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news

Many steps ahead, two back -- the economy catches up with us too:

- * We postponed airing the 60 second infomercial for *Grandpa and the Computer*, produced with MediaCorp, until the 4th quarter of this year or next year.
- * We also had to push back the release date for our multi-format audio-MP3-eBook CD *The Dirty Seven: Ladies Beware!* from June Marshall, to the 4th quarter of 2002. Hopefully not later, though!

from our authors and editors

It definitely is very busy in the editorial department and rightly so, since they are working on a number of titles, such as:

Unreal Estate from Peter Taryan, another lawyer turned author, is a story with a twist: A young, bored real estate lawyer seeks thrill and money by committing robberies. Finds one, loses the other. Which one?

The *Pathless Path*, from a new writer couple Richard and Anita Schron, is completely different: It seeks and offers a route to spirituality rarely traveled these days - the Kabala. . . .

editorial flash

When you have a discussion about copyright and the prevalence of copyright violation, it should really center on: 1) what we're protecting; 2) how we're protecting material; 3) and why we're protecting it.

The U.S. the Constitution specifically mentions the need for laws "To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing, for limited times, to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." So, copyright is a way of ensuring that you, as the author, get paid for your work.

When the price is set way out of proportion to perceived value, the stage is set for widespread copyright violation. Example: The Journal of Financial Economics charges \$31 for a downloadable article. What's more, authors pay a \$450 submission fee and, in most likelihood, do not see a penny from the \$31 fee either. To top this off, the annual subscription is \$1,245. No wonder there is so much unauthorized copying going on.

Copyright owners with the attitude "I'll charge you whatever I want, else you can't do anything with my work," are treading on thin ice. In our digital world, you either make it easy for folks to comply with copyright, or they'll just go (click) around you. End of discussion.

Steven Kingsley, your editor

in the entertainment corner now

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