

### Customized Editors for T<sub>E</sub>X

Now that there are T<sub>E</sub>X and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, what about editors for handling input for these? I would like to compile a list of customized editors. What I expect — well, hope for — is a list of packages for the EMACS family (Gosling, CCA, GNU, Epsilon, ...), but maybe other people have customized their editors also, or even written special editors (VAX/VMS TPU anybody?). Of particular interest are Unix systems and PC's.

When answering, please quote base editor (if any) and version. Also let me know, please, if and how you're willing to make it available. I will compile a list for publication in TUGboat and redistribution via the T<sub>E</sub>X bulletin boards. If there is sufficient interest, we might even start a TUGboat column.

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Editor's note: A set of templates for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, to be used with DEC's Language-Sensitive Editor (LSEdit), which runs on top of TPU on VMS systems, has been developed at Lear Siegler, Inc. These templates, and a "Quick Reference Guide" for their use, are available through TUG; see the TUG order form and publications list for details.

### Post-L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Index Formatting

Is there a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X addition which formats nice indexes? The amount of manual work remaining after L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X leaves off is discouraging (after using Digital standard Runoff).

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## Letters

To the members of TUG:

Now that *The Joy of T<sub>E</sub>X* has appeared, old friends (and other acquaintances of old) may be wondering why I've stopped using my first name, inserted a new initial, and joined the ranks of those who waggle their academic degrees after them like little pennants, so I'd like briefly to explain.

The idea was for the cover and title page to list the author as "Spivak, M.D., Ph.D.", and thus exude that air of multi-degreed authority so popular in the books fondly being parodied. The clue to the spurious degree would be the Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data, listing the author as "Spivak, Michael David". (When I say "idea" I really mean something rather more concrete, since all this appeared on the camera copy supplied to the AMS.) My mother, to whom the book is dedicated, was looking forward to this bit of academic buffoonery, since my initials were chosen so that the M.D. "would always be in front of your name, instead of after it".

Unfortunately, the Society's doyennes of academic stodginess, impervious to the promptings of humor, clumsily altered this to its present obnoxious form. Other petty changes, sneakily effected behind my back, are too numerous to mention here. (I don't know who wrote the copy for the back of the book, so can't identify the source of the hypocritical remarks about my "lively style" that "makes this an entertaining manual.")

It is customary for the author of a book to accept responsibility for its defects, and endeavor to make corrections and improvements in future editions. In this case, I expressly disavow any such responsibilities. If you find things wrong with the book, please don't tell me, tell the AMS; they own it, and apparently feel that they are better qualified than I to decide what should appear in it.

Mike Spivak, *né* Michael David Spivak