

Learning Hebrew turns to video

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"Not many children like to come to a two-hour class at night after going to school all day, but using the computer is a game to them that they really enjoy," Kriechman said.

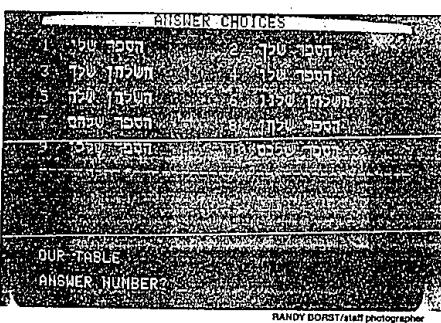
Trabu agrees.

"Reviewing grammar and vocabulary on the computer makes the boredom out of learning," she said.

Mathis says it took about two months

for him to convert an English-language program to Hebrew. Jon Samuels, a student at North Farmington High School, helped Mathis design and incorporate the Hebrew characters into the computer.

This program has been so successful that the school is planning to purchase another computer in the near future says Kriechman. The computer presently being used was a gift from the Adat Shalom's Parents' organization.



This is what a typical question from the computer looks like to the Hebrew language student.

RANDY DORST/Star photographer

Administrator resigns under pressure

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If the school board intended to dismiss Wright, it was required by law to give him notice within 90 days of the end of his contract. So, the board began probing Sheldon for Wright's evaluation at its Monday, March 26 meeting before it renewed his contract, which expired in late June.

"We need to (understand) why you continue to support a person the board is having difficulty with," Trustee Pa-

tricia Jackman told Sheldon. "She has been 'mounting up,' she continued, and the board is beginning to ask, 'Why is this person here?'

BUT SHELDON indicated that one of the administration contracts runs from January to December, rather than from July to June, like the others. Apparently referring to Wright, whose contract was signed in January, 1983, Sheldon noted that December, 1984, was the end of the two-year probation-

ary period for this administrator.

Alarmed at this explanation, several board members questioned whether it was the contract, or the two-year probationary period, that runs from January to December. Trustee Merlin Reeds suggested the board hold a closed session after the meeting to discuss the discrepancy.

At the March 28 special meeting, it became evident that Wright's contract did, indeed, run from July to June. With this information, the board would have

"pressed" for Wright's evaluation, Tözzi said. "We wanted to know where we stood," he explained.

But Wright tendered his resignation before any further inquiries by the board.

The assistant superintendent's resignation is effective June 30. Wright said he will carry the district through upcoming budget sessions. He presently is completing a two-year district budget, with four-year revenue and expense projections.

Legal-assistance program readied

The final step has been taken by Madonna College to achieve its legal-assistance program by the American Bar Association.

A visitation committee spent three days at the Livonia college during February and March to meet faculty, visit classes and survey library resources. Its recommendation will be considered by the Commission on Approval of Paralegal Programs of the ABA at a May meeting.

Members of the visitation committee were Michael H. LaFrance, director of Legal Assistant Program, Kirkwood Community College; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Frank Keating, director of Legal

Assistant Program at Malleckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.; Susan Shapiro, legal assistant specialist with the law firm of Dykema, Gossett, Spencer, Goodnow and Trigg, Detroit; and Thomas W. Watkins, General Motors Corp.

Before the visit, a self-study was prepared by Dennis Bozky, director, and Jennifer Cole, assistant director, of the Ford Motor Co.

THE MADONNA legal-assistant curriculum, which offers an associate degree, a bachelor's degree or a post-degree certificate, was developed in 1975 by a committee composed of St.

Mary Lauriana, then academic dean, the program director, and local attorneys, judges and legal assistants.

"During the course of the program, students gain valuable experience working with attorneys in student practice," said Bozky.

He said that graduates of the Madonna legal-assistant program are employed in several of Detroit's top law firms as well as in the legal department at Burroughs Corp. and the Ford Motor Co.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, in Occupational Outlook, states that in the 1980s the need for legal assistants is "expected

to grow much faster than the average for other occupations."

A legal assistant's duties include researching and analyzing laws, investigating the facts of a case and drafting documents under the supervision of an attorney. The legal assistant can also interview clients, obtain releases for personal information and prepare cases.

Further information about the Legal Assistant Program at Madonna College may be obtained by calling the assistant director, Jennifer Cole, 591-5195. Madonna College is at I-96 and Levan, Livonia.

Director oversees OCC production

Paul A. Ferris, a professional actor and stage manager, is tapping another side of his talent by serving as musical director for the upcoming Oakland Community College stage musical by

Stephen Sondheim, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

The production, which opens on the Orchard Ridge Campus Friday and runs Saturday,

Sunday and April 12, 13 and 14, will be conducted by Ferris, who has served as director of music for both the St. Louis King Parish and the Cathedral of St. Simon and Saint Jude in Phoenix, Ariz.

While in Phoenix, he was also commissioned as musical conductor for the Phoenix Oratorio Society.

For ticket reservations and information, phone 471-7700.

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