I own a Zenith VP2000 machine that has not been working for about 2 years. The sound no longer works, but the picture plays fine. I took it to a local electronics repair shop where I am fairly good friends with the repairer and he said that one of the I.C. chips controlling the audio had gone bad. He said that the chip wasn't in any of his catalogs. Does anybody know a source where these or suitable replacements are available?

This sounds like a failure of the Audio FM Demodulator IC, which is one of the more common chips to fail in the RCA F/G players and clones like the Zenith VP2000. Failure of this chip results in complete loss of audio on mono players or loss of one channel of audio on stereo players, depending on which of the two chips in the player has failed. RCA's stock no. for this chip is 149035 and they also gave it a generic industry stock number of CA3215E. A comparison of the circuit diagrams in the Hitachi, Toshiba, and RCA service manuals indicates that those players using a 16-pin Audio FM Demodulator IC all contain the same chip. Some of the companies listed on the CED Player Parts Sources page (try Fox-International first) may still have the part available:

http://www.cedmagic.com/home/ced-parts-links.html

Although the IC is generally the most likely culprit, it's also important to test the components attached to the IC to verify that the chip itself has failed and not one of the peripheral components. The above audio demodulator IC contains a Voltage Controlled Oscillator that is set via an external variable capacitor. If this setting is off the VCO may fail to function properly.

--Tom Howe
The current Featured CED at CED Magic provides information on RCA's manufacturing facilities in Bloomington and Indianapolis. The disc plant was commonly called Rockville Road by RCA employees, and I was pretty surprised when the first match in a Google search on "rockville road" brought up a page from a realty company presently offering the plant for sale or lease (complete with aerial photograph):

http://www.summitoncor.com/property/in_7900_sale.html

Summit Realty may be holding open houses so people can inspect this 561,000 square foot complex, and if that's the case, some of the subscribers to CED Digest who live nearby might find it interesting to take a look. Although it's been 13 and a half years since the last CED's were pressed, there might still be some remnants of those days visible in the complex. The Featured CED page provides a photo showing the appearance of the plant in the CED days.

--Tom
http://www.cedmagic.com

----- Original Message -----
From: "Alan Risley" <arisley>
To: <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Fw: RCA 75 & 400 PLAYER AND 245 CED DISCS FOR SALE IND OR ALL
Date: Mon, 10 Jan 2000 20:49:53 -0500

> ALAN RISLEY- arisley
> 1. I HAVE A RCA 075 FOR SALE. NEEDS A LITTLE WORK, BUT
> BASICALLY SOUND. $50
> 2. HERE IS THE LATEST UPDATED LISTOF CEDS. I HAVE 225 DISCS AS FOLLOWS:
CED DISCS-TITLE ALAN RISLEY-01/10/00
AGAINST ALL ODDS
AIRPLANE
AIRPLANE II
AIRPORT
AMERICAN GIGILO
AMERICAN GRAFITTI
AMERICAN IN PARIS,AN
ANGEL OF HEAT
ANIMAL HOUSE
APOCALYPSE NOW
ARThUR
BACHELOR PARTY
BACK TO THE FUTURE

----- Original Message -----
From: "Alan Risley" <arisley>
To: <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: RCA 75 AND 225 CED DISCS FOR SALE INDIVIDUAL OR ALL

> ALAN RISLEY- arisley
> 1. I HAVE A RCA 075 FOR SALE. NEEDS A LITTLE WORK, BUT
> BASICALLY SOUND. $50
> 2. HERE IS THE LATEST UPDATED LISTOF CEDS. I HAVE 225 DISCS AS FOLLOWS:
CED DISCS-TITLE ALAN RISLEY-01/10/00
AGAINST ALL ODDS
AIRPLANE
AIRPLANE II
AIRPORT
AMERICAN GIGILO
AMERICAN GRAFITTI
AMERICAN IN PARIS,AN
ANGEL OF HEAT
ANIMAL HOUSE
APOCALYPSE NOW
ARThUR
BACHELOR PARTY
BACK TO THE FUTURE
BATTLESTAR GALLACTICA
BENJI
BEVERLY HILLS COP
BLACK HOLE
BLACK STALLION, THE
BLAME IT ON RIO
BLAZING SADDLES
BLUE HAWAII
BLUE THUNDER
BLUES BROTHERS, THE
BOYS FROM BRAZIL, THE
BREAKFAST CLUB
BREAKIN'
BRIGADOON
BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID
CALIGULA
CAPRICORN ONE
CARNAL KNOWLEDGE
CASABLANCA
CHARIOTS OF FIRE
CHINA SYNDROME
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND - SPECIAL EDITION
COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER, THE
COMA
DEEP, THE
DEERHUNTER, THE
DIAMOND, NEIL - LOVE AT THE GREEK
DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER
DIRTY DOZEN
DOCTOR NO
DOCTOR ZHIVAGO
DUCHESS AND THE DIRTWATER FOX, THE
EDDIE AND THE CRUISERS
ELECTRIC HORSEMAN, THE
ELVIS - 1968 COMEBACK
ELVIS - ALOHA FROM HAWAII
ELVIS - ELVIS ON TOUR
EMERALD FOREST, THE
EMMANUELLE
EMMANUELLE - IN BANGKOK
EMPIRE STRIKES BACK, THE
ENTER THE DRAGON
FAME
FANTASTIC VOYAGE
FIREFOX
FLASHDANCE
FONDA, JANE - WORKOUT
FOOTLOOSE
FOR YOUR EYES ONLY
FORMULA, THE
FORTY EIGHT (48) HOURS
FRENCH CONNECTION, THE
FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE
FUGITIVE, THE - FINAL EPISODE
FUN IN ACAPULCO
FUTURE WORLD
G I BLUES
GAS PUMP GIRLS
GHOSTBUSTERS
GODFATHER, THE-PART I
GODFATHER, THE-PART II
GOLDFINGER
GREASE
GREEN BERETS, THE
GREYSTOKE- THE LEGEND OF TARZAN
GUNS OF NAVARONE, THE
HANOVER STREET
HAPPY HOOKER GOES TO WASHINGTON
HAWAII
HEART LIKE A WHEEL
HEAVEN CAN WAIT
HIGH ANXIETY
HIGH ROAD TO CHINA
HIGH SIERRA
HISTORY OF THE WORLD, THE-PART I
INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS (1978)
IRMA LA DOUCE
JACKSON, MICHAEL- THRILLER
JAILHOUSE ROCK
JAWS
JAWS 2
JAWS 3
JAZZ SINGER, THE (NEIL DIAMOND)
JOHN, ELTON- VISIONS
KARATE KID
KEY LARGO
KILLING FIELDS, THE
KING KONG
LADY CHATTERLY'S LOVER
LASSITER
LAST AMERICAN VIRGIN
LAST STARFIGHTER, THE
LAWRENCE OF ARABIA
LITTLE BIG MAN
LIVE AND LET DIE
LOGAN'S RUN
LONGEST DAY, THE
LOVE ME TENDER
MALTESE FALCON, THE
MAN WITH THE GOLDEN GUN, THE
MASH, MOVIE
MASH: GOODBYE, FAREWELL, AMEN
MEATBALLS
MISSING IN ACTION
MOONRAKER
MOSCOW ON THE HUDSON
MURDER BY DEATH
MURPHY, EDDIE- DELIRIOUS
NASHVILLE
NORMA RAE
NUTCRACKER, THE (BARISHNIKOV)
OCTOPUSSY
OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN, AN
OKLAHOMA
ON GOLDEN POND
ON THE BEACH
PINK PANTHER STRIKES AGAIN, THE
PINK PANTHER, THE
PLACES IN THE HEART
PLANET OF THE APES
POLICE ACADEMY
PRIVATE BENJAMIN
PRIVATE LESSONS
PRIVATE SCHOOL
PRYOR, RICHARD-LIVE IN CONCERT
RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
RAMBO-FIRST BLOOD
RAMBO-FIRST BLOOD-PART II
RED DAWN
RETURN OF THE PINK PANTHER, THE
REVENGE OF THE PINK PANTHER, THE
RHINESTONE
RICH AND FAMOUS
RISKY BUSINESS
ROAD WARRIOR
ROCKY
ROCKY II
ROCKY III
ROLLERBALL
ROMANCING THE STONE
RUN SILENT, RUN DEEP
RUSSIANS ARE COMING, THE
SANDS OF IWO JIMA
SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE-VOL I-GEORGE CARLIN, STEVE MARTIN
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE-VOL II-RICHARD PRYOR, STEVE MARTIN
SEVEN YEAR ITCH
SEX ON THE RUN
SHOGUN (2 HRS.)
SHOT IN THE DARK, A
SLUMBER PARTY 57
SONGWRITER, THE
SPLASH
SPRING BREAK
STALAG 17
STAR 80
STAR TREK 1-THE MOTION PICTURE
STAR TREK 2-THE WRATH OF KHAN
STAR TREK 3-THE SEARCH FOR SPOCK
STAR TREK TV-AMOK TIME
STAR TREK TV-BALANCE OF TERROR
STAR TREK TV-CHANGLING, THE
STAR TREK TV-CITY ON THE EDGE OF FOREVER
STAR TREK TV-JOURNEY TO BABEL
STAR TREK TV-LET THAT BE YOUR LAST BATTLEFIELD
STAR TREK TV-MENAGERIE, THE-PARTS I & II
STAR TREK TV-MIRROR, MIRROR
STAR TREK TV-SPACE SEED
own rca & zenith players and hundreds of movies, from annie to cheech and chongs. interested in selling
Hello All:

New on the CED Magic site are instructions for replacing the flat belt and pulley in Toshiba, Elmo, and Wards players with a round belt and grooved pulley. This fixes the problem with the turntable drive belt falling off that has existed ever since the Toshiba OEM belt became unavailable and narrower stock belts have had to be used. Here's the link:


--Tom

I just picked up an SKT400 sans remote control unit.

Are there any off the shelf universal remotes that will work with this unit?

Thanks

-Pete
Subject: videodisc transfer to digital
Cc: Aimee Glassel <aglassel>

[NOTE: Please reply to me directly as I am not subscribed to this list - aglassel@cs.wisc.edu]

I am trying to find out information about digitizing a videodisc. I have a videodisc of 20,000 images made from 16mm film and now need to digitize those images - preferably directly from the videodisc.

Does anyone know of any vendors/businesses that do this?

Thanks.

Aimee Glassel
aglassel@cs.wisc.edu

-------------------------------------------------------------
Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 12:21:55 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Re: Remote for SKT400

Pete and All:

There are programmable remotes on Ebay going for about $5 each that provide most of the control functions for the 400-series players. These are 76-button CRK55B units, and there are a couple Ebay sellers regularly offering these, one of whom indicated he has an almost unlimited supply. The remotes are late generation tabletop models, and the surplus may have arisen when RCA switched to handhelds in the early 90's. These can be code programmed to control a variety of VCRs and cable boxes, although the VCR2 button needs to be left at the default to control the 400 player. Here are URLs to the sellers (cyberads2000 and buy) who have auctions up now:

<http://cgi6.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?MfcISAPICommand=ViewListedItems&userid=cyberads2000&include=0&since=-1&sort=2&rows=200>

<http://cgi6.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?MfcISAPICommand=ViewListedItems&userid=buy&include=0&since=-1&sort=2&rows=200>

Note that seller cyberads2000 has both CRK55B and CRK55R models up for auction. The later is a Proscan model with a lot of the buttons missing, including the REPT button that permits programming a band or time sequence that repeats.

KEY EQUIVALENTS BETWEEN 400 REMOTE (CRK36A OR CRK36B) AND CRK55B:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRK36</th>
<th>CRK55B (set to VCR2)</th>
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<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 9</td>
<td>0 - 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROG</td>
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<td>SEEK</td>
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<td>TIME</td>
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<td>BAND</td>
<td>BAND</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLEAR</td>
<td>CLEAR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
So all functions are available except PAGE (and previous/next page) plus the two visual search speeds. On interactive discs the PLAY-> button can be substituted for NEXT by tapping it lightly, although there isn't a way to move backwards through a sequence of pages. The "K" and "M" keys when pressed actually initiate a seek towards the previous/next band but with most discs being unbanded, these perform the equivalent of the blanked high speed search on RCA's 100 and 200 series players. Note that the "M" key will seek to the end of the disc and initiate reject if you don't press PLAY-> at some time before that. In any case, it's actually advantageous to use blanked search over visual, as kicking the stylus over the groove ridges causes slight ridge damage that accumulates over time. RCA was aware of this and would have minimized it in later players as detailed in US Patent No. 4587570 in the CED Patents Table.

Another interesting item that cyberads2000 has up for auction now is an RCA camcorder character generator. I got one of these on the chance that its character generator chip is identical to the OSD chip in the 400-series players, and though both IC's are 24-pin, one is made by Motorola and the other by Hitachi; so they don't appear to be identical. But this unit is a nice add-on to RCA camcorders from the CED era.

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 4
They have all the machinery to do any type of conversion you would want..... at a price.

Good Luck,
A. Clegg

Date: Mon, 31 Jan 2000 23:22:47 -0800
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
From: James Arland Curiel <jacuriel>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 4

Dear Tom,

Thanks for the sending the belts, I have already used them, and will need more.

I wanted to share this with you and others.

I recently purchased sets of discs off of e-bay, and some of the discs obviously are coming from smoking households. These discs reek with cigarette smoke smell, and they have a very fine dust on them.

This dust creates a very grainy picture, gunks up the stylus, and makes the disc skip a lot. Rather than throw the discs away, I decided to perform an experiment.

I purchased a Nitty Gritty cleaning machine four months ago to clean my vinyl LP's. This machine is a nice piece of engineering with a special lip with non-abrasive fibres that has vacuum suction. A non-residue cleaning solution is pumped to the fibres which clean the record as it spins. Then you push the power button forward and the vacuum suction is turns on and the cleaning solution and gunk in the grooves are sucked out.

I decided to clean two of the video discs covered with the smoke dust using the Nitty Gritty machine and the experiment was a success. I used the 45/78 adaptor for holding my CED's in place because it works by pressure. Skipping from the dust was virtually eliminated.

Nitty Gritty is on the web and their machines start around $200. Maybe more people should contact them and ask them to make an adaptor for CED's. I am.

Peace.

signed James

Date: Tue, 01 Feb 2000 16:10:01 -0800
From: Barry Rawlins <tralfraz>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Let It Be

I just bought a SelectaVision version of The Beatles "Let It Be". Little did I realize the quandry I've put myself in. I don't have a player. My friend, who's player I was going to borrow, doesn't have a SelectaVision (he laughed) player. They don't make 'em anymore and I
really don't want to buy one. All I wanted was a few good VHS copies. Do you know anyone in the San Francisco Bay Area that has one to rent for a weekend?
Barry Rawlins
Santa Clara, CA

Date: Sat, 05 Feb 2000 14:36:26 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: History Repeating Itself? Betamax and DVD Lawsuits

Hello All:

You may have heard about the suit filed by some Hollywood studios against a number of web sites providing access to a program called DeCSS that cracks the DVD encryption code, permitting a DVD to be copied to a computer hard disk. This program originated as a means for computers running the Linux operating system to play back DVD's.

Obviously Hollywood doesn't like this, because if cheap DVD-R's become available, it will possible to copy DVD's the same way audio CD's are being copied now. The current suit has some interesting parallels to the Betamax suit twenty years ago.

To summarize that suit, Universal filed suit against Sony claiming the ability to copy over-the-air broadcasts was a copyright violation. This trial started on Jan. 30th, 1979, and in October '79 the judge ruled against Universal stating that it was OK for private individuals to make copies of broadcasts for their own personal use. At that point most people thought the issue was over, but on Oct. 19th, 1981 ("Black Monday" on Sony's calendar) the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the earlier ruling, in effect stating that off-air recording was illegal and sent the case back to district court to determine relief. This of course set off a flurry of speculation about what would happen, ranging from an outright ban on VCR's to a royalty on every blank tape sold. The issue was finally resolved by the U.S. Supreme Court on Jan. 17th, 1984 when they upheld the original court decision. There is even speculation that RCA may have not canceled the CED system in April 1984 if this final ruling had been different, as CED sales would have gone up if no more VCR's could be purchased.

After the 1981 ruling, MPAA president Jack Valenti (also involved in the current DVD case) suggested a royalty of $50 on each VCR and $1 to $2 on each blank tape. Perhaps some sort of future royalty system is the goal of the current suit, as it's not clear how the DeCSS genie can ever be put back in the bottle.

A crack like this may eventually come along for DIVX discs as well, as these are essentially DVD's with more robust encryption keys on the video files contained on the discs.

There's a lot of information on the DeCSS suit on the internet. The Electronic Frontier Foundation is one jumping off point.

http://www.eff.org
To: ceds@teleport.com  
Date: Mon, 7 Feb 2000 22:58:35 -0600  
Subject: HI THERE TOM  
From: w-corleone  

I have had problems with my ced they would skip and they would have poor visual quality, and I decided to do something about it. I took 2 of the ced and pulled out the disc's themselves, and washed them down with dawn dish soap, but any degreasing dish soap will work, and I rinched them off under warm, not hot, but warm water. I dryed them off with some fotton soft typoel toilet paper, and then I wiped them down with rubbing alachol. Then I dryed them again. This worked for somethings, but it didn't work for the visable scratches. Radio shack makes a CD/Lasrdisc cleaning kit. it comes with cleaning wands, they look like oversized q-tips, and polishing cloths; it also has a cleaning soulition, and a scratch remover past. That works wonders on monor scratches in my ced's, and it is only around $10.00 Just thought you could use this information  

william  

---

From: "Peter Veach" <pete>  
To: "CED Digest" <digest@cedmagic.com>  
Subject: SKT400 Player  
Date: Tue, 8 Feb 2000 03:33:39 -0600  
Importance: Normal  

I have received my SKT400. Wow, nice machine.  
The unit required some minor repair after shipping. The turntable had settled and was rubbing on the deck. The spindle had been driven past the keeper. Also the Stylus cantilever had come apart from the stylus housing. Pretty minor stuff.  
The performance is noticeably better than the SGT250. Also on a few discs that skipped rather badly on the 250 play much better on the 400. The color is better, and the picture is "cleaner".  
It's too bad that so many of the disc's out there are damaged. Some of them obviously were subject to lots of abuse.  

Looking for a good copy of "The Mountain Men", email if you have a copy to spare.  

-Pete
Hello All:

In keeping with their push to be an innovator again, RCA (Thomson) displayed a number of cool concept products at the recent CES in Las Vegas. At this URL is a picture of a CD player that you lay down on its side to become a DVD player with built-in screen.

http://www.zdnet.com/zdtv/freshgear/pipeline/story/0,3679,2425635,00.html

And here is a DVD Recorder/Projector combo with the DVD and old RCA lightning bolt logo adjacent to each other.

http://www.zdnet.com/zdtv/freshgear/products/jump/0,3681,2419489,00.html

--Tom

In a message dated 2/13/00 William wrote:

<< but any degreasing dish soap will work >>

This sounds like a very bad idea to me. It would remove all the lubricant that was placed on the disc at the factory.

Glenn

In a message dated 2/13/00 Pete wrote:

<< Some of them obviously were subject to lots of abuse. >>

I remember in the 80's when I lived in Sacramento Advanced TV was very much
into CED's and carried almost every title for sale and rented them all as well. I tried renting a couple of times and the discs were in such horrible condition they actually would not play for more than a few minutes without skipping. It was so bad I could not watch the disc side all the way through. Renting CED's was a very bad idea!

Glenn

From: "gfearn" <gfearn>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: Subscribe
Date: Mon, 14 Feb 2000 21:19:46 -0800

Hello,
My name is Gord and I have a fairly good collection of CED movies. I enjoy this hobby but have a couple of questions. I presently have a Toshiba VP100C player and an RCA Player SFT100W player. The Toshiba works great but I'm afraid the RCA stylus is wore out. My questions are: How long can I expect these machines to last if I get new styluses? And how do I know if the belts are wore out? I would hate to spend $$ on a new stylus to find out the belts are gone. Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

From: THX70MMDTS
Date: Fri, 18 Feb 2000 02:50:29 EST
Subject: VHD inquiry
To: digest@cedmagic.com

Are there any fellow CED collectors that happen to have information regarding the VHD VideoDisc system? I saw it displayed at the 1981 or 1982 Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago and have a color brochure from the VHD consortium announcing players and discs. Though it never did make it to the U.S. market, I know VHD did sell in Japan for a number of years. I'm interested in obtaining a VHD player and a handful of discs. Anybody out there have any suggestions or possible help on this quest?

Thanks,
Tony Cook
thx70mmmts@aol.com

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 7
To: ceds@teleport.com, tom@cedmagic.com

In a message dated 2/20/00 10:42:58 AM Pacific Standard Time, ceds@teleport.com writes:

> Are there any fellow CED collectors that happen to have information regarding the VHD VideoDisc system? I saw it displayed at the 1981 or 1982 Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago and have a color brochure from the VHD consortium announcing players and discs. Though it never did make it to the U.S. market, I know VHD did sell in Japan for a number of years. I'm interested in obtaining a VHD player and a handful of discs. Anybody out there have any suggestions or possible help on this quest?
>
> Thanks,
>
> Tony Cook
> thx70mmdts

Yes, Tony, there is VHD. It was championed by JVC and at the last minute they decided not to bring it into the USA market. And, in Japan, it was only briefly used for playback of movies and general entertainment. The main usage for VHD during the 80s and early 90s was for Karaoke. You can still purchase these products in Japan. Also, some websites here in the USA are peddling various Karaoke products. In California, LA area in particular, there is quite a lot of Karaoke business still going on.

The best place to get started is to communicate with JVC (Victor Company of Japan, Yokohama) who can lead you along the way. Unfortunately, I don't have any contacts for you. The ones that I used to know have all retired (and in many cases passed away, such as Mr. Inoue, a giant of a leader fromJVC during the early days of video disc developments).

Good luck,
Almon H. Clegg

From: ChadBeaky
Date: Tue, 22 Feb 2000 13:19:10 EST
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 7
To: ceds@teleport.com

I HAVE A THREE PLAYERS, MY QUESTION IS HOW DO YOU REMOVE THE TURNTABLE THE SPINDLE HAS TWO SCREWS BUT THEY WON'T BUDGE

From: "kathy martin" <kmartin16>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Wanted RCA CED player
Date: Tue, 22 Feb 2000 11:20:08 PST

I would like to obtain a front loading RCA CED player from the 80's. It should be in good condition and in working order. Please respond directly to me at kmartin16@hotmail.com
still having problems removing the turntable in my 100w Can you help me out chadbeaky@aol.com

Richard Sonnenfeldt, who was in charge of VideoDisc operations at RCA for several years, was interviewed on the History Channel's "History Undercover" Show that aired today. This show had nothing to do with VideoDiscs, but concerned the life of Albert Goering, brother of Hermann Goering (Hitler's right-hand man). Richard Sonnenfeldt was chief interpreter at the Nuremburg Trials and eventually determined the innocence of Albert Goering.

After the trials, Sonnenfeldt became an engineer and rose thorough the ranks at RCA, picking up a few dozen patents along the way. He was in charge of VideoDisc operations from 1975 until 1979, and is the one usually seen in publicity photos from this period. He was replaced by Roy Pollack for the final push to market phase, possibly for political reasons, and went on to work at NBC.

The History Undercover broadcast "The Real Albert Goering" will repeat on Saturday, March 4 at 3 pm ET/12 pm PT.

--Tom

I am interested in selling my collection of CEDs. Any assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely,
From: "Justin Slotman" <justinslot>
To: ceds@teleport.com
Subject: Question for the list
Date: Mon, 28 Feb 2000 13:04:31 PST

I know this is covered somewhere but I can't remember where. What happens when I'm watching a disc sometimes is --at intervals between twenty and five seconds-- the whole picture gets all wavy and there's a kind of rainbow effect. The sound isn't really affected. I think this means that some internal part is going bad; I think it's the belt but I can't remember exactly. Any help would be appreciated, and advice, too, if you think I should just replace the part in question or if there's some way to shore it up. Thanks. I mean, what's the point of having Empire Strikes Back on CED if it's that inconsistent --never mind some of the obscure stuff I want to watch.

Justin Slotman

Subject: Parker TV in Hawaiian Gardens in CA
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 00 08:45:33 -0800
From: "Robert P. Roehm" <furry>
To: "Tom Howe" <ceds@teleport.com>, <tom@cedmagic.com>

Parker's TV in Hawaiian Gardens in CA has a collection of CEDs. He won't sell them for less than $10 each. They all appear to be in EXCELLENT condition. No label wear at all.

He has a player in the back, also in need of parts.

Parker's TV (562) 431-3315
12016 Carson St, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716

Here is the URL to look at.

http://www.smartpages.com/directory/searchresult.jhtml?ListingId=40516953

He's not connected to the Web at all. Somewhat of an old diehard.

He also has some antique television sets, even a tester for old TV and radio tubes. Call him or send him some snailmail.

Date: Sat, 04 Mar 2000 15:58:22 -0800
From: Neil Wagner <orac>
To: *CED Digest <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Platter Height Question

I see on Tom's web page that the platter height for direct drive models should be one full turn of the screw beyond the point where the platter just clears the surrounding structure.

What happens when the height is misadjusted too high? Does it lead
to playback problems, and if so, what is the progression of these problems as the height is set higher and higher?

Neil <orac@pcmagic.net>

Date: Sat, 04 Mar 2000 16:05:28 -0800
From: Neil Wagner <orac>
To: *CED Digest <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Side indicator probs

My SJT200 has begun to intermittently not detect side 2. That is, the little red light indicates side 1 when I've inserted side 2 of a disc.

Just wondering what's involved in fixing this. A simple bending of a metal sensor or something along those lines? I want to know what I'll be in for when I open it up.

Neil <orac@pcmagic.net>

Date: Sat, 04 Mar 2000 16:42:37 -0800
From: tom@cedmagic.com (Tom Howe)
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: RE: Turntable Spindle Cap Removal on RCA F/G Players

>I HAVE A THREE PLAYERS, MY QUESTION IS HOW DO YOU REMOVE THE TURNTABLE THE SPINDLE HAS TWO SCREWS BUT THEY WON'T BUDGE

The screws holding the spindle cap in place should come right off with a Phillips No. 1 screw driver. A reason for their refusal to do so could be fused threads from being overtightened on a previous removal. Using a No. 1 driver, you should apply whatever force is necessary to either loosen the screws or strip the slots in the screw heads. If the screws come out, inspect the threads for damage and replace if necessary. If the screw slots strip, a Dremel tool with a cone-shaped grinding attachment can be used to carefully grind the screw out. Then a drill and tap can be used to re-establish the threads in the turntable yoke.

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 9

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 10  3/11/2000

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From: zachd
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Date: Sun, 5 Mar 2000 21:59:18 -0600
Greetings fellow CED collectors!

Got some hard to find CED's up for auction on EBAY and some others on my web page. I guess it's a good time to buy CED's because I was checking old prices and they don't seem very high. Will make half-price deals on the titles listed on my web page if you purchase more than 5 of them. Here are the links:

I will soon have the RCA video preview album up also! Duran Duran, Paul McCartney and Wings Rock Show, the Police, and "Picture Music" featuring bands from the 80's.

Ebay auctions:
http://cgi6.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?MfcISAPICmd=viewListedItems&userid=larrystarr&include=0&since=-1&sort=2&rows=25

Titles for sale on my web page:
http://fc.net/~zachd/ced/sale.htm

Also might trade on most wanted titles:
http://fc.net/~zachd/ced/want.htm

Date: Thu, 09 Mar 2000 18:37:14 -0800
From: Neil Wagner <orac>
To: *CED Digest <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Caddy variations

I recently picked up another copy of The Who's "The Kids Are Alright" movie on CED. This one differed slightly from the other two copies that I have.

Besides the blues on the caddy label having a greenish tinge and the reds having an orangeish tinge (a result of sun exposure, I'm guessing), the new copy does not have a handhold recess on the label end of the caddy. The label is the same as the others except doesn't have the area trimmed away where you'd grab the disc for inserting and removal. Likewise, by feel, I can tell the plastic of the caddy itself doesn't have the recess. There doesn't appear to be any other label under the one for "The Kids Are Alright."

Is this a common variation in disc caddies?

Neil <orac@pmagic.net>
>I know this is covered somewhere but I can't remember where. What happens
>when I'm watching a disc sometimes is --at intervals between twenty and five
>seconds-- the whole picture gets all wavy and there's a kind of rainbow
effect. The sound isn't really affected. I think this means that some
>internal part is going bad; I think it's the belt but I can't remember
>exactly. Any help would be appreciated, and advice, too, if you think I
>should just replace the part in question or if there's some way to shore it
>up. Thanks. I mean, what's the point of having Empire Strikes Back on CED if
>it's that inconsistent --never mind some of the obscure stuff I want to
>watch.

This rainbow effect occurs on RCA F/G players when the belt-driven
turntable is not spinning at 450RPM. There can be a number of causes that
are covered on the Repair Solutions page at CED Magic. Here's the direct
URL to this specific problem:


--Tom

************************************************************************
************************************************************************
CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 11  3/18/2000

From: "Neil Bulk" <indysolo>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: James Bond CED Movies
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2000 07:23:33 PST

I am looking for the following James Bond CED's. They are:

-Diamonds are Forever (CBS/FOX edition)
-A View to a Kill

If anyone has these please contact me.

Thank you!

Neil

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From: "Dan White" <ufoengines>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Forbidden Planet
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2000 11:08:57 PST

Howdy! Anybody have a ced video of "Forbidden Planet" that I can buy? Dan
Hello Everyone

We are moving and do not have room for our video discs and players. We are offering our wonderful collection for sale. We want to sell everything as one collection.

4 Video Disc CED players: Models:
   SJT 400 stereo (1), SJT 090 (1) and SFT 100 W (2)
We have played two of these players in our home for a long time. We know they work. The other two have been stored in case we needed them. We haven’t used them for a while so we are uncertain about them – we assume they still work but there is no absolute guarantee.

We have 434 various video disc for sale (7 films are duplicates)

These disc have MANY collectible titles – from oldies, western, science fiction, musicals, war, family, adventure, etc.
We started collecting them when they first cam out on the market and continued up until the late 80s. We have them numbered (on spine) and listed in a catalog so they would be easy to store and easy to find when wanted.

A sampling of videos:
   High Noon, Shane, Stagecoach, Bridge on the River Kwai, The Longest Day, MASH, Sergeant York, The Birds, Forbidden Planet, King Kong (oldie and newer version), Planet of the Apes, Star Trek (motion pictures plus TV series), War of the Worlds, African Queen, Arsenic and Old Lace, Casablanca, Citizen Kane, Fiddler on the Roof, Grease, King and I, Seven Bridges for Seven Brothers, Show Boat, South Pacific, West Side Story, Several early Disney movies, Wizard of Oz, Cartoon (varied), Ben Hur, The Ten Commandants, Jewel of the Nile, Romancing the Stone, James Bond (8 titles), Raiders of the Lost Ark

You must see list to appreciate the variety.

We want to sell everything in one sell. We would like to take bids on the collection. We will start at .50c each for the discs and $15.00 each for the players. The total would then amount to beginning bid of $277.00 for the package. Buyer must pay shipping – they are heavy.

Thank you
Judith

judithbowman@hotmail.com
Hello All:

This is a new grooved VideoDisc system that should be available for purchase in the near future. The discs are 33.3 RPM vinyl LP's that are played on an audio turntable which attaches to an interface box and displays the video on TV. Needless to say, this is low resolution B&W video not nearly as good as RCA's CED system. It is being promoted as a contemporary art form. This might seem like a strange idea, but the Fisher-Price PXL 2000 Camcorder from the late 1980's (which records B&W video on audio cassettes) has been a hot collectible for this very purpose. The VinylVideo web site has some samples and more information on the Homekit:

http://www.vinylvideo.com

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 11

From: KatGlen1
Date: Sun, 19 Mar 2000 19:26:51 EST
Subject: Re: Vinyl Video
To: ceds@teleport.com

The Wacky World of Vinyl Video web site is fascinating to look at. But what a shame all of us didn't see it for the first time on April 1st....April Fools' Day!

Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2000 12:35:25 -0600
From: David Potochick <potochdj>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 11
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>

I am looking for these movies on CED or any format for that matter... If anyone can help me out, it would be greatly appreciated....

Electric Dreams  - A comedy movie about a computer becoming human

Surf 2 - A comedy movie about surfing with Eddie Deezen.

Any help would be greatly appreciated....

Dave.
Hello!, to the person that had the machine that can read video off an LP! I deleted the CED Newsletter to soon, so I lost get your e-mail address. Could you repost your web page an email address. I have an interested in the subject of "Narrow Band T.V." based on the Logie Baird electro-mechanical system,(a very early for runner to Selectavision), and your machine looks like something that I'd like to build. Please contact me A.S.A.P. For those also interested in this 1920's attempted at TV using the shortwave bands check out: http://www.batc.org.uk/nbtvnews.htm  Thanks! Dan White ufoengines@hotmail.com

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Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2000 22:29:26 -0600
From: ltravers <ltravers>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: ISO Stereo CED player in St Louis

Greetings,

As the subject line says, anyone with a stereo CED player in St Louis area please contact me privately. I am interested in having a VHS tape made of a CED I picked up.

Thanks

Lynn in StLou

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Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 07:23:03 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: LaserFilm VideoDisc Play on Ebay

Hello All:

I've received some emails asking about a LaserFilm player presently on auction in the CED category at Ebay. This unit is not some previously unknown CED player and will only play LaserFilm discs which are made of photographic film.

Long time subscribers may remember a posting way back in CED Digest Vol.1 No. 5 when a company had 700 of these players for $39 each. That issue also contains quite a bit of additional info on the LaserFilm format:


--Tom

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 12
Date: Mon, 27 Mar 2000 13:49 -0500 (EST)
Subject: "Electric Dreams" on CED
From: Brian Clarke <brian.damage>
To: "digest@cedmagic.com" <digest@cedmagic.com>

> I am looking for these movies on
> CED or any format for that
> matter... If
> anyone can help me out, it would
> be greatly appreciated....
>
> >Electric Dreams - A comedy
> >movie about a computer becoming
> >human

"Electric Dreams" was never released on CED -- I purchased a copy on VideoCD from Singapore for $10, and there are also used VHS copies kicking around.

Brian Clarke.
<brian.damage@turkey.com>

From: "Justin Slotman" <justinslot>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: More Laserfilm
Date: Tue, 28 Mar 2000 09:53:07 PST

Hey Tom--

    I deleted last issue by accident but I think we were talking about this auction:

http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=287447659

Somebody should tell them they don't have a CED player on their hands --it's
much much worse, to quote Dark Helmet. :) And then I noticed the writeup you did of Laserfilm on one of the Dead Media chapters --actually it's in one of the old digests too. Did you ever find a Laserfilm disc, Tom? If you already answered this last issue I apologize, but my search on Google turned up nada and I was a little curious if you ever tracked one down.

Justin Slotman

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 13

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Is the vinyl video thing for real or is it a joke?? I think it would be great if they could do this with vinyl... Then they could also have cassette tape video, Reel to reel video... 8 track video... Wire recorder video... I'm just curious if it's true and if it could be done...

Dave.

----------------------------------------------------------------------------

Hi Tom,

I too saw the posting for the Laserfilm player. I tried to get one from the liquidator a couple of years ago but had no luck contacting him through email. They may have been scrapped already.

I talked with a former RCA CED engineer who was hired by McDonnell Douglas after RCA discontinued player manufacture. It seems they hired a few former RCA engineers to help with their development of the Laserfilm format due to similarities of the format and RCA's success in getting it to work.

Many were sold on the Internet as special CAV only LD players when the buyers could not get them to work. The prevailing use for them seems to have been for military purposes; especially in flight simulators. I did see one posted on eBay a while back with a disc. It had aerial photos on it. The seller did not know what it was used for. However, I did not bid.

Pete
Hello All:

The current featured CED is "Megaforce", which ranks No. 98 among the 100 worst movies of all time according to the Internet Movie Database. I picked this title because to me it's one of those movies that's so bad it's good. I'm curious what others consider the absolute worst movie on CED. I don't really have a definite title myself, although I've never gotten around to watching "The Lonely Lady", which at No. 73 is the lowest ranking CED in the IMDb Bottom 100.

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 14

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 15  4/15/2000
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From: Bojay1997
Date: Sun, 9 Apr 2000 12:48:41 EDT
Subject: Laserfilm Players
To: digest@cedmagic.com

Well, I'm not sure if this even relates to CED players, but if anyone still wants one, you can almost get them for free from American Science and Surplus. They are on the net, just do a search. I say basically for free because the player was only $32 and shipping was only a few bucks. The thing is so heavy they obviously paid well over $30 to get it to me via UPS.

Bojay

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From: "St. Peter & Paul Church" <stspp>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: CED subscription.
Date: Sun, 9 Apr 2000 16:33:49 -0500

Hi, there!
I just discovered your great website. I would like to subscribe to your service. Is there a charge and how much is it? I have just fallen heir to about 1000 CED disks and have no player for them so I am looking for a good one in working condition. Any info you can give me will be helpful. Thank you. My e-mail address is the <mailto:following-stspp@tir.com> following-stspp@tir.com.

Hope to hear from someone soon,
From: Ernest Tolliver <ETolliver>
To: "'digest@cedmagic.com'" <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: RE: Vinyl Video
Date: Mon, 10 Apr 2000 09:17:26 -0700

To Dave:

I'm not sure whether the current "Vinyl Video" system is a hoax, but there
was a system marketed in the 1930s (I think) that encoded video signals on
vinyl records mechanically, using an earlier version of the television
system (not the system that we use today for video). As for reel-to-reel
video and cassette tape video, we already have them...the first video
recorders used huge reels of tape. Interestingly, Fisher-Price (the toy
company) marketed a camcorder and monitor set for kids called (I think) the
PXL 2000 system in the 1980s. It recorded a few minutes of black & white
video on a regular 90-minute audio cassette (the tape must move past the
head very rapidly to get the bandwidth necessary for video). If I can
remember correctly, I saw a PXL 2000 kit at KMart for around $200.00 as a
kid. If anyone knows where I can get a PXL 2000, let me know! I've never seen
a system that records video to 8-track audiotape; I would think that the
tape speed would cause the mechanism inside the tape to jam!

Ernest

From: junkfellow
Date: Tue, 11 Apr 2000 09:14:39 -0500 (EST)
To: ceds@teleport.com
Subject: RE: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 14

I've always thought the baddest CED movie is "I Spit On Your Grave." Maybe it's
not that bad in being goofball, but it's the one I'd least like to sit down
and watch with my wife.

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 15

From: MrHapple
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 2000 10:58:49 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 15
To: ETolliver, ceds@cedmagic.com

Isn't Drypers a brand of diaper?

Re: the camcorder toy
I thought this camcorder thingy was released somewhere in the early -90's. I saw a few TV commercials for it half a dozen years ago. I saw it at Toys-R-Us next to a Sega Genesis bundled with the Sega CD.

Date: Mon, 17 Apr 2000 13:02:45 -0700
From: Donald Borowski <Don_Borowski>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Re: "Vinyl Video"

There were a few recordings made of some Baird TV broadcasts. There was an article in "Electronics World" (Brit electronics magazine) last year. The author played the recordings, and then manipulated them with a computer to produce some images, in the process removing speed variations.

Of course, this wouldn't be "Vinyl Video", but "Shellac Video".

Donald Borowski
Agilent Technologies, Spokane PGU

> Ernest Tolliver <ETolliver> wrote:
> I'm not sure whether the current "Vinyl Video" system is a hoax, but there
> was a system marketed in the 1930s (I think) that encoded video signals on
> vinyl records mechanically, using an earlier version of the television
> system (not the system that we use today for video). As for reel-to-reel
> video and cassette tape video, we already have them...the first video
> recorders used huge reels of tape. Interestingly, Fisher-Price (the toy
> company) marketed a camcorder and monitor set for kids called (I think) the
> PXL 2000 system in the 1980s. It recorded a few minutes of black & white
> video on a regular 90-minute audio cassette (the tape must move past the
> head very rapidly to get the bandwidth necessary for video). If I can
> remember correctly, I saw a PXL 2000 kit at KMart for around $200.00 as a
> kid. If anyone knows where I can get a PXL 2000, let me know! I've never seen
> a system that records video to 8-track audiotape; I would think that the
> tape speed would cause the mechanism inside the tape to jam!
>
> Ernest

From: "Matthew Jolley" <mjolley>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: CED From American Science And Surplus?
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 2000 17:04:51 -0400
Importance: Normal

I got pretty excited when I read the message saying American Science and Surplus was selling the CED players, they get large amounts of stuff, often unopened, and I went to their website at <http://www.scilus.com> and searching for CED or RCA didn't bring up anything, and looking through the entire electronics section of their site yielded nothing. I wish they were selling them, I would have bought one.

Matt
To: ceds@teleport.com
Cc: tom@cedmagic.com
Date: Tue, 18 Apr 2000 13:18:42 -0700
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 15
From: homer j simpson <w-corleone>

I have heard things in here about the worst CED ovie, but as for the best anything staring Charles Vronson is worth watching over and over. like the Death wish Triligy, the other 2 arn't on CED. well cant wate till next time

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 16

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 17  4/29/2000
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To: digest@cedmagic.com
Cc: analog.tv
Date: Sun, 23 Apr 2000 08:14:45 -0400
Subject: bad flicks
From: craig v roberts <analog.tv>

The worst I have here is SQUIRM, a gentle southern low-budget one about electrified worms that take revenge on the owner of a worm farm, then there goes the neighborhood. Too bad To Kill a Mockingbird wasn't done on the CED format instead of this stinker. Don't get me wrong, it's so bad it's really a hoot to watch. Don't forget, folks, the Selectavision system plays well on your vintage television----any of the four Marx Brothers movies on a saturday afternoon. CRAIG   Greenbelt, Maryland

Date: Sun, 23 Apr 2000 12:29:22 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: RE: Subject: CED From American Science And Surplus?

> I got pretty excited when I read the message saying American Science and > Surplus was selling the CED players, they get large amounts of stuff, > often unopened, and I went to their website at > http://www.sciplus.com and searching for CED or RCA > didn't bring up anything, and looking through the entire electronics > section of their site yielded nothing. I wish they were selling them, I > would have bought one.

You can find the $25 LaserFilm players by going to the sciplus.com web site and typing VIDEO DISC (as two words) in the search box. Their description of the players uses CLV and CAV Philips LaserDisc terminology, but remember that these units will only play the thin photographic LaserFilm discs, not CED or regular LD. No media is included with the players, and I've never
come across any LaserFilm discs, though I've made little effort to find any.

--Tom

Date: Mon, 24 Apr 2000 18:20:33 +0800
From: Frank Foti <fsfoti>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: subscribe

Have just inherited a couple machines and several videodiscs and am anxious to learn more about this interesting "toy". Congratulations on your fantastic website!! Best, Frank

From: zachd
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Date: Mon, 24 Apr 2000 20:22:17 -0500
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 16
Priority: normal

I too went to the sciplus homepage hoping to find a new player... Who had the information that they had them?

It is a really cool web site. You can get boxing nuns there among other things....

Radio Frank -= Shoutcast -= Soothes as it Coats and Plays your Requests
Winamp IP: 204.0.122.11:8010 Hrs: 8-7 M-F Web Page: fc.net/~zachd/main.htm

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 17

From: "Tony Summit" <farful>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: Where to get stylus#154100
Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 09:00:50 -0400

I have RCA CED player MO #SGT250 functions well except fuzzy picture=stylus? stylus is STK.NO.154100 / anyone know where I can find one? any help greatly appreciated...Tony

From: Member2165
Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 12:03:44 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 17
To: ceds@teleport.com
Hi,

What is the URL of the website that Frank mentioned in last newsletter. Thanks in advance.

Fred

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Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 21:23:29 -0700
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
From: James Arland Curiel <jacuriel>
Subject: Re: Cleaning CED's

Dear Tom and CED owners,

A number of people have e-amiled me about using the Nitty Gritty machines to clean records with a number of questions.

First, the model number I have is the model 1.5Fi and I use the 78 RPM disc adaptor to hold the CED in place. After cleaning I use a carbon fibre brush to dust off any incidental lint, dust, etc. before placing the disc back in the caddy.

You can contact Nitty Gritty at 905-625-5525 or look them up on the web at www.nittygrittyinc.com

Tell them you will be using the machine to clean LP's and your CED's. They need to know people are using their machines to clean video discs that are CED's.

These machines really clean the discs well because of the vacuum suction, and radically reduce skipping. I usually let the disc go around 9 times on vacuum even thought manual says 5 or 6.

Today we played the Parent Trap and I cleaned disc 1 on the Nitty Gritty, and then I fell asleep. I woke up and the kids had put disc two in, and it was skipping quite frequently. Cleaning the discs using the Nitty Gritty's makes a huge difference.

Peace.

signed James

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From: "Dan White" <ufoengines>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: "Touch Of Evil"
Date: Mon, 01 May 2000 08:02:16 PDT

Howdy To All!! Anybody have ced video copy of Orson Wells's "Touch of Evil"
Dan ufoengines

Date: Thu, 4 May 2000 15:52:27 -0400 (EDT)
From: Sabrina Dagostino <sdagosti>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: videodisc mgmt
HI,
I'm an undergraduate engineering student who has recently become interested in the videodisc system. I'm enrolled in a management course and was asked what the major mistakes made by RCA MANAGEMENT in the development of the videodisc were. Any opinions, facts, and suggestions would be very helpful.

Thanks!

Sabrina

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Date: Fri, 05 May 2000 23:42:50 -0700
From: Tracy Cook <tracycook>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: CED Liquidation Sale

CED Liquidation Sale

$2.49 Each Title ($.99 Shipping Each Disc).
All Kinds Styluses $29 Each ($.99 Shipping)

go to ... http://www.sacramentoforeclosures.com/list.htm ...for list.

------------------------------------------------------------------------
Date: Fri, 05 May 2000 23:56:16 -0700
From: Tracy Cook <tracycook>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: CED Titles Wanted

Here is my want list...

ABC Mantrap
Charge of the Light Brigade
Dexys Midnight Runners
Emmanuelle IV
The Last Waltz (Stereo)
Mata Hari
Miss Peach of the Kelly School
NFL Football 1
NFL Football 2
On the Town
R.S.V.P.
Rainbow Bright and Peril in the Pits
RCA Video Communications '83 - Edition 1
RCA Video Communications '83 - Edition 3
Seargent York (2)
Service Alignment Disc
The Story of O
Support Your Local Sheriff
A Walk Through the Universe

I will pay top dollar for any of these titles or trade 5 for 1 (or more for the rarest discs) from my current sales list at...

http://www.sacramentoforeclosures.com/list.htm
Thanks All...

-Tracy

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Date: Sat, 06 May 2000 00:00:23 -0700
From: Tracy Cook <tracycook>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: All Styluses NIB $29 Each ($ .99 Shipping)

Stylus Models 154100, 154216, 149000 Now Available (While They Last)

All Brand New in Sealed Boxes.

$29 Each ($ .99 Shipping)

Quantity Discounts Available.

Thank You...

Tracy Cook
tracycook@jps.net
http://www.sacramentoforeclosures.com/list.htm

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 18

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 19  5/13/2000

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From: Cleggsan
Date: Sun, 7 May 2000 08:50:17 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 18
To: ceds@teleport.com, tom@cedmagic.com

In a message dated 5/7/00 4:13:25 AM Pacific Daylight Time, ceds@teleport.com writes:

> 
>   HI,
>   I'm an undergraduate engineering student who has recently become
>   interested in the videodisc system. I'm enrolled in a management course
>   and was asked what the major mistakes made by RCA MANAGEMENT in the
>   development of the videodisc were. Any opinions, facts, and suggestions
>   would be very helpful.
>   Thanks!
> 
> Sabrina
>
Sabrina:
RCA was, to some extent, a victim of the times; optical technology was not
far behind. But the product itself did not satisfy the consumer: No stereo (although it was added later and helped alot); Cost of disc mastering and therefore disc price to the retail customer was quite high; and random access was very poor on CED players. Then, along came competition from LD and from JVC VHD (although at the last minute, JVC decided not to bring in their VHD product which was quite similar to the CED disc).

RCA management was too determined to base the product development and market strategies on the LP music disc model and didn't realize that the customer wanted ease of operation along with new features.

Good luck with your investigations.

Cleggsan

Date: Wed, 10 May 2000 12:58:16 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: VideoDisc Player Displayed at Disney Epcot Center

Hello All:

The Epcot Center in Orlando has an RCA SFT100 player on display in a large cabinet outside their "Ultimate Home Theater Experience" attraction. This is located in the Innoventions West pavilion. The cabinet also contains a lot of other vintage audio and video gear. The SFT100 has an old Sony camcorder and Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man sitting on top of it. Here's the URL to photos of the display:

http://www.cedmagic.com/home/epcot-sft100.jpg

The most interesting thing about this player is a piece of black electrical tape covering Nipper and the RCA logo on the front of the player. It looks like someone wanted to conceal the unit's RCA origins.

Speaking of Disney, does anyone have any memory of the CED promotion that went on in the waiting queues at Space Mountain during the early 80's ? I visited that attraction in 1983 but remember little about the CED stuff. It would be interesting to know how long the CED promotion lasted after RCA canceled the system in April 1984. There's a link to a page with some info on Space Mountain's RCA years at the bottom of the main CED Magic page.

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 19
About 10 years ago a book about the development, marketing and demise of the CED system was published. I read it -- fascinating -- but don't remember the title or author.

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From: MSPatoray
Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 10:49:57 EDT
Subject: RCA STJ-090 questions
To: digest@cedmagic.com

Hi,
I have a few questions about this unit, they may seam a bit daft but I am going to ask any way. The first question is, can AV. inputs be added to it? Is there any way that this unit can be upgraded to stereo?
Thanks,
Matt

---

From: Kn0wl3dg3phr3ak
Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 11:00:36 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 19
To: ceds@teleport.com

> The Epcot Center in Orlando has an RCA SFT100 player on display in a large cabinet outside their "Ultimate Home Theater Experience" attraction. This is located in the Innoventions West pavilion. The cabinet also contains a lot of other vintage audio and video gear. The SFT100 has an old Sony camcorder and Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man sitting on top of it. Here's the URL to photos of the display:

I'm guessing they'll soon have a DIVX player in there. Heh... I am going to auction off 2 fully decommissioned DIVX players. Sorry, these don't have hacks on them, if I did put a hack in them, I'll be eaten alive by the DIVX lawyers, as they are still being paid to protect the ZOOM Television patent. That will cease in June 2001. We'll see after that.

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From: KatGlen1
Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:14:21 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 19
To: ceds@teleport.com

It's interesting how most people who see an RCA CED disc player today think it is a new product. It's product design has held up well over the years. I can take a movie and insert it into the player (a 400) and everyone thinks it is some new video product. Most old video components look dated. Even the earlier players still look pretty "cool."

Glenn

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Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 06:56:10 -0700 (PDT)
From: Andy Nguyen <anguyen3>
To: digest@cedmagic.com

Hi,

I have two SFT 100 CED players that don't work! I live in Northern VA near DC. Do you know where or how I can fix it? How much should it cost? Does anyone know of a local expert so that I can just drop it off and pay to get it fixed? Thanks.

ANGuyen3@yahoo.com

=====
Andy Nguyen
ANGuyen3@yahoo.com

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 20

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 21  5/27/2000
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From: "james johnson" <j3joh14>
To: "Tom Howe" <ceds@teleport.com>
Cc: "Johnson Family" <j3joh14>
Subject: CED's
Date: Thu, 25 May 2000 11:03:57 -0400

I'm looking for a CED disc that was done by a group called, "The Genesis Project". The movie was titled, "The Story of Joseph Genesis 37-50". It was on CED but I would buy it in video or CED whatever anyone has. The movie was very professional and it looks as though it was filmed somewhere in the Middle East. Speaking I assume the Hebrew language, but narrated word for word from the Bible book of Genesis. I thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jim Johnson

From: peacetrout (Robert Armentrout)
Date: Fri, 26 May 2000 20:53:22 -0700 (PDT)
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: CED's FOR SALE

Sacramento area garage sale June 3 only. Have 60 CED's and 2 CED players-1 works and 1 for parts for sale. Reasonable prices to sell by piece or all.
8120 Waikiki Drive
Fair Oaks CA
Hello All:

I recently purchased an import copy of "The Phantom Menace" on LaserDisc, and it struck me that this may be the last newly-released LD I ever get. Ken Cranes (the premier CED seller, and later liquidator), only has seven LD titles listed for upcoming release, and it's possible some of these may be canceled, which has become the case with the remastered Indiana Jones movies.

It seems the LaserDisc situation mirrors the CED state in May 1986, when only a few additional titles were scheduled for release. A sad situation for LD fans, but also an opportunity to pick up titles at a discount. Ken Cranes has quite a few titles for $9.99 each including letterboxed versions of the original Star Wars trilogy (with the George Lucas interview, but without the 1998 enhancements to the movies). Back in the early 90's it was common practice to join the Columbia House LD Club simply as a cheap way to get the trilogy, as they were about $40 each at that time.

http://www.kencranes.com

http://www.hivizone.com one source for the Phantom Menace LD

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 21

Hello, everyone!

In reply to Tom Howe's note concerning the current state of LaserDiscs that was posted in our last mailing, I would like to make a few additional comments.

As a real die-hard videodisc buff myself (I have over 200 CED's, about 350 LD's, and now about 120 DVD's), I can certainly mourn with the rest of you over the coming demise of LaserDiscs. I was there when CED was failing fast, and I was there just over a year ago when Tower Video and SunCoast Motion Picture Company in the malls pulled their LaserDisc displays in favor of the newer, more compact DVD's.
But, as a computer engineer, I can safely say that all of these technologies ending actually has me rather excited! There are some amazing technologies on the horizon that promise to be mind-blowing, and I can't wait! Besides that, it gives us buffs some really cool "hard-to-find" stuff to collect, like CED's, right?

You all know of the compression technology now used in music - MP3, where you can pop a little memory card into a player, and shake it, throw it, jump up and down - all without causing the music to skip! These tiny wafer-thin players have no moving parts. Well, guess what folks, SEVERAL companies are now working on digital video players using the same microchip technology - imagine, having a little hand-held portable wafer-thin movie player that plays ultra-small memory cards, storing the entire movie in digital format, without any moving parts - amazing! The picture quality, as well as sound, will rival anything we have today. It truly is a very exciting time we live in for new technology!

Finally, let's not be sad about the videodisc technology which is becoming harder and harder to find! I, for one, will always remember the first day I brought home my first CED player, my first LaserDisc player, etc. - what joy and excitement those days brought me, and I will always remember them.

Have a great weekend, guys!

- Mike Campellone

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From: Cleggsan
Date: Sun, 28 May 2000 17:03:36 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 21
To: ceds@teleport.com, tom@cedmagic.com

The Genisis project was sponsored by several church organizations and now is complete all the way through the Old and New Testament.

The CED version is hard to find, but the VHX versions are around at lots of gospel book stores, etc. The Mormons have it in their catalog and I think you can get it at www.lds.org and go to member services, etc.

Also, Baptist organizations and related bookstores sell them. The Genisis project was filmed on location in the Holy land areas with the actual Hebrew and Jewish language spoken in the background with the King James version (I think) in English.

Cleggsan

> I'm looking for a CED disc that was done by a group called, "The Genesis Project". The movie was titled, "The Story of Joseph Genesis 37-50". It was on CED but I would buy it in video or CED whatever anyone has. The movie was very professional and it looks as though it was filmed some where in the Middle East. Speaking I assume the Hebrew language, but narrated word for word from the Bible book of Genesis.
> I thank you very much.
Date: Sun, 28 May 2000 18:35:57 -0700 (PDT)
From: Joe Phillips <littlejoeflub>
Subject: Looking for CED
To: digest@cedmagic.com

Hi,

I don't know if it's the rarest of the Star Wars Trilogy but I'm looking for "Return of the Jedi" on CED. Looked on Ebay but only found Star Wars and Empire Strikes Back up for bid. I've already got those two on CED.

Thanks,
Joe

From: MSupra
Date: Fri, 2 Jun 2000 12:08:38 EDT
Subject: Question for someone with a CED player
To: digest@cedmagic.com

Hello!

I am not a subscriber to this list, and I will admit I was unfamiliar with this format at all until about one week ago. My problem is this: I have discovered that one of my favorite movies, The Kids Are Alright, is available only on CED Selectavision. I have managed to buy the disk for $8, but I don't want to buy a player simply for one movie. I am therefore searching for somewhere to convert it to VHS. I have had NO luck calling over 30 video production houses here in the DC area. I am wondering if anyone on this list would do this service for me, for a fee? (maybe $20?). I will send you a VHS tape (or maybe more?) and the CED disk and payment, and you could make me some VHS copies? Please e-mail me at msupra@aol.com. I would very much appreciate it.

Thanks for your help!

Melissa Dobbs

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 22

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 23  6/10/2000
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I have been using a product called Gruv-Glide to clean CED discs that skip due to dust deposits. It greatly improved CED discs that skip constantly and clog the stylus. I have been using it for quite some time and found no problem or scratches due to its use. It comes with two application pads and a spray can that is applied to the pads, not the disc. The record surface is clean, destaticized, and the grooves dry-lubricated. I found it on sale at


Ivan Rodriguez

From: Doriannikkole
Date: Thu, 8 Jun 2000 23:04:56 EDT
Subject: (no subject)
To: digest@cedmagic.com

> HEOLL  I NEDDED TO KHOW HOW I WOULD GO ABOUT GETTING A BAR CODE FOR MANUFACTURING CD'S

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 23

Re: barcodes

Here's a resource you can look up for more info on the barcode registry...

http://www.debarcode.com/deBarcode

You can get info on how to register your manufacturer number. It is important to register... if you do not, you could risk interfering with other companies... and they'll come at you hard.

There are some barcodes, such as the Fedco membership card version 2 which can
cause problems... [Fedco ran into a big problem with their barcodes, they kept scanning as coupons over $100. They had to pay a settlement which forced them out of business and into bankruptcy, and to close all their stores.] So please check which ones to avoid... and ask for one...

Here's a page full of links


I hope you find a market to sell your goods...

http://www.PhxSS.com

Phoenix SystemSoft

Where Great Software Ideas are Reborn!

Watch for these:

•Marc Brown's Arthur and the Lost Subway Adventure Game.

Help Arthur, Buster, Nadine and their friends find Elwood City's lost secret.

•CTW's Dragontales Storytime Arcade

Guide Max an Emmy and their dragon friends through adventures in Dragonland.

eVoice mailbox at 1-800-222-6000: 43021740

Hi,

I got a bunch of CED movies and players and stuff if you are interested in buying anything e-mail me back.

Here is a picture of one of them..

<http://www.astro.mb.ca/forsale/ced.JPG>

astro@astro.mb.ca

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 24

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 25 6/24/2000

From: Dj3928
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 2000 08:20:42 EDT
Subject: Looking for RCA Videodisc Player REMOTES
To: digest@cedmagic.com

I am looking for the REMOTES for the SJT & SKT 300 and 400 Model players, the Small type or the DIGITAL COMMAND Center. Any condition! Email me at dj3928@aol.com

Thanks, and Happy CEDing!

Darrell

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From: "Ivan Rodriguez" <IvanR>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 24
Date: Mon, 19 Jun 2000 15:19:14 -0700
To: ceds@teleport.com

Can someone explain to me how to add A/V outputs to a SJT090? I know it's been said that TP10 is for video on area 3400 and TP4 in 3500 for audio but I have looked and I can not find these test points on the board. I even figured how to add visual search but no A/V. I have about 6 of these players so this will help me very much.

Ivan Rodriguez

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From: "ana paula garcia" <anapaula11>
To: aaabba, ceds@teleport.com, jtfrog
Subject: I HOPE YOU CAN HELP ME
Date: Fri, 23 Jun 2000 01:57:42 CDT

HI, MY NAME IS ANA PAULA GARCIA AND I AM FROM MEXICO.

I HAVE FINISHED MY CARREER IN MANAGMENT AND MARKETING AND I HAVE TO RESOLVE A CASE TO OBTAIN MY CERTIFICATE.

THE CASE IS FROM RCA, PIONEER AND THE VIDEODISC MARKET. I DONT HAVE A LOT OF INFORMATION FROM THE VIDEODISK AND I WIL LIKE TOU ASK FOR YOUR HELP.

I WILL LIKE TO KNOW IF YOU HAVE SOME INFORMATION OF THE VIDEODISC, IF SOMEONE IS STILL USING IT IN THIS CENTURY, ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES AGAINST DVD, VCRS AND EVERYTHING YOU KNOW.

IF SOMEONE KNOW WHY THE VIDEODISC DIDNT HAVE THE GREATS SALES THAT RCA EXPECTED, WHY DID IT FAILED OF THE MARKET? THE PRICES, COMPETIDOS AND EVERYTHING!

I HAVE TO PROPOSE A SOLUTION SO IF SOMEONE HAVE AN IDEA IT WILL BE VERY HELPFUL!

ALSO, HERE IN MEXICO WE HAVE A WEB PAGE WHERE WE CAN GET INFORMATION OF THE COUNTRY LIKE HOW MANY BABYS BORN IN THE YEAR, PORCENTAGE OF MEN AND WOMEN, AGES, SEX, ECONOMIC SITUATION, EVERYTHING, SO, DO YOU KNOW WHERE CAN I GET THAT INFORMATION FOR THE USA?

I HOPE YOU CAN ANSWER ME AS SOON AS POSIBLE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

ANA PAULA

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Date: Sat, 24 Jun 2000 15:02:57 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: 14th Anniversary of the Last CED's

Hello All:

This coming Tuesday is the 14th anniversary of the final day RCA's disc pressing plant in Indianapolis was in operation. The featured CED for the summer is "Memories of VideoDisc" which deals extensively with life at the Rockville Road plant. There's a new interactive section at CED Magic that has 535 pages of images derived from this disc, with the ability to add comments to any of the individual pages. These images cover the entire gamut of life at disc manufacturing. There are even a couple pictures of the U.S.S. Nipper, a showboat studded with VideoDisc caddies.

http://www.cedmagic.com

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 25

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 26  7/1/2000

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Date: Sun, 25 Jun 2000 18:41:45 -0700
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
From: James Arland Curiel <jacuriel>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 25

Dear CED Users,

I have found that caddies that get stuck in my machine while loading have the same problem, a seam on one of the front edges of the caddy is breaking or separating.

This causes the tray to be pushed up into the caddy and the caddy becomes too thick to be retracted out by the machine.

When this occurs, I turn off the power strip the machine is plugged into because the on/off button will not work, and load/unload motor will burn out if the machine is left on because it will keep trying to turn.

Then I manually extract the caddy after taking the cover off by pushing it back into the machine and releasing the hooks that hold the tray and disc in
place.

After the caddy, tray, and disc are extracted, I tightly tape the seam that is splitting with two pieces, one going with the seam and another going across the seam. I cut the tape using scissors so that it does not intrude on the label.

I then reload the disc and it works fine.

The best and most simple solution is to check the seams on your caddy before loading a disc. Then tape and repair those that are coming apart before putting them in the machine.

This is the only loading problem I have had since changing the belt, so the problem is not really with the machine but the caddies the discs are in.

Peace.  signed James

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Date: Tue, 27 Jun 2000 03:38:24 -0800  
To: digest@cedmagic.com  
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>  
Subject: Adding A/V Inputs to CED Players

At 3:19 PM -0700 6/19/00, Ivan Rodriguez wrote:  
Can someone explain to me how to add A/V outputs to a SJT090?

Ivan:

The easiest way to find the test points to use for A/V inputs is via the diagram on the inside of the player cover. TP3504 and TP3410 attach to the center of the RCA jacks for audio and video. You can tap into one of the ground points along the rear of the main circuit board for the outer rim ground connection of the RCA jacks.

--Tom

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 26

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 27  7/8/2000

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From: ChadBeaky  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 2000 10:34:33 EDT  
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 26  
To: ceds@teleport.com

i buy a rca sgt 100 selectavision player first one they made. i get it good will. 
it's played but, no sound. what would be the problem and fix to it.
From: Dj3928  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 2000 21:57:11 EDT  
Subject: SKT400 Control options  
To: digest@cedmagic.com  

Hello,  
Just thought I would pass along something interesting I found out about Remote Hand Units and which ones will work with the SKT400 Players. The older style RCA VCR Remotes (early to mid 90's) that have VCR2 function on them will work BASIC Functions on the 400 PLAYER. The Stop, Play, & Pause will work the 400 Disc Player Fine.  
You can't access any other Functions such as Page, Seek, FF, FWD Search, etc... But it will do BASIC Functions and there a lot cheaper than trying to find the Original Random Access one.  
Enjoy the Website Very Much and look forward to the CED DIGEST too.  

Thanks ,  
Darrell 

To: ceds@teleport.com  
Date: Tue, 4 Jul 2000 01:12:56 -0700  
Subject: question  
From: w-corleone  

Hi there folks, I was surfing a popular auction house which shall remain nameless, and I found some movies that were for sale that were made by something called "DISCO VISION" are those the same as CED's or is this another video format that was not very popular? any information can be emailed to me at W-CORLEONE@JUNO.COM  

thanks  

From: "James S. Barr" <stanleybarr>  
To: digest@cedmagic.com  
Subject: Wanted: RCA SelectaVision CED Player  
Date: Wed, 05 Jul 2000 13:43:07 CDT  

Greetings,  

I am searching for an RCA SelectaVision Videodisc Player that someone may be willing to part with for cheap.  

Player must be in excellent working condition. (The stylus works correctly, the belt is in good condition, etc.)  

If anyone has some discs to get rid of too, let me know.  

James S. Barr  

Date: Sat, 8 Jul 2000 02:50:50 -0800
Hello All:

The Vinyl Video web site now has pricing posted for their products, and it appears they are promoting this more as contemporary art rather than consumer electronics. The video interface box is $2000, and the discs, which are sold as 10 record sets, range in price from $6000 to $12000 per set.

http://www.vinylvideo.com

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From: "Marilyn Mitchell" <Mitchellcom>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: What can be used to clean the CED discs and .......
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 2000 16:03:40 -0700

Hello, I've got a couple of questions:

I own several CED discs, but I don't know how to clean these discs. The problem with many of my CED's is that they probably need cleaning. What can I do?

Also, I'm wondering if a copy "War Lords of Atlantis" exists on CED, and if so, who might I contact about this?

Rob Mitchell Please post me!

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 27

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 28  7/15/2000

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From: "Peter Veach" <pete>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: RE: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 27
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 2000 10:28:04 -0500
Importance: Normal

>Hi there folks, I was surfing a popular auction house which shall remain >nameless, and I found some movies that were for sale that were made by >something called "DISCO VISION" are those the same as CED's or is this >another video format that Was not very popular? any information can be >emailed to me at W-CORLEONE@JUNO.COM

These are early laserdiscs.
They play only in laserdisc players.
From: ThreeDeKen  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 2000 15:30:47 EDT  
Subject: Viewing back "Issues"  
To: digest@cedmagic.com

If possible, I would like to view and/or print a copy of back issues of the CED Digest. If that is possible, how do I go about doing so?

Ken

From: PennimanT  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 2000 16:38:11 EDT  
Subject: Removing disc  
To: digest@cedmagic.com

I cannot re-insert the cover to activate the disc removal function. There seems to be a blockage of the left corner of the slot. I have removed the top cover and am perplexed. Tom in Rye NY Any suggestions would be helpful

From: KatGlen1  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 2000 16:51:23 EDT  
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 27  
To: ceds@teleport.com

Re: Vinyl Video

Tom, you didn't tell us if you placed your order yet!??!

Glenn

Date: Sun Jul 09 16:56:29 2000  
From: StereoBoy  
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 27  
To: <ceds@teleport.com>

Regarding the question about DiscoVision: DiscoVision is just LaserDiscs - DiscoVision was the name MCA/Universal used for both the format, the software label and the company that developed the LaserDisc format with Philips N.V.

Cheers!
Ty C. :-)

Date: Sun, 09 Jul 2000 20:34:50 -0500  
From: Pat Jankowiak <vaxhackery>  
Organization: DEFB00.CMD /countermeasures div.  
To: Tom Howe <tom@cedmagic.com>  
Subject: Re: RCA SelectaVision VideoDisc FAQ

Fair Radio Sales in Lima, OH, had a large number of these discs, and I
think a few players. They were inexpensively priced 2 years ago as I recall, and no one was byuing, but they never throw anything away, so check it!

see www.fairadio.com for more, or to contact them. These are not in the online or print catalog.

I used to repair these players when I worked for Interstate Electric in Dallas texas. There was no training and I had to learn it on my own. If I may interject, the capacitance was sensed by the effect of its variation upon the frequency of an oscillator operating in the 900 MHz region, and the oscillator was located in the 'tonearm', which is actually a tray with some RF circuitry inside that moved linearly across the disc.

good luck.

From: "DEFAULT1" <autoamerican>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: caddy care and disc cleaning
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 2000 16:04:34 -0700

hello from a (sort-of) CED newbie!

i had one of these a LONG time ago, but only had a few discs and then quite frankly lost interest in it once I got my laserdisc player. i only recently got back into collecting them again.

i have a few tips for collectors:

FIXING LABELS ON CADDIES - a lot of the discs I've bought off ebay have parts of the caddy label pulled back and crumpled in a triangle shape, but if you gently work the tear back in place with your finger, you can see that the paper wasn't torn OFF, just crumpled back. if you use a bit of white glue on your finger and rub it over the tear once it's back in place, it holds perfectly and dries clear. then take a q-tip with alcohol on it to remove the excess glue around where the tear was fixed. works almost every time, and can't make it any WORSE even if it's not perfect.

CLEANING DISCS - i had one disc that skipped CONSTANTLY throughout the movie, and even using the page mode method didn't help matters. i decided i had nothing to lose, so i got a little daring on this one. i took the disc out of the caddy, CAREFULLY, and wiped it down with a soft 100% cotton tissue soaked in a 91% isopropyl alcohol/9% distilled water solution (you can buy at your local grocery store for about $0.75, sometimes called "INJECTION PREPARATION" since that's what doctors use on your arm). i use the same thing to clean my ultra-filthy LPs and it's perfect.

NOW I KNOW that this will remove any remaining silicone on the disc surface which will shorten the stylus life, but after doing this the disc not only stopped skipping but it improved the video quality dramatically. if this is a movie you watch a LOT, i'd put it on tape and then display the caddy since this disc without the coating will shorten stylus life, but i have only watched this disc once since then (about 6 months ago) so playing it once in a while shouldn't cause a problem at all.
as for replacing the silicone coating: i have a spray bottle of emulsified silicone which is used to protect LPs and record needles from wear: Tom, do you think the same thing could be applied? reply if you've got any ideas later

From: ChadBeaky  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 2000 23:29:10 EDT  
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 26  
To: ceds@teleport.com

Hi I have a 100w that plays but has no audio. What is the cause? Stylus is ok

From: "James S. Barr" <stanleybarr>  
To: digest@cedmagic.com  
Subject: RCA Selectavision Videodisc Collector's Guide  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 23:36:28 CDT

Greetings again!

I just got my RCA Videodisc Collector's guide that Tom put together. Interesting guide! Good work Tom

James

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 28

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 29  7/22/2000
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From: Cleggsan  
Date: Mon, 17 Jul 2000 12:12:40 EDT  
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 28  
To: ceds@teleport.com, tom@cedmagic.com

Seems "fairadio.com" is out of business or their website is the one at "fairadio.com" which has no listings for video products, let alone CED players or discs.

Cleggsan  
^^^^^^^^^^^  
>  
>  see www.fairadio.com for more, or to contact them. These are not in  
>  the online or print catalog.  
>

Date: Mon, 17 Jul 2000 12:53:26 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Answers to Repair Questions

>
>i buy a rca sgt 100 selectavision player first one they made. i get it good
>will. it's played but, no sound. what would be the problem and fix to it.
>
>thanks chad bogenschutz

The most likely cause is failure of the audio FM demodulator integrated circuit which results in no sound on mono players or sound on one channel only with stereo players. Check this URL for more info:

http://www.cedmagic.com/tech-info/repair-solutions.html#missing-audio-on-one-channel

>
>I cannot re-insert the cover to activate the disc removal function. There
>seems to be a blockage of the left corner of the slot. I have removed the
>top cover and am perplexed. Tom in Rye NY Any suggestions would be helpful

If this is an F/G style player, this blockage is probably due to a broken pivot on the left receiver pad assembly. This URL provides more info:


--Tom

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From: "Steve Phipps" <sphipps>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: New collector with a few ??
Date: Sat, 22 Jul 2000 17:25:25 -0500

Hi all,

I just picked up my first CED machine (RCA SJT100) with a few discs after wanting one for a few years. My machine has an excellent picture and works well, but the sound level is very low even with the television at full volume. Any ideas?

Also, the CED Magic website refers to the SJT100 as a mono player, but mine is a stereo model. Did they make both variations under the same model number?

Thanks Tom for the wonderful CD and drive belts!

Steve Phipps
sphipps@clandjop.com

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Date: Sat, 22 Jul 2000 23:45:33 -0400
From: "Tom Howe"<ceds@omnisky.net>
Subject: The Multifaceted Richard W. Sonnenfeldt
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Greetings All:

You may recall a few months ago Richard Sonnenfeldt, former RCA VideoDisc Vice President and chief Nuremberg interpreter, was interviewed in a History Channel program about Albert Goering, brother of Hitler henchman Hermann Goering. The July 2000 issue of IEEE Spectrum has an article on the interesting and varied life of Mr. Sonnenfeldt with quite a bit of info on his VideoDisc years. As seems to be the case with a number of former CED employees, Sonnenfeldt considers the VideoDisc years among the most rewarding of his career.

http://www.institute.ieee.org/publicfeature/prof.html

The article includes a photo of Sonnenfeldt with his SFT100 player and RCA television that he keeps in his den. His grandchildren still watch CED's on it when they come to visit.

http://www.institute.ieee.org/publicfeature/proff2.html

-- Tom

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 29

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From: "Walker, Keith (Imprimis)" <keith.walker-eds>
To: "'digest@cedmagic.com'" <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: pause function
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 2000 12:14:46 -0400

The CED player I choose to use at home is the only model which did not have a pause function (sorry -- I don't have a model number right now.). Anyway, I have begun to simply turn the machine off when I need a "pause". The disc always starts up a the place where I left off, so it seems to work. My question is this: am I destroying my player/disc by doing so? Or could this be considered one of those "unadvertised" features like the page function?

Keith Walker

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From: CESSNAACE
Date: Sat, 29 Jul 2000 21:01:40 EDT
Subject: (no subject)
To: digest@cedmagic.com

TO ALL,

I am interested in taking part in the next CED chat session. Anyone know when it is?
From: "Steve Phipps" <sphipps>  
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>  
Subject: CED Magic chat?  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 2000 16:51:33 -0500  

Is there a regularly scheduled chat session held in the CED Magic chatroom?  

Steve  
sphipps@clandjop.com

From: "Tony@Electronics Inc." <farful>  
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>  
Subject: for sale RCA SGT 250 CED player/35 movies  
Date: Mon, 31 Jul 2000 07:31:49 -0400  

I have an RCA SGT250 stereo unit and 35 movies for sale, the unit works but has a grainy picture-I was told it needs a stylus-if interested email me -- thanks, Tony --

From: ThreeDeKen  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 2000 03:34:41 EDT  
Subject: Fwd: Viewing back "Issues"  
To: digest@cedmagic.com  

To date, I have not received an answer. If my question should be directed elsewhere, please let me know.

Thanks,  
Ken

Date: Sat, 5 Aug 2000 13:50:51 -0800  
To: ceds@teleport.com  
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>  
Subject: RE: Low Volume Audio on J/K Players  

>I just picked up my first CED machine (RCA SJT100) with a few discs after wanting one for a few years. My machine has an excellent picture and works well, but the sound level is very low even with the television at full volume. Any ideas?
Also, the CED Magic website refers to the SJT100 as a mono player, but mine is a stereo model. Did they make both variations under the same model number?

This sounds like the variable resistor that sets the audio level is out of adjustment. This resistor is located at the left rear corner of the master circuit board (when looking towards the front of the player) and is labeled R4127 on the diagram on the inside cover of the player and R27 on the actual circuit board. The player needs to be placed in the service position to adjust this resistor, so I wouldn't recommend adjusting this without having a service manual and following its guidelines and step-by-step procedures. Rotating the knob on the resistor clockwise increases the gain of an operational amplifier inside the audio demodulator integrated circuit and permits the audio output level to be adjusted over a wide range.

The SJT100 is a monaural player, so this unit is probably an SJT200 that was either mislabeled, or had its cover swapped with an SJT100. There should be a label inside the player to the left of the turntable that can be compared to the label on the back of the player cover.

--Tom

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 31

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Date: Sun, 06 Aug 2000 08:54:47 -0700
From: Tracy Cook <tracycook>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Wanted: Service Manual for SJT-400 and SKT-400 Players

I would like to purchase an original (or a quality copy) of the RCA service manual for the SJT-400 and SKT-400 series players. Will pay a fair price (+ shipping) or trade two new styli (Model #'s 154100 or 154216) or your choice of CED's from my duplicates for an original manual. I would pay a fair price (+ shipping) for a good quality copy. Thanks Everyone.

Tracy Cook
tracycook@jps.net

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Date: Sun, 06 Aug 2000 10:20:36 -0700
From: Tracy Cook <tracycook>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: CED Titles Wanted! I Will Buy or Trade for my CED Title Wishlist!

I Will Buy or Trade for Any of These CED Titles...
ABC Mantrap
Charge of the Light Brigade (RCA Version Only)
The Last Waltz (Stereo Version Only)
Mata Hari
NFL Football 1
NFL Football 2
R.S.V.P.
RCA Video Communications '83 - Edition 1
RCA Video Communications '83 - Edition 3
The Story of O
Support Your Local Sheriff
A Walk Through the Universe

Will pay a fair price (+ shipping). ** Items for trade include my duplicate CED's and NEW styli (Rarest Discs Only).

Thanks!

-Tracey Cook
tracecook@jps.net

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Date: Mon, 7 Aug 2000 14:46:32 -0800
To: ceds@teleport.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: RE: Viewing back "Issues"

Back issues of CED Digest are available on the sign up page at this URL:

http://www.cedmagic.com/home/ced-digest.html

To date, these archives have been updated at the completion of each CED Digest volume, although I've been considering doing this on a quarterly basis.

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 32

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 33  8/19/2000
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From: Cleggsan
Date: Mon, 14 Aug 2000 10:01:59 EDT
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 32
To: ceds@teleport.com

I have some rare (? I think) CED discs for sale..... any offer accepted; you pay the shipping from Atlanta to your place:

Star Wars, stereo
Poltergeist, stereo
Chinatown, mono (Jack Nickelson - Faye Dunaway) a two disc set
Whats up tiger Lily, mono (Woody Allen)
Kotch, mono (Walter Mathau)

Cleggsan@aol.com

Date: Sat, 19 Aug 2000 13:35:44 -0800
To: ceds@teleport.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: RE: pause function

The CED player I choose to use at home is the only model which did not have a pause function (sorry -- I don't have a model number right now.). Anyway, I have begun to simply turn the machine off when I need a "pause". The disc always starts up at a place where I left off, so it seems to work. My question is this: am I destroying my player/disc by doing so? Or could this be considered one of those "unadvertised" features like the page function?

This shouldn't be a problem since the stylus is automatically lifted from the disc when the AC power is cut. But I wouldn't recommend leaving the disc in the player for a prolonged period of time, as someone on the digest who had the habit of doing that mentioned dust would build up on the disc surface resulting in more frequent skipping when the disc was played again.

--Tom

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 33

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 34  8/26/2000

From: "Maria R. Love" <love>
To: "Tom Howe" <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 33
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 2000 07:37:17 -0700

This shouldn't be a problem since the stylus is automatically lifted from the disc when the AC power is cut. But I wouldn't recommend leaving the disc in the player for a prolonged period of time, as someone on the digest who had the habit of doing that mentioned dust would build up on the disc surface resulting in more frequent skipping when the disc was played again.

--Tom

I just wanted to say THANKS to Tom for all the wonderful information he gives everyone. I have a couple of players and probably 100 disks (mostly kids ones) and my kids love the "flat movies" as we call them. I don't have much to contribute here but I do read all the questions and Tom's (and others too!) great answers and try to mentally file away the information for the day I may well need it.

So again THANKS Tom for being here.
I have a Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan CED for sale. Any reasonable offer accepted, but you pay for shipping from Texas.

James S. Barr
<mailto:stanleybarr@hotmail.com>stanleybarr@hotmail.com

Please check out EBAY auction # 416471345 for player and movies for sale.

Thanks

I have a couple of dozen mint condition CEDs for bid on ebay. Thanks.
Sincerely, Jeff Kehlert (seller ID is: jdk-cc)

I LIKE TO FIND A CAPACITANCE ELECTRONIC DISC SYSTEM OR GET ONE BUILT? TELL ME HOW?

SIGN
GIRAFREY43@AOL.COM THANK YOU?

Dear Fellow CED Enthusiasts:

You may remember at some point in time that Telecom Technologies/The Lyon Mountain Company was in the process of building the CED Preservation Project
Library.

The company is in the process of liquidating its assets in order to settle a dispute with several of its creditors and to repay its contributing library members.

The collection at this point in time consists of approximately 300 different titles, including some rarities such as the complete Star Wars trilogy and three players, a SJT-090, a SJT-100, and a SKT-100. Only the SJT models are functional.

On September 1st this collection will be put up on EBAY for auction with an asking price of $2000.00, or $2500.00 which will include postal shipping to anywhere in the continental US.

If you would like to make an offer as to this library, please do so by emailing lmcmanagement@aol.com

Sincerely,
Daniel Cayea
LMC

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 34

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 35  9/2/2000
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Date: Wed, 30 Aug 2000 00:26:44 -0400
From: "James M. Long" <jameslong>
Organization: Roaming Camels Productions
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Disc wanted!

Wanted:

"No Small Affair" CED

Willing to pay generously for a good copy.

Caddy condition not quite as important as disc quality.

Thank you,
Jim Long

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 35

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From: "Marilyn Mitchell" <Mitchellcom>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: King David on CED
Date: Sun, 3 Sep 2000 15:11:32 -0700

Hello!

I am looking for a copy of the 1985 film "King David", starring Richard Gere. Have seen this film on e-bay only once and lost the bid for it. Thanks,

Rob

From: "Jim & Eileen" <tikejo>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: CEDs
Date: Mon, 4 Sep 2000 01:52:38 -0400

I have hundreds of movies for sale. Some not open yet. Michigan Area

JIM

From: "the smiths" <didan>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: subscribe
Date: Thu, 7 Sep 2000 22:03:33 -0700

Have many discs need to get my player fixed or buy another
<mailto:didan@olynet.com>didan@olynet.com

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 36

Many posts have been made about dirty discs and solutions for cleaning them. It is probably best not to remove the silicone already on the disc. Has anyone given any thought to using something similar to a fresh "Swiffer" cloth?
Tom, what do you think? Glenn
Having trouble with an sft100w. It appears to be a problem with the needle not making contact with the disk? If I push the selector switch up a little more toward the off position it will play, but will not in the play position. Can anyone tell me what controls the needle movement up/down? Is there an adjustment for this problem? Is there an adjustment for the platter height? I also have an sgt075 with a similar problem, the needle mechanism will not make contact with the disk at all. It does not move when the disk is raised up? Maybe it shouldn't? But something has to make them meet each other? I have read all the repair solutions and didn't find any explanation on this problem? Any help would be appreciated.

thanks  bill holtzapple  holtz@triton.net

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 37

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 38  9/23/2000
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Date: Sun, 17 Sep 2000 11:05:40 -0500 (CDT)
From: Dorsey <dorsey>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: sgt200 problems

I have an sgt200 that skips back to the beginning after playing the first 30-45 seconds of the disc. At first I thought it was a problem with the disc I was using, but it does it on every disc I've tried. I'm thinking something along the lines of the stylus cartridge getting stuck, but I don't know enough about the internals to confirm/fix it. Any ideas?

--Steven Dorsey

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Date: Sat, 23 Sep 2000 13:34:51 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Cleaning CED's

My preferred method of cleaning CED's is still to simply play the disc once without watching it, which will substantially reduce skipping on discs that have never been played or have sat unplayed for many years. I keep an SFT100 around for this purpose as the F/G stylus cartridge is the most plentiful. There was a review article published on CED's in 1981 that commented on the improved playback after a couple plays, so this method has worked for a long time. RCA was even issued a patent for a stylus cartridge with a multi-pronged "rake" attachment that would "play" the disc several times each time the real stylus tracked the groove.
Suction can be also used to remove loose dust from the disc surface before and after play using the crevice cleaning attachment on an ordinary household vacuum cleaner. To do this place the disc on an audio LP turntable, then place an inverted coffee mug over the center hub for added weight. The crevice cleaning attachment can then be held close to the disc surface as the turntable spins to vacuum the disc surface.

Contributors to CED Digest have described methods to chemically clean or treat the disc surface. These methods do work, but no one knows for certain their long term effects—will discs so treated still be playable 20 years from now?

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 38

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 39  9/30/2000

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From: "Peter Veach" <pete>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: sgt200
Date: Sun, 24 Sep 2000 11:33:32 -0500
Importance: Normal

>> I have an sgt200 that skips back to the beginning after playing the first 30-45 seconds of the disc. at first I thought it was a problem with the disc I was using, but it does it on every disc I've tried. I'm thinking something along the lines of the stylus cartrige getting stuck, but I don't know enough about the internals to confirm/fix it. Any ideas? <<

Have you checked the belt which drives the carriage back and forth? Can you manually advance into the movie?
This sounds like the carriage is either not moving or getting stuck somehow.
I had a problem with a SGT250 where the carriage was hitting the stylus access cover latch, but this was much later in the movie. There is some information on Tom's web site on this subject as I recall.

-Pete

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Date: 24 Sep 2000 21:39:24 -0700
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Bill Suszynski <vidgameman2k>
Subject: Post

After recently purchasing a Zenith VP-2000 and having doubts about whether or not I wanted to get into the section of video. Felt I was gonna have a "Betaplayer flashback" or sorts. But, I'm kinda glad I did. It was a little troublesome at first, but due to weekly newsletters like this, I feel there isn't a problem I can't handle now. Except for that darm arm not moving forward when my CED is first loaded......
Also, MCM Electronics has sold their last 149000 and 154100 stylus cartridges. I purchased the 149000, only to have it be defective. I then bought the 154100, with great results.

Well, in closing, I would like to say that this is a great way for myself to keep or get in touch with other people who share my same interest. I just wish my videogame "peers" were as friendly as the CED and Beta person's I have come in contact with in the last 2 years.

Just wanting other CED enthusiasts to know there is another amongst you!

Bill Suszynski

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 39

Does anyone know where I can get a replacement stylus for a Toshiba VP 100C player?

Hello -

I am looking for a balanced turntable RCA part #155880 to replace one that took a hit when a disc did not drop properly onto the spindle of my SJT300. Not quite sure if the turntables were universal over all of the players - can anyone advise on this? May be interested in trading for parts you might need from a second SJT300 that I have.

Thank you,
Jim Long

I am interested in getting rid of my STAR TREK II and MASH CED Discs. The
Mash CED Disc is the 1981 RCA Version. Both should play really well, and I am asking $5.00 each plus shipping. Please email me at <mailto:stanleybarr@hotmail.com>stanleybarr@hotmail.com if you are interested in them.

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From: "DoC_MuZiK" <muzik>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: Help with a Skipping CED needed
Date: Wed, 4 Oct 2000 18:28:31 -0400

After looking over the CEDMagic website, I thought I had the problem licked. I just bought an RCA SFT100 CED Player on eBay and when I got it, every disc I put in it would skip...it took only a few minutes to play a side and what picture there was was not very good. I ordered and got a new RCA 14900 stylus cartridge, and guess what? I got the same problem...only the video that is scanned through looks better. There's a definite clicking noise going on while the stylus is skipping over the discs (believe me, I tried quite a few and they are all the same), so that would indicate a stylus or stylus arm problem. Any suggestions?

Thanks in advance,

Rich Meyer

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Date: 6 Oct 2000 08:08:59 -0700
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Bill Suszynski <vidgameman2k>
Subject: Need a tip.....Or 2.

Having put in my very first post to this newsletter, I was very surprised to have as much response and warm welcomes as I did. I thank one and all for the greetings!

I need a troubleshooting tip for my Zenith VP-2000. I looked in the troubleshooting section on CEDMagic's homepage, but couldn't quite find one that matched. Basically, I have to nudge the play arm to get it to start playing the first groove on the CED/get it to play at all. I have replaced the stylus cartridge and cleaned all I could possibly clean without getting too far into the Zenith itself. Anybody have any ideas?

Also, my turntable makes a scratching/rubbing noise when it first spins up. I have an idea on what's doing it, just no clue where anything is located. I read on some adjustment screw, but not sure if my player is F/G or J/K. Can someone help me with that problem also?

And finally, wondering something. Those stylus cartridges I bought from MCM were marked with different "letters" right around the top of them by the plastic "handle" you pull them out of the player with. I had a guess. I pulled stickers off of the box my stylus came in from MCM and discovered it was a STEREO stylus cartridge. Seems strange, but didn't think that had anything to do with the playing ability of my player. Just a curious thought, but anyone who knows, please fill me in. Always willing to learn something that may help me troubleshoot later on.
Hello all!

I'm new to CEDs, and I have had little luck finding a copy of The Breakfast Club. I know that it's "rare", but I've found several other rare ones with little trouble. Also, one of my friends says he remembers a disc that isn't listed on the CEDMagic list: a Perry Como concert disc that one of his friend's parents watched frequently.

Anyway, if anyone has a copy of The Breakfast Club that they would like to sell, let me know.

Dave Killeffer
Tech Village Apt. M-7-West
Phone #ERmine 2-5864

"The distance between genius and insanity is measured only by success." -Eliot Carver

Move Over, Plymouth Approaching Rapidly

got boost?

"If you're gettin' turbo lag, you ain't drivin' it right." -Carroll Shelby

I must have missed something.. where are there styluses for sale!!

Zach
I have about 300 to 400 titles on CED. If you are looking for a particular movie or other title, please e-mail me at krauseg@hotmail.com and I will advise of availability and price. Thank you.

Guy Krause

On F/G players (including the Sears 5474 and Zenith VP2000) this condition is usually caused by the stylus set down adjustment being incorrect. The following information addressing this issue has been added to the Repair Solutions page:


Player Category: F/G Chassis
Fault: Improper Stylus Set Down Adjustment

Symptom(s):
The player never enters play mode when a disc is inserted, but the unit will play normally if with the power off, the pickup arm is moved by hand to the center of the disc grooves with the power then being switched on. Conversely, the player may consistently start at the same point when playing discs, for example 10 seconds into the program material on each disc.

Solution(s):
F/G CED players have a landing screw adjustment that determines the point on the disc surface where the stylus sets down when play is initiated. If this adjustment is too far out, the disc will never start to play because the player system control is unable to locate the first modulated groove on the disc. If the adjustment is too far in, the stylus will miss the initial grooves on the disc and usually start playback several seconds into the program material of all discs inserted. On F/G players the pickup arm is pushed to the back of the player each time a caddy is inserted, and the landing screw simply stops this backward motion at a predetermined point that ideally is directly above the first modulated groove on the disc.

The landing screw adjustment requires a 5/64" hex key, and the screw is directly accessible on the back panel of the player. Looking at the back of the player, locate the hole on the housing about 3 inches from the left side and 1 inch from the player top. RCA has a service manual procedure where the Service Test/Alignment Discs can be used to adjust this, but each disc must
have the diameter of the first modulated groove printed on the caddy label, and most of the later service discs lack this number. In practice, the proper adjustment can be made via trial-and-error. If the adjustment is too far out, rotate the landing screw a half turn clockwise (looking at the back of the player), and check for playback upon disc insertion. If no playback occurs, rotate the screw clockwise another half turn, or if playback now occurs a few seconds into play, rotate the screw counterclockwise a quarter turn. Continue decreasing how far the screw is rotated with each disc insertion until playback begins near the start of the modulated grooves on the disc, which is usually just a few seconds before the first graphics appear on screen. The landing screw is an 8-32 by 5/8” socket head set screw, so each full turn of the screw spans about 40 seconds of disc play (1/32 inch x 9541 grooves/inch x 60/450 seconds/groove). Test the final adjustment with several different disc titles.

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 41

From: "The Libby's" <fiddy>
To: <tom@cedmagic.com>, "Tom Howe" <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 41
Date: Sun, 15 Oct 2000 13:55:32 -0400

I believe I have the Breakfast Club that you are looking for I will look for it and get back to you if I find it. I have over 3000 disks so it might take a while. I haven't done much with them sense I got out of the hospital in July. I had my hip joint replaced and I am just getting around a bit. Keep my e-mail address and if I don't get back to you in a week or so e-mail me and remind me again. Harry Libby in Maine

fiddy@ime.net

From: "john151258" <john151258>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: sft100 w video problem
Date: Sun, 15 Oct 2000 21:52:22 -0500

I have this problem with my player. When I play my CED's i got this ghost vision of the movie no sound and a -- on my display screen. Can anyone out there help me with this problem?

Thanks john

From: "James M. Long" <jmlong>
To: ceds@teleport.com
Subject: Styluses (Styli?)
Zach -

Well, it's possible. Sort of. Being patient and looking through Ebay turns up a few (usually 149000 or 154100) but they go up in price pretty quick. I found a seller through the CED classifieds on Tom's site that sold me a few 154216 needles, but she just bulk-sold her remaining stock through Ebay. I found a Toshiba stylus at a yard sale, nobody really knew what it was...

The most tedious method is to go through the very handy list of parts sellers on CED Magic and enter the part number over and over. I don't know about the needle you are looking for, but it did turn up a couple of sources for the 154216 for me (with widely varying prices - some people know their worth, some don't). Tom lists Fox International as being a good source, but this does not seem to really be the case anymore. Perhaps I am just searching their site wrong, but I found nothing.

One place (MCM) also had one on back order for me and I thought "oh, sure... as if they'll find one" but then it arrived! Maybe RCA still has them, as Tom once mentioned, but dealing with them is like pulling teeth.

Searching also works for other parts you might need - it is frustrating, they are hard to find, but you never know - I was able to scrounge up a reduction gear for my SJT 300 just by hitting the right supplier at the right time.

Otherwise, the sad truth is: get while the gettin's good. I am trying to restrain myself and 'share the wealth' with all of the others that will need needles now and in the future, but I have to admit: every now and then I put in an order for another needle whether I need it or not. Just to be sure...

Jim Long

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James M. Long
Administrative Assistant
Parsons Laboratory
48-309
MIT
Cambridge MA 02139
617.253.4111
617.258.8850 fax

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From: "Guy Krause" <krauseg>
To: ceds@teleport.com
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 41
Date: Wed, 18 Oct 2000 17:49:03 MST

I have a service manual for my stereo players purchased from RCA (now a unit of GE), and it has been very helpful in troubleshooting the CED player. I would highly recommend getting a copy if you plan on doing your own maintenance work on these units.
From: "Robin Allinson" <narziss39>
To: tom@cedmagic.com
Subject: CED question
Date: Thu, 19 Oct 2000 14:13:16 EDT

Hello,
A question about CEDs: did this format ever present extra footage or alternate versions of movies (that might have been cut from a VHS release) like laserdiscs sometimes do? I have one CED, "nana," that I've seen in an uncut version on cable, but the American version on VHS cuts out several scenes. Is there any possibility the CED version might have the missing/cut footage? If there's any chance it does, I might try to make a dub onto VHS from CED (is this possible?). Any info you could provide would be most helpful. Thanks, Robin

To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Bill Suszynski <vidgameman2k>
Subject: Problem finally solved!

I would like to personally thank Tom for his help on getting my arm lever to work on my CED player. Took 3/4 of a clockwise turn on the screw, but it works perfect now!

I also was wanting to know if anyone out there has any extra Friday the 13th movies on CED. I have the first one, just need 2, 3, The Final Chapter and A New Beginning.

Thanks to all,

Bill Suszynski

Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 15:03:47 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Free CueCat Optical Scanner to Catalog CED's

Hello All:

Some of you have used the CED Title Excel Macro available in the software downloads section to simplify cataloging your CED titles:

http://www.cedmagic.com/home/software-downloads-page.html

One of the limitations of this has been the hassle of typing the bar code number from the back of each caddy into the macro, as few people have had access to a bar code scanner to automate entry. Well that changed a couple months ago when a company called Digital Convergence started giving away its CueCat scanner for free. You can walk into any RadioShack and ask for one along with the RadioShack catalog. Then they ring up a sale of $0.00. The motivation behind this is to use the scanner to swipe the general UPC's on products around your home as well as special bar codes called cues which
the RadioShack catalog is full of. This scanner attaches to and is powered by the keyboard port of PC compatible computers, and the swiping action automatically launches the web browser and takes you to the web site for that product. Digital Convergence is making up for the expense of the free giveaway by selling the launch service to RadioShack and print publications like Forbes, Parade, and Wired. They are also using the scanner to gather demographic data, a practice that has generated controversy, as each CueCat scanner has a unique serial number that becomes associated with the email address used to register the CRQ software that comes with the device.

You don't have to worry about registering the CRQ software if all you want to do is capture CED UPC's or other standard bar codes. But the output of the scanner is encrypted and has to be decoded before the CED Title Excel Macro will recognize it. A literal cottage industry has sprung up around this CueCat scanner, so decoding the output is easy to do with free third-party software. I've prepared instructions for doing this at the CED Magic CueCat page:

http://www.cedmagic.com/cuecat/

--Tom

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 42

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 43  10/28/2000

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Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2000 19:42:59 -0700
From: Neil Wagner <orac>
To: *CED Digest <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Re: CueCat

> A literal cottage industry
> has sprung up around this CueCat scanner, so decoding the output is easy to do with free third-party software. I've prepared instructions for doing this at the CED Magic CueCat page:
> http://www.cedmagic.com/cuecat/

As always, Tom, you've provided useful information just when I was beginning to look for it. I picked up one of these "pets" a few weeks ago (it was practically forced on me by the salesman), but haven't yet managed to spend the time to see how to use it to add scanned barcodes to my huge MS Access CD database and other smaller databases. It'll be fun to learn about it.

_______________________
Neil <orac@pcmagic.net>

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From: zachd
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Date: Tue, 24 Oct 2000 21:30:28 -0500
Thanks for the info on styluses... from glancing at the previous CED digest it made it sound like someone had a definite hook up on them and not just the usual hunt and pick sort of thing. I actually had 15-20 or so at one time which I sold really fast. I put a want add in the paper for CED's and what not and a guy from a small town outside Lubbock emails me and he runs a video store - in the back of an old movie theater now housing classic cars (surreal) he had a collection of what remaned of the rental stuff. About 40 players, 100 discs, and a lot of misc. repair parts and some extra styluses. The coolest thing was probably the fly wheel you use to calibrate the spin of the CED platter. I think I paid $80 for all of it. I kept a few discs and 1 player and sold the rest off for profit. He had hundreds of more discs he said, but he said a guy from out of state came with a trailer and bought close to 800 discs from him and hauled them off... I wonder who that was?!

There are still all those players there.. I tried to take about 8 but only got about 3 of the 8 to work well enough to keep or sell. Bad thing was he had them in a old gas station and it looked like it might have a leaky roof.

Interesting times in Lubbock when I had no money and was almost a full time scavenger.

> > Zach -
> >
> > Well, it's possible. Sort of. Being patient and looking through Ebay > turns up a few (usually 149000 or 154100) but they go up in price > pretty quick. I found a seller through the CED classifieds on Tom's
are some very good titles to choose from left, and I have about 150 of them to sell. I am going to offer them at this price:

75% off the prices I have listed for each disc on my web page - 10 DISC PURCHASE MINIMUM!!

Most of the titles I have are priced as $5, $4, and $3 (mostly 4 and 4). So most titles would be $1.25 down to $.75.

Shipping not included in those prices. I can ship USPS Book Rate which is significantly cheaper than regular USPS mail rates. 20 pounds costs $8. That's 13 CED's or .60 a disc. So, total price per disc will be less than $2 on 95% of the titles I have.

So, what you've all been waiting for the URL:

http://fc.net/~zachd/ced/sale.htm

First come first serve, so email early and please note I can not absolutely guarantee availability on these. Someone else may have purchased them. A friend may have borrowed one. I can't say what's there until I actually have it in my hand. Serious buyers only please! I have so many discs in a separate pile left abandoned by would be buyers!

I hope you have enjoyed my long winded sales pitch.
Thanks for looking!
Zach

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-=-    Z   a   c   h  's  -=- Home Page for Dummies http://fc.net/~zachd   -=-
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Date: Fri, 27 Oct 2000 12:06:23 -0700 (PDT)
From: jody e <twin_powr>
Subject: wanted: CED lion, witch, and wardrobe
To: digest@cedmagic.com

hello.
we are trying to complete our collection of videodiscs and wanted to know if anyone would have a copy of THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE on ced that they would be willing to part with. we would be willing to trade or purchase at top dollar. please email us with any offers.
thanks.

twin_powr@yahoo.com

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 43

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The most tedious method is to go through the very handy list of parts sellers on CED Magic and enter the part number over and over. I don't know about the needle you are looking for, but it did turn up a couple of sources for the 154216 for me (with widely varying prices - some people know their worth, some don't). Tom lists Fox International as being a good source, but this does not seem to really be the case anymore. Perhaps I am just searching their site wrong, but I found nothing.

RCA had an 800 parts order number in the phone directory until the mid 1990's. Shortly before it went inactive they starting referring older parts inquiries to Fox International, indicating that Fox had purchased the RCA new old stock. Fox still has a lot of parts unavailable elsewhere, but it's necessary to call them at 800-321-6993 as their web site is very incomplete at present. MCM seems to be the best place for price on the stuff they have available. Vance Baldwin has the best web site, as entering a model number will bring up a list of all the parts available, without the need to search for part numbers one at a time. One problem with this is that their system allows you to order some parts that turn out to be unavailable when they attempt to fulfill the order.

Has anyone found an inexpensive source for Hitachi stylus cartridges? I got one of these for $37 a few years ago, but the company that sold it no longer exists. Vance Baldwin presently lists the CTG-100 cartridge at $145.45 and the CTG-200 at $156.27.

--Tom

Dear Tom and other CED Friends:

I have quite a few players in my CED collection, but my favorite has always been my SJT-300 with remote. This is because out of all of my players, this is THE one that I actually purchased brand-new from an RCA closeout, and I
have taken such gentle, wonderful care of this unit since day one.

Here is my problem - I noticed a very slight "thump thump thump" sound coming from the player when it is spinning at full speed. Since this player has never been knocked or jostled in any way, I assumed it was the turntable height adjustment.

So, I opened the unit, and checked the turntable for clearance. It is smooth and silent! Then, I tested with my "beat-up test disk", and observed that the turntable does indeed wobble, ever so slightly! You can see the reflection of light in the spinning disk "jitter" very slightly in-time to the noise.

I was heartbroken! This is my nicest player (as far as cosmetics), and I have always been very careful. The playback picture is not effected as far as I can tell, except for every so often the picture "trembles" ever so slightly in-time to the noise (which again, you have to put your ear up to the unit to hear it - it is that quiet). This is especially evident when reading text, such as in the beginning of films.

SO - since height adjustment won't work - is there ANYTHING that I can do???? I am sick about this! :-(

On another note, I have another general question to pose to you collectors out there - why is it that my SGT series players (i.e. SGT-100, SGT-250) seem to perform so much better than the newer, sleeker players? I mean, they seem to track the discs more accurately, and seem to be so ruggedly built. Am I imagining that? All of my players have brand-new styluses, and are refurbished to like-new quality. I would have to say the best picture comes from my SGT-100, second from my SJT-300, and finally the "worst" picture (although it still looks good of course) comes from my Hitachi VP1000. What are the design elements that make these players have different playback quality? Just a pure curiosity on my part.

My very LAST note today - I want to ask, is about the SJT-400. This is the one player I do NOT have in my collection - is it worth it???? I can only find them for around 300-400 dollars (I only look for ones that are extremely nice and clean - no beat-up ones, thank you LOL) - and I want to know, if I don't buy one for my collection, am I really missing out on much???? Other collectors say that I "HAVE TO" get this player - but, besides the random access and interactive features, which really don't interest me (I like to just sit and WATCH my favorite films) - what are the benefits???

Thank you all very much - hope you have a terrific week!!!!

Sincerely,

Mike Campellone

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From: " Harry Libby" <fiddy>
To: <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: CEDs for sale
Date: Sun, 5 Nov 2000 14:30:34 -0500
Still have many video disc and players left for sale. Over 3000 discs & 50 players to choose from. E-Mail <mailto:fiddy@ime.net>fiddy@ime.net

Date: Sun, 5 Nov 2000 17:18:39 -0600 (CST)
From: Dorsey <dorsey>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Belt slipping

I posted before with a problem with my sgt200 player, with the stylus assembly not advancing. I took the player apart, and discovered that the belt that connects the motor to the gear assembly had slipped off. Once the belt was back on, it played fine. My new problem is the belt keeps slipping off. I was wondering if anyone had similar problems, and if they'd figured out a way to keep that belt from slipping...

-- Steven Dorsey

From: "Carl Klitzke" <julioworld1>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Need information about SKT400 player
Date: Sat, 11 Nov 2000 19:07:55 GMT

Greetings!
Recently, my SKT400 player stopped functioning. I found out that the cause was that the metal contacts had come off the ribbon cable that connected to the front buttons. I am not very good with those kind of cables, so I was hoping to bypass the front buttons altogether and hook some different buttons from radio shack or something. Does anyone out there know the pinouts for the bundle of wires that go to the front panel for player control (reject, pause, etc), so I know which wires go to what button? Thanks in advance.
Carl R Klitzke

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 45

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 46  11/18/2000
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Date: Sun, 12 Nov 2000 10:15:26 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Re: Out of Balance J/K Player Turntable

At 10:36 AM -0800 11/5/00, Michael A. Campellone wrote:
>So, I opened the unit, and checked the turntable for clearance. It is smooth and silent! Then, I tested with my "beat-up test disk", and observed that the turntable does indeed wobble, ever so slightly! You can see the reflection of light in the spinning disk "jitter" very slightly in-time to the noise.
Usually these turntables get out of balance when the player sustains an impact while the turntable is spinning. But it can also happen by playing a warped disc, wherein the warp of the disc gets transferred to the turntable. A warped disc should immediately be removed from the player. You can tell a player is playing a warped disc by the generation of a thumping sound from a previously quiet player. Warped discs can also be identified by careful visual inspection.

RCA had a machine in the player manufacturing plant that dynamically balanced the turntable shortly before it was inserted into the player. There’s a picture of this at CED Magic:


This machine operated on the same principle used to balance automobile tires, but achieved the end balance via an opposite method. Tires are balanced by adding small lead weights to the outer edge of the wheel, while the CED turntable was balanced by removing small amounts of plastic from the outer edge of the turntable. The arm in that picture with the vacuum hose attached is a router that drilled shallow holes into the underside of the turntable.

So it’s technically possible to re-balance an out-of-whack turntable by drilling additional holes, but I can’t think of an easy way to do this short of rebuilding that machine RCA used in the factory. A jig to achieve static balance could be built rather easily, but it’s the dynamic balance that’s critical. The turntables are interchangeable, so the easiest solution may be to get a balanced turntable out of another J/K player that has been set aside as a parts machine.

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 46

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 47  11/25/2000

Date: Sun, 19 Nov 2000 18:32:29 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: RE: Front Panel Buttons Not Working on J/K Player

At 7:07 PM +0000 11/11/00, Carl Klitzke wrote:
>Recently, my SKT400 player stopped functioning. I found out that the cause was
>that the metal contacts had come off the ribbon cable that connected to the
>front buttons. I am not very good with those kind of cables, so I was hoping
>to bypass the front buttons altogether and hook some different buttons from
>radio shack or something. Does anyone out there know the pinouts for the
>bundle of wires that go to the front panel for player control (reject, pause,
>etc), so I know which wires go to what button?

The solution to this could be as simple as just plugging the metal pins from the front switch assembly back into the nylon jack assembly inside the player.
If you've tried that and the front panel still doesn't work, make sure the metal pins aren't offset to the left or right by one pin on the nylon jack, as that would prevent the essential Ground pin from making proper contact. If neither of these options fix the problem, here's the pinout from left to right looking down into the player with the front of the player facing towards you:

1 Visual Search Forward
2 Visual Search Reverse
3 Audio A/B
4 Reject
5 Pause/Play
6 High Speed Scan Forward
7 High Speed Scan Reverse
8 Ground

It's highly unlikely for the front panel switch assembly to fail completely, as that would happen only if the Ground line failed in the short space from where it leaves the front panel and meets the nylon connector. If such a failure occurs, it can be fixed by soldering a small length of jumper wire around the break. A more likely failure is for a single switch on the front panel to stop working.

Since this is a 400 player, the inoperative front panel could be due to a failure on the PW6100 "sandwich" circuit board inside the player and have nothing to do with the front panel itself. To test this, connect pin 8 of the nylon connector to ground, then with a disc playing, short pin 5 to ground with a light tap. Each time pin 5 is shorted the player should toggle into or out of Pause. If this fails to happen, you'll know there is a problem up-circuit from the nylon connector.

--Tom

To: digest@cedmagic.com
Date: Sat, 25 Nov 2000 22:30:27 -0600
Subject: ced collecter
From: Mary E Saunders <mess27>

Hi
I love my players I have 3 but I am like others stylus are hard to find , but I find that cleaning them makes them last longer ,and making sure no dirt is on the stylus before putting it back in. This will cut down on the alot of the skipping. I have a collection of about 400 disc. and I replace my own driver belts this will also keep them running longer. mess

To: digest@cedmagic.com
Date: Sat, 25 Nov 2000 23:27:42 -0800
Subject: CED Article in Nov/Dec Issue of E-Gear
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>

Hello All:

The bimonthly magazine E-Gear began publication about a year ago, and the last few issues have had a "YesterGear" column about past electronic technology. The column in November/December 2000 issue on sale now is about the CED system.
Just thought I would throw a question out there for the fun of it...

Anyone ever peel the label off their twice-labeled disc to see what they RCA covered over underneath? The curiosity is almost driving me crazy, but since the later titles (Moving Violations, Follow That Bird, etc.) rate as Very Rare I dare not mess with the labels - which for most of these are fairly pristine (mercifully) already. But I am still wondering...

Perhaps they could be X-rayed like they do with paintings to look for hidden masterworks or sloppy retouching... maybe one would find a "Story of O" label hidden under "A Chorus Line" through the magic of technology... but maybe that is pushing it a little too far.

I presume, also, that just because one copy of "Jewel of the Nile" had, say, "Fantastic Voyage" buried underneath it does not necessarily mean that they all do. Oh, the wonder of it all.

My only real problem with this practice of RCA's was that they would cover over a 'handled' caddy with a label with no hole cut - so you get this wrinkly, easily damaged area at the bottom of the disc. Were they worried about the holes not lining up? Have you seen Tom's discussion of crooked caddy labels on the CD-ROM? How worried could they have possibly been? Or was it just that the extra caddies were mixed handles/no-handles and this was the best option?

Otherwise, after amusing myself with the amount of money I saw a few 154216 needles fetch recently on Ebay, I have to say to all of you... Some distributors still have them! There is no reason to pay $55 dollars for one! Save your money and buy more discs instead! I just picked up the "Jesus of Nazareth" set, and although the corners of the box are a little cracked (easy fix) the box protected the discs quite nicely and they are in great condition. It is a nice piece to own. Pick it up even if you have no religious convictions...

One more thing, I have a disc ("Comedy Tonight", not really a big loss I
guess) that had the spine crammed into the caddy - splitting the sides a little bit and pushing the faces of the caddy outward. It plays, but the fit is quite snug and getting the caddy back out of the machine usually requires taking the top off and pushing it out by hand - anyone have any suggestions for getting it nice and flat again?

best,
Jim Long

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James M. Long
Administrative Assistant
Parsons Laboratory
48-309
MIT
Cambridge MA 02139
617.253.4111
617.258.8850 fax

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Date: Sat, 2 Dec 2000 22:56:09 +0100 (CET)
From: John Homme <jeh>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: SJT-400 with no sound!!

I have an SJT-400 that I recently bought from a guy on eBay. It seems to work fine --apart from the fact that I'm not getting any sound out of the audio out jacks. Any idea what might be wrong? The picture seems fine, although there is some picture noise & dropouts. I don't know if a worn stylus might make the sound disappear, or maybe it's an electronic malfunction. There is NO SOUND AT ALL. No hissing, noe noise whatsoever. I get a "thump" though, when the power is switched off. I'm not that experienced in doing repairs on CED players, but I've done a lot of work on VCR's through the years. Any suggestions, PLEASE let me know :)

Thanks,

John E. Homme
Norway

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Denne eposten er sendt ved hjelp av http://www.Organizer.net
- Norges ledende webbaserte kommunikasjonsløsning.

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 48

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*CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 49 12/9/2000*
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From: Jeff Warmuth <canterbu>
To: digest@cedmagic.com
Subject: Picture quality

My wife's uncle gave me a RCA SJT200 ced player and about 200 disks. He claimed it worked great and he hardly used it. It does work but the picture quality reminds me of a vcr tape that has been played too many times. Not a real clear picture, no skips though. I wonder if the stylus needed cleaning and how to do it? Can anyone give me some advice?

Thank you'

Jeff Warmuth
canterbu@tir.com

From: StereoBoy
Date: Tue, 5 Dec 2000 11:35:26 EST
Subject: VHD Item for CED Digest
To: ceds@teleport.com

Many people have asked about the VHD Video Disc system from Japan, and since it's introduction was cancelled here in the US in 1984, I've been avidly curious about this "other" type of capacitance disc system. Well, I just received a Victor HD-7900 VHD player (circa 1985) and a slew of discs from Japan and all I can say is that VHD is what CED SHOULD have been. For those of you who aren't familiar with VHD, it was a disc system developed by JVC (Victor in Japan) that used a stylus and capacitance variations to store information, just like CED. It differed significantly however in that the disc size was only 10.2 inches and the discs had no grooves. The discs were grooveless and the flat diamond stylus tracked the disc via embedded tracking signals stored with the video signals. Discs's (which are in caddy's like CED) rotated at 900 RPM and stored 4 fields of video per revolution. Each 10.2 inch side could store 60 minutes of programming and the player is capable of freeze-frame, chapter search, time search, slow-motion, etc... from all discs. In terms of picture quality, VHD is clearly better than CED. There are no drop-out's in the picture, nor are there the prevalent "rip bars" (as I call them) that occasionally flash across the screen. Resolution is around 300 lines and color resolution is much better than CED too, without the prevalent cross-color and dot-crawl that plagues CED discs. Discs are stereo and digital sound was offered in the mid-80's. Unlike even CX encoded CED's, the sound doesn't have any tick's or pop's. The coolest thing about VHD was that it was 3D capable (using the field-sequential system). 3D discs could be played in 2D or 3D, for full compatibility, and the system was dual-standard - Pal discs would play on NTSC players, etc... A digital audio disc version, called AHD, and meant to compete with the CD, was also available, but I don't know what kind of success it achieved in Japan.

Looking inside the player, the VHD stylus and stylus compartment look EXACTLY like what you would see in a CED player - in fact, if someone showed me the VHD stylus cartridge, I'd think it was CED. The system tracks the disc with 1/10th the pressure of CED and since the stylus is flat, the pressure is spread out over a larger surface area, reducing the already minimal wear. Discs are not coated with silicon like CED's. They are simply conductive vinyl. Mastering was accomplished with either an electron beam or laser and
disc pressing was done on conventional presses (not injection molded). The disc caddy's don't have full artwork on them like CED's. Instead, they come in cardboard slipcovers with artwork and the caddy itself just has a small label with disc title, running time, etc...

I'm very, very impressed with VHD and truly feel that had it been introduced in the US as initially planned, it would have buried CED and severely hurt the LD market. The picture is great, the discs don't skip and the system has all kinds of nice features. It's too bad RCA didn't join with JVC to standardize the system.

If anyone has any questions about the discs or player, please don't hesitate to write me at Stereoboy@aol.com, and I'll try to answer them.

Cheers!
Ty C.

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Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 22:54:17 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: RE: Discs With Two Labels; and Easter Eggs

At 11:04 AM -0500 12/1/00, James M. Long wrote:
>Anyone ever peel the label off their twice-labeled disc to see what they
>RCA covered over underneath? The curiosity is almost driving me crazy, but
>since the later titles (Moving Violations, Follow That Bird, etc.) rate as
>Very Rare I dare not mess with the labels - which for most of these are
>fairly pristine (mercifully) already. But I am still wondering...

I'm not really into peeling off these labels myself, but Jesse Skeen who was (is?) a subscriber to the digest had perfected a means of peeling these partially off without damage. Jesse's email address went bad a while back, and I don't think he re-subscribed under a new address. The "Jewel of the Nile" shown on the CD-ROM is a disc I traded with him that had the label partially peeled back to reveal a "Zelig" label underneath. I never talked to him about his technique, but one way is to use the steam petcock on a Cappuccino maker to direct a jet of steam at the corner of the label while it is carefully peeled away. The key is to peel very slowly while constantly steaming both the underside and top of the label. This peeling should be done on the upper left corner of the rear label just far enough to reveal the universal product code underneath. Then you can go to the CED Title Database and use your web browser's find command to locate the corresponding number in the database:


If no match comes up, it will be worth peeling the label back further, otherwise it can be glued back down with Elmer's glue. You could also take a look at that title's photograph on the CD-ROM just to make sure the label colors match, as some label variations on the same title may exist.

On a related note, the TV show "Ebert & Roeper and the Movies" recently discussed DVD Easter eggs, and one of my goals for a long time has been to find a CED Easter egg. These do exist as part of the regular program material. For example, almost exactly four years ago the digest contained pointers to the Easter eggs on the Tron CED:

And there's a picture of the Darth Vader/Miss Piggy Easter egg on the Star Trek TMP Featured CED page:

http://www.cedmagic.com/featured/star-trek-tmp.html

But the kind I'm looking for would be hidden video on the unused side of a single-sided CED, or on a two part movie where the fourth side is unused. This video could be something like the pressing plant personnel sending their greetings and would only be viewable by manually advancing the pickup arm past the reject-code grooves at the beginning of the unused side. This portion of the CED FAQ explains how to scan this portion of the disc:

http://www.cedmagic.com/home/cedfaq.html#threefifteen

This would most likely have occurred in the 1985-86 time frame when plant personnel would have been less worried about getting in trouble if the hidden video was discovered. And the unused side would probably have some other code besides 99999 printed on it, which is the code RCA applied to all their generic reject-code stampers. I've inspected a number of discs with other codes or ones with the 99999 blotted out, but have never yet found any hidden video.

--Tom Howe

END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 49

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CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 50  12/16/2000

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 08:29:04 -0500
From: Bill Vermillion <bill>
To: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 49
User-Agent: Mutt/1.2.5i
Organization: W.J.Vermillion / Orlando - Winter Park

Re:

> From: StereoBoy
> Date: Tue, 5 Dec 2000 11:35:26 EST
> Subject: VHD Item for CED Digest
> To: ceds@teleport.com

> Well, I just received a Victor HD-7900 VHD player (circa 1985) and a
> slew of discs from Japan and all I can say is that VHD is what CED
> SHOULD have been. For those of you who aren't familiar with VHD, it was a disc
> system developed by JVC (Victor in Japan) that used a stylus and capacitance
> variations to store information, just like CED. It differed significantly
> however in that the disc
size was only 10.2 inches and the discs had no grooves.

RCA's decision to use a groove in order to eliminate a servo control was IMO their biggest mistake. The JVC [Japanese Victor] had a data track and an embedded servo track and stylus rode over the top like a sled.

To save money RCA used the capacitance method for only the video. In lieu of servo they used grooves on the disk. The stylus rode in the groove and the cartridge in which the stylus was mounted was attached to an arm which was designed to be perpendicular to the groove.

The arm had a hole with bearing through the back of the arm, and through the hole was a rotating shaft. As the stylus tracked the arm ceased being exactly 90 degrees to the shaft and small 'wheels' then contacted the shaft and were set in motion by it, and moved the arm in the direction of the stylus movement to bring it to be perpendicular again.

The idea was to save money by using what amounted to a mechanical servo. Big mistake. Not knowing the engineering decisions which caused this, the choice may have been made early in the game where the electronic servo in the JVC was not seen as financially feasible.

Previously RCA had dumped $400,000.000 in research on developing their own VCR before scrapping it and buying the VHS technology.

At this time RCA also seemed to have 'revolving door CEOs', where the head man seemed to get change every couple of years. One of the first moves the new person in charge seemed to do, was to kill projects from previous management.

This, in my opinion, is why RCA exists only as a brand name for a consumer electronics division of Thompson of France in the consumer electronics market. [The RCA CD's brand is owned by Berelesman's music division - BMG].

I always thought it was ironic [I guess that's the word] that the brand RCA - which stood for Radio Corporation of America wound up being owned by a company that was at least partially owned by the French government, given that in that era the French did not seem to particularly care for anything American.

Bill

--
Bill Vermillion - bv @ wjv . com

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From: Cleggsan
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 12:08:25 EST
Subject: Re: CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 49
To: ceds@teleport.com, tom@cedmagic.com
I'm very, very impressed with VHD and truly feel that had it been introduced in the US as initially planned, it would have buried CED and severely hurt the LD market. The picture is great, the discs don't skip and the system has all kinds of nice features. It's too bad RCA didn't join with JVC to standardize the system.

If anyone has any questions about the discs or player, please don't hesitate to write me at Stereoboy@aol.com, and I'll try to answer them.

Cheers!
Ty C.

VHD had a very good run in Japan and was used primarily for Karaoke, although there were many movies released as well. Yes, it is a good system and was designed by the same group of engineers that invented the original VHS system. Mr. Inoue, since deceased, was a visionary engineer at Victor and gave much of the incentive and funding for development of VHD. I know some of the engineers who developed the system and they are probably available for Q and A if any one is interested. There are many sources of VHD discs and players; but mostly in Japan. If anyone wants more information, let me know.

Cleggsan
cleggsan@consultant.com

HI,
For VHD information in Japan:

Best place to start is maybe Mr. Vic Goh, retired, but still working in Japan. He was with Victor for many years, both in USA and in Japan, and has lots of knowledge about VHD (and even more about CD-4).

His email address is:
vic-goh@cityfujisawa.ne.jp (Vic Goh)

and I think he can put you on to some of the collectors and others who are still active with VHD. If Mr. Goh does not reply with sufficient information, please let me know and I will refer you to others, but Mr. Goh is personal friend of mine and is very nice man.

Cleggsan
For sale - RCA CED Videodiscs (obviously not LaserDiscs)

All appear to be in decent shape, some really good, and some are more shopworn—some appear to be previous rental copies. Who knows, maybe they all were, but I doubt it. I am unsure because I am not the original owner. Some have little video rental labels, some don't. I have a USB PC camera on my system so I can take photos of any title or titles you wish to see. I have no player unfortunately so I can't offer a guarantee of condition but if anyone is willing to swing by Sacramento, California with a player you may play any or all of them if you wish.

That being said, I will list the titles - Some are two disc movies - please note, a couple of the two disc movies are missing one disc. I will note the UPC number for each disc and notate if a disc is missing. Most stickers are on the front unless I note otherwise. As physical condition varies and you are a serious buyer please feel free to ask for some photos of the disk to ensure you will be satisfied with its condition. I would rather have these sit here forever than have you unhappy.

Single Discs
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Against All Odds 076476140052 Video Store sticker, plus small yellow and red sticker
...All The Marbles 074643817127 Video store sticker
The Blue Lagoon 076476030032
Breathless 076476019136
Brian's Song 076476030421 Small white sticker
Class Of 1984 028485050228
Disney Cartoon Parade V.1 076476007096 Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker, plus small white sticker in back
Forced Vengeance 027616101891 Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker
Gidget 076476040482 Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker
Gotcha! "New" 04789740188 Small blue sticker says
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harry &amp; Son</td>
<td>028485050372</td>
<td>Magic marker writing on front &quot;29.98&quot; is crossed out, 14.99 written underneath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaws 2</td>
<td>047897120107</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knock On Any Door</td>
<td>076476030438</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losin' It</td>
<td>042995206166</td>
<td>Large white price sticker &quot;19.99&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rocky II</td>
<td>076476014285</td>
<td>Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker</td>
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<td>Rocky III</td>
<td>076476134211</td>
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<tr>
<td>Star 80</td>
<td>025757200138</td>
<td>Video Store sticker, plus two small labels appear to have been removed (some adhesive and paper still there)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swing Shift</td>
<td>025757113766</td>
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<td>Tex</td>
<td>076476007348</td>
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<td>To Sir With Love</td>
<td>076476030810</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Zapped!</td>
<td>042995160468</td>
<td>Video Store sticker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Two Disc Sets</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amadeus (Disc 1)</td>
<td>076476122515-10</td>
<td>Small sticker appears to have been removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amadeus (Disc 2)</td>
<td>076476122515-20</td>
<td>Video Store sticker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guns Of Navarone (Disc 1)</td>
<td>076476030148-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guns Of Navarone (Disc 2)</td>
<td>076476030148-20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hustler (Disc 1)</td>
<td>024543100690-10</td>
<td>Video Store sticker, plus a small white and a small red sticker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hustler (Disc 2)</td>
<td>024543100690-20</td>
<td>Video Store sticker, plus a small white and a small blue sticker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest (Disc 1)</td>
<td>076476020088-10</td>
<td>Video Store sticker, plus silver mylar sticker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest (Disc 2) 076476020088-20 Video Store sticker, plus silver mylar sticker and small white sticker

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True Grit (Disc 1) 076476006082-10 Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker

True Grit (Disc 2) 076476006082-20 Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker

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Incomplete Sets

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An Officer And A Gentleman (Disc 1) 076476036072-10 Video Store sticker

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The Godfather Part II (Disc 1) 076476006440-10 Video Store sticker, plus a small white sticker

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Greystoke - The Legend Of Tarzan - Lord Of The Apes (Disc 1) 025757113759-10

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The Last Valley (Disc 1) 024543802594-10 Video Store sticker, plus a small white and a small blue sticker

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Date: Fri, 15 Dec 2000 07:30:49 -0800
From: Neil Wagner <orac>
To: _CED Magic mail list <digest@cedmagic.com>
Subject: VHD info

Crossposted from the alt.video.laserdisc newsgroup -

On Fri, 15 Dec 2000 lislis (Kirk Bayne) wrote:
> The November 1982 issue of the SMPTE Journal (page 1071) has a
t> technical description of the VHD Videodisc system:
> >
> > NTSC - 900 RPM
> > PAL/SECAM - 750 RPM
> > Color - NTSC carrier moved from 3.58MHz to 2.56MHz (similar to CED)
> > FM audio noise reduction system - DE = Dynamic range Expansion
> > Kirk Bayne
> > e-mail delete yesHORMEL

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END CED Digest Vol. 5 No. 50

************************************************************************
To: tom@cedmagic.com
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 2000 22:36:34 -0700
Subject: ced for FREE!
From: w-corleone

I have a CED of Casablanca, actually I have 2 of them, but I only need one. I bought a bogart package a year ago, and I only wanted 2 of the 3 CED because I already had Casablanca, but no tthe other 2. At the time that was the only auction that had the bogart films I was looking for, so I am offering the second copy if Casablanca for FRee, just pay $4.00 for shipping, and it's yours. anybody interested please email me W-CORLEINE@JUNO.COM

From: "endangered" <endangered>
To: <tom@cedmagic.com>
Subject: rca selectavision
Date: Thu, 21 Dec 2000 20:47:37 -0500
Importance: Normal

Hi I have 15 selectavision titles all Disney to sell I know you have all these and some are rarer then others but I thought you might pass on this info to someone who might be interested
The good thing is most of them are original sealed yep original sealed and the couple or so that are not were played once at best these were bought by my dad for us but we were already too old for this stuff and so was the technology I got the machine which was a top of the line rca I think but I cant find it it also was mint and used maybe 3 times or so thanks for your time best tom mckee endangered@snet.net

Date: Sat, 23 Dec 2000 23:44:28 -0800
To: digest@cedmagic.com
From: Tom Howe <ceds@teleport.com>
Subject: New Addition to CED Digest

Season's Greetings All:

Look for a new weekly column to start appearing in the next issue of CED Digest.

--Tom
20 Years Ago In CED History:

January 1, 1981:
* Greece joins the European Common Market as its 10th member.
* University of Georgia defeats Notre Dame 17-10 in the Sugar Bowl at the New Orleans Superdome for the National Collegiate Football Championship.

January 2, 1981:
* Future CED titles in widespread theatrical release: Breaker Morant, The Jazz Singer.

January 3, 1981:
* The head of El Salvador's land redistribution program and two American advisors are murdered in San Salvador.

January 4, 1981:
* The Broadway show "Frankenstein" loses an estimated $2 million when it opens and closes on the same night.

January 5, 1981:
* The 97th U.S. Congress convenes with the Senate and House controlled by different parties, Republican and Democratic respectively, for the first time in 49 years.
* British police charge Peter Sutcliffe, the "Yorkshire Ripper" with one of thirteen alleged murders.
* Nightline TV news show expands from 20 to 30 minutes.
Hello All:

Since we're coming up on the 20th anniversary of the introduction of the CED system I'm starting this weekly addition to CED Digest. This will be an intermingling of major news stories, pop culture events, and CED announcements from RCA (new titles, etc.). Of course there won't be CED news every week, so the other content will allow this to be a weekly addition. My interest in doing this is to create a CED on-the-market timeline, which will be less daunting a task when done a week at a time. And it's interesting to relate CED to memorable historical events. For instance, I remember nothing about the March 22nd CED introduction, but was able to relate it to what was going on in my life at that time upon learning the intro was one week before the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan.

--Tom

END CED Digest Vol. 5