

**June 27, 1997**

---

## Research and Education

US Agriculture By the Numbers and in the Fields Agricultural Statistics 1997—USDA  
Multimedia Components of a Scholarly Article—IOP  
Views of the Famine—The Irish Famine as it Happened  
Dr. Felix's Free Medline Page  
Journal of Memetics—Evolutionary Models of Information Transmission  
Three Current-Awareness Mailing Lists From Prism Express

---

## General Interest

Supreme Court Overturns CDA, Decides Two Other Major Cases  
Earth Summit +5—United Nations  
Culinary herbFAQ  
LIFE Magazine Photo Essays  
Birdfeeder—Birdwatching Mailing List

---

## Network Tools

RealPlayer 4.0 Final Release  
Dummies Daily—The Online Resource for the Rest of Us

---

## Where Are They Now

Volume 1, Number 9: The Scout Report for June 24, 1994

## Research and Education

US Agriculture By the Numbers and in the Fields *Agricultural Statistics 1997*—USDA [.pdf]

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/pubs/agstats.htm>

Sustainable Farming Connection

<http://sunsite.unc.edu/farming-connect/>

The latest volume of the United States Department of Agriculture's *Agricultural Statistics* is a detailed compilation of statistical charts and tables covering all aspects of the US agricultural economy. Most of the available tables are based on a short (three and ten year) time series, and many are updated through 1996. The previous two *Agricultural Statistics* volumes are also available, and tables from the 1995-6 version can be viewed in plain text comma separated values (CSV) format for easier statistical manipulation. Data users can also request CSV formatted tables for the 1997 volume. Sustainable Farming Connection, provided by the University of North Carolina SunSITE and the Committee for Sustainable Farm Publishing, is an information clearinghouse for sustainable agriculture that contains news stories and features such as "17 Mistakes to Avoid with Electric Fencing" in addition to several discussion groups. There are still construction signs behind some of the links at this site. [JS]

Multimedia Components of a Scholarly Article—IOP [.pdf, postscript, mpeg]

<http://www.iop.org/EJ/Info/bin/featabs/na0800301/>

*Nanotechnology* Multimedia Research Papers Announcement

<http://www.iop.org/Journals/na/>

The article in the Institute of Physics' (IOP) *Nanotechnology* entitled "Molecular dynamics simulations of carbon nanotube-based gears" offers a glimpse into the future of what scholarly publishing could be. Concepts "come alive" in the multimedia appendices. The eight page article (available in Adobe Acrobat [.pdf] and postscript format) is tailored for specialists and includes some photos, but all scholars can appreciate the eight mpeg movies (ranging from 375 KB to 2.25 MB) that show these tiny gears in action. Note that this article is one of a rotating set of free *Nanotechnology* articles, and may be removed in the future. [JS]

Views of the Famine—The Irish Famine as it Happened

<http://www.emory.edu/FAMINE/>

Steve Taylor of the Faculty Information Technology Center at Emory University has posted an excellent collection of contemporary British newspaper articles and illustrations relating to the Great Irish Famine. The site features several contemporary newspapers, including the *Illustrated London News*, the *Pictorial Times*, and *Punch*, which demonstrate the range of opinions on the famine and the Irish people held by the British press and their readers. Some of the over 100 contemporary illustrations are in a high-resolution format suitable for printing. The site also includes a section entitled 150 Years Ago Today, which posts short articles from the *Cork Examiner* (updated one to

three times a week). Additional features include a full text narrative of a journey in 1847 Ireland and links to other Famine sites. [MD]

### Dr. Felix's Free Medline Page

<http://www.docnet.org.uk/felix-frames.html>

US Mirror

<http://www.beaker.iupui.edu/drfulix/>

If you need to search the National Medical Library's Medline database, Dr. Felix's Free Medline Page is a good place to start. Provided by DocNet (UK), this simple page is a comparison of twenty-eight web based services that offer free access to parts or all of Medline. For each service users can access information about database coverage, registration requirements, usage restrictions, and document delivery. Hypertext links are available from all of the services discussed. Dr. Felix is a quick and convenient way to launch a Medline session that can inform users of the possible limitations of their search right from the start. [JS]

### Journal of Memetics—Evolutionary Models of Information Transmission

<http://www.cpm.mmu.ac.uk/jom-emit/>

Bibliography of Memetics:

<http://www.cpm.mmu.ac.uk/jom-emit/biblio/>

This new peer-reviewed academic journal, sponsored by the Centre for Policy Modelling, the Principia Cybernetica Project, and the Faculty of Systems Engineering, Policy Analysis, and Management at Delft University of Technology (Netherlands), "offers a forum where theories and the philosophy of memes and evolution are in the centre, not just at the edge of the issues journals want to cover." The evolutionary perspective in many different disciplines is addressed in articles such as "Cultural R/K Selection," "The Origin and Evolution of Culture and Creativity," and "Macromemetics: Towards a Framework for the Re-unification of Philosophy." At this site interested users can also consult a large (over 180 works) bibliography, a history of memetics, and a lexicon of its terms. [JS]

### Three Current-Awareness Mailing Lists From Prism Express

The folks at Prism Express have added a new list, SCIENCE-WEEK ("A Free Weekly Digest of the News of Science"), to their two older lists, NEW-ARTICLES and NEW-BOOKS. Each issue of SCIENCE-WEEK offers nearly a dozen abstracts of current articles in a range of scientific disciplines, along with citations to the original sources. NEW-ARTICLES and NEW-BOOKS list recent additions to the literature of several disciplines. Announcements are organized into general categories such as Literature and the Arts; Culture, Social Issues, Psychology; and History, Politics, Economics, and Philosophy. With these free services, users can stay current simply by reading weekly email. [ML]

To subscribe to the Prism Express lists, send email to:

[prismx@earthlink.net](mailto:prismx@earthlink.net)

with any of the following in the body of the message:

SUB SCIENCE-WEEK

SUB NEW-ARTICLES

SUB NEW-BOOKS

## General Interest

### Supreme Court Overturns CDA, Decides Two Other Major Cases

<http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/supct.June.1997.html>

The Legal Information Institute at Cornell Law School has posted opinions, syllabi, and related documents for three major Supreme Court cases decided on June 26: 96-511 (Communication Decency Act), 96-110 (physician-assisted suicide), and 96-1671 (line-item veto). Non-Java and WordPerfect versions are also available. [MD]

### Earth Summit +5—United Nations

<http://www.un.org/dpcsd/earthsummit/>

Agenda 21 Reports—United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992 Earth Summit)

Gopher access:

<gopher://gopher.un.org:70/11/conf/unced>

**gopher to:** [gopher.un.org](gopher://gopher.un.org)

**select:** United Nations Conferences/UNCED 1992

The first Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992, concentrated on “address[ing] urgent problems of environmental protection and socio-economic development,” and produced Agenda 21, a “plan for achieving sustainable development in the 21st century.” A Special Session of the UN General Assembly met in New York from June 23-27, 1997 to assess the implementation of Agenda 21; the Earth Summit +5 site records that session. Highlights include selected country profiles that document progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 goals (provided by those countries), and geographically arranged Agenda 21 success stories. This site also contains pointers to all the documents related to the session, including intergovernmental organizations (IGO) reports and UN reports on Agenda 21 implementation. [JS]

### Culinary herbFAQ

<http://sunsite.unc.edu/herbmed/culiherb.html>

Readers interested in herbs and the culinary arts can explore Culinary herbFAQ, a site maintained by Henriette Kress that provides information on a wide array of herbs for eating, drinking, gifts (potpourri, bath salts, etc.), ground cover, and shade. Composed of long and short contributions from listserv members, herbFAQ offers useful advice on herb-related topics that spans from seeding

to transplanting to harvesting and documents discussions on a variety of herb problems. Readers may need to look a bit for a particular herb as items are randomly arranged within the seven sections of this FAQ. Links to Medicinal herbFAQ can also be found at this site. [ATW]

### *LIFE Magazine Photo Essays*

<http://pathfinder.com/Life/essay/photoessay.html>

*LIFE Magazine*

<http://pathfinder.com/Life/lifehome.html>

The sixteen full text photo essays presently available at Pathfinder's *LIFE Magazine* site are excellent examples of American photo journalism, a genre forged by *LIFE Magazine*, one of the oldest American photo journalism print publications. Recently added essays include "Star City: Comrades in Space," "Miracle Zoo Babies," and "The Healing Revolution." Older photo essays are available on an eclectic array of subjects including Prince Charles and Diana, Bosnia, and the race horse Seattle Slew. Cover photos from the magazine going back to the 1930's are incorporated into many of the other features at the main LIFE site. [JS]

### Birdfeeder—Birdwatching Mailing List

Wild bird enthusiasts can consult the Birdfeeder mailing list to learn how to attract birds to their property, feed them, provide housing for them to nest in, or just find out what to look for when watching wild birds as they go about their daily business. While many other birding lists discourage discussing the feeding of wild birds, the birdfeeder list makes a point of encouraging it, hence the name. Many other aspects of birding are open for discussion as well. [JS]

To subscribe send email to: [birdfeeder-request@userhome.com](mailto:birdfeeder-request@userhome.com)

In the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE

## Network Tools

### RealPlayer 4.0 Final Release

Information:

<http://www.real.com/>

Download site:

<http://www.real.com/products/player/index.html>

The 4.0 release version of Progressive Networks' RealPlayer (discussed in the February 21, 1997 issue of the Scout Report) is available for downloading from the Progressive site. Both Windows and Macintosh users can enjoy stereo sound features (for machines that support it) and "dynamic stream thinning" that "adjusts the video frame rate for both live and on-demand content in real-time." As with all streaming audio and video products, quality is dependent on many factors, including the speed of your connection and processor. "Destination buttons" allow RealPlayer users to select programs provided by over 35 Progressive content partners including ABC, CNN, ESPN, and ZDnet. A more full featured RealPlayer is available for a fee. [JS]

## Dummies Daily—The Online Resource for the Rest of Us

<http://www.dummiesdaily.com/>

Provided by PC World Online and IDG Books Worldwide (publishers of the popular “for Dummies” series), Dummies Daily allows Interested Internauts to subscribe to any of six electronic newsletters (Microsoft Word and Excel, Quicken, The Internet, Web After Five, and Computing Basics), and receive a quick, simple tip every business day. These friendly and informative tips, written with a keen awareness of how intimidating computers can be to new users, are excellent for beginners. [JS]

## Where Are They Now

Volume 1, Number 9: The Scout Report for June 24, 1994

<http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/report/archive/6-24-94.html>

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

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

National Library of Canada

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/>

UNICEF

<http://www.unicef.org/ainfo/>

<gopher://hqfaus01.unicef.org/>

[gopher to: hqfaus01.unicef.org](gopher://hqfaus01.unicef.org)

These three major organizations were announced as gopher sites in the June 24, 1994 issue. All three now have web sites and one organization (UNICEF) is also keeping its gopher site current. IEEE is a clearinghouse of information on the engineers' organization. Contents include jobs listings, standards information (including a recent standards status report), publications, technical societies, and student activities. The National Library of Canada site is a gateway to Canadian information that extends beyond the Library and its holdings to meta-pages on Canadian government and several Canadian digital information projects. UNICEF maintains its gopher and web site in parallel and offers access to full text publications. One of the more important of these is the recently released *State of the World's Children 1997*, which concentrates on the issue of child labor. [JS]

## Scout Report Information

Feedback on the Scout Report

**Please send comments, questions, suggestions to:**

[scout@internic.net](mailto:scout@internic.net)

Subscribing to the Scout Report

**Send email to:**

[listserv@internic.net](mailto:listserv@internic.net)

**In the body of the message type:**

info scout-report

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

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

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

The Scout Report Online

**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](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/](ftp://ftp.ds.internic.net/pub/list_archives/scout-report.archive/)

## Credits and Copyright

The Scout Report (ISSN 1092-3861) is published every Friday of the year except the last Friday of December by Net Scout, a program of the InterNIC located in the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Computer Sciences.

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Executive Editor  | Susan Calcari      |
| Editor            | Jack Solock        |
| Production Editor | Jeannine Ramsey    |
| Contributors      | Teri Boomsma       |
|                   | Michael de Nie     |
|                   | Aimée D. Glassel   |
|                   | Matthew J. Livesey |
|                   | Amy Tracy Wells    |

Copyright Susan Calcari, 1994-1997. Permission is granted to make and distribute verbatim copies of the Scout Report provided the copyright notice and this paragraph is preserved on all copies. The InterNIC provides information about the Internet to the US research and education community under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation: NCR-9218742. The Government has certain rights in this material.

Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Wisconsin - Madison, the National Science Foundation, AT&T, or Network Solutions, Inc.