FLASH MACK AND HIS ELECTRIC COMPUTER
OR
THE MYSTERY OF THE TIRED TRANSISTORS

BY JIM SIMMONS
TO RECAP... IN OUR PREVIOUS EPISODES, THE COMPUTERLAND STAFF ESCAPED TO THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVERNS JUST BEFORE THE SYSTEM CRASH DECIMATED ALL OF COMPUTERLAND ABOVE GROUND...

... AND THEY REBUILT COMPUTERLAND IN THE CAVERNS WITH THE AID OF LI'L ABNER MIMS...

HORRAY FOR LI'L ABNER MIMS!

MR. WIZARD'S SOLUTION FOR COMPUTERLAND'S PROBLEMS PRODUCED PREDICTABLE RESULTS...

AND THE PROFESSOR'S SOLUTION ENDED UP AFFECTING SOME PEOPLE NEGATIVELY...

DAILY NEWS: PRESIDENT YEAST JAILED FOR FRAUD!

THEN SUPERFRANK BURST UPON THE SCENE...

GENTLEMEN, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET OUR NEW RULER—FRANK!

I'M FRANK!

AND BROUGHT A BRAND NEW UNIQUE SOLUTION FOR COMPUTERLAND'S PROBLEMS...

I WILL NOW PRESS THE BUTTON WHICH WILL BEGIN OPERATION OF MTS RIGHT HERE IN COMPUTERLAND! DOWN WITH THE WARP SYSTEM! UP WITH MTS!

READ ON FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS...
A TYPICAL DAY OF MTS OPERATION BEGINS.
STRAW BOSS JIM HAMBELLY ARRIVES...

WELL, I WONDER WHERE MY LADYFRIENDS ARE!
I'D SURE HATE TO PUSH THOSE BUTTONS MYSELF!

GOOD MORNING, JIMMIE!
GIMME! ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP—I ALMOST HAD TO START MTS MYSELF!

NOW DON'T GIMME A HARD TIME, HAMBELLY!

Hi, BARBARA BEANSTALK!
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO MOUNT THIS TILT!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, JIMMIE?
THAT'S PEON WORK!

HERE, YOU, PEON #1!
MOUNT THAT TILT AND MAKE IT SNAPPY!

YES, MAS-TER!

SUDDENLY, EVERYTHING STOPS...

LOOKS LIKE A BAD CASE OF TIRED TRANSISTORS!
GUESS I'D BETTER CALL FLASH, MACK, BOY INVENTOR!

SHORTLY...

WHADDYA THINK, FLASH?
Interesting...

REPLIED FLASH, THOUGHTFULLY...
Well, I'm not sure that I'd jump to that conclusion... It's possible that the situation might be alleviated by the application of some elementary techniques of systematic investigation, and knowledge of the internal logical design of the computer! In other words, I'll get my screwdriver!

A frequent visitor arrives on the scene...

Hello, Flash! My terminal just went down, so I brought my super-scope! Let us investigate this mystery!

My theory is that the problem originates in this module!

Super, Flash! I'll scope it down!

Hey, Larry Meander! Have you seen Flash Mack around?

I dunno! He was here a minute ago!

Meanwhile, behind the disk drives...

I can't seem to find a clue here! This is developing into a mystery!

Russ Crouton

Dee Dallas

Puzzling!

What caused the system to blow this time? Read on, please...
4:30... AND THE AFTERNOON CREW BEGINS TO ARRIVE...

HELLO, MR. HAMBELLY! HOW DID EVERYTHING GO TODAY?
FRESH BREW

MARIA BORED

HI, DEll BRIGHTNESS! FLASH MACK WAS GOING TO GIVE ME OUR INSTRUCTIONS FOR TONIGHT! HAVE YOU SEEN HIM?
NO... BUT I'LL STRUGGLE ALONG!

MEANWHILE, BEHIND THE TAPE DRIVES...

Strange! Nothing seems to be wrong here, either!

Time to get back home to Prestigeland. So long, Flash!

LITTLE BLACK BOOK

Hi, Barbara Humm! Cheer up!

DUNGAREES

WELL, RAY, HOW ARE THINGS GOING?

OH, JUST ROUTINE...

Hey, you guys! What's fast and bulbous?

NEAL HAIR-US

Leon Tricks-em

Ray Dranford

...and behind the control units...

This is appalling! I've got more instrumentation on my car than there is on this whole computer!

He's just bragging about his car...

OUR EXCITING MYSTERY CONTINUES ON THE SECOND PAGE FOLLOWING
NOW!
you can subscribe to
COMPUTER COMICS

(JUST THINK!)

FOR THE PRICE OF JUST TEN FAZOLLAS PER YEAR, OUR EFFICIENT ORDER DEPARTMENT WILL PROCESS YOUR REQUEST...

AND EACH MONTH (OR TWO OR THREE OR FOUR...) THE POSTMAN WILL DELIVER YOUR ISSUE IN A PLAIN BROWN ENVELOPE...

AND YOU CAN ENJOY, IN THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN CLOSET, THE TITILLATING, TIRADES OF COMPUTER COMICS...

AND YOUR FRUSTRATIONS WITH THE EVERYDAY STRAINS OF THE COMPETING AND DOLLAR PURSUING CENTER WILL FADE AWAY JUST AS THOUGH SOMETHING GOOD HAD HAPPENED — LIKE GETTING YOUR OUTPUT BACK...

SEND YOUR MONEY DIRECT TO THE AUTHOR IN CARE OF THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY (CURRENTLY DOING TIME FOR MAIL FRAUD)...

HEH! HEH!

BAM! POW! Zowie!

YUM YUM....
MIDNIGHT—THE WITCHING HOUR—AND STRANGE NOISES BEGIN TO EMANATE FROM THE STOCK AREA BEHIND THE COMPUTER ROOM...

IT IS THEY WHO WALK BY NIGHT, THEY WHO NEVER SEE THE SUN, THEY WHO NEVER SPEAK—THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT!

...AND THE MASTER OF THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT—PERCY VAMPERRY!

...AND ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MIDNIGHT CREW...

MEANWHILE, BEHIND THE CENTRAL PROCESSOR...

Exceedingly strange!

Said Flash, worriedly...
Dawn approaches, and Little Miss Killjoy arrives...

Hello, Mr. Vamperry! How did everything go?

Just routine!

A moment later...

Wha-a-at!
None of my runs has been done!

I can't understand it! I've looked everywhere and all components seem to be in working order!

Hey, Flash! Awful sorry we crashed your system from our terminal on the mezzanine yesterday morning! We'll have the soft-where bug fixed soon!

Don Cis-Low

What?...

Hi! ICM service here! We rushed right over when we got your emergency call!

Good grief!

Good mornin', Jimmie! About time you showed up!

Now don't gimme a hard time, Hambelly!

J.S., just routine?... The end
A MAN FOR ALL REASONS

FAN POSTER OF THE MONTH

FLASH MACK SHOWING HOME MOVIES

SUITABLE FOR FRAMING OR THROWING DARTS