

## Boys dominate computer study

**Q. Are computers only for boys?**  
A. Not entirely, though statistics indicate nationally almost two-thirds of the students enrolled in computer courses are male. At the University of California-Berkeley, only 23 percent of the computer science majors are women, and the 1980 census found that just 23 percent of systems analysts and 31 percent of computer programmers are women.

It seems the more advanced the computer training, the fewer women enroll. At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the male graduate students in computer science outnumbered the females nearly 10 to 1.

**Q. How many chemicals are there in the universe?**  
A. In March, 1983, the American Chemical Society (ACS) recorded its six millionth chemical. In addition, ACS broke its own world mark for the largest index published when it released the 78-volume, 360-pound Chemical Abstracts, 10th edition. This abstract is the condensation of 25 million scientific papers.

**Q. Whatever became of TV Scientist Mr. Wizard?**

A. Mr. Wizard, Don Herbert, appeared on national television between 1951 and 1965 as the Pied Piper of Science for a generation of young people. Now 66, the man who nursed the baby boom generation from meters and magnets to computers in chemistry is up to his old tricks and also some new ones. He will be back with an updated



high tech  
**Ronald R. Watcke**

version of Mr. Wizard that can be seen this year three times a week on Nickelodeon, the Cable Network for Children. The new "Mr. Wizard's World" covers a dozen subjects in a half-hour, where the old Mr. Wizard covered just one.

**Q. Is computer literacy among young people increasing?**

A. Computer literacy appears to be on the rise, with 37.5 percent of college freshmen surveyed indicating they had written a computer program prior to entering college. Last year's survey showed 27 percent had prior computer experience.

These findings are from a survey conducted by the American Council on Education entitled, "The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1983." The survey was based on responses from 254,000 students at two- and four-year colleges and universities.

**Q. Is robotics a growth industry?**

A. Yes, all information seems to indicate that the robotics industry will rapidly grow over the next six years, with more than 31,350 units manufactured in the year 1990.

In addition, the world's largest robotics event will be held at Cobo Hall in Detroit, June 4-7, 1984. This exposition and conference is sponsored by the Robotics Institute of America and Robotics International of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

For more information, call the Society of Manufacturing Engineers in Dearborn at 271-1500, ext. 303.

**Q. Is the federal government supporting computer education in the nation's K-12 school districts?**

A. A resounding "Yes." During the 1983-84 school year, elementary and secondary schools in the U.S. are projected to invest approximately \$1.4 billion in micro-computer hardware and software. This is an average of \$54,559 per district.

These funds will come from nine federal grant programs. All 15,159 public school districts and approximately 10,500 non-public school districts are participating in these grants.

A Troy resident, Watcke is dean of liberal arts at Wayne County Community College.

## Trial to triumph

### Book salutes life's winners

"Greater, Greater Detroiters" is author/publisher Will Hardy's biographical testimony to metropolitan-area residents who have "turned trials into triumphs." The stories are portraits of people who have turned crisis into chances for personal renewal.

Hardy's concept, "we are greater than we think," weaves together vignettes of struggle, courage, determination and accomplishment.

Rochester residents Tom and Marion Tucker earned a spot in "Greater, Greater Detroiters" for their 30-year commitment to improving the lot of the mentally retarded. In 1948 they were told their 2-year-old son, Phillip, was retarded.

A social worker advised to "put him in an institution at least by the time he is 7 and then forget about him."

The Tuckers were stunned. Instead of giving up, they kept Phillip and enrolled him in kindergarten in the neighborhood public school. At the end of the year, they were told Phillip could repeat kindergarten but would not be allowed to enter first grade.

"So we began to look around for what might be an alternative. Parents were just beginning to talk publicly about having retarded children in their families and making their feelings known," Marion Tucker told Hardy.

That search led to a commitment to find ways of improving public perception of retardation and options for the adult retarded.

Hardy worked closely with Mrs. Hubert Humphrey and Eunice Shriver while serving two terms on President Johnson's Committee on Mental Retardation.

Marion Tucker served on the Detroit-Wayne Community Health Services Board and helped get support from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to build a 16-space home for retarded citizens capable of participating in the community. The first building was completed in the mid-seventies and Phillip Tucker was one of the first residents.

Hardy shares Marion Tucker's recollection of that achievement. "Living in the community rather than in his home has been wonderful for Phillip... he has matured so beautifully living in the community... much more independent. Not only Phillip but every single person who has lived at the house."

Also featured in this book is Oak Park resident, Dr. Jack Goldstein, who practices podiatry in Livonia. His life is full and his practice is flourishing.

His is not a story of luck but of helping himself to an alternative that saved his life.

From 1964 to 1966, Hardy notes, Goldstein was plagued with severe colitis. The ultimate medical solution was surgery, or death. His wife, Corinne, prodded him to consider "nutrition, fasting and natural hygiene." She urged him, on the counsel of a ventral friend, to contact Dr. Robert Gross at Pawling Manor in Hyde Park, N. Y.

AT FIRST, Gross refused Goldstein's query. "Later, Dr. Gross confided he rejected Dr. Goldstein because his condition was so poor there was almost no chance for rehabilitation through fasting," Hardy reports.

Goldstein went to Pawling Manor, fasted for six weeks and the cure worked. Now internationally known as an authority on fasting and nutrition, he is a nutrition counselor for hundreds of area residents.

It was not a "quick cure." But, the Goldstein diet has not swayed from the prescribed course. As their diets changed, so did they for the healthier.

"Greater, Greater Detroiters" is available at Hudson's and B. Dalton book stores.

TOM TUCKER, now director of Spe-

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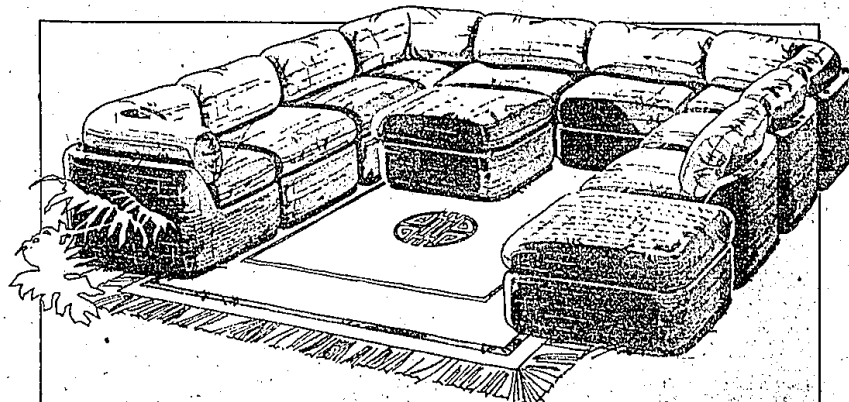
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