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Edition

April 1995 - Volume 3 No. 2

Ameritech Retires ¢oin\$aver

The Phone Card Network

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About the Cover...

You can almost feel the spray of the water and the pulse of competition as competitors at the World Rowing Championships go through their gruel-



ing paces. Held in Indianapolis last September, the World Rowing Championships provided thrills for all who competed and attended. It also served to introduce many to the exiting world of telecards, as each athlete and media person at the event was presented with a forty-cent courtesy card from Ameritech. The card pictured here is from Ameritech's series commemorating the event, one of the last in the ¢oin\$aver series.





TELECARD WORLD '95 WEST — CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION HELD AT THE LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER, MARCH, 1995 —

Was this a Trade show or a Consumer show? That's what the attendees were asking. The conferences were definitely for the trades, but who ever heard of a weekend trade show? This was a comment from one of the companies that was there specifically for a trade show. Even if it was just for the trades, it wasn't well attended.

"I'm totally disappointed in the show," said Bill Egan, president of Debit Dial Vending in Deer Park, NY, "It's not what we expected in size and attendance."

Actually the most disappointed were the dealers. Some of them came a long way hoping to sell their wares, however it turns out that the show, as the sign in front of the convention center stated, was for "trade only." Maybe the dealers knew this and maybe they didn't, but I think the next time any of us go to a convention we need to ask, "Is this a trade show or is this a consumer show?" This industry is getting big enough now to warrant two types of shows and they should be honestly represented as such. It's pretty hard to combine the two when your audiences are different. I guess we'll all just have to wait and see how this new industry matures.

RADIO FUN

I recently heard a radio advertisement for a new telecard being offered by a major supermarket chain here in California. Is this a sign of things to come? You bet it is.

We spend a lot of time talking about the future here at *Premier Telecard*. It's always a good idea to focus some attention on the potential of tomorrow, no matter what business you're in. But, what will the future bring to the telecard industry that isn't here

It's My Call...

already? Increased public recognition and participation? Staggering quantitative growth? Of course. The possibilities are unlimited, as you all know, but realistically, as soon as the average person in the street knows what a prepaid phonecard is, great parts of the fun will be gone. As I cheered to hear a telecard being pitched on the radio, it dawned on me that this is it. Right now, today, is the best possible time to be involved in the world of telecards. To be able to celebrate the little daily victories in the growth of our industry is surely more fun than anything that will come as a result of that growth. Are you with me? I hope so. And just think of all the wonderful personal success stories we'll be able to tell about what it felt like to ride on the crest of one of the biggest technological and financial waves the world has ever seen.

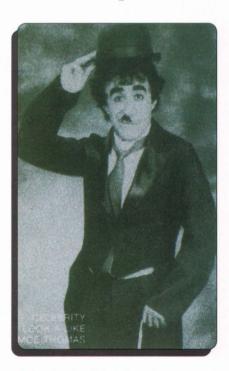
NEW FEATURE

Premier Telecard Magazine includes a brand new section this month entitled "Corporate Profile." Featured in this issue is Canadian powerhouse, BCS Technology, Inc., a 100% owned subsidiary of Sierra Capital Corporation. BCS is the Canadian distributor for Interact, Inc., one of the leaders in advanced call processing technology. You can read all about them beginning on page 18.

In June we will bring you the "Corporate Profile" of another of the many companies helping to define the telecard industry today and shape its tomorrow. This feature is designed to provide the reader with an in-depth look at the companies behind the cards. From the lowdown on a company's financial standing to the detailed explanation of what makes that company stand out in a growing crowd, you'll find all the information you need right here.

In August look for mini-profiles on a number of telecard companies — a great way to stay up to date on who's on top in the exciting world of telecards.

Enjoy!



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Dietrich



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A limited number of the Marlene Dietrich Commemorative Pre-Paid Telephone Card sets have been Produced by Powell Associates with the cooperation of Sprint, Brilliant Color Cards, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation and Curtis Management. This set is considered to be one of the most impressive Telephone Card Issues in 1995. It is the first using four exclusive pieces of art depicting Marlene Dietrich executed by four renowned American artists. It is also the first time ever that Sprint One Gram Gold Telephone Cards have been issued.

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ELL ASSO

First Phone Card To Feature "Face On Mars"!

"The Face on Mars" phonecard, carrying 5 units of time provided by ACMI of Kentucky, will be given as a gift in return for a \$65 fully tax deductible donation or more to The Feinstein Foundation, a non-profit charitable foundation dedicated to relieving world hunger, based in

Cranston, RI.

Its founder, Alan Shawn Feinstein, is a noted financial advisor and has contributed significantly to such causes. The World Hunger Program at Brown University is named for him, as is the first high school in the country centered around public service. Both Providence College and Johnson & Wales University have recently presented him with honorary doctorate degrees for his humanitarian work.

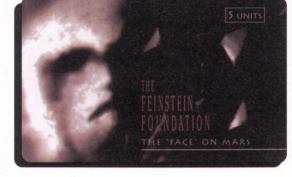
This card — striking in appearance — was designed by Ari Feinstein, Alan's son.

"This Face has sparked a new interest in space exploration, that could lead to discoveries of new resources and raw materials that would benefit all mankind," Feinstein said.

The first prepaid phonecard to depict the controversial "Face on Mars" has been released by The Feinstein Foundation of Cranston, Rhode Island.

The photograph of the Face, taken in 1976 by the Viking mission, has been the subject of considerable debate among scientists. While many think the photograph is a "trick of light and shadow," others like noted researcher Richard Hoagland contend otherwise, pointing out that the Face's symmetry indicates its origin as an artificial structure.

NASA plans to rephotograph



this area of Mars with sophisticated cameras in 1997. Scientists are hoping the new more resolute photography will answer whether this "Face" was built by intelligent life, possibly hundreds of thousands of years ago.

Say Good-bye to Norfolk Island Foenkaad Packs

The first Norfolk Island foenkaad set was issued on October 7, 1994 and is available in three types: the Norfolk Pack, the Euro-pack and the USA Edition. These were prepared for the launches on Norfolk Island, in Australia, in Europe at the "T" card fair in Cologne, and at the Phonecard fair in Houston, Texas. The numbers were 6,000 Norfolk Island packs, 2,500 Euro-packs and 2,500 USA Editions. Small by any standard.

The Norfolk Island Telecommunications authority has decided that these packs, available through the Foenkaad Bureau, will be withdrawn from sale on April 6, 1995, six months after issue. The foenkaad packs and the cards

> remier elecard

with their distinctive numbering, will then be destroyed. Following this, the number of packs destroyed will be officially announced. Collectors will thus know the exact number of packs which exist in the market.

Collectors will remember that the card was issued for telecommunications use on the island in its phone booths for international calls. Intra-island calls are free and the phone booths don't need card reading machines. The introduction of phonecards has been a huge commercial success on the island with an increase in phone booth usage of about 70% in the first 3 months. The current issue of cards will therefore remain on sale as a definitive issue for use



on the island. The set of cards will be withdrawn on the 6th of October 1996, should supplies last. The next set of cards will

Premier Telecard Magazine Publisher Bill Jordan with the Hon. Geoff J. Bennett M.L.A., Norfolk Island Minister for Finance

feature the Norfolk Island Boobook Owl, which has the dubious honor of being the "world's rarest bird." Until recently it was on its own, but a male



New Zealand Boobook Owl was introduced in an effort to see if at least some of the genes

of the Norfolk species can be saved. Fortunately, they paired up and there are now eleven owls on Norfolk Island — but still only one purebred Norfolk Owl.

The adventure of phonecard collecting begins here!

With the **TELECARD COLLECTOR'S ESSENTIALS**, you will be racing down the road to successful collecting in this new hobby where the momentum increases every day!







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CASH CARD (D) Mici In 1987, Nichigan Bell, an Ameritech Company, Ameritech conducted the first U.S. Public trial of a 米 telephone debit card. * Edition Dat In late 1993, Ameritech Ameritech conducted an employee trial to test its new, improved telephone debit card. This debit card is one in a series recognizing 1994 world class soccer events held in the Nidwest. Am This card was produced. in honor of the Ameritechsponsored Senior Open

On February 14, 1994,

Ameritech, one of the Regional Bell Operating Companies and originator of the Michigan Bell CA\$H CARD, introduced the first in a series of new debit cards being offered this year: the **¢oin\$aver**[™] card.

ising coins to make

It's the first remote memory debit card issued by a Regional Bell Company...it can be used at all 240,000 Ameritech Pay Phones. And it's backed by Ameritech, an established Regional Bell Operating Company servicing 12 million customers in the Midwest. To locate an Ameritech telecard dealer, call 1-800-335-3329.



To Better Communication

Ameritech Retires ¢oin\$aver Prepaid Calling Cards

Plans in place for new and improved product

A three-card series commemorating the World Rowing Championships is one of the last series of cards that will be retired as part of Ameritech's ¢oin\$aver family of prepaid telephone card products. The company plans to redesign its prepaid telephone cards to better meet the needs of its customers seeking an alternative to coin calling, and intends to relaunch the new product sometime this year.

According to Joseph Miller, Ameritech's director of trade marketing/specialty products, pay phone services, the ¢oin\$aver series has been a successful product, but Ameritech customers are looking for even more flexibility from their cards.

> "We're planning to introduce a new generation of prepaid telephone cards in direct response to our customers' requests," said Miller. "We're looking at moving from existing coin rates to units which will make the card easier to use. And we're also exploring the possibility of enabling the customer to use our cards from any phone in the

domestic United States, and potentially worldwide, as opposed to being able to use it solely from Ameritech pay phones."

Ameritech

Ameritect

The proposed product is expected to generate even more interest from customers already using ¢oin\$aver products, as well as attract more customers not yet familiar with the con-

venience of coin-free pay phone usage. Upon introduction of the new product, sales of the ¢oin\$aver brand will be discontinued.

When Ameritech became the first regional Bell company in the United States to introduce a remote memory prepaid telephone card last year, the intention was to provide pay telephone customers with a more convenient way to stay in touch. The proposed new family of prepaid telephone card products is reaffirming the company's commitment to its customers as Ameritech explores ways to make it even more convenient.

Ameritech officially entered the prepaid phonecard arena in 1987 when Michigan Bell, an Ameritech company, tested a debit card on the University of Michigan campus. After the trial, which used a set-based technology, the company concluded the debit card was ahead of its time in the United States market. But as prepaid telephone cards have become an acceptable alternative to coins in pay phones throughout Europe, Asia and Australia, Ameritech took another look at a prepaid telephone card product and the ¢oin\$aver card was born in late 1993.

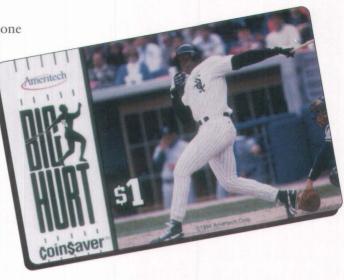
The newly-retired family of products contains 18 different cards or series of cards. The World Rowing Championships cards, one of the last in the ¢oin\$aver series, was released last September.

"We wanted the cards to commemorate Ameritech's sponsorship of a major sporting event taking place in the heart of our region," said Miller.

The three-card series was issued in denominations of \$1 (10,000 printed), \$5 (9,000 printed) and \$10 (9,000 printed).

remier elecard Ameritech's prepaid telephone card is expected to be modified as the product is redesigned, it has been something that has set the ¢oin\$aver card apart from other debit cards. It recently received international recognition when it won the Best Technical Innovation award at CardEx1994 last

Ameritech



opment of all Ameritech's products, our new prepaid telephone cards will be developed in the same way."

Ameritech is the regional communications company primarily serving five of America's Midwestern states (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin), as well as several other countries including New Zealand, Hungary, Poland and Norway. Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, the publicly-traded company has more than 63,000 employees and helps 12 million customers communicate and manage information. Its 1994 revenues were \$12.6 billion.

Amerite

coinsave

The \$1 cards were presented to each athlete and media person attending the event and the remaining cards were sold through the U.S. Rowing Association's concessions during the one-week championships.

The last released series of ¢oin\$aver cards, issued in December, honors Chicago White Sox star Frank Thomas. The three-card series shows Thomas in action, accompanied by the officially-licensed "Big Hurt" logo. The cards were issued in denominations of \$1 (40,000 quantity), \$5 (35,000 quantity) and \$10 (25,000 quantity). The \$1 card, originally slated to be given away at a Chicago White Sox game last September, is scheduled to be given out to the first 15,000 fans attending the May 6 Sox vs. Kansas City game in Chicago. Ameritech is donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the cards to the Frank Thomas Charitable Foundation.

Although the technology of

September. The award recognizes the technology that offers consumers the most user-friendly method of placing a call.

Ameritech

coinsaver

Although the ¢oin\$aver family of products has been retired, Miller stresses that the cards currently in circulation remain valid.

"We're hoping to build upon the success of ¢oin\$aver and give our customers more of what they've been asking for," said Miller. "The needs of our customers drive the devel



13

TeleCards For a Cause Canadian Fund Raiser **Benefits Two Children's Charities**

Americans probably aren't too familiar with the motion picture, "Henry & Verlin," winner of the Best Film award at the 1994 Atlantic Film Festival, but

with the help of the Christian Children's Fund of Canada, Giant Steps/Toronto and B & I Telecard, Inc. it will hopefully become better known by all.

"Henry & Verlin" is a natural theme to build a charitable phone card campaign around, for it is the uplifting story of an autistic boy and his mentally-challenged uncle.

On March 8, 1995, B& J Telecard Canada, a division of B&J Telecard, Inc. of Lakewood, NJ, joined with the award-win-

ning motion picture, "Henry & Verlin," in a special fund-raising campaign to benefit the two Canadian charities.

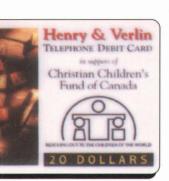
in support of

Henry & Verlin TELEPHONE DEBIT CARD

20 DOLLA

Mr. Jeff Rodman, B&J Telecard's Vice President of International

Marketing, stated that all proceeds generated from B&J Telecard's first Canadian tele-



ty on the front, and includes contact information for that charity on the back. Proceeds from both the retail sales and the \$1 per minute recharge rate will go to the charities. The cards can be used for long distance phone calls from any touch tone phone in the U.S. or Canada.

To purchase the "Henry & Verlin" phonecard, please call 416-510-3218. 🌉

phone debit card set will go to these two charities.

B&I's first Canadian phonecard set was

designed to support special preview screenings of

Opeongo Films' latest release, "Henry & Verlin."

Each of the two rechargeable phonecards, which

sell for \$20 (Canadian) for 20 minutes of long dis-

tance calls throughout North America, prominently

displays the movie poster and the logo of the chari-

From Heart to Heart

What other industry is so versatile as to be able to continually come up with ways to help people help themselves? It's truly a heart warming experience to consistently see how these new debit phonecards can benefit so many people.

Have you heard of The MusiCares Foundation? It's a non-profit charity established five years ago by the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, Inc., with the sole mission of ensuring that people involved in music have a place to turn during their times of need. MusiCares focuses the resources of the music industry on human service issues by providing Financial Assistance

Grants, a National Self-Paid Insurance Plan, and a Human **Resource** Directory and Referral

Service. The phonecard

features the MusiCares logo - a white music note in the center of a red heart. To activate the card, which will provide a reduced long distance rate,

recipients will simply call a special phone number to purchase as many minutes of long distance phone service as they want.

This phonecard made its debut at the MusiCares Person of the Year Dinner in Los

Angeles on February 27. The new MusiCares Phonecard from B&J Telecard of Lakewood, NJ, will be distributed to the more than 10,000 mem-



bers of the music community who have shown past support for The **MusiCares** Foundation. In addition, B&J will make the MusiCares phonecard available to the general public on a limited basis.

"This phonecard is designed to provide MusiCares with a unique new way to raise money for people in the music industry who need their help," said Joseph Meerman, President of B & J Telecard, Inc.

For more information on MusiCares, call (310)392-3777 💂

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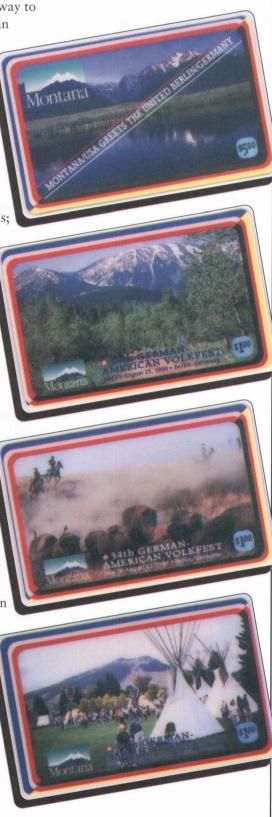
Tele Scene Germany & The Big Sky Country

What an interesting way to celebrate the 34th German American Volksfest held in Berlin. Germany, July 29 through August 21, 1994! They picked as their motto, MON-TANA — BIG SKY COUNTRY, and introduced a limited edition set of four phonecards. The first three phonecards; Absaroka/Beartooth Custer National Forest, Indian Pow Pow /Helena, and Moise Bison Range were in denominations of U.S. \$1 and were issued in quantities of 3,000 each. The Mission Mountains card has a denomination of U.S. \$5: the quantity issued was 1,000 each.

The remote memory access services are provided by the International Telemanagement Group (I.T.G.) utilizing the AT&T 800 network with a special tollfree access number from Germany, an unusual delivery system for Europe, standard in the U.S.

The cards could only be obtained at the Volksfest and had not been offered elsewhere before that time. Apparently, there are still a few cards available and interested collectors may write to Philadesign, P.O. Box 1437, 38656 BAD HARZBURG, Germany.

> remier elecard



Aero-Club Card Set to Soar

A very limited edition of cards designed for the 'Luftsportverein Lüneburg e.V. im Deutschen Aeroclub' are available to collectors. The \$2.50 cards show a glider in flight from a watercolor by local artist A. Pappert. Made in the U.S.A. by GTS to serve as both membership ID and international phonecards, only 980 of these cards were issued, and only 70 will be sold to the public.

There are three distinct types of cards issued in this series:

A) Club-Cards with the number of the German Aero-Club in the upper left corner of the front of the card, and a seal/stamp (Luftsportverein Lüneburg e.V.) on the back. These cards are issued to club members only as identification. There are 304 of this type.



B) Phonecards lacking the Club-Card number and the seal, given to special visitors. 596 of these were issued.

C) A very limited edition of 80 phonecards, signed by the artist on the front. The print numbers of these phonecards are 401 - 480. Because of the extremely small number of cards available, orders must be limited to one card per person.

Order from: Luftsportverein Lüneburg e.V. im Deutschen Aeroclub, Zeppelinstrasse, P.O. Box 2142, D-21311 Lüneburg, Germany.





BCS Technology

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BCS: Canadian distributor for Interact Incorporated

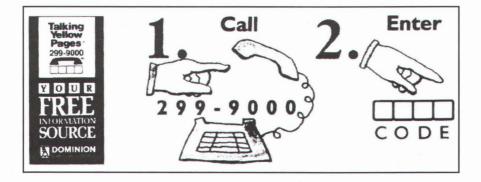
BCS Technology Inc. is the distributor in Canada for Interact Inc., a leader in advanced call processing technology.

The Interact call processing equipment is a multi-tasking, multi-applications interactive voice response processor that significantly increases the overall capacity and flexibility of voice interactive information services. AT&T, Sprint, Motorola, MCI and others use Interact equipment for debit card applications, cellular applications, and interactive television. BCS has installed systems for Dominion Directory Company of the BC Tel Group, which is currently used to operate the highly successful Talking Yellow Pages, and Westel Telecommunications Ltd., for their debit card platform.

BCS is establishing Interact Switch Centers in three centers in Canada and the United States. This will enable BCS to become a full service provider for the debit card industry, offering low cost long distance service to companies involved in marketing prepaid phonecards as well as supporting other promotional and custom debit card applications.

BCS has developed software which enables it to supply an enhanced Talking Yellow PagesTM package. This **PhoneRes**TM module actually enables a customer to book a hotel room or bus trip, or obtain a ticket for the theater.

Similarly, its **Interactive Survey**TM module provides market research companies with the latest technology for tele-



phone surveys, which is the future for all market research, student registration and even voting with instant on-line results.

Prepaid Debit Cards are today's hottest telecommunication product.

The long-distance industry in the United States recently discovered what the rest of the world has known for years: prepaid or debit telephone cards pay, and if the trends continue, the telephone company calling (credit) card may soon be a thing of the past.

The new prepaid phonecards are financially efficient, economical and quickly becoming one of the hottest products and marketing tools in the United States.

The prepaid phonecard concept may be a novel approach to Western culture, but some 150 countries worldwide have been using and trading these cards for years. Prepayment is fiscally more practical, much more prudent than paying with coins, calling collect or from a hotel, and on top of that, calling cards make great gifts — financially and aesthetically.

> Certain key factors influenced their decision to jump on the bandwagon a mere 12 years after Europe introduced it: profits, profits, profits.

remier elecard

GROWTH IN THE PREPAID CALLING CARD INDUSTRY (NORTH AMERICA) 1995 IN MILLIONS

1996	
1997	
2000	

The major long-distance carriers like AT&T, Sprint, MCI and LDDS MetroMedia in the United States didn't arbitrarily decide to pursue prepayment cards simply because they are used elsewhere in the world. Certain key factors influenced their decision to jump on the bandwagon a mere 12 years after Europe introduced it: profits, profits, profits.

In 1993 alone, U.S. long-distance companies lost \$1.2 billion in credit card fraud. On the other hand, long-distance carriers also understand that automated operator services save a great deal of money, so they put one and one together. Since using prepaid cards requires no live operators, it's no wonder that we are beginning to see signs of a major shift from telephone credit cards to prepaid phonecards.

\$3 Billion Market

A year ago, the prepaid phonecard market was valued at about \$75 million. At the end of 1994, it represented about \$400 million and is now projected to hit over \$3 billion by the end of the decade.

It's a win/win situation. Carriers receive their money up front and labor costs are minimal. Essentially, prepayment is a totally automated way of completing a telephone call, and it's affordable to any market.

Cards are purchased in denominations of about \$5 and up, then either tossed away after the allotted minutes or units are spent, or, in some cases, recharged via a major credit card over the phone.

Business executives who travel frequently and extensively find prepaid cards invaluable because they allow flexibility to place calls anywhere, anytime, and depending upon the long-distance carrier, at a good rate.

Prepaid phonecards are a simple, economical, good business, and endorsed by consumers.

BCS Prepaid Calling Cards

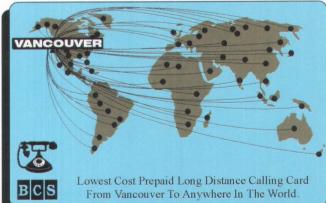
BCS Technology provides a number of its own prepaid calling cards, which are specifically designed to take advantage of the company's technological expertise. A good example of this is the BCS Vancouver Prepaid Calling Card, which provides the lowest cost calling from Vancouver to anywhere in the world, any time of day. Other BCS "City" cards offer similar savings.

Cards are sold over the counter and by vending machines. Apart from educating the consumer as to what a prepaid phonecard is, there has only been one real problem with the sale of prepaid phonecards. That is the fact that the cards have to be treated like cash. The cards are pre-loaded with time and if a card is lost or pilfered at the store, the retailer is out of pocket. But that is fast changing as the industry matures and adopts technology similar to bank machines. Shortly, the cards

will simply be paper or plastic until someone purchases them and they are activated at the point of sale.

> BCS has developed a unique application where long distance can be used as a retail "rewards" program.

Existing point of sale devices will soon be used to activate magnetic encoded cards at retail outlets. BCS is providing telecommunications services to DataWave Vending Inc., who are introducing the first vending



machine where the customer can purchase a card with either cash or credit cards, and the card is activated at the same time.

Long-distance carriers and resellers are only one segment of the industry to understand the ramifications of prepayment. As a marketing tool for business,



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the cards have far-reaching implications. They are viewed as miniature billboards and marketing agencies, advertising and promotion companies grasp the value and are diving in.

Retail Customer Loyalty Rewards Program

BCS has developed a unique application where long distance can be used as a retail "rewards" program. Cards with magnetic stripes can be tied to product purchase, and similar to an air miles program, consumers can earn long distance time by purchasing particular products at participating retailers. A great way to kick off a program of this type is to use the card, which can be a miniature advertising billboard, with some free time on it tied to purchase of the product(s). This brings the consumer back to the store for other products offered by the same company.

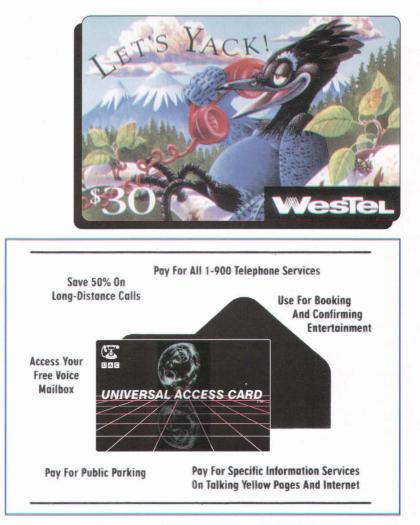
Universal Access Card

Enhanced services can be offered at the switch level. This means that the cards can be used for other purposes as well as making long-distance calls. A cardholder can access other services by selecting voice prompts when using the cards. Road, weather, sports information, customer surveys or anything else that the front end access computer can offer the user, and is either free or requires payment, can be accessed using a prepaid card.

Companies who have been providing 1-900 services will in all likelihood soon switch to payment using prepaid phonecards as the telephone companies no longer guarantee payment.

Companies who have been providing 1-900 services will in all likelihood soon switch to payment using prepaid phonecards as the telephone companies no longer guarantee payment.

BCS Technology's Universal Access Card (UAC) will enable consumers to order and pay for a host of these telecom related products as well as being used for making long-distance calls.



1-900 Service providers will display the UAC logo in their advertisements (like a Visa or Mastercard symbol) so consumers who are calling for services like race results, astrological advice, or adult services can pay for the service using their UAC. The UAC Card may even be able to be used to make a lotto bet, pay for public parking and public transport, or the like. One of their strategic partners in British Columbia, Canada will be Dominion Directors, who operate the "Talking Yellow Pages" and now will be able to be paid for some of their most popular information services.

The companies in the 1-900 business will like this card, as it guarantees them 100% payment.

Ultimately, many U.S. companies will discover phonecards will offer another major method of getting their message out as well as a perfect way to pay for their services. It's not hard to see that a lot of professional services like those in the paralegal, medical and professional fields could be accessed and paid for using the phonecards. The industry is expanding very quickly and the applications are endless.

BCS is a 100% owned subsidiary of Sierra Capital Corp., a listed public company on the Alberta Stock Exchange. (ASE-SJC) For more information, please contact Sierra Capital, Investor Relations at 1-604-683-2227 or 1-604-684-7299



IMPRESSIVE CONNECTIONS

SmarTel prepaid calling card programs provide unique and exciting new promotional vehicles. Connect with your customers by providing free long distance calling and take advantage of this unique opportunity to broadcast customized messages. Share the gift of communication and make a lasting impression with each call. SmarTel-promotional programs people are sure to talk about.

1995 Irish International: A Recipe For Success

Take a country where phonecard collecting is the most popular hobby; add collectors and dealers from England, Europe, and North America; stir in huge crowds, and serve in a spectacular setting. What do you have? The 1995 Irish International Collectables Fair.



The fair will be held on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, May 27-28. Advance bookings by standholders are already well ahead of previous years, with collector interest equally high. Without a

doubt, both increases are a result of the enormous success of the 1993 and 1994 events, which saw attendance by collectors grow from 2,600 in 1993 to 3,850 in 1994.

Over 50 of the 150-plus standholders will be offering an outstanding selection of phonecards from Ireland and around the world. With over 3,000 collectors expected to attend the Fair, hectic trading activity on the floor is anticipated.

Ireland is the fastest-growing market in Europe for phonecards, and phonecard collecting is now the most popular hobby in the country. Recent estimates put the number of serious phonecard collectors in the Republic of Ireland at over 35,000 — and growing fast. In addition, the Irish International also attracts a large number of phonecard collectors and dealers from England, Europe and North America. With its international flavor and huge crowds, it is one of the most exciting fairs on the annual phonecard calendar of events.

Of special interest to collectors will be the souvenir pack containing a limited edition phonecard produced especially for the fair. It will be on sale to collectors attending the fair, with a limit of one pack per person at admission while supplies last.

Laden with elegance and rich in history, the Royal Hospital Kilmainham provides the perfect backdrop to this event. One of the most breath-taking buildings in Ireland, it was built by Charles II in 1680 as a home for his army veterans. After going through extensive restoration during the early 1980's, it is now the National Centre for Culture and the Arts, houses the Irish Museum of Modern Art, and is the venue for the most prestigious exhibitions and events taking place in Ireland each year. Close to the center of Dublin and only a half-hour taxi ride from the Dublin Airport, the Royal Hospital Kilmainham is an ideal venue for international events such as this. According to Fair organizer, Peter Sheen, 'It is worth a visit to the fair just to see the building!'

Dublin itself is an inexpensive city to visit, and has a well-deserved reputation as a friendly and relaxed place for business or pleasure. The many U.S. visitors who attended last year's fair enjoyed both an active fair and an exciting weekend in Dublin. In fact, many had such a good time that they stayed on for a short holiday after the fair was over.

From all indications, it appears that fairgoers are in for a rewarding time at the Irish International — they may even strike gold at the rainbow's end.

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- Accepts Cash & Credit Cards
- Activates Calling Card at time of retail sale
- Holds 500 Calling Cards
- Wireless communications
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- Cards are Limited Edition
 "Tony Dorsett Superbowl" card 2000 printed
 "Tony Dorsett #33" card 3000 printed
- Each card contains 60 minutes prepaid long distance calling (41c per minute)
- Tony Dorsett's own voice will guide you through the prompts when calling

#33

\$25 Superbowl Collector S Edition

Great collectors price
 — \$25 per card

 Buy 10 cards and receive an autographed card — FREE!

Visa and MasterCard Accepted

Long Distance Telephone Service Provided by Winstar Gateway Network.

Be sure to add your name to our mailing list for future editions!

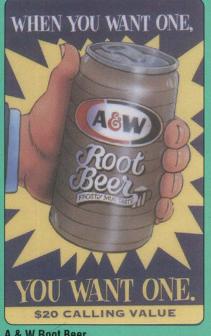
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To order or for more information call: 1-800-353-8945

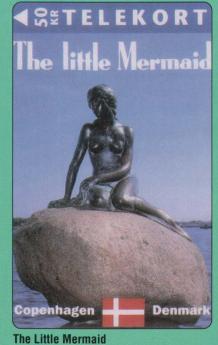
Marketed exclusively by InstaCall & Associates

Temier elecard

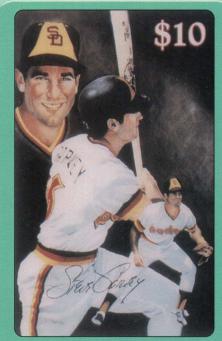




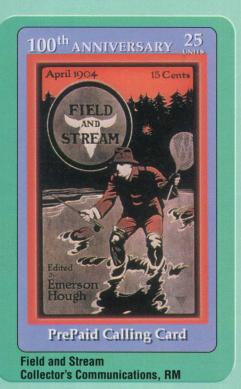
A & W Root Beer Communications Design Group, RM, R

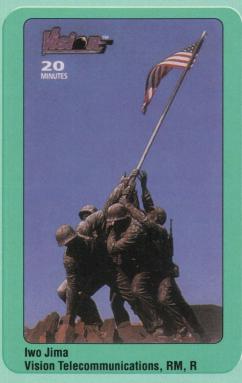


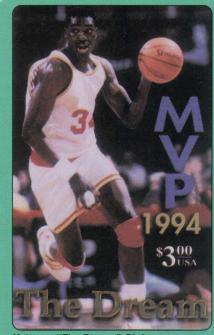
Tele Danmark, SMS, NR



Steve Garvey TeleTrading Card, RM







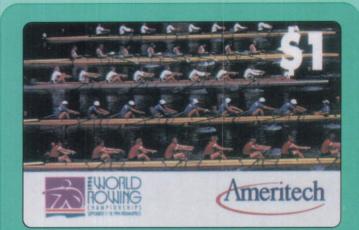
Hakeem "The Dream" Olajuwon The Collectors' Advantage, RM, R





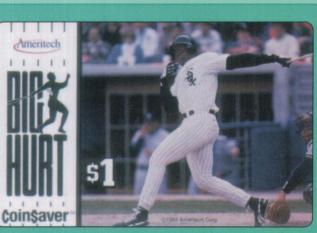


Year of the Pig GAF Telecommunications, Inc., RM, R

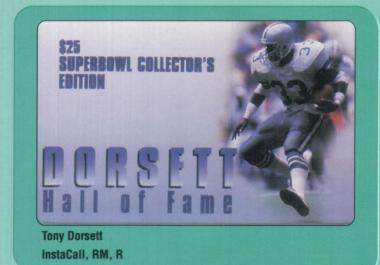


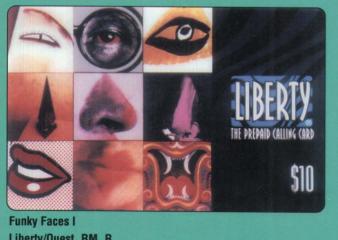
World Rowing Championships Ameritech, RM, SMS, R





Frank Thomas Ameritech, RM SMS, R





Liberty/Quest, RM, R

RM-Remote Memory, R-Renewable, NR-Non-Renewable, TR-Transfer Time

Mount Rushmore, Columbus Ohio, and Mothers Day?

So, what do these things have in common? Well, they are just a few of the many and varied images represented on ConQuest's innovative line of prepaid phonecards.

While ConQuest's contribution to the telecard market is well-known by all involved with the phonecard industry, perhaps less known is the fact that ConQuest introduced its first cards in December of 1992. Thus, their entry into the then-fledgling phonecard industry truly makes ConQuest an 'old-timer' in an industry in which new companies seem to sprout up overnight.

Entitled "ConQuest Debit Cards," ConQuest's inaugural cards, issued in \$5, \$10, and \$20 denominations, were made of paper and issued in limited quantities, their invento-

ry being destroyed in May 1994. So if you have one of these cards, you have a real treasure.

ConQuest then went on to introduce its Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity "Shake,

Rattle and Roll!" Card in 1993 — a 3-unit card, with an issue of 500, commemorating the Fraternity's 47th Biennial Conclave before releasing its popular CQ Telepass in January, 1994 in denominations of \$5, \$10, and \$25.

From there, ConQuest introduced its popular CQ Talk! line of cards, and issued 39 additional designs in 1994 — among them the Assorted Coin Card (March, 1994, 25 units, 5,000 issued), the Lincoln Memorial Card (April, 1994, 25 units, 10,000 issued), and the Eagle & Flag Card (April, 1994, 25 units, 10,000 issue).

Perhaps one of the most inventive uses of the phonecard transpired when ConQuest issued 5,000 Los Angeles Earthquake Cards in February, 1994 to victims of the Los Angeles earthquake. ConQuest donated the design and long distance time of these 5-minute cards, while Brilliant Color Cards donated the printing, and HT Technologies coordinated the distribution with the Red Cross.

Equally innovative was ConQuest's Gibson Greetings Mothers Day Cards, featured in the May, 1994 issue of *Premiere Telecard Magazine* (Vol. 2 #5). The four designs issued in May, 1994 in quantities of 7,500 and denominations of 10 minutes, were included in a coordinating greeting card.

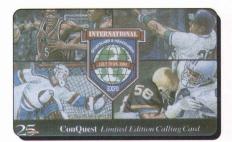
The merging of sportscards and phonecards was inevitable. The Telecard Pavillion, sponsored by *Premier Telecard Magazine*,

which was part of the International Sportscard & Memorabilia Expo in July of 1994, provided ConQuest the perfect opportunity to turn its eye to the

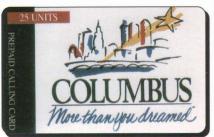


playing field. They issued four sports cards, featuring basketball in the "Fast Break" card, baseball in the "Long Ball" card, hockey in the "Denied" card, and football in the "Crunch Time" card. The 1,500 cards, 25 units each, were available for individual purchase, with the remaining 2,500 available as part of a limited edition five card set, which included the 25-unit Sportscard Expo Logo card, depicting all four sports images on one card.

Capitalizing on the collectibility of phonecards, ConQuest issued 100 each of a 3-card series (5, 10, and 20 minutes) in its "Sears Coin, Stamp, Precious Metals, and Phone Cards" line, in



September, 1994, featured in *Premier Telecard Magazine*, December, 1994, page 35. Then there was a public card also issued in September, 1994 by the Greater Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, 5,000 cards with 25 units each. These were followed by the Nissin Travel Service Card, issued



in November, which bridged the language barrier. Of the 600, 20unit cards issued, 500 were in the Japanese language. ConQuest wrapped up 1994 with their \$5, \$10, and \$20 "SuperAmerica First Issue Phone Cards," issued in quantities of 15,000, 8,000, and 8,000 respectively.

It is no wonder that the phonecard industry remains one of the "hottest consumer markets today," for, although companies like ConQuest have a long history in the industry, they continue to remain current, innovative, and on the cutting edge of this fastpaced and ever-changing market.



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Tele-News Flash Whoops!

What a difference a zero makes! In the February issue of Premier Telecard Magazine (Volume 3 No. 1, page 33), we incorrectly stated that Sprint's Marlene Dietrich plastic telecards are limited to 200 serial numbered pieces per design. We should have said they are limited to 2,000 serial numbered pieces per design. We humbly apologize for the mix up. We also reported (page 35) that Amerivox's Indian Cards program series No. 5 are limited to 500 serial numbered pieces per design. Again, we dropped the last zero; these cards are limited to 5,000 per design.

Stay in Touch with Be3J Telecard DOMESTIC & INTERNATIONAL PREPAID CALLING CARDS

More and more people in North America are enjoying the convenience of using prepaid phone cards for making domestic and international long-distance calls.

 CUSTOM NETWORK SERVICES INTERNATIONAL ORIGINATION DESIGN & PRINTING MARKETING SUPPORT CHARITABLE FUND-RAISING . FULFILLMENT

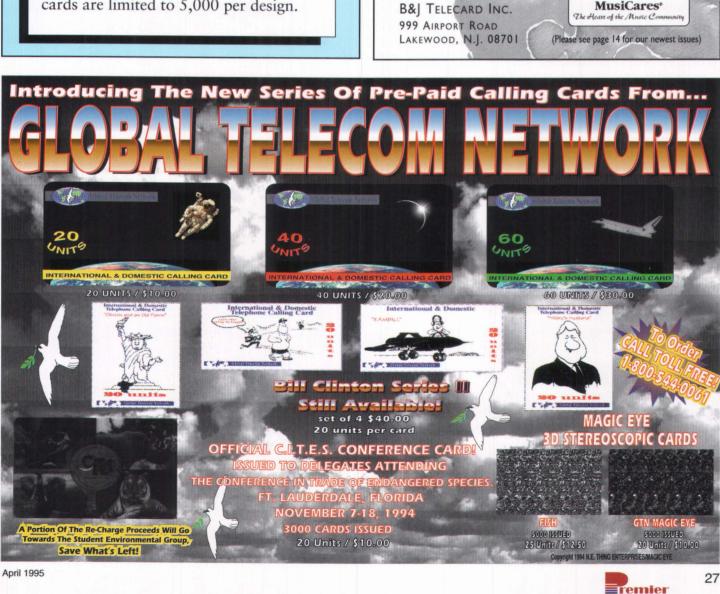
B& Telecard helps you reach this audience through custom debit card programs designed to meet your needs. We also offer an attractive

program for phone card retailers interested in producing their own cards.

For more information about our phone card programs, please call 1-800-388-0912 for a B& representative near you.

\$25

SCOTT TODD



InstaCall Introduces **Limited Edition Tony Dorsett Calling Cards**

Football star Tony Dorsett was a four-time college All American with the University of Pittsburgh. In 1976, his senior year. Dorsett won the coveted Heisman trophy as the nation's best college football player. After Dorsett's storied college career, he entered the National Football League and immediately took the professional ranks by storm. He earned the 1977 NFL Rookie of the Year award and provided the Dallas Cowboys with a formidable running attack. Tony Dorsett holds the National Football League record for the longest run, a 99-yard stomp, and is the 3rd all-time vardage gainer in NFL history with 12,739 career rushing yards. He was inducted into the College Hall of Fame and the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1994.

InstaCall Communications, Inc. has released a limited edition series of prepaid calling cards depicting this legendary Hall of Famer. These highly desirable cards feature a stopaction photograph of Dorsett in full stride. The first card in the series was introduced at Superbowl XXVIII in Miami in January, 1995. This card has a retail value of \$25 and offers a

long distance service to over 1,250 countries and locations around the world.

full hour of prepaid calling time. The second card in the series is referred to as the #33 card; it was introduced at the Telecard World '95 West Conference and Exposition at the Los Angeles Convention Center during the first week of March, 1995. This



card also has a retail value of \$25 and a full hour of prepaid calling time. Each of these collectible cards is sequentially numbered to certify authenticity.

Simple, easy-to-use instructions appear on the back of each personalized card, and an automated voice prompt provides direction in the user's choice of language during calling. Each time the card is used, the automated voice prompt informs the user of the remaining units, including a message for card recharging. Standard features of InstaCall prepaid calling include:

- Domestic U.S. dialing
- International dialing
- Sequential multiple call function
- Three-way call conferencing
- Continual on-line usage by adding additional InstaCall numbers
- Access to information services.

InstaCall has further personalized the cards by featuring Tony Dorsett on all voice prompts as he leads the cardholder through the menus.

As most regular readers of Premier Telecard Magazine know, the weakest link in personal and corporate communications in the United States today is often the credit card or calling card products used by sales and service representatives in the field. These field representatives often use public telephones and are subjected to a variety of rates, depending on the provider of the pay telephone. However, the InstaCall prepaid Tony Dorsett calling card series precludes excessive long distance rates, including those charged from pay telephones, by providing convenient 800 access to the prepaid card network. With telephone service provided by WinStar Gateway Network, traveling has never been easier than with the

...For every 10 cards ordered, an authentically autographed card will be sent with the purchase!

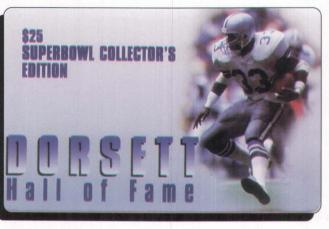
InstaCall Tony Dorsett prepaid long distance calling cards. With access from virtually any touch-tone telephone, InstaCall offers long distance service to over 1,250 countries and locations. InstaCall also has inbound service from foreign countries around the world.

InstaCall has poised itself in the highly-competitive telecard marketplace to direct its service toward the medium to large-sized corporation throughout the United States. These corporations' complex telecommu-

remier elecard nications requirements are vital to their continued overall growth and stability, and relationships with strong and viable telecommunications companies are a must. In order to effectively meet these corporations' needs, InstaCall has

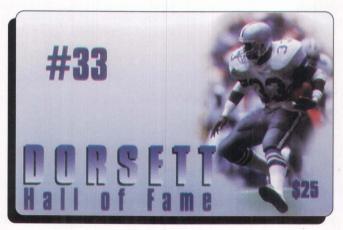
developed a Joint -Venture philosophy through which a strong relationship can be established and a sharing of profit by the Joint-Venture partner can be realized above and beyond the usual cost efficiency of InstaCall operations. The Joint-Venture relationship ensures a number of things: first, the Joint-Venture partner is ensured that its telecommunications network is at its optimum efficiency and lowest possible cost; second, they are assured that this efficiency and economy will be maintained; and third, because there is financial reward for both parties, a strong relationship is developed that will be profitable for the long term. Because of this desire for mutually-beneficial, long-term relationships, InstaCall offers 50 percent of all profits attributable to the Joint-Venture's business. The sharing of profits complements the direct benefit of reduced long distance costs due to the volume discounts on all InstaCall accounts.

InstaCall has an operating agreement with selected carriers to provide the networking of telecommunications for the services provided by InstaCall. An arrangement of buying and selling long distance service at bulk rates allows InstaCall the





PTM Magazine publisher Bill Jordan and NFL Hall of Famer Tony Dorsett meet at the Telecard World '95 West Conference in Los Angeles.



opportunity to offer the corporate community substantial saving in communication expense while maintaining the high level of quality communications that corporations require. The calls made over these networks are transmitted over the same networks that would be used if a company bought long distance service from one of the major carriers. The main difference is cost. Because of the amount of long distance

> traffic purchased by InstaCall, they can provide a lower cost to the end user.

In addition to the sheer personal and business rewards of using InstaCall telecards, a special bonus has been announced in connection with the Tony Dorsett prepaid calling card series. This one is hard to resist. For every 10 cards ordered, an authentically autographed card will be sent with the purchase! InstaCall feels very confident that the limited issue Superbowl collector's edition and #33 telecards are a great value, not only for the superior, cost-effective long distance service, but also for the collector who's looking for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. InstaCall representatives warn that only a limited number of these cards are left.

In the future InstaCall Communications, Inc., a Dallasbased company, plans to introduce a series of Dallas Cowboy Legends pre-

> paid calling cards. This series is sure to be a success and a great collectors' addition to the Tony Dorsett cards. Stay tuned for more information on these collectors' musts.

InstaCall Communications, Inc. are also the makers of The Gift Card, and The Thank You Card. Look for more informa-

tion on these exciting telecards in future issues of Premier Telecard Magazine.

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Proudly Presenting

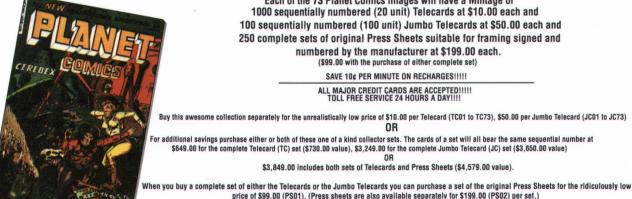
THE INVASION OF THE COMICARDS

Weird Adventures on Other Worlds -The Universe of the Future"

TC71/JC7

TC72/JC72

TC70/JC70



PLANET COMICS 1940 to 1953

The officially licensed telecard series

73 Planet Comics book-covers complete 1940 through 1953 Issued with the image of each of the original 73 comic book- covers

Each of the 73 Planet Comics images will have a Mintage of 1000 sequentially numbered (20 unit) Telecards at \$10.00 each and 100 sequentially numbered (100 unit) Jumbo Telecards at \$50.00 each and 250 complete sets of original Press Sheets suitable for framing signed and numbered by the manufacturer at \$199.00 each. (\$99.00 with the purchase of either complete set)

> SAVE 10¢ PER MINUTE ON RECHARGES!!!!! ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED!!!!! TOLL FREE SERVICE 24 HOURS A DAY!!!!

Buy this awesome collection separately for the unrealistically low price of \$10.00 per Telecard (TCO1 to TC73), \$50.00 per Jumbo Telecard (JCO1 to JC73) OR

For additional savings purchase either or both of these one of a kind collector sets. The cards of a set will all bear the same sequential number at \$649.00 for the complete Telecard (TC) set (\$730.00 value), \$3,249.00 for the complete Jumbo Telecard (JC) set (\$3,650.00 value) OR

\$3,849.00 includes both sets of Telecards and Press Sheets (\$4,579.00 value).

price of \$99.00 (PS01), (Press sheets are also available separately for \$199.00 (PS02) per set.)

TC73/JC73

Call now for your free brochure 1-800-773-3315 or fax 201-796-2250









TC61/JC61 TC62/JC62 TC63/JC63

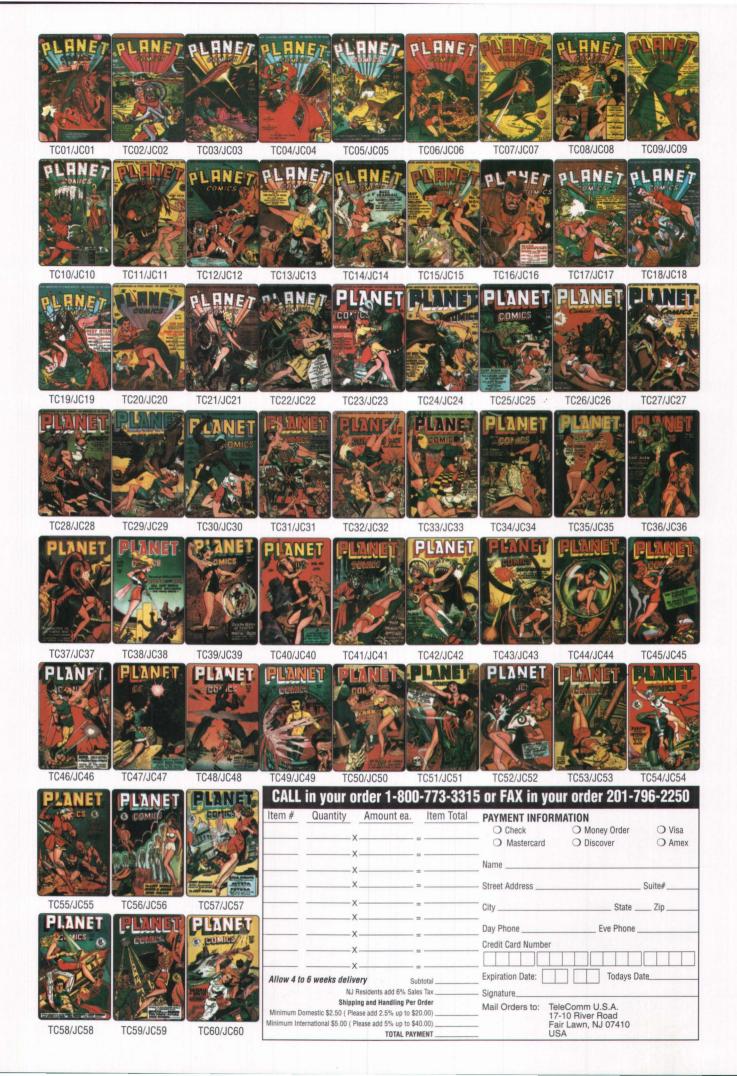
TC64/JC64

TC65/JC65

TC66/JC66

TC67/JC67

TC69/JC69





Cards in Play in the U.S.A.

BROWNSTONE...

The new group Brownstone is being produced by the new division of Epic Records called MJJ Music (as in Michael Jackson). Michael Jackson is actually behind the new success story. Their new LP "From The Bottom Up" was released in early January, as was their new video. This special edition card was distributed to video TV stations similar to MTV in order to promote the new video.

Deceptor

WHEN YOU WANT ONE



DECEPTOR...

One card of a three card set of Jack Kirby original artwork. This series 1 set is the first of ten sets to be released over the next two years. Jack Kirby is the original creator of many of the super heroes of today, including The X Men, Thor, The Incredible Hulk,

Captain America and many more.

Brou	vnstone
Sold Out Issuer:	Communications Design Group
Carrier:	CDG
Face Value:	\$15
Release Date:	January 1995
Limited to:	250
Manufactured by:	CDG

DECEPTOR

Issuer:	Communications Design Group
Carrier:	CDG
Face Value:	\$10.00
Release Date:	August 1994
Limited to:	2,500
ufactured by:	CDG

A & W **ROOT BEER...**

Schwepps produces the oldest brand of root beer in America. This remote memory card was produced in a gift catalog from which the beverage distributors select gifts. 🗣



remier elecard

PRODUCE CARDS FOR VALUE, NOT JUST FOR TELECARD COLLECTORS

Man

by Stephen A. Caswell, Incomnet

As the telecard industry matures, one of the rules telecard providers are learning is that cards should be produced and marketed for their value as a telecommunications tool, not just for their perceived value to collectors. The decidedly lukewarm reaction to cards which are introduced and promoted primarily for their supposed "collectible value" as telecards is forcing market insiders to learn this lesson.

Following are two good reasons to produce telecards:

1. The cards can be used to make long distance calls. Such cards are typically produced by established phone companies, or by entrepreneurial newcomers who have found some niche in the market.

2. The cards can be used in a commercial promotion. This is a great area for newcomers, although it requires phone company skills as well as an ability to work with commercial clients looking for good advertising/promotion ideas.

As a bonus, the cards can be sold into existing memorabilia or collectibles markets, independent of phonecards. Phonecards appear to be ideal collectibles for sports and celebrity memorabilia markets.

Incomnet, for example, provides two types of cards: a discount telecard, Sure\$aver, with rates of 20 to 25 cents per minute (sold by National Telephone Communications, Inc., a subsidiary), and a line of hockey cards for the sports collectible market. In both cases, the cards were produced with primary consideration focused on their utilitarian value.

As the industry matures, the best advice which can be given to either a fledgling telecard provider or collector is to first look at the value of the card as a telecommunications tool for the mass consumer market. If its value is apparent as a prepaid phonecard, then it is likely to have potential as a telecard collectible.

Cards in Play in the U.S.A.

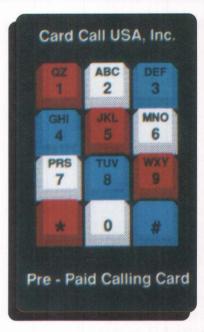


Phoenix, AZ

Card Call USA, Inc., is another newcomer to this fast growing, high-tech field of telecommunications. They are new to the prepaid calling card industry, but their founder is definitely not a newcomer to the telecommunications field. With a degree in Physics, Jeff Smith helped in the development of telecommunications applications utilizing innovative call processing techniques and computer based voice processing business applications, as well as owning and operating one of the largest 1-800/1-900 telecommunications service bureaus in the Southwest. Well, now we feel better, don't we? So many companies are not really very stable these days, but hopefully with some of the new companies having these kinds of

credentials, this industry will indeed grow in stability.

Their first card, titled The Founders card, was introduced in May of 1994 and issued in \$5, \$10 & \$20 denominations. There were 6,000 issued and collectors will be glad to know they are sold out! Their marketing strategy is through a distributor program in which they sell distributorships nationwide. They have custom voice prompting and language choices. An unusual innovation is the option to use the 800 access number or a local (Phoenix, AZ users only) switch access number which gives a discount of \$.10/min. for those using it versus the 800 access number. "We are expecting to put in additional local access lines later this year, possibly in Tucson, then in Los Angeles,"



stated Andrew Warianka. Their cards range in price from \$.25 to \$.50 per minute depending on the purpose. No promotional cards have been issued as of this date. however, they do special issues. The cards are remote memory, renewable, and transferable.

elecard

They are standard credit card size, and have no activation fees. The Founders card was 12 mil but all current issues are 30 mil solid core plastic.





Cards in Play in the U.S.A.

Telecards Take Flight

The sky's the limit? Not anymore! With GTE Airfone's offering of the inflight telecommunication industry's first air to ground prepaid calling card, telecards continue to expand boundaries of inventiveness and usefulness.

Featuring a dramatic photograph of a jet airliner flying towards a rainbow set against a cloud-filled sky, the limited-edition card commemorates the 10th anniversary of the first airborne telephone calls placed from commercial aircraft on October 15, 1984. The image, created specially for this offering, will not be produced for future cards. Only 25,000 of these unique cards will be produced.

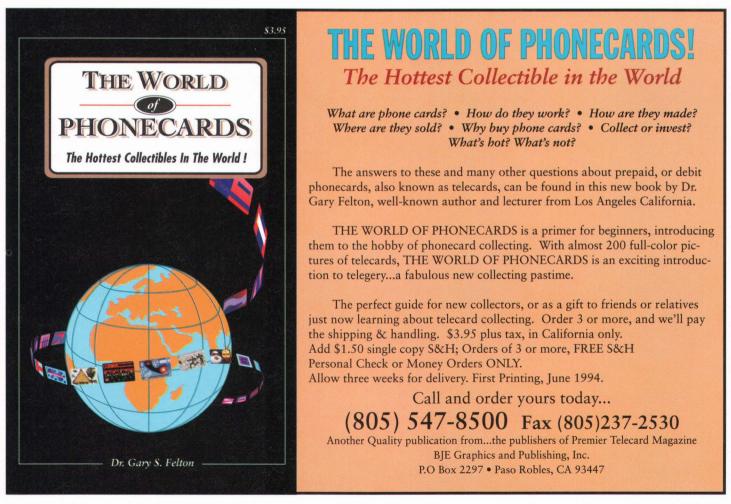
"After just one decade, and nearly 50 million calls on the Airfone Service, inflight telephone service has become an indispensable tool for millions of business and leisure travelers," said Andrea Schnurr, GTE Airfone manager of consumer marketing. "Our prepaid calling card is designed to increase the value of the Airfone Service for new and frequent users."

With a \$15.00 value, good for six minutes of domestic call-



ing in the United States, Canada, or the Caribbean, the card can be used to place calls from any plane having the Airfone Service from GTE. As part of the special introduction, the company is waiving the customary \$2.50 per call connection charge.

GTE Airfone, based in Oak Brook, Ill., provides airborne telecommunications systems to passengers on more than 2,000 commercial aircraft representing 18 domestic and international carriers.



elecard

Tele-News Flash PCA NAMES CHAIRMAN

Joseph F. Clark has been named chairman of The Prepaid Communications Association (PCA), a new industry group formed to educate companies and consumers about prepaid telephone cards. PCA promotes the benefits of prepaid communications services, creating quality assurance standards for customers purchasing the services, and monitoring industry participants supplying the services.

"Based on our projections, the prepaid calling industry will approach \$1 billion in revenue by the end of 1995," Clark said. "By abiding by the principles established by PCA, we can control the destiny of this rapidly emerging industry."



- · Switches do call
- processing · Features beyond call processing are
- necessary to be competitive Voice processing features are the differentiator for a call processing switch
- Voice processing means
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Fact:

Homisco has the only true call processing switch with these voice processing features on board, totally co-resident.

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SIGNATURE

PTM

35

The Internationalization of the Phone Debit Card (part 2)

loriade

HOLLAND

by Max Erlichman

During my frequent trips to Europe I have been repeatedly confronted with the same question put to me by people in the industry, be they dealers, wholesalers, Telecom company executives, etc. : "What exactly is going on in the U.S. phone debit card industry?" Usually my answer is another question:

"What do you mean, 'what is

going on?" By replying to the question immediately, I would be admitting that I understood quite well what he/she was talking about. Which is, where do all these phonecard companies come from? It is, for someone in this industry who

is based in the U.S., an extremely embarrassing situation. How to explain this? Everyone is aware that we do not have anything remotely approaching a national phone debit card. The rise and fall of so many special phonecard

companies selling and promoting "collector cards" could be justified and would have some purpose if one or two (or maybe half a dozen) of the many companies which appear out of nowhere, would survive promoting User Phone Debit Cards for the mass consumer market. The U.S. is presently in the experimental stages of its phonecard development, I agree, but some new, surprising, and strange events are taking place.

The first new phenomenon, actually less than 12 months old, is the American "Telephone Card Fair" which could perhaps be more aptly named "How and where to meet old acquaintances, or: for our immeasurable contribution to the Telephone Card industry I issue you an award and you issue me a plaque" (to loud applause).

Second new phenomenon: Once every 3 months a new Telephone Card Magazine appears on the market. A glossy



SWEDEN

or mimeograph. Third new phenomenon: Within three months the new magazine organizes a "Telephone

DENMARK

remier elecard Card Show." "Let us see if we can run it simultaneously with an already scheduled show by another magazine. We might be able to kill off the other fair and magazine."

ELECARTE 50

High Tech von

Mensch zu Mensch

and phone-time traders and we succeed in becoming the laughing stock internationally. And that's why I do not know what

Un monde

toujours

plus proche.

France Telecon

to answer to the question posed above: "What exactly is going on in the U.S. Phone Debit Card industry?"

In the first part of this article I presented a number of examples of how the U.S. has,

in the near and distant past, been beaten to the punch in establishing a leader-

Let us take a look overseas. The telephone companies there have been established for a number of years. There is a mature and solid foundation beneath their telephone card programs. The knowledge and experience exists and the user card is a profitable item. It is apparent that some one of these established companies will soon enter into our domestic market and perhaps, as I said in closing the opening part of this article, run away with what many analysts estimate is a multi-billion dollar consumer market.

So the question remains, what overseas carrier will enter the U.S. market first? Having had several discussions and exchanges of opinion on the potential market here and the feasibility of either entering solo or on a joint venture basis, I am not ready to hazard a guess. By proper preparation there is very little that could stop a major, successful inroad by an overseas carrier in the phone debit card market in this country.

The additional advantage of such a step is the creation of a broader user market. Utilizing the potential of the flexibility of a debit card, and combining the U.S. and the overseas market allows for a broader approach for the prepaid phonecard and the multiple uses and applications offered.

During the past several months, this potential was

THE ONLY THING

WE'LL DO BY NUMBERS.

BRITISH brought up in various discussions in Europe. Feasibility studies are in progress now. So let us wait and see. The U.S. might still have a

> remier elecard

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honecar

national phone debit card.

Max Erlichman was formerly databank manager, TeleTicket, AT&T. Today, he is a consultant with Fone Cards International, a Sunnyvale, Californiabased consulting firm. He can be reached at (408) 773-9370. 🚬

In our

philosophy there is of course no merit in cooperating to promote the phone debit card in this country. This would entail, say, for you to schedule one show on the East Coast, and for us to do one on the West Coast scheduled six months apart. Heaven forbid. The shortsightedness and irresponsibility of it all.

So within less than one (1) year, we now have big fairs, big little fairs, little little fairs, little big fairs, each one sponsored by telephone card issuers, carriers,

GERMANY

FRANCE

ship role in cutting-edge industries. From new technologies in the steel industry introduced by foreign steel makers, to the recent recognition by Japan, Korea, and Holland of the gold mine that lay in consistent research and development in the consumer electronics market, the U.S. has fallen victim to its own financially motivated short-sightedness. The question is, will the same scenario happen in the American telecommunications industry, especially in the race to establish a solid, broadbased phone debit card consumer market?

Telekon



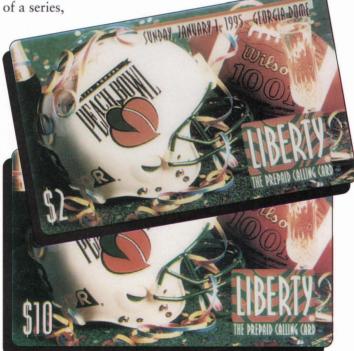
Tele Sports Peach Bowl

As the pigskin took to the air in the 27th Annual Peach Bowl Game on New Year's Day, 1995, fans on the Executive Level of the Georgia Dome received an extra bonus as 10,000, \$2 Commemorative Peach Bowl prepaid telecards were given away. In addition, to the



giveaway cards, \$10 cards were sold at the game and at related events.

Issued by Quest Telecommunications of Forest Park, Georgia, the cards are part



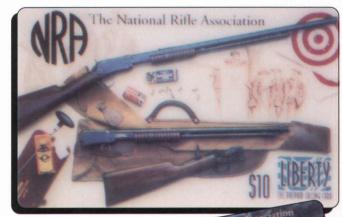
comprised of the Liberty Peach Bowl Party Card, the Classic Peach Bowl Party Card, the Liberty Peach Bowl Dome Card, and the Classic Peach Bowl Dome Card. All four cards werre issued on January 1, 1995 in denominations of \$10 and in quantities of 2,000.



Targeting the rapidly-moving world of telecommunications, in conjunction with the



National Rifle Association, Quest Telecommunications issued its NRA series in November, 1994. Although the cards were initially utilized as a fund-raiser for the National Rifle Association, advertised in *American Hunter*

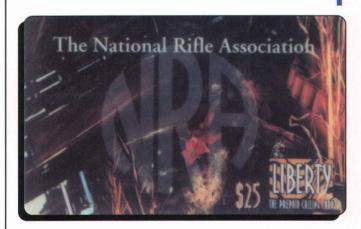


and American Rifleman magazines, Quest was also given permission to sell the cards independently. Printed by Brilliant Color

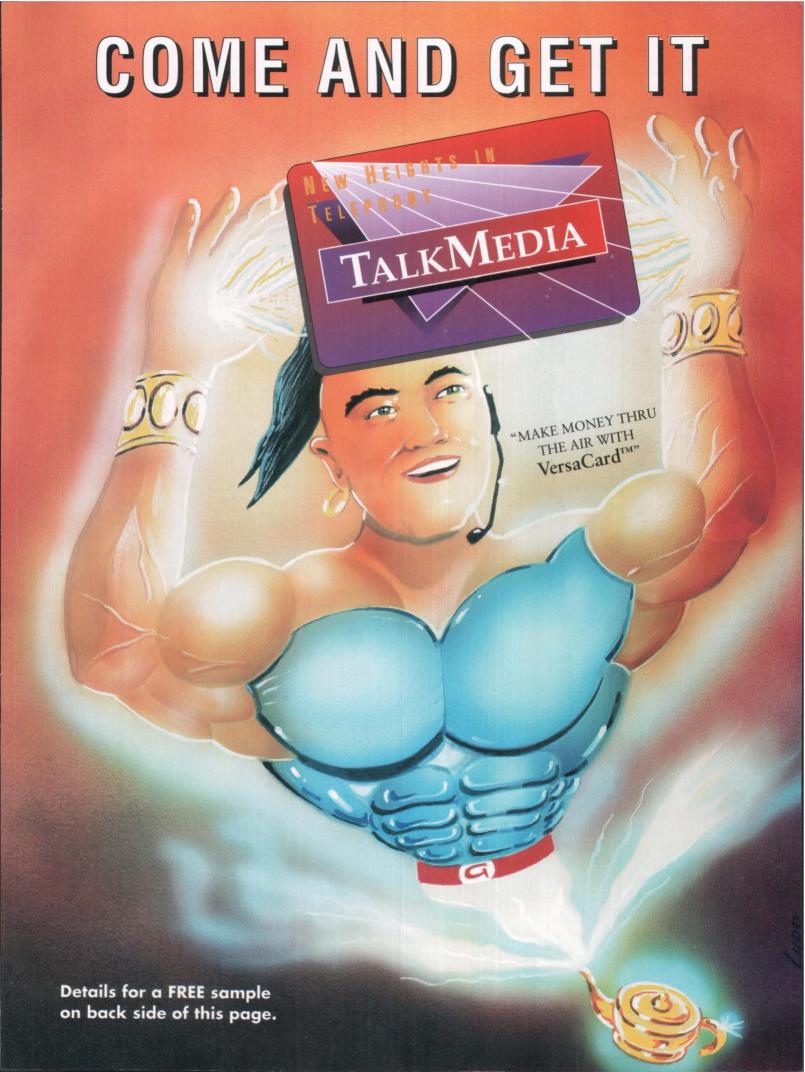
Cards, the series



features four designs by J.P. Sartori, including the \$25 "Collage" card, the \$10 "Education" card, the \$10 "Second Amendment" card, and the \$10 "Deer" card. All four cards were issued in quantities of 1,000, and make a striking addition to Quest's growing line of telecards.



remier elecard'



VersaCards[™]... Telecards For The Next Generation

Every so often, an item comes along which provides creative marketers the opportunity to enhance their sales and marketing programs, while augmenting their bottom lines. Introducing the most versatile, revenue-generating pocket information carrier available today, *Premier Telecard Magazine* is pleased to present . . . VersaCardTM. VersaCardTM is a

patented information directory designed by Zeisfeld, and distributed by Power Pac Marketing through VersaCard[™]/ VersaCoups® International Promotions and selected agents.

This product is made of state-of-the-art plastic materials. The (custom) insert, sandwiched between the front and back shell panels is a tear-resistant, accordion-fold, synthetic paper pullout. As a simple phone directory, written information won't smudge.

The VersaCardTM uniqueness lies in its consumer usefulness and its ability to be a great new marketing tool. It is a high revenue generator, and a new innovative vehicle to ensure continued usage. Repeated use by the recipient increases exposure and profits. By retaining the piece, your customer will utilize your network by renewing time on your platform over and over again, all the while viewing and handling your customized VersaCardTM. You also save on the wasteful cost of reissuing. Ease of use will create a consumer demand and dependency for your VersaCardTM and the information it holds.

> remier elecard

This product has a myriad of applications, and houses tremendous benefits for the VersaCardTM issuer. It provides the flexibility to position yourself with unique marketing applications to maintain and solicit customers. You can also reposition yourself in the minds and hands of past and current customers with a product which will have long-lasting benefits and value. It offers you, as the issuer, a valuable and transportable advertising media space. Uses range from premium advertising space, promotional coupons (VersaCoups®), collector card series information and ordering numbers, listings, schedules, menus, locations, rates, promotions, events, customer service numbers, and many other useful applications. The long-lasting infomercial value of VersaCardTM promoting usage of goods and service lovalty is easily appreciable. With the implementation of this product either through a prepaid/debit telecard program, or as part of a promotional marketing campaign, the return on your investment will be greatly enhanced. Your information regarding products, services, and promotions are perfect for placement in any number of VersaCard[™] programs.

The distinct advantage of employing a VersaCardTM program is that your customer will always have your information with them as part of their telecard. At your discretion, it may enable them to have immediate access to pre-selected phone numbers, international dialing codes, customer service and emergency hotline numbers, etc. – all at their fingertips. Information becomes conveniently accessible. The product will become a constant companion of the individual, and can be utilized by all ages. It will also attract and solicit new customers for future business growth; and your customers will have a truly unique product to **apprise them of the goods and services which you provide.**

The card can be designed to have any image printed on it (from 1 to 4-color process) on the outside plastic shell, as well as on a customized insert(s). The pertinent information you choose to disseminate can be strikingly displayed, outside and inside. **Optionally, an accordion-fold coupon(s) (2nd insert), with a special offer(s), may be included to create immediate and continuing traffic.**

This **Infocard** is the most innovative mini-billboard available to reach your target market with your goods and services. **VersaCard™** provides advertising space on a new and unique pocket-sized portable, identification-retentive medium. Your advertising and information is "on and in hand."

The immediate impact of **bold corporate I.D. graphics, brand names or services, or a limited edition collector series,** displayed on the outside face, get attention reinforced by a related message imprinted on the two-sided fastenfold pull-out insert. Because your audience is **reading rather than listening, VersaCard™** provides **concentrated advertising without the intrusion of sound. Repetition** being a key factor in advertising, research and major focus group results show the cards are handled an **amazing average of 4.7 times daily, with a customer usage rate of 98%.**

By custom-tailoring a program to your specific needs, you will enable your audience to access instant "at-their-fingertips" information about your product. Your name, brand, or service will become a consumer generic, providing increased revenue and market share. VersaCardTM programs have great consumer appeal and value, and will reward you with impressive financial results.

As a courtesy for *Premier Telecard Magazine* subscribers, a VersaCardTM sample card is available from the listing below. The sample card includes a personal telephone directory. Instructions for card use and customer service numbers (for the purchase of time) are printed on the back of the card.

To receive information on creating a custom VersaCard[™] program for your specific needs call VersaCard[™] / VersaCoups[®] International Promotions at (905) 770-6721, Jagged Edge Creative at (905) 770-7140, Sage Communications at (603) 434-8400 or contact the publisher of Premier Telecard Magazine at (805) 547-8500.

Tele Technology What's Behind The Card

Ron Contrado of Homisco

When a card is issued, most users don't realize that the call goes through the equivalent of a telephone company-like "central office." However, due to technology, there are many features the card user can get that aren't available from Telcos such as voice mail, voice message delivery (if the person you are calling is on the line), voice dialing (dial the number with your own voice), fax, conference calling, etc.

What is also unknown by card users is what kind of switch the card issuer is employing. Some companies have small switches that can only complete 12 concurrent calls! Additionally, if the switch does not have "redundancy," there is no way of completing a call when the switch fails. This is not a problem if you are strictly buying cards for their collector value, and do not use the PIN number for making calls. But if you do use the card, then there can be a problem.

Before buying a card, ask the card issuer how many

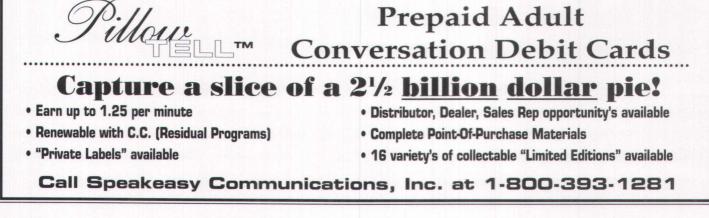
trunks they are using, what additional features are available, and if there are any costs associated with these features. For example, often the use of voice mail is free, but there is a cost to leave and retrieve messages. Finally, the voice dialing capabilities of switches are becoming increasingly popular and you should look at how this feature can be added to your

> card as it can save your time. Most voice recognition switches can also allow you to dial by simply saying the person's name or a phrase like "Call Home," and the switch dials your home. When you are finished you hit the (#) key and you are able to say the name of the next person you want to call, i.e., "call Bill Jordan" or "call Premier Telecard

Magazine." This productivity feature is becoming increasingly popular.

In summary, all cards can look alike, but it is the switch, its features, and the back-up that provide the value and functionality. So don't be afraid to ask questions!





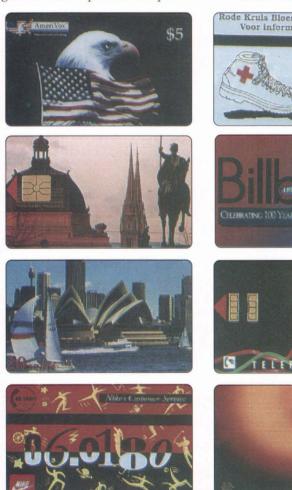
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Like A Bird On A Wire

Almost everyone has had the experience of viewing a bird on a telephone wire. For many of us the view we tend to have is that of a simple bird in repose, ever so still, perched almost frozen on the line; its talons clutching the wire almost effortlessly while it takes in its world as well as ours. Yet if we were to take more time in our viewing we would expand our awareness of the depth of what is actually taking place in the scene.

by Dr. Gary S. Felton

The seemingly stark and simple image of a bird on a wire, in fact, has more to it than we may realize at first glance. One aspect of this picture relates to the underlying physics of gravity. Another has to do with the act of standing and grasping. The act of balancing brings us one more consideration. And the list goes on.



When we take the time to



incorporate these and countless other aspects of what is taking place in the scene, we see several examples of situational 'tension' which exists between certain constituent parts. We imagine the sense of balance operating between the uncomplicated bird and the complex, powerful force of electricity within the wire. And although in this particular scene we are dealing with a more implicit form of 'tension' rather than an obvious one, we find the same 'tension' playing a role in our daily lives.

If we move from telephone wires to more grounded aspects of day-to-day life, we find this kind of 'tension' operating in the world of phonecards and the world of telegery (the hobby of collecting them). In the telecommunications industry we are dealing with a major techno-revolution which has been in effect around the globe for nearly 20 years and in the United States for slightly more than three years. When we review the recent research regarding the growth features of the phonecard industry, we learn that the revenues from phonecard sales in 1994 were approximately \$75 million in this country. When we look at what is expected for 1995, the marketing and economic analysts and planners forecast revenues will exceed \$1 billion, and that by the end of 1996 they will surpass \$3 billion!

These staggering economic jumps for a new product and new technology reflect the powerful force that many phonecard industry experts and developers have seen from the inside of this business for some time. To the outside observer as well, there are many clear signs of the lightningfast, widespread growth that already is underway with phonecards. For one example, phonecards have increasingly been appearing as adjunctive elements in many combined-package formats. Greeting cards, books, business cards, and compact disks are just a few of the products with which phonecards have been 'bundled.' Various manufacturers are adding new kinds of such carriers to the list.

Another measure of the rapid growth of phonecard use in the United States comes from their having been produced in all possible sizes, shapes, and graphic/color combinations. Given that phonecards do not interact directly with telephones in America (in other countries they do)

remier elecard they can be manufactured with limitless possibility along these size/shape/color dimensions. The vast spread of alternatives which already exist points to a rapid evolution. Innovative derivatives from this kind of expansion continue to emerge regularly. For example, we have some phonecards the size of pogs, others in the shape of an apple, and still others as large as wall posters. We have phonecards that are thick and phonecards that are thin; rechargeable phonecards, and phonecards with expiration dates; we have phonecards made of paper and others of metal; we even have phonecards made of gold and silver. These are only some of the many variations which are currently available.

In the same manner that a bird on a wire is poised while appearing to be resting comfortably, so it is with the phonecard industry. Though it may seem that not much is happening, our swiftly expanding industry, with its following of nearly five million collectors, is poised to deal with the immense power within its grasp as phonecards move into America's day-to-day life. The 'tension' is evident, phonecards are coming and the market is ready to explode.

As near-future changes become present-day givens, such as the discontinued acceptance of coins by many public telephones, we must acknowledge and work with certain other givens in our world. At the same time that we clearly are headed towards being a phonecard-utilizing culture, the reality is that we live in a country where less than five percent of the population is aware of this cutting-edge product that soon will be sold, used, and collected everywhere. Therefore we need to take positive steps toward providing widespread public education about phonecards and their effects on all of our lives.

One such step is to make available to the American population on a national basis magazines like this one - Premier Telecard Magazine — of which there are ten. The relevant and needed information is available but its dissemination is lagging. Many of the telephone card companies, some publishers of industry and collector magazines, and a number of dealers and major collectors have failed to take the required steps to educate the public. Given that we are soon going to see millions of people in the United States using, as well as collecting phonecards, we need the existing magazines and journals to be sitting in newsstands and bookstores. With broad-based availability and presence, they will help everyone know more about this new telecommunications tool and collectible canvas of the 1990s.

As is true for the bird on a wire, immense power is literally within our grasp. Unlike the bird, we can do something with the power by actively creating a well-informed, technologically prepared, and psychologically primed population. For now, hats off to Premier Telecard Magazine for beginning the first-ever national roll-out of a phonecard industry publication.

With this issue (April, 1995) it begins its preliminary national roll-out, and with its June issue, Premier Telecard Magazine will become the first magazine of its kind to be readily available in the marketplace at nearly 2000 newsstands, bookstores, phonecard shops, and other retail outlets regularly frequented by the American public at large.



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MANTLE PHONE CARDS Series 1, \$75, Series 2, \$55 postpaid. Call 516-932-5119. 6-9PM EST. Or mail orders to P.O. Box 312, Old Bethpage, NY, 11804. Quantities limited.

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Buying Mint: All AT&T "Teletickets" in original envelopes: 25 unites @ \$22.00, 50 unites @ \$45.00. Limit 20 each design. Buying Vista-United (Disney) "Telecom Magic" paying \$100.00 - any quantity accepted. SEARS, ROEBUCK Phonecard Dept. 27001 U.S. Hwy 19 No., Clearwater, FL 346210(813) 791-7535.

Any one or all of the NBC/SPRINT promotional calling cards,

\$10 ea./McDonalds/America Online cards, \$10 ea.- Star Trek, Star Wars cards, \$10 or negotiable on price -Any cards with Poppy's or Daffodils on them, price negotiable - D. Cameron, 179 Niblick Rd. #329, Paso Robles, Ca. 93446. 1. Amerivox \$10 Nyson 1 Eagle, Pay \$20 2. Amerivox \$5 First Credit Card & Telecard Convention, Pay \$75 3. Ameritech \$1 Snow Flakes Complimentary Card, Pay \$8 4. AT&T McDonalds 3 Unit, Pay \$60 5. AT&T Universal Pictures E.T. 10 Unit, Pay \$20 Quantities from 1 to 20. T.J. Fan, P.O. Box 244, Hawthorne, NY

Vatican City phonecards, 10 or more, Last Judgment Michelangelo's paint card- pay \$20 ea. San Marino State phonecards,10+ Aerial Panoramic view of Old Town graphical card- pay \$15.ea. Write to:

10532-0244, (914) 784-7069.

Antonio Carretta, 2550 Lincoln Blvd. #219, Marina Del Rey, Ca. 90291.

Japanese Coca-Cola Phonecards bought by collector. \$18 ea. Fax-815-498-1002 before shipping, or copies to Mike O'Brien, 215 Meadowlark, Sandwich, IL 60548.

Buying used GTS private-label cards for companies such as Dewar's, Dow Chemical, Ford, Lufthansa, R.J. Reynolds, Rollerblade, Success Magazine and Taco Bell (unused). Paying at least \$2; up to 20 each. Larsen Luke, Phone Cards Hawaii, Inc. 1638 Kealia Drive, Honolulu, HI 96817, (808) 847-7015.



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credits: she appeared as a special guest star on "Baywatch," performed for four years as a member of the "L.A. Raiderettes," and was an expert aerobics instructor on television's "Body by Jake."



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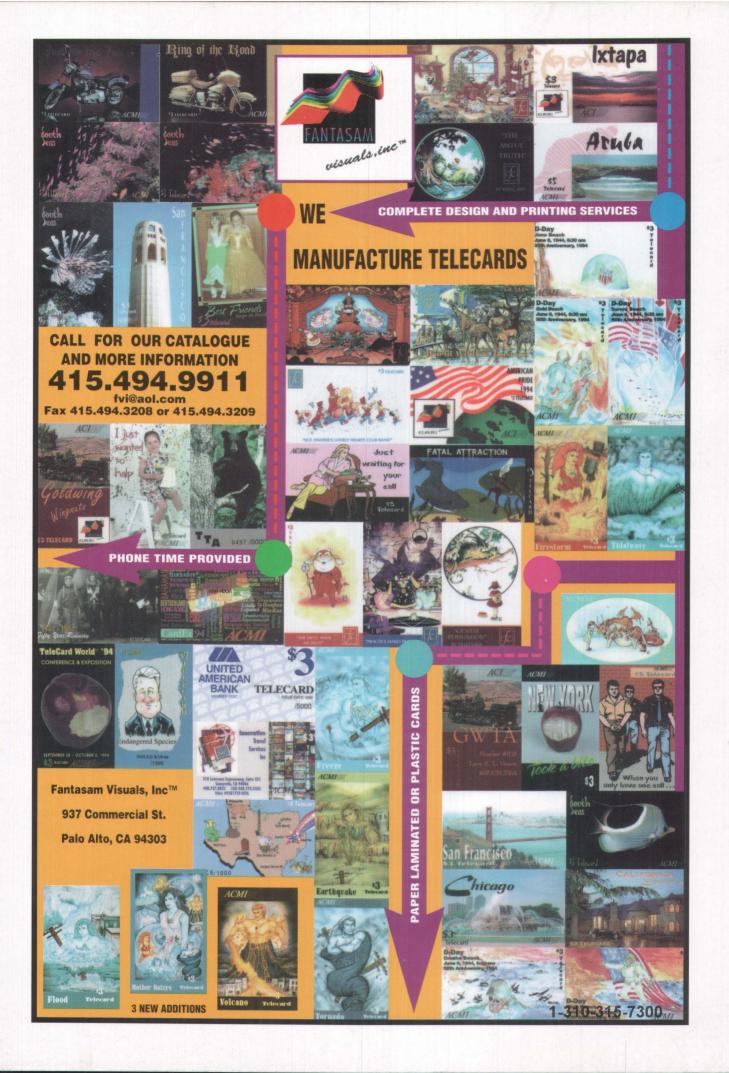
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