CS Puzzle Hunt ’07: Road Trip!

A. R. Hunter is going on a road trip, and he’d like some company. Of course, he’s only looking for good company, and he figures he can find it in people who can solve puzzles. So he’s hidden his keys somewhere on campus, and the first team to find them will win the right to go with him (and $50 spending money!). To track down the keys, you’ll need to know the places he’s planning to visit on his trip — but of course he can’t just tell you what those places are. Each of the following eleven puzzles is about something you might encounter on the trip, and the final answer to each will be a location\(^1\), somewhere you could conceivably drive to from Rochester. When you think you know an answer, you should check it by email: send an email to zjb-hunt-answers@cs.rit.edu, with the subject “Puzzle n” (without quotes, replacing n with the puzzle number from 1-11) and include only your answer, without spaces or punctuation, IN ALL CAPS, in the body of the message. [You can test the response system by submitting the answer THEANSWER for puzzle 0 — in particular, make sure you are sending plain-text email.] Once you know a sufficient amount of the itinerary, you should be able to find those keys — when you think you are ready to do this, or if you have any other questions, please contact me directly (office 70-3651, phone x5-6155 or 355-7015).

And now, on to the hunting!

\(^1\)Any potentially ambiguous-sounding answer (e.g. BOSTON) should be assumed to refer to the largest and most famous place with that name, if it seems to matter.
1. Road Music

NOW don’t you just love making a whole set of mix CDs for the trip? Sometimes you listen to them so much you get the track listing memorized...

http://www.cs.rit.edu/~zjb/hunt/RoadMusic.mp3

2. Field Agents

They have very specific types of things that they’re looking out for (and sending messages about)...

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3. Billboards

4. Hitchhikers

“Man, you must have gone to every part of the country to pick up all these people. It’s not like they’d just be in the middle of the road.”

“Yeah, in the end I think there was only one small town I didn’t visit...”

Performer of the hit single “Goody Two Shoes”
Person for whom the month of August was renamed in Turkmenistan
Author of the Act instituting Prohibition
First African-American US Ambassador to the UN
Host of the show on which Bill Clinton famously played the sax
The current Pope
Singer born Yvette Stevens
CS department advisor whose email address has one fewer letter than her first name
First person to break the sound barrier
“Heaven or Las Vegas” band
Band whose name sounds like a hard-of-hearing jungle cat
Hawaiian musician who had adult stem-cell treatment in 2005
The current Queen of England
Barry Bonds’ infamous former trainer
Author of “I, Robot”
Real name of the CS sysadmin known as Linus
20th Century Polish Poet known as “Eleuter”
“Garfield” cartoonist
Player traded from the Sabres to the Capitals this season
The only quarterback to start five Super Bowls
Current portrayer of M
Prime Minister of Japan before last September
2006 AL Rookie of the Year
All-time winningest “Jeopardy” contestant
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, as a college student
Portrayer of Oskar Schindler
Actress who played Arwen
CS department hardware maintainer
Long-time radio voice of the New York Knicks
“Kind of Blue” trumpeter
Elastigirl’s husband
Cricketer known as the “Frog in a blender”
Most recent winning Super Bowl quarterback
Contrary to urban legend, she never starred in “The Diary of Anne Frank”
Chair of the House Democratic Caucus
Frontman of The Cars
Host of “Gameshow Marathon”
Director of the film “Stromboli”
Bills kicker responsible for “Wide right”
Celebrity chef whose flagship restaurant is Olives
He was Magnum, P.I.
“This Modern World” cartoonist
“Under The Pink” singer
He played Mel on “Alice”
He’s teaching Computer Organization and PLC this quarter
Author of the plays “Picnic” and “Bus Stop”
5. Roundabouts

American drivers

Adhesive usually in two components
Author of “The Policeman’s Beard is Half-Constructed”
Blunt Olympic sword
Camera company who sponsored stadia in Toronto and Coventry
Country containing the westernmost point of mainland Africa
Former Red Sox shortstop given his father’s name backward
Home of the Reds

British drivers

Angle of _____ (pile shape determiner)
Coin worth one cent per gram (for over 100 years!)
Collectively, the sepals of a flower
Current female Supreme Court justice
Former Iberian monetary unit
Like a temporary committee
Like many Cabernets, more so than other red wines
Literally “works”, in English it refers to a single work
New Zealand native
Instant noodles popular with college students
Italian frozen desserts
Leave your local cell-phone calling zone
Million-selling Elie Wiesel book
Popular Starbucks order (in this case, incorrectly spelled with only one p)
Provoke, as a riot
Robotic Dr. Who villain
Runs, as a machine
Shoe accessories
Some larvae

Number at whose multiples the answer to this puzzle can be found
Period of lunar rotation
Rhea, on "Cheers"
River closest to campus
Type of heron with notable plumage during breeding season
status (set of boxes on many applications)
Unit equal to two gills
Video with four Alanises in it
Vinegar’s acid

6. Confusing Suburban Developments

http://www.cs.rit.edu/~zjb/hunt/xyzzy/

7. In-dash Computers

They’re supposed to help, but this one just wants to complain about what’s wrong.

http://www.cs.rit.edu/~zjb/hunt/InDashComp/

8. People Who Can’t Fold Maps

Grrrr – these documents are all messed up and jumbled together. Some of them aren’t even in one piece any more! Just take the whole contents of the map pocket (which can be obtained on any CS machine by copying the contents of ~zjb/map-pocket/) and see if you can make sense of it.
9. Race Tracks

Find somewhat larger versions of these images at
http://www.cerit.edu.ua/~vp/hunt/scantracks/
10. The Uptown Bus

The regular route of the uptown bus starts at 1st Street and runs up to 111th Street. In between, it makes a number of stops. Where it stops (and even more importantly, how far it travels between stops) is up to you to determine. Here is some information about the route in general, as well as some observations made on a single recent trip during which a total of seven people rode the bus:

- The route crosses only numbered streets, in order.
- Other than the first and last stops, only one is at a prime-numbered street.
- Other than the first stop, only one stop is at a street whose number is a perfect square.
- Nowhere along the route can you be one block (or less) away from each of two different bus stops.
- The median of the distances between consecutive stops is also the mode of these distances, occurring three times.
- Bob, Diane, and Ed each rode the bus for 20 blocks. In addition, they collectively used six different bus stops during their journeys. Diane used the stop at the street numbered with the perfect square.
- Al, Chuck and Fred got on at the same stop where Bob got off. Al traveled five times as far as Chuck on the bus, and Chuck traveled six times as far as Fred.
- Al traveled a total of 43 blocks (not consecutively) as the only passenger.
- Chuck is always careful to not miss his stop (the stop right after Fred’s), as he would then have to wait through the longest distance between stops, followed by the second-longest (only one block less than the longest).
- Ed only ever saw Al (and the driver!) on the bus, including at his entering and departing stops.
- The driver didn’t make Grace pay for her trip, since she was getting on at the next-to-last stop.
- The driver didn’t have to stop at two of the official stops, the latter of which was at a prime-numbered street.
11. Japanese Tourists

One thing’s for sure, if you see all of them in the same place, it’s likely to be something interesting. These particular tourists are fairly modern — they read left to right, top to bottom, and speak in a way that you do not need to know any Japanese words to understand them.
Finding The Keys