

Census isn't abandoning print so much as it's shifting its data to the Information Superhighway. Statistics are being distributed by CD-ROMs and the Internet. Already, Census brags that its World Wide Web site is receiving 50,000 hits a day. Sounds amazing.

It isn't. Those 50,000 daily hits are a lot less breathtaking than they seem, even if the figure is accurate (and I have my doubts). In May, *Interactive Age*, a trade publication, surveyed Internet sites. It reported that Pathfinder (the site for Time Warner publications, such as *Time* and *People*) had about 686,000 daily hits, *Playboy* had about 675,000, and *HotWired* (the site for *Wired* magazine) had about 429,000. I mention these popular sites because they belong to magazines. As yet, none is forsaking the printed page for the glories of the Internet.

There are good reasons for this. One is that the number of daily hits on a Web site exaggerates how many people use it; the same person may hit the same site repeatedly. Another reason is that the Internet hasn't yet evolved into an effective platform for advertising. But the main reason is that, for many purposes, the printed page is still superior to the computer screen. You can flip pages faster than you can search computer files. You can read a magazine standing in a subway or lying in a hammock.

Census's shift from print clearly discriminates against people (including me) who don't surf the Internet or use CD-ROMs. We remain the vast majority. *American Demographics* magazine recently reported a number of surveys that tried to measure U.S. Internet use in 1994. The surveys put usage of the World Wide Web between 2 million and 13.5 million people, which is at most about 5 percent. The average income of Internet households was \$67,000, which is the richest fifth of Americans. But it's not just computer clods or the unaffluent who will suffer.

Carl Haub is a demographer at the Population Reference Bureau in Washington. He's a big user of Census statistics and is comfortable cruising in cyberspace. "It's going to be a disaster for the average analyst," he says. Downloading and printing data from the Internet can take hours. Getting a number from a CD-ROM is often a lot harder than getting it from a book. To Haub, Census is transferring a lot of the cost—in time and money—of making statistical information useful to people like him.

Martha Farnsworth Riche, director of the Census Bureau, admits as much. "If someone else can do it, let's shift it to the outside," she says. "We've had a hiring freeze since at least 1992, and those [printed] reports take an enormous amount of time from professionals." They need to concentrate on doing surveys of "an economy and population that are changing dramatically. Our statistics have fallen behind." Only Census can collect much of this data, she says. Let academics and analysts prepare reports.

Up to a point, Riche has my sympathies. The Constitution created the census (Article 1, Section 2), and social and economic surveys are a basic function of modern government. Some congressional proposals to cut the agency's budget sharply are stupid beyond words. But that said, the new approach is misguided. The danger of over-relying on outsiders to organize and analyze basic data is that statistics may fall hostage to special pleaders or incompetents. Printed Census reports provide an easy way to check self-interested or faulty claims.

Print's other great virtue is that it guarantees a historic record. Computer technology is changing so rapidly that data committed to one technology may no longer be easily accessible if that technology vanishes. "The CD-ROMs that we're so excited about today—20 years from now, no one will use

them," says Richard Rockwell, director of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research. "The book is a highly advanced technology for preserving some kinds of information." Exactly.

Let's not become too infatuated too soon with the Information Superhighway. Census should be issuing its data in computer-friendly ways, but not as a substitute for printed reports. A jaunt on the Internet—piloted by my friend Steve—only affirmed my skepticism. Steve typed the Census Web address (<http://www.census.gov>), and up popped the "home page" designating me as the 567,352nd visitor. Unless the count began 10 days earlier (and it didn't), that was a lot fewer than 50,000 daily hits. I informed a Census official. He was mystified. After checking, he said there were other ways of accessing the Web site that didn't raise the count. Hmm. Could be. But it also shows how, on the Information Superhighway, we're still navigating in the dark.●

SPARKY ANDERSON

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." It was 1984, and the Detroit Tigers won it all, from opening day in April until the final game of the World Series in October, a perfect season, never out of first place, with Sparky at the helm. It is 1995, a not so perfect season; in fact, a bummer of a season, with Sparky at the helm, getting a look at the new, young players, and most likely closing out the 1984 era.

On Sunday, October 1, in Baltimore, the Orioles play the Tigers in the last regular game of the season. But to me, what is most poignant is that I believe we will be seeing Sparky Anderson in a Detroit Tigers uniform for the last time. And when he leaves the field that day, along with Alan Trammell and Lou Whitaker, the last of the 1984 Tigers' team will be gone.

Sparky Anderson is baseball. As a kid, his dream was to be a player, but from all early indications—he played only 1 year in the majors—he was meant to be a manager. He studied the game constantly from boyhood to this day. When he sits in the dugout, you can see those eyes darting around the field, taking in every movement of everyone on the field and at the plate, incessantly studying and instructing his players, both veterans and rookies.

Sparky Anderson has a remarkable record as a manager. He is the third winningest manager in big league history—only Connie Mack and John McGraw won more games. But he is the only manager to win a World Series in each league, with the Cincinnati Reds and the Tigers, and he is the first to win 100 games in each league. He is, without question, headed for the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Every indication is that Sparky will be leaving the Detroit Tigers and will announce this shortly after the season ends on October 1. But, I do not think Sparky will leave baseball. He will be in some baseball uniform next year. I am sure that we will turn on the television some day and see Sparky going to home plate to hand the umpire the

starting lineup, we will see him sitting in the dugout, chewing his bubblegum or his sunflower seeds, and his eyes will be darting around the field, and we will see him walk to the pitcher's mound in the late innings, with that familiar skip to avoid stepping on the third base foul line.

Maybe we will get to see one of those nose-to-nose arguments with the umpire, and we will certainly look forward to hearing a post-game analysis, and in spite of that fractured English of his, we will get a first rate lesson in the way this great game of baseball works, for more than anything else, Sparky is a baseball purist, a lover of the game and totally loyal to the institution we call baseball.

Detroit will miss Sparky Anderson, but we hope he will hang around the game long enough to break John McGraw's record, and maybe even, someday, overtake the record of the great Connie Mack.●

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1995

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 28, 1995; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and then the majority leader be recognized as under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I will just say for the information of all Senators, under the agreement that has just been obtained, I will make a motion to proceed to the Labor-HHS appropriations bill tomorrow morning. A rollcall vote will occur on the motion to proceed at 10 a.m., and, in accordance with the unanimous consent agreement, a second vote will occur at 11 a.m. on the motion if 60 votes are not obtained on the first vote.

If 60 votes are not obtained on the motion to proceed on the second vote, it is expected I will recess the Senate until later in the afternoon on Thursday to enable the Finance Committee to meet to complete reconciliation instructions.

The Senate is then expected to reconvene later to begin consideration of Commerce, State, Justice appropriations. Therefore, the Senate could be asked to be in session late into the evening on Thursday in order to complete the appropriations process prior to the end of the fiscal year.

I also will indicate that I think the House will take up the continuing resolution tomorrow. I talked with Speaker Gingrich this morning. He indicated earlier, at least I was informed, he had signed off on the continuing resolution,