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Terminal Talk

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Terminal Talk - The Wofford Connection -November 1969

Wofford College Computer Center

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- THE WOFFORD CONNECTION -

Wofford College Computer Center

Spartanburg, South Carolina

New Programs

The General Library now includes a set of surveying programs. The twelve programs in this package perform such calculations as those necessary for traverse closure, area determination, staking highway right-of-way, cut and fill operations, finding true bearing from solar observations, etc.

Data Storage Mode

Under this mode of operation, the user may build a storage file without line numbers. This allows one to use existing tapes without line numbers (perhaps punched by automatic data acquisition equipment) or it may be used simply to conserve file space. The essential differences in operation are that one uses the command SDS rather than SAVE and that certain 3-character combinations which would be interpreted as a system command cannot be the first three characters on a line. (Insertion of spaces will avoid this difficulty.)

Usage

Probably the most direct and most easily available measure of usage is connect time (time during which the computer is connected to the teletype). The table below compares this year's figures with those of last year:

<u>1963-1969</u>		1969-1970
September October November	41.6 114.6 <u>32.4</u> 238.5	90.77 207.55 <u>110.00</u> (est.) 403.00

The year-to-year increase for the period is slightly more than 70%.

New TTY

A second 33ASR teletype has been installed in the Computer Center. It was obtained primarily for off-line preparation of tape, but an acoustic device may be attached to couple with the telephone line when necessary.

Financial Management Program

Mr. James Schofield, junior Economics major from Florence, South Carolina, has recently completed a write-up of the financial program, "GAME2." After completing several test runs, Schofield prepared a guide for the use of the program.

The program places two students, whether experienced in management or novice, in a situation where each is asked to face the problems of the manager of competing manufacturing concerns. The operator then "budgets" for each quarter, having before him the printout of the previous quarter's activity, including some limited information on the activity of his opponent. The program is written so that any number of successive quarters may be studied, and annual reports are printed every fourth quarter, thereby enhancing the store of information available to each of the two players.

Mr. Schofield is particularly excited about the applications of the program to both learned students of corporate finance and the layman.