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New From Net Scout

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<http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/KIDS/archive/KIDS-970417.html>

KIDS Report subscription information:

<http://wwwscout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/KIDS/#subscribe>

The latest issue of Net Scout's KIDS (Kids Identifying and Discovering Sites) Report, produced by 7th grade students at Cherokee Middle School (Madison, Wisconsin, Metropolitan School District), contains eleven annotated sites related to the planets. Among them are the Hubble Space Telescope's "Greatest Hits," SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space), the Never Ending Quiz, and Windows to the Universe. The KIDS Report is available on the KIDS website and also via email subscription. Subscription information can be found at the URL above. [JS]

Research and Education

Experimental CPI Using Geometric Means—US Bureau of Labor Statistics

<http://stats.bls.gov/cpigmtoc.htm>

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics will shortly begin an experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers using a "geometric mean formula to combine individual price quotations at the lower level of aggregation." The experimental index will be called "the Experimental CPI Using Geometric Means or CPI-U-XG." BLS claims the new index will adjust the CPI to reflect "the fact that consumers can and do change spending patterns as relative prices change." The experimental index will not replace the current "fixed-weight Laspeyres formula" CPI-U (All Urban Consumers) or CPI-W (Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers) indexes. Beginning April 22, 1997, the Geometric Mean Index will be released monthly. The site contains information about the new index, a research paper explaining it, and a monthly CPI-U-XG table from December 1990 to the present. [JS]

US Charter Schools

<http://www.uscharterschools.org/>

Provided by WestEd, a California-based non-profit education research organization, the California State University Institute for Education Reform, and the US Department of Education, the US Charter Schools site this week begins its "60-day trial." The site will remain publicly available after this period, but will be revised based on user feedback. The primary audiences for the site are people actually involved in creating, sponsoring and running charter schools, as well as technicians, scholars, and policy makers. Resources are organized into four main categories: starting and running your school, school information exchange, resource directory and links, and searching other charter school sites. There is also a good overview of the charter school concept. The depth of information

presented on the site is impressive, with many links to additional resources from other providers. Educators, parents, and anyone concerned about the charter school movement should benefit from this new resource. [ML]

Scott's Botanical Links

<http://www.ou.edu/cas/botany-micro/bot-linx/>

Professor Scott Russell of the University of Oklahoma Department of Botany and Microbiology maintains this meta-site, which is really two sites in one. It contains a "link of the day" archive (five days a week), consisting of rated and annotated sites, available via the web page and a mailing list. These links are then incorporated into a subject hierarchy (Site Index) in over forty topics including cell biology, horticulture, dendrology, and phytopathology, among others. Particularly authoritative sites are marked with an exclamation point. The site is searchable. Aimed at an "advanced high school (AP-biology) and college level" audience, it has a somewhat whimsical tone, but the time and care that went into selecting, annotating, and rating hundreds of sites is evident in the quality of the final product. [JS]

To subscribe send email to:

listserv@ou.edu

In the body of the message type:

subscribe botlinx firstname lastname

Documenting the American South: The Southern Experience in 19th Century America

<http://sunsite.unc.edu/docsouth/>

Status report on available and upcoming texts:

<http://sunsite.unc.edu/docsouth/project/status.html>

To remedy the fact that "most information about 19th-century America comes from Northerners," the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has begun a text digitization project of documents on the South by Southerners. At present, the site contains fourteen narratives on slavery, thirteen diaries/memoirs, and twenty autobiographies. Texts are available in SGML (the free SoftQuad Panorama viewer for Windows is required) and HTML, and selected texts are accompanied by author information, title pages, illustrations, and other information. Although works are not searchable, author and title indices are available. As the site grows, it intends to "document the cultural history of the American South." [JS]

US Geological Survey Water Resources Applications Software

<http://water.usgs.gov/software/>

Mirror site:

<http://www.geogr.uni-jena.de/software/>

The USGS offers fifty software programs that, at present, are freely available. The programs can be browsed alphabetically or in five subject categories. Each program is accompanied by computer platform requirements, a summary of the program, readme files, pointers to decompression utilities, and documentation information (including selected downloadable user's manuals). Summaries

contain pointers to other related programs, when available. Note that most software packages are available on AViiON DG/UX or UNIX platforms at present, but selected packages are available for other platforms as well. [JS]

Feminism and Globalization: The Impact of the Global Economy on Women and Feminist Theory—*Global Legal Studies Journal*

<http://www.law.indiana.edu/glsj/vol4/no1/toc.html>

Global Legal Studies Journal—Indiana University School of Law

<http://www.law.indiana.edu/glsj/glsj.html>

Indiana University's *Global Legal Studies Journal*, a semiannual "peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal focusing on the intersections of global and domestic legal regimes, markets, politics, technologies, and cultures," is highlighted by a symposium issue each fall. The latest symposium issue concerns feminism and globalization of market forces, and contains seven articles. The symposium takes the form of three major articles and four responses to those articles. The articles pertain to "feminist analytics of the global economy, the effects of globalization on the relationship between privatization and public responsibility and how this dynamic impacts the future of women across the globe, and strategic sisterhood." Previous symposium issues have covered environmental law, global migration, and globalization of law, politics, and markets. [JS]

WASTE Mailing List and Usenet Newsgroup

<http://www.cedar.univie.ac.at/arch/waste/about.html>

sci.environment.waste

This unmoderated mailing list/newsgroup provides a forum for scientific discussion on the one hand by people who are distressed by the negative effects that waste can have on the natural environment (soil, water, air and the seas) and on the other hand by people involved in collecting, fractioning, conditioning, recycling or dumping wastes. It is intended for the integrated discussion of all waste-related topics. Web-based subscription is available (see above URL). [JS]

To subscribe send email to:

majordomo@cedar.univie.ac.at

In the body of the message type:

subscribe waste your@email.address

General Interest

Healthfinder—US Department of Health and Human Services

<http://www.healthfinder.gov/>

This site, recently opened by the Department of Health and Human Services, acts as a "gateway consumer health information web site." In addition to DHHS agencies, 12 other federal agencies provide health-related information. At the heart of the site is a searchable and browsable interface of available resources. Users can browse resources alphabetically by using a simple drop-down menu

search form, or by selecting from any of 31 major subject topics to find annotated organization and/or web resources. The “pubs” section features key word searching for online publications and contains a large list of publications catalogs as well as pointers to seventeen medical dictionaries and glossaries. The “news” section contains press, DHHS, and selected state health department news. The site provides one-stop shopping for a vast array of consumer health information. [JS]

1996 Fortune 500

<http://pathfinder.com/fortune/fortune500/>

Global 500:

<http://pathfinder.com/fortune/1997/specials/g500/intro.html>

From General Motors Corporation (\$168 billion in revenues) to Vencor, Inc. (\$2.58 billion), details on the 500 companies in the latest Fortune 500 list are available at the *Fortune* site. The list can be viewed by revenue, alphabetically (index) for stock price information, or by industry for over fifty industries. There are also medians for nine earnings categories, and top performers for twelve. A CEO list is included and the site is searchable by company, industry, or CEO. Balance sheets and stock snapshots are provided for most companies listed, as are web links when available. There are also several articles. Note that the list, medians, and top performers are also available in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, and the .pdf version of the list also contains information in thirteen balance sheet categories. For those interested in international information, *Fortune* also offers a Global 500 site. [JS]

The Xerox PARC Map Viewer

<http://mapweb.parc.xerox.com/map/>

Since June 1993, the Map Viewer, provided by the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, has served interactive web-based maps of the world. Maps are available in three projections (equirectangular, sinusoidal, ellipse) and views may be zoomed in or out. The world map has viewable features, including borders and rivers; note, however, that political boundaries are based on 1985-90 data. The United States map is much more detailed and includes features such as borders, rivers, roads, railroads, and federal lands. All features can be viewed at once or toggled separately. [TB]

EURO—Proposed currency of the EU

<http://euro.eu.int/>

If you've been anxious to get your first look at the new currency of the European Union, the Euro, this website will provide the information you seek. Available in eleven languages, three connection speeds, and Java and non-Java versions, the site promotes the proposed currency with enthusiasm. Animated images display the new notes, which flip from front to back to show both sides. A timetable for implementation of the Euro is available, as well as speeches on the new currency from Yves-Thibault de Silguy, Member of the European Commission with special responsibility for economic and monetary affairs. Background documents from the Presidency of the European Council are also provided. Users looking for a balanced critique of the idea of a unified currency should probably look elsewhere. [ML]

Academy of American Poets [RealAudio, frames]
<http://www.poets.org/>

April is National Poetry Month and the Academy of American Poets website will provide all the details. Founded in 1934, the Academy supports American poets at all stages of their careers and fosters the appreciation of contemporary poetry. Follow Poetry Exhibits to Current Exhibits for poetry selections. The Calendar of Events, Academy Readings, and Residencies can assist in locating public events near you. However, the highlight of the site is the Listening Booth, offering RealAudio renditions of fifty poems (at present) by their authors. The site is searchable. [ATW]

DOGTALES—Man's best friend discussion, storytelling

The DOGTALES mailing list is for discussions about “my companion dog,” stories about war, working, adopted, foster, or orphan dogs. It is a place to tell unusual stories about lost or found dogs. Especially welcome are stories about when your dog's life ends and you need a place to share your feelings. [JS]

To subscribe send email to:

listserv@maelstrom.stjohns.edu

In the body of the message type:

subscribe dogtales firstname lastname

Net Tools

Beatnik—Interactive Music Plug-in and Developer Software [JavaScript]
<http://www.headspace.com/beatnik/>

New from Headspace is the free Beatnik browser plug-in, which promises to bring musical interactivity to web pages. Unlike plug-ins that simply play music while the user browses, Beatnik allows the user to interact with the music, altering the playback or triggering new variations through an embedded JavaScript interface; the plug-in also plays other standard non-interactive music formats. Composers must buy the commercial Beatnik Editor (available for PowerMacintosh only) to create music in the proprietary Rich Music Format. No server modifications are needed to serve RMF files. Currently, only certain users can take advantage of the plug-in: those running Netscape Navigator 3.0 or higher on PowerMacs and Pentium PCs (running Windows 95/NT and with Microsoft's DirectSound 2.0 or higher installed). The Beatnik site contains several examples of interactive music design, and offers substantial user and developer documentation. [ML]

InterVU Player Plug-in

<http://www.intervu.net/player/player.html>

Video Guide:

<http://www.intervu.net/partners/menu.html>

InterVU has developed a plug-in by the same name that allows users to view streaming MPEG videos (including audio tracks) and plays back videos from either a hard drive or browser cache. The player also allows a preview of the first frame before beginning download. The plug-in works on the 32-bit version of Netscape Navigator (not the 16-bit version) and is available for either the Macintosh or PC (Windows 95/NT). InterVU can be played from any HTML server, including videos embedded within web pages. The plug-in itself is about 600K. The Video Guide features links to sites using this innovative plug-in—including footage from Major League Baseball's archive, Lifetime Television programs, and a video from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. [AG]

A Brief History of the Internet, Version 3.1—The Internet Society

<http://www.isoc.org/internet-history/>

The most interesting thing about the latest version of The Internet Society's history of the Internet is the list of authors. The history of the Internet, is, in great measure, the history of the people who made it. This document is written by many of those people, including Vinton Cerf (TCP/IP), Leonard Kleinrock (packet switching theory), Robert Kahn (ARPANET), Jon Postel (RFCs and IP number assignments), David Clark (simple TCP implementation), and Stephen Wolff (NSFNET), among others. Brief History stresses four areas: technological evolution, operations and management, social aspects, and commercialization aspects. [JS]

Scout Report Information

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info scout-report

Or visit our web site and subscribe using a web form:

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<http://rs.internic.net/cgi-bin/lwgate/SCOUT-REPORT-HTML/>

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The Scout Report's Web page:

<http://wwwscout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/report/>

<http://rs.internic.net/scout/report/>

Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) versions of the Scout Report:

<http://wwwscout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/report/pdf/>

The Scout Report by gopher:

gopher://ds0.internic.net:70/11/pub/list_archives/scout-report.archive

FTP archive of past Scout Reports:

ftp://ftp.ds.internic.net/pub/list_archives/scout-report.archive/

Credits and Copyright

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