FOUR ANAGRAM CHALLENGES

HEARST SILL ROGERS


HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION

The longest of the four phrases, this is made somewhat difficult by the rare letters V and W, and especially by the three Ms. LE wrote 'In dusty cave with tan Romeo, MP' — archaeology makes for strange bedfellows indeed! DS spent his time in a more conventional manner 'Very hot out, I swim in men's camp'. (Ideally, there should be no words repeated in the rearrangement, but it seems unavoidable.)

CORPORALS AND SERGEANTS

I like best JM's evocative 'Stronger class on parade' and EW's 'Sad crop: no-star generals.' DS's 'Scan troops, learn grades' shifts from a noun-based to a verb-based anagram, but does manage to employ two quite relevant long words. LE has a similar verb-based treatment 'Anneal, sort corps grades.'

HE WHO HESITATES IS LOST

This, probably the most recalcitrant phrase of the lot, is only 20 letters long and uses a W and three Hs. Only two people attempted it; unfortunately, DS omitted the letter H in 'Oh, I see sloths waste it.' EW employed a specific example of dilatoriness 'Hi! Hi! Swoosh tsetse late.' I offer 'Oh -- sit?' I see who's the last which escapes the re-use of two words in the original only by melding them into the apostrophized 'who's.'

COMPUTER SCIENTISTS

Although short, this phrase attracted the most interest. LE made use of computer acronyms (Management Information System, Central Processing Unit, Cathode Ray Tube) in 'Most entice CAsTs. I suppose' 'Mount CbTs, sit, see pic' and 'Entice CPUs; trot MISs'. EW suggested 'Sect sit, count primes' and DS added 'Cuss time, introspect' and the less-than-apposite 'Must cite inspectors.' However, AS provided the most elaborate set of changes on this theme. Assisted by colleagues Patricia Nilsen, AZ 8528

HUMOR

The second note is spotted from George J. Allen W, Phoenix, AZ 8528.
colleagues Patricia Douglass and Susan Yarbrough, he used a micro-
computer attached to a video display to evaluate trial-and-error per-
mutations, resulting in the following 'poem':

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o, suspect strict mien
specimen: stoic, struts

sci-corps, its net mute
men, set circuits, stop
optic screen must sit
pens seem to instruct
must respect its icon
success! time to print

must to sciences trip
i.e., must stir concepts

nuttiest sci-corps, 'em

success! trip to it, men

cosmic nuts, pi street
spit out eccentrisms

to cpu's ministers, etc.
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The most felicitous lines are 'pens seem to instruct' and 'spit out eccen-
trisms'.

JG notes that the attitude of many people toward computer scientists
has gone from 'scepticism to unrest'.

**HUMOR-AND-METAPHOR CONFERENCE**

The second conference on linguistic humor will be held at the
Phoenix Hilton Hotel from March 30 to April 2, 1983. The key-
note speakers will probably include Reinhold Aman (Maledicta),
George Lakoff (California linguist), Ric Masten (California poet)
Allen Walker Read (New York linguist), Susan Keiz Sperling
(New York author), and Larry Wilde (California author). Pro-
posals on any aspect of humorous metaphor will be accepted on
a space-available basis. For further information, contact Don
Nilsen, English Department, Arizona State University, Tempe
AZ 85287.