UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Date   : Week ended 22 April 1971

Authorization : Director of the Computer Centre

1. OPERATIONS

1.1 PDP-10 System

Friday	16 April	Disk pack maintenance 1000-1130, 1740-1830
Tuesday	20 April	Disk pack maintenance 1530-2400
Wednesday	21 April	Disk restoration 1000-1135 Memory errors 1623-1655
Thursday	22 April	Accounting file update 1000-1040 Memory errors 1048-1120, 1125-1305, 2000-2150 System development 1306-1409 Disk drive maintenance 1700-1910

Schedule for forthcoming week: Maintenance 0700-0930
                                  Operations 1000-2245

1.2 GE-225 System

Schedule for forthcoming week: Maintenance 0700-0900
                                  Operations 0900-2400

2. PDP-10 FORTRAN IV

(a) Error in the Use of Scratch Files

Under some circumstances, it appears that creation of a binary
record after a formatted record can cause selective overwriting
of the first formatted record. Users are recommended to avoid
the creation of scratch files containing both formatted and
binary records.

3. GE-225 FORTRAN IV

(a) Execution Error

The intermittent error in FORTRAN IV execution that was reported in previous editions appears to have been corrected. Our thanks to those who have patiently cooperated with us in trying to locate this very troublesome problem.

(b) E and F Output Conversion

E and F output conversion routines can give improper results for very small quantities (less than about 1.0E-70). If no scaling factor is used, then F conversion will yield a zero result, but E conversion leads to an improper but small result. If a scaling factor (i.e. 2PF8.2) is used, then the F output routine can print a very large number, for example 55555.55.

4. USER ADVISORY GROUP

A number of users met on Wednesday 24 March to discuss the formation of a User Advisory Group. A committee of five was elected to gather suggestions from users. A report has been prepared and users are invited to consider it at a meeting to be held at 4 p.m. on Friday 30 April in the Engineering Lecture Theatre (G13) in the Hawken Engineering Building. It is expected that a Computer Centre representative will attend and comment on the report.

A copy of the report may be obtained by contacting the committee convenor at extension 8344.

Members of the committee are:

Don Ferguson	Data processing
Brian Hicks	Computer Science
Rod Miller	Physics
Len Pope	Main Roads
Ron Nilsson	Civil Engineering (CONVENOR)