

Computer use to affect personal lives more

By CLINTON WEAVER
Staff Writer

Most people read that *Time* magazine recently gave its "Man of the Year" award to the computer. At the same time, credence was given to the emerging role of machines in modern society.

Computer use is rapidly increasing and will soon affect both our personal lives and industrial production, according to two UNC professors.

Dr. Stephen Weiss, associate professor of computer science, said computers will become as commonplace as electricity. "It will touch you in a lot of ways," he said. "They will replace a lot of things we do now."

The increasing use of home computers is reflected in sales figures. *Business Week* magazine reported last December that, since the first personal computer came out in 1976, worldwide sales have grown to \$6.1 billion. InfoCorp, a California market researcher, expects sales to climb to \$21 billion by 1986, the magazine said.

Weiss said computers will make cars run better and will be used in appliances such as washers, dryers and dishwashers. Computers already account for the increased sophistication of alarm clocks. They can be set to go off at different times on different days, he said.

"We will also have computers in homes which integrate with other computers and retrieve information," Weiss said.

Gary Bishop, graduate student in computer science at UNC, said home computers will be used in telephone hookups to gain

access to information, such as the Dow Jones industrial average. "They may even replace newspapers," he said.

Personal computers will become as commonplace as televisions, Bishop said. "What you will see is integrated entertainment centers with computers used through the television," Bishop said. "It's already being done in Japan."

Weiss said it may be possible to shop through a television hooked to a computer "and get recommendations about what you should buy and where."

Computers could eventually lead to a shorter work week and more leisure for people, he added. A heated debate continues over the impact of computers on industry. Computers could conceivably take over many unskilled, semi-skilled or even skilled occupations.

Computers will eliminate many jobs for industrial workers, Bishop said, but there will be more high-paying jobs available and more prosperity. Increased prosperity will help educate those whose jobs have been replaced so they can get new jobs.

"People with real problems with school will be hurt the most," Bishop said.

Weiss said, "Assembly line workers will go away. That's true of any sort of technological development. There will be an upward shift in job availability."

Several hundred firms presently manufacture computers, Bishop said. But the top five companies control about 80 percent of the production. Those companies are IBM, Apple, Tandy, Commodore and Timex.

There will remain healthy competition among the top five com-

panies to prevent a monopolistic stronghold by any of them, he said.

Bishop said he feels that competition and innovation will cause prices to fall. "Electronics will get cheaper for the same amount of power," he said.

Computers are also affecting education. They are already being used in the classroom. In the future, Bishop said, "students will be given computers with high quality screens." They will be able to use computers for everything from writing papers to art design to economics assignments, he said.

Student interest in computers has led to a shortage of computer science professors with a doctorate. Graduates with a masters in computer science who have programming ability are getting good salaries, Bishop said. Few people are going for the doctorate in computer science because they are highly paid as masters recipients, he said.

Though there is now a shortage of programmers with a masters degree, "that will go away in five to 10 years," Bishop said.

Weiss said, "There will be too many entry-level programmers and not enough high-level programmers. We may have to increase the salaries of professors to attract teachers for the field."

The computer field cannot expand indefinitely; however, it may be a long time before the possibilities run out.

"There are technological limits such as the speed of light," Weiss said. "But there is no limit to the innovations."

Bishop said, "The most limiting factor is for humans to deal with the complexity of computers. That will be our main limitation for awhile."

Horror story

Film gives insights into life

By JO ELLEN MEEKINS
Staff Writer

Without a Trace is a horror film. But the horror is not typical blood and gore; it is the disappearance of a 6-year-old boy.

Dr. Susan Selky (Kate Nelligan), a college professor living in Brooklyn, discovers that her son Alex never arrived at his neighborhood school one morning. The remainder of the film focuses on Susan's agony during the long months of the search for the child.

Review

Few clues, the constant hounding of tactless reporters, and the psychic predictions of strangers are part of the personal horror that Susan faces each day. Nelligan portrays well the role of a mother who refuses to give up the search when others

have lost hope. As Susan's best friend, Stockard Channing is candid and supportive, and Judd Hirsch is excellent as the chief detective who is so obsessed with the case that his personal life begins to suffer.

Without a Trace also incorporates into the story of the kidnapping some realistically portrayed insights into the relationships of divorced parents, friendships between women, the attitudes of the community, and the actions of the press. The film also gives an interesting look into several aspects of the American system of justice, from Susan's humiliating polygraph test to the treatment of an innocent suspect.

The film's classic characteristic is that although it deals with the violent act of kidnapping, its frightening aspects are in the minds and experiences of the characters. Although the plot includes the possibility of murder, the viewers are not necessarily shown any of the bloody clues. Most importantly, the film emphasizes that one should not give up fighting for something even when the authorities do.

Activities observe black history

By KYLE MARSHALL
Staff Writer

UNC students will have an opportunity to learn about the history and culture of blacks in the coming weeks during Black History Month.

A series of lectures and performances is scheduled for Feb. 20-27, sponsored by the Black Student Movement, the University's Department of African and Afro-American Studies and the Carolina Union.

In addition to the activities at UNC, colleges and universities across the state are planning similar celebrations during February, said BSM cultural coordinator Chuck Wallington.

"It's traditional for schools to set aside a

time to honor the history of blacks," Wallington said.

The University's participation in Black History Month begins Sunday with a lecture on black leaders, and continues Tuesday with a lecture on blacks in contemporary affairs by Earle Thorpe, professor of history at North Carolina Central University. Both lectures will begin at 8 p.m. in 111 Murnhev Hall.

The Alvin Ailey Dance Company will perform at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, in Memorial Hall, sponsored by the Carolina Union.

An "Ebony Evening" featuring three performing groups of the BSM — Gospel Choir, Opeyo Dancers and Ebony Readers — is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb.

25, in the Great Hall of the Union. In addition, a drama guild, choir and dance group from Duke University will perform at the "Ebony Evening." Admission is \$1.

The final event in UNC's celebration of Black History Month will be a poetry reading by University students and faculty, scheduled for 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, in the Greenlaw Hall auditorium.

Wallington said the variety of activities could reach out to all UNC students. "It's for people interested in drama, music, poetry, dancing and a wide range of activities," he said.

The BSM performing groups will participate in black history celebrations at other schools in the area, Wallington said.

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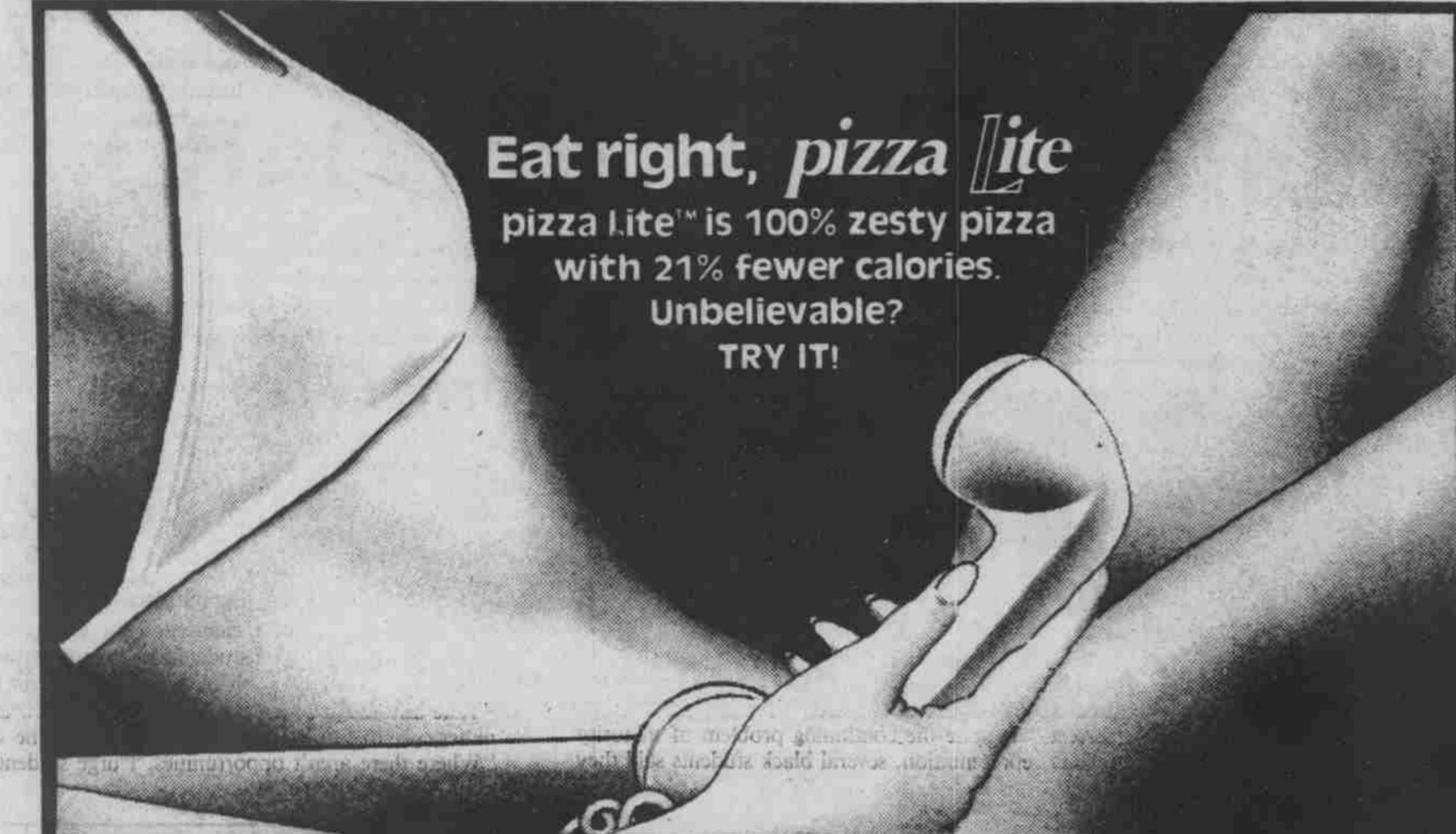
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The Village ADVOCATE

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Every year The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill presents awards to full-time members of the faculty for excellence in undergraduate teaching. This year six such awards will be given: five Tanner Awards (\$2,000 each) and one Nicolas Salgo Award (\$2,000). PLEASE NOTE: Professors listed below have received awards during the past five years and are therefore not eligible for nomination this year.

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Professor James R. Butler
Professor Martha Nell Hardy
Professor Gilbert M. Joseph
Professor Peter Phialas
Professor J. Carlyle Sitterson
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Professor E. Willis Brooks
Professor Joyce Jenzano
Professor Michael K. Salemi
Professor Lars G. Schultze
Professor Junius H. Terrell
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Professor Ann D. Hall
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