March 2006 Volume 6, Issue 8

# ANODE

## Inside this issue:

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## Editor's Comments

March 2006 Volume 6 Issue 8

#### Ham-Comp

Ron took home his Linux/Ham computer this week. To help him and others in his exploration of Linux, I have written the article below. I shall improve and add to it later to assist other amateurs moving to Linux.

Ron will be reporting back at subsequent Ham-Comp meetings.



Philip gets down and dirty.
Putting an earth on the tower.

#### Work Party at club

At a recent work-partyday at the club, several items were removed or added to the club. Seen here is OM Philip attaching a vital earth connection to the antenna tower.

The tree which provided shade for many boot-sales and braai's has fallen.

(continued on page 2)

## First steps in Linux [Ham-Comp]

You are in a darkened room. You can just see a blinking cursor. As you get closer, you can see "ron@ZS6BHH:~\$". Its a prompt but not one as we know it. Not a 'normal' DOS or Windows prompt. It's a Unix (Linux) prompt. You start to look around...

Once upon a time it was referred to as "the dark place" by children who had only known Windows. It certainly can be an unhelpful and difficult area to get used to. Most users quickly type in 'startx' and press re-

turn. This is a retreat as it takes you to the graphical user interface that looks and feels like Windows.

This all assumes you managed to login using your user name and password. Logging in using 'root' is considered a 'no-no'. The 'root' or administrator has the ability to do anything on the system including wiping out files and system. So you should login as a 'plain' user and use 'su' (super user) command to assume the status of administrator. You will be prompted for a password and this should be а nonsimple, difficult to remember string of characters and numbers. Of course you should write it down! But not on the faceplate of the monitor or the keyboard! If this machine is to be connected to the Internet. you should have all this in place before you connect.

If you are logging in as (Continued on page 10)

## Special points of interest:

- Contact details on back page (updated)
- New email address for Anode and ZS6WR.
   See back page

(continued from page 1)

removed.

Rep Tom Davis (R-VA) chaired ing Amateur Radio volunteers

mail system Winlink 2000 all Hyatt, KlDAV of Torrington, On this occasion the dead got positive mentions in a post- and Dave Wilcox, KlDJW, of branches were sawn up and Katrina report from the US New Hartford. Sarratt spent House of Representatives. US more than a month process-



## **WEBSITE**

[From: "K4YZ" <k4yz@aol.com>

Kudos for MARS and Amateur sponse to Hurricane Katrina. Radio

Date: 20 February 2006 13:49]

### Amateur Radio's Role Gets Favourable Mention in Post-**Katrina Report**

NEWINGTON, CT, Feb 17, frastructure of the Gulf States." 2006--The Amateur Radio (MARS) and the HF digital e- teer marshalling centre--Dave

**OUOTE FROM THE ARRL** the panel. References to ARES, for deployment to the Gulf MARS and Winlink appear in Coast. "A Failure of Initiative"--the fi-

the 364-page report notes, are unavailable. The

nal report of the Select Biparti- "MARS was cited for its role as san Committee to investigate part of the Shared Resources Subject: Federal Government the preparation for and re- High Frequency Radio Program (SHARES), an emergency federal communication system put "Like all levels of government," into play when other resources the National Communication port says that "within days" of System (NCS), "was not able to Katrina's landfall, NCS called address all aspects of the dam- upon more than 430 SHARES age to the communications in- stations across the US to, among other things, assist first responders conducting search-Emergency Service (ARES), the "Volunteers at the Montgom- and-rescue missions by relay-Military Affiliate Radio System ery, Alabama, Red Cross volun- ing information to government (continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)

Mississippi and Louisiana, and ters and feeding stations, print e r s by handling health-and-welfare cipally in Mississippi, Alabama some unpredictable messages between volunteer and Florida." agencies in Georgia and the tional headquarters.

nated the frequencies used by (Salvation by voice, but also by high- gram," the report noted. speed data transmissions using state-of-the art digital com- "The extent of destruction and I'm building my first receiver. I Winlink."

hospitals, evacuation centres, concluded. and county EOCs to send emer- Katrina's gency messaging 24 hours per whelmed day. It further cited com- sources at all levels." ments from Bay St Louis Mayor Edward A. "Eddie" Favre that "A Failure of Initiative" asserted thanks Amateur Radio operators "were that the loss of power and especially helpful in maintain- the failure at various levels of " P a u l ing situational awareness and government "to adequately <keinanen@sci.fi County (Mississippi) EOC."

amateurs at airports in Texas command and Louisiana "tracked evacu- trol operations."

agencies, by relaying logistical their whereabouts," while the Katrina,

pointed out, own system of Amateur Radio END QUOTE "Additionally, the NCS coordi-volunteers known as SATERN Army the nearly 1000 Amateur Radio Team Emergency Radio Net-Emergency Service (ARES) vol- work). "During the Hurricane DBM or dual gate mosfet unteers across the nation who Katrina response and recovery [from the rec.radio.amateur. served in the Katrina stricken effort, SATERN joined forces homebrew newsgroup] area providing communications with the SHARES program for government agencies, the and received over 48,000 re- From: <aadu.adok@gmail. Red Cross and The Salva- quests for emergency commu- com> tion Army," the report contin- nications assistance utilizing Subject: mixer: DBM or dual ued. "Emergency communica- federal frequencies made gate mosfet? tions were conducted not only available via the SHARES pro- Date: 01 March 2006 11:03

vices caused by Katrina ex-The report further noted, "In ceeded that of any other natu-Mississippi, FEMA dispatched ral disaster experienced by the mosfet mixers. Amateur Radio operators to Gulf Coast states," the report

tions" hindered the hurri- s38bapmvrsrsaa@4ax.com... cane response "by compromis-According to the report, radio ing situational awareness and In Europe, there are several and

ees and notified families of "Despite the devastation left by this needn't have operational information Red Cross "deployed Amateur been the case," the report among FEMA EOCs in Georgia, Radio volunteers at its 250 shel- stressed. "Catastrophic disasmay quences, but losing power and the dependent communications American Red Cross na- The Salvation Army, the report systems after a hurricane operates its should not be one of them."

**—**}

hello,

munications software known as damage to the communica- can't choose what kind of mixtions infrastructure and ser- ers should I use. I have read that diode ring mixers are far superior compared to dual gate

> "Simply put, Is this true for both - first (RF / devastation over- VFO) and second (IF / BFO) government re- stages? Or is there any real difference at all?

Keinanen" relaying Red Cross messages prepare for the ensuing and in- wrote in message news: to and from the Hancock evitable loss of communica- e2le025mgmlknlh3e0uc-

> con- high power broadcasters start-(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

ing at 7100 kHz, which would easily overload the 40 m receiver. Assuming loaded Q

OH2BT's comments about how much better things have gotten in Europe really made me say hmmmm.... I only recently heard actual measurements, rather than whining, and things are pretty horrible today - they must have been intolerable decades ago.

control of levels obviously are important with any mixer, but especially something with the gain of a 602. Nevertheless, I doubt there are many cases where a 602 would be even useable in Europe, let alone "good"...

<Allison-nospam@nouce. bellatlantic.net wrote in message news: jr5b029tn5nkkdlpplatj3glp3sph bgbem@4ax.com...

If you building a radio that runs on batteries then using more power may be bad.

Also keep in mind that more power=more heat

If you are building a simple VFO, temperature compensating the VFO can be the most tedious part of designing a receiver. Depending on how tight your box is, the difference in heat could be an issue. Keeping the oscillator stable while delivering more power also means more buffer

stages between the VFO and not a great heat generator when the mixer.

DDS, of course, all this is pretty much moot. With a typical DDS chip and a packaged clock oscillator at some high frequency, the oscillator will draw so much current and generate so much heat that what the mixer requires is invisible.

bellatlantic.net

wrote: On Wed, 1 Mar 2006 09:04:13 -0500, "xpyttl"

<xpyttl\_NOSPAM@earthling.</pre> net wrote:

<Allison-nospam@nouce. bellatlantic.net

news: wrote in message jr5b029tn5nkkdlpplatj3glp3sp hbgbem@4ax.com...

If you building a radio that runs on batteries then using more power may be bad. Also keep in mind that more power=more heat If you are building a simple analogue VFO, temperature compensating the VFO can be the most tedious part of designing a receiver. Depending on how tight your box is, the difference in heat could be an issue. Keeping the oscillator stable while delivering more power also means more buffer the mixer. Actually even without the heat issue you still have to compensate it or ambient variation will drive you nuts. livering 5-10mW of power is

you add all the surrounding possible sources. If you are de-If you are designing with a signing with a DDS, of course, all this is pretty much moot. With a typical DDS chip and a packaged clock oscillator at some high frequency, the oscillator will draw so much current and generate so much heat that what the mixer requires is invisible. Since buffering the VFO is a good idea anyway the buffer and later stages can supply the 5 or more milliwatts Tight front ends and careful Allison-nospam@nouce. needed for level 7 rings. Since those stages can be "remote" the small heat generated is not a big issue. However between a VFO, buffer and a buffer to deliver power you can be hitting 30-50mA and on batteries that's a bigger issue. If you using DDS, likely power is not an issue and the combined DDS and control plus display could be surprisingly high or at least has to be managed. However you approach the problem a little though to the overall effects are important. After all what usually separates a great receiver from a passable one is attention to the little details. Allison

> Some of the modern DDS chips require little power. Analog Devices has some DDS chips that draw less than 50ma at 5v, I think there is one that takes but 15ma. True a vfo will draw even stages between the VFO and less, but we are not talking about gobs of power in any

> DDS vfo's have very low phase Granted a few transistors de- noise, and the ones that can be (Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

clocked at 100MHz or higher can deliver quite low spurs. The AD9954 series have a 14 bit DAC and can make a very good HFO for a single conversion receiver with no PLL loop filter needed to clean up the output. Chris Jones wrote:

aadu.adok@gmail.com wrote: hello, I'm building my first receiver. I can't choose what kind of mixers should I use. I have read that diode ring mixers are far superior compared to dual gate mosfet mixers. Is this true for both first (RF / VFO) and second (IF / BFO) stages? Or is there any real difference at all? thanks I have recently bought the books from the RSGB which contain all of the Technical Topics columns from RadCom for the last couple of decades or so. It seems like they really like making mixers from FST3125 Bus Switch ICs, and up to perhaps 50MHz these are supposed to be much better than the average diode ring mixer. They call the configuration "H-mode" and the guy who I believe is supposed to have come up with the idea is called Colin Horrabin. Here is an article randomly selected from a Google search:

http://xoomer.virgilio.it/ sergiocartoceti/pdf%20files/ IK4AUY\_%20qex\_07-2004.pdf I don't like the way they generate the LO signals with XOR gates but apart from that it is interesting. Chris One thing I forgot: I7SWX I believe is responsible for many of the H-mode mixer circuits in the the Technical Topics column. http://www.qsl.net/i7swx/index.htm

Chris

Hi

If you think the situation in short waves today: Russian and their previous satellite country jammers are quiet. Local broadcast is nearly completely in FM. Propaganda is no more effective to transmit in short waves Commercial data is practically in Internet and in satellites Marine communication is in satellites.

All this means less cross modulation products in first mixer than some sixteen ago Atmospheric noise in sw is much higher than the noise of modern front and mixer stage Advantage diode of mixer is marginal IGFET mixer is simple and advanced solution for DIY project. IGFET mixer doesn't need any front amplifier stage. A selective band filter in front of mixer is superior to broadband transformers I am using loosely coupled 3 stage band filter tuned by variable triplet air capacitor 3 coils for low end of sw and coils for upper end of sw. Coils are DC selected by small reed relays KISS

If you are constructing premixer then I recommend DBM to keep birdies in low level For IF/BFO my recommendation is also DBM or "semi DBM" For both of those DBM solutions I recommend you to Google a nice advanced component MC1496. In some Motorola handbooks and ARRL handbooks are examples for MC1496 as DBM, product detector and balanced modulator. It is mostly used in single ended circuits in RF meaning and balanced for DC

73, Risto OH2BT On Thu, 02 Mar 2006 19:33:23 -0000, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:

In article <4406fe2e\$0\$25339 \$39db0f71@news.song.fi , Risto Tiilikainen <risto.NON. tiilikainen@luukku. comMUNIST.invalid wrote:

If you think the situation in short waves today: Russian and their previous satellite country jammers are quiet Local broadcast is nearly completely in FM Propaganda is no more effective to transmit in short waves Commercial data is practically in Internet. and in satellites Marine communication is in satellites. All this means less cross modulation products in first mixer than some sixteen years ago Atmospheric noise in sw is much higher than the noise of modern front and mixer stage Advantage of diode mixer is marginal There's a good discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of various mixer types, for different applications, in "Experimental Methods in Radio Frequency

(Continued page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Design", a book I strongly rec- although they've gotten rela- Even for use in what seems like ommend. As others have tively little visibility in amateur- a simple, constant application pointed out, there's no one radio applications they've be- (e.g. a CW receiver for the 40right solution. Even for use in come very popular in commer- meter band), the choice of what seems like a simple, con- cial use (e.g. cell-phone hand- which is more appropriate can stant application (e.g. a CW re- sets). I haven't yet had a chance swing one way or the other the choice of which is more ap- they look like fun! propriate can swing one way or the other based on how you in- I have, really nice devices but a As one example given in ceiver which is intended for Some of the layouts can be a backpacking trips, then the low trips, then the low power con- the same port impedance mixer gain of an active sumption, and the mixer gain of matching considerations as mixer such as a Gilbert cell (e. bert cell (e.g. SA602 and simi- losses in the 6-8db range so this the ideal. Out in the woods, lar) can make this the ideal. Out gain distribution requires care. the RF levels will be low, and in the woods, the RF levels will likely to be a problem.

care in use is important.

strong-adjacent-signal environ- problem. ment (e.g. for Field Day or other contesting), then you may Allison want to favour a diode-ring consumption :-)

ing the power it's not that bad.

be a really nice alternative, and there's no one right solution. ceiver for the 40-meter band), to play with these myself but based on how you intend to use

tend to use the receiver. As one challenge to build circuits EMiRFD, if you're looking for a example given in EMiRFD, if with good symmetry at higher simple receiver which is inyou're looking for a simple re- frequencies like 6M and up. tended for QRP operation on QRP operation on backpacking bear to drive properly and have power consumption, and the an active mixer such as a Gil- DBMs. They also still have g. SA602 and similar) can make

be low, and the relatively low However singly balanced FET sorts of mixers isn't likely to be IP3 of these sorts of mixers isn't mixers have been around for a a problem. while and can offer good IP3 with simpler design. Over the On the other hand, if you're The lowly SA/NE602 isn't so years several designs using planning to build a receiver bad considering the power it both active mixers (single and which may have to operate in a uses and the 15-17db of gain it dual gate [mos and junction] strong-adjacent-signal environoffers. Like any power mixer FETS) as well as MOSfets, and ment (e.g. for Field Day or transistors in modes. The handbooks and want to favour a diode-ring On the other hand, if you're QST and Ham Radio featured double-balanced mixer operatplanning to build a receiver these designs for bands such as ing at a high LO-injection level, which may have to operate in a 40M where broadcasters are a and the devil take the power

double-balanced mixer operat- There's a good discussion about and although they've gotten ing at a high LO-injection level, the advantages and disadvan- relatively little visibility in amaand the devil take the power tages of various mixer types, for teur-radio applications they've different "Experimental Methods in Ra- mercial use (e.g. cell-phone Even then with care in generat- dio Frequency Design", a book handsets). I haven't yet had a I strongly recommend.

the receiver.

the relatively low IP3 of these

passive other contesting), then you may consumption:-)

The FET-switch mixers seem to be a really nice alternative, applications in become very popular in complay with chance tο these myself but they look like

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The FET-switch mixers seem to As others have pointed out,

(Continued from page 6) fun!

Warrior home page: http:// very good adage. www.radagast.org/jade- luck with your first. warrior I do \_not\_ wish to re- 4Z5KS ceive unsolicited commercial email, and I will boycott any send me such ads!

HF range. the main advanthat it is interesting. tage of the dual gate MOSFET is that it needs much less power Chris from the local oscillator and can save you an amplifying On Wed, 1 Mar 2006 09:04:13 stage. Not really crushing, but 0500, "xpyttl" sometimes needful. If you're <xpyttl\_NOSPAM@earthling. talking about a simple first re- net wrote: mixer, because the IF filters surrounding possible sources.

tend to defend it from large unwanted signals and the amplitude variations are also smaller -- Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast. due to AGC action. Soooo , KISS org AE6EO Hosting the Jade (keep it simple, stupid!!!), a Sandy

I have recently bought the company, which has the gall to books from the RSGB which contain all of the Technical Topics columns from RadCom for ...a long explanation, but a the last couple of decades or needed one. One of the most so. It seems like they really like important characteristics of a making mixers from FST3125 mixer is its ability to handle Bus Switch ICs, and up to perlarge input signals without haps 50MHz these are supoverloading, if overloaded by posed to be much better than an unwanted signal, chances the average diode ring mixer. are that it will not be able to They call the configuration "Hhandle the weak signal you're mode" and the guy who I beinterested in. the physical lieve is supposed to have come mechanism involved is not im- up with the idea is called portant, except for the fact that Colin Horrabin. Here is an artiincreasing current through cle randomly selected from a an active mixer (re FET or tran- Google search: http:// xoomer. sistor, or the injection power in virgilio.it/sergiocartoceti/pdf% a DBM tend to alleviate the 20files/IK4AUY\_%20qex\_07problem in some measure. the 2004.pdf I don't like the way noise figure of both is more or they generate the LO signals less equal and adequate in the with XOR gates but apart from

ceive I'd go with the MOS- Actually even without the heat FET mixer. there are very good issue you still have to compenexamples in the hand book. iI sate it or ambient variation will used them for years with suc- drive you nuts. Granted a few cess and still using them in one transistors delivering 5-10mW form or another, the problem is of power is not a great heat much less severe at the second generator when you add all the

If you are designing with a DDS, of course, all this is pretty much moot. With a typical DDS chip and a packaged clock oscillator at some high frequency, the oscillator will draw so much current and generate so much heat that what the mixer requires is invisible.

Since buffering the VFO is a good idea anyway the buffer and later stages can supply the 5 or more milliwatts needed for level 7 rings. Since those stages can be "remote" the small heat generated is not a big issue. However between a VFO, buffer and a buffer to deliver power you can be hitting 30-50mA and on batteries that's a bigger issue.

If you using DDS, likely power is not an issue and the combined DDS and control plus display could be surprisingly high or at least has to be managed.

However you approach the problem a little though to the overall effects are important. After all what usually separates a great receiver from a passable one is attention to the little details.

Allison

On 1 Mar 2006 01:03:21 -0800, aadu.adok@gmail.com> wrote:

hello, I'm building my first receiver. I can't choose what (Continued opage 8)

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to dual gate mosfet mixers.

applied but if improperly used power may be bad. they will disappoint the user. Their advantages is they are Alllison rugged, hard to overload and easy to build. Disadvantage, no On Wed, 1 Mar 2006 07:03:01 - Paul gain rfamp may be needed, 0500, "xpyttl" must have at least 5mw of LO xpyttl\_NOSPAM@earthling. wrote power (some need more), net> wrote: are designed for around 50 ohm impedances at all ports.

**Ifets** 

Is this true for both - first (RF / ference at all?

idea there is a DBM and the end should be used. of an IF will see large signals valuable there.

Like others have said superior easily overload the 40 m re-

kind of mixers should I use. I One parameter in this case of 100 and the front end tuned to have read that diode ring mix- DBMs is the oscillator power 7000 kHz, the -3 dB bandwidth ers are far superior compared needs and often the need for would be +/-35 kHz from the more gain stages. If you build- centre frequency with some using a radio that runs able attenuation at 7100 kHz. DBMs are very good if properly on batteries then using more

Probably the most popular googlegroups.com... mixer for simple HF receivers is Dual gate MOSFET, popular the NE/SA 602/612. This is an hello, I'm building my first remany years ago, and generally active mixer. It has amazing ceiver. I can't choose what kind easy to apply with moderate amounts of gain, such that an RF of mixers should I use. I have overload resistance. The com- stage is almost never needed. It read that diode ring mixers are mon reason for not being used is extremely simple to deploy, far superior compared to dual as much is simply availability. and it requires almost no gate mosfet mixers. (u310, power. Thus, in portable/ MPF102) in pairs can be used in battery powered circuits it is al- "Superior" is something of a a cascode compound connec- most always the mixer of loaded word. Whether a parn e a r l y choice. It has an absolutely hor-ticular parts is superior or not equal performance as the MOS- rid TOIP. There are other, depends on your design intent. FETs without cost and ESD con- mostly older, even poorer, acsiderations. Advantage is good tive mixers, but the 602 is a Probably the most popular gain, low noise and low power. very versatile part, so it seems mixer for simple HF receivers to show up everywhere.

VFO) and second (IF / BFO) If you really intend to use mix- amounts of gain, such that an RF stages? Or is there any real dif- ers with such horrible IP3 fig- stage is almost never needed. ures, I would suggest using a It is extremely simple to devery selective front end ahead ploy, and it requires almost no Depends on receiver design. of it. For a single band CW re- power. Thus, in portable/ I've seen Mosfets (or two Jfets) ceiver some fixed tuned stages battery powered circuits it is used for first mixer and DBM might suffice, but otherwise almost always the mixer of used for product detector. The some tuneable input filters choice. It has an absolutely hor-

ing at 7100 kHz, which would to show up everywhere.

varies depending on goals. ceiver. Assuming loaded Q of

Using fixed tuned octave wide front-end filters with the 602 is just asking for trouble.

OH3LWR <aadu. adok@gmail.com> i n message news:1141203801.248815.3220 50@e56q2000cwe.

is the NE/SA 602/612. This is an active mixer. It has amazing rid TOIP. There are other, mostly older, even poorer, acand the overload resistance is In Europe, there are several tive mixers, but the 602 is a high power broadcasters start- very versatile part, so it seems

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sort of RF stage is needed. All a pair of diode rings. this adds up to a need for cuits.

lems of an active mixer, but it's cillator compensation issues. not as power hungry as a diode ring. The MOSFET seems to So you picks your poison... have fallen out of favour lately, in spite of being a "balanced" On Wed, 01 Mar 2006 01:03:21 sort of solution. I suspect most 0800, aadu.adok wrote: designers are either going for careful design.

Is this true for both - first (RF / ference at all?

balanced designs that tend to-plied properly. ward management of power consumption will sometimes To get the most bang for your

use a diode ring for the first IF buck, it is hard to beat a ring of and an active mixer for the sec- 1N914 or 1N4148 diodes at a At the other extreme are diode ond. But a superhet bent all out few cent each. The ferrite 'cups' ring mixers. These can have on power conservation will al- from scrap Toko IF transformstellar TOIPs, but take a lot of most always use a pair of 602's. ers can be used as cores for the oscillator power. Further, they Designers who want to avoid trifilar wound transformers. need lots of RF as well, so some ICs for whatever reason will use

diode ring rig will probably brew designs. The dual gate MOSFET falls consume three times the power, have the horrible TOIP prob- deal with and the associated os- group/picastar/

power consumption or per- hello, I'm building my first re- try them all and pick the one formance, and really, quite ceiver. I can't choose what kind that works best for you. good performance can be had of mixers should I use. I have with the active mixers with read that diode ring mixers are 73, Ed. EI9GQ. far superior compared to dual -- Linux 2.6.15 Remove 'X' to regate mosfet mixers.

VFO) and second (IF / BFO) It depends on what you mean stages? Or is there any real dif- by superior. The mosfet mixer has gain and usually has a lower JB - March 2006 noise figure. The diode mixer Careful design can manage will have superior strong signal what the second mixer sees handling (higher IP3), but will more easily than the first. This have about 7dB loss. The diode can make the dynamic range mixer needs more local oscillaproblems of an active mixer tor power. They both make exless of an issue. For that reason, cellent mixers if they are ap-

There are a few other options you should consider. High level plenty of power. The best di- I shouldn't sound so down on IC mixers like the AD831 are ode ring mixers will use the 602. A WELL-DESIGNED 602 worth considering. Switching matched, Schottky diodes, but receiver can easily match the mixers using MOSFETs are cagood old 1N4148's do work, performance of the \$1000 class pable of very high performand quite well. Many designs rice box rigs. It cannot, how- ance. Search for info about the use packaged diode ring mix- ever, come close to the per- N6NWP front-end from QST ers such as those from Mini Cir- formance of an equally well- Feb 93 or the H-mode mixer designed diode ring rig. But the used in several recent home-

kind of in the middle. It doesn't meaning three times the heat to http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/ http://xoomer.virgilio.it/ sergiocartoceti/article\_7.htm http://www.warc.org.uk/ cdg2000/introduction.htm

> If you build the receive mixer as a separate module, you can

ply by e-mail. Yes, my username really is: nospam.

## First steps in Linux [Ham-Comp]

(Continued from page 1)

'adduser your-name' and press useful when you ultimately lead you to success.

This should get you going suffi- navigation. ciently to install new software as 'su' and to operate normally as yourself.

#### F1, F1! [Help]

and press enter.

is the text of the command such age capacity or backup. as 'ls', 'df', 'mount' or 'su'.

#### **Navigation**

First we need to be able to then if you type... navigate around the files and directories. So lets start with ls -l /mnt/floppy 'pwd'. Pwd shows the working directory and prints it to the you should see the files on the console.

own and press enter, you will 'root' now is the time to add a be returned to your 'home' di- cp /mnt/floppy/\* user. Type 'adduser' and press rectory. Very handy when you [NOTE the '., this will copy all Alternatively type want to return home! But not so actually tory.] enter. Careful reading of the wanted to type 'CD /etc'. Still screen and trying the help will the up arrow key works just like the F3 key in DOS, so you can save retyping and add to the Once you have added a user previously typed 'CD'. Such as with your name and assigned a 'CD /etc'. You are probably password. You should make squinting at the '/' and saying sure there is a strong password under your breath "Its the for the 'root'. Make sure you wrong way round". No it isn't. write it down somewhere. Now Unix/Linux uses the '/' for direclogout and login as yourself. tory paths. So get used to it as Try the 'su' command and re- Unix will ignore attempts to use member the 'root' password. the other '\' (backslash) in your

### So how do I copy from a floppy disk?

First you have to 'mount' it. Then you have to 'cp' (copy) the file Most commands have an option or files to somewhere. Lastly parameter '- -help'. So type the you should umount (unmount) command, such as 'ls - -help' the floppy so you can remove it. The same procedure applies for CD's and DVD's. Also its possi-Or you can try 'man command', ble to mount other hard disks 'help command' or even 'info into the tree structure of the command'. Where 'command' main hard disk, to increase stor-

So to mount the floppy:-

mount /mnt/floppy

floppy disk. You can then copy them to a directory on the hard If you use 'CD' and type it on its disk using the 'cp' command.

of the files to the current direc-

#### What about a CD?

A cd is almost the same. Use 'mount /mnt/cdrom' to mount the CD. Then 'ls -l /mnt/ cdrom' will produce a listing of the files and directories on the CD. Decide where you want the files put and cd there with /path/directory'. So that when you type 'cp /mnt/ cdrom/folder/\* .' It will copy them there. Don't forget the dot '.' Or you will find nothing happens.

#### **Next time**

Next time, I think we should try installing some software. There are hundreds of packages available for the Radio Amateur most of which are 'free'. Maybe a morse or RTTY package.

Later...

JB March 2006

#### **The West Rand Amateur Radio Club**

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[NEW EMAIL ADDRESS]

**Bulletins** (Sundays at ...) 11h15 Start call in of stations 11h30 Main bulletin start

#### Frequencies

439.000MHz 7.6MHz split (West Rand Repeater) 145,625 MHz (West Rand Repeater)

10,135 MHz (HF Relay)

## Radio Amateurs do it with more frequency!

Chairman/Treasurer	Dave	ZR6AOC	475 0566 (H)	zr6aoc@mweb.co.za
Vice Chairman	Keith	ZS6AGF	675 1604 (H)	Mwbronie@iafrica.com
Secretary	John	ZS6FJ	672 4359 (A/H)	
Digital Communications	Stuart	ZS6OUN	082 573 3359	sbaynes@iafrica.com
Technical	Phillip	ZS6PVT	083 267 3835	phillipvt@sse.co.za

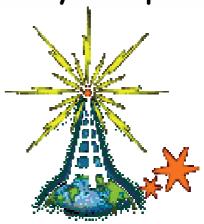
Member Craig ZR6CRW 795 1550 (H) craig.woods@absamail.co.za

## West Rand members - we need your input!

To make this the best ham radio magazine in South Africa we need your input. Please submit articles, comments, suggestions etc.

Please send plain text with no formatting to the email address below.

In July 2003, we re-published an Anode Compendium on CD. It has the issues from July 2000 until June 2005. This included the new Adobe reader. It has been updated, check with the chairman for details.



We need your input! Email us articles, comments and suggestions please.

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