698-0802

Consultant:

ATT/NCR
Special Needs Access Program
Attn: Mona Keefer
3033 Chain Bridge Rd.
Rm B202
Oakton, VA 22185
(703) 691-6059

Database of Assistive Technology:

Academic Software
331 W. Second St.
Lexington, KY 40507
(800) 842-2357

NARIC/Abledata
8455 Colesville Road
Suite 935
Silver Springs, MD 20910
(800) 346-2742

Voice Amplifier:

Luminaud, Inc.
8688 Tyler Blvd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(216) 255-9082

Passy-Muir, Inc.
4521 Campus Drive
Suite 273
Irvine, CA 92715
(800) 634-5397

HandiWARE™

• Augmentative Communications

• Adapted Access

Software Solutions

• Low Vision

HandiWARE is a family of alternative computer access software for MS-DOS PCs. HandiWARE products co-exist with and enhance the capabilities of off-the-shelf application programs.

HandiKEY Keyboard on the screen. Access via switch, trackball, mouse, joystick, or headmouse. Includes word prediction and expansion. Deluxe includes speech output.

HandiCODE Total keyboard functionality via Morse code input. Extensive macro features, plus speech output.

HandiWORD Word prediction at its best! Abbreviation expansion and user definable dictionaries.

HandiCHAT Turn your PC into a communication device. A pop-up speech window plus character or word confirmation. Deluxe adds sequential phrase selection.

HandiSHIFT A flexible sticky key utility for 1 finger access to <Shift>, <Ctrl> and <Alt> key sequences. Now has KEYCLICK feedback!

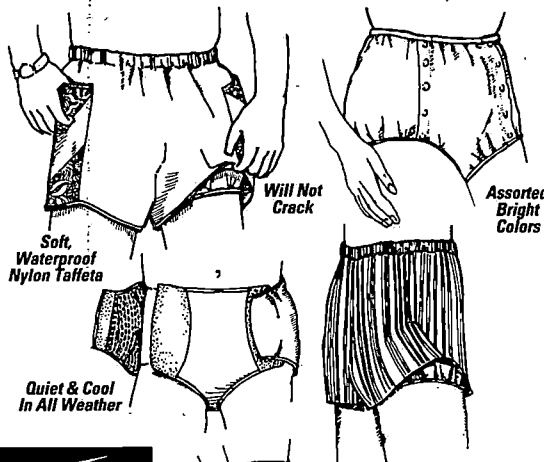
MAGic Screen magnification software for text, graphics and Windows at 2x. Deluxe magnifies text up to 12x. Price and ease-of-use beats competition hands down. Call for freedemo.

Microsystems Software, Inc.

600 Worcester Road, Framingham, MA 01701
800 828-2600 • FAX: (508) 626-8515



**Look
No Further!**

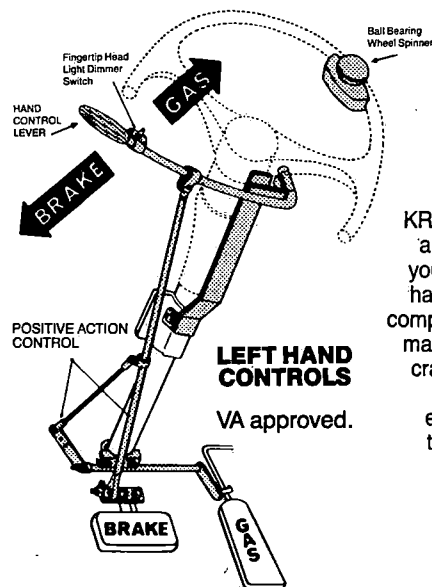


FREE!
Complete illustrated catalogue

TOP DRAWERS
901 1/2 Mainstreet
Hopkins, MN 55343
CALL 1-(612) 933-8231

Waterproof Products for all ages.

YOUR TO SAFE DRIVING



Drive your car safely, easily, confidently—with your fingertips! KROEPKE CONTROLS are custom made to fit your car perfectly. They have been designed by competent engineers and manufactured by skilled craftsmen. We have 38 years of dedicated experience in helping those who have been inconvenienced by a physical disability.

Write or Call for FREE BROCHURE

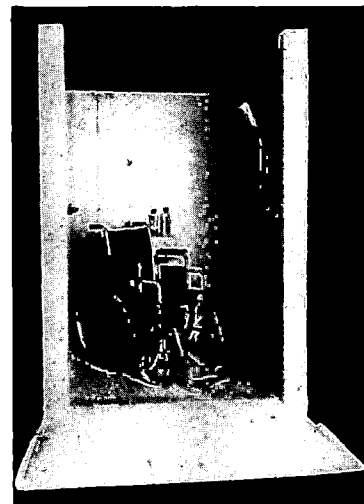


104 Hawkins St., Bronx, N.Y. 10464
Tel. (212) 885-1100 Fax. (212) 885-1110

Roll-In Shower

Features

- ☐ Four Piece unit for new construction or remodeling
- ☐ Easy to move through small areas, assemble and install
- ☐ Safety temperature controlled valve
- ☐ Stainless steel grab bars
- ☐ Easy access ramp
- ☐ Showerhead is adjustable or hand-held



Polytech Fiberglass

Rockwood Associates

51 Hawthorne Ave. Auburndale, MA 02166
For further information call: 617-527-0008

Reality

Morris, another engineer, and Crandall, who worked on the computer software.

"What we've done is build a system that allows somebody in a wheelchair to roll on to a platform, put on a 110-degree, head-mounted TV display and a Dataglove or an electronic wand and then move back and forth throughout a building looking for problems before they really are problems," said Trimble.

The system, amazingly enough, was mostly built with electronics purchased off the shelf. Only the platform, which is a series of rollers, had to be custom-designed.

Trimble, who has formed a new company called Trimble and Associates to market the device, plans to demonstrate the system at the 8th Annual Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference March 17-20 at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel.

The obvious market for Trimble's machine are architects. They could use it to plot building designs by taking their

clients for a virtual tour before a dime was ever spent on actual construction.

The benefit to persons with disabilities is equally obvious: "It's very hard to get people to see things from a different point of view unless you can put them in a chair," said Trimble, who is not disabled. "This does that in a way so that when there's a problem, they can't just get out of the chair. They really learn what it's like and what needs to be done to make a design barrier-free."

What users see can seem startlingly real. From its beginnings, when the graphics were crude and cartoonish, virtual reality technology has developed into a distinct art form of sophisticated lines and shadows. Virtual worlds can be three-dimensional and all-encompassing,

thanks to micro-TVs which cover a person's entire field of vision and high-tech headphones which produce sounds that seem to appear in different points in space.

...the user can turn his head in any direction and see space, distance and objects always correctly depicted in proportion and perspective.

Linked to a high-speed computer, a virtual world becomes a place where the user can turn his head in any direction and see space, distance and objects always correctly depicted in proportion and perspective.

Trimble's system allows blueprints to be converted into worlds in which there are walls, carpeting, furniture, even pic-

tures digitized from genuine photos or video recordings.

But the promise of virtual reality for persons with disabilities goes well beyond simply providing architects and planners with a new, eye-opening tool.

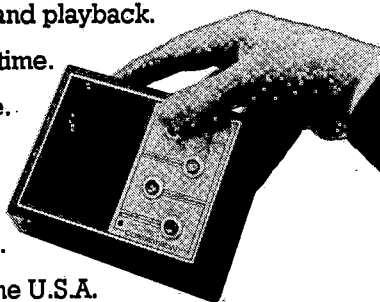


Believe It or Not!

Lowest price anywhere.

Speech Aid-\$100!

- Top quality voice, 4 message record and playback.
- 20 seconds, extended, total message time.
- Long battery life, uses a 9 volt alkaline.
- A low battery will not lose messages.
- Easy to use, push button operation.
- Small, lightweight, fits most anywhere.
- One year limited warranty. Made in the U.S.A.



To order Call Toll Free: (800)258-6423

Companion Products International

P.O. Box G, Milford, PA 18337-0208

Phone (717) 686-4713 • Fax (717) 686-4718

We are using tomorrow's technology to cut today's cost.



The California Air Resources Board is looking for:

Engineers and Physical or Biological Scientists

If you are interested in the environment and concerned about the quality of the air we breathe, consider beginning a career with us!

We can be contacted by writing:
Recruitment Office
Air Resources Board
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812
or call (916) 323-1158 Collect
TDD (916) 324-9531

INTRODUCING THE NEW INSTRUCTIONAL
"HOW TO RACE"
 VIDEO

YOU FEEL THE NEED FOR SPEED

Have you just purchased or are on the verge of purchasing a new racing chair? This instructional video will provide you a visual "owner's manual" that will teach you to adjust and operate your new chair to its maximum potential in the shortest amount of time.

Along with the chair set up and maintenance, this video will also provide information on pushing techniques (paras, quads, SCI, CP, as well as other disabilities); sitting positions; use of compensators; transferring to and from chairs; preliminary training techniques; and miscellaneous accessories.

Length: 1/2 hour • Format: VHS

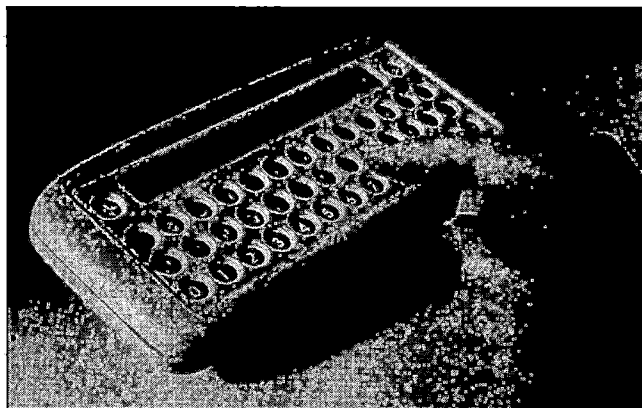
Cost: \$39.95 plus \$4.00 (shipping and handling)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

KENNY CARNES
702-433-0130

291 COMFORT DRIVE, HENDERSON, NV 89014

**Breakthrough Typing Device
 for Non-Speaking Persons.**



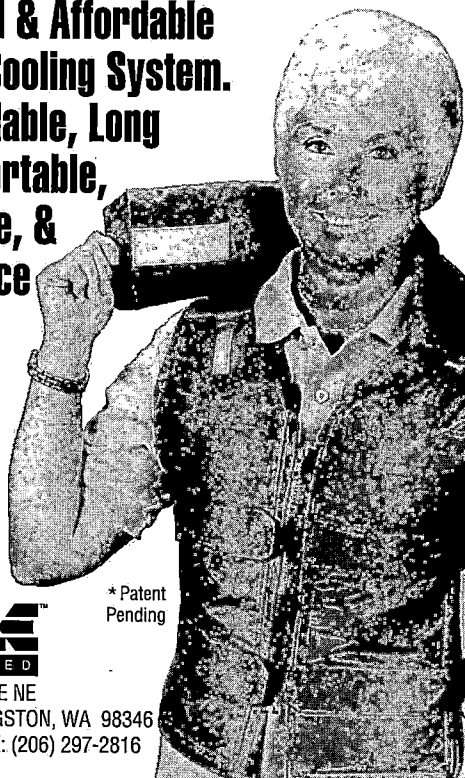
The Abovo™ Personal Communicating Device (PCD) was designed especially for personal communication through typing. This advanced portable device allows Facilitated Communication for people who have autism, mental retardation, RETT Syndrome and other speaking disabilities. People with TBI, Aphasia, Parkinsons disease, Alzheimers disease, Cerebral Palsy, laryngeal cancer and other disorders affecting speech may also benefit from the Abovo™ PCD through unassisted typing. Available options include a remote display unit for communicating up to 20 feet away and a PC downloading device for writers. Please call, fax or write for further information.

A · B · O · V · O™

96 Rhinebeck Avenue, Springfield, MA 01129
 413-594-5279 fax: 413-594-5809

The SteeleVest™

**A Practical & Affordable
 Personal Cooling System.
 It's Dependable, Long
 Lasting, Portable,
 Tether Free, &
 Maintenance
 Free...
 It Works!**



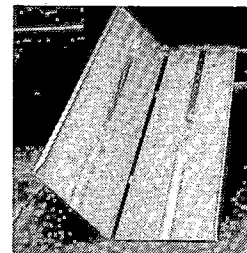
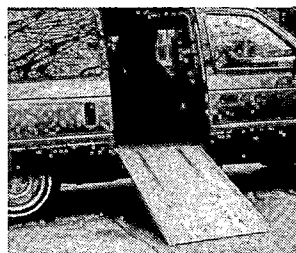
* Patent
 Pending

STEELE
 INCORPORATED

26112 IOWA AVENUE NE
 P.O. BOX 7304 KINGSTON, WA 98346
 (206) 297-4555 FAX: (206) 297-2816

UNIVERSAL RAMP

Finally, an aluminum portable ramp designed for QUICK and EASY use. The Universal Ramp by AlumiRamp offers the convenience of a 2 part lightweight ramp with the strength and durability that is well known with all of the AlumiRamp products.



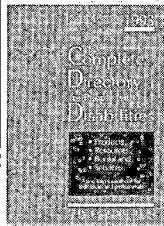
- * Weighs only 30 lbs. (15 lbs. per section)
- * Assembled Size 26 1/2" wide x 57" long
- * Separates into (2) 13" wide x 57" long pieces
- * Capacity of ramp 500 lbs.
- * Skid resistant surface
- * For use at home or in a vehicle

10 day money back guarantee \$245.00

AlumiRamp Inc 855 Chicago Rd Quincy, MI 49082
 Phone 517-639-8777 Fax 517-639-4576

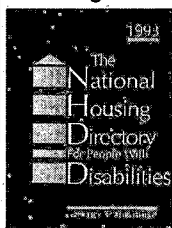
HOT OFF THE PRESS!

The All New 1993 Edition!



The Complete Directory for People with Disabilities is filled with ADA Resources plus 8 new chapters and over 3,000 new entries. This comprehensive directory puts at your fingertips over 8,000 resources for people with disabilities from support

groups and hotlines to computer aids, books, newsletters & videos. All designed to help you find the right materials right away.



Also New: The National Housing Directory for People with Disabilities lists over 25,000 government agencies, referral agencies and facilities state-by-state that provide housing for people with all kinds of disabilities.

A one-stop resource that professionals and individuals have been asking us for.

Call today for a free 15 day preview of this "must be bought" resource guide. It will be on your desk more than it's on the shelf.

Grey House Publishing

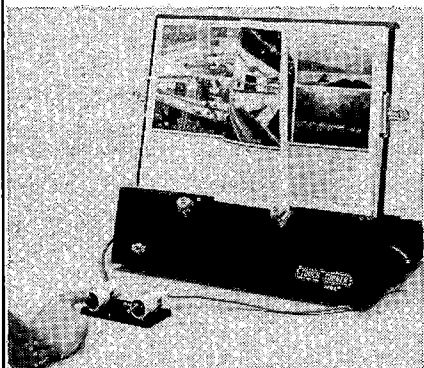
Pocket Knife Square
Lakeville, CT 06039

800 • 562 • 2139

TOUCH TURNER

PAGE TURNING DEVICES

- Powered by flashlight batteries.
- Operated by sensitive switches.
- Turns pages by sip & puff, chin, puffed cheek, head movement, feet, etc.
- Turns pages to size of *Life*.
- Turns hardbound books up to size of *World Books*.



Turns The Pages Either Direction
Satisfaction Guaranteed • Send For Free Brochure

SPECIAL TOUCH TURNER FOR PAPERBACKS

- Turns paperbacks in one direction.
- Operates by sensitive switches.

TOUCH TURNER

443 View Ridge Dr., Everett WA 98203 • 206/252-1541
TURN THE PAGES YOURSELF

Reality

It promises people who cannot walk, the ability to "travel"; blind persons the opportunity to "see"; deaf persons a chance to "hear."

"It's an emerging technology that still has a long way to go, but possibilities are endless," said Walter Greenleaf, president of Greenleaf Medical Systems, a Palo Alto company which produces virtual reality systems for medical applications.

"There are fully immersible systems where the user steps into a computer world. One day, people might be able to do that for work or for travel, linking up electronically with other users. People would be able to see images of other places, real or not. They'll see each other and

be able to talk. It will be like being there. It will change our culture because disabled people will be able to join the mainstream. They'll be like everyone else."

People with disabilities would be at no disadvantage, Greenleaf said, because virtual reality programs can be altered to take advantage of an individual's particular assets and minimize their deficits.

He concedes, however, that such virtual worlds are still only a dream. Computers will need to become faster and more powerful. More software programs must be developed and virtual reality systems have to become cheaper and more pervasive. The best systems, at the moment, cost up to \$250,000 and are found only in research labs.

But most industry observers say that these things will happen in time.

On the other hand, some virtual reality-related technologies are already in common use. Datagloves, for example, are thin cloth gloves embroidered by fiber-optic cables and tiny, electronic sensors that measure flex and tactile stimulation. They are being used in some rehabilitation centers to help people speak.

To work, a user contorts his or her

gloved hand in a particular way and then informs the computer that the contortion carries a certain meaning. A fist, for example, could mean angry or the letter A.

The computer memorizes the relative positions of the sensors and angles of the cables. Once a vocabulary has been established, the user simply has to move his or her hand and the computer, through an electronic voicebox, instantly translates the signs into audible speech.

Ben Delaney, editor of the Mill Valley-based magazine, "CyberEdge Journal" has been watching the virtual reality industry for years.

...virtual reality for persons with disabilities goes well beyond simply providing architects with a new, eye-opening tool.

"I think for people with disabilities the biggest use will be in training. In a virtual world, you can slow time or simplify things. Let's say a person is learning how to use a wheelchair

to cross a street. Well, you can start off by having the cars moving at maybe one mile per hour, coming one at a time. If somebody makes a mistake, nobody gets hurt."

"You wouldn't have to have someone standing over a person training in a powered wheelchair with an energy cut-off switch," added Crandall. "The person could train all they want, alone, at their own speed."

Virtual reality technology already makes therapy and rehabilitation easier for some disabled persons. People working to expand their range of motion in their arms or legs, for example, can chart their progress because a computer superimposes their efforts in three-dimensional technicolor.

"Most of the ideas for virtual reality right now have already been demonstrated or it's not much of a stretch to see how they might be done," said Delaney.

"Virtual reality for the disabled is happening. Will it all be here tomorrow? No. Will it get here? Absolutely." ■

Scott LaFee is a freelance writer.

Our Reputation Is Getting Around, Because Our Customers Get Around.



IMS customers get around. Easily. Safely. In comfort and style. And they're spreading the word.

Our reputation for quality - Nobody makes conversion vans like IMS. Each IMS Rampvan is carefully inspected at every step of the conversion process. With the touch of a button, Rampvan lowers, the automatic door opens, and the low-angle ramp extends to the ground. Each time. Every time. When you depend on it.

Our reputation for design - IMS has designed the actuator arm which lowers the ramp to operate quietly and to fit flush against the van's interior wall. Rampvan owners have more interior room and an easier time exiting their vans. IMS's ergonomic design and attention to detail mean that Rampvan functions better and looks better than any other accessible vehicle on the road. In fact, more lowered-floor minivans on the road today are from IMS than from all others combined.

Our reputation for service - IMS customers don't worry. They know they're covered by a 3-year / 36,000 mile warranty on all conversion components, plus a

7-year / 70,000 mile warranty on the frame, ramp and rust-through metal protection. Plus, Chrysler's original warranty still applies to their IMS Rampvan. And IMS customers know that our nationwide network of dealers means service is there when you need it, wherever you may be.

If you'd like to know more about our reputation, contact your local IMS dealer. Or call us and we'll send you a free brochure and video.

Rampvan, from IMS.
Our Reputation Is Getting Around.

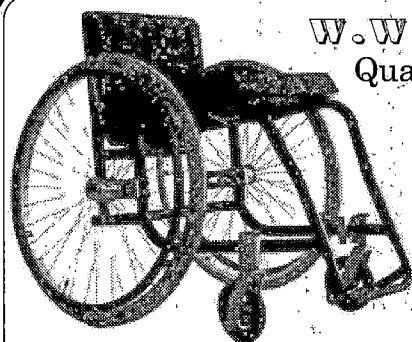
IMS
Independent
Mobility
Systems, Inc.™

4100 W. Piedras Drive
Farmington, NM 87401

1 800 622 0623

THERE'S NO REASON TO PAY MORE FOR TOP BRAND WHEELCHAIRS

When at Wheelchair Warehouse YOU PAY LESS !!!



W.W. Presents Our Private Label High
Quality Custom Built, Ultra Light,
Rigid Wheelchair with a
Lifetime Warranty

Only
\$885

Catheters

	Suggested Retail	Wheelchair Warehouse
Mentor		
• Clear Advantage	\$195	\$142
Sm-Med-Lg (100/case)		
• Freedom Caths	\$158	\$109
Sm-Med-Lg (100/case)		
• Active Caths	\$164	\$119
Sm-Med-Lg (100/case)		

Intermed Foley Caths		
• Silicone latex	\$27.60	\$22.00
12-30 FR.		

Mentor Self Caths		
• 12-14 FR	\$50.35	\$35.95
• 16 FR	\$30.24	\$22.95

Latex Exam Gloves		
• 100 box	\$7.75	\$5.50

Urocare Leg Bags		
• each	\$38.95	\$33.00

We carry a full line of Mentor, Bard, and Urocare urologicals.

Shower Chairs

Invacare		
• #6495	\$925	\$736
Everest & Jennings		
• E&J	\$1,350	\$869
Guardian		
• #99202	\$965	\$765
Lumex		
• #6872	\$1,087	\$817

Custom Ultralights

	Suggested Retail	Wheelchair Warehouse
FORTRESS		
• Edge	\$1,675	\$1,259
• Wedge	\$2,245	\$1,659

ACTION		
• Pro T	\$1,654	\$1,200
• Comp. AC	\$1,895	\$1,587
• Style	\$1,760	\$1,265

EVEREST & JENNINGS		
• Ellipse 2.3	\$2,995	\$2,199
• Mirage	\$1,795	\$1,199

KUSCHALL		
• 3000 ST	\$1,779	\$1,303
• 1000	\$1,689	\$1,249

WHEELSPORT INT'L.		
• Swift	\$1,495	\$1,179
• Pro Swift	\$2,195	\$1,699

COLOURS N' MOTION		
• Eclipse	\$1,511	\$1,356

Power Drives (batteries available)

	Suggested Retail	Wheelchair Warehouse
FORTRESS		
• Commuter	\$3,595	\$2,749
• 760	\$6,295	\$4,721
• Spirit	\$4,100	\$3,350

EVEREST & JENNINGS		
• Tempest	\$3,340	\$2,550
• Lancer	\$7,245	\$5,359
• Excalibur	\$7,620	\$5,547
• Magnum	\$5,780	\$4,245

INVACARE		
• Arrow 5 MXPR	\$7,805	\$5,839
• Arrow XT	\$7,619	\$5,749
• Ranger X	\$5,984	\$4,799
• Power 9000	\$3,445	\$2,699

3 Wheel Scooters

• Leisure Lift Titan	\$2,400	\$1,840
• Pride Side Kick	\$1,795	\$1,280
• Tri-Rolls	\$2,749	\$2,285
• Carrette	\$2,888	\$2,195

Also Available:

- Jay Cushions
- Roho Cushions
- Wheelchair Parts & Accessories
- Wholesale Durable Medical Equipment

Standard Wheelchairs

• Traveler	\$547	\$295
• Rolls 2000	\$736	\$500

Standing Frames

• Grandstand	\$1,895	\$1,490
• Handstand	\$1,200	\$1,032

W WHEELCHAIR WAREHOUSE
100 East Sierra • Suite #3309
Fresno, CA 93710

(800) 829-0202 • (209) 436-6147

We Will Beat ANY Nationally Advertised Price!!!



DISCOVER

Personal checks, money orders, cashier's checks,
and major bank cards are gladly accepted.

Wheelchair Warehouse

United Smith & Nephew

	Suggested Retail	Wheelchair Warehouse
Uri Kleen Detergent & Deod.	\$15.95	\$13.95
Uni Solve Adhesive Remover	15.95	12.45
Skin Bond Cement	6.95	5.95
Skin Prep Spray	9.95	9.35
Skin Prep Wipes 50/box	9.95	8.45

Sween

Sween Cream 9oz. Jar	\$10.95	\$9.50
Peri Care Skin Bar 8oz. Jar	10.95	9.50
Peri Wash 8oz. Bottle	7.95	6.00
Peri Wash II 8oz. Bottle	7.95	6.00

Miscellaneous

Wing Fold Under Pads		
23" x 36" 150/cs	\$55.00	\$45.65
23" x 24" 200/cs	55.00	45.65
17" x 23" 300/cs	55.00	45.65
Male Urinals	4.75	2.50
K-y Jelly 4oz. Tube	3.25	1.75

presents our

*Urological
division*

- ☐ monthly supply accounts available
- ☐ best prices anywhere
- ☐ if it's not listed, call for pricing

Mentor

	Suggested Retail	Wheelchair Warehouse
Clear Advantage 100/cs	\$204.75	\$142.00
Active Cath. 100/cs	171.68	119.00
Freedom Cath. 100/cs	166.27	112.00
Uro San Plus 100/box	111.46	79.00
Self Cath. #360 50/box	50.36	35.95
Self Cath. #460 50/box	50.36	35.95
Self Cath. #240 50/box	37.22	25.95
Self Cath. #450 50/box	50.35	35.95
Self Cath. #520 50/box	50.35	35.95
Skin Shield Wipes 50/box	7.30	6.00

Uro Care

Latex Reusable Leg Bags	\$38.95	\$33.00
Fabric Leg Strap Kits	16.30	14.00
Uro Foam 2-Sided Tape	18.61	16.50
Quick Drain Valve	17.80	15.95
Uro Lux 16oz. Bottle	11.34	8.95
Straight Through Adaptor	3.48	2.95
Vinyl Drainage Tubing	3.71	3.25
External Caths		call for pricing

Hollister

Everyday Ext Cath. 12/box	\$21.95	\$18.95
Self Adhesive Cath. 12/box	29.95	25.45
Retracted Penis Pouch	43.37	37.85
Female Urinary Pouch	90.92	82.75
Cleansing Tablets 32/box	6.95	5.75
Durable Vinyl Leg Bags	8.00	6.15

Baxter

	Suggested Retail	Wheelchair Warehouse
Night Drainage Bags #5900	\$8.00	\$5.35
Foley Siliconized Cath.		
14fr. - 30fr. 5cc & 30cc	5.95	3.95
Foley Cath. Trays	5.95	3.95
Irrigation Trays	5.95	3.95

Kimberly Clark

Depend Under. 144/cs	\$89.00	\$78.95
Depend Diapers Medium	89.00	78.95
Depend Diapers Large	89.00	78.95
Depend Shields 60/cs	24.95	18.55
Huggies Diapers Lg. 128/cs	89.00	78.95

Proctor & Gambel

Attends Diapers		
Youth Size 96/cs	\$68.95	\$58.05
Small 96/cs	68.95	58.05
Medium 72/cs	58.95	49.95
Large 72/cs	73.95	64.95
Attends Underg. 120/cs	89.00	78.00
Attends Pant Liner 144/cs	79.95	70.95
Attends Extra Absorb.		
Under Pad 72/cs	55.00	46.65
Tuckables 100/cs	85.00	79.65

Latex Exam Gloves

Small-Extra Large	\$19.95	\$8.45
-------------------	---------	---------------

Why pay more when you don't have to.

(207) 434-6147



Personal checks, money orders, cashier's checks, and major bank cards are gladly accepted.

(800) 827-0202

Hollywood



Gary Cole (as Larry McAfee) and Craig T. Nelson (as Dr. Russ Fine) in *THE SWITCH*.

Doing The Wrong Thing

The 'Switch' Misses The Connection

By Marta Russell

“**T**he Switch” could have been a great TV movie. Based on the story of Larry McAfee, who understandably becomes depressed in the wake of quadriplegia when faced with the maze of disability-related institutional callousness, “The Switch” could have been a socially illuminating giant like a previous Avnet Kerner production, “Heat Wave.”

A story can be revealing for what it centrally chooses to ignore or include in a plot. In a Hollywood wrapped up in the politics of story rights — who owns them, what they will get paid and how much control of the end production the rights-holder will have — it appears that even a socially conscious production company like Avnet Kerner is not immune from doing the wrong thing. It would be hard to imagine that a “Heat Wave,” based on the Watts riots of 1965, could be made without the input of key thinkers from the African-American community. Yet, the disability community has not been given the same courtesy in this non-disabled dominated version of McAfee’s life broadcast by CBS in January.

“The Switch” portends disappointment for the disability community intelligentsia because the story is largely based on the non-disabled story rights-holder Dr. Russ Fine.

Fine is the real-life director of the Injury Prevention Research Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham who is portrayed as a radio talk show/doctor character who befriends McAfee in the movie. Screen time is disproportionately consumed by Fine’s dilemma whether or not to install a “switch” on McAfee’s ventilator which would allow McAfee the ability to kill himself. By giving so much attention to this aspect of the Mc-

Afee case, the right-to-die becomes the central issue of the story. Although quadriplegics do go through a hard period of adjustment, many disabled individuals from the disability rights movement were actively involved in advocating for McAfee’s freedom from institutionalization and for his right to live with dignity. Why was their story not given top billing?

Revealingly, in the movie script Fine’s wife shows her moral concern by telling her husband that she hopes he is not befriending McAfee to get the rights of his story. But in the actual life script, follow-through to her concern is not seen on screen. In real life, the non-disabled Russ Fine does obtain the rights for Larry McAfee’s story and it is this power which largely dictates the focus of the right-to-die plot. Fine becomes the non-disabled savior of McAfee. “The Switch” becomes another buddy film, a la the non-disabled person saving the cripple from himself saga (stopping just short of the “slap in the face” scene) where the cripple is straightened out by the non-disabled character, sees the light and chooses not to die.

By installing the “switch” to McAfee’s ventilator, Fine does the traditional “liberal” thing, the message being if you give a person the right to die you give them freedom of control over their life. But doesn’t Fine’s validation of suicide to Larry in the face of his despair go against all practices of psychological intervention for any

non-disabled depressed person? Would Russ Fine have brought a non-disabled friend a loaded gun to do himself in with? The danger of the view expressed in this movie is that it is advocating



See “Switch” on page 26



David Strathairn, Alfre Woodard and Mary McDonnell in John Sayles' *PASSION FISH*.

Hollywood's New Blackface

Just Spray 'em With Chrome

By Bill Bolte

The movies have a thing about people with disabilities. Almost from the beginning we have been presented on the silver screen not as real people but as broadly splashed symbols of evil, moral weakness or corruption. Shallow stereotypes serve as visual codewords to speed the plot along.

Who cares if these creations reinforce and deepen harsh and fearful negative attitudes toward people with disabilities throughout society? Nobody in Hollywood. But once in a great while somebody surprises us, and we catch a glimpse of what it might really be like to have and live with a disability.

Case in point: Two recent films dealing with sharply different disabilities, one about a person with paraplegia, "*Passion Fish*," and the other about a blind person, "*Scent of a Woman*."

The John Sayles film "*Passion Fish*," about a soap-opera queen who becomes a

paraplegic (a N.Y. taxi hit her as she was dashing out of another taxi) is a gentle examination of the meaning of life in an age of Reagan-Bush angsty physicalism and hysterical materialism. A key scene is a surprise visit of her soap actress friends to the run-down Louisiana bayou family home to which she has retreated. Here, the reality of her disability is contrasted with the difficulty of the actresses to distinguish between their lives as soap opera characters and reality.

The new-found disability of the soap queen, played by the non-disabled Mary McDonnell, becomes an opportunity to consider a new direction in her life, with sharply different challenges. Her situation is a mixed-bag of losses and potential gains and re-discoveries. There is, of course, the depression, drinking, denial and escape that often goes with a new physical disability. This time, though, this typical depression is presented as a passing phase, rather than the usual right-to-die scenario so dear to wish-fulfilling screenwriters. In the process we witness a sometimes laughable passing parade of strange but very human attendants ranging from the Prussian martinet to the laissez-faire do-nothing. Finally, a recovering drug addict is hired. The two

soon provide the mutual support they need to weather their individual psychic crises.

Sayles is not doing a "disability of the week" movie, nor is he doing the "disabled as a symbol of societal rot" art film. There are subtle elements of both here, but they are leavened with views into the pedestrian world of supposedly glamorous actresses and the beauty in the lives of ordinary workers—one of whom the paraplegic is falling in love with.

A crossroads is reached when the producer of the soap opera arrives with an offer for her to rejoin the cast, wheelchair and all. The choice is whether to return to the false, hyper-world of electronic emotions or to stay with the slower paced world of real people, na-

See "Movies" on page 30



Frank Slade (Al Pacino) dances an impromptu tango with Donna (Gabrielle Anwar), a young woman he has just met in *SCENT OF A WOMAN*.

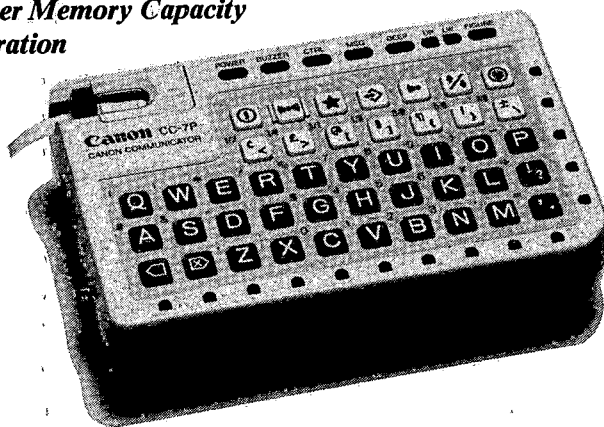
& Disability

CANON COMMUNICATOR

CC-7S/CC-7P

Communication Aid for People with Speech Disorders

- *Lowest Prices Nationwide*
- *Special Pricing Plans For Multiple Purchases*
- *Step By Step Approach On How To Obtain Funding*
- *Recording And Playback Capability*
- *7,000 Character Memory Capacity*
- *Versatile Operation*
- *In-Stock Accessories*



For information, pricing, product specs, and accessories for all Canon Communicators, call:

HOME HEALTH EXPRESS 1-800-828-7123

An Incredible

Resource

Stanford University Hospital, a 500-bed teaching facility, is renowned for its clinical excellence, vast resources and research accomplishments. Our highly desirable San Francisco Bay area features a wonderful climate in which to enjoy recreational and educational opportunities.

You could be one of our knowledgeable resources in one of these areas if you have the necessary degree/licensure:

- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Radiologic Technology
- Speech Pathology
- Pharmacy

For more information, please forward resume to **Employment & Recruitment, Room HG003, Stanford University Hospital, 300 Pasteur Drive, Stanford, CA 94305**. EOE. Principals Only, Please.



STANFORD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

The Art of Caring. The Science of Medicine.

Switch

for more than equal rights for the disabled person. It is advocating for the right-to-die for disabled persons.

In this right-to-die movie plot, Fine does reveal to the audience his emotional interest in Larry's predicament. In a reflective moment with Larry, Fine explains that earlier in his life his father, who was also a doctor, was faced with a cancer patient who was terminally ill and in a lot of pain. The elder doctor Fine found himself in a moral life/death quandary as a professional. But using cancer as an analogy to Larry's disability to further the right-to-die cause is misleading and incorrect. Larry is a lucid quadriplegic, not a terminally ill person with a short time to live.

Had Larry experienced a weak moment and killed himself with this "switch," this would be a very different story indeed; one that disability advocates are more than familiar with in Michigan, Nevada, and now California where disabled persons have chosen to end their lives out of despair from fighting a system that is virtually set up for their deaths.

Making the focus of the story the installation of a "switch" by a non-disabled doctor and setting up the analogy comparing cancer to having a disability was opportunistic on the part of the producers. During the writing stage, the producers were made aware of experts with disabilities who could have consulted on this movie to make it the socio-political statement it deserved to be. They choose not to consult with them. Later, when offered suggestions in the production phase, they also rejected them. McAfee himself felt run over by the producers who saw his concerns not fitting into the drama of the plot. And herein lie the seeds of double oppression for disabled people: a society which is more oriented towards death than life for disabled people and a Hollywood which in the guise of liberalism oppresses our real life issues to move forward its own agenda.

The story not told was that disabled people all over this country were in touch with Larry McAfee. Advocates for independent living services for disabled people in the state of Georgia and elsewhere were informing society that depression/suicidal tendencies often develop when disabled persons are treated as though their lives are not worth living in these dehumanizing institutional

settings. United Cerebral Palsy Associations donated a voice-activated computer system to Larry which showed him how he could be in control of his environment and continue his engineering career. Many disabled people were working to get Larry out of that nursing home alive. Many non-disabled people were fighting for Larry's right-to-die. In the final analysis, McAfee himself wished to see the disability rights community given fair billing in this movie. Where is the equal screen time for these real life disabled characters?

As "Heat Wave" was a statement about the lack of civil rights and oppression of the African-American community which eventually resulted in violence, "The Switch" could have been an illuminating window from which to view the disability civil rights movement in this country. The disability rights movement has been vocal in its contention that there is a lack of civil rights in nursing homes. It has been actively fighting for the release of disabled persons from nursing homes, promoting government funded in-home support services across the country which allow a disabled person to live at home instead of becoming institutionalized (more fiscally and humanely responsible than Medicare-driven nursing homes), and advocating for the employment of disabled persons. These are the issues McAfee faced after becoming a quadriplegic. The lack of knowledge about such programs, the lack of provision of these services by the current system in Georgia, and the lack of immediate connection with other disabled persons led McAfee to despair, a feeling of loss of control and the desire to kill himself. The disability community showed Larry the truth, not Russ Fine.

What will it take for Hollywood to switch its channel to the disability community? Must we have a Watts riot? Must we arm our wheelchairs with Uzis? The continual oppression of the disability community by Hollywood in the making of movies exploiting disabled characters by not fully portraying our socio-economic issues and avoiding our civil rights movement has got to stop. This latest "Switch" of oppression has once again been turned on by prevailing able-ist attitudes. ■

Marta Russell is a freelance writer

Time Warner Entertainment



WARNER BROS.
STUDIOS FACILITIES



WARNER BROS.
STUDIO STORES

LORIMAR
TELEVISION
A Time Warner Entertainment Company

At Warner Bros., Warner Bros. Studios Facilities, Warner Bros. Studio Stores, and Lorimar Television, we recognize that professionals have diverse abilities and talents. Our on-going training and outstanding professional development programs bring out the best in each of our employees. That's why so many of the gifted people who work behind the scenes are the ones who help us to really shine.

If you're ready to spotlight your unique talents and abilities, consider expanding your career horizons in one of these areas:

- Accounting/Finance
- Management Opportunities
- Management Information Systems
- Retail Merchandising
- Secretarial/Clerical
- Entry-Level Opportunities

For details about current career opportunities, please call our Jobline at (310)337-4914. For confidential consideration, please send your resume to: Warner Bros., Human Resources Dept., Box #24, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91522. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Competitive Tools for Individuals with Physical Disabilities in the Mainstream of Life

Co:Writer™

An intelligent word prediction program for help with typing words. Reduces keystrokes. Predicts by grammar, language use, frequency and recency.

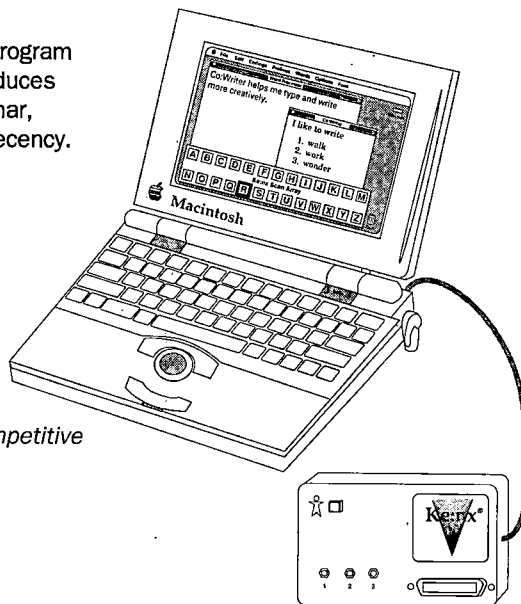
Ke:nx®

For those who can't use the traditional keyboard and mouse. Computer access with onscreen or alternate keyboards or even a single switch.

For people who want to be competitive in the workplace or at school.

Co:Writer \$290.00
Ke:nx \$780.00

Call 1-800-999-4660.



Don Johnston
Developmental Equipment, Inc.

▼ Communication & Computer Access ▼

708-526-2682 (Phone) • 708-526-4177 (Fax)

Co:Writer is a trademark and Ke:nx is a registered trademark of Don Johnston Developmental Equipment, Inc. Macintosh is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc.



Independence Series . . .

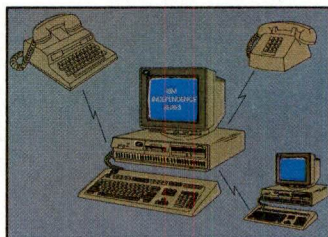
People Helping
People
Through
Technology

ADA Solutions for People with Disabilities

Speech / Hearing

PhoneCommunicator . . . A telephone communication system for the speech/hearing impaired. Through the power of the IBM Personal Computer, PhoneCommunicator brings a wide range of telephone communication options to the fingertips of people who are hearing- and/or speech-impaired.

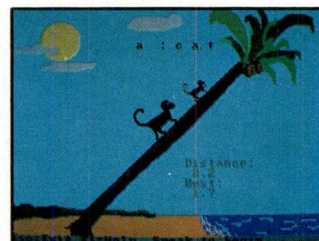
Requires an IBM PS/2 from the Model 25, 30, 35, or 40 families, a PC XT, or PC AT.



SpeechViewer . . . An entry-level speech therapy tool. Twelve clinical modules increase the efficiency of speech therapy by using the power of the IBM PS/2 to convert elements of speech acoustics to interactive graphic displays that are synchronized with audio playback.

Requires an IBM PS/2 from the Model 25, 30, 35 or 40 families and DOS 4.01 or higher.

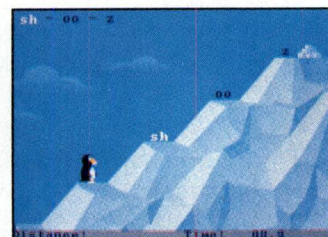
Requires M-ACPA adapter card.



SpeechViewer II . . . A full-function speech therapy tool. Integrates motivating exercises for client therapy, powerful speech analysis, and automated clinical management. Fifteen modules use IBM multimedia technology to provide both visual and auditory feedback synchronized with the graphic display of speech patterns.

Requires an IBM PS/1 (selected models) or IBM PS/2 and DOS 4.01, 5.0 or OS/2 1.3 or higher.

Requires M-ACPA adapter card.



Mobility

VoiceType . . . A speech recognition program jointly developed with *DRAGON SYSTEMS*. If you cannot easily use a keyboard, or if you currently use less flexible technology, VoiceType lets you be productive in a computerized world. At last, free yourself from the keyboard and do your work by speaking!

Requires an IBM PS/1 (selected models) or IBM PS/2 (selected models) and DOS 5.0 and appropriate M-ACPA adapter card.



KeyGuard . . . A template to enhance keying accuracy. The IBM KeyGuard is a molded keyboard overlay with holes that expose and isolate each keytop. It attaches securely so the keyboard can be positioned at any angle.

Requires either the IBM Enhanced or Space Saving keyboard on many IBM computers.



AccessDOS . . . A utility to enhance keyboard access. Provides extended keyboard, mouse, and sound access for IBM DOS users. Because of the specialized control it offers, AccessDOS is particularly useful for persons with disabilities.

Requires an IBM PC or PS/2.

Free from IBM**



Attention / Memory

THINKable . . . A new therapy tool for the treatment of children and adults who are cognitively impaired. Allows clinical professionals and educators to create a structured environment in which individuals can practice skills in four critical focus areas that relate to activities of daily living:

- Visual Attention
- Visual Discrimination
- Visual Memory
- Visual Sequential Memory

Requires an IBM PS/2 and OS/2



Vision

Screen Reader . . . A screen text-to-speech conversion tool for the vision impaired. Enables people who are blind or visually impaired to use a computer as a sighted person would. You hear the words on the screen and you are alerted when changes occur. It is also being used effectively with individuals who have a reading dysfunction.

Requires an IBM PS/1, PS/2, PC XT, or PC AT.



FOR INFORMATION and ORDERING

Screen Reader, PhoneCommunicator, KeyGuard

Information	Orders
1-800-426-4832	1-800-426-3388 (Continental USA Voice)
1-800-426-4833	1-800-426-3383 (Continental USA TDD)

VoiceType

1-800-TALKTYP (1-800-825-5897)	Dragon Systems, Inc., an IBM Authorized Industry Remarketer
-----------------------------------	--

SpeechViewer, SpeechViewer II, THINKable

1-800-228-0752	The Psychological Corporation, an IBM Authorized Industry Remarketer
----------------	---

AccessDOS

1-800-426-7282	(United States)
1-414-633-8108	(Alaska - toll call)

All Products (Canada Voice)
1-800-465-1234

Educational discount to qualified institutions is applicable.

** AccessDOS is available at no charge, as is.

Movies

ture and mundane problems that her disability has forced the actress to face — and the possibility of gentle, genuine love.

We people with disabilities are accustomed to witnessing ourselves as anomalies — defects in the body politic — whose disabilities become the burdensome focus of one film after another. These films are supposedly about us — but are actually about getting rid of us, eliminating the financial or emotional burden on the non-disabled through the resolution of miracle cure, institutionalization, or death, so that the “real” non-disabled characters can live happily ever after.

“Passion Fish” is worth seeing because disability is presented as part of life, with pluses and minuses. It shows the physical access problems and the search for trustworthy attendants. Yet it also shows the possibility of moral rebirth, or a new vision, of a richer, deeper life, of making a meaningful contribution, of becoming a better

human being, that can come with disability — not just for the physically dependent but also for people who they touch.

Sadly, though, neither the film title nor its ad campaign signals its relevance to disabled people. The

It is amazing how much non-disabled writers understand about the disabled experience with absolutely no first-hand knowledge.

newspaper ad presents a still shot of the heroine from a brief dream sequence where she is non-disabled, swinging her legs off a dock, rather than in a wheelchair. John Sayles may be comfortable with disabilities, but the studio's marketing department clearly believes that letting the public know that the film

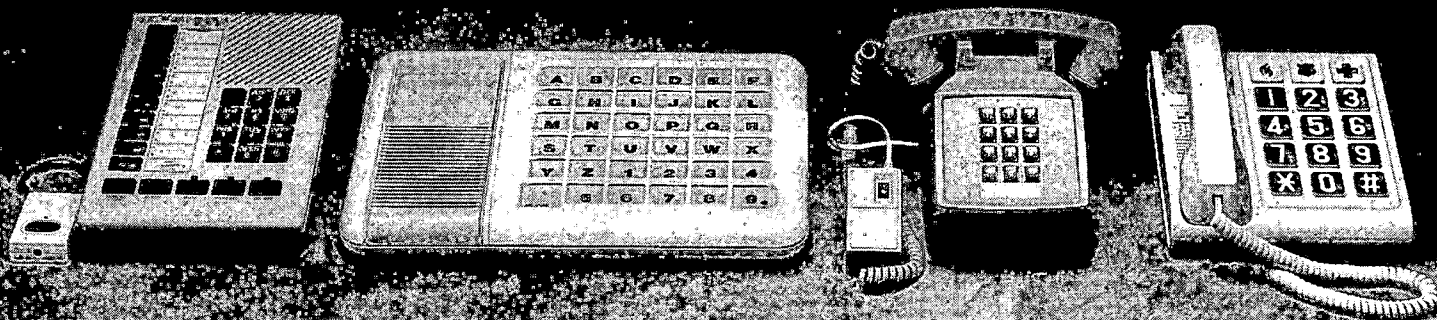
is about a person with a wheelchair will scare the non-disabled audience away.

The newspaper ads for the film “Scent of a Woman,” on the other hand, are crystal clear in letting you know that the film is about a blind man. He has dark glasses on, is projecting a guide stick ahead of him, and yet is being led by a sighted companion — summing up the dependent way Hollywood likes to portray us.

The film — winner of three Golden Globe Awards, including best picture, best screenplay and best actor — focuses on a totally rotten blind man whose reckless bravado, of course, caused his own blindness.

“If I were the man I was five years ago,” the screenwriter Bo Goldman has his blind man say at one point, “I’d take a flame thrower to this place.” Echoes of Willie Nelson’s song “Half a Man,” Edwin Starr’s song “War,” or Kenny Rogers’ “Ruby, Don’t Take Your Love to Town,” all of which conclude that a

HOW DO YOU MAKE A PHONE CALL IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE DIALING, SPEAKING, HEARING OR SEEING?



For everyone who has trouble using an ordinary phone, GTE offers some extraordinary ones.

Phones for the motion-impaired designed for hands-free operation.

Phones for the speech-impaired

that amplify, clarify and assist.

Phones for the hearing-impaired with amplifiers and loud ringers.

Or Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDDs).

Phones for the vision-impaired

with larger numbers and memory dialing. At GTE we offer all these special phones at a very special price. They're free for the asking*.

Make the first call. We'll make all the other calls easier.

GTE Special Needs Center

1-800-821-2585 (Voice/TDD)

GTE

THE POWER IS ON

12380 E. Firestone Blvd. P.O. Box 1013
Norwalk, CA 90650

physical disability diminishes us as human beings, sexually and in every other way. It is amazing how much non-disabled writers understand about the disabled experience with absolutely no first-hand knowledge. Their conceit speaks loudly of their anxieties and fears of losing control and dominance, as though human worth depended strictly on how high you can jump and how long you can make love — as though they themselves were all Magic Johnsons — before AIDS, of course.

In "Scent" we watch nearly every negative stereotype of disabled people laid on more heavily than usual: bitterness to the point of nausea; gun-in-the-mouth self-destructiveness; loaded-pistol, choke-hold murderous anger, and fall-down, foul-mouthed drunkenness. On top of these general biases comes another layer of stupid stuff specifically about the blind: lots of tripping, falling, and running into things — even when the character is sober. He does the over-exaggerated, twitchy, spider-like finger searching act, even when turning on a familiar radio next to his favorite easy chair. Worst of all, there is the superstitious crap about the



Alfre Woodard,
David Strathairn and
Mary McDonnell in
John Sayles'
PASSION FISH.

people being able to drive cars, this time at 70 mph through Manhattan, without dying instantly.

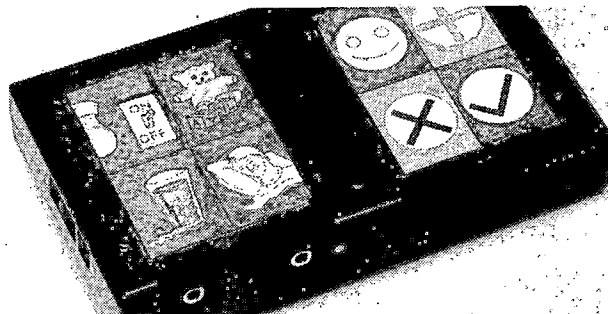
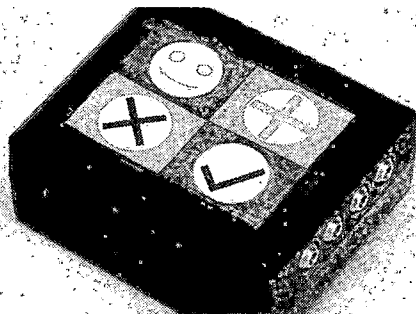
Implicit in the story line is the assumption that middle-aged healthy blind men don't have jobs and never will. Imagine what the screenwriter must think of the potential of a person with cerebral palsy or quadriplegia!

Most disturbing is the way screenwriter Bo Goldman uses this blind man as a vehicle for a flood of anti-female trash — as though disabled people are allowed such liberties because of their sexual frustration at being rejected by "normal" women. Women do not exist as anything other than sound, smell, feel and what is between their legs (specifically stated), according to Goldman's

magical powers that God has given us to compensate for our terrible afflictions, i.e., the blind man can tell the color of a woman's hair, and can smell a good-looking woman at a great distance in a crowded restaurant. There is also a variation of the shtick about blind

VOICEMATE 4 and SCANMATE 8...from TASH of course!

User-friendly communication aids — 'small' talk with a 'big' message!



VOICEMATE 4 — 4 phrases can be recorded • **SCANMATE 8** — 8 phrases can be recorded
4 seconds is the maximum time for each phrase • 4 'AAA' batteries for power • Volume and scan speed are both adjustable; blank interchangeable overlays included (create your own overlay — photos show suggestions only)
Switches with 1/8" jacks must be purchased separately

The VOICEMATE 4 is lightweight and easy to use. The unit comes in three versions: VOICEMATE 4 — just touch the top surface for direct select; SCANMATE 4 for direct select and/or scanning switch access; and SWITCHMATE 4 for direct select and/or four single-switch direct access.

Size: Voicemate 4 — 3" x 2 1/2" x 1 1/4"
(85 x 72 x 36 mm)
Scanmate 8 — 5 5/8" x 3 3/8" x 1 1/8"
(145 x 85 x 25 mm)

- 2701 **VOICEMATE 4** — direct select
- 2702 **SCANMATE 4** — direct select and switch access allows single switch with automatic scan or two-switch with step scan
- 2703 **SWITCHMATE 4** — direct select and/or four single-switch direct access
- 2708 **SCANMATE 8** — automatic scan with single switch or step scan with two-switch input

Write for our 1993 technical aids catalogue (note our new address)

tash INC.

To order this and other quality products, contact
Technical Aids & Systems for the Handicapped Inc.
Unit 1, 91 Station Street, Ajax, ON, Canada L1S 3H2
Phone (416) 686-4129 • Fax (416) 686-6895

blind man. The Establishment must halt its delight in having one oppressed group beat on another.

This film is about the fears and prejudices of the screenwriter, and a lot of his Hollywood Establishment cohorts — the fear that the disabled may actually take their new paper employment rights seriously and dare to try to apply them in the movie and TV business. Degradation of women in film has been a major part of the counter-attack against the growing power of women's rights. Now "Scent of a Woman" begins the process of covering

the disabled with feces, making them untouchable. I predict that you will soon see many more convincingly rotten people with disabilities in film and on TV. It is a shot across the bow of the disabilities rights movement.

Yes, the blind character is briefly and unconvincingly reformed at the end of the film into a positive-thinking role model after a dressing-down by a non-disabled young man. Funny how we disabled people are incapable of insights into our own lives without the counseling of people who have no

knowledge of our lives. What will be absorbed from this film is not the claptrap ending but the multiple reinforcement of the "bitter, angry cripple" stereotype.

What unites the reasonably intelligent "Passion Fish" with the stupid, crowd-pleasing, bigot-pandering "Scent of a Woman" is the casting of non-disabled actors to play disabled characters. Just as with every other minority, our lack of presence tends to allow prejudice and ignorance to flower. Strangely, the blind and physically disabled seem increasingly unperturbed by film insults.

What right do we have to complain about non-disabled writers, producers and directors, though, who can't seem to find disabled actors, or create unnecessary scenes where the character is momentarily not disabled to give themselves a credible defense? Neal Jimenez, the paraplegic writer and co-director of the recent film "The Waterdance," could not find the wherewithal to cast even one of his three disabled lead characters with a disabled actor. In a reply to criticism he contended that even one disabled actor in one of those roles would have prevented the film from being made. What if Spike Lee felt that way in his first low-budget film "She's Gotta Have It." He'd have decided to do a John Hughes white yuppie youth film or, maybe, cast the sons and daughters of white bankrollers in black face. No wonder some established mobility disabled actors are having increasing problems in finding employment. When Jimenez did that he granted permission to the non-disabled Hollywood power structure to go on doing the same thing.

If we disabled people don't believe in ourselves, why should anyone else? Until we are ready to be actively supportive of our right to work and right to be portrayed accurately, we will continue to have the unenviable choice between being held in contempt or being ignored. ■

Bill Bolte is a regular contributor to MAINSTREAM.



Physically-Challenged Assistance Program (P-CAP)

CUSTOMER BENEFITS:



Reimbursements up to \$500 for adaptive driving and passenger aids installed on new cars, trucks, and vans.*



Resource center for information on adaptive equipment and vehicle conversions.



More than five years experience assisting the physically-challenged.

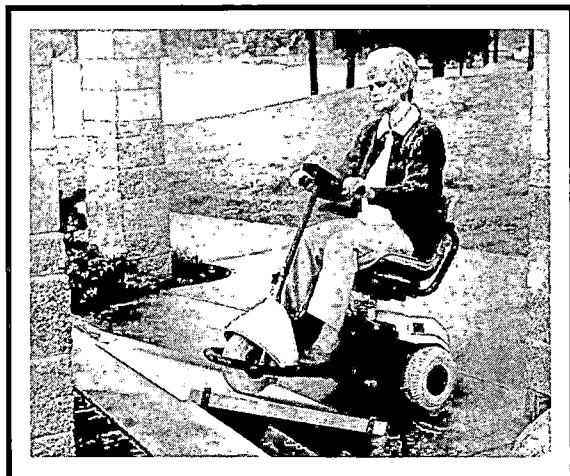
* Fleet rebate vehicles are not eligible.

1-800-255-9877

For further information, consult your dealer representative or call the P-CAP Resource Center toll-free.

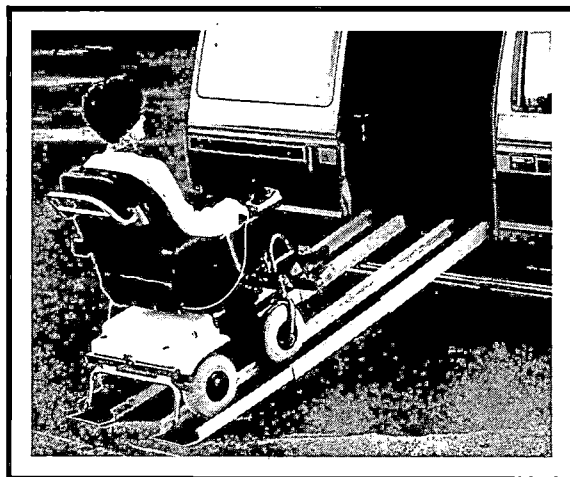


The Leading Name in Portable Wheelchair Ramps



Rollup 3' Curb Ramp

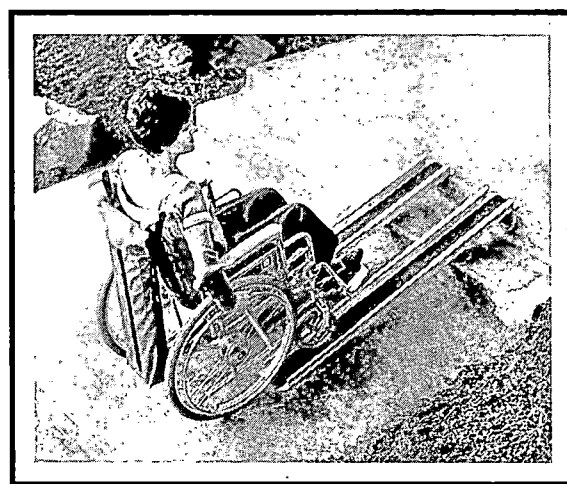
- Anodized Aluminum
- Non-skid Surface
- Telescopic Design
- Catch Buttons
- One Year Warranty



Vanramp R2000 7' or R6000 10'

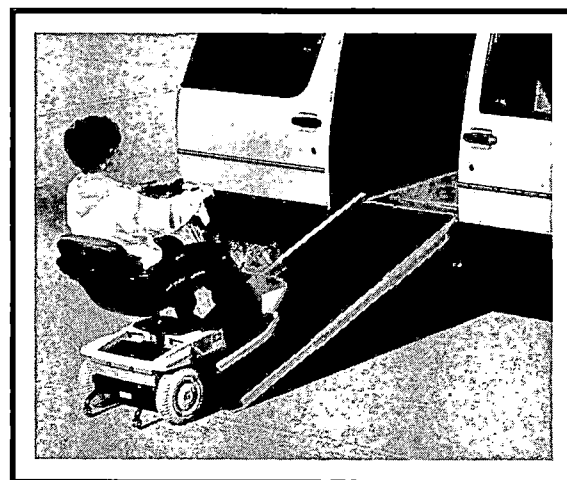


Look for this Seal of Quality



R1000 5' Portable Ramp

Overcome life's obstacles with EZ-ACCESS™
Portable Ramps for Wheelchairs and Scooters.



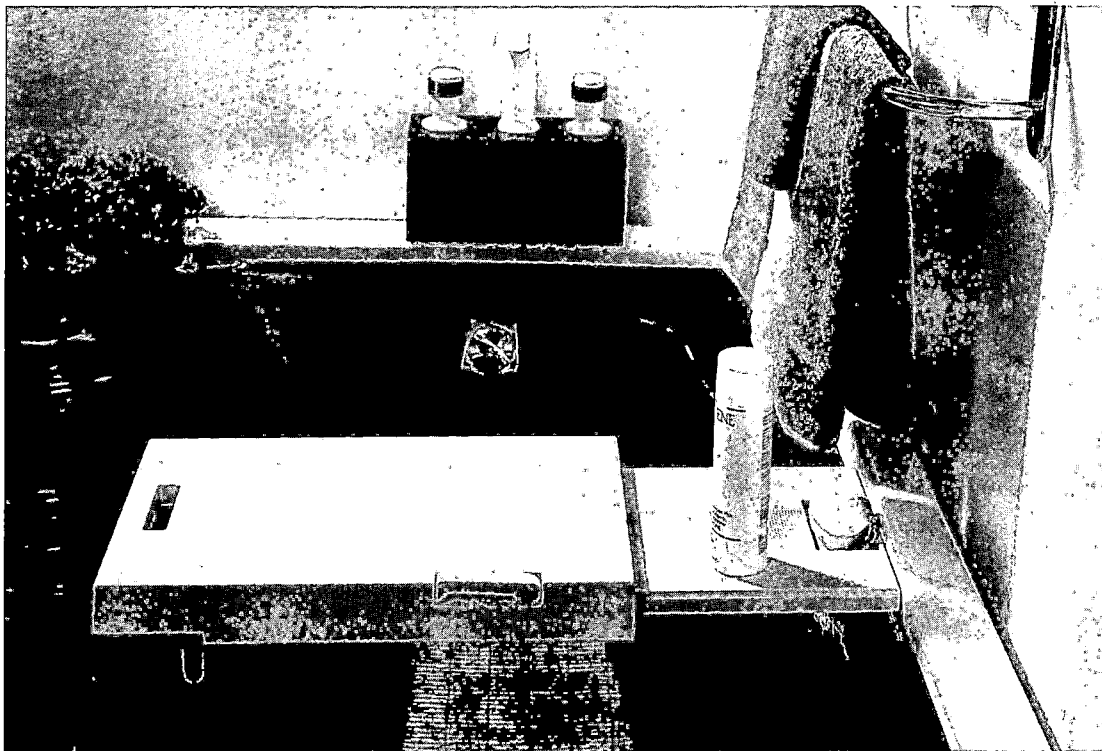
R3000 8' Scooter Ramp

Years of Quality Manufacturing by the Physically Challenged



HEMOCARE PRODUCTS, INC.
Kent, WA 98042
1-800-451-1903

THE BATHBOARD



SIT ON IT, NOT IN IT.

- Non-Slip Seat
- Compact, Fits In Your Suitcase
With Plenty Of Room For Clothing
- Stationary And Portable
- Secure Locking System
- Gripper Edge Reinforced With Rubber
- Closes To 20" Long
- Opens To 31" Long
- A Perfect Gift
- Fits Any Standard Bathtub
- No Assembly Required
- Supports Up To 300 lbs.
- Built-In Soap Dish
- Attractive Colors
- Lightweight
- Safe And Endorsed
By Physicians
- Unique Design

CALL 1-800-543-2572

IN ARIZONA (602) 867-8243
CALL FOR PRICES

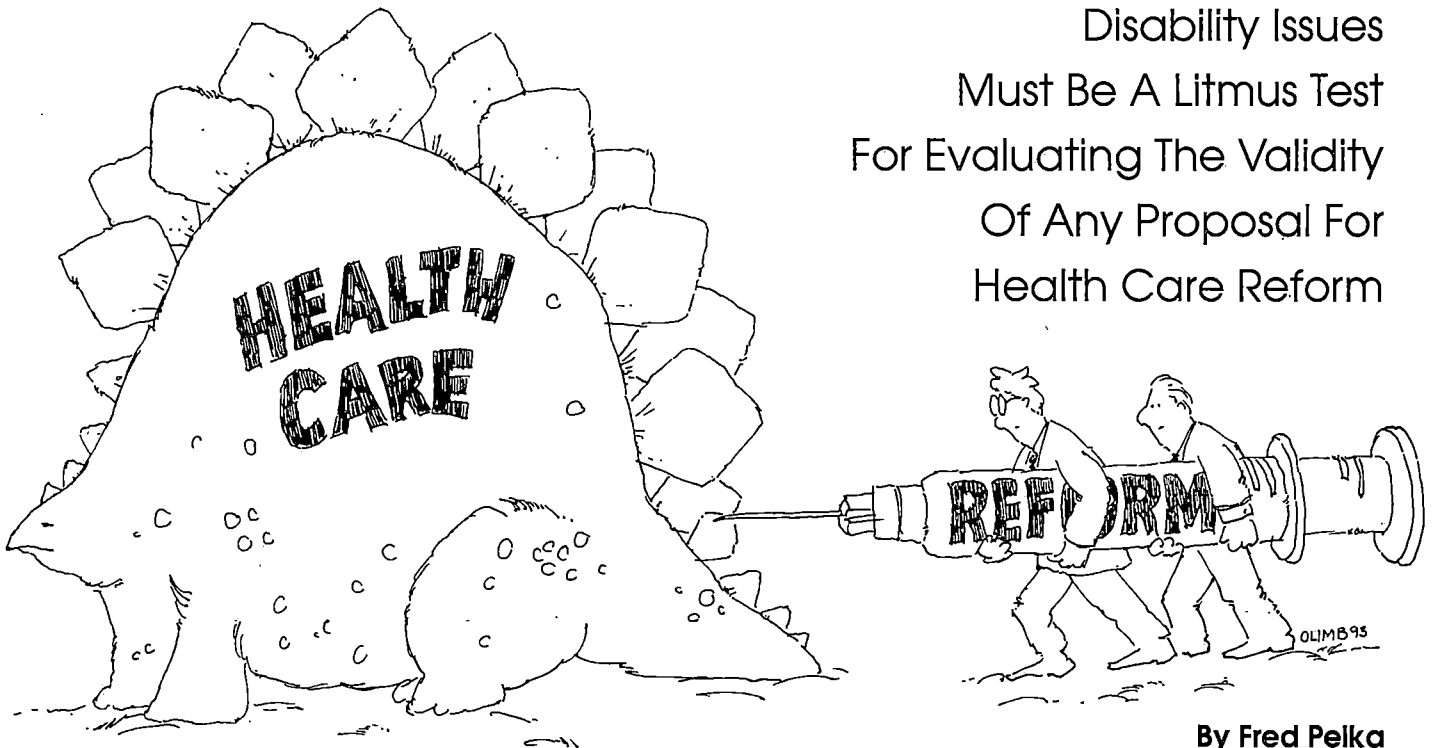


Dynamic Life Products 3215 EAST HEARN ROAD PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85032

Trauma Time

Disability Issues
Must Be A Litmus Test
For Evaluating The Validity
Of Any Proposal For
Health Care Reform

Illustration by Robin Olimb



By Fred Pelka

Rebbecca Derby faces a dilemma familiar to many people with disabilities. As a legislative aide at the Massachusetts State House and a graduate student in public health, she would like to work full time, but doesn't dare take the risk. It isn't her health Derby is worried about. It's her non-group health insurance.

"My policy will cover me only if I work no more than two days a week. If I work two and a half days, I have to switch over to the office plan, which has an eight-month waiting period during which I'm not covered at all, and then a three-year waiting period for any pre-existing conditions." These "pre-existing conditions" include Derby's chronic illness and hidden disability, either of which, without proper care, could become life threatening. "And what happens if I lose my job? Then I'd have no insurance at all."

President Bill Clinton made health care reform a major theme of his campaign, promising to deliver a bill to Congress within the first 100 days of his administration. His plan, he said, would guarantee quality care to everyone, regardless of ability to pay. It would also curb the disastrous rise in medical costs. Health reform advocates were optimistic that for the first time in 12 years they might have an ally in the White House, even if details of the Clinton plan were hard to come by.

And then in mid-January Donna Shalala, his choice for secretary of Health and Human Services, an-

nounced during her confirmation hearing that the president-elect had decided on "managed competition" as his formula for reform.

Publicly, most advocates expressed guarded optimism. Privately, some

"...how can we make sure (people with disabilities) get what we need in whatever plan is developed?"

began to voice reservations.

The debate over health reform "will have ramifications far beyond health care," says Robert Griss, senior health researcher at United Cerebral Palsy Associations in Washington DC. "Most everybody recognizes the need for

SafeCare

MEDICAL • SUPPLY • INC.

DISCOUNT
UROLOGICAL
AND OSTOMY
SUPPLIES

1-800-633-2139

CALL FOR YOUR

• FREE •
CATALOG

• DISCOUNT •
COUPON

Coupon Good For \$15 Off
Your First Order Of \$75 Or More

• FREE •
SHIPPING

In Continental United States
On Orders Of \$75 Or More

NAME BRAND PRODUCTS

Mentor • Bard
Baxter • United
Sherwood • Coloplast
Cheeseborough
Argyle • Hollister
Pharmaseal
Convatec • Urocare
And More

change. The question is how can we make sure (people with disabilities) get what we need in whatever plan is developed?"

It won't be easy, considering the complexities of the crisis, and all the various parties to the debate; business and labor, the insurance industry, government, medical providers and consumers, not to mention the general public. The jargon alone can be as intimidating as anything out of the Merck Manual: "Pay or play" versus "single payer"; "HIPC's" (pronounced "hippics"), "cap through capitation," "managed competition" and "single-sponsor managed competition," (not to be confused with "managed care," which is something else entirely, or maybe not).

As more than one advocate said, "the devil is in the details," and the disability community has an enormous stake in the details of health reform. Making sure that our voices are loud and clearly heard in this critical debate is crucial.

Derby was concerned about Shalala's announcement. "I'm worried," she said back in January, "about a compromise plan that will leave people like me out in the cold."

Americans paid more than \$800 billion last year, roughly 14 percent of our gross domestic product, into the most expensive health care system in the world. This is 40 percent more on health care per capita than Canada, 90 percent more than Germany, and more than twice as much as Japan. And it's getting worse. Medical inflation is twice the general rate with no relief in sight, and the Congressional Budget Office estimates that, if unchecked, by the year 2000 health care costs will account for

18 percent of our GDP, well over one trillion dollars a year.

Despite this enormous expenditure, millions of Americans have little or no access to health care. An estimated 36 million have no health insurance at all, another 60 million are under-insured. One in four pregnant women receives no pre-natal care, and 43 percent of toddlers go without recommended vaccinations.

These figures help explain why the U.S. ranks 21st in the world in infant mortality, and 16th or 17th in life expectancy. The situation is worst in our inner city and rural areas, where infant mortality, for instance, reaches Third World proportions.

People with disabilities, according to Sara D. Watson, director of the Washington DC office of Berkeley Planning Associates, a public policy research firm, "are the core of the population that most needs



"Of course," says Simi Litvak, "any reform proposal has to address personal assistance services."

health care and is most likely to be uninsured or under-insured..." Watson's article, "An Alliance at Risk: The Disability Movement and Health Care Reform," appeared in the Winter 1993 issue of *The American Prospect*, and cites as an example of under-insurance "a young woman with multiple sclerosis (who) told of spending \$8,000 out of her \$20,000 annual salary on health related needs, even though she has insurance from a full-time job."

Simi Litvak, research director at the World Institute on Disability, ticks off a list of problems with the current system specifically related to disability, starting with the lack of access to primary or acute care, and to specialists who know about disability. "There is also generally no coverage for purchase and maintenance of durable equipment like

Caltrans... Join Our Growing Family!

As one of the world's largest transportation agency, the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) offers the ultimate in engineering career opportunities and challenges. With 12 regional offices throughout the state, Caltrans also provides a diverse spectrum of lifestyles.

Explore the many professional engineering opportunities that Caltrans has to offer and join the Caltrans family!

- Transportation Engineers (Civil)
- Electrical Engineers
- Mechanical Engineers
- Materials and Research Engineers
- Chemical Testing Engineers
- Land Surveyors

Please write us for more information.

California Department of
Transportation (CALTRANS)
Recruitment Branch
1120 N Street, Room 1220-M
Sacramento, CA 95814



MORE INDEPENDENCE FOR QUADRIPLÉGICS!

New Electric Leg Bag Emptier

This inexpensive, lightweight, electric valve mounts on the open end of your leg bag. The valve operates on 12/24-volt wheelchair batteries. A simple wheelchair-mounted switch operates the valve. Valve comes complete with switch, wiring, and tubing. It is made of stainless steel and carries a one-year warranty.

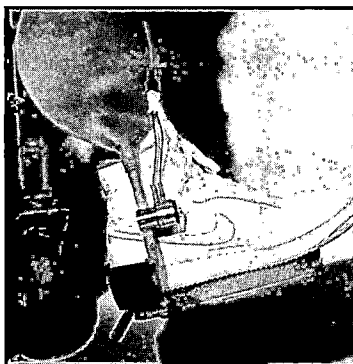
- Lightweight • Fast emptying • Easily disassembled for cleaning • Easily installed and removed • Small size

New Special Order Features:

Rechargeable Battery and Charger — Use our Electric Leg Bag Emptier on a manual chair.

Puff Switch — Operate Electric Leg Bag Emptier using mouth only.

Call us for details!



PRICE \$190.00

R.D. Equipment, Inc. • 230 Percival Dr. • West Barnstable • MA 02668 • (508) 362-7498

MOBILITY BATTERIES

SAVE UP TO 50%

1-800-697-7476

"We carry batteries for all your mobility needs"

	Our price to you	(Includes Mfg. Retail shipping & handling)
Amigo FWD	\$ 65.00 + S&H	\$ 98.00
Rascal	\$129.00 + S&H	\$195.90
Quickie P300	\$ 99.00 + S&H	\$176.00
Invacare Ranger	\$ 79.00 + S&H	\$110.00



BEAUCOUP BATTERY * FORT WORTH, TEXAS
(Boo-Koo)

electric wheelchairs," or for long term medical care such as physical and occupational therapy. The current system spends enormous sums on nursing homes and hospitals, and very little on outpatient, home health, or preventive care, or on personal assistance services (PAS).

"Of course," says Litvak, "any reform proposal has to address personal assistance services." Clinton himself, in October 1992, expressed his support for "efforts to make affordable personal assistance services available to Americans with disabilities."

A 1986 Robert Wood Johnson survey estimated that 12.4 percent of persons with chronic or serious illness, about 2.7 million people, were uninsured, while the health insurance industry itself labelled 2.1 million people "uninsurable." Even if a person has a job, and can afford to pay the premiums, the fact is that most insurance companies will not sell a policy to someone with a serious disability or a chronic illness. Some, like Rebecca Derby, are excluded by pre-existing condition clauses, others find their policies canceled when they become "high risk" cases. And people with disabilities aren't the only targets of this discrimination. The report "Health Insurance at Risk," compiled by the group Citizen Action, estimated that 81 million Americans have pre-existing health conditions which private insurers might use to deny them a policy.

Recent "innovations" by the health insurance industry have only made things worse. For instance, many of the newer, smaller companies go "cherry picking" for healthy clients — hoping to increase their profits by offering care only to those TABs who least need it. This is a departure from "community based" policies where premiums from those who need less care subsidize the costs of those who need more. Then there is the recent trend toward "managed care," where consumers must pick their doctor from a "preferred" list, and where access to specialists and specialized care is tightly regulated in an effort to minimize costs.

"This system puts up so many barriers to care that people with disabilities are likely to get under-treated," says Dr. Ken Frisof, president of the Northeast Ohio Coalition for National Health Care, and co-convenor of the Universal

**A
GUARANTEED
"LIFT"
AT YOUR
FINGERTIPS**

RENFROEMATICS

Manufactured by
RON'S CUSTOM MACHINE, INC.

*** MADE IN THE USA ***



"RISE & RIDE" OUTSIDE SCOOTER LIFT

"Rise & Ride," made of sturdy USA steel lifts 400 lbs. All your vehicle needs is a minimum Class 3 hitch. "Rise & Ride" will handle the rest!

"SLIDE & RIDE" WHEELCHAIR CARRIER

"Slide & Ride," sturdy and dependable, lets you "lift" with almost no effort. For ease and dependability trust a RENFROEMATICS!

"HIDE & RIDE" INTERIOR TRUNK LIFT

"Hide & Ride," easy to install, lifts 400 lbs. Perfect for scooters or wheelchairs. Fits into most vehicles. Adds independence to your lifestyle!

1-800-53-LIFTS

P.O. Box 596, Kodak, TN 37764 • 615-932-3300 • Fax 615-932-2884

Health Care Action Network (or UHCAN!). Often "managed care" plans are totally inadequate in addressing the specialized needs of people with disabilities. For instance, what happens to someone with cystic fibrosis when the only CF specialist in town is not on her plan's "preferred" list? Like the woman in Watson's article, she is forced to pay for the treatment out of pocket, or do without.

In her article, Watson maintains that "current (reform) proposals do not even acknowledge," let alone "address the needs of the very people whose lives are most intertwined with the health care system." Under the circumstances, it's difficult to fault her admonition that people with disabilities "must become more active in the (health reform) debate."

Until recently much of that debate has been between the enthusiasts for the various "pay or play" versus "single payer" proposals. "Pay or play" plans, such as the "AmeriCare" legislation filed last year by Senators Kennedy and Mitchell, would require most employers to either offer health insurance as a job benefit, or pay into a federal fund that would provide policies for the uninsured, generally with premiums pegged to a sliding fee for people with lower incomes. Those with little or no income would still be covered by Medicaid or Medicare. Many reform advocates were unimpressed with this plan, since it still tied health insurance to employment, and maintained the "two tier" system of private and public plans. The small business community, for its part, was opposed to the threatened increase in payroll taxes and government regulation.

The United Cerebral Palsy Association, among many others, have instead supported a "single payer" approach based on the Canadian system, where all medical bills are paid by the provincial governments with money raised through a variety of local and federal taxes.

This system, according to its proponents, would guarantee access to health care for everyone, regardless of income, employment, or disability, without isolating the poor on a separate tier. They claim it would also cut anywhere from \$40 billion to \$270 billion in administrative costs by eliminating the more than 1,500 separate private insurers, each with its own staff and

VAN RENTALS NATIONWIDE



Now, vacation with total independence with our state of the art, accessible mini-vans.

- Driver-accessible and transportation vans available.
- Delivery and pickup almost anywhere. Fees may vary.
- Free mileage included.
- Daily—weekly—longterm available.
- Our vans are the most user friendly on the road.

Custom interiors with lowered floors

offer same-level seating anywhere in the van. Hand controls, steering devices, tie-down system, swivel chairs and automatic ramps. These vans can accommodate up to four wheelchairs plus three passengers and offer great gas mileage.

Call now for travel independence.

Wheelers
ACCESSIBLE VAN RENTALS

For reservations nationwide:
(800) 456-1371
Dealerships Available

Serving
30 locations
Including Hawaii



GW Micro...today's computer source for the visually impaired.

GW Micro provides personal, computer-based speech products for the visually impaired. Uniting modern technology with service and support, GW Micro serves a variety of customers with talking computer components and systems.

- IBM PC Software: Vocal-Eyes, Braille-Talk and Noteworthy
- Apple Software: Word-Talk, Term-Talk, File-Talk and Braille-Talk
- Voice Output: Sounding Board Family of Speech Synthesizers
- Complete Talking Desktop Systems
- Small Talk PC Family of Laptops

Rely on GW Micro for your customized computer solution.

For more information or the name of your local authorized dealer contact:

**GW
GW
GW
GW
MICRO**

310 Racquet Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
(219) 483-3625



overhead for management, billing, advertising, lobbying, and profit taking.

Physicians and hospitals would operate pretty much as they do now (with less staff for billing, dunning, and managing the myriad "free care" and charity programs that make up our "safety net"), and consumers would be able to choose their own doctors.

Finally, under most variations of the plan the federal government would set a global budget, managed by the states, within which the health care providers would have to live. ("One big problem with our present system that hardly ever gets mentioned," says Diane Coleman, ADAPT organizer in Tennessee, "is provider greed. Doctors in this country make twice as much money as in Europe, for example. Hospital profits grew 23 percent last year, according to the AMA figures just released.")

"Single payer," while favored by many other organizations including UHCAN!, AARP, ACT-UP, the National Black Women's Health Project, and Physicians for a National Health Plan, is bitterly opposed by the insurance lobby. This is hardly a surprise, since it would, after all, put the health in-

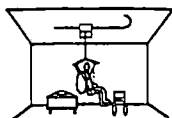
surance industry out of business. Perhaps an even bigger problem is that "single payer" would require a new income or payroll tax on the state and/or federal level. While proponents argue that most Americans would end up

Making sure
that our voices are
loud and clearly
heard in this critical
debate is crucial.

paying far less in health taxes than they do under the present system in insurance premiums, co-payments, and out of pocket expenses, the political orthodoxy is that new taxes, no matter what the benefits, are the kiss of death for any program or political career.

In large part these political obstacles to "single payer" are what have allowed "managed competition" to come to the

fore. Paul Starr, writing in the same issue of *American Prospect* as Watson, explains how "the single payer approach has no prospect of winning," and proposes instead "managed competition under a cap" — a system he calls a "Healthy Compromise." Starr's version of "managed competition" would leave the private health insurance industry relatively intact, but create a federal health standards board to mandate minimum coverage and prohibit companies from denying policies to people with pre-existing conditions. Everyone would become members of regional health insurance purchasing cooperative ("Hippics") consisting of large blocks of consumers, employers and organizations, which would choose from among competing private insurance plans. Starr sees these Hippics as "a potentially powerful new force ... to defend consumer interests." Free market competition, along with some "consolidation" of the health insurance industry and a return to "community based" plans, would keep prices down, while government mandates, tax breaks, and subsidies would insure access to quality



Barrier Free Lifts

BARRIER FREE CEILING LIFTS ARE

- **Used Independently!**
Most physically challenged people can transfer themselves unassisted.
- **Air Tube Controlled**
No Electricity to the user!
No chance of being shocked!
Can operate while in water!
- **Multi-directional**
Vertical & horizontal motion at the push of a button.
- **Battery operated & no maintenance**
Batteries are automatically recharged each time the lift is used.

Helping You Achieve Greater Mobility

800•582•8732

Barrier Free Lifts Inc.

P.O. Box 4163 • Manassas, VA 22110
(703) 361-6531 • FAX (703) 361-7861



care for everyone. Much of this resembles the four page "Clinton/Gore Plan" outline distributed during the campaign.

Although most disability advocates want more details before passing judgment on this or any other version of "managed competition" (for instance, the "single sponsor" plan proposed by California's John Garamendi), there was an immediate concern about the role of "managed care" in "managed competition." In his article Starr takes great pains to separate the two, noting the tendency of "managed care" plans to "sign up the healthy and shun the sick," but he also concedes that "managed competition would promote managed care." In fact, he cites this is a major attraction of "managed competition," hoping, for example, that "the purchasing cooperatives will open up HMOs to new enrollees..." while using their economic clout to guarantee that these programs are "progressive."

"If we do go to 'managed competition,'" says Litvak, "there has to be a way that people with disabilities have access to physicians with particular knowledge about their disabilities."

Starr discusses one response to these concerns: an ingenious, if hellishly complex system using "risk adjustments" in premium payments to offset the bias toward under-treatment. Dr. Frisof sees this as "an interesting idea in theory, but like anything else, how it works in practice remains to be seen." Once again, the devil is in the details.

"If we don't highlight the problems of 'managed care' early on in the discussion," says Griss, "we're going to replicate them in the 'managed competition approach,' and not build in the safeguards we need. So it's very important that we start talking about this now."

Despite the complexity of the issues and the sheer enormity of the problems, most advocates I spoke with during the Clinton transition were optimistic, if reluctant to make any specific predictions.

"No matter what the complications," says Judy Heumann, co-founder and vice-president at the World Institute on Disabilities, "we have to remember we now have an administration genuinely dedicated to solving this problem and meeting human needs. Of course we

have to be very much a player in what's going to happen, to make sure we're an important part of the discussion. We have to speak with a unified voice, and to make sure that voice is heard."

The next several months will be critical. Griss believes that health reform activists, disabled and non-disabled, "need to get the grassroots community mobilized now," and sees disability issues as "a litmus test for evaluating the validity of any particular health reform proposal. (The disability rights movement) can be a catalyst, involving our neighbors in the discussion about the right to health care."

Invigorated by the passage of ADA and strengthened by the alliances formed during that effort, the disability community is in a good position to help shape the health care reform discussion and provoke fundamental changes in the way health care is financed, delivered and perhaps even conceptualized. ■

Fred Pelka is a regular contributor to MAINSTREAM.

CERTAIN THINGS SAY IT ALL

Innocomp has a complete line of augmentative communication products from no to low to high tech.

We offer our **Say-It-All** family of voice output communication products. These products offer most accessing methods from direct select through various scanning techniques. As text-to-speech systems, they have large memory capabilities using Clarity Speech.

Clarity Speech is a revolutionary concept in speech output that allows for male or female human sounding speech.

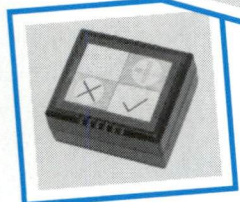
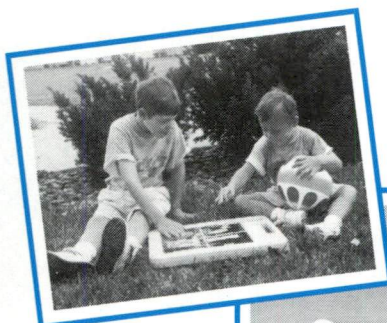
"No Tech Products" include Imaginart Communication Stickers, Communication Notebooks, Communication Tote Boards, Augmentative Communication Books, A Facilitated Communication Guide and Set Materials, etc.

"Low Tech Products" include the Voicemate 4 (simple digitized speech), Comboard (rotary scanner), switches and switch tester, etc.

Call for our 1992 - 1993 Catalogue.

Innocomp™
INNOVATIVE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

33195 Wagon Wheel Dr. Solon, Ohio 44139
(216) 248-6206 • 1-800-382-8622 • FAX (216) 248-0375



We'll help you select and adapt a new GM vehicle to meet your transportation needs.



And reimburse you for the cost of adaptation, up to \$1,000.

The General Motors Mobility Program for the Physically Challenged can help you maintain your independence.

It all starts with a toll-free call to the GM Mobility Assistance Center. We'll identify your local driver assessment centers, list your area's installers of adaptive driving devices or vehicle modifications, direct you to sources that may help fund the adaptation, and suggest which GM cars and light-duty trucks might work best for you.

Select a new GM vehicle, and we'll reimburse you for the cost of adapting it—up to \$1,000. Qualified buyers can finance the cost of the vehicle and any modifications through GMAC in a single transaction at participating dealers. Along with reimbursement, you'll also get a copy of *Access America*, an atlas and guide to accessible camping and recreational facilities in the National Park System.

The people at GM, and GM dealers nationwide, know how important mobility is to your everyday life. And we want to help meet your transportation needs through the General Motors Mobility Program. Call us today. Or contact your Chevrolet, Pontiac, Oldsmobile, Buick, Cadillac, or GMC Truck dealer for all the details.



- ✓ Call toll-free: 1-800-323-9935 (TDD users: 1-800-TDD-9935)
- ✓ Information on driver assessment and adaptive equipment
- ✓ Reimbursement of adaptation costs, up to \$1,000
- ✓ Financing available through GMAC
- ✓ *Access America* atlas and guide



MARK OF EXCELLENCE

SHUTTLE MUDDLE



Photo by Art Brackley

Hotels And Private Transportation Entities Must Provide Equivalent Transportation Services For People With Disabilities.

BY MARY LOU BRESLIN

This is the second part of an interview with Dennis Cannon, Accessibility Specialist with the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (ATBCB), or the "Access Board." Cannon, a person with a disability, is recognized nationwide as an expert in accessible transportation services. The Access Board is a federal office charged with developing minimum accessibility requirements for entities covered by the ADA and other federal laws, and for providing technical assistance and information about access.

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to public transportation including buses, light and rapid rail, commuter rail and AMTRAK, demand-response systems, paratransit and transportation facilities. It also applies to private transportation such as vanpools, tour buses, over-the-road buses such as Greyhound and fixed-route and demand-response systems such as airport shuttles.

The ADA requires operators of both public and private transportation services to take steps to make their systems accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. The Department of Transportation further clarified these requirements with regulations published in 1991.

In the first installment Cannon talked about what public bus and rail system operators are doing to comply with the ADA.

This time Cannon discusses the response by private operators of systems such as vanpools and shuttle services to the accessibility requirements of the ADA.

Future articles will focus on achieving effective communication and access for riders with vision, hearing, speech or cognitive disabilities, and access to over-the road buses such as Greyhound.

The ADA established access requirements for vehicles purchased or leased after August 25, 1990 by private entities that are primarily in the business of transportation, such as airport shuttles (called Private "Primarily"), and for

private entities that are not primarily in the business of transportation but provide transportation as a service to customers or clients, such as hotels (called Private "Not Primarily").

The chart on the following page will help explain what steps private transit operators are required to take to provide access.

Other rules apply to public vanpools and shuttle services, taxis, over-the-road buses, and vans with seating capacity of less than eight people.

In addition to access requirements, the ADA also requires that private transit operators provide their services in a non-discriminatory manner to individuals with all types of disabilities.

QUESTION: Privately operated demand-response services such as airport shuttles are required to be accessible to people with mobility disabilities. Are you aware of any problems in interpreting that requirement?

CANNON: We get a number of calls on that issue, but...the DOT (Department of Transportation) rule essentially spells out (the requirement) in some detail... Our answer is that whenever you buy a

PRIVATE TRANSIT REQUIREMENTS

PRIVATE "PRIMARY"

SYSTEM TYPE	VEHICLE TYPE	REQUIREMENT
Fixed route	All new vehicles except auto, van w/less than 8, or over-the-road bus	Acquire accessible vehicle
Demand response	Same as above	Acquire accessible vehicle or equivalency
Either fixed route or demand response	New vans, less than 8	Acquire accessible vehicle or equivalency

PRIVATE "NOT PRIMARY"

SYSTEM TYPE	VEHICLE TYPE	REQUIREMENT
Fixed route	Over 16	Acquire accessible vehicle
Fixed route	16 or less	Acquire accessible vehicle or equivalency
Demand response	Over 16	Acquire accessible vehicle or equivalency
Demand response	16 or less	Equivalency

vehicle or several vehicles, you simply have to treat each vehicle individually and the question you have to ask for each one is 'do you have enough vehicles to provide equivalent service (to people with disabilities) now?' If the answer is yes, then the vehicle you're buying doesn't have to be accessible. If the answer is no, then you have to (purchase an accessible vehicle). It's not a static thing. It will change by demand. Then you have to buy an accessible vehicle. You essentially ask that for each of the separate vehicles.

When explained in those terms, most of the operators, conceptually at least, think 'Oh. O.K., if I don't have any vehicles then the answer is I don't have enough.' I mean there is no other way of interpreting that, unless I have a contract with somebody to provide the (required) level of service. That has happened in a number of instances where a hotel doesn't have their own accessible vehicles but is contracting

with a local cab company to provide the service. They don't need to provide their own accessible vehicles if, in fact, they're serving all the clients that they've identified coming in so far. But it doesn't seem to be a big issue.

Q: How are the private operators responding to that answer? Are they interpreting that as a retrofit requirement?

CANNON: Sometimes they're asking whether that means that they're going to have to retrofit the vehicle, and we're basically saying 'no, you don't. That may be one thing you do, but no, that's not an explicit requirement. As a hotel, for instance, you are required, as of today, to provide that service — if you provide it to anybody — to also provide it to people who use wheelchairs and to persons with other disabilities.

'You may do that in a variety of ways. You may retrofit some of your vehicles. You may go out and sign a contract with the local cab company and when anybody

calls up your desk, you automatically call the cab company. As long as you can get that vehicle there in the same amount of time it would take your vehicle, you're fine.'

We also explain that there are a couple of arrangements where three or four hotels in an area around an airport have banded together to purchase and operate a single vehicle that is available to all of them. They share this vehicle. You call the Ramada Inn and they say yes we'll be over to pick you up, and they call the Quality Inn, and the Quality Inn sends their van over. As long as they can make these arrangements so that you get the same service as a person who doesn't have a mobility aid, they're in compliance.

Again, there's some slippage and some leeway involved. It's not an absolute standard in terms of absolute equality, meaning maybe a person without a disability who calls up the hotel can have a limousine come over in 10 minutes but with you it's 15 minutes. It's not an absolute one-for-one requirement, but if the person who arrives at the airport can call up and get a limousine in 10 minutes and you call up and it takes five hours to get a wheelchair accessible van, that's not an equivalent service.

Q: Let's use the hotel example because they commonly provide transportation from airports. Do you have a sense that they are, as a whole, aware of the requirements and responding to them? For example, if I travel to Tulsa today, do you think I could expect to get accessible transportation from the Tulsa Airport to my hotel provided transportation was offered by the hotel to all customers?

CANNON: No, I would not expect that. I would always, at least at this time, make sure to call in advance.

Q: Well, assuming that you would have to call, would they say, 'Oh, right, we know we have to do something. We'll try and figure it out.' Or what do you think their answer would be?

CANNON: Today, I suspect that certainly in the big cities they would all realize that they have to do something. Sometimes they do the wrong thing. One individual told me that she called up and they said, 'Oh yeah, we have to do that. We know under ADA we have to provide that. There is a van service that we work with.' This is not an equivalent shuttle service. In other words, the non-

disabled people who come into the airport essentially get sent to something like Super Shuttle for which they might pay \$5. Everybody pays \$5. And the answer that the disabled person got was, 'Yes, we have this arrangement with this other company. It will cost you \$40.' And when she mentioned that to me, I say, 'Wrong. It will cost you \$5.'

The hotel would have to make-up the difference if that's the arrangement they're making in order to make the service equivalent. Now, I think she argued with them and got them to agree that they would in fact do that, but that's the kind of response. It's not that they're totally unaware, but sometimes they're not really aware of exactly what level of service they have to provide, and I would suspect that in the smaller communities or with the smaller hotels that a lot of them do not in fact even realize that they have to do much of anything.

They're probably vaguely aware of this thing called the ADA, and that they have to have some kind of accessibility. I've gotten a few calls from people who think the provision only applies when they purchase a new vehicle, which in

the instance of the demand-responsive system for a hotel, is not the case.

I went to a conference sponsored by the America Public Transit Association, for example. It was a series of workshops they did on the ADA last year. My boss and I both arrived at O'Hare Airport in Chicago and the hotel was a ways away. We called and they said, 'Yes, there's a shuttle running around, usually making the loop at the airport, and you should just go out front and wait.' We were delighted to discover that the vehicle was one of these little buses with a ramp that folds out. In other words, the vehicle that they use for everybody is accessible. They have two of those.

Q: How are operators who are primarily in the business of providing transportation, such as Super Shuttle, doing in complying with the access requirements?

CANNON: Super Shuttle is different I'm told. Some of them are national and others are franchises. The franchises are not doing as well as the national. But the national ones apparently have made a real commitment for some time now to provide accessible service. There are

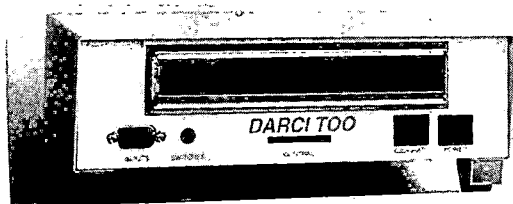
Super Shuttles in a lot of the bigger cities that do have accessible vehicles, and as long as you tell them that you need one, you can get one in the same time frame. I was very surprised by the fact that this particular service in Chicago was not a specialized transportation service at all. It was, in fact, the hotel shuttle, and it was not operated by some other entity. I would have expected much more that the Super Shuttles and the companies that are primarily in the business of providing transportation would be aware of the requirements under the ADA, and would be more likely to be able to provide the service. I was pleasantly surprised to discover that it was the hotel itself which had purchased these vehicles and was operating them. ■

For more information about your right to accessible public and private transportation contact the Architectural and Transportation Compliance Board ADA technical assistance hotline (800) USA-ABLE, or (202) 272-5434.

Mary Lou Breslin is the President of the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF).

DARCI TOO®

A UNIVERSAL COMPUTER CONTROL DEVICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



DARCI TOO IS CONNECTED TO THE MOUSE AND KEYBOARD CONNECTORS ON A PERSONAL COMPUTER. THEN YOU DECIDE HOW THE COMPUTER WILL BE CONTROLLED.

- **YOU SELECT THE COMPUTER**
DARCI TOO works with almost any personal computer (IBM, APPLE, etc.).
- **YOU SELECT THE INPUT DEVICE**
DARCI TOO can be controlled by joysticks, switches, matrix keyboards, video game controllers and communication aids.
- **YOU SELECT THE INPUT MODE**
Use Morse Code (1, 2, & 3 switch), DARCI Code (fast input), Scan Mode (with built-in display), Matrix Keyboards (with automatic setup routines) or serial input (communication aids).
- **YOU CONTROL THE FEATURES**
Calibrate a joystick, adjust DARCI TOO's timing, design an overlay, assign switch positions, change the WORD Mode's vocabulary. You can even hook up the keyboard and share the computer!

For more information contact:
WestTest Engineering Corporation
1470 N. Main St., Bountiful, Utah 84010
Phone: (801)298-7100 Fax: (801) 292-7379



FREE! OUR LATEST CATALOG

ENABLING DEVICES

A complete guide to an array of capability switches, activity centers, augmentative communication aids, specially adapted toys and other special devices for children and adults.

CALL NOW FOR '93 CATALOG
800•832•8697

or write
TOYS FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN
385 Warburton Avenue
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706
TEL: 914-478-0960 • FAX: 914-478-7030

PROSTHETIC SOCKS FROM KNIT-RITE

Each is Unique

THE IMPERIAL[®] SOCK



*Cloud
Soft
Luxury*

THE IMPERIAL[®] Prosthetic Sock by Knit-Rite is soft and rich and about as naturally fleecy as you can get with the "Sunday Best" kind of appeal, or for luxury every day. Made with careful attention to detail from Angora for rich luxury, fine wool for cushioning and absorption, and nylon for strength. All combined for that "Cloud Soft" feel.

Companions . . .

The Knit-Rite

PROSTHETIC SHEATH increases comfort by absorbing the friction of movement in the socket and providing a moisture barrier. Knitted of "Hosiery Weight" stretch nylon, with special construction features, the Knit-Rite sheath fits intimately without wrinkles.

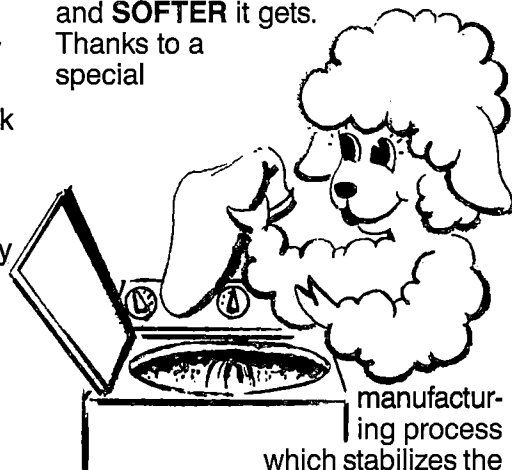
SOFT SOCKS[®] are stretchy and lightweight. Ideal for use as a filler. Made from polypropylene to wick moisture away from the skin.

SUPER SOCK[®]

EASY-WEARING 100% FINE VIRGIN WOOL • MACHINE WASH/DRY

The more you wear and wash Super Sock, the **FLUFFIER** and **SOFTER** it gets.

Thanks to a special



manufacturing process

which stabilizes the

wool fibers and retards shrinkage and felting, 100% wool Super Socks can be turned transfer side in and machine washed and dried at warm temperatures along with other white laundry that doesn't require bleaching. Socks become cleaner and care time is minimized. That's important for busy people. Experience of wearers shows that only wool has the elasticity, thickness, resiliency, absorbency, and resistance to abrasion that provides a **LONG-LASTING**, "comfortable" prosthetic sock.

ALL MADE IN THE USA

BASIC SOCK[®]



The **BASIC SOCK[®]**

is our newest and most innovative prosthetic sock to date.

It's tough, rugged and thick, yet so soft inside next to the skin. All this, and it's priced at a remarkable value! We're proud of our all new sock and hope you'll make it your BASIC SOCK[®], too!

RUGGED—Thicker, lofty wool fibers make this a durable, long lasting sock.

SOFT INNER SURFACE—Knitted on the inside is snowy white, fine grade acrylic that feels so good against the skin—very important to most amputees.

INNOVATIVE—We've engineered this sock to be a value. The two fibers—wool and acrylic—are knitted in one process, enabling us to keep the price low, with your budget in mind.

COMFORTABLE—Note the improved rounded toe for the ultimate in comfort and fit.

LOWER COST—We've even packaged this sock with economy in mind. It comes in a BASIC brown envelope, keeping costs down even further.

Available Through Prosthetic Facilities Nationwide

KNIT-RITE

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

I N C.

Computing In The Key Of Life

Laura Leigh Schiller Uses A Machine To Connect
With Her Family And Run Her Household



Photo by Jeff Vendsel Photography

At home in Santa Rosa, Laura Schiller uses a computer to run her household from a reclining chair in her living room.

By Laura Leigh Schiller

As a "flower child" of the '60s, I began my teaching career in the '70s believing human dependence on high-tech machinery — epitomized by the computer — would bring about the end of civilization. Only by connecting with other human beings at a personal level, through the heart, could the world be saved. So with that idealistic notion foremost in my mind, I set out to lovingly impart my knowledge of elementary curriculum to the minds of my young students.

While a few students remained unmoved by (i.e., didn't learn from) my loving instruction, I felt satisfied that I had brought the majority of them as far as they could go in a year. And I was proud to say I'd managed it without depending heavily on cold, impersonal modern technology.

When I stopped teaching to raise a family in the early '80s, I considered myself lucky not to be forced to contend with computers in the classroom. By that time, there was a definite trend in education toward the use of computers as learning tools. Like many of my fellow teachers, I had a hard time believing that a cold, emotionless machine could ever be a more effective teaching tool than a warm, feeling human being.

Then life as I'd always known it changed in September, 1984 when I was diagnosed to have ALS, or Lou Gehrig's Disease. This degenerative muscle disease gradually eroded the condition of my body. Within a year I couldn't walk; within two years I couldn't speak or write.

To someone who hasn't experienced the inability to communicate, it is im-

possible to describe the terror of feeling totally isolated. There have been many times when I've felt like I was trying to communicate with a gag in my mouth and my arms in a straight jacket. The weak, muffled noises I make don't even remotely resemble the English language and I can't use my arms to point or gesture. When forced by circumstance to endure this for several hours at a time, I stop trying and withdraw into a lonely, cheerless world of my own.

Fortunately, I don't often have to suffer in silence the way many thousands of people with ALS had to do before the 1980s. Just before I lost the ability to write with a pen, a speech therapist connected us with a man named Walt Woltoz and a company called Words+ in Sunnyvale, CA. He had developed a

VOICE OUTPUT AND SCREEN DISPLAY FOR FACILITATED COMMUNICATION



- just type and SAY for spontaneous sentence-length speech
- STORES 26 MESSAGES
- KEYGUARD AVAILABLE

Franklin® Language Master 6000
Special Edition keyboard:

Price: **\$495.00**

• batteries & AC adapter included

TIGER Communication System, Inc.

155 East Broad Street, S325
Rochester, NY 14604

keyboard size:
5.6"x5.8"x1.0"

716-454-5134
1-800-724-7301

videotape loan
available

computer communication system for persons with ALS and other disabilities which affect speech.

Feeling a combination of fear and hope, my husband John and I drove to Sunnyvale from our home in Santa Rosa, CA to learn more about this new communication system. Walt had created a simple word processing program which was activated by a single switch instead of a keyboard. Every time the switch is pushed, the program

...I quickly agreed to buy the machine which I'd shunned my entire adult life.

Scooters



from \$1,295
plus batteries and UPS

MAIL ORDER MOBILITY

A DIVISION OF SPECS REHAB, INC.

"The Smart Way To Shop"

GEL CELL BATTERIES
from **\$67.95** plus UPS

OVER A DECADE OF EXPERIENCE

TOLL FREE
1-800-722-4548
CALL FOR A FREE BROCHURE

3721 BUSINESS DR., SACRAMENTO, CA 95820-2165
Nobody Beats Our Prices!

Gentle-Lift Recliners



from \$495
plus UPS

scans a smaller section of what's on the computer screen until the correct word, punctuation mark or menu is selected. Physical strength is not required to operate the system. In fact, there is even a laser switch which can be activated merely by blinking the eyes!

In my desperate fear of being cut off from the world I loved, I quickly agreed to buy the machine which I'd shunned my entire adult life. What I'd long considered to be the symbol of the end of civilization now symbolized my rebirth. With my new computer I could "talk" to my family and friends. They could read messages directly off the computer screen or I could send it out to my printer. The system was also equipped with an artificial voice which allowed me to communicate with my son who was then only 4 years old.

The more my muscles deteriorated, the greater role the computer played in my life. We hired attendants to take care of our home, children and my increasing physical needs and yet as long as I had the switch to my computer in hand, I felt I was in control of running our household. I used the computer to write out lists of jobs I wanted our attendant to do each day. I created our weekly dinner menus, choosing recipes I knew my family would enjoy. Our attendant would refer to the menu to make the shopping list and again to prepare meals on the appropriate days. Then when my husband came home from work, he

Butler™
MFG. BY THE FLINCHBAUGH CO.

WHEELCHAIR LIFTS • STAIRCLIMBS

Flinchbaugh Butler™ Wheelchair Lift, a smoothly operating heavy duty lift with 500 lbs. capacity, built to fit most average-width stairs. Engineered to surpass all safety requirements, installed with unbelievable simplicity. Flinchbaugh's Butler™ Imperial Stairclimb meets the need for greater width of walk areas in more narrow stairways. Fold-up seat and foot rest, choice of seating positions. Fits all straightaway stairs of average length. Write or call for literature.

See Lift in Action, Actual Installation Video Available, \$35.00. Redeemable with Purchase.



THE FLINCHBAUGH CO., INC.
390 EBERTS LANE, YORK, PA 17403

(717) 854-7720 • FAX (717) 843-7385
1-800-326-2418

looked at the menu and just needed to put the finishing touches on the meal our attendant prepared earlier.

There were other responsibilities I took on which made me feel like an active, contributing member of our family. I initiated all contacts with our children's teachers, helped the kids with their homework, communicated with our lawyer about the case he handled for us, and corresponded frequently with the physicians who treated me.

All the jobs I learned to use my computer for over the years are still jobs I do today. New ways I can help myself and my family come into my mind nearly every week. Being able to run the household from my "post" in the living room reclining chair gives me a measure of independence, dignity and self-worth I could not have experienced without the computer.

And it has enabled me to maintain the precious connection I have to my husband, daughter and son. It has made it possible for me to be a positively functioning member of my family.

Interwoven with my use of the computer to manage home and family business is my use of it as an emotional release. In long poems and stories I have expressed the agony I sometimes feel at having a terminal illness. My words form poignant images which flow across the computer screen like the tears which often stream down my cheeks. This writing, more than any other therapy I've experienced, has helped me cope with the pain of my loss.

This machine on the table in front of me is a brain — a storehouse of information — which I can access with minimal effort to express the feeling of my heart. In itself, this brain is just hardware with a little software inside it. But when someone puts the switch which operates the program in my hand, I am empowered to use its information in unique, creative ways.

Computer technology has improved dramatically in the six years since we bought my system. Persons buying a system now will be getting better equipment for less money. But I feel that at any price, being set free from mental and emotional isolation is well worth it. ■

Laura Leigh Schiller is a freelance writer.



Now Available:
Models CC-7P & CC-7S

CANON COMMUNICATOR Supplies And Accessories

Our inventory consists of all the accessories for models A, M, CC-7P and CC-7S. Paper tape 2, battery packs and chargers, cords for all models, belts, converters, adapters, keyboard covers, etc.

Fast efficient service.

617 • 784 • 2833

Call or write to order.

**IBEX
INTERNATIONAL**
P.O. BOX 102 • Sharon • MA 02067
Suppliers since 1977.

New MessageMateTM

Hand-Held Communication From Words+



Record and play back short messages with MessageMate, a rugged, low cost hand-held communication device with high quality analog recording capability, a 20 or 40-key keyboard, and two modes of scanning. It uses any language, any voice or any sound, because the messages are recorded.

MessageMate provides basic communication for lower functioning users, as well as an ideal backup unit for higher functioning users. And, it's a cost-effective addition to assessment centers and loan libraries.

Words+ carries a wide range of state-of-the-art augmentative communication systems, computer access for the disabled, and related products. If you'd like more information or a free catalog, please call us toll-free in the United States or Canada at (800) 869-8521.

words+
"unlocking the person"

Words+, Inc. • P.O. Box 1229 • Lancaster, CA 93584 • (805) 949-8331

EXPOSE YOURSELF...

Send us the title, date, time, location, contact person and phone number 12 weeks prior to your event. We'll help expose your event on a space available basis. Write to: MAINSTREAM, 2973 Beech Street, Dept. C, San Diego, CA 92102.

...with MAINSTREAM!

March

5-6: **Annual Danceability Workshop for people with disabilities and non-disabled people who want to experience the dance form known as Contact Improvisation.** Sponsored by Joint Forces Dance Company & the Univ. of Oregon Department of Dance at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Contact: Alito Alessi (503) 342-3273.

11-14: **Annual conference of the Therapeutic Recreation Section of the California Park and Recreation Society** at the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco. Contact: Kelli Wright-Morales (800) 788-8338

17-20: **Eighth Annual International CSUN Conference on "Technology and Persons with Disabilities"** at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel. Contact: Dr. Harry Murphy (818) 885-2578.

17-20: **"Partnerships 2000" — National Forum on Employment of Deaf and Hard of Hearing People** at the Doubletree Hotel at Lincoln Center, Dallas; TX. Contact: Jo Linder-Crow (202) 651-5551.

21: **Wheelchair basketball game — Salinas Police Department vs. Santa Cruz Roller Coasters.** 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. at Hartnell College, 156 Homestead Rd., Salinas, CA. Contact: Tami Lee (408) 757-2968.

April

22-25: **"Deaf Studies III: Bridging Cultures in the 21st Century,"** sponsored by Gallaudet University at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Chicago, IL. Contact: Muriel Strassler (202) 651-5505.

29-May 1: **"Taking Charge" conference sponsored by CAL TASH** at the Burbank Airport Hilton, Burbank,

CA. Contact: Richard L. Rosenberg (818) 952-2489.

30-May 1: **"Redefining Family: Working together to improve quality of life after head injury."** Annual seminar of the New Jersey Head Injury Association, Inc. Sheraton Eatontown Hotel and Conference Center. Contact: Jill Schulman, (908) 738-1002.

May

7-9: **12th annual Maryland Wheelchair Athletic Games** at Salisbury State University, Salisbury MD. Contact: Elaine Harrington (410) 543-6595.

11-15: **Integration/Inclusion Issues and Practice: Birth to Six,** sponsored by the Pennsylvania Division of Special Education and Mansfield University of Pennsylvania and Middle Atlantic States Division for Early Childhood. Contact: Dr. Sal Pizzuro (717) 662-4794.

16-19: **NISH National Training Conference on expanding job opportunities for people with severe disabilities** at the Hilton Pointe Resort at South Mountain in Phoenix, AZ. Contact: NISH (703) 560-6800.

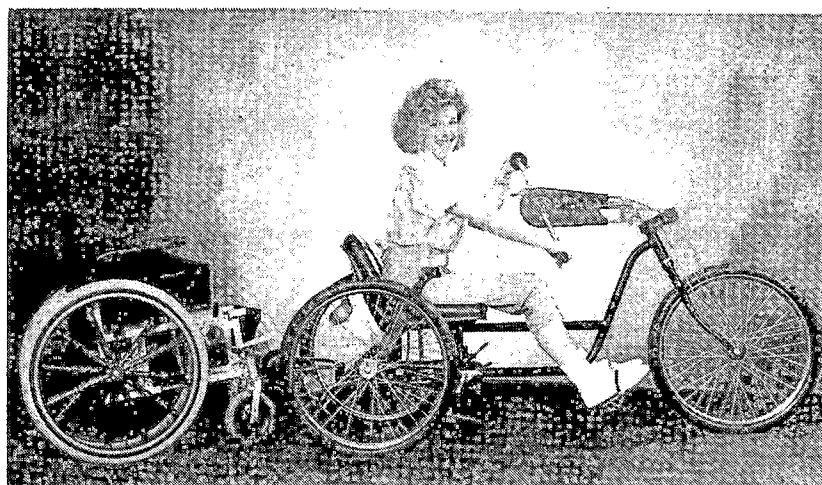
HAND-PEDALED TRICYCLE

from

Freedom Specialties, Inc.

Call about our new model!

- 3-speed gearing
- coaster brake
- comfortable, padded seat with safety belt
- luggage rack under seat to accommodate wheelchair cushion, briefcase, books, etc.
- adjustable footrests with safety straps
- toggle-type parking brakes
- wheelchair hitch, if desired
- cruise up to 20 m.p.h.



- 5-year warranty on frame
- manufacturer's warranty on bike parts and seat
- 4130 chrome-moly tube frame
- 12 colors
- speedy delivery (2-4 weeks)
- adults' and children's models
- priced right — \$1,195 (plus shipping)
- VISA & MC accepted

Freedom Specialties' hand-pedaled cycles provide enjoyable aerobic exercise, access to the great outdoors, let physically challenged individuals join the rest of the bikers...all this and a wheelchair can follow along for errands, daily work transportation and greater freedom. An excellent choice for paraplegics, partial quadriplegics, elderly persons, handicapped children, or anyone with some upper-body strength. For prices and more information, call or write: *Freedom Specialties, Box 83, Cleghorn, Iowa 51014, (712) 436-2666.*

Classified Ads

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

★ TELEDYNE RYAN AERONAUTICAL

Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical is an equal opportunity employer. For information on current job openings call (619) 260-5425 or send resumes to Staffing Administrator, 2701 Harbor Drive, San Diego, California 92101.

PERSONALS

ONE INTELLIGENT ACTIVE Handsome 40-something gentleman with physical handicap seeks church going non-smoking mature lady 35-50 for companionship, charm & romance. Interests include (but not limited to) travel, theatre, and spending intimate quiet evenings. Please send photo to: 5376 Fairview Blvd. #102, Los Angeles, CA 90056.

REAL ESTATE

BARRIER-FREE HOMES: S.W. Fla. \$76,000. 3br/2ba. Oversized Garage, Large Rooms. Info Brochure: PEBBLE CREEK DEV., 1777 Tamiami TR. #408, Port Charlotte, FL 33938. (813) 624-6309.

FOR SALE

NEW DEVICES for the physically disabled, FREE 1992 catalog, TFSC, 385 Warburton Ave., Hastings, NY 10706

THE NATIONAL REGISTER of Professional Disability Consultants and Guide to Health and Disability Related Organizations lists almost 500 professionals (physicians, attorneys, and psychologists) along with all state Workers Compensation Offices, Social Security Disability Determination Agencies, and almost 200 health and disability related organizations. Send \$7.95 to ABPDC, 1350 Beverly Rd., Ste 115-327, McLean, VA 22101.

PAIN RELIEF WITHOUT DRUGS. Gain mastery over chronic pain. New, innovative program on audio cassette. Learn through enjoyable exercises developed by Barry Fields, Ph.D., a specialist in medical and stress disorders. \$22.50 includes shipping

and manual. Call Applied Health Resources: (800) TRY HEALTH (879-4325).

DO YOU USE FOREARM CRUTCHES? We have good news for you! Call Toll Free (800) 441-2904.

ADA—"REASONABLE Accomodations" We provide electromechanical tools which will enable you to apply for otherwise inaccessible jobs. (eg. robotic arms, computer adaptations, special workstations) Call or write TFSC, 385 Warburton Avenue, Hastings-On-Hudson, NY 10706, (914) 478-0960.

"ORIGINAL RAIN PONCHO" from WheelSource! Wheelchair short back design, made of new lightweight water repellent colorful material. \$37 includes 2 day Priority Mail service. CA residents add 7.25% sales tax. WheelSource, 340 Stuyvesant Dr., San Anselmo, CA 94960. VISA and Mastercard, (800) 424-1516.

RATES

MAINSTREAM CLASSIFIED ADS— Only \$8.50 a line/\$12.50 for Business. Print or type your ad exactly and send it with a Check or Money Order to: MAINSTREAM, 2973 Beech St., San Diego, CA 92102. Please include your name, address and phone number.

Free

One Stop Shopping

Free

for all your High and Low Tech Needs

Maxi-Aids is your one stop shop for all your Independence needs. Products for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Learning Disabled, Physically Challenged and more. Products for IBM and Apple computers- speech synthesizers, touch screens, large print programs, Optical Character Recognition, Voice Recognition CCTV's and more.

Call or write for your **Free** Catalog - (516)752-0521 or 42 Executive Blvd, Farmingdale, NY 11735.

Introducing Voiceprint Independence Telephone



True Hands Free Operation. The Independence model is switch activated. The user can connect any momentary switch to the telephone to permit easy access or use the speaker button. After teaching the telephone the name and telephone number of frequently called people, press the switch and speak the name of the person you want to call. After dialing, the telephone automatically activates the speakerphone. Works with call-waiting. 50 names by voice dialing. Momentary switches are optional.

21251- \$249.95

New Products for the Deaf/Blind

Dual Channel Headset for Blind Telephone/computer operators Call for Details.

10% OFF 10% OFF 10% OFF

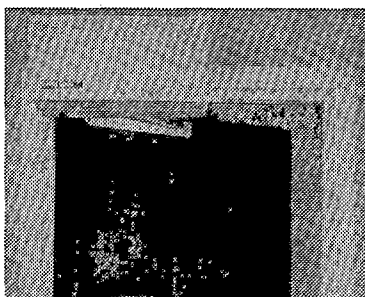
Save Now 10% off our Regular Price on Screen Reading Programs.

IBM Screen Reader/1.2 for DOS (2261648) was \$500.00 now \$450.00
Jaws (23700) was \$495.00 now \$445.00
Vocal Eyes (GW-8210-004) was \$450.00 now \$405.00
ASAP (ASAP) was \$525.00 now \$473.00
OutSpoken (BS-61513-OS) was \$495.00 now \$445.00
Windows Bridge (Win-Bridge) was \$695.00 now \$625.00

Coupon Expires 4/15/93

Coupon Must Accompany order, Add \$4.00 Handling and NY State Tax (if applicable). Payment must accompany order except established open accounts. Visa, MC, AMEX and DIS accepted credit cards. No Returns on Software Products Send to MAXI-AIDS 42 Executive Blvd, Farmingdale, NY 11735

The affordable Automatic Door Opener



that's easy to install.

Requires no special construction. Attaches to existing doorframe and plugs into 115V. Built rugged enough for institutional use, yet inexpensive enough for the home. Operates with remote signal, wall pushplate, or even wheelchair-mounted switch. Reliable and safe. Nearly maintenance-free. Immediate shipment from stock.

For more information, call or write for the name of your nearest dealer.

**POWER
ACCESS**

Corporation
PO Box 235 Collinsville CT 06022
1-800-344-0088 In CT, 693-0751



**ERGO
REST**

FOREARM SUPPORTS

- Control
- Support
- Stability
- Adjustability

Willow Pond Tools, Inc.
PO Box 544
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603) 485-2321

With
Built-in
Mouse

The Magic Wand Keyboard Instant Computer Access

The Magic Wand Keyboard is a miniature computer keyboard that works with the slightest touch of a wand (hand-held or mouthstick).

It lets a person with little or no hand movement use an IBM or Apple computer *exactly* like everyone else. The keyboard increases typing speed and stamina, and works instantly: no installation or training required.



We make this pledge:

If you're not using your computer unassisted just 60 seconds after you plug in your Magic Wand Keyboard, return it and we'll refund your money in full.



IN TOUCH SYSTEMS

11 Westview Road • Spring Valley, NY 10977 • 914-354-7431

800-332-MAGIC

Index of Advertisers

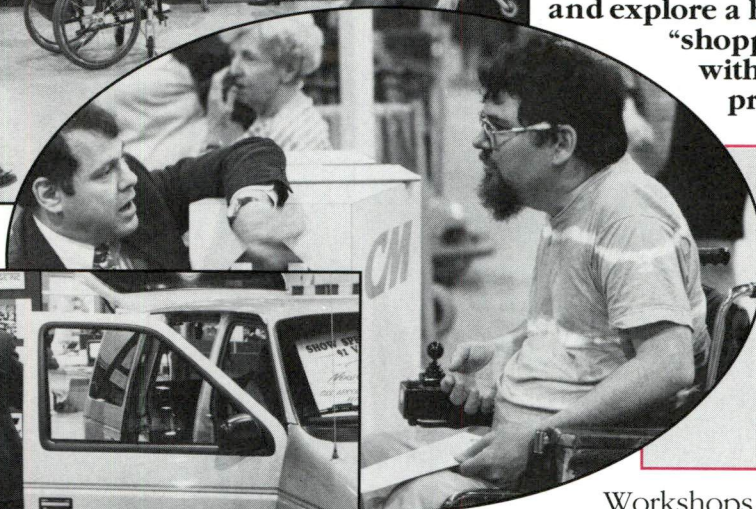
Abilities Expo '93	53
ABOVO	19
AlumiRamp	19
Barrier Free Lifts	40
Baum USA	11
Beaucoup Batteries	38
The Braun Corporation	56
California Air Resources Board	18
Caltrans	37
Chrysler Corp.	32
Companion Products	18
Crow Rover	55
Don Johnston Developmental Equip.	27
Dynamic Life Products	34
Flinchbaugh	48
Ford	3
Freedom Specialties	50
GM Mobility	42
Grey House Publishing	20
GTE	30
GW Micro	39
Homecare Products	33
Home Health Express	26
IBEX International	14, 49
IBM	28, 29
IMS	21
Innocomp	41
In Touch Systems	52
Jesana	14
KC Racing	19
Knit-Rite	46
Kroepke Kontrols	17
Maxi-Aids	51
Microsystems Software	17
Panasonic Home & Building	2
Pick-a-Lift	11
Polytech Fiberglass	17
Power Access	52
Prentke Romich	7
Renfroematics	38
R.D. Equipment	38
SafeCare Medical Supply	36
Sentient Systems Technology	9
Specs Rehab	48
Steele Incorporated	19
Stanford University Hospital	26
TASH, Inc.	8, 31
Teledyne Ryan	51
TIGER Communication System	48
Top Drawers	17
Touch Turner	20
Toys For Special Children	45
Toyota	12
U.S. Office of Personnel Mgmt.	4
Warner Bros.	27
WesTest Engineering	45
Wheelchair Getaways	10
Wheelchair Warehouse	22, 23
Wheelers	39
Willow Pond Tools	52
Words+	49

THE NUMBER ONE SHOW OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



ABILITIES EXPO® 93

The emphasis is on making life easier, more independent and rewarding for people with disabilities. Come and explore a huge, fully accessible "shopping center" stocked with hundreds of exciting products and technologies:



- Wheelchairs • Vans •
- Lifts • Exercise
- Equipment • 3 Wheel
- Scooters • Computers
- Toys • Clothing •
- Books and Publications
- Sports Equipment
- Computer Seminars
- Daily Living Aids

Workshops and support groups are geared to your special needs and interests. It's a "must attend" event for all ages, families, seniors, health care providers, rehabilitation professionals and others.

- Longest running show of its kind in the U.S. • Opportunities to try and buy on the Show floor •

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND ABILITIES EXPO IN A CITY NEAR YOU:

ABILITIES EXPO
West
Anaheim, CA
April 30-May 2, 1993
(Special Feature, Accessible
Residential Housing)

ABILITIES EXPO
East
Edison, NJ
Raritan Center
Expo Hall
May 21-23, 1993

ABILITIES EXPO
Midwest
Chicago, IL
O'Hare Expo Center
August 6-8, 1993
(Special Feature, ADA
Accessible Building Products)

ABILITIES EXPO
Southwest
Dallas, TX
Infomart
December 3-5, 1993

For more information call (203) 374-1411 ext. 138.

**SAVE
\$1**

**BRING THIS COUPON
SAVE ONE DOLLAR**

**SAVE
\$1**

The entrance fee at each Show is \$4 per person but you'll save \$1 on a single admission when you present this coupon. Name and address must be completed to make this coupon valid.

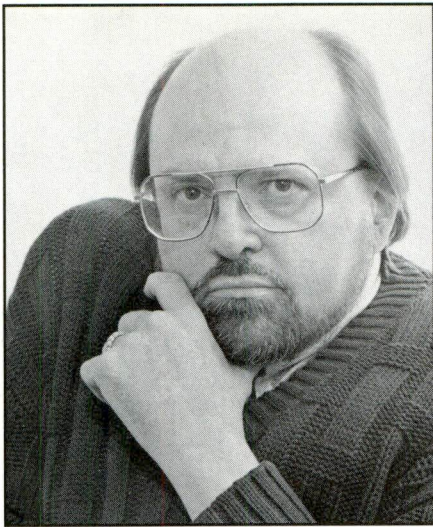
Name _____ N

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**SAVE
\$1**

**SAVE
\$1**



Ain't It A Shame That So Many Of Us Feel Ashamed

By William G. Stothers

Do you hate being disabled? Do you hate yourself because you are disabled? Do you feel ashamed or guilty about being disabled?

Anyone with a disability has experienced such feelings. The issue is whether the experience lasts. The disability rights movement is full of people who have moved beyond shame, establishing the idea that disability is just another condition of life.

For all its visibility and influence, though, the disability rights movement still constitutes only a small part of the 43 million people with disabilities in this country. Many people who are newly disabled or not connected with the disability rights community fall into the trap of self-hate or shame, smothered by a society that negates, devalues and inevitably oppresses anyone with a disability.

This may be seen in some people with disabilities who try to pass, acting non-disabled. They avoid other disabled people. Disability is negative and unacceptable to them, and they do their utmost to ensure that non-disabled people do not view them as disabled. They delude themselves and subtly condone their own oppression.

At another place on the scale are those people with disabilities who strive to prove to themselves and others that they can still pass muster despite their disabilities. In this category I place those people who push their wheelchairs across the country "to show what disabled people can do" and raise money for some cause or other. One of the latest is a dude planning such a trek in a power chair. God knows what that proves.

Recently I was reminded of more ordinary folk who never complain about shabby treatment. They think being disabled is their burden and shame, and that this kind of treatment is what they deserve.

I was invited out to Sunday brunch at a fairly posh country club. Previously I had attended a wedding reception at this place without any access problems. This time, however, I found a set of steps to the entrance of the dining room. So I sought entry through the level lobby. It was not to be. There were steps down from the lobby then up more steps to the dining room. Perplexed — especially almost a year to the day after ADA access requirements took force — we asked about wheelchair access.

"Oh. We'll escort you through the kitchen," the bellman said. He didn't know anything about ADA rules. Neither did the assistant manager on duty.

What to do? This was a family gathering, a Christmas gift. I decided to use the kitchen entrance — and told the management I would be filing an ADA complaint with the Department of Justice. They swallowed and led us on.

Once through the kitchen we discovered that our table was down yet another set of steps, not on the same level as the highly touted buffet that drew us to this place. "What do you do when people in wheelchairs come to brunch?" we asked, knowing that the surrounding area was populated by well-to-do folks, many of whom are older and are wheelchair users.

"Why, we just carry them up and down the stairs," they exclaimed. "No problem." And no complaints.

The fact that this violation had been going on for a year under ADA with no complaints suggests that the people with disabilities who patronized this dining spot went along with the kind of treatment we rejected. Blame and shame the victim. The person with the disability is expected to surrender his or her dignity and accept insulting treatment.

After some negotiations the management found a private room on the buffet level for our party. They gave us a round of drinks and a break on the final bill as well. This accommodation was tolerable to us under the circumstances, but we vowed to still file that complaint.

As people with disabilities we must demand that such places accommodate us as the law commands. We must not feel guilt or shame that we're causing a problem, or disrupting discriminatory patterns or routines. If they serve the public then they've got to serve and accommodate us, too.

The law proclaims our rights. We must live them. All of our actions should be cast in a civil rights context. We must abandon our own subservience to traditional non-disabled views of people with disabilities as pitiable, dependent, weak and inferior people for whom kitchen access is acceptable.

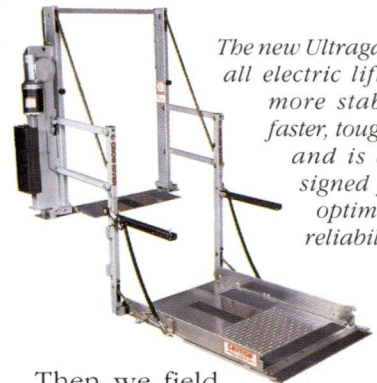
That brings us back to shame, guilt and self-image. The cure for our shame — and our oppression — awaits in resolve to claim our civil rights as people with disabilities. Believe it. Live it. Even — especially — at Sunday brunch. ■

William G. Stothers is Managing Editor of MAINSTREAM.

ULTRAGATER,TM THE NEW LIFT FOR PEOPLE WHO DEMAND HIGH PERFORMANCE IN EVERY ASPECT OF THEIR LIVES.



Time waits for no one. The last thing your 10 o'clock sales prospect wants to hear is that you're late because your lift malfunctioned. You need a lift you can depend on, day after day: the new Ultragater Lift from Crow River Industries. It's more stable, faster, tougher and is designed for the high performance you demand. This rugged, dual-post, dual backup, all-electric lift is made from sturdy steel and aluminum and weighs in at only 220 pounds. Most importantly, it's built with the individual user in mind: YOU! We invested nearly two years designing the Ultragater.



The new Ultragater all electric lift is more stable, faster, tougher and is designed for optimum reliability.

Then we field tested our designs to make sure we provided the very best lift possible. The net result is that the Ultragater is lighter but stronger, safer and more dependable. A lift for people who want more out of life. It's the kind of lift you can count on, day after busy day. Check out Ultragater today at your nearest Crow River dealer.

RAPID RESPONSE LINE:

For more information and the name of your closest dealer call today:

1-800-488-7688

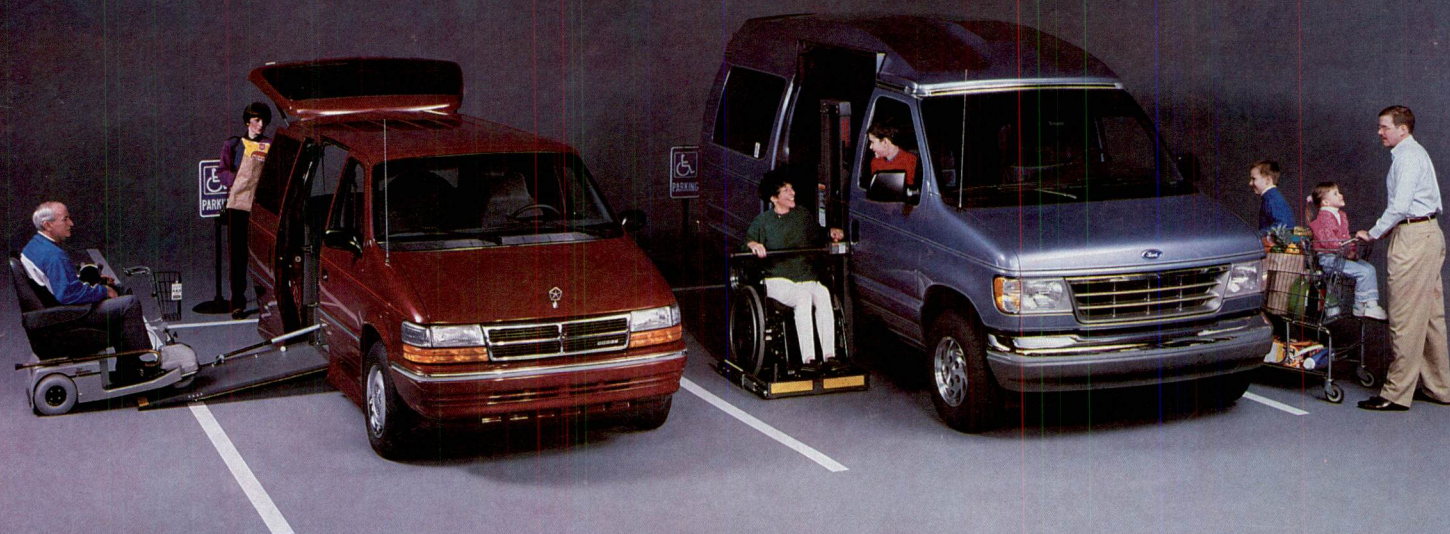


CROW RIVERTM

Industries Incorporated
14800 28th Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55447 (U.S.A.)
(In Minnesota, 612-559-1680)

BRAUN

THE ANSWER TO ALL YOUR MOBILITY NEEDS.



Until now, your choice in mobility was limited by the company you chose. One company could only offer lowered-floor vehicles while another only provided lifts. Now, one company offers both! The Braun Corporation.

The lowered-floor vehicle EnterVan™ is the perfect choice for the individual or small family. This mobility system allows you to roll into the vehicle's interior with unparalleled ease.

The Chrysler minivan is made wheelchair accessible with a folding ramp and lowered floor. The minivan offers an excellent combination of performance, maneuverability and sporty looks, including flexible seating arrangements.

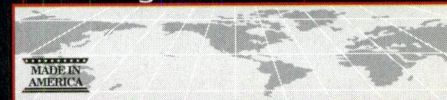
From lowered-floor vehicles to vans with platform or swing lifts, Braun gives you a selection to make the best choice.

For more traditional transportation, Braun offers the fold-out platform Lift-A-Way® and the rotary-design Swing-A-Way®. The Lift-A-Way® supplies total command of raising, lowering, folding and unfolding functions. Lift-A-Way® is available in both fully-automatic and semi-automatic models.

For increased vehicle access for wheelchair user and able-body passengers, Braun features the Swing-A-Way®. Its rotary design moves the lift's platform from the van interior to the ground in a smooth, steady motion. It's great for those tight parking places and the unobstructed entry-way allows ease in entering and exiting.

All Braun Mobility Products are covered by the industry-leading Worry-Free Warranty. It's just one more reason the choice is simple. Braun is the solution to all your mobility needs.

THE BRAUN CORPORATION
"Providing Access to the World"



1-800-THE-LIFT

P.O. Box 310, Winamac IN 46996
1-800-843-5438
Fairfield, New Jersey Huntington Beach, California Clearwater, Florida

To receive a free video on the
Swing-A-Way® Lift/Slide Door
combination, call 1-800-THE-LIFT.

BC2304