

—even on the supplied demonstration programs. The irony of that is that Non-Linear Systems now wants an extra \$75.00 from previous Kaypro owners for the M-BASIC, The Word Speller & Games pak that is now the "standard" bundled software. While that price certainly beats paying about \$400.00 to get those things elsewhere, it displays a shameless corporate lack of tact by NLS and Kaypro toward previous *Kaypro II* owners.

All in all, however (lack of tact aside), I would say that the NLS/Kaypro deserves a "9" in the price/value category, even if the eight book-sized manuals are a lot of reading and somewhat difficult.

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DRY TRANSFERS

I was interested to see the article about dry transfers as a resist medium in the **Radio-Electronics Annual, 1983**, though of course it alluded to other brands than the one that CERES distributes here in Canada.

However, I think that your readers might be justifiably puzzled when they come upon the statement in another story in the same issue wherein dry transfers are referred to somewhat negatively, saying in particular that they are prone to wash off in the etchant.

To put the matter straight: Wash-off is simply not encountered with this medium. Our product is unconditionally guaranteed in that, as well as in other, respects; and in five years, only four sheets of transfers have ever been returned—and the reason for return was *not* "wash-off." Etching temperatures almost to the boiling point are withstood and results are exceptionally precise and clean, thanks to the

excellent adhesion and thinness of the transfer medium.

I am surprised to learn that the brands available in the US do not provide curves or corners; our line includes quite a variety of them, with various degrees of curvature and of different thickness. As we advise our customers, layout tapes *do* work, but their performance on curves is inferior to that of transfers.

One final comment: Again, I do not know whether this applies to brands sold in the US, but one of our strongest selling points is dry transfers' capability to accomplish very fine work and permit high component density. Our line allows leads to be routed between the pads of IC DIP sockets—which is very difficult to do with any other "home" medium.

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UHF TV PREAMPLIFIER

I just finished building the UHF TV Pre-amplifier that was presented in the March and May 1982 issues of **Radio-Electronics**, and am very pleased with the results.

There is still an error in the parts-placement diagram that was reprinted in the May 1982 issue. The amplifier failed to work properly at first, so I compared my unit against the schematic diagram. I also noticed that the voltages on the transistors did not appear to be correct. I then found that four resistors were switched on the parts-placement diagram. Resistors R1 and R2 should be interchanged, and resistors R3 and R4 should be interchanged. That will considerably raise

the voltage on transistors Q1 and Q2.

I ordered the chip capacitors by mail from MHz Electronics in Phoenix, AZ, and received them by mail in only seven days. I substituted MRF901 transistors which I got from Radio Shack (#276-2044) and found them to work very well.

After I had the amplifier assembled and working, I had one of the engineers where I work check the gain across most of the UHF band. My lowest gain was 30 dB.

I am using the amplifier at the antenna, which is the Simple Simon Electronics model STVA-4, and am very pleased with the results. I use the antenna system mostly to pull in some distant UHF stations.

Please keep the excellent articles coming. I am a Senior Technical Writer for The Heath Company, and have enjoyed reading your magazine for many years.
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REWINDING TRANSFORMERS

The article, "Rewinding Transformers", in your May 1983 issue caught my eye for two reasons. First, I had problems dismantling a large choke for a magnet project. Large power transformers or chokes are sometimes not only enameled but are also covered with globs of black, tarry material. After much sawing and prying at the laminations unsuccessfully, I was about to give up. My father informed me that the best way to deal with the problem was to burn the choke in a good fire. The next day, when the charcoal grill had cooled, I removed the choke and took the bolts from the laminations. It practically fell